

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2006 – 2007



### **National Institute of Urban Affairs**

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## CONTENTS

	Page No.
Preface	1
Members Of Governing Council	2
Mission And Role	3
Ongoing Research Projects	3
Research Projects 2006 and 2007	7
Seminars/Workshops/Training Programmes	11
Training Programmes organized by partner training institutes	12
Professional Activities of Research Staff	13
Information Technology and Knowledge Management	16
Publications	18
Staff position as on March 31, 2007	20
Annual Accounts	21

## Preface

With this Annual Report, NIUA celebrates thirty one years of its existence.

During these years, the Institute has completed a large variety of projects including policy research studies, evaluation studies, case studies, documentation of best practices, data gathering exercises and consulting assignments for the Ministries of the Central Government, Planning Commission, State governments, development corporations, and municipal bodies. Projects have also been undertaken with support from a number of international organisations such as USAID, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, United Nations Centre for Regional Development, UNICEF, the World Bank, Ford Foundation, International Development Research Cooperation, World Health Organisation, UCGIS, CARE-plus and Canadian International Development Agency.

The Institute's work spans the entire gamut of urban development, management and governance; including urbanization and urban policy, urban management, urban planning and development, financing of urban infrastructure, urban infrastructure and services, urban poverty, urban environment, urban transport, urban shelter, municipal finance, urban informal sector, urban health and urban statistics.

Several initiatives have been taken during this year. The website of the institute has been revamped and is now more user friendly. Working paper series has been introduced. These are discussion papers on burning issues of the urban sector. Very good response was received in the internship programme conducted by the Institute during the summer months May-July. The very best of the students were selected from top professional and academic institutes of the country who worked very enthusiastically and many of them contributed substantially in the working paper series. In addition, several lectures on various urban issues were organised to share and learn from experts working in various countries.

The three major ongoing research projects include monitoring of the reform agenda under the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission, Financial Institutions Reform and Expansion (Debt) Component, and National Strategy for Urban Poor. This Annual Report provides information related to various academic activities of the Institute, including the professional activities of its faculty members, during the year 2006-2007 and presents the audited accounts of the Institute for the year.

Sd/-  
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President

Sd/-  
**Mukesh P. Mathur**  
Professor-in-Charge

**National Institute of Urban Affairs**  
**Members of Governing Council as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007**

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## **Mission and Role**

### **Mission**

To provide policy prescriptions, innovations for better local governance, information and training inputs to all those concerned with improving the living conditions and quality of life of urban residents.

### **Role**

To act as an autonomous, scientific and research organisation to undertake, promote and coordinate studies on urbanisation

- To act as a centre for advanced study of urban problems and to provide and promote the necessary training and research facilities
- To evaluate the social, administrative, financial and other aspects of the implementation of urban development plans and programmes
- To mobilise available expertise in the field of urban affairs and to offer and coordinate technical and consulting services
- To constitute or cause to be constituted or give affiliation to regional, state or local centres to promote the purpose of the Institute
- To organise and sponsor training courses, workshops and seminars in various fields
- To act as a clearing house of information, and to operate a documentation centre and disseminate information on urban affairs
- To undertake and facilitate publication and distribution of books, research papers, monographs, a journal and other communication material pertaining to urban affairs

### **Ongoing Research Projects**

The **three major research projects** going on at the Institute are:

- **Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM)**

JNNURM is a flagship programme of the Government of India, the biggest so far in the urban sector. This reform linked programme aims to make cities self-sustaining, efficient and responsive. The Government of India will provide financial assistance up to Rs. 50,000 crores, in the form of grants, to cities under the Mission for development of infrastructure. The Mission will be implemented over a seven-year period and will cover 63 cities. In order to access funds under

JNNURM, each city will have to prepare a City Development Plan (CDP), Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the projects being proposed, and sign a Memorandum of Agreement containing the timeline for reforms. Funds will be released to cities based on the progress made on implementing the reforms and on utilization of the funds released.

