



# IPP NEWSLETTER

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## From Editor's Desk.....

Dear Readers,  
As the new editor of this esteemed newsletter, I would like to welcome our readers and contributors. You are probably reading this publication after a gap since IPP's executive council has decided that the newsletter will be published on bi-monthly basis. My sincere gratitude goes to the former editor Ms. Hina Munir for her tremendous guidance and to the Executive Council of IPP for reposing their complete trust in our editorial team and entrusting me with the responsibilities of this challenging post.

A conscious effort is being made to provide readers with a diverse point of view with each edition by highlighting the recent national planning news. The book review section in this edition sheds light on the book named "*The Institutional Barriers to Sustainable Urban Transport in Pakistan*" by Dr. Imran Muhammad. The book essentially advocates the idea of sustainable transport as an indispensable requirement and a core issue in a developing country like Pakistan. Planning as a field has ebbed and flowed with the passage of time. In order to provide a firsthand account

of the skill set and determination that is hallmark of this profession, the newsletter also includes a worth reading interview of Sheikh Abdur Rasheed, one of the pioneers of the field.

Dear readers, I assure you that our efforts will only have an upward trend in the coming editions as well. Essentially, we look forward to you for your valuable suggestions for improvement.

**Arfa Rizwan (Editor)**  
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## IPP AGM 2012; Deliberations, Plans & Decisions....



Planners around the country attended Annual General Meeting-2012 of Institute of Planners held at LDA Auditorium, Ayub

Market, Muslim Town, Lahore on May 19, 2012.

This meeting was convened as 6th Annual General Meeting of IPP as decided

in April 2012 EC meeting. The members of the student chapter of IPP also attended the meeting with great

## IPP's AGM..... contd.

Zeal and zest.

The main highlights of the meeting are as follow:

- Dr. Ghulam Abbass Anjum (SVP) welcomed the participants. He moved for offering Fatiha for Late Planner Abdul Rashid Khan.
- Secretary General IPP Mr. Nadeem Khurshid presented annual report. He briefed on IPP's activities, achievements on the completion of first year tenure of IPP EC 2011-12.
- The president IPP Mr. Aslam Mughal briefed the house on IPP's future targets for the year 2012- 13 as follows :

I. Enhancement IPP mem-

bership .

II. Elevating IPP financial reserves to at least one million.

III. Augmenting the capacity of planners through adequate training initiatives.

IV. Conducting brainstorming sessions to counter technical issues that require attention.

V. Establishing Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta chapters.

VI. Publishing a world level Newsletter.

Mr. Mughal also thanked Mr. Ahad Cheema (DG, LDA), MR. Waseem Ahmad Khan (CMP, LDA) and Mr. Shakeel Minhas

(Director, LDA) for their help and support in arranging this event. Mr. Mughal also announced Rs. 20,000 donation to IPP.

Other speakers include Ms. Naheed Ghanzanfar, Prof. Sattar Sikandar, Dr. Shabih Zaidi, Mr. Izhar ul Haq and Ch. Anwar Hussain. All expressed gratitude and acknowledged IPP EC's efforts and assured support. Ms. Ghazanfar moved a resolution for learning and building capacity of planners through education, which house unanimously approved.

A committee was formed to evaluate Punjab Landuse Classification Rules, Prof (R) Sattar Sikandar was nominated as convenor of the committee.

*"Good plans shape good decisions.*

*That's why*

*good planning*

*helps to make*

*elusive dreams*

*come true."*

*Lester Robert*

*Bittel*

## News Around.....

### **UNIFIED PLANNING AUTHORITY AND A NEW MASTER PLAN FOR LAHORE STRESSED**

District Coordination Officer and Chairman Lahore Development Authority Mr. Noor-ul-Ameen Mengal has underlined the need for a single planning and development authority for all areas falling in the jurisdiction of Lahore district which can be held re-

sponsible for implementation of Master Plan for the development of the city.

He expressed these views while addressing a seminar for formulating recommendations to revise and update the existing Master Plan for Lahore 2021. (ref/ The News)

### **BENAZIR TOWNS IN SINDH PLANNED**

The Sindh government is planning to establish Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto towns across the Sindh province. This was stated in a meeting chaired by chief secretary Sindh Raja Muhammad Abbas at the Sindh Secretariat on Thursday.

