



U R B A N
D E S I G N
R E S E A R C H
I N S T I T U T E



Annual Report
2012-2013



Annual Report 2012-2013

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Foreword

We are pleased to release our Annual Report for the year from April 2012 - March 2013. The UDRI has continued to work relentlessly towards making Mumbai an open, efficient and inclusive city. Given below, in brief, are some of the key achievements of the UDRI.

Existing Land Use Plan (ELU)

In a historic first for Greater Mumbai, the MCGM threw open the Existing Land Use (ELU) plan to the people of the city for their inputs. This was in large measure due to a sustained campaign by the UDRI and city stakeholders involving personal meetings with the MCGM and with one another, as well as letters and media engagement. Through a series of reports and public meetings, the UDRI highlighted critical lapses in the ELU drawn up by the MCGM, details of which are in this Report. The ELU is THE key component for a holistic revision of the Greater Mumbai Development Plan (DP) 2014-2034.

Development Plan (DP)

The UDRI is working actively to ensure that the DP process is transparent and comprehensive. We have filed a number of Right To Information applications to obtain crucial documents related to the Plan. The UDRI has also prepared training materials for Corporators, which has been disseminated to them through our network of stakeholders. Further advocacy efforts include training sessions with community based organizations and capacity building meetings with MCGM officials. The UDRI has assembled 12 groups of stakeholders covering the key areas to be addressed by the DP. We are in dialogue on these issues with about 250 NGOs and citizens' associations in Mumbai.

Social Media Presence

To ensure greater participation in the DP 2014, the UDRI scaled up its presence on the social media. Through Facebook and our blog called Plan Your Mumbai, we were able to communicate vital developments in the ELU process to people at large, very quickly.

Fort Management Plan (FMP)

The UDRI has continued to work on the implementation of the FMP. Complaints of commuters using the Fort Pheri were followed up with the BEST. A survey of the M.G. Road was undertaken so that a pilot pavement re-engineering project for access / use for all, particularly the differently abled, can be implemented.

Manori Gorai Uttan DP

Suggestions have been sent to key policy makers on the 10-year development plan for the Manori Gorai Uttan 2012-2022 plan. UDRI believes Manori Gorai Uttan presents a tremendous opportunity for addressing a significant part of Mumbai's low cost housing needs.

