

National Level Activities during July - September, 2022

K K PANDEY*

Emerging Focus on Cities/Urban Areas

The third quarter of current fiscal has witnessed special mention on role of cities and urban area in the Amrit Mahotsav (75-100 years) of Independence at highest level of decision making. Hon'ble Prime Minister on 30th September emphasised, while inaugurating first phase of metro in Ahmedabad, that cities will shape India's vision to become a developed nation in next 25 years. It was also indicated that cities need to be reoriented in a regular manner as per changing times. Twin cities should be developed. Further cities should be built in line with global business demand, Gati Shakti National Master Plan, Logistics Policy and focus on speed with e-vehicle policy.

The address by Prime Minister reveals a direction in which cities are expected to move to drive the growth in next 25 years. It will be spelt out in terms of policies, missions, programmes and schemes at the intergovernmental level in due course.

Specific Events

Specific events during the quarter include: Swachh Bharat, City Infrastructure, Services & Housing, Digital Governance and Capacity Building

SWACHH BHARAT

1. Swachh Survekshan has been completed with coverage of 4354 ULBs including 90441 wards, 17000 commercial areas and around 25000 residential areas. The awards shall be announced and conferred in a special ceremony on 1st October, 2022. The Survekshan brings state of cleanliness in 90000+ wards in the country. (MoHUA, 30th September, 2022)
2. MoHUA organised tech Exhibition to display home grown technologies and provide answers to ever increasing dimensions of sanitation and Solid Waste Management (September 29, 2022)
3. The vision of Garbage Free Cities under Swachh Bharat Mission - U

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can be achieved by eliminating hazardous dumpsites in the cities. In this regard, the 'Lakshya Zero Dumpsite' furthers the eradication of garbage landfills within the cities under the mission goals of SBM - U 2.0 (MoHUA September 7, 2022)

4. SBM has facilitated safe sanitation services to a large number of urban population 70 lakhs In house/community toilets have been constructed keeping in view the requirements of women, transgender community and physically challenged persons (September 2, 2022)
5. Hon'ble LG Delhi, Shri V.K. Saxena flagged the sale of refuse-driven fuel to the JK Cement Industry by providing 05 trucks with 100 MT of RDF. The sale will further the effective elimination of garbage dumps from hazardous landfills and also generate revenue for the MCD (Municipal Corporation of Delhi).(September 1, 2022)

CITY INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & HOUSING (SCM, AMRUT & HFA)

1. 'United Nations- Smart Solutions and Inclusive Cities Awards 2022' was conferred by Shri Hardeep S. Puri, Hon'ble Minister, MoHUA, Govt of India. Joint Secretary, SCM, Shri Kunal Kumar, Mr. Shombi Sharp the UN Resident Coordinator in India & others were also present at the award ceremony.(September 1, 2022)
2. Urban Housing conclave will be organised in October 17-19 in Rajkot, Gujrat to have seven specific sessions on Slums, Private Sector, Innovative Construction Technologies, Enabling Eco System etc. (MoHUA September 30, 2022)
3. 1st Regional Workshop on 24x7 Water Supply Systems was organized by MoHUA, Govt. of India and CPHEEO at Puri. (September 29, 2022) The workshop deliberated on models and process used for 24x7 Water Supply.
4. Acclaimed beauty is source of life for numerous lives at Fateh Sagar Lake Udaipur being protected under National Mission-AMURT. (MoHUA- September 28, 2022)
5. Kodaikanal Lake is another spot being renovated under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). (September 27, 2022)
6. Jal Survekshan is conceptualised to assess and rank cities on quality of water in 485 AMRUT cities. (September 27, 2022)
7. Tiruchirappalli river front (2.6 km long canal) has undergone

redevelopment and has added tourism and attraction and safe environment in the vicinity. (September 27, 2022)

DIGITAL GOVERNANCE

1. The national urban digital mission aims to strengthen the capacity of India's States & UTs to leverage digital technology & e-governance to address critical urban challenges & facilitate online delivery of common municipal services across all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India. (September 28, 2022)
2. National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) covered 19 states under tripartite MoU for implementation of NUDM (MoHUA September 28, 2022)
3. Smart cities strive to improve citizen services and enhance the quality of life of the public. Indore, in the regard, will have all the addresses in the city in digital form.
4. PM SVANidhi is giving special focus on digital transactions with incentives. It will benefit formalisation of street Vendors and also support growth of urban economy. (September 2022)

CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Representatives from IIT Indore and National Institute of Disaster Management visited smart city Ujjain under community outreach programme to see the projects and understand the concept of smart city at ground level. (MoHUA, September 29, 2022)
2. Indo-French Seminar on sustainable urban Development was organised on September 27, 2022 to deliberate on managing waste, behaviour change and shared responsibility between govt. and citizen. (MoHUA September 27, 2022)
3. National Workshop covering twenty urban sector academic institutions on scaling up training for Climate Capacities was organised at Pride Plaza Hotel by GIZ, MoHUA and NIUA under Smart Cities Mission on 28th September, 2022. The workshop deliberated on follow-up on material developed under the mission through training of trainers, networking and customised training courses.
4. The workshop preceded two-day conference held on 26-27 September, 2022 on Mainstreaming Climate Action in Urban areas – Moving towards Climate Smart Cities. The conference of training institutions examined the manuals and other publications of GIZ/ NIUA project to adapt them in the training curriculum.