



Australian Government

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Capacity Building Workshop on Urban Governance **Improving City Governance through Enhancing Knowledge of Urban Local Bodies**

10 THURSDAY
NOVEMBER, 2022
JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN

75
AUSTRALIA
CELEBRATES
INDIA 1947-2022

With active collaboration of



City Managers
Association Rajasthan

Background

Today, over half of the world's population lives in urbanised areas. India is urbanising at a rapid pace, with the urban population rising at a much faster rate than the total population. The level of urbanisation has increased from 17 percent in 1951 to 31 percent in 2011. The urban population in India, which was nearly 377 million in 2011, is poised to grow to 600 million by 2031. Urban areas contribute 62-63 percent of India's gross domestic product (GDP), estimated to reach 75 percent by 2030.

Such a rise in the urban population implies increased demand for goods and services and efficient urban planning, management, and governance systems. Therefore, addressing urban development and transformation, urban inequalities, and bringing suitable reformation within the urban governance system to address these changes is India's most important political and intellectual challenge.

In the case of Rajasthan, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are heavily dependent on funds from the Central and state government. These local bodies have limited capacity to raise resources through their sources of revenue and taxes and are all working under severe financial constraints. The inability of ULBs to raise resources has limited the growth of municipal income.

About the Project

CUTS is working towards improving urban governance in Rajasthan through its various interventions and has an MoU with the Department of Local Self-Government, Rajasthan, for capacity building of elected representatives and officials of ULBs since 2016.

CUTS strengthens urban local governments through capacity building and better financial management. It enlightens officials about instruments like municipal bonds that can come to their aid to raise resources for long-term financing projects, such as infrastructure development is a must. Besides, it is vital to support them with training workshops and conferences related to urban issues like effective management of water supply, solid waste management, public transportation systems, and marginalised social and economic groups.

In this series of initiatives, CUTS is implementing a project titled "Improving City Governance through Enhancing Knowledge of Urban Local Bodies in Rajasthan" with the support of the Australian High Commission, New Delhi and active collaboration of the City Managers Association of Rajasthan (CMAR).

The project's main objective is to promote knowledge, information, and capacity building on issues like solid waste management, public transit systems, water supply, and financial instruments such as municipal bonds among Rajasthan's ULBs. Along with this objective,

CUTS tries to improve the understanding of critical themes related to urban government in chosen cities within the project state and to assure these bodies' effective functioning.

Training Programme

The first Training Programme for Municipal Officials was organised at Jodhpur city on November 10, 2022, to sensitise the officials on the topics of municipal finance, solid waste management, sustainable transportation and community participation.

In the inaugural session of the training programme, Amar Deep Singh, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS, greeted all guests and participants. He gave a brief overview of the event's objectives and presented a brief and detailed explanation of our most efficient and effective way of working in urban government, including all accomplishments and obstacles. He also shared the details of project activities.

Sudhakar Dacheppally, Lead Resource Person delivered the main four topics, i.e municipal finance, solid waste management, sustainable transportation and community participation in the workshop. His sessions were mainly interactive and he discussed the local issues with the participants. A total of 31 officials from ULBs who comes under the Jodhpur division participated in the workshop. Certificates of participation have been awarded to all participants.

Proceedings

Topic 1: Municipal Finance

Urbanisation is a major trend in India, with a rapidly growing population and economic development leading to the growth of cities and urban areas. This has brought about many challenges and opportunities for India's urban areas, as well as for the country as a whole.

India is experiencing rapid urbanisation, with the urban population growing at a faster rate than the rural population. According to the 2011 census, about 31 percent of India's population lived in urban areas, and this is expected to reach 40 percent by 2050. Many of India's urban areas are facing overcrowding, with high population densities and a shortage of affordable housing. This has led to the development of informal settlements, such as slums, which often lack basic services and infrastructure.