Education Outreach Campaigns

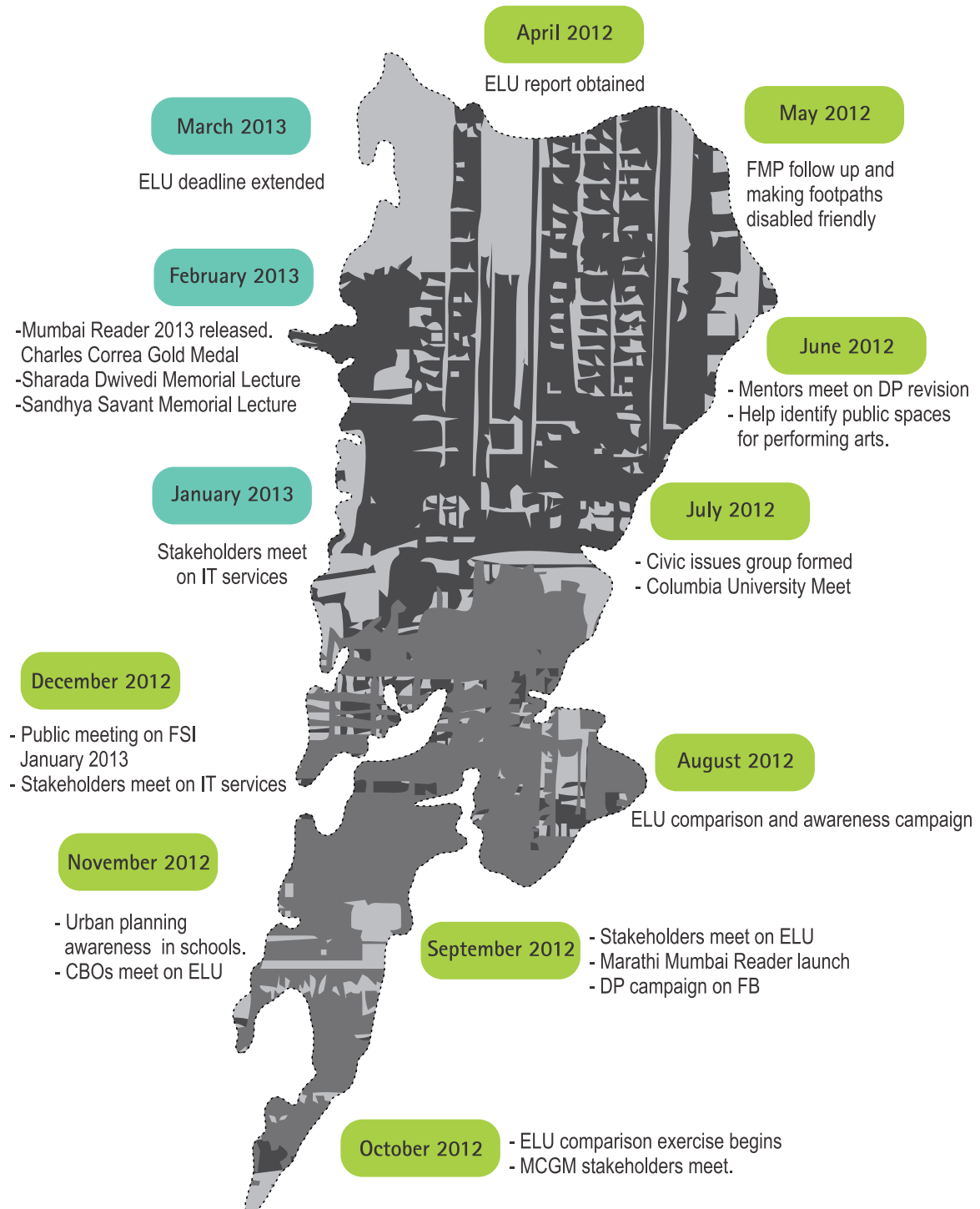
To encourage children to think and speak about their aspirations for Mumbai, the UDRI reached out to children across schools – both municipal and private – to create awareness about problems relating to basic amenities in a city such as water, sanitation, and housing, among others.

Research and Resource Centre

The UDRI continued, in 2012, to augment its Research and Resource Centre through acquisitions of books, periodicals, technical manuals, monographs etc. The selection of these resources focuses on areas of primary importance to the understanding of Development Planning in Mumbai, India and the rest of the world. The Research and Resource Centre continues to be an important place where students, academicians, visiting scholars and common citizens increased their understanding of Mumbai- centric issues.

Shirin Bharucha
Managing Trustee

UDRI Looking Back 2012-2013



Going Ahead

2013-2014

Projects

- Through advocacy, to convince the MCGM to include internet connectivity infrastructure in the DP preparation brief.
- To inform ELU analysis and PLU preparation.
- To create a public interface for participation in ELU analysis and PLU preparation.
- To develop an interactive web GIS and mobile connectivity platform for the Mumbai DP.

Plan

- To initiate pilot projects for Ballard Estate and M.G. Road re-engineering.
- To prepare and advocate an inclusive strategy for Manori and Gorai Uttan areas.
- To advocate and expedite the public hearing process for the proposed Heritage List and the publication of the heritage precinct guidelines.
- To advocate the finalizing of incentives for owners of heritage buildings.
- To complete the processes & procedures for finalizing the nomination of the Victorian Gothic & Art Deco Ensemble nomination dossier for UNESCO.

Public Forum

- Expand the Charles Correa Gold Medal contest to cover 25 major institutions across India.
- Scale up/expand public interface for the DP with expansion of stakeholder network to include CBOs/NGO/ERs.