NIUA played an important role in the pre-launch and launch activities of JNNURM. NIUA was also responsible for organising the launch of JNNURM by the Prime Minister at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

NIUA is playing a significant role in the implementation of JNNURM and regularly participates in the Central Sanctioning & Monitoring Committee (CSMC) meetings conducted by MoUD for evaluating and monitoring proposals submitted under JNNURM. The Institute has already appraised 21 CDPs and has undertaken a study for 22 JNNURM cities for the purpose of monitoring of urban reform agenda at state and ULB level.

- **Financial Institutions Reform and Expansion (Debt Component) - FIRE (D)**

The Indo-USAID programme on Financial Institutions Reform and Expansion (FIRE-D) for developing a long-term debt market for viable urban infrastructure projects was launched in 1994. The programme envisages development of a viable urban infrastructure finance system by using housing guarantee funds for issuing of debt instruments to finance urban infrastructure projects.

Inter alia, the programme seeks to focus on citywide infrastructure projects and accessibility of the poor to urban infrastructure. In addition to strengthening NIUA in terms of its technical and management capacity, the agreement between NIUA and USAID supports GOI's efforts in (i) promoting decentralisation as an efficient mechanism for urban management through implementation of the 74<sup>th</sup> constitution amendment by the states, (ii) capacity building of state level entities for development of commercially viable water and sanitation projects with market base financing, (iii) development and expansion of an efficient urban management training network in the country and (iv) dissemination of reforms.

FIRE-D Phase III's overarching purpose is "capacity building for commercially viable water and sanitation project development with market based financing". Ensuring commercial viability of urban infrastructure projects, financing by accessing the debt market, credit rating of municipal and urban infrastructure

entities, private participation in provision of urban infrastructure etc., are unconventional concepts and tools. Urban infrastructure projects identified, developed and structured in Tirupur, Ahmedabad, Vijayawada and Pune have proved catalytic in developing new financing techniques and serve as alternative models in urban infrastructure financing. Capacity building and training workshops are being conducted through sustainable network of 17 urban management training institutions spread across the country.

The project is likely to be closed at the end of Phase III in September 2008.

- **National Strategy for Urban Poor**

The Government of India – UNDP Project aims at sustainable socio-economic growth and development in select urban locations through a community-owned and participatory process. The issues that the project seeks to address are livelihood options and provision of basic services for the urban poor. The project's focus is to support the adoption of a national strategy for urban poverty reduction at the central and state levels. It also aims to support a combination of initiatives like action research, network building for dialogue on policies and regulations and develop a facility to support and disseminate best practices on urban livelihoods.

The Institute deals with two components of the project: i) targeted support to NGOs in the National Capital Region (NCR) to promote urban poor concerns. ii) Transforming Urban Living Conditions through Innovations (TULCI) now called UPRS (Urban Poverty Reduction Strategy).

(i) Under NCR component, pilot projects were commissioned in six resettlement colonies of the NCR. The focus themes of the project were livelihood and micro credit, women and children, health and disability, solid waste management and urban upgradation. This was an action based research study implemented through 21 partner NGOs and coordinated by the Institute carried over a period of 18 months. The project identified the problems and constraints in addressing the multiple vulnerabilities of the urban poor living in these areas. The final output of the project will be a draft policy document which will outline lessons learnt and coping mechanisms to deal with these problems.

- (ii) UPRS Component : The objective of the project is to empower the urban poor so that they can contribute effectively to decisions that impact their lives. The project strategy aims to provide the urban poor with a forum to discuss their needs and the obstacles to meeting them. The project seeks to build capacity for implementation of the innovative urban poverty alleviation plans, with the thrust on basic services and improvement in the socio-economic condition of slum dwellers.

UPRS will include the following:

- *Sub-sectoral strategies aimed at leveraging resources for address in the needs of the urban poor.*
- *Promoting participation of the urban poor in the UPRS.*
- *Promoting pro-poor institutional reforms.*

UPRSs for 11 cities in India are being prepared. The cities are : Chennai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Pune, Bangalore, Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Indore, Jaipur and Ambala.

The UPRS will focus on improving the living conditions of the urban poor and advancing their quality of life. Emphasis will also be laid on providing a broader spectrum of livelihood options for the poor. It is expected that this will, in turn, improve the quality of life of the city as a whole.