The urban scenario in India is complex and dynamic, reflecting the country's rapid growth and development, as well as the challenges and opportunities that come with urbanisation. To address these challenges and make the most of the opportunities, India will need to focus on developing innovative and sustainable solutions for its urban areas, including investments in infrastructure, education, and innovation.

The following topics were discussed in detail: Property tax (assessment and collection, vacant lands), advertisement tax, water charges, sewerage charges, trade licence fee, public-private partnership, corporate social responsibility and municipal bond.

Topic 2: Solid Waste Management

Solid waste management refers to the processes and strategies involved in the collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of solid waste, which includes garbage, refuse, and other discarded materials generated by households, businesses, and industries. Effective solid waste management is important for public health, environmental sustainability, and resource conservation. Some common methods of solid waste management include landfilling, incineration, composting, and recycling.

Solid waste management in India is a major challenge due to rapid urbanisation, increasing population, and changing consumption patterns. The management of solid waste in India is primarily the responsibility of local bodies, such as municipal corporations, which are often understaffed and under-resourced. As a result, much of the waste ends up in open dumps or landfills, causing environmental pollution and health hazards.

However, the Indian government has taken various initiatives to address this issue, including the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* (Clean India Mission), which aims to improve solid waste management practices and increase awareness about cleanliness and hygiene. The mission has led to the construction of new sanitary landfills, the installation of waste-to-energy plants, and the promotion of composting and recycling.

Additionally, several private companies have entered the waste management sector, introducing new technologies and practices. Despite these efforts, solid waste management remains a significant challenge in India, and further investment and collaboration among stakeholders are necessary to address the issue effectively.

During the session following topics were discussed in detail: MSW Rules 2016, Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2019, Solid Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2020, The 7Rs of Recycling, and Wastewater Management.

Topic 3: Sustainable Transportation

Sustainable transportation refers to the movement of people and goods in a way that is environmentally, socially, and economically responsible, both in the short and long term. It involves reducing the negative impacts of transportation on the environment, such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, air and noise pollution, and resource depletion. It also considers the social impacts of transportation, such as accessibility, equity, and safety, and the economic viability of transportation systems.

Sustainable transportation solutions include the use of low-emission vehicles, such as electric or hybrid cars, buses, and bicycles, and the promotion of alternative modes of transportation, such as walking, cycling, and public transport. Other approaches involve the optimisation of transportation systems to reduce congestion, improve efficiency, and minimise waste, as well as the use of smart technology, such as real-time traffic management, to enhance mobility and safety. Sustainable transportation is a critical component of achieving global sustainability goals, such as the reduction of carbon emissions and the promotion of sustainable development.

Sustainable transportation in India is an urgent and significant challenge due to the country's rapidly growing population, urbanisation, and increasing motorisation. The transportation sector is a major contributor to GHG emissions and air pollution, which poses significant health and environmental challenges. However, several initiatives are being taken to promote sustainable transportation in India. The government is investing in the expansion of public transportation, such as metro rail and bus rapid transit systems, as well as the promotion of non-motorised transportation, such as cycling and walking. In addition, there is a growing trend of car-sharing and bike-sharing services being introduced in many cities.

Several cities in India have also implemented sustainable transportation initiatives, such as the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation's (BMTC) Intelligent Transport System (ITS) and Delhi's odd-even car scheme. Moreover, there are private sector initiatives, such as Ola Electric and Revolt Motors, that are promoting the use of electric vehicles.

Despite these initiatives, there are still significant challenges to promoting sustainable transportation in India, including inadequate infrastructure, high costs, and lack of public awareness. However, with continued efforts and investment, sustainable transportation can become a reality in India, leading to a healthier environment and better quality of life for its citizens.

During the session following topics were discussed in details: Green Transportation – Cycle Track, Cycling Rules in India, various cycling tracks built across India, National Urban Transport Policy 2006.

Topic 4: Community Participation

The active participation of citizens in urban governance can improve the quality of urban life, increase accountability and transparency, and create a sense of ownership and responsibility for the development of their communities. Community participation can take various forms, such as public consultations, community meetings, participatory budgeting, and citizen advisory groups.

