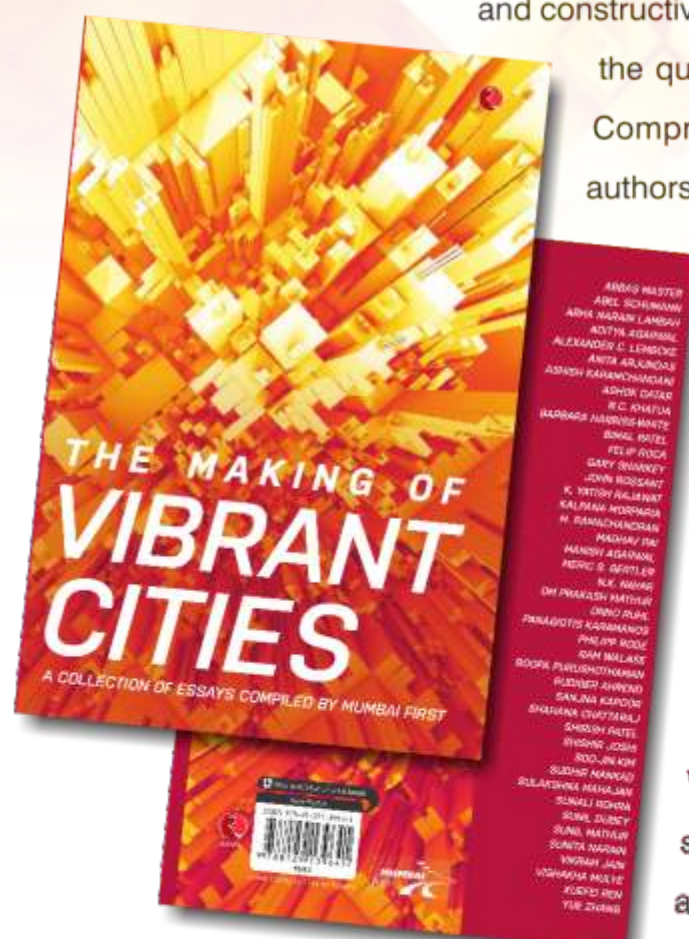


The Making of Vibrant Cities: A collection of essays compiled by Mumbai First

Contact Mumbai First to get a copy of the book *The Making of Vibrant Cities* is a collection of ideas on urban themes straddling urban governance, finance, land use and planning, transportation, sustainability and climate change, etc. in an effort to bring together the thinking of various experts on meeting with the challenges of urbanization. Drawing contributions from an eminent group of people, this book is the first-of-its-kind in India, as it brings together former policymakers, practitioners, experts and academics to share their perspectives on various urban issues, given the interdisciplinary nature of the challenges facing them. The book provides comparative perspectives and constructive ideas needed to transform urban India, and improve

the quality of life for more than 377 million urban dwellers. Comprising observations from renowned international authors who have studied various BRICS nations closely, drawing parallels on the development of various cities scattered across these countries, this volume brings to focus the similarity of issues faced by them even though in varying magnitudes. This similarity manifests itself in the quality of life congestion and insufficient urban transport infrastructure, pollution, slums, dilapidated buildings, intermittent water supply, potted roads, littered streets, uneven pavements and lack of open spaces. The Making of Vibrant Cities serves as an ideas handbook for various stakeholders and helps steer policy research, design and implementation efforts related to urban development across the BRICS nations.



Contribute to CM's relief fund. Buy a copy now.
To purchase your copy reach out to 2281 0070/71 or info@mumbaifirst.org

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Co-ordinated and written by Ronjoti Braham



First & Foremost

April - June 2016

E- Newsletter for Private Circulation only

Letter from the Chairman

The First half of this year has been particularly engaging and enriching.

India took over the Presidency of the BRICS Nations in February this year and we were delighted and indeed honoured to have the opportunity of holding the first major event in Mumbai during India's Presidency.

With the support and active participation of the Government of Maharashtra and the Government of India, team Mumbai First hosted the power packed "*BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave, 2016*". The melting pot for Cities discussing urban challenges and growth spheres saw a magnificent representation of City leaders, policy makers; Industry captains representatives from Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa, joining hands with India in a year when we hold the Presidency of the BRICS nations.