At the end of the project it is envisaged that a detailed strategy with action plans under the heads of housing, basic services and livelihood will be brought out. This plan will be linked to JNNURM as a policy. The implementation plan will also include a phased plan mentioning how the strategies can be applied and implemented.

As coordinating agency, the Institute has been involved in identification, selection, appointment and supervision of partner agencies in specific areas and cities. Institute is also involved in monitoring and evaluation of the agencies' work.

In addition to the above, the UPRS of Jaipur is being prepared in-house by the Institute.

## Research Projects 2006 and 2007

### I. Urbanisation, Urban Policy and Urban Management

- *Peer Review of Master Plan of Delhi 2021 (MPD 2021)*

The project was undertaken by the Institute at the request of the Ministry of Urban Development to remodel the MPD 2021 to be more user/people friendly in terms of form and content and to revalidate it by incorporating ground realities and contemporary policy initiatives. The objectives of the projects involved the following: Restructure the document in a more logical sequence; Specify policies, procedure for implementation, Integrate the chapters by cross referencing them and to explicitly relate them to the draft vision of the document; Supplement it by observations and recommendations in each chapter with a coordinated set of tenable and efficient measures, integrate reforms agenda of the JNNURM and various National Policies (such as policies on Transport, Housing, Urban Street Vendors etc.) The study addressed the issues of achieving public good and a universally desired quality of life through articulated liberal policies like universal mixed use, which put greater pressure on the implementers of public interest rather than on the public itself.

- *Appraisal of City Development Plans under JNNURM*

The Institute has been entrusted with the work of appraisal of City Development Plans (CDP) under JNNURM so that funds can be obtained by the respective cities under the Mission. Appraisals were carried out for 21 CDPs.

- *Appraisal of Implementation of Reform Measures in the States as per MoA of the Cities*

A tripartite memorandum has been signed between Central, State and ULB/Parastatal Agency. Ministry of Urban Development has extended the empanelment of three institutions as consultant for the year 2007-08 for undertaking appraisal of implementation of reforms. NIUA is among one of them.

As per the agreement between MoUD & NIUA twenty-two cities have been assigned to NIUA. The institute has undertaken the job of appraisal and

monitoring of reform under the tripartite memorandum. Monitoring has been undertaken both at State and ULB/Implementing Agency level.

NIUA is supposed to submit two half yearly reports, separate for each State and ULB/Implementing Agency level containing the initiative taken to meet the Reforms Agenda as per the tripartite memorandum.

- *GOI-UNDP Project on “National Strategy for Urban Poor”*

#### *NCR Component*

The project which was to end on February 2007 was extended by one month i.e. upto March 2007, by Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation (MoUE&PA). After submitting the consolidated Inception Report to Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT of Delhi, a report on each thematic area i.e. livelihood and micro credit, solid waste management, women and child, urban upgradation and health and disability was prepared.

#### *TULCI Component*

Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) have been signed by NIUA with partner agencies for preparation of UPRSs for Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Ludhiana, Chandigarh, Indore and Ambala. In addition to coordinating the eleven UPRSs being prepared by city-specific agencies, the Institute is also involved in preparation of the UPRS for Jaipur. Inception reports have been submitted and evaluated. Comments on the inception reports have been incorporated by different agencies and revised reports have also been received.

## **II. Governance**

- *Impact Assessment of Training of Women Councillors*

The objective of the study was to assess the impact of the training programmes for women elected representatives on the understanding and functioning of these councillors. Four modules, two for Trainers and two for Trainees have been prepared based on the modules available with UNCHS and material obtained from the British Council.

- *Development of a Model National Municipal Accounting Training Manual (NMATRAM) and Selection of Municipal Accounting Software*

The main objective, of the study was to develop model NMATRAM on the NMAM to enable strengthening of capacity of local governments through introduction of improved financial management, budgeting, accounting and auditing practices.

