



Australian Government

Supported by Australian High Commission, New Delhi



Project Inception Meeting

Capacity Building and Financial Management for Effective and Sustainable Urban Governance



01 | WEDNESDAY
JUNE, 2022
JAIPUR, 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.

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.

Objective

The main objective of the meeting was to formally launch the project and disseminate information in the presence of a wider audience and relevant stakeholders.

Proceedings

Amar Deep Singh, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS, greeted all guests and participants. He gave a brief overview of the event's objectives. He presented a brief and detailed explanation of our most efficient and effective way of work in urban government, including all accomplishments and obstacles. He also shared the details of project activities, including inception meeting, expert consultation, developing position paper, training manual and organising training workshops for ULB officials in four selected cities of Rajasthan.



OPENING ADDRESS:

George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS, mentioned that Rajasthan's urban population is around 1.70 crore, 24.9 percent of the total population. In contrast, the rural population stands at 5.15 crore, 75.1 percent of the total population. Such a rise in urban population implies increased demand for goods and services and the requirement of efficient systems for urban planning, management and governance. Therefore, addressing urban development and transformation, urban inequalities and bringing suitable reformation within the urban governance system changes is India's most important political and intellectual challenge.



Various studies have pointed out that the state of municipal finances in the country is not in good shape. Municipal revenue continues to account for a small share of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and has remained stagnant at around one percent of GDP from 2007-08 to 2017-18. 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 rightly devolved funds directly to ULBs but wrongly burdened them with additional functions. He reminded Sustainable Development Goal on Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) that urges countries to have a renewed focus on urban governance and make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. The goal aims to set the basis for urban-planning techniques and policies for the future.

He further added municipal bonds are an option available to large cities to raise resources for financing long-term projects such as infrastructure development. It is an ideal way for ULBs to finance development projects and raise money. Countries like the United States have had a long experience using municipal bonds to fund the development of cities and their infrastructure. Rapid urbanisation brings along with it many other challenges. This includes increased demand for affordable housing, well-connected and affordable transport systems and other local infrastructure and basic services, and jobs to ensure that the rising population is well-absorbed and integrated into the city.

Besides, the pandemic's uncertainty and severity are challenging not only the public health infrastructure but also the economy and social fabric of the state. Like in other parts of the country, most of the cities in Rajasthan practice a mere 'collect and dump' type model.

In September 2018, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India conducted a performance audit of 22 ULBs from 2012-13 to 2016-17 and trashed the efforts of ULBs in Rajasthan on waste disposal and said there were no effective plans for reducing, reusing and recycling of the waste in most of the ULBs.

ADDRESS BY THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Vasudevan Suresh, Former CMD, HUDCO & President of Good Governance India Foundation, presented the rapid rise in population and subsequent urbanisation. He said it was projected in 2017 that nearly 40 lakh crore investment would be required to improve urban facilities and infrastructure, including sanitation, transportation and water. Rajasthan has done much to ensure slum-free cities, but more needs to be done. He highlighted that the need for instituting the office of a regulatory authority with statutory power for all local self-government institutions is vital to keep an eye on the functioning of all municipal bodies. Such a body with independent powers to probe and penalise, in addition to the normal law and justice system, could be used to check misuse of office and unsatisfactory working.



SPECIAL ADDRESS

Barry O'Farrell AO, Australia 's High Commissioner to India, congratulated CUTS on launching the urban governance project. Due to his official commitment, he could not attend the physical meeting. He stressed on the partnership with India on the water, agriculture, and renewable energy issue. Public administration and good governance are key pillars of Australia's partnership with India. He highlighted urban governance is one of the key areas where India and Australia have a formal strategic alliance. The Prime Minister of India reaffirms the importance of the partnership. He added that organisations like CUTS understand the importance of local governance and community participation in urban governance. Australia is celebrating India's 75 years of independence in 2022.