- Enhance footfalls for Sandhya Savant Memorial Lecture and maintain attendance for Sharada Dwivedi Memorial Lecture.

Research and Resource Center

- To scan and place newspaper clippings on a system which makes them available online.
- To purchase and collect the latest relevant books and maps.

Publications

- To publish Mumbai Reader English/Marathi 2014
- To put the last Mumbai Reader (2013) online
- To publish Jan Nijman's Dharavi book

PR/Communications


- To widely distribute UDRI's monthly newsletter and annual report.
- To raise UDRI's visibility through Facebook.
- To rework UDRI's website.

Finance & Accounts

- To raise funds for 2013-14 operating expenses.
- To raise ₹ 1 crore in corpus funds.
- To continue to have 100% compliance on accounting, tax and compliance issues with no delays.



UDRI Journey



The Urban Design Research Institute (UDRI) was started in 1984 by a group of citizens concerned about the lack of urban design and planning skills and the deteriorating state of Mumbai. It was originally conceived as teaching institute. The founding Trustees were: Ratan Tata, Nani Palkhivala, Nana Chudasama, Charles Correa, Wadud Khan and Keshub Mahindra.

The Institute took a space in the compound of the Nehru Centre with about ten students and ran a studio based on using actual projects as a laboratory. The Institute issued a certificate in Urban Design to students who successfully completed the course.

A few years later, Rahul Mehrotra started the process of reformulating the Trust with a revised agenda. The first step was a conference on urban conservation, focusing on the Fort Area. A request was made to the Maharashtra Government to take the findings forward through an action plan. With the assistance of Jamsheed Kanga and Cyrus Guzder, the idea of starting a Trust to take on policy related work to improve Mumbai's physical state of affairs was conceived.

Today the UDRI has become an important forum for research and advocacy regarding urban planning and design policy issues. Through lectures, conferences, research projects, publications and a library, the UDRI continues to generate awareness which will help enrich the understanding of the urban environment and works towards its improvement.

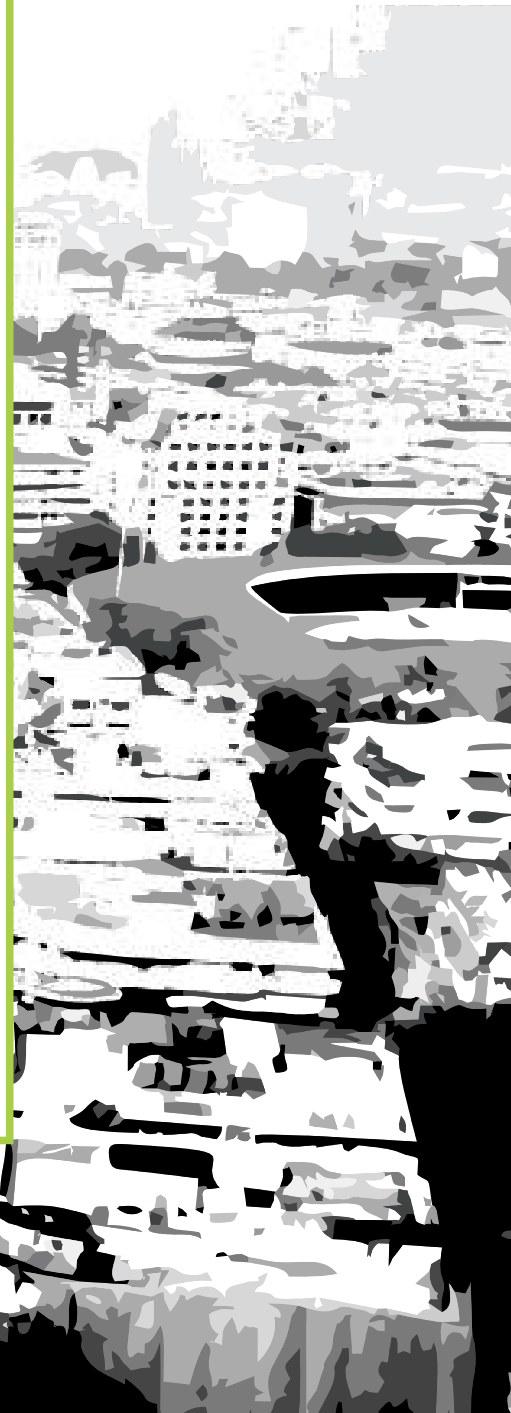
The impact of this has been multi-fold. Over 15 years the UDRI has brought sharply to the public's notice problems regarding the physical form of the city. It has set up public forums to create inclusive