The approach of this study is to develop:

- A. Model national municipal accounts training manual based on the National Municipal Accounts Manual (NMAM) as it is expected to strengthen the capacity of local governments through the introduction of improved financial management, budgeting, accounting and auditing practices. This objective of the training manual is expected to be achieved by providing inputs for training through:
  - (i) sensitization and orientation of the elected representatives, commissioners, and other municipal officials; and
  - (ii) detailed training inputs for accountants, other municipal officials, auditors and chartered accountants for the implementation of the new accounting system.
- B. User Requirement Study leading to the acquisition of an off-the-shelf accounting software based on the NMAM to promote the implementation of improved financial management through electronic means leading to improvement in internal government operations to support and stimulate good governance.

The inception report has been finalised and the comments on the inception report have been received from the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, New Delhi.

- *Status of devolution of powers and functions under 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act in select JNNURM cities.*

The empowerment of municipalities through implementation of the 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment (through functional and financial devolution) has become more important in the wake of the JNNURM where it has been made one of the mandatory reforms at the state level. The main objective of the study is to

review the current state of implementation of various mandatory and discretionary provisions of the Constitution (74<sup>th</sup> Amendment) Act in 12 sample JNNURM cities. The level of devolution of functional and financial powers to ULBs, compilation of functional powers given in the 12<sup>th</sup> schedule and financial powers devolved upon ULBs are also some of the issues to be analysed. On the basis of this, the areas for further reforms and improvement will be identified.

The field survey, data collection and analysis have been completed.

- *Development of a Model National Municipal Assets Valuation Methodology Manual*

The main objective of the study is to develop a generic national manual assets valuation guidelines and methodology to be used in the accounting and financial reporting system. This will be based on the principle and recommendations of the task force on *Accounting and Budget Formats for Urban Local Bodies* and the National Municipal Accounts Manual.

Expression of Interest (EoI) were invited and committee has been constituted to examine and evaluate the EoI's submitted by the consultants before awarding the study.

- *Government of Rajasthan: Modifying/Amending Rajasthan State Municipal Act.*

The Local Self-government Department, Government of Rajasthan in collaboration with the City Managers' Association, Rajasthan (CMAR) has taken the initiative to modify/amend the Rajasthan State Municipal Act. A draft report has been submitted to NIUA. The title of the draft report is "The Rajasthan Municipalities Bill, 2005". It contains 21 chapters, which have been presented in six parts. The objective of the study was to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the municipalities in the state, to introduce reforms in internal resource generation capacity and organizational design of municipalities, financial management and accounting systems, etc. The draft final report is circulated for comments and suggestions.

- *Impact Assessment of Training Programmes (conducted during the period 2000-2003) Supported by NIUA under Indo-USAID FIRE (D) Project*

The main objective of the study was to assess the impact of training programmes conducted by training institutions supported by NIUA under the Indo-USAID FIRE (D) Project. The assessment period was 2000-2003, which pertains to Phase II of the project. A total of nine active training institutions during Phase II have been selected for the study. Of these, four have been selected for detailed study. The study proposed the measures to improve the quality of training, suggest parameters to enhance the capacity of training institutions, etc.

Some of the key findings of the study were as under:

- After interviewing sample of 26 trainees of the second phase of FIRE (D) during October 2000 to September 2003, Training Impact evaluation suggests that training has helped in improving knowledge skills and attitudes of the municipal personnel.
- Concurrent evaluation needs to be supplemented by post-evaluation, preferably after six months of completion of training course to get participants feedback on the usefulness of training in their actual job performance.
- To make training more meaningful the state government should revisit municipal personnel system and implement the National Training Policy right up to the institutions of local self-government.

### **Seminars/Workshops/Training Programmes**

- Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Nagpur, 2 August 2006.
- Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Kolkata, 4 August 2006.
- Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Jaipur, 8 August 2006.
- Roundtable on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, New Delhi, 11 August 2006.
- Regional Workshop for the Southern States on Municipal Accounting Reforms, Bangalore, 22 September 2006.

- Two weeks MS Office Computer Training Programme was organised for the Capacity Building of Institute Staff. This was jointly conducted by NIUA and NIIT under the FIRE-D Project.
- Urban Age Seminar series on investigating the future of cities was organized by London School of Economics, Alfred Herrhausen Society and International Forum of Deutsche Bank on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007, at NIUA, New Delhi.

