

An Investigation of the Local Area Plan for Development: Case of Telibandha Settlement

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Abstract

Handicrafts are expressions of the culture, tradition and heritage of a country and represent the cultural identity of the people involved in it. They in turn can be used as an effective tool in promoting social sustainability as they help in creating more inclusive societies, enhancing the empowerment of citizens, and also expanding employment opportunities for the people today and in the future. This research is based on the horn and bone craft of Sambhal district in Uttar Pradesh and aims towards deriving the ways to uplift the knowledge and skills of the communities and groups involved in order to sustain their lifestyle and livelihood.

Indian towns have exemplary inclusive communities due to their heritage which can have a huge potential for their sustainable development in the future.

Sambhal art is appreciated all over the world but today this handicraft industry and artisans are facing lots of challenges due to work environment and many other factors. The artisans and craftsmen are migrating to other cities for better work opportunities due to the decline in their traditional craft industry. The low literacy rate of the people and their dependency on the craft for their livelihood has created a threat for the employment and survival of these artisans. This study will also cover the detailed historical background, tools and techniques of the art and process of horn and bone carving at various production units in Sarai Tarin (Sambhal), also the documentation of tools and techniques involved. Identification of the issues and problems faced by the artisans by conducting interviews and discussions with them. Deriving the methods to uplift the craft from the inferences of the case studies, literature studies & the context study of the region. Research will conclude with various strategies to fulfil the aim.

Keywords: Social sustainability, cultural heritage, upliftment, horn & bone craft, artisans Local area plan, Telibandha, New Raipur, decentralization, community participation

Introduction:

Since 1991, significant transformations have been experienced in the field of physical planning, when operational and organizational changes were first introduced in the Indian economy. Particularly, spatial planning supported by central government funding transformed planning practice from plan-led infrastructural development to program-led redevelopment. Program-led redevelopment programs focused on socio-economic concerns and changed the intent of the programs with the intent of effectiveness and adeptness located at the core. This was the first time in the history when the Government of India seemed to be in a frenzy to undertake infrastructure related development programs and poverty alleviations programs, clearly with greater stress on the development of infrastructure in core cities and areas. The most well-known missions and schemes from the viewpoint of funding is the JNNURM, implemented between 2005-2014, and the Smart Cities Mission, the current major ongoing Mission. One thing common in all these missions is that these are steered by central government initiatives and funding, where state governments and local bodies largely play the role of implementers (Meshram, 2020). Another important factor is that all initiatives were undertaken at Local Area Plan (LAP) level.

The Local Area Plan is the fastest means of development to bring greater impact on the people. LAP is the smallest unit for planning according to URDPFI. The objective of the LAPs is to engender a process of spatial development, that enhances the use of resources, lowers regional, spatial, and economic imbalances, reinforces urban and rural connections, improves the well-being and quality of life of the people, conserves and safeguards the environment and maintains an ecological balance (Kumar, 2020).

Nonetheless, urban planning and development being a state subject, in India central government assist by launching various schemes under which state governments and local bodies are required to make equal contributions to ensure the orderly and planning development of towns and cities. However, an urban local self-government body is a statutorily constituted democratic Government with a degree of autonomy exercising jurisdiction over a limited geographical area. One such amendment in the favor of the local governing bodies was passed on 1st June, 1993, through the 74th CAA that decentralized the power from the state government to the local and grass root levels creating a 3-tier system.

The aim of the paper here is to examine the process and outcome of LAP. The intent is to investigate whether decentralization and implementation of LAP are true to its definition. The study is conducted with the help of a case study of the Telibandha settlement. Telibandha is the hub of the New Capital Raipur, in the state of Chhattisgarh, India. The site is connected to the central arteries of the city and is important for the income of locals and has issues of environmental deterioration, slums, health hazards, poor living conditions, sewage disposal, and lack of community space. Several attempts were made to improve and revitalize the area.