debates. It has made concerted efforts to document these exchanges and reinforce arguments with research, giving advocacy groups, NGOs and the Government an objective basis to engage with.

The UDRI has been mindful of all economic groups of the city and stayed focused on questions ranging from public spaces, the recycling and opening up of urban land, as well as urban conservation, which together are critical in creating an inclusive environment. This thrust has been taken to a new level in the last four years with a much more aggressive engagement looking at the regional development dynamics, the question of incremental public spaces as well as their preservation.

A question that often comes up with funding agencies is how does this impact translate and affect the urban poor? Clearly solutions to problems of urban housing for the poor and access to city amenities can only be looked at in a holistic manner. Thus the projects the UDRI is engaged with address the questions of urban poor in imagining the larger regional urban scenario and in suggesting how land can be opened up in the metropolitan region to address the question of affordable housing, transport and services for the poor as well as increase of much needed open spaces and a more equitable access to them.

To sum up, the most significant contribution the UDRI has made to the city of Mumbai is of creating an institutional forum to address for the first time the question of the physical form of the city in its broadest sense. It has done this by a combine of research and advocacy. The UDRI's intention is that an entire generation of architects and other professionals concerned with the city be trained and supported to play the crucial role of managing the physical improvement of Mumbai and its teeming population.



At UDRI We...



Projects

...Work with citizens, NGOs, civic authorities and elected representatives to develop planning principles and solutions to city problems, and propose and guide implementations.



Public Forum

...Hold public participatory exercises to understand issues, frame alternatives, discuss policy implications and build consensus.



Resource Centre

...Gather relevant data, analyse historic and current approaches to urban problems, and collect and make these accessible to the wider public.



Research Fellowship

...Engage with international experts and collaborate with planning and architecture institutions.



Publications

...Document the city: infrastructure, concerns, answers, culture, economy & social fabric; and create a medium for interaction between experts, citizens, researchers and the media.

Projects



Mumbai DP TWENTY FOURSEVEN

A Development Plan (DP) for Mumbai that is Open, Equitable, Efficient – that has been the focus of UDRI's efforts right through 2012. Next year, a new DP will be unveiled for Mumbai city and will be in force until 2034. Under the Maharashtra Region and Town Planning Act, every municipal corporation must prepare a DP for 20 years. The DP defines land reservation, that is, land set aside for specific public purposes, amenities, transportation networks and services.



The UDRI reached out to citizens living in all 24 wards of Mumbai city through various stakeholders, like academic bodies, ward offices and citizens groups. Critical issues like Sanitation, Housing, Education, to name a few, which are to be the focus of the DP was outlined with experts. Through regular public meetings with Community Based Organizations, an ongoing effort was made to ensure the DP is a public participatory process.

Existing Land Use Plan

For the first time ever, the MCGM threw open the DP exercise to the public. This was after the UDRI carried out a sustained campaign through the press, social media and stakeholder meetings to point out

critical errors in the Existing Land Use (ELU) plan brought out by the MCGM. The ELU, which shows current land usage is a critical aspect of the DP exercise. Upon getting the ELU after an RTI, the UDRI found shocking lapses. Following a public outcry, the MCGM was forced to take notice. It published the ELU on the MCGM website and the public was asked to check for errors and send in their objections.