## **Training Programmes organized by partner training institutes**

### *Focus areas*

- Municipal Legislative Reforms for Elected Representative
- Public-Private Partnership Infrastructure Management
- Community Mobilisation and Resource Management in Operation and Maintenance
- Reforms in Accounting, Budgeting, Information and Data Management
- Leadership and Management skills for Elected Representatives
- Training of Trainers Programme as per reform agenda of Gol/FIRE
- Governance and Municipal Reforms
- Property Tax Reforms
- Solid Waste Management

### **1. Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Kolkata**

- JNNURM Training Programme for Municipal Functionaries, September 2006.

### **2. Centre for Good Governance (CGG), UAA, Nainital**

- Public Private Partnership of Infrastructure Management, 21-25 March 2006.
- Training Programme for Municipal Functionaries on JNNURM: Process & Procedures, 11-13 July 2006
- Community Mobilisation and Resource Mobilisation in Operation and Maintenance, 1-5 August 2006
- Training Programme on JNNURM for elected representatives, 26 September 2006

### **3. Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh**

- Privatisation of Municipal Services for Strengthening Fiscal Domain of Urban Local Bodies, 20-21 June 2006

- Seminar on Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, 7 April 2006
- Implementing Urban Reform Agenda in JNNURM cities, 8-9 March 2007
- E-governance, Management Information System and Double Entry System of Accounting, 25 August 2006

#### **4. Kerala Institute of Local Administration, Thrissur**

- Financing Urban Infrastructure, 9-11 March 2006.
- Financing Urban Infrastructure, 20-22 March 2006.
- JNNURM Training Programme for Municipal Functionaries, 24-26 July 2006
- Training Workshop on JNNURM for elected representatives, 8 October 2006

#### **5. Assam Administrative Staff College (AASC), Guwahati**

- JNNURM for Municipal Functionaries, 12-15 July 2006
- Municipal Resource Mobilisation, 19-21 August 2006

#### **6. Institute of Local Government & Urban Studies (ILGUS), Kolkata**

- Accrual Based Double Entry System, 9-11 March 2006
- Capacity Building of Elected Representatives, 26-28 March 2006
- Training Workshop on JNNURM for elected representatives, 15 September 2006

#### **7. Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration (HPIPA)**

- Urban Renewal Mission for Municipal Corporation, Shimla, 31 August- 2 September, 2006.

### **Professional Activities of Research Staff**

*Usha P. Raghupathi*

- Assisted Prof. O.P. Mathur in drafting the “Guidelines for Heritage Cities”, under JNNURM
- Prepared a paper titled “Cleaning Delhi’s Air : Changing over to CNG” for presentation at WUF III at Vancouver, 19-23 June 2006

- Member of Task Force set up by MOUD to prepare the toolkit for Heritage cities.
- Jury member for thesis prepared by students of School of Planning, CEPT.
- Delivered lectures in ILGUS (Kolkata), KILA (Kerala) and in Shimla (organized by AILSG and KILA) on JNNURM for elected representatives.

*M P Mathur*

- Published a paper on Implementation of the 74<sup>th</sup> Constitution Amendment Act, *India Infrastructure Report 2006*, 3iNetwork, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2006
- Presented a paper on The Alandur : India Underground Sewerage System in the workshop on *International Best Practices in Private Sector Participation in the Water sector*, organized by the Asian Development Bank, Urban Development Division, South Asia Department, Dhaka, 15 October 2006.
- Presented a paper on Constitution (74<sup>th</sup>) Amendment Act: Its Impact on the ULBs in the two-day workshop on *Devolution of Funds to Urban Local Bodies*, organized by the Amity School of Urban Management, NOIDA, 27-28 October 2006.
- Prepared presentation on the Capacity Building and Urban Reforms for the training workshop on *Urban Renewal Mission: Problems and Prospects*, organized by the All India Institute of Local self Government, Shimla, 28-31 October 2006
- Member, Second Municipal Valuation Committee, constituted by the Lt. Governor of NCT of Delhi, in September 2006.
- Member, Committee on Accounting Standards for Local Bodies, constituted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (2005-continue)
- Delivered lectures in CRRID (Chandigarh), HIPA (Gurgaon) and IIPA (New Delhi) on JNNURM Reforms for municipal functionaries and elected representatives.