Project Director (PD) of the programme Agha Maqsood Abbas informed the meeting that Benazir Town would be set up in each district including Karachi for which, the Board of Revenue would provide the required lands. These towns would be equipped with modern facilities. The meeting reviewed different uplift projects for the departments and underdeveloped areas.

The participants were informed that total 34 development schemes pertaining to provision of basic amenities and infrastructure have been initiated in the said areas with estimated cost of Rupees 1500 million in the outgoing financial year of 2011-12. Out of which over Rs1473 million were released but so far over Rs926 million has been spent through which 16 uplift schemes were completed till 30th April 2012.

(ref/ The News, Friday, May 18, 2012 Karachi)

**BUS STAND TO GET NEW MASTER PLAN**

DCO Lahore, Mr. Noor ul Amin Mengal has ordered to prepare a Master plan for the provision of modern facilities at Badami Bagh Lorry Adda (general bus stand) and constituted two committees in this regard.

According to the district administration sources, first committee will prepare long term

planning and master plan of Badami Bagh Lorry Adda headed by EDO (Works & Ser-

**IPP WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS ;**

**Fellow Members include:**

*Prof. (r) Abdul Sattar Sikandar, Ms. Naheed Gahzanfar, Mr. Izhar-ul-Haq, Syed Muhammad Nadeem Zaidi, Sheikh Abdul Rauf, Mr. Ijaz Ahmad Sheikh, Dr. Amir Aziz. Mian Wamiq Anwer.*

**Associate members include :**

*Mr. Naveed-ul-Haq (Life Membership), Dr. Abdul Waheed, Mr. Muhammad Kashif & Rana Tahir Mahmood.*

vices). The second 8 members committee will prepare its recommendations for short term planning within three days. The DCO issued these orders during his visit to Lorry Adda and reviewed facilities which were being provided to passengers and transporters. He also chaired a meeting at bus stand and various proposals were discussed to provide more facilities. DCO directed the concerned officers to hire a consultant for preparing master plan under long term planning. AC City Saira Umar, Administrator Larri Ad-da Arshad Bhatti , TMO Ravi

town, Transporters Naseer Butt, Fareed Balouch, Malik Akbar, Khawaja Javid and Haji Khalid would be the members of short term planning committee. This committee will prepare its recommendations and present to DCO Lahore within three days.

**BAHRIA TOWN WINS FIVE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY AWARDS**

Bahria Town, Asia's largest private real estate developer, has won five highly prestigious awards under various categories at Asia Pacific International Property Awards 2012-13. the world's most prestigious competition recognized as the highest standard of excellence throughout the global industry.

May 15, 2012 LAHORE (ref/ The News)

**LDA STARTS CHECKING PRIVATE HOUSING SCHEMES**

BESIDES taking action against the permitted private housing schemes for their violations of approved scheme plans, Lahore Development

**IPP congratulates Dr. Shakir Mahmood (Assistant Professor), DCRP, UET, Lahore on completion of his PhD in City and Regional Planning from the City & Regional Planning Department UET, Lahore.**

Authority has also launched an operation for checking quality, volume and pace of development works being executed in these schemes.

Staff of the Metropolitan Planning Wing of LDA has started inspections of development works being undertaken in the private housing schemes for ensuring execution of these works according to the specification.

The LDA staff inspected various private housing schemes in the presence of their developers and collected a minimum of 15 samples of material being used in the construction of roads and other infrastructure for analysis. Developers of the private schemes, located within LDA's controlled area, have been directed for taking all possible measures for the earliest completion of these works according to the approved plans otherwise the plots mortgaged by them with LDA, as guarantee for completing development works, will be auctioned for generating revenue for this purpose.

### **IDWP APPROVES 16 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Islamabad Development Working Party (IDWP) on Monday approved in principle 16 development projects related to health sector, facilities for district courts as well as police and uplift of rural areas.