Web Presence & Social Media

To create greater public participation in the DP, the UDRI in 2012-2013 launched a Facebook (FB) campaign. Called Plan Your Mumbai, the Facebook (FB) page is an open forum to enable accessibility. The idea is to use social media to reach out to not just NGOs and concerned citizens groups, but also people in the city at

large. The campaign generated enormous interest, with many sharing the page and posting comments within hours of the page opening. The Facebook (FB) page has proved very useful in disseminating information about crucial BMC meetings, decisions, deadlines and media reports. Many volunteered with the city ELU mapping efforts through the Facebook (FB) page. A DP site on Twitter was also started to reach out to a wider audience. A Plan Your Mumbai blog, in tandem with the Facebook (FB) page was also started to create a more in-depth dialogue on various planning issues regarding Mumbai. The idea is to also carry essays from across the world which bears lessons for Mumbai.

Fort Management Plan

The Fort area is Mumbai's iconic cultural and financial hub that has had an important role all through Mumbai's growth to a metropolis. In 2003, the UDRI initiated the Fort Management Plan as a natural progression to its areawise studies of various Fort precincts and heritage building surveys that had started in 1990. Civic infrastructure in the Fort area is a problem, and this takes away from the quality of life of Fort's residents, office goers, and visitors. After consultations with the FORT



Association, a partnership of citizens' groups in the area, the UDRI initiated talks with the BEST, Mumbai's public bus operator, to start the Fort Pheri, a circulator bus service that transports commuters from local train stations to the main office areas, thereby easing the congestion during peak office hours. In the past year, UDRI has continued to monitor the route and suggest service improvements. UDRI plans to replicate this model in other parts of the city.

A survey of the M.G. Road was also undertaken for a pavement redesign project, to ensure greater accessibility for all, especially the differently-abled. UDRI is working on a pilot implementation of pavement redesign on a section of M.G. Road in the current year. Consultations are also on to create an urban plaza in the Ballard Estate area.

Watchdog

The UDRI files suggestions and objections when they are solicited by various governing agencies.

Manori Gorai Uttan

UDRI came up with affordable housing options in this area.

Regional Planning

Special Township Projects regulations: UDRI objected to the arbitrary increase in FSI.

Health

Mobile towers regulation policy: Took into account various citizens groups objections on presence of mobile towers

Environment

Open Space Audit of Mumbai: Number of objections filed by UDRI when open spaces like recreational grounds and playgrounds are lost to the public.

Transportation

Transportation: Navi Mumbai Airport & Mumbai Metro. UDRI has from time to time objected to the arbitrary location of the proposed airport, and other issues concerning the Mumbai Metro.

Public Forum & Outreach



Advocacy

To enable and assist the MCGM in formulating an equitable and efficient DP, the UDRI held several meetings with civic authorities through the year. The UDRI developed a set of planning principles and focus areas for the DP in consultation with mentors and stakeholders.

These principles were made available to the MCGM. The MCGM accepted UDRI's recommendations to put up copies of the ELU in ward offices, and map forts. The UDRI facilitated a meeting between the BMC Standing Committee and 16 city organizations on revisions to the ELU, thereby creating a platform for different concerns including the exclusion of slums and Special Planning Areas (SPAs) from the planning process to be voiced.



ELU Stakeholders' Meetings

Throughout 2012-13, the UDRI hosted and participated in various knowledge exchange meetings with NGOs in Mumbai to discuss and develop strategies for the DP process.

These activities included:

- meeting with IT experts to understand technology needs for citywide broadband access in the DP
- meetings with NGOs and ALMs to verify discrepancies in the ELU
- making DP more sensitive to women and children's needs

- meeting Community Based Organizations to strategize on ways to include slum dwellers in the DP.

Education Outreach Campaigns

A series of workshops with students from private and municipal schools in Mumbai were held to create awareness about civic issues in Mumbai. Issues like water, sanitation, housing and education were put in context in a question and answer format along with a visual presentation. It was found that students from private schools were more concerned with media promoted issues like corruption while municipal and aided school students were more grounded in their aspirations with issues such as housing and sanitation taking high priority.

