

Closing Press Note

9th Municipalika, the biggest-ever, concludes in Bengaluru after unprecedented response

Bengaluru, 29th January, 2011: Municipalika, 9th International Conference and Exhibition on 'Good Urban Governance for Safe, Healthy, Green & Smart Cities' came to an end today after an unprecedented response. The Valedictory Session cum Awards Function was attended by a large number of conference delegates and exhibition participants. Shri Rajesh Munot, Hon'ble Urban Development Minister of Chhattisgarh was the Chief Guest at the closing function, while the Guests of Honour were Dr A Ravindra, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Karnataka on Urban Affairs, and Shri Shambhu Dayal Meena, Secretary, Urban Development, Government of Karnataka. Also present on the occasion were Shri Anjum Parwez, Commissioner, Municipal Administration, Government of Karnataka, Shri V Suresh, Convenor of Municipalika, and Shri Sanjiv Agarwal, Founder-Trustee, Good Governance India Foundation, the organisers of Municipalika.

Shri Munot outlined the initiatives in the state of Chattisgarh in the area of urban infrastructure development, and provision of better municipal and basic services. He said that the fact that Chattisgarh had sent a large delegation to Municipalika, comprising a number of Mayors, Municipal Commissioners and Urban Officials was testimony to the importance which the state was putting in this sector.

Dr Ravindra recounted his past association with Municipalika, and how the event had evolved over the years. He said that now there should also be an effort to take forward the discussions and the recommendations in an institutional manner, going beyond the 3-day event.

Shri V Suresh, Convenor of Municipalika 2011 and Advisor Good Governance India Foundation, made a presentation summarising the activities during the 3-day event, the discussions and deliberations, and the key points and recommendations arising out of the interactions. The Summary of Presentation is given As Annexure 1 following the Press Release.

In the Awards Function, Exhibitors were awarded in various categories for their effective and attractive displays and stalls. **Please refer to the Awards List (Annexure 2) for details.**

On 27th January, Municipalika was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri B S Yeddyurappa in the presence of Shri S Suresh Kumar, Hon'ble Minister for Urban Development, Municipalities, Law & Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Karnataka, Shri S K Nataraj, the Hon'ble Mayor of Bruhat Bengaluru

Mahanagara Palike, Shri Subir Hari Singh, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development, Shri Shambhu Dayal Meena, Secretary, Urban Development, Shri Anjum Parwez, Commissioner, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Shri Sanjiv Agarwal, Founder Trustee of Good Governance India Foundation and Shri V Suresh, (Former CMD – HUDCO), Convenor of Municipalika and Advisor, Good Governance India Foundation, besides a large number of senior urban and municipal officials, and private industry.

Municipalika is the only event of its kind in the country, focussing on Municipal and local governance. The three day conference and exhibition was attended by Mayors, Municipal Commissioners, and senior urban development officials from the Central and State Governments and Urban Local Bodies from all over India. It is the first event of its kind in Karnataka.

120 national and international experts and professionals made presentations in the conference, which was attended by over 1000 delegates from 125 cities and towns from all over India and abroad.

While the largest number of delegates, over 400, is understandably from the Host State Karnataka, Municipalika also had wide participation from all corners of the country.

Municipalika 2011 provided a platform to take stock of the progress under various schemes like the JNNURM, to assess the potential and the problems, to share best practices, replicate success stories, and to map future strategies and solutions.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) extended its all out support and participated in a big way as the Host City. BBMP officials made presentations on the good work being done in Bengaluru in areas like solid-waste management, e-governance, energy efficiency, health etc.

Among the leading partner organisations of Municipalika 2011 were the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (Partner City), US Department of Energy and Cisco (Associate Sponsors) and Autodesk (Knowledge Partners).

Besides strong support from the state, Municipalika 2011 was supported by the Government of India Ministries of Urban Development, and Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation. Among other urban institutions which participated and gave support were the National Institute of Urban Affairs, All India Institute of Local Self Government, and the City Managers Association of Karnataka.

There were 11 extensive conference sessions having deliberations in various areas like urban reforms, safety and security, water and waste water, solid waste management, energy efficiency, environment, affordable housing and e-governance among other issues. Each of the sessions highlighted the challenges, major

initiatives and actionable agenda needed for creating sustainable and inclusive cities. The session had over 120 presentations by expert speakers followed by high quality floor interventions.

Annexure 1

The following major points of observations and recommendations emerged:

Cities with vision documents and CDPs are the ones that come forward, with in best practices and well conceived projects under JNNURM. The vision document guides the action plan and a sustained support should be provided for actualizing the plans.

It is desirable to analyse the unfinished reformed agenda for 2011 to ensure that these are completed within the time frame and take up second generation reforms.

The potential of decentralization is immense and should involve stakeholders at the local/micro- level and monitoring and exhibition of projects in the decentralized mode with intense community participation.

There should be a uniform code of selection and conduct for mayors, city managers, for all local governments.

Professionalism and transparency of functions is required for efficient city management.

Culture is changing fast and there is an imminent need to adapt to new realities and plan policies accordingly with cities adopting new technologies and skill sets to execute them. Possible flexibilities needed for diverse regional needs.

There is a need to augment the existing knowledge systems, technical and financial resources base in small cities and towns along with attending the unsustainability issues in mega cities.