The three day conclave from 14th - 16th of April 2016, focused on Urban Governance; Making Cities Inclusive; Making cities safe and secure; Urban Transport; Finance; Sustainability; Models of Affordable housing; Land use and Planning.



The offerings came in the form of ready solutions being retrofitted to local conditions and every participant went back richer by experience.

The conclave was a culmination of energies and support across cities and borders and for that we are grateful to the Governments, Consul Generals, their teams and Ministry of external Affairs and the Protocol team of the Government of Maharashtra, which worked closely with Mumbai First to make the experience meaningful and lasting.



I am most grateful to H. E. Vidyasagar Rao, Governor of Maharashtra for so kindly Chairing the Inaugural Session and we were delighted to have both, the Union Urban Development Minister – Mr Venkaiah Naidu and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra – Mr Devendra Fadnavis sharing their perceptions with us at the Inaugural Session. I would particularly like to acknowledge and thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra – Mr Devendra Fadnavis for his invaluable support to us in organizing this Conclave and particularly making himself available on all the three days of the Conclave, when he met several foreign delegations which helped to forge new alliances and linkages.

Our Conclave from 14th to 16th April, 2016, was a culmination of a lot of preparatory work during the previous months and we are grateful to Mr Swadheen Kshatriya, Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra for Chairing the Steering Committee and his valuable guidance. The support we

received from the Ministry of External Affairs from Delhi and particularly from Mr Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary, was invaluable and much appreciate his personally requesting Ambassadors from the BRICS Nations to support the Conclave.

Participants merged borders to share their respective experiences and ideas on the various themes. And, as I write this, post conclave handshakes have already begun emerging. Mumbai First is delighted to share an active invitation from two of the BRICS nations who would want the conclave agenda to take the form of a defined relationship with Mumbai First playing a catalyst. Their actions almost bringing to life what the Maharashtra Chief Minister remarked in his closing ceremony address and I quote : *"The best Practices which are shared at the conclave are really so insightful that many cities would immediately try to implement those Solutions"*.

I must make particular mention of the Chief Minister's meeting with the delegation from St Petersburg, in Russia which had invited him to visit their city and country to build on partnership initiatives.

Even as I write this, It is heartening to read about the visit of Mr Fadnavis to Russia, especially to the BRICS partner city St Petersburg and initiating MOUs to create a roadmap to identify areas of cooperation especially in water and waste management among other things with a clear cut timeline for execution.

The very ethos of what the BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave stands for.

The conclave was also a first of sorts when a Mumbai First initiative saw the release of *'The Making of Vibrant Cities'*, a collection of essays from renowned authors across countries. The book is a studied compilation which draws parallels in the Urban space across the countries and underscore similarities of issues faced by them, while the magnitude varies.

The book has been widely appreciated and is also available at all leading book stores and online retail platforms.

I reiterate our Commitment to gift 1000 copies of the Book, free to all educational institutions across Maharashtra. Apart from this, the proceeds that emerge from the sale of the book, would go to the Drought Relief Fund set up by the Chief Minister in Maharashtra.

While memories of the conclave will reflect through actions in the near future, a tangible form of memoir was in the form of a Special Cover which was released by the Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, commemorating the coming together of the BRICS Cities.

I thank the Department of Posts and Telegraphs for their support.

Our knowledge partners Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) have supported us in putting together the Conclave summary, which can be accessed on our website www.mumbaifirst.org

Some of the key presentations made at the conclave can also be read on the same link.

A detailed report is also being put together which will be presented at the BRICS Head of Nations Summit scheduled in Goa, later this year.

While the BRICS Cities Conclave was the highlight of the First half of this year, there is much on the plate, which we would love to share with you all.

We take this opportunity to welcome Mr Tomasz Kozlowski, the new Ambassador of the European Union to India who made his first visit to Mumbai and had a very productive and fruitful meeting with us. I have mentioned in our earlier communications, the excellent co-operation and support that we have had from the European Union, particularly from the previous Ambassador Mr. João Cravinho during the last three years when several interesting programs were arranged.