First Sharada Dwivedi Memorial Lecture

A tribute lecture to Sharada Dwivedi, one of the city's best known historians and authors, and a longtime member of the UDRI Executive Committee, was held by the UDRI and the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya. The lecture was addressed by British historian Charles Allen, who had co-authored a book with Sharada.



Charles Correa Gold Medal

The annual Charles Correa Gold Medal, awarded to the best thesis in urban planning among students from participating colleges, was awarded to Anushka Raina, from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. There were 11 entries from 18 institutions all over India, which were judged by a jury comprising five eminent architects.



Sandhya Savant Memorial Lecture

UDRI hosts an annual lecture in memory of Mumbai conservation architect Sandhya Savant. This year's lecture was delivered by Alpa Sheth on the subject of poor disaster preparedness in earthquake prone areas.

FSI Workshop

A panel discussion on the topic 'FSI and its implications on the City Fabric' was hosted, which saw presentations by eminent urban planners and architects like Shirish Patel, Dr. Abhay Pethe and Dr. Amita Bhide, among others. The Maharashtra Government has had a policy of uniform FSI across large tracts of land. Higher values are permitted in some areas with the use of TDR. It is now suggested that the FSI be raised to as much as 4.0 in some places. The rationale being that the city is desperately short of land and there is no option but to go vertical. Efforts to improve transport connections to allow the city's expansion onto the eastern mainland have been sporadic. Increasing FSI seems to be the preferred and easy solution. The panel intended to improve the understanding of FSI related issues, specifically the limits to which FSI can be raised without causing serious distress.

Resource & Research Centre

The UDRI Research and Resource Centre (RRC) strengthens the public discussion on Mumbai by housing an archive on Mumbai. While base information and resources are available with state and private commercial groups, citizens groups and NGOs face an uphill task in trying to access much relevant information.

From newspaper clippings to maps to documentaries, the RRC's efforts are aimed at offering an alternate space that provides easy access to this information to enable participatory urban planning and design.

Research Fellowship

The UDRI regularly takes part in knowledge exchange programs. During 2012-13, the UDRI was part of interaction with these institutions:

- Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, USA
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture and Planning, USA
- South Asia Global Centre, Columbia University, USA
- Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, Columbia University, USA
- Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning (TCAUP), Michigan, USA
- Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain
- Bharati Vidyapeeth's College of Architecture, Belapur, India
- Academy of Architecture, Mumbai, India
- Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
- Technical University of Munich, Germany

Publications

UDRI's Mumbai Reader series has become well-known for documenting the diverse voices and ideas that characterise the city. The Reader was initiated in 2006, first in the English language, primarily to address the lack of a critical discourse on Mumbai. It puts together varied perspectives on the culture, economy and geography of the city. Due to a positive response, it was decided to publish regularly a Marathi version of the Reader.

Marathi Mumbai Reader 2012

Marathi edition of UDRI's Mumbai Reader was released. It was made up of articles selected from the English Mumbai Readers 2008, 09 and 10.

Among the authors whose works were selected include V.K. Phatak, Rahul Mehrotra, Naresh Fernandes, Shirish Patel and Jaideep Gupte.

The Marathi Reader was released by former Mumbai Municipal

Commissioner Sharad Kale and eminent architect and planner Shirish Patel.

Mumbai Reader 2013

This year's English edition of the Reader, launched by senior journalist Kalpana Sharma, has a special focus on the DP 2014.