June 11, 2012 ISLAMABAD  
(ref/ The News)

***“There is need of an integrated and sole Planning and Development Authority for proper functioning of the system” says Noor-Ul-Ameen Mengal; the DCO Lahore.***

It is the need of the hour for upgrading each and every nook of the Lahore City. The appraisal and revision of Lahore Master Plan 2021 is on track. The integrated master plan is focused on the planning of the outskirts of the particular city to control the migration of the people from the connected areas. An advisory board comprising of experts would be created to accomplish the task. A seminar was organized for this rigorous purpose. It addressed the requisites for improving the infrastructure of the

city and provision of better facilities to the citizens. The Master Plan is proposed to be on the principle of Disaster Risk Reduction to mitigate the emergency risks. It was proposed that extra measures should be taken to improve the condition of the nearby cities to reduce the burden on the Lahore city induced due to the migration of the locals. Shuttle train service should also be provided for commuters. (ref/ The News)

### **Students Corner**

#### **Students' participation in AGM, IPP**

The students participated in the AGM held on 19th May 2012, with great zeal and zest. The function was organized by the students' committee. It was hosted by Miss Hina Munir who led the proceedings of the program. Other tasks performed by the students (Mr. Adeel Zafar, Mr. Ammar Yasir, Miss Faiza Urooj, Miss Tayyaba Nazir) were the collection of renewal dues of the IPP members in the supervision of Dr. Obaid. Ullah Nadeem.

***We live in the present, we dream of the future, but we learn eternal truths from the past.***  
**— Madame Chiang**

"Today a reader,  
tomorrow a leader."

- Margaret Fuller



"You can never plan  
for the future by the  
past."

- Edmund Burke

**Debating Competition initiative**

A debating competition was held in the month of May. Debates were held in parliamentary style. This initiative was taken by the Chairman DCRP Mr. Ghulam Abbas Anjum. The issue under discussion was "Is smart growth a viable solution for the rapidly increasing urbanization." All the sessions participated in this healthy event. Four teams of four different sessions participated in the finale. The 1st year team won due to their confident and enthusiastic debating tactics.

**Farewell 08**

26th May 2012... It was the day on which the Final year class received a formal Farewell from the juniors. It was a memorable event in which students had their full participation in arranging, managing, organizing and enjoying the whole function. Everything was arranged according to the Arabian nights theme.

the final examinations, covering all the subjects, their theoretical papers and practical viva.

**Summer Vacations: Internship or Holidays?**

The summer vacations started from the 23rd of June, 2012. There are internships for the students available. Urban unit, CDA and consultant companies are offering internships. Students learn organizational behavior and management.

**Examinations**

The final examinations started from the first week of June. Two weeks were consumed in

**BOOK REVIEW.....**

**BOOK TITLE:**

*"The Institutional Barriers to Sustainable Urban Transport in Pakistan" by Dr. Imran*

**Muhammad**

Sustainable Transport is the unrelenting need and the vehement issue of present day in the developing country like Pakistan. The particular book "The Institutional Barriers to Sustainable Urban Transport in Pakistan" by Muhammad Imran divulges the stumbling

blocks present in the way of institutional set up of urban amelioration of the transport system being operated in the country. Taking Lahore as a case study area, the author has given a meticulous overview of the institutional framework and the transport policies being formulated and implemented in the country and their role in daunting the development process. The book is divided into 9 chapters covering each and every dimension of the

transport in Pakistan. At the beginning, the author gives the definition of the sustainability and encompasses Pakistan's public policy on environment and transport. The dilemma of the country being that the development is automobile-friendly instead of pedestrian-friendly and the current public policy is "Road Building". There should be "Predict and Provide Policy"

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tomorrow a  
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*- Margaret Fuller*



*"You can never  
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by the past."*

*- Edmund Burke*

for mitigating congestion. The foremost barrier in the sustainable development is the lack of institutional capacity and the paucity of the financial resources. The author has stressed upon the need of collaborative institutional framework engrossing all national and international institutions working in Pakistan to sketch the decision making process for planning and development of Urban Transport. The book has meekly stipulated the concept of path dependence incorporating historical analysis and reinforcement mechanism for identifying the critical juncture. It has provided the flashback glimpse of the transport policies and the priorities being given in the annual development plans. Unfortunately, the web of institutions involved in the decision making process has protracted the sustainable development resulting into graveyard of projects. The author has used North's concept of "Interdependent Web of Institutional Matrix" and carped the decision makers for necessitating road making as the preminent tool for sustainability. He has com-

plained that the economic and environmental contentions have been used to prove the road making as the unsurpassed policy.