The paper here is to examine the process and outcome of LAP. How does decentralization and collaboration of multiple corporations and departments at the central and state level play an important role? And how important it is that every government department should collaborate with each other for sustainable planning and development.

Importance of Local Area Plan for Development:

Municipal Corporations work as autonomous bodies for the development of intimate Municipal Administration and social relations of the people in a limited geographical space and act like public servants providing facilities. However, due to limited funds, not all issues can be dealt with at once hence the most prominent site needs to be dealt with in the first place. Government funds are derived from public taxes and if the money invested in the LAP is not able to fulfill its aim human resource goes to waste. Thus, utilizing the fund in the right direction is most important.

Importance of Local Area Plan and 74th Amendment act for Development:

An urban local self-government body is a statutorily constituted democratic Government with a degree of autonomy exercising jurisdiction over a limited geographical area. This came into the picture in 1997 with the 74th Constitution Amendment Act which decentralized the power from state government to local government and formed a 3-tier system. According to the act, three bodies were formed – Municipal Corporation, Municipal Council and Nagar Panchayat, in which Municipal Corporation caters for the largest growing urban area. This Urban Local Self- governing body (Municipal corporation) jurisdiction is intimate with their people to solve and serve the public under limited geographical space. LAP is used for resolving local area issues with the local self-governing bodies.

Redevelopment through LAP: A system for making the open domain by empowering the redevelopment of the existing built environment and planning of a modern format with upgraded Framework arrangement.

Raipur Municipal Corporation:

Raipur Municipal Corporation is one of them for Raipur city capital of Chhattisgarh. The Municipal Corporation carries out its function through well-organized divisions and departments that can be central government, State government, private bodies or community-based bodies. One such example is the Collaborative approach of RMC which caters to Sustainable development in an urban area with the help of the Local Area Planning approach.

Case study of Telibandha Lake, Raipur, Chhattisgarh:

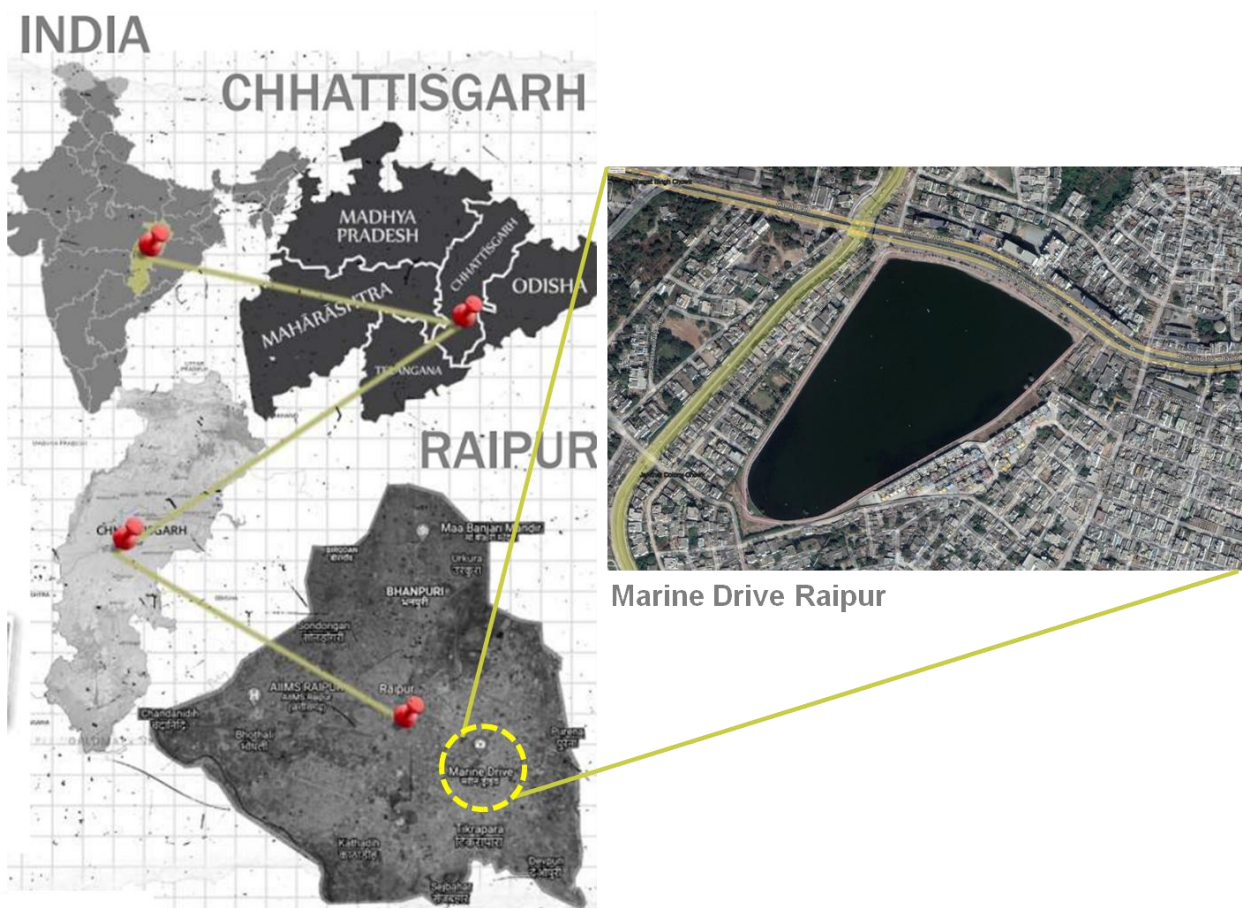


Image-1 Location of Marine Drive Raipur, Chhattisgarh

The site is situated in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The state was separated from Madhya Pradesh in early 2000 as the region was underdeveloped and the government of Madhya Pradesh was not

Image-2,3 Issues regarding Lake

Below are some of the serious issues of the Telibandha settlement -

1. Risk to Human Health and providing basic services
2. Flooding of low-lying areas
3. Extreme water shortage
4. Spread of waterborne diseases
5. Rise of environmental concern
6. Overexploitation
7. Improper management of natural resources
8. Pollution
9. Unwise development – planned / unplanned
10. Encroachment
11. Algal blooms or aquatic weeds

Initiatives undertaken by RMC:

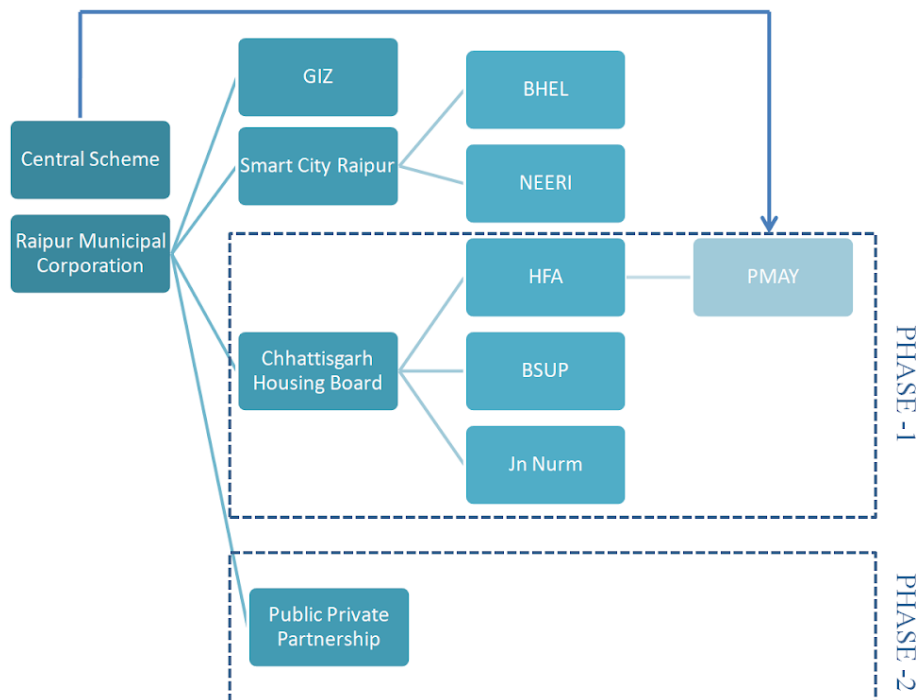


Image-4 Chart of different Departments and Organizations working under the Telibandha Project