Many cities around the world have adopted community participation as an essential component of urban governance. In India, the government has introduced several policies and programs to encourage community participation in urban governance, such as the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), which mandates the involvement of citizens and community groups in the planning and implementation of urban infrastructure projects.

During the session following topics were discussed in detail: Public Participation in SWM Systems, challenges of community participation, and theory and practice of community participation.

Conclusion

The programme was well appreciated. Participants were enthusiastic to put what was learnt into practice. A certificate of attendance was awarded to each participant who attended the workshop.

Programme Schedule

10:00-10:30hrs	Registration & Welcome Tea
10:30-11:00 hrs	Welcome Address: Amit Babu , Programme Associate, CUTS Opening Address & Overview of the Training Programme: Amar Deep Singh , Senior Programme Officer, CUTS
11:00 – 12:00 hrs	Technical Session by: Dachepally Sudhakar , Lead Resource Person; Former Executive Engineer (Retd.), GHMC, Hyderabad Topic 1 :Municipal Finance
<i>12:00-12:30 hrs</i>	<i>Tea Break</i>
12:30--13:30 hrs	Topic 2: Solid Waste Management Dachepally Sudhakar , Lead Resource Person
<i>13:30 -14:30 hrs</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:30-15:45 hrs	Topic 3 & 4 : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable Transportation• Community Participation By Dachepally Sudhakar , Lead Resource Person Open discussion
15:45-16:00 hrs	Distribution of Certificates Summing up & vote of thanks: CUTS

List of Participants

S.No.	Name	Designation and Organisation
1	Hanuman Ram	Junior Engineer, Nagar Palika, Sanchor (Jalore)
2	Jagdish Ram	Junior Engineer, Nagar Palika, Balesar Satan
3	Mahendra Singh Rajpurohit	Junior Engineer, Nagar Palika, Falna
4	Kailash Chandra Sharma	Sr. Accounts Officer
5	Nitesh Choudhary	A.Cn, Nagar Nigam North, Jodhpur
6	Ankit Purohit	AEN (NNJ, West)
7	Chhail Raman	E.N. Jailanu
8	Natum Bain Bairwa	JEN, Jaipur Jaitaran
9	Manoj Purohit	ARI, Sumerpur
10	Ashutosh Acharya	EO, Bhinmal
11	Vinay Bora	Ex. Eng., MC, Sirohi
12	Ramesh Rohin	Jr. Assistant, Nagar Palika, Raniwara
13	Ritesh Rangan	JEN, Nagar Parishad, Barmer
14	Deen Mohd.	Co-NP, Rani
15	Madan Lal	EO, N.P., Thakkathgad
16	Manohar Lal	JE, Bhopalgarh, Palika
17	Mohan Lal Meena	JEN, Nagar Palika, Pindwara
18	Bharat Tepan	SE
19	Shiv Dayal Dave	Jr. Accountant, Pokaran
20	Kailash	LDC, Pokaran
21	Amar Singh Meena	JEN, Nagar Parishad, Jalore
22	Madan Lal Suthar	Assistant Town Planner, Nagar Parishad, Balotra
23	Akshya Rajpurohit	RI, Nagar Palika, Pipar City
24	Om Dadhich	EO, MB, Marwar Junc.
25	Aizaz Ahmed Quazi	AEN, MB, Abu Road
26	Mahendra Rajpurohit	EO, Jawai
27	Sushil Kumar Purohit	RD, Shivganj
28	Praveen Gehlot	XEN, NNJ South
29	Deepak Kumar Meena	JEN, Rani, Pali
30	Ravi Kumar Khanna	RO, Nagar Nigam, Jodhpur
31	Sudhakar Dacheppally	Resource Person
32	Amar Deep Singh	Senior Programme Officer, CUTS, Jaipur
33	Amit Babu	Programme Associate, CUTS, Jaipur

Glimpses