We were particularly delighted that the work we have done with the European Union over the last 3 years, was recognized and acknowledged at the EU-India Summit in Brussels on 30th March, 2016. The Summit was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission. A joint statement issued following the leaders deliberations, specifically welcomed EU-India Co-operation on Urban Development and acknowledged the work done in Mumbai jointly by the European Union and Mumbai First. The leaders further agreed, to launch an Urban Development Dialogue and organize an Urban Forum as appropriate, in co-operation with the EU Committees of the Region. Further discussions are being held with the European Union officials to prepare a plan of action for the next three years.

Mumbai First also has a line-up of several significant projects which are participative and impactful in nature, to make this city a better place to live, work and do business in. More on that, in our subsequent issues.

As I sign off, I once again thank all our partners, supporters and well-wishers for their constant support.

Warm regards,
Narinder Nayar



BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave 2016



Mumbai First in association with the government of India and the government of Maharashtra hosted the BRICS friendship cities conclave 2016, on 14, 15 and 16th of April in Mumbai. This is the first mega BRICS interaction between countries from the time India took over of the BRICS Presidency in February earlier this year for tenure of one year.

The underlying purpose was to provide opportunities to share as well as hear the latest thinking, learn from peers, connect with the key thinkers and experts, from across BRICS cities.



The Governor of Maharashtra, Mr. Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao; Union Minister for Urban Development, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Devendra Fadnavis, and the Mayor of Mumbai, Mrs. Snehal Ambekar graced the inaugural function, attended by Ambassadors, Consul Generals, City leaders from Brazil, Russia, China, South Africa and India. Indian Industry, policy makers and academia was also present in large numbers.

The Ministry of External Affairs, (MEA), which played a key role as a nodal agency between Mumbai First, Government of Maharashtra and the visiting city leaders, was represented by Secretary (ER) Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. Amar Sinha and Joint Secretary, Mr. Alok Dimri. The Chief Secretary GoM, Mr Swadheen Kshatriya, who led the discussions and planning from the front, was also present on all the three days of the conclave.

PriceWaterhouse Coopers (PwC) were the Knowledge partners for the event.

Driven by the global development agenda and to meet the challenges of urbanization the conclave focused on eight key areas viz. Urban Governance; Making Cities Inclusive; Making cities safe and secure; Urban Transport; Finance; Sustainable Cities; Affordable housing; Land use and Urban Planning.

Earlier, Chairman Mumbai First, Mr N. Nayar on his welcome address explained the role, the relationship of Mumbai First with BRICS nations and the reason behind organizing the conference.

On behalf of Ministry of external affairs, Mr Amar Sinha extended his commendation to the government of Maharashtra and Mumbai First for taking the initiative and organising BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave. He also praised Mumbai First by stating that, "Mumbai First stood up to its name and it actually came out first in organizing the very iconic gathering".



Hon'ble minister of Urban Development, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, released the special collection of essays "The Making of Vibrant Cities". "Urbanisation is a reality worldwide it cannot be pushed back, you can't even reverse it, that's a worldwide tendency even in India also same thing is happening.... Irrespective of the socio-economic and political context, the nature and aspiration of the people everywhere are the same. They seek advancement in their life term for themselves and for their children. These aspirations are the driving force for urbanization across the country... In spite of the challenges of urbanization; these challenges can be converted into an opportunity", he said, reflecting on his experience as Cabinet Minister holding the Urban Development portfolio.

Mr. Naidu also complimented Government of Maharashtra and Mumbai First for taking the initiative and organizing the conclave. He also announced that the ministry of urban development, Govt. of India, has proposed to organize the 3rd BRICS urban forum, in September 2016 at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, India.



Maharashtra Chief Minister Mr. Fadnavis, who spent a significant time engaging with delegate leaders, City policy makers from across the countries during the three day conclave congratulated Mumbai First for such an initiative and said: "I am really happy that we could host this event here (in Mumbai), and I am sure with every such interaction we will make the world better because 50 % of the world population lives in the BRICS countries and if the BRICS countries give the better lives the world will be a better place to live."

Mr. Ashok Kumar Dash, Chief Postmaster General, Maharashtra Circle, presented the special cover to the Governor of Maharashtra, requesting him to formally release the cover. "The stamp cover will serve as a memento and reminder of our commitment to promote friendship among BRICS cities." he said.