*V K Dhar*

- Resource person at a training workshop organized by RCVNAA, Bhopal on JNNURM, 26-28 June, 2006.
- Prepared a paper on "PURA: Planning for Human Settlements in India", with summer interns.
- External Examiner for evaluation of Ph.D. Thesis of Mr. Dilliip Kr. Das on "Planning for Tourism Development in Orissa State, India", at Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.

- External examiner for award of Ph.D. Degree at Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.
- Member of DRC (Doctoral Research Committee), School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
- Delivered lecture on “Urbanisation – Search for New Horizons” at the International Training Programme for Overseas Professionals at HSMI, New Delhi.
- Presentation made at the Annual Conference of the HUDCO Chair Institutes on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at New Delhi.

*Paramita Datta Dey*

- Delivered lecture on “CDP Appraisals at NIUA”, YASHADA, Pune, 21 July 2006.
- Coordinated interns on preparing papers on “Security of Tenure: Is Land titling enough?” and “Economics of (abolishing) Rent Control in India” at National Institute of Urban Affairs.
- Base Paper on Financial Issues in Urban Transport, submitted to the Sub-Group of the Working Group on Urban Transport including Mass Rapid Transport Systems for Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007 – 2012)
- Paper on “CDP appraisals at NIUA”, published in the proceedings of the seminar on “Urban Governance in the context of JNNURM”, organized by AMDA, November 24, 2006.
- Presentation on “Urban poor and City Development Plans”, at the regional workshop on Basic Services to Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) organized by HUDCO at Chandigarh, January 15, 2007.

*Sandeep Thakur*

- Presentation made on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2006, titled “Financial Profile, Financing Strategies and City Investment Plan of JNNURM Cities”.
- Presentation made on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2006, titled “Evaluating the Financial Health of Indian Cities- A Diagnostic Report”.
- Prepared a presentation for Director for a meeting on municipal accounting reforms on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2006, titled “Financial Health of Indian Cities”.
- Published paper on “Access to Drinking Water in Urban India- An Analysis of Emerging Spatial Pattern in the Context of New System of Governance” Co-authored with Dr. Amitabh Kundu, in Managing Water Resources- Policies, Institutions, and Technologies edited by V.Ratna Reddy and S.Mahendra Dev (Oxford Publications).
- Published paper on “Urban Water Pricing: Setting the Stage for Reforms” Co-authored with Om Prakash Mathur (UNDP, India).

- Coordinated intern on preparing a paper on “Financial Health of JNNURM Cities”.
- Working paper 6 on “Evaluating the Financial Health of Indian Cities : A Diagnostic Report”.

#### *Debjani Ghosh*

- Presentation on ‘Water Sector Reforms under JNNURM’ at Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Nagpur, August 2, 2006.
- Presentation on ‘Water Sector Reforms under JNNURM’ at Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Kolkata, August 4, 2006.
- Presentation on ‘Water Sector Reforms under JNNURM’ at Seminar on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Jaipur, August 8, 2006.
- Presentation on ‘Roundtable on Transforming Water and Wastewater Services in Urban India: Lessons from International Best Practices, Delhi, August 11, 2006.
- Lecture delivered on ‘Reform Agenda for JNNURM: 74 Constitutional Amendment Act’ at Training Programme on JNNURM for elected representatives Uttaranchal Academy of Administration, Nainital, September 26, 2006.
- Presentation on ‘74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act’ at JNNURM Training Programme for Elected Representatives, Kerala Institute of Local Administration, Thrissur, October 9, 2006.
- Internship Coordinator for 2006-07. Guided interns on researching and writing papers titled:

“Impact of the Commonwealth Games 2010 on Urban Development of Delhi”.

“Water and Urban Poor”

## **Information Technology and Knowledge Management**

### *Infrastructure*

The Institute is equipped with state of art computing hardware and software including a file server on local area network and shared resources like high-speed printers, colour printers and digital copiers.

