

Urban poverty and revitalization in a globalising metropolis - Ahmedabad

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Ahmedabad, founded in 1411 AD, is the seventh largest metropolitan city in India located in the highly industrialized and urbanized state of Gujarat. The city is known for its enterprise, institutions, culture and architectural heritage. The pro-reform city government has raised its global profile by implementing mega projects like the river front development, bus rapid transit system and walled city revitalization project while the rapidly growing real estate businesses are re-defining the cityscape. On the other hand, about one-third of the city's population lives in the slums or slum-like conditions and 77 percent of the workers are employed in the informal sector. However, the city has strong micro-finance institutions inspired by the 'Gandhian' philosophy and innovative examples of urban partnerships like the 'slum networking program'.

In this context, the seminar examines the urban processes which are re-defining and appropriating urban space and considers whether environmental sustainability and poverty-alleviation policies are being compromised.

Dr. Shrawan Acharya



Dr. Acharya joined the FPPP, CEPT University in 1992 and heads the 'urban and regional planning' program. He has been conferred the Senior Fulbright Fellowship, ASIA Fellowship, the Shastri Indo-Canadian Fellowship and the University Grant Commission Fellowship. Of late, his research has focused on the redevelopment and marginalization issues in emerging Asian cities like Beijing, Hanoi and Ahmedabad. Understanding the

political economic development issues in the mountain communities in the Eastern Himalayas is his passion.

Dr. C. N. Ray



Dr. Ray joined the FPPP, CEPT University in 1986 and heads the 'rural planning and management' program. He specializes in the urban and rural sociological issues. His work focuses on rural and urban livelihood issues, disaster mitigation, post-disaster reconstruction and socio-economic impacts of infrastructure provisions. He takes up courses related to rural component and

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