Abhijeet Kumar, Bharatpur Mayor, Municipal Corporation, said there is a need to set up a municipal regulatory authority in Rajasthan. Local self-governments (LSGs) are given tasks, but they lack the power and administrative infrastructure to carry them out. He further spoke about numerous administrative and financial issues within LSGs. There is a need to be given autonomy to local government authorities to handle and solve their concerns. He emphasised that if local governments are given power, particularly in the tax and financial departments, they can effectively manage policies.



Mahendra Soni, IAS, Commissioner, Jaipur Municipal Corporation (Greater) said that if we as individuals correct ourselves, India's crisis can be solved within 6 months. He said all of us as a society expect many entitlements. Still, there is an urgent need for each stakeholder and citizen to recognise their responsibilities for effective urban governance in their city. He emphasised that while government design is not critical, the existing design must be properly implemented.



S N Singh, Chairman, Swachh Nagar Sanstha, said government functionaries should be more accessible to the common citizen. There is a need for separation of power at the LSG level. Also, municipal ward level committees should be strengthened.



Himani Tiwari, CMAR, Dept. of Local Self-Government, Govt. of Rajasthan, highlighted the government's initiatives, strategies and programmes related to urban governance. In the last five years, Indore has secured a top place as India's cleanest city. Why not Rajasthan? Similarly, she emphasised that Rajasthan can only be in one condition when we all work together, and our collaborative work helps Rajasthan to be the cleanest city in India.



Summing up & vote of Thanks

Amit Babu, CUTS International, thanked all speakers for their practical solutions and recommendations. Last he expressed gratitude to the participants for actively participating in the meeting.



Key Takeaways

Regulatory framework and reforms are required in urban areas. Rising urban population imply increased demand for goods and services, as well as the need for efficient urban planning, management, and governance systems.

India's municipal finances in the country are not in good shape. The Sustainable Development Goal on Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) urges countries to have a renewed focus on urban governance. SDG 11 aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Municipal revenue continues to account for a small share of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and has remained stagnant at around one percent of GDP for many years. India can learn from other countries like the US that have long experience of using municipal bonds to fund cities for development and raise resources and money. However, the lack of interest from investors was due to the fact that these bonds were not tradable and lacked regulatory clarity.

CAG of India conducted a performance audit of 22 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and discovered that there were no effective waste reduction, reuse, and recycling plans in Rajasthan.

Improvement of urban facilities and infrastructure, including sanitation, transportation and water, requires 40 lakh crore investment. Rajasthan has done much to ensure slum-free cities, but more needs to be done. The need for a regulatory authority with statutory powers for all local self-government institutions is vital. Such a body could be used to check misuse of service powers and unsatisfactory work at local level.

All citizens need to understand their responsibility for effective urban governance in their city. An individual must be required to help the government implement the existing design.

Conclusion and the Way Forward

After the discussion comes to conclusion and finds practical solutions that are about to create awareness among the public, more initiatives should be taken concerning urban development. Active involvement of local self-government (LSGs) is required to bring a strong regulatory framework in their city and better implementation. Forming a regulatory authority with legislative jurisdiction for all local self-government institutions is critical to keep an eye on the operation of all municipal authorities and act as a people's sentinel.

Tantative Programme Schedule

10:00-10:30 hrs	Registration & Welcome Tea
Inaugural Session 10:30-12:30 hrs	<p><i>Welcome Address:</i> Amar Deep Singh, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS</p> <p><i>Opening Remarks:</i> George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS International</p> <p><i>Keynote Speaker:</i> Vasudevan Suresh, Former CMD, HUDCO</p> <p><i>Special Address:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Barry O'Farrell AO, Australia 's High Commissioner to India• Abhijeet Kumar, Bharatpur Mayor, Municipal Corporation• Mahendra Soni, IAS, Commissioner, Jaipur Municipal Corporation (Greater)• S N Singh, Chairman, Swachh Nagar Sanstha• Himani Tiwari, CMAR, Dept. of Local Self-Government, Govt. of Rajasthan
Closing Session 12:30-13:00 hrs	<p><i>Open Discussion:</i> Participants</p> <p><i>Vote of Thanks:</i> Amit Babu, Programme Associate, CUTS</p>
13:00 hrs onwards	Lunch & Departure