The author has given a succinct summary of the Lahore city to strengthen his arguments. Lahore was categorized into central, intermediate and the peripheral zones for the management and improvement of transport. Geddes concept of foreign solution was genuine that "How the solutions adopted in the developed countries could be adopted in the developing countries for mitigating the local problems?". Circular railway was not propitious for sustainability. After Punjab Government and LCDG, the responsibility of transport planning was handed to P&D, C&W and TEPA. Taking Ring Road as the case study area various proposals were anticipated and finally after the continuous efforts of 40 years, in the year 2000, the construction was initiated with an estimated cost of 16 million PKR. The decision makers involved federal, provincial and local institutions along with the international institutions. The whole procedure was es-

tranged into planning, finance, execution and land-use. Project funding and finance was the major concern. The Punjab Government was funding this project and no role was played by the local bodies. At the end the construction responsibility was transposed from CDA and TEPA to the C&W. Deplorably, there was no EIA report carried for the project except a short environmental report. Various anomalies were faced in the completion of the project like land acquisition, fund generation, construction, operational, environmental and social. At the spot "Predict and Provide" approach was applied to solve the problems. Urban Transport Transformation Program (UTPP) proposed four stages model to combat these problems. The Lahore Ring Road project also became the target of many planning, engineering, economic, environmental and social controversies. Institutional barriers to sustainable development mainly occurred in the fields of institutions, techniques and discourse.

the main techniques used for the intercity road development of Pakistan. The institutions, techniques and discourse fields in path dependence are the core barricades in the sustainable urban transport. Institutional reforms are need of hour for sustainability in Urban

Transport in developing countries.

This book is a bulk of knowledge providing an extensive intellectual data on the institutional impediment in the way of sustainability in urban transport. It is a phenomenal source of information and encloses an indis-

pensible reading material for the urban and transport planners.

**Reviewed By:**  
**Seerat Farooq &**  
**Maryum Javed**

## **RISE IN GLOBAL PLANNING CONCERN: TARGETTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Globally, the face and character of public housing departments is changing with the augmentation of new strategies and terms to remedy the worldwide problems of housing backlog. The concept of Affordable housing is most familiar in this context.

The generally accepted definition of Affordable housing by US department of housing and urban development for a household is **“To pay no more than 30 percent of its annual income on housing”**. Families who pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing are considered cost cumbered and may have difficulty in affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care (<ref> U.S Department of Housing & Urban Development/ secretary Shaun Donovan/ 15th May, 2012).

There are currently 1.6 billion people living in substandard conditions worldwide according to United Nations. Despite current efforts, this number is actually increasing. If these trends are not managed, the United Nation (UN) projects this number will grow to 3 billion (40 percent of the total population) by 2030. Different countries have practiced different methods in order to provide the natives with housing.

The Shared Home Ownership is the only scheme of its kind in Australia. Western Australians can purchase their own home with help from the Department of Housing with a Shared Start loan (<ref>/ Govt. of western Australia, dept. of housing).

China introduced the Housing Provident Fund (HPF) program nationwide in 1995. Provident Fund (HPF) provides a gimmick allowing potential purchasers who have an income to save for and eventually purchase a unit dwelling. The Chinese cabinet detonated down on sneaking suspicion and issued regulations regarding down payments while exalting mortgage rates and the Central Bank interest rates to gelid the overheated market (<ref> Housing Provident Fund in China).

The federal government in the U.S. provides subsidies or alimonies to make housing more affordable. Housing assistance from the federal government for lower income households can be dichotomized into three parts: tenant based, project and public housing based The

most recent of them is Affordable Homes Programme 2011-15 (AHP) which is made under National Affordable Housing Program of England and aims to increase the supply of new affordable homes in England.

There are many prolific strategies being adopted globally to meet the prerequisites of the particular objectives but still we need a change to solve this global problem.