During the year 2006-07, there was substantive enhancement in the IT infrastructure as below :

- The institute acquired Broadband connectivity as 256 KBPS(1:1) from Sify with an excellent speed and access 24 hours, 7 days a week accessible to the staff.
- NIUA staff was extended with the facility of in-house mailing solution with no limits or constraints on number and sizes of email boxes and NIUA staff had been acquainted with the knowledge of this state-of-the art communication technology.
- The Institute was equipped with the state-of-the art IBM Xeon Server implemented with Raid-5 technology with dual process and with redundant power supply to have minimum probability of any break down and data loss.
- Both the websites of the institute namely niua.org and indiaurbanifo.com has been integrated into one and hosted by an agency to maintain and run these sites Seamlessly. The software Adobe Dream Weaver was procured for site's updating and other related functions.
- The Institute was made wireless enabled by acquiring access points.
- For the training workshop on JNNURM for municipal functionaries a wi-fi enabled computer lab with Internet browsing and printing was established.
- A software which generates the user and printer wise reports of the print-outs was procured.
- To bring out the Electronic version of Urban News, a latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader Professional was purchased.
- The centralized printing system was put in place with duplex printing facilities.
- A network enabled Bio-matrix attendance machine was procured which generates reports of all staff members.
- The Un-interruptible Power Supply (UPS) system was made functional.
- The Institute was made available with a Demo version of JSTOR, a huge library on Internet, where the research staff could download relevant papers and documents for references.
- A small library of books and magazines related to IT was set up and being maintained by the Computer Unit to easy access to EDP staff and to acquainted with the up to date knowledge of the latest IT technology.
- A new State-of-the art Dell server was put in place with the latest version of Microsoft Windows Svr. The server was also configured with SYMANTEC ANTIVIRUS CORPORATE EDITION to protects the data on the network and niua domain from viruses and spams. Training was imparted to faculty and other computer users on the new version of Windows Server.
- A two-weeks Training Programme on Microsoft Office and Outlook Express for the Institute's staff organized for skill up gradation.

- Procured one set of Card Reader Cum Photo Scanner for reading and scanning of visiting cards.
- The Institute procured four wireless enabled Dell Laptops for mobile computing.
- Added one HP LaserJet Multi Function Printer
- Added five numbers of State-of-the art HP computers.

#### *Urban Information Resource Centre*

The Urban Information Resource Centre website [www.indiaurbaninfo.com](http://www.indiaurbaninfo.com), contains seven databases viz. city profiles, case studies, documents, infrastructure projects, news briefs, resource institutions and training & seminars. Apart from the databases, there are a number of other resources on the site including newsletters, FIRE Project notes, and links to other relevant sites apart from links to plan documents. This website has been integrated into the main websites of the Institute ([www.niua.org](http://www.niua.org)).

#### *Library*

The library has 17,398 books and bound volume of periodicals focussing on various aspects of urban development. In addition, the library also subscribes to 19 national and international journals and 9 dailies. During the year ending March 2007 the library acquired 168 books.

### **Publications**

#### *Urban India*

This bi-annual publication is a leading journal on urban development and related matters containing contributions from eminent researchers, policy makers and practitioners. It is an important forum for highlighting issues, promoting research, and disseminating information on the research findings and experiences of researchers and practitioners in the area.

#### *Urban News*

This monthly reproduction of newspaper clippings drawn from nine leading dailies and three magazines received by the library, presents an overall picture of urbanisation and related topics. It serves as a useful source of reference for scholars, policy makers and practitioners in the area of urban development.

### *Urban Finance*

This quarterly newsletter published in English and Hindi, under the FIRE (D) programme, contains information on various aspects of financing urban infrastructure and services including the latest developments. Four issues of the newsletter were brought out during the year. A few regional language issues were also brought out in Marathi and Bangla during the year.

### *Others*

Compilation of course reader on JNNURM for municipal functionaries of Urban Local Bodies under FIRE-D Project. The comprehensive reader provides suggested topics as well as course structure along with reading material and presentations which will help standardise any training programme for ULB officials.