List of Participants

S.No.	Name	Address
1	Dharmendra Haldenia	Shiv Shikshan Sansthan, Jaipur
2	Rekha Rani Sharma	Shiv Shikshan Sansthan, Jaipur
3	Murlidhar	Sahyog Samajik Sansthan, Jaipur
4	M.L. Pareek	Labour Education and Development Society, Jaipur
5	Dr. Himani Tiwari	Directorate of Local Bodies, GoR, Jaipur
6	Radhika Sharma	Jeevna Ashram Sanstha, Jaipur
7	Satya Narain Singh	Swatchh Nagar Sanstha
8	Nand Kishore Dubey	LAADO NGO
9	Hemraj Singh	LAADO NGO
10	Mahendra Soni	Commissioner, JMC, Greater
11	Devendra Singh	Active Citizen
12	Mohini	Active Citizen
13	Akhilesh Maheshwari	Naya Savera NGO, Nirman Nagar, Jaipur
14	Rakesh Mali	Shorya Seva Sansthan, Mahesh Nagar, Jaipur
15	Santosh Saini	Shorya Seva Sansthan, Mahesh Nagar, Jaipur
16	Rahul	Records Sansthan, Sanganer
17	Abhishek Pareek	Pehchan Sanstha, Jaipur
18	Leela Sharma	Sahyog Samajik Sansthan, Jaipur
19	M.L. Sharma	RWA
20	B.R. Sharma	President, Hardev Vihar Vikas Samiti, Jaipur
21	Harish Chandra Sharma	RWA
22	Himmat Singh Rathore	RWA
23	R.K. Sharma	Navjeevan Society, 19, Sharma Colony, Jaipur
24	Siyaram Sain	RWA
25	Kapil Sharma	RWA
26	Mahendra Sain	RWA
27	Kishan Lal Sain	RWA
28	Bhawana Sain	RWA
29	Manoj Jain	Pehchan Sanstha, Jaipur
30	Dr. Amit Kumar	Kumarappa Sansthan

S.No.	Name	Address
31	Abhijeet Kumar	Mayor, Bharatpur Municipal Corporation
32	Ashok Kanoongo	Honhaar Sansthan, 49, Rameshwar Dham, Murlipura, Jaipur
33	Sarita	Honhaar Sansthan, 49, Rameshwar Dham, Murlipura, Jaipur
34	Ashok Kumar	Parivar Seva Sansthan, Jaipur
35	Nikita Sharma	Parivar Seva Sansthan, Jaipur
36	Jitendra Singh	RWA
37	Arun Joshi	Moulik Foundation, Jaipur
38	Girdhari Yadav	Commissioner Office, JMC
39	Ajay Singh	RWA
40	Pratibha Jain	CUTS, Jaipur
41	Dharmendra Chaturvedi	CUTS, Jaipur
42	Amar Deep Singh	CUTS, Jaipur
43	George Cheriyan	CUTS, Jaipur
44	Amit Babu	CUTS, Jaipur

Glimpses









Media Coverage

Voice of Jaipur

HOME BUSINESS DIVINE ENTERTAINMENT LITERATURE HEALTH

Jaipur, June 01, 2021. The need for instituting the office of a regulatory authority with statutory power for all local self-government institutions is vital to keep an eye on the functioning of all municipal bodies, to be a citizens' sentinel. Such a body with independent powers to probe and penalise, in addition to the normal law and justice system, could be used to check misuse of office, unsatisfactory working and shed a light on needed change at local level said Vasudevan Suresh, Former CMD, HUDCO & President Good Governance India Foundation during CUTS's the inception of a project titled ["Improving City Governance Through Enhancing Knowledge of Urban Local Bodies in Rajasthan"](#) which is in partnership with the Australian High Commission under its Direct Aid Programme.

He further added municipal bond is a new buzz word for local self-government to finance its capital expenditures, including the construction of bridges or schools. However, the lack of interest from the investor due to the fact that these bonds were not tradable and lacked regulatory clarity.