Devising ways to conserve the land, world is now heading towards the compact development using smart strategies. This strategy is being used all over the world to mitigate the problems aroused due to the

scarcity of land. Smart growth strategy balances the land prices along with the provision of affordable housing.

Moladi Technology is another construction technique that is initiated by "Moladi"; a South African Company. The company manufactures a special type of reusable plastic formwork that is used in affordable housing and low cost housing projects, mainly in third world countries.

Like Moladi's Technology, "Home Kits" is another strategy. A kit home is a quality, "stick-built", partially assembled home that is imparted to the home building

site and include pre-framed walls, roof trusses, all the needed lumber, windows, doors, siding, and roofing.

Government may take initiatives to promote affordable housing. The Government should grant finance for partnership projects. The Affordable Housing Awards should be given to the best innovative affordable housing project proposal.

By:

**Arfa Rizwan**

## Is Housing Affordable In Pakistan?

There are scores of predicaments that Pakistan is facing in the housing context. Unfortunately Pakistan has a high inflation as well as the poverty rate. Currently, Pakistan has an overall housing backlog exceeding 6 million units with an annual addition of 300,000 units (*Population Census of 1998 and the National Housing Policy of 2001*). Roughly 30-40% of the demand is addressed by mainstream developers who cater to the high-end market. The remaining units fall under the category of the low-income segment. The government has made repeated attempts to address this segment through various initiatives seldom succeeding. The current low income housing deficit within Pakistan is

3 million units with an addition of 150,000 units per annum.

This situation impedes the general public to buy housing units for them. The low per capita income and small GDP also hinders the government to execute novel and affordable projects of housing. There is thus a high degree of intricacy in fulfilling the housing needs of the general public. In addition to this, no subsidies are given to the developers. There is also a deficiency of institutions for the provision of proper housing funds.

The dearth of policies in the particular sector is another crux obstruction in this context. The favoritism and inclination of the institutions towards

**Pakistan has an overall housing backlog exceeding 6 million units with an annual addition of 300,000 units.**

*There is a need to rectify the whole system for the betterment and improvement of*

the domineering group and the politicians casts a bad impact on it and shackles affordable housing projects for public. So the elite class avails maximum benefits from them. The rules and bye laws are improper and the enforcement of the already made rules is very weak which also

fuels up the land speculation. The procedural difficulties for buying the land are also encountered while buying the land. There is a series of discriminated housing standards from class to class along with the growing trend of adaptation of high cost internal standards despite of all the short-comings. So we can conclude that there are a lot of problems in Pakistan in accomplishing the goal of Affordable Housing. There is a need to rectify the whole system for the betterment and improvement of this sector.

**By:**

**Arfa Rizwan**

**Seerat Farooq**

## Talking Planning with Sheikh Abdur Rasheed



Mr. Sheikh Abdur Rasheed, an eminent name in planning community, the Principal Town Planner at MM (Pvt.) LTD, the only town planner in the history who has headed development Authority (LDA) general, the recipient of "Gold Medal" from Prime Minister of Pakistan for presenting a "Policy Paper on Urban Development with focus on housing – 2011". He is a well reputed name one of the pioneers who always breaks new grounds in planning field in Pakistan. In his initial years, he has served Housing & Physical Planning Selection board, UET and Government member Board of advance studies and research UET Town Planning. He also held the office of Vice chairman of Pakistan Council of Architects & Town Planners (PCATP). His achievements do not end here he was also the Ex- President / Fellow of Institute of Planners Pakistan (IPP). He was previously affiliated with University of Engineering & Technology Lahore as an external examiner for Bachelors & Post Graduate students of City & Region- al Planning Department. He was also the Member Selection board, UET and Board of advance studies and research UET Town Planning. He also held the office of Vice chairman of Pakistan Council of Architects & Town Planners (PCATP). His achievements do not end here he was also the Ex- President / Fellow of Institute of Planners Pakistan (IPP). He was previously affiliated with University of Engineering & Technology Lahore as an external examiner for Bachelors & Post Graduate students of City & Region-

*A true example of acquaintance, tough grind, fidelity and a self made man.*

## Talking Planning with Sheikh Abdur Rasheed.... Contd

### 1) Would you please tell us about your field of specialization and your professional career?

"I did my masters in Town Planning from University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore in 1964, masters in Sociology from University of Punjab, Lahore in 1960, Post Graduate diploma in Planning Housing & Building from Rotterdam, Netherlands in 1970. Moreover, certified in "Changing Roles Urban Management and Housing in the Third World" Massachusetts Institute of Technology Boston, USA in 1990, Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering – a course sponsored by Institution of Engineers Pakistan, Lahore Chapter in 1980, Project Planning Techniques – Course sponsored by Project Planning Centre, University of Bradford, England in cooperation with the Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan in 1976.

