

ROYAL HARBINGER

Reporting Fact of the Matter

Weekly



PAGE 2 :
UDAIPUR TOURIST BIOSCOPE...

PAGE 3 :
MOST ROMANTIC SPOT
ESPECIALLY FOR ...

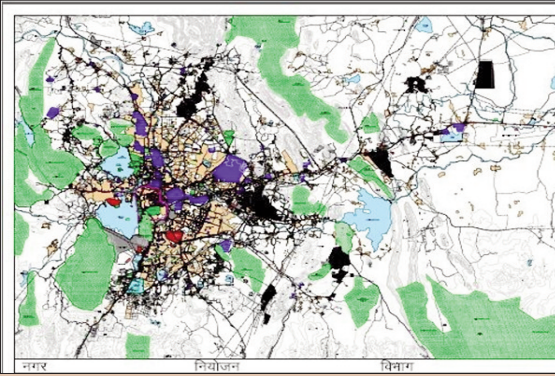


UDAIPUR | MONDAY, JUNE 07, 2021 | PAGE 1 - 4 | PRICE : 5.00* (Vol. 07, No. 13) Postal Registration No.RJ/UD/ 29-134/2017-2019

Eco Centric Planning and development for Eco-system Restoration

The theme for year 2021 Environment Day is "Eco System Restoration". This day is also a launch for UN decade (2021 – 2030) on Ecosystem Restoration. The theme is most relevant for Udaipur as it would build wider understanding; and initiate actions on eco system regeneration and restoration of Udaipur. The major threats to natural ecosystem of cities like Udaipur is poor and myopic urban planning. The environmental problems are created and accelerated because of land use changes of lakes, hills; and urban, peri urban green pockets. Udaipur needs eco centric urban planning in order to restore the natural and healthy eco system comprised mainly of hills, lakes and Ahar river.

Safe drinking water and clean air are basic human rights for Udaipur citizens and prerequisite for healthy life. The process of haphazard urbanization has resulted in not just the environmental degradation of



useful flora and fauna of Udaipur; but has contaminated the water quality; and reduced to large extent the oxygen giving green patches. The contamination from the factories and household effluents have increased organic and nutrient loading in our ecosystem. The peripheral Udaipur is becoming the victim of severe environmental degradation. Udaipur is becoming the major spot for economic activities including the tourist industry. But, in order to expand economic activities; and to accommodate the increasing population we

are destroying the ecology and environment of our peripheral villages i.e peri urban area of Udaipur. Unfortunately, there has been very limited attention given to the peri-urban areas: an area contiguous to the perceived 'urban islands' primarily considered as source for resources and sink for urban wastes. Peri urban areas display characteristics of both urban and rural areas and it is vital to understand and plan for their coordinated development, based on their functions and structures. These areas provide important services, viz. food, water, and

retreat from urban heat, etc., to the adjacent Udaipur. Notwithstanding their tremendous importance, they are scourged with industrial pollution, lack of dedicated policy focus and scientific regulations for planned growth.

It is, therefore, of paramount importance to recognize the role of peri-urban ecosystems in: adapting to climate change and making urban centers resilient; promoting water and food security; and management of waste for promoting circular economy.

There is great need to understand that urbanization as a process never confines within the limits of its municipal boundaries but implicates wider regions and hinterlands for producing conditions of urban living. Considering the contemporary pace of urbanization, areas presently marked as peri-urban zones are destined to get devoured by the city within its municipal limits and surrounding green zone, in turn, will

begin to display hybrid rural-urban character. This is a dynamic process which decision makers need to be cognizant of while crafting policies and plans for balanced and comprehensive development.

An integrated approach will also promote economic optimization by closing the loop of resource consumption and waste disposal/reuse.

The development in Udaipur; and its peri urban areas is affecting the Ahar river too. The river is primarily playing a function of pollution sink.

The river is more appropriately characterized by its entire catchment area, rather than any administrative boundaries. So for the restoration of 23 kilometer polluted stretch of Ahar, the planners should outline a broad strategy for revitalizing the entire catchment basin of the river and its tributaries. The city planning needs to take cognizance of the Ahar river and its interaction with the

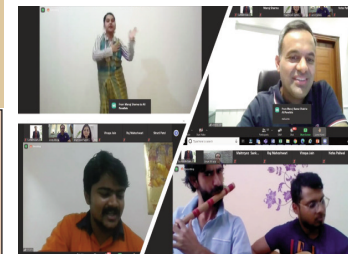
Udaipur traditions and culture. It is also pertinent to mention here that any river flowing through a city cannot be looked in isolation, without its contextual setting and its linkages the urban area. The city-river connect is a very strong relationship build across generations, and cannot be neglected while dealing with any form of city planning, infrastructure development or management related to the area.

In recent past, Udaipur has seen flattening of many hills. There are plan to construct roads through the lakes. The shorelines of the lakes are in great threat because of development of roads on the bed of the lakes and thereby paving the way for commercial development along the altered lake boundaries.

The process of such deteriorations of ecosystem components of Udaipur can only be reversed if the city planning is green and blue centric.

- Dr Anil Mehta

A VIRTUAL EVENING WITH EMPLOYEES TO SPREAD SMILES...



Udaipur: At Hindustan Zinc, people are at the heart of operations and are one of the most important assets that constitutes the organization. During these distressed times, when people are struggling with the circumstances at personal level, the company has ensured to support them by providing best medical facilities, flexible work cultures, term insurance policy and vaccination to keep them safe. Now one more dimension has been added to the effort where Hindustan Zinc exemplified the value of HZL Cares and organized a one of its kind virtual cultural program for employees & their families. With the lockdown forcing employees to work from home, there had to be a way to bring back the office teatime chit chat and those evening gossip sessions. The objective of this unique cultural evening was to bring joy, sharing good memories and lot of informal bonding time with each other virtually. This 2-hour program witnessed mesmerizing performances from employees of all age groups showcasing their talent and entertaining fellow colleagues. Where there was Prateek & Shubham's jugalbandi on flute & guitar mesmerized the viewers, there were Nisha & Tanushree's dance performances from Pantnagar & Zavar that prompted them to groove on those songs. When there were budding poets like Bhuvnesh and Saurav from Kayad and Agucha who shared their work making the listeners to encore, there was Mukhtar and Sufal from Chanderiya and Dariba who enchanted the listeners with guzals and unique shayaris. Listeners were also enthralled by the emotional story shared by Shruti and beautiful voices of Avinash, Aishwarya, Nilesh and Nisha who transported them into a different world for those moments.

Along with all these splendid recitals, the highlights of the event were the captivating performances by Mr. Arun Misra – CEO, HZL with his beautiful singing and a heart touching poem relevant to these unprecedented times by Head Finance – Mr. Vinaya Jain.

CEO Hindustan Zinc who appreciated the efforts of the team and all the participants said "I have always liked interacting with my people at professional as well as at personal level but lockdown had restricted the later to some extent. With this informal unique session, I got an opportunity to connect with employees and their families where it was interesting to learn about their interests & talents and to witness the same virtually. It was wonderful to have everyone at Zinc Pariwar taking out time and doing something out-of-the-box during this pandemic".

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