George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS mentioned in his opening address that currently, Rajasthan's urban population is around 1.70 crore that is 24.9 per cent of the total population whereas the rural population stands at 5.15 crore which is 75.1 per cent of the total population. Such a rise in urban population implies increased demand for goods and services, and requirement of efficient systems for urban planning, management and governance. Therefore, addressing urban development and transformation, urban inequalities and bringing in suitable reformation within the urban governance system to address these changes is certainly the most important political and intellectual challenges for India. 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 that rightly devolved funds directly to the urban local bodies but wrongly burdened them with more additional functions to be performed. He reminded, Sustainable Development Goal on Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) urges countries to have a renewed focus on urban governance and make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

From time-to-time various studies have pointed out that the state of municipal finances in the country is not in a good shape. Municipal revenue continues to account for a small share of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and has remained stagnant at around one percent of GDP for past many years. Municipal bonds are an option available to large cities to raise resources for financing long term projects such as infrastructure development. It's an ideal way for ULBs to finance development projects and raise money, George added.

His Excellency Barry O'Farrell AO, Australia's High Commissioner to India, through a recorded video message for the urban governance project and highlighted urban governance is one of the key areas where India-Australia strategic partnership.

During his special address Abhijeet Kumar, Mayor, Bharatpur Municipal Corporation reiterated that the municipal regulatory authority in Rajasthan. Responsibilities are entrusted to local self-governments power to fulfil those responsibilities nor any administrative setup. There are lot of administrative and



शहरी निकायों की बेहतर कार्य कुशलता हेतु नगरपालिका नियामक आवश्यक- विषय विशेषज्ञ

छोलामारू न्यूज
जयपुर। कन्व्यूमर यूनिटी एण्ड ट्रस्ट सोसायटी (कट्स) जयपुर द्वारा आज आस्ट्रेलियन हाईकमीशन के सहयोग से शहरी निकायों के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया गया। कार्यक्रम में शहरी निकायों की वित्तीय क्षमतावर्धन हेतु विभिन्न विशेषज्ञों ने कई सुझाव दिए, कार्यक्रम में वासुदेवन सुरेश, पूर्व सी.एम.डी., हुडको ने बताया कि शहरों में जिस तरह से विकास की जरूरत है, उस तरह से वित्तीय सहायता शहरी निकायों के पास उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाती है। हालांकि भारत सरकार के सहयोग से कई बड़ी परियोजनाएं शहरों के विकास के लिए अमृत मिशन एवं स्मार्ट सिटी जैसे कई परियोजनाएं संचालित की जा रही हैं। शहरी निकायों के पास वित्तीय एकत्रीकरण के तरीकों में सबसे बड़ा सोर्स प्रोपर्टी रजिस्ट्रेशन से प्राप्त धनराशि हो सकती है। जबकि

वर्तमान समय में यह राशी राज्य सरकार प्राप्त कर रही है। दूसरा तरीका म्यूनिसिपल बॉन्ड के माध्यम से शहरी निकाय वित्तीय प्रबन्ध कर सकते हैं। वासुदेवन सुरेश ने अपने अनुभव के आधार पर शहरी निकायों की वित्तीय प्रबन्धन क्षमता बढ़ाने के तरीके बताए। कार्यक्रम में भारतपुर नगर निगम के महापौर अभिजीत कुमार ने बताया कि शहरी निकायों में नगर परिषद/नगर निगम में चर्चित जन प्रतिनिधियों के पास जिम्मेदारी तो बहुत है, लेकिन पर्याप्त अधिकार नहीं होने से जनप्रतिनिधि इच्छा रखते हुए भी शहरी विकास के कार्य नहीं कर पाते हैं। जॉर्ज चेरियन, निदेशक, 'कट्स' ने कहा कि जैसा कि महात्मा गांधी ने कहा कि भारत ग्रामों में निवास करता है। बढ़ते हुए शहरीकरण के प्रभाव से आज ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोग शहरों की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं। 24 प्रतिशत लोग प्रति वर्ष शहरों की ओर पलायन करते हैं।