Among the dignitaries, delegates and participants of over 300 from the BRICS countries were Addl. Chief Secretary Mr Sumit Mullick IAS; Joint Secretary, Multilateral Economic Relations, Mr Alok Dimri; Ambassador of Brazil in India and Leader of Brazilian Delegation, Mr Tovar Da Silva Nunes; Vice Governor of Saint Petersburg, Mr Sergey N Movchan; Vice president of Chinese People Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and Leader of the Chinese Delegation, Mr Xie Yuan; Councillor, Leader of Delegation, South Africa, Mr Subesh Pillay, along with their respective members Global Lead for City Management, Governance and Financing, World Bank, Mr Barjor Mehta; Global Cities Leader, PwC, Hazeem Galal; Head of Urban Program, OECD, Mr Rudiger Ahrend; Chairman SICOM & Former Chief Secretary, GoM, Mr Jayant k. Banthia were present as well.



Our Esteemed Panellists / Speakers



Panel on "Strengthening urban governance learning from successful models of city governance"



Panel on "Making BRICS Cities Inclusive"



Panel on "Making our cities safe and secure"



Panel on "Financing City Infrastructure"



Panel on "Building sustainable cities to improve delivery of urban services"



Panel on "Making Sustainable and affordable housing a reality"



Panel on "Urban Transport: Fixing the nerve centre of cities to shift to transit-oriented development"



Presentation on "Making Mumbai Work"
Mr Ajoy Mehta, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai



Panel on "Maximizing Value through Efficient land Use and Urban Planning"



Mr Devendra Fadnavis,
Chief Minister of Maharashtra



Mr C Vidyasagar Rao,
Governor of Maharashtra



Mr Venkaiah Naidu, Union
Minister of Urban Development



Mr Alok Dimri,
Joint Secretary,
MER, Govt. of India



Mr Ashok Kr Dash,
Chief Postmaster General,
Maharashtra Circle



Mr Amar Sinha,
Secretary (ER) MEA



Mr Narinder Nayar,
Chairman Mumbai First



Mr Shishir Joshi,
CEO Mumbai First



Mrs Snehal Ambekar,
Mayor of Mumbai



Mr Sumit Mullick,
Addl. Chief Secretary &
Chief of Protocol, GoM



Mr Hazem Galal,
Global Cities Leader, PwC



Mr Tovar Da Silva Nunes,
Ambassador
of Brazil to India



Mr Georgy Poltavchenko,
Governor St. Petersburg



Mr Swadheen Kshatriya,
Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Maharashtra



Mr Li Lingjian,
Director General of Qingdao
Municipal Govt, China



Mr Subesh Pillay,
Councillor,
South Africa



Power Packed Discussions



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Cultural extravaganza

If the mornings and afternoons were consumed by discussions and exchange of ideas, the evenings were a medley of culture, dance, music and food. The inaugural evening dinner was hosted by the Chief Minister, Mr. Fadnavis and reciprocated beautifully by the participating cities and nations. The backdrop of the (Chattrapati Shivaji Vastu Sangrahalaya, (Prince of Wales Museum) played a memorable venue as performers from the BRICS countries enthralled the invitees on the CSVSM lawns.

If the first evening was a melting pot for BRICS cultures, day two transformed the night into a Bollywood themed dinner as artistes took Centre stage making the attendees dance to music from Indian cinema across the decades.

It was not long before the delegates shed their formal tags and adorned dancing shoes and shook their hips to some foot tapping numbers. I wish the evening never ended, was how one of the delegates was heard telling another.

After day long engagement, exchange of ideas and experiences, a medley of cultural performances from BRICS countries showcasing their country's pride and honour were presented.



Ganesh Vandana: The India presentation of Prayer to the Elephant God, presented by Subash Nakashe Dance Troupe



Capoeira: An Afro Brazilian art form that combines dance, martial art, music and Afro Brazilian culture.



Virtuoso Russian pianist Tatyana Dichenko, performed the Prelude and nocturne. She also played the popular Nutcracker Suite.



Sichuan Opera: One of the china's oldest local operas displaying its unique skills – the mask changing, dancing with water sleeves and rolling light.



Sari Dance: Inspired by the traditional Indian Sari, the performance by Daksha Sheth Dance Company uses the exuberance of a range of colours, textures and designs to display India's traditional of hand woven textiles



Drumcafe: Inspired by Communal drumming In Africa



Dharavi Rocks: And they rocked. Children from this not so privileged pocket played drums and instruments made out of throwaway articles, to a standing ovation. The brand creatively uses scrap material and turns them into musical instruments, played by young kids from the Dharavi slums of CentralMumbai



Era of Bollywood: Then, Now and Forever by the celebrated Shaimak Davar and team

Appreciation



"The best Practices which are shared at the conclave are really so insightful that many cities would immediately try to implement those Solutions"

Shri. Devendra Fadnavis
Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra



"I would like to express my gratitude for organising the successful BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave. It was a wonderful opportunity to

engage thought leaders, practitioners, legislators, industrialists and innovators from around the world on urban issues."

Meric S Gertler
President, University of Toronto

"We shared our practice in urbanization and also learned from the experience of other BRICS Cities. The Mumbai visit is fruitful and beneficial."

Zhang Shaojun
Chairman of Qingdao Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

"BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave is for sure a complete success. Our China India Friendship Association and Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries are ready to conduct cooperation with your esteemed organization with a view to enhancing China and India friendship and understanding."

Liu Hongmin
Deputy Director, CPAFFC



"The BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave 2016—the first big event organized under the current Indian presidency of BRICS—fully met the expectations of all participants. Our discussions will be, without doubt, a relevant contribution of BRICS to the New Urban Agenda, to be approved during the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development—Habitat III, in Quito, on 17-20 October 2016."

Tovar da Silva Nunes
Ambassador and Leader of Brazilian Delegation

"On behalf of all the members of the delegation, I wish to congratulate on the success of the conclave and sincerely thank you for your arrangement for our participation."

I was very glad to have the opportunity to share Shanghai's experience urban construction with India and other BRICS countries to promote cooperation and exchange and pragmatic collaboration between BRICS countries."

Xu Zezhou
Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Shanghai Committee
Head of the Organization Department of the CPC Shanghai Committee.

"The event proved to be highly productive and beneficial for all the participants."

Andrei N Zhiltsov,
Consul General of the Russian Federation in Mumbai

Mumbai First in News

Mithi clean-up: The Russian way

MODEL PLAN State to adopt St Petersburg's method of cleaning its Neva river to make the infamous Mithi clean and navigable



Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis with delegates during the inaugural session of BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave in Mumbai on Saturday

Delegates focus on power to local bodies
Mumbai: For effective governance of urban areas, there is an increasing need to empower municipal bodies, delegates at the BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave in Mumbai on Saturday said. They stressed on the need to shift from a top-down approach to a bottom-up approach, where local bodies are empowered to take decisions on urban issues.

Lot to learn from Brazil, Shanghai: CM
Mumbai: Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said that the BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave in Mumbai is a great opportunity to learn from the experiences of other BRICS cities. He said that the state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

At Bries conclave, call for combating terror
Mumbai: India's BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave in Mumbai is a great opportunity to learn from the experiences of other BRICS cities. The state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

Naidu calls for greater cooperation among BRICS countries
Mumbai: Union Urban Development Minister N. Venkaiah Naidu called for greater cooperation among BRICS countries to promote urban development and economic growth. He said that the state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other BRICS cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

State to study low-cost housing schemes of Brazil, Shanghai
Mumbai: The state government is planning to study the low-cost housing schemes of Brazil and Shanghai to improve urban housing in Mumbai. The state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other BRICS cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

Uniform bldg construction policy likely
Mumbai: The state government is planning to implement a uniform building construction policy across all BRICS cities to improve urban construction and economic growth. The state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other BRICS cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

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BRICS CITIES CONCLAVE 2016

Financing infrastructure: Changing tax pattern need of the hour, say experts



Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis with delegates during the inaugural session of BRICS Friendship Cities Conclave in Mumbai on Saturday

Top rail official says city needs transit-oriented development
Mumbai: A top official of the Mumbai Metro Corporation said that the city needs transit-oriented development to improve urban transportation and economic growth. He said that the state government is keen to adopt the best practices of other BRICS cities to improve urban governance in Mumbai.

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