

Smart Cities Mission Require Skills on Urban Informatics: Dr. Mehrotra

Gautam Buddha University, Department of Architecture & City Planning organized one Week course on Urban Informatics: Practice & Promise of Real Time city from March 7-12, 2019. First of its kind the workshop on Urban Informatics organized keeping in mind the PM Modi's Smart city Mission under which 263 cities have been covered till now under two phases. Experts from Town & Country Planning, National Informatics Centre and Information Technology Experts from IBM and School of ICT delivered training sessions to participants, who are basically from architecture & City Planning Background.

Dr. Namrata Saundh, Chief Architect NDMC inaugurated the session and gave detailed deliberation on the way Delhi is adopting Technology for improved quality of life and environment under Smart City Mission. Prof Bhagawti Prasad Sharma Honourable Vice Chancellor, congratulated participants for the new adding their capabilities in Urban Information Science, which has multiple uses in everyday life today. Interdisciplinary workshop like this will bring the hidden strengths of the two

sectors which can be used further to create innovative solutions for critical Urban Problems. Application of Internet of Things (IOT), Urban Big Data (UBD) Artificial Intelligence (AI) have been explained through models of smart city functioning. of housing shortage, air pollutions and resources optimisation through monitoring and recycling of waste. E Dhariti app was also discussed for digital land record keeping.



Inauguration by Dr. Namrata Saundh, Chief Architect New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) Delhi



Vice Chancellor addressing the course delegates



Welcome Address & Dignitaries on Dias with GBU Vice Chancellor Prof BP Sharma



Delegates Attending Sessions

Dr. Nirmita Mehrotra, city planner and senior architect, convener of the course along with Dr. Vimlesh Kumar and Dr. Naved Rizvi ICT Experts, explained the need of such similar program for understanding and building a skill set & capacity building, so that more and more people are included in Smart City Mission. These Web based Information Technologies have capability to solve many complex problems like air pollutions, waste management, energy conservation, engagement of citizens and innovative applications like LIFI That's Light Based Internet Connectivity.

Chandigarh-based Architect Surinder Bahga gave a presentation on "Contemporary Capitals- Chandigarh, Islamabad, Brasilia and Canberra". He explained the planning concepts of these

capital cities and problems there like traffic, parking and slums, etc. He updated the audience about introduction of CCTV cameras and need to introduce Kerala model for better movement of Ambulances in Chandigarh. He gave the example of managing solid waste on the Barcelona pattern, converting waste plastic to crude oil as is being done by MK Aromatics Ltd in Tamil Nadu. He also stressed on the need to introduce energy-efficient street lighting systems and e-governance in cities. He appreciated Chandigarh's introduction of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) in water management. Chandigarh has 12 Wi-Fi zones. There are 455 illegal mobile towers in city whereas 110 are installed with permission. Usage of data in Chandigarh has grown by nearly five times. Emissions from mobile towers still only 8.43% (37 milli-watts psqm) of limits set by DOT (450 milli-watts psqm). Bahga further stated that Islamabad has 4073 mobile free Wi-Fi hotspots whereas Brasilia has 57,989 hotspots. Brasilia has introduced new SCADA which has improved the reliability of power. Large scale CCTV monitors display video feeds for security purposes. Canberra is fully equipped with SCADA, Wi-Fi zones, CCTV cameras, etc.

Cases of Internet applications in Sensing vehicles density on roads, waste monitoring through Products QR Code, discussed in case of Rourkela, Chandigarh and Canberra. Monitoring and Dr. Pradeep Tomar, Dr. Naved Rizvi, talked about smart solutions on urban mobility, safe and secure housing, Resource Optimisation through IOT applications will lead to sustainable and inclusive development. Shri Bachu Singh, Registrar and Dean Dr. Indu Uprety was also present in the inauguration of the one week workshop.



Delegates with IBM Expert



Students Felicitating Ar. Surinder Bahga from Chandigarh