UDRI in the Media



UDRI Team

Board of trustees

Shirin Bharucha
Charles Correa
Deepak Parekh
Nana Chudasama
Cyrus Guzder
Rahul Mehrotra
Nasser Munjee
Anuj Bhagwati

Executive committee

Shirin Bharucha
Cyrus Guzder
Rahul Mehrotra
Nasser Munjee
Anuj Bhagwati
Jamsheed Kanga
Nayana Kathpalia
Kamu Iyer
Pankaj Joshi

Mentors

D M Sukthankar
(Former Municipal Commissioner)

Sharad Kale
(Former Municipal Commissioner)

Shirish Patel
(Planner and Architect)



Shirin Bharucha



Charles Correa



Deepak Parekh



Nana Chudasama



Cyrus Guzder



Rahul Mehrotra



Nasser Munjee



Anuj Bhagwati



Nayana Kathpalia



Jamsheed Kanga



Kamu Iyer



Pankaj Joshi

Alliances

NGOs/Stake Holders (more than 200 NGOs) including

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)
City Space
Oval Maidan Trust
Horniman Circle Garden Trust
Bombay Environmental Action Group (BEAG)
SAVE Forum
IIT Mumbai
Youth United for Voluntary Action (YUVA)
PRAJA Foundation
Salaam Bombay Foundation
SNEHA Foundation

Cultural and Institutional Partners

Kala Ghoda Association
National Centre for Performing Arts (NCPA)
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (Prince of Wales)
Max Mueller Bhavan
David Sassoon Library
National Gallery for Modern Art (NGMA)
Kitab Khana
Rang Sharada

Educational / Research Partners

Sir J J College of Architecture
Rachna Sansad Academy of Architecture
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS)
Rizvi College of Architecture
KRVIA

Financials 2012-2013

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT 1950 SCHEDULE VIII [VIDE RULE 17(1)]

NAME OF THE TRUST : URBAN DESIGN REASERCH INSTITUTE | REGISTRATION NO.: E-10647 (BOMBAY)

PROVISIONAL BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2013

FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	SCH	₹	₹
TRUST FUNDS OR CORPUS (Bal. as on 1-4-2011)			
Balance as per Last Balance Sheet			161,005
Adjustment during the year (Give details)		-	
Addition for the year	A	1,700,900	1,861,905
OTHER EARMARKED FUNDS (Created under the provisions of the trust deed or scheme or out of the Income)			
Depreciation			
Fund Sinking			
Fund Reserve			
Fund			
Any other Fund			
Scholarship Fund			
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			
Addition for the year			
Building Fund			
Balance as per last Balance sheet			-
Addition for the Year			
Loans (secured or Unsecured) From Trustees		40,000	40,000
From Others			
LIABILITIES	B	156,263	
For Expenses		-	
For Advances of fees		-	
For Duties & taxes		-	
For Rent and other deposits		-	156,263
For Sundry credit balances			
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		6,175,712	
Balance as per Balance Sheet			
Less :- Appropriation, if any			
Add :- Surplus [As per Income & Expenditure Account]			723,724
Less :- Deficit [As per Income & Expenditure Account]		-	6,899,436
TOTAL			8,957,604

PROPERTIES AND ASSETS	SCH	₹	₹
IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES (AT COST)			
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			
Add :- Additon during the year			
Less :- Sales during the year			
Depreciation upto date			-
INVESTMENTS			-
FIXED ASSESTS	C	326,746	465,443
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			
Add :- Additon during the year		-	
Less :- Sales during the year		302,533	489,656
Less :- Depreciation upto date			
LOANS (SECURED OR UNSECURED)			
Good / doubtful Loan Scholarship Other Loans			
ADVANCES		48,839	
To Trustees			
To Employees			48,839
To Contractors			
To Lawyers			
To Others			
INCOME OUTSTANDING		103,216	
Rent		7,750	110,966
Interest			
Other Income - Fees Receivable			
Advance Tax & TDS Deposit others			
CASH & BANK BALANCES	D	1,570,985	
(a) In current Account with Bank		6,729,909	
(b) fixed deposit Account		7,249	
(C) with the trustee (cash)		-	8,308,144
(d) With the manager			
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			-
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			
Less:- Appropriation, if any			
Add :- Deficit (As per Income & Expenditure Account)			
Less :- Surplus			
TOTAL			8,957,604

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