

Preface

Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area (BDPA), with its current population of about 14 lakh (2008) and covering an area of 419.1 sq.kms. forms part of the Bhubaneswar–Cuttack Urban Complex (BCUC) having a total current population of about 19 lakh (2008), and stretching over 721.9 sq.kms and covering a total of 205 Mouzas. BDPA comprising of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Khurda Municipality, Jatani Municipality and adjoining 122 Mouzas.

Of late, Bhubaneswar, of the BCUC region has been ranked as the 6th most preferred destination for business investment from among 15 Indian cities by World Bank. Moreover, it has the entire gamut of attractive factors such as high decadal population growth rate, rising purchasing power, high literacy rate, good road, rail & air connectivity, low cost of living and a pool of qualified workforce to support all kinds of congenial business environment. The area has all it takes to emerge as a world class city over the next two decades, provided her citizens have the self-confidence, the political will and the determination to realize their individual and collective potentials.

To back these aspirations, however, a more streamlined and comprehensive developmental plan is essential as planning decisions and policies till now are more towards sectoral and local level solutions by various agencies like BDA and BMC for the Bhubaneswar region or the CMC and CDA for the Cuttack region.

To address these issues and develop a holistic set of ‘growth guidelines’ for the entire region that emphasize on balanced development, the task of formulating Vision-2030, a Comprehensive Development Plan for the Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Urban Complex was entrusted to the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur in 2005.

The sequence of planning process has followed the preparation of

- (i) Socio Economic Survey Report for BCUC
- (ii) Status Report: Perspective Plan for BCUC, Nov, 2006
- (iii) Final Proposal: Perspective Plan for BCUC, Sep, 2007

The Comprehensive Development Plan has started in the background of all such documents and went into translating their provision in the Comprehensive Development Plan.

This Draft Proposal forms part of this Vision-2030, and focuses on the Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area.

At the outset, the historical growth and genesis of the Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area, along with its surrounding areas, were analysed. The trends were established with a critical evaluation of the ones that need to be pursued with, and the ones that need to be altered. An overall vision for the region was next framed, keeping in mind that it must be contiguous with the strategies to be proposed for its sister city, Cuttack, which together form the entire Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Urban Complex.

Based on the systematic studies into various sectors of development, we have emerged with a spatial framework of growing settlement pattern earmarking 14 Planning Zones for the Bhubaneswar Development Plan Area. This document outlines holistic development proposals and guidelines for transportation, housing, physical infrastructure, social facilities, tourism, heritage and conservation, environment and also development management & finance for the BDPA.

It has been pointed out that this already important region would have a significant role during the plan period. The predominant urban nature of the region would continue unabated and the future population could reach 30 lakhs, indicating an additional population of almost 16 lakhs, whose needs and aspirations have to be adequately addressed. Systematic studies into the region revealed the peculiarities, unique features and the planning constraints. Future growth directions have been identified and Future Township locations have been indicated, which are expected to be of world class quality. Giving due recognition to its natural endowments, eco-sensitive zones were also identified with development guidelines. Most importantly, plans were drawn out for the economic revitalization of the region. Industrial location policies have indicated the location and type of future industries.

We find that a major boost in the image of the region is essential, which would open up avenues for investment, further opportunities of employment and consequently, raise the economy of the region. This can only be achieved through promotion of entrepreneurship and encouragement of innovations, leading to conscious social equity. There

has to be improved infrastructure and services, shelter for all, health and hygiene, along with social amenities, encouraging development of the body and mind with an ecologically sustainable framework. The consultant group examined many important issues, but to transform this area to a world class city region, BDPA needs to make a quantum leap on two major fronts: economic growth and quality of life.

The entire exercise has stressed the need for participatory planning and has been drawn giving due weightage to the priorities and aspirations of the stakeholders. With the active participation of all the concerned departments, the Comprehensive Development Plan when implemented is expected to bring in balanced and holistic development in the region, open up major avenues of investment, trigger collateral growth, provide opportunities of employment, raise the quality of life of the people and boost the image of the BDPA significantly. The Government and the BDA has to fulfill the statutory obligation of holistic participation of one and all who matter in the development of the BDPA.

The Consultants would also like to put on record that the entire exercise would not have been in its present form without the whole hearted support of functionaries of the Urban Development Dept., Govt. of Orissa, BDA and all the concerned departments, for collection of data and inputs from the experts, duly acknowledged elsewhere.

We deeply acknowledge the patronage and personal interest of Honourable Chief Minister of Orissa in the entire process of planning.

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