I started my job as Assistant Director, remained associated with urban Development Profession in different capacities, worked on

World Bank financed Projects for Lahore, the Provincial Capital from 1961 to 1981. I also worked as Director Town Planning in Housing & Physical Planning Department of Government of Punjab from 1981 to 1984.

As member of Planning and Development Board, Government of the Punjab,

I remained closely associated with preparation of Annual Development Plan for the Province. During my tenure at P&D department, I developed the criteria for pre-qualification of consultants as well as contractor -- which is still being followed. I worked as Director Metropolitan Planning, Addl. Town Planner, Chief Town Planner (CTP) and Chief Metropolitan Planner (CMP) LDA. I held both the charges of CTP and CMP for couple of years and, during the period, streamlined the functioning of Urban Development Wing by recruiting young and energetic town planners.

This was the time when the urban planning was at its best I got the chance of master planning of city of Tabuk, Saudia Arabia from 1984 to 1986. Twice I worked as the Director General in LDA from 1991 to 1992 then again from

*Planners are the bread earners for other professionals.....*

1994 to 1996 and completed the tenure successfully. In my career I had been a part of many projects related to Master Planning, infrastructure development, housing projects for both low and middle income, physical planning, urban development and feasibility studies etc."

### 2) What is your personal experience being a planner?

"I have seen the rise and fall of our Planning Discipline. In the beginning there was a robust hold of Engineers, they would not allow anybody else surpassing them. Architects were the real rivals of Planners and still continue they had an upper hand on us as they had a better target market. Even Civil Engineers

did not see us in encouraging way.

There were lesser jobs still at that time, teachers were hard working and students had the urge to quench their thirst of knowledge. But now things have changed in both ways. It was somewhere our own fault in lagging behind as we were unable to convince general public, our profession was emerging and we had to make our own place. But unfortunately, we never had a guiding leader, never had a platform, people got their jobs and **started going in wrong directions**. Planners were headed by Engineers who

***A planner should not bend, rather break.....***

did not have the foresight required for planning rather drove the new comers to their way of working.

Moreover, there remained rivalry among planners and they kept on pulling each other's legs. Presently we have significant jobs for planners in the country but this is a dilemma that planners are not given a free hand to perform. They are headed by individuals who are

non planners. **Planners are the bread earners for other professionals.**

I feel the young planners due to their involvement in dishonorable activities have blemished the profession. But there are good examples too. Planners should inculcate the convincing power that can be fruitful in implementation of plans. “



**3) Could you please figure out some of your achievements during your professional career?**

“Throughout, my professional career I never faced adverse remarks.

I had been the only planner who got the opportunity to be the Director General of Lahore Development Authority twice (now they have the set up that only a CSP officer can head the organization).

Currently I am the Principal

Town Planner at MM Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd since 1996.

I have received “Gold Medal” from Prime minister of Pakistan for presenting a “Policy Paper on Urban Development with focus on Housing- 2011.

I had been involved in Planning of 2nd Hill Resort of the country at Fort Manro , D.G. Khan.

I had been involved in the Review of Master Plan Islamabad, Capital of the Country, /dyna-polis concept strictly adhered to yet not comprising at the

***Planners should be aware of their worth and should not sell their services cheap.....***

present day changing circumstances.

I have the honor of working over first Master Plans of Lahore, Faisalabad and Hyderabad.

I have the honor of serving the planning sector for more than 40 years which itself is a big achievement.”

**4) What do you think are the main problems/issues related to town planning in Punjab and overall in the country?**

“Planners are not given room to perform their planning knowledge effectively as they are headed by non planners. Planners do not have a free hand and non planners do not have the vision for planning.

