NIUA's Tribute to Shri Jagmohan Malhotra

Shri Jagmohan Malhotra passed away on 3 May 2021. With his passing away, we have lost an urban scholar of eminence, a passionate reformer, an institutional builder and, above all, a kind and generous human being. He was born on September 25, 1927 in Hafizabad. He was a former Indian civil servant, a politician, and a Founder Member of NIUA Governing Body since 1986. His contribution to urban policymaking has been exemplary—focused on nation’s progress and peace.

During his stint as Vice-Chairman, Delhi Development Authority Shri Jagmohan made landmark contributions in the formulation and implementation of Delhi Master Plan, and in planning of projects in Delhi. He served as cabinet minister for various portfolios including urban development, communications, and tourism and culture. He was known for his good management skills and innovative genre of schemes, such as, on land acquisition and development, slum redevelopment, and infrastructure development. His meritorious service with various ministries conferred him Padma Shri (1971) and Padma Bhusan (1977). Shri Jagmohan wrote several books such as Rebuilding Shahjahanabad-the Walled City of Delhi, The Challenge of Our Cities, and Triumphs and Tragedies of Ninth Delhi. Many in NIUA, including myself feel a personal loss in his passing away.

Hitesh Vaidya, Director, NIUA

Shri Jagmohan’s Vision of NIUA

Shri Jagmohan as Founder Member of NIUA Governing Council provided a strategic direction to the institute on informed decision-making and promoting action research on urban and regional development. He suggested for undertaking immediate tasks—advanced research on urban problems, assisting in policy making, strengthening the interaction on urban affairs, facilitating knowledge—to develop as a scientific research organisation.

NIUA Today

Building upon his ideas and principles, the institute has strengthened its objectives. NIUA is the apex think-tank for the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and a premier national institute for research, capacity building, policy advocacy and knowledge dissemination. NIUA has wide-ranging work and expertise in the urban sectors such as governance and policy, municipal finance, urban planning, inclusivity, climate change and resilience, urban information system, water and sanitation, and Sustainable Development Goals. The persistent efforts of Shri Jagmohan in the making of NIUA will be revered always.

NIUA’s Projects Covering Goal 15

1. Master Plan Delhi – 2041
   Developing a guiding framework for sustainable and inclusive development of Delhi
2. India Smart Cities Fellowship Program
   Mentoring young professionals to lead urban transformation in India
3. CapaCITIES
   Capacity building for mitigation and adaptation measures against climate change
4. Climate Smart Cities
   Future proofing Indian cities against climate change
5. Climate Smart Cities Assessment Framework
   A framework to assess current climate change situation in cities

(For Goals 1 to 14 please see back issues; Goal 16 to follow in next issue)

BASIC holds Public Consultation on Universal Accessibility

Building Accessible, Safe, Inclusive Indian Cities (BASIC) programme in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee, and with support from MoHUA organised a two-day event, Guidelines and Standards for Universal Accessibility in India on 22 and 24 April. The purpose of the consultation was to understand the needs and challenges faced by persons with disabilities (PwDs), elderly, women, children and their caregivers, to integrate them into building infrastructure. For more information on the public consultation, click here.

Online Version of Environment and Urbanization Journal is now Available

Environment and Urbanization ASIA, a peer-reviewed journal from NIUA, published by SAGE Publications, India aims to support the exchange of ideas and research findings in the field of urban settlements and environment across Asia. It is now available online. The journal is published bi-annually. The volume 12.1 (March 2021) can be found here.