भारत के बाहर के देशों में शहरी निकायों के महापौर को बहुत अधिक शक्तियां/अधिकार प्राप्त हैं। कार्यक्रम में जयपुर नगर निगम (वेटर) के आयुक्त महेन्द्र सोनी ने बताया कि प्रशासनिक अधिकारी बड़ी निष्ठा के साथ कार्य को अंजाम देते हैं तथा वे सभी शहरी विकास के लिए प्रतिबद्ध रहते हैं। लेकिन इसमें जनता का सहयोग भी अपेक्षित है। सम्मेलन के प्रारम्भिक उद्घोषण में 'कट्स' के अमर दीप सिंह, वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि शहरी निकायों की किस तरह से वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन की जाए, सत्यनारायण सिंह, अध्यक्ष, स्वच्छ नगर संस्था ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि जिस तरह से शहरीकरण हो रहा है, उस तरह से आम लोगों को इसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। राज्य में सभी निकायों का वित्तीय स्थिति बहुत कमजोर है।

<https://voiceofjaipur.com/7789>

शहरी निकायों की बेहतर कार्य कुशलता हेतु नगरपालिका नियामक आवश्यक-विषय विशेषज्ञ

■ जयपुर मूलानी टाइम्स

जयपुर। कन्सुमर ग्रुपिटी एण्ड ट्रस्ट सोसायटी (कट्स) जयपुर द्वारा आज आस्ट्रेलियन हाईकमिशन के सहयोग से शहरी निकायों के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया गया। कार्यक्रम में शहरी निकायों की वित्तीय क्षमतावर्धन हेतु विभिन्न विषयों ने कई सुझाव दिए। कार्यक्रम में वामुदेवन सुरेश, पूर्व सी.एम.डी., हुडको ने बताया कि शहरों में जिस तरह से विकास की जरूरत है, उस तरह से वित्तीय सहायता शहरी निकायों के पास उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाती है। हालांकि भारत सरकार के सहयोग से कई बड़ी परियोजनाएँ शहरों के विकास के लिए अमृत



मिशन एवं स्मार्ट सिटी जैसी कई परियोजनाएँ संचालित की जा रही हैं। शहरी निकायों के पास वित्तीय एकीकरण के तरीकों में सबसे बड़ा मोर्स प्रोपटी रजिस्ट्रेशन से प्राप्त धनराशि हो सकती है। जबकि वर्तमान समय में यह राशी राज्य सरकार प्राप्त कर रही है। दूसरा

तरीका म्युनिसिपल बांड के माध्यम से शहरी निकाय वित्तीय प्रबन्ध कर सकते हैं। वामुदेवन सुरेश ने अपने अनुभव के आधार पर शहरी निकायों की वित्तीय प्रबन्धन क्षमता बढ़ाने के तरीके बताएँ। कार्यक्रम में भरतपुर नगर निगम के महापौर अभिजीत कुमार ने बताया कि शहरी

निकायों में नगर परिषद/ नगर निगम में चयनित जन प्रतिनिधियों के पास जिम्मेदारी तो बहुत है, लेकिन पर्याप्त अधिकार नहीं होने से जनप्रतिनिधि इच्छा रखते हुए भी शहरी विकास के कार्य नहीं कर पाते हैं। जॉर्ज बेरियन, निदेशक, 'कट्स' ने कहा कि 'जैसा कि महात्मा गांधी ने कहा कि भारत ग्रामीणों में निवास करता है। बढ़ते हुए शहरीकरण के प्रभाव से आज ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोग शहरों की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं। 24 प्रतिशत लोग प्रति वर्ष शहरों की ओर पलायन करते हैं। भारत के बाहर के देशों में शहरी निकायों के महापौर को बहुत अधिक शक्तियाँ/अधिकार प्राप्त हैं। कार्यक्रम में जयपुर नगर निगम (ट्रेटर) के आयुक्त महेन्द्र