Planners lack the ability to convince the stakeholders. **The lack of planning implementation is the biggest setback to Town Planning in Pakistan.** There is a housing backlog in our country this issue requires greater emphasis. We are too late to provide Bus Rapid Transit in a city like Lahore. There is a

shortage of planners in different institutions. The young planners are recruited raw so they do not have the professional training and the ability to work diligently.”

**5) How these problems can be overcome?**

“Planners should be independent, they should be made a part of bigger projects, they should be made heads of different planning organization and government departments so that they

can become identifiable and most importantly they can do their job without interference of non planners. There should be an academy for young planners where they groom themselves, train themselves for professional life so, that they would not face any difficulty in their career. The organizations lacking adequate number of planners should recruit more to fill the gap.

Housing backlog in our country is a problem that needs to be addressed urgently. Government should ponder on a joint venture of Public-Private sector to overcome the backlog. Furthermore we have to put a full stop to the further expansion of our major cities and fo-

*Planners in LDA should adhere themselves fully to plan implementation.*

cus on intermediate satellite towns. There should be efficient public transport on cheap rates to facilitate the low income. “

**6) What role LDA's Planners should play to overcome the planning problems in Lahore?**

“Planners should work whole heartedly and give their full. Lahore belongs to Lahorites so Lahore should be given core attention by Town planners especially belonging to LDA. They should logically take

stand to fulfill the deficiencies in planning and should have a firm stance over it. Bye laws are made to facilitate people so they are to be enforced. LDA officials should propose projects and should be able enough to convince the politicians.

A planner should know his own worth and show his significance through his work and logical reasoning. In field there should be a difference in a Town planner and building inspector. “

**7) Do you think that our cities lack adequate number of planners and how much the number should be increased?**

“There is a deficiency of Town Planners in various departments, so there number should be increased. Town Planners should be given share in decision making. How much should be the strength of town planners is dependent upon the size of the town. Town Planners should be given share in decision making they ought to be the heads of the organizations due to their far sightedness, vision and foresight which non planners lack.”

**8) Planning profession doesn't have much recognition in Pakistan. What efforts should be done in this regard?**

“More planning institutions should be established. For the ex-

isting institutions the standard and quality of education should be improved. All these institutions should have, qualified, diligent hardworking and honest faculty members. Professors in these institutions should be highly paid. The dedication of the teachers should solely to teaching their students rather than thinking otherwise or utilizing their efforts on side businesses. More research on the planning issues should be made and shared with public. And the course of planning should be up to mark and international standards.”

**9) How do you see the future of planning in Pakistan?**

“Future of planning profession is very bright. There should be appropriate course of study relative to Pakistan and course should be revised. We should provide training that can ensure producing quality work. I m futuristic that one day planners will find their right place if they stop pulling each other’s leg and cooperate with each other.

*“Now our plant has been seeded. If properly watered, nurtured and saved from external damages it can grow into a beautiful tree”.*

**10) Would you like to give any advice to the Town Planners**

**working in Pakistan and abroad?**

“A Town planner should not at all, in any condition, be bent rather be broken. Develop your skills so that you may convince the stakeholders especially the politicians. Town Planners working abroad should bring their experience here to serve their own country. Have a

command over the field so that no one can defeat you over logic. You shouldn't worry about any difficulties, consult your seniors, they will surely help you. You will meet resistance but be firm to your cause, hopefully you will succeed.”

Dear IPP Member,

**IPP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

We hope you are doing well for the uplift of town planning profession. Recently we have sorted out the IPP membership record and it has been found out that renewal fee of several members is due. Kindly renew your membership on earliest, standard renewal procedure can be viewed on [www.ipponline.org](http://www.ipponline.org) otherwise you may send your latest postal (land) address to this email ([obaidnadeem@yahoo.com](mailto:obaidnadeem@yahoo.com)), so enabling us to send you back a letter/email indicating exact amount to be paid for renewal of your membership. If you are a life member or you have already paid the renewal fee, please ignore this message.

With best regards,

Dr. Obaidullah Nadeem

Chairman, Membership Committee