In order to achieve long term sustainability there should be focus on strengthening local processes and local relationships.

Inclusive planning to provide for the marginalized, poor and disadvantaged is a major message for future city planning. Thirty cities have been credit rated. Municipal bonds are a good source of raising resources.

Disaster mitigation and preparation to deal with natural and man made disaster has to be one of the major areas that require attention at the local body level. Most of the cities are ill-prepared

City disaster management plans should be prepared and the multi disciplinary team are fully co coordinated to get into operational gear when disaster strikes.

Keeping in view the limited land and high costs, high rise development has become necessary. The safety aspects from all points of view have to be kept in view and the building bye laws and enforcements have to care of the same.

As part of the slum development strategy under JNNURM, IHSDP and BSUP in addition to efforts for providing adequate and affordable shelter and basic services equal attention should be given for poverty alleviation, job creation and skill development.

All efficient water management system including waste water recycling has to be introduced compulsorily and revive traditional system and also involve communities to deal with the present crisis.

There is a greater need for utilization of the state of the art technologies in waste management of all categories including conversion of waste wealth in all its forms.

Keeping in view the large scale auto mobile revolution in cities there is an urgent need to encourage and strengthen public transportation modes and using less polluting, energy efficient public transportation modes.

Considering the large impact of global warming and climate change, there is a major need to adopt technologies and practices which we contribute to creating environment friendly ecologically appropriate and energy efficient built environment.

Considering the limited availability of land there is sufficient scope to increase FAR/FSI commensurate with infrastructure addition. E- governance to be given top priority for transparency, information sharing, provision of services to the citizens in user friendly and efficient manner. Modern tools of GIS/GPS and remote sensing to be utilized for city based information system and properties, natural resources and planning for development and infrastructure, both above and below grounds.

The initiative for Public-Private-People's Partnership (PPPP) to be encouraged for housing and infrastructure initiative for all the groups.

There is an imperative to strengthen local bodies through capacity building at the level of mayors, councillors, city managers, and service providers to deal with the multi dimensional development needs to make cities work. Appropriate training modules suiting each group have to be evolved.

The theme of Municipalika 2011 - "Good Urban Governance for Safe, Healthy, Green and Smart Cities" - encapsulated the most relevant areas of urban development, management and governance today.

In addition, the event also had 3 **Vision Addresses** on the first day delivered by Dr. A Ravindra, Urban Affairs Advisor to the Hon'ble CM, Government of Karnataka, Shri Mark Ginsberg, Senior Executive, US Department of Energy and Shri Keith Clarke, CEO, Atkins, UK.

Open House Citizens Interface held by Mayors and Commissioners witnessed outstanding interaction with the audience on the second day taking the delegates beyond the hard-core technical areas.

Co-terminus with the conference was the 9th International Exhibition on Urban Infrastructure, Municipal Services and Built-Environment : an exposition, display and live demonstration of technologies, products, and solutions in a wide range of technical areas like water & waste water management, solid waste management & recycling, cleaning technologies & conservancy, environment protection, pollution control, energy efficiency, sustainability, urban infrastructure development, safety and security, disaster management, urban transportation & traffic management, urban e-governance & IT solutions, and construction & building technologies.

Municipalika had over 125 exhibitors comprising technology providers, as well as ULBs and urban parastatals. Almost all the urban para-statals, as well as related departments and organisations from Karnataka showcased their work, projects and achievements in the exhibition segment.

PPP or Public Private Partnerships was one of the focus areas, and many PPP initiatives were showcased in the conference and exhibition.

Municipalika has over the last eight years been organized in New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Ahmedabad. The conference segment is organized by Good Governance India Foundation, while the exhibition logistics are handled by Fairfest Media Limited.

Annexure 2

Municipalika 2011 Bengaluru Awards

[Certificates of Appreciation]

MOST PROMISING NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR URBAN APPLICATIONS

HCL INFO SYSTEMS

INFORMATIVE BOOTH

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE BOARD

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, CHITRADURGA

BANGALORE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

DIRECTORATE OF URBAN LAND TRANSPORT

RANGE OF APPLICATIONS (PRIVATE)

ECO NIRVANA

OTTO WASTE SYSTEMS (I) PVT LTD

[AWARDS]

DISPLAY

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (PAVILIONS)

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

MYSORE CITY CORPORATION

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (BOOTHS)

SURAT MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

NASHIK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

URBAN PARASTATALS

BANGALORE METRO RAIL CORPORATION

PRIVATE (PAVILIONS)

ANTONY WASTE HANDLING CELL PVT LTD

ORGANIC RECYCLING SYSTEMS PVT LTD

ION EXCHANGE (INDIA) LTD

DOSHION LIMITED

PRIVATE (BOOTH)

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS INDIA LIMITED

PRIVATE (OPEN DISPLAY AREA)

KAM AVIDA ENVIRO ENGINEERS PVT LTD

MOST INCLUSIVE BOOTH

DIRECTORATE OF MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION, GOVT OF KARNATAKA

BEST CORPORATE PRESENTATION

CISCO SYSTEMS INDIA PVT LTD

AUTODESK INDIA PVT LTD

INTERPUMP HYDRAULICS INDIA PVT LTD

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