सोनी ने बताया कि प्रशासनिक अधिकारी बड़ी निष्ठा के साथ कार्य को अंजाम देते हैं तथा वे सभी शहरी विकास के लिए प्रतिबद्ध रहते हैं। लेकिन इसमें जनता का सहयोग भी अपेक्षित है। सम्मेलन के प्रारम्भिक उद्घोषण में 'कट्स' के अमर टीप सिंह, वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि शहरी निकायों की किस तरह से वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन की जाए। सत्यनारायण सिंह, अध्यक्ष, स्वच्छ नगर संस्था ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि जिस तरह से शहरीकरण हो रहा है, उस तरह से आम लोगों को इसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। राज्य में सभी निकायों का वित्तीय स्थिति बहुत कमजोर है।

दैनिक हेडलाइन न्यूज़

प्रदेश हेडलाइन

जनसंख्या की गति के अनुरूप शहरों में विकास कार्य नहीं हो पाए हैं

—शहरी निकायों के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम

हेडलाइन न्यूज़ | खेपट

कन्सुमर ग्रुपिटी एण्ड ट्रस्ट सोसायटी (कट्स) जयपुर द्वारा आस्ट्रेलियन हाईकमिशन के सहयोग से शहरी निकायों के वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन कार्यक्रम का शुभारम्भ किया गया। कार्यक्रम में शहरी निकायों की वित्तीय क्षमतावर्धन हेतु विभिन्न विषयों ने कई सुझाव दिए, जिनमें मुख्यतः बेहतर कार्य कुशलता हेतु नगरपालिका नियामक को स्थान, म्युनिसिपल बांड जारी करना, सरकारी संस्थाओं से ऋण लेना, प्रोपर्टी टैक्स, प्रोपर्टी के पंजीयन, विकास पूर्ण लोडिंग के माध्यम से वित्तीय प्रबन्ध करना आदि। कार्यक्रम में वामुदेवन सुरेश पूर्व सी.एम.डी., हुडको ने बताया कि

शहरों में जिस तरह से विकास की जरूरत है, उस तरह से वित्तीय सहायता शहरी निकायों के पास उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाती है। हालांकि भारत सरकार के सहयोग से कई बड़ी परियोजनाएँ शहरों के विकास के लिए अमृत मिशन एवं स्मार्ट सिटी जैसी कई परियोजनाएँ संचालित की जा रही हैं। उन्होंने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि जिस गति से जनसंख्या बढ़ी है, उस गति से शहरों में विकास कार्य नहीं हो पाए हैं। भरतपुर नगर निगम के महापौर अभिजीत कुमार ने बताया कि शहरी निकायों में नगर परिषद, नगर निगम में चयनित जन प्रतिनिधियों के पास जिम्मेदारी तो बहुत है, लेकिन पर्याप्त अधिकार नहीं होने से जनप्रतिनिधि इच्छा रखते हुए भी शहरी विकास के कार्य नहीं कर पाते हैं। जॉर्ज बेरियन निदेशक

'कट्स' ने कहा कि 'जैसा कि महात्मा गांधी ने कहा कि भारत ग्रामीणों में निवास करता है। बढ़ते हुए शहरीकरण के प्रभाव से आज ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोग शहरों की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं। जयपुर नगर निगम (ट्रेटर) के आयुक्त महेन्द्र सोनी ने बताया कि प्रशासनिक अधिकारी बड़ी निष्ठा के साथ कार्य को अंजाम देते हैं तथा वे सभी शहरी विकास के लिए प्रतिबद्ध रहते हैं। 'कट्स' के अमर टीप सिंह वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि शहरी निकायों की किस तरह से वित्तीय प्रबन्धन पर क्षमतावर्धन की जाए। सत्यनारायण सिंह, अध्यक्ष, स्वच्छ नगर संस्था ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि जिस तरह से शहरीकरण हो रहा है, उस तरह से आम लोगों को



इसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। राज्य में सभी निकायों का वित्तीय स्थिति बहुत कमजोर है।

सम्मेलन के प्रारम्भिक उद्घोषण में 'कट्स' के अमर टीप सिंह वरिष्ठ कार्यक्रम अधिकारी ने प्रतिभागियों को बताया कि जिस तरह से शहरीकरण हो रहा है, उस तरह से आम लोगों को इसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है।

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