Cleaning of Lake collaborating with GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) (2012):

GIZ is a Netherland-based organization which is collaborating with India for over 60 years, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has been working jointly with partners in India for sustainable economic, ecological, and social development. RMC GIZ CDD (2011): City Sanitation Plan for Raipur. Raipur: Municipal Corporation Raipur in cooperation with GIZ and Consortium for Dissemination of DEWATS on 06.11.2012. The organization identifies certain issues and concerns to work on.

Smart City Raipur (2015):

The smart city Raipur came into the picture from the smart city mission in which 100 cities were selected with the objective was to promote cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment and application of 'Smart' Solutions. Smart city Raipur has more technological aspects when it comes to Telibandha supported by Bharat heavy electricals limited [BHEL] and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). They treated the lake in the most scientific and technological manner that not only cleaned the lake but also maintained it till date.



Image-5 Reduction in the pollution level of the lake

BHEL forays into Lake Purification under the Smart City segment on the suggestion of NEERI, Telibandha(2017):

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) is making its maiden entry into the purification of lakes by bagging a prestigious order for the purification of Telibandha Lake, from Raipur Smart City Limited (RSCL), including Operation & Maintenance for five years thereafter.

Many attempts were made to clean the lake. Raipur municipal corporation made several attempts to clean the lake but failed to maintain it. As they depend on the lake in the slum. Slum people stories the lake again. Several years ago, like that with successive failures. The reason was the slum and this was decreed by RMC that to enhance the environment cleaning of the lake is important and cleaning of lake slum redevelopment is important.

PMAY for Telibandha slum (2015):

On 22 July 2016 central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC), Pradhan Mantri AwaasYojna (PMAY), and the housing for all (HFA) scheme got approved and the Telibandha slum went under redevelopment. Transit accommodation facilities were provided to slum dwellers during the construction. A total of 720 DU was constructed with the use of monolithic construction techniques to make it quicker. This construction was done under BSUP (Basic Service to the Urban Poor). The project was sanctioned by (CSMC) on 17th September 2015. Chhattisgarh Housing Board (CHB) was the implementing agency of this project.

Component of Scheme (Approx. Cost of DU)	Central Share	Proposed Share		
		State	ULB	Beneficiary
Slum Redevelopment Using Land as a Resource on PPP basis (@Rs. - 5.75 Lakh per DU)	1.00	1.40	3.10	0.25
Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) (@Rs. - 5.75 Lakh per DU)	1.50	4.00	0.00	0.25
Subsidy for Beneficiary Led Individual House Construction (@Rs. - 4.00 Lakh per DU)	1.50	1.00	0.00	1.50

Image-6 Segregation of budget of Telibandha slum

Development Operations, Maintenance & Management of Water Based & other Recreation Activities on Public Private Partnership basis at Telibandha Talab Lakefront at Raipur (C.G.) (2015):

Raipur Municipal Corporation completed its phase-1 of development under the CHB, for the Phase-2 RMC has initiated EOI for the PPP to participate. As part of lake development, RMC kin tends to Develop, Operate and Maintain a Public Experience zone & Entertainment center

at Telibandha Lake and its surroundings complementing pre-existing facilities, to provide the people of Raipur with facilities such as:

- Lake Front Meditation Centre & Event Area
- Jogging & Cycling Track
- LakeFront Kids Play facilities & Adventure Sports
- Public