

# FROM AN UNPLANNED ORIGIN TO A PLANNED DESTINATION: (City → Smart City)

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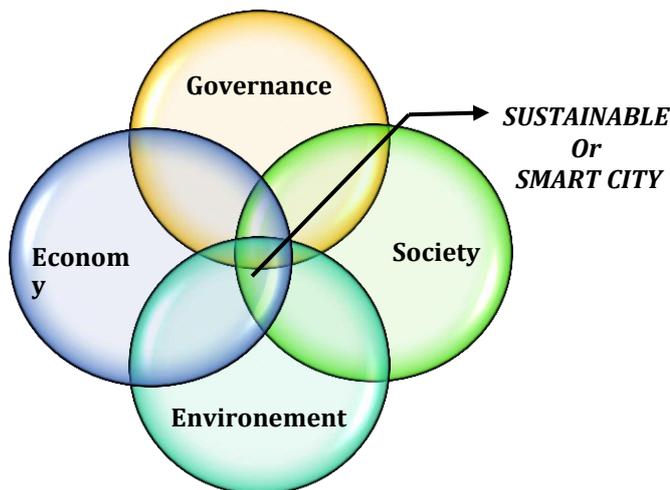
**Abstract** - And yes, the way wasn't less tough because of hurdles! For growing, difficulties are always a good part to be accompanied. Whether it may be a Smart person or a Smart City. This paper deals with my ideas of a smart city, its meaning, indicator and the biggest challenge. As of today, there is no universally acknowledged meaning of a Smart city. It's meaning and idea varies from person to person, city to city across country to country depending upon the level of development, their willingness to change and reform resources.

**Key Words:** Sustainability, Retrofitting, Redevelopment, Greenfield Development, Pan-City Initiative, Intelligent Transport System, Energy Efficiency, Gender based Sanitation, e-Governance, Revitalization.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

A Smart city according to me, is nothing but the combination of technology with the strategic approach towards sustainable development which is achieved through:-



Source: - [wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable\\_development](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_development)

Figure 1- Pillars of Sustainability

The "Practicality" came out as a necessary missing element. I believe our Cities are suffering with a severe diseases of Population Explosion, Air & Water pollution, Poverty, Illiteracy. We as Planners being the Specialist to The Disease, are on the track of finding the perfect cure

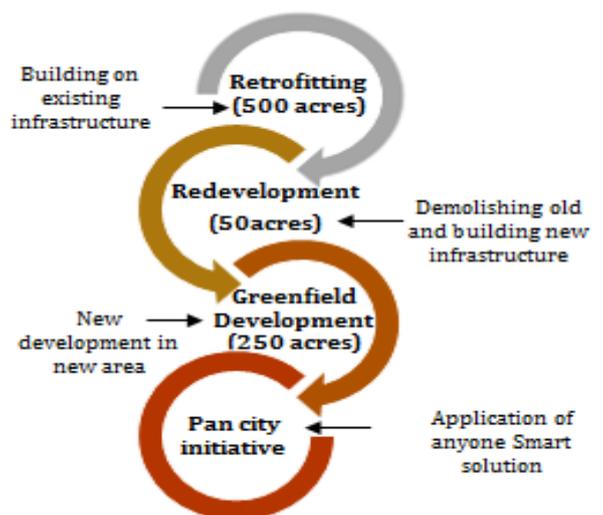
for the city bringing to life once again. Worldwide initiatives are being taken to prepare the medicine for our cities.

"The Cities we need"-a statement easy to say, Difficult to bring out. We all need eco-friendly, healthy, wealthy, safe, energy efficient, with high IT city or rather one word "SMART CITY". But How? As of today, the cities are nothing but just the rare interaction between environment, economy and society. They are meant for generating Economy rather than Living. Whether it comes, to housing or Safety, the problem comes in the implementation and monitoring part of the policies. Is this the city we need? Ask yourself today! The answer would be NO! With the image of the dreamt city in mind. The Word Smart City is echoing everywhere but we don't know how to reach there.

### 1.2 Origin

In Indian context, this mission came into existence on June 25, 2015 when "100 Smart Cities Mission" by 2022 was launched by Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

## 2. STRATEGIES



Source: - [Smart\\_City\\_Reality\\_or\\_myth/cfo-india/article/2016](http://Smart_City_Reality_or_myth/cfo-india/article/2016)

Figure 2- Strategies of Smart City Development

### 3. TARGET CITIES AND GROUPS

As per the MOUD, the Indian Smart City Mission would cover 35% of the total Indian population accounting for about 600 million people. It covers:-

- 24 Capital cities
- 24 Business hubs
- 18 Cultural and Tourism cities
- 5 Port cities

In total of 100 Smart cities chosen, 64 are small and medium towns while the rest are the large ones.

### 4. INDICATORS OF SMART CITY

#### 4.1 Smart Transport

With proper connectivity to Rural Areas, adopting Intelligent Transport Solution, efficiency in public transport, Walkable/pedestrianised streets and shopping centers. Using MRTS for million plus or megacities. The price of fuel driven vehicles especially Cars should be hiked up as a strategy to reduce the congestion on roads.

#### 4.2 Smart Neighborhood and Safety

With Housing to All, Use of IT for safety is enormous. Role & Partnership of NGOs, police & IT's in making cities safer for all.

#### 4.3 Smart Governance

Governance what I find is a ladder towards urban innovation. Taking a tap on their back today, NGO's/CBO's have done a great job in analyzing the issues, implementation and delivering the needs of the urban poor or so called "Society's Ignorant group", as well as the needs of the government.

- Firstly, I think government should take a survey of the present scenario and revise its laws related to architectural setting and zoning, development control norms, policies after every five years to guide the futuristic growth of the cities.
- Second of all, is the "Financing" part. With the top-bottom approach in making plans, funds should be released by the government for the local level development and a strict monitoring should be done to ensure there is no mismanagement of the funds. A proper framework should be made prior for the strong revenue system which is considered as the main source of funds for the government.

#### 4.4 Smart Environment

Green Buildings, Energy Efficient Infrastructure, Gender Based Sanitation with 100% coverage of Water, Sanitation and Electricity, Sustainable Liquid Waste Management, Door To Door Garbage collection, Regular Cleaning of public spaces, Proper management and treatment of human excreta and associated waste water. Financing inclusive sanitation plans is essential for making India totally sanitized.

#### 4.5 Smart People

Another issue, better said "biggest obstacle" according to me is people's mindset. On the other hand it is the most essential indicator of Smart City and a challenge for the government. Since cities are planned for people so their equal participation is essential. Initiative must be taken at local level itself for saving water & energy, dumping waste .Public involvement at local level is very fruitful way to climb the ladder of smart cities. So it's just your choice today to say "HELLO" /"NO" to smart cities. Whether to stay in an unplanned origin or a planned destination.

#### 4.5 Urban Poor

Safety for urban poor wasn't being captured as major concentrating spot. But it IS! Providing housing, basic services through policy making where governance role is vital.

### 5. SUPPORTING INITIATIVE

#### 5.1 Make in India

Bringing foreign investments to contribute in countries development by keeping the land prices cheap, providing subsidies to investors and developers hence giving them opportunity to sell their goods and products in the open market therefore make good profits. This initiative came into existence on 25 September, 2014. Across 6 industrial corridors "100 Smart cities" are being developed. According to "Zinnov analysis" in 2016[1] - 90 Mn new jobs will be created by 2022.

#### 5.2 Digital India

Digital India which was launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been propelled with a mean to give learning to individuals and to enable themselves through the Digital India Program of Government of India.

The Campaign Digital India includes different activities under the single program each focused to get ready India for turning into an information economy and for conveying great administration to subjects through

synchronized and coordinated engagement of the whole Government. Pillars of Digital India can be Broadband Highways, Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, E-Governance, Electronic delivery of Services, Information to All etc. Big Data/Analytics to deliver direct benefit transfer scheme.

### 5.3 Start-Up India

The campaign first came in India on 15<sup>th</sup> August in 2015 as announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, It is mainly concerned with promoting the financing of banks for start-up of businesses or organizations which could help to boost entrepreneurship and increase job creations.

It is designed to help the minorities and the women groups. Also to overcome the obstacles like land clearance license, environmental clearance etc. which occur during start-up. Under this as per "Zinnov analysis" in 2016[2], 16 Technology Business Incubators being planned in smart cities and 7 research centers and 13 start-up centers being built under smart cities.

### 5.4 Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Popularly called as "Clean India" campaign, this was launched on 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. To follow Gandhi's words of "Sanitation is more important than Independence" this was taken up as a national mission to make the country clean and green by the year 2019. This is till now the biggest cleanliness initiative in India's history. The focus of the Swachhta mission is to solve the issues related to open defecation by providing clean flush toilets to India's each house, improving sanitation system especially in rural areas, complete garbage disposal of solid and liquid waste, cleanliness on streets and roads, hazardous industrial effluents being released thus contaminating the water bodies, keeping the surrounding green by planting trees. The way to promote this is through campaign and encourage people to keep their surrounding clean.

### 5.5 AMRUT

The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation was launched in June 2015. It was a new version of JNNURM. It takes into account that all the basic services of water supply, sewerage network, solid waste, electricity, proper road connectivity, storm water drains and green spaces are being provided to all the people living in urban areas. Basically it covered cities and big towns. As a result the mission would help in enhancing the urban infrastructure. AMRUT was started with "Housing for All" which has a target to provide pakka houses to all the people living in urban and rural areas.

### 5.6 HRIDAY

HRIDAY (Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana) comes under Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Came up in January 2015 the scheme was designed to plan the development of heritage city. The aim of the scheme was to develop the city by preserving its historic character thus making it aesthetically appealing and ecofriendly. Making the historical importance of the city as its strength it would account for revitalization of urban areas which includes provision of basic services, street infrastructure like footpath, streetlight, plantations, landscaping and more.

## 6. BENEFIT SECTORS

According to the article in "Investors Clinic for Smart city development" in 2016:-

**6.1 Real Estate-** Real Estate Contribution would increase by more than 10%.

**6.2 Energy-** The consumption of energy would reduce by almost 40%.

**6.3 ITS- Intelligent Transport System-** Investment would be more than \$10 Bn.

Overall it is assumed that more than 50% of the population would be living in urban areas and therefore 10-15% increase in employment rate will be seen.

## REFERENCES

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## BIOGRAPHIES



Ms. Chanda Malhotra is a graduate in Urban Planning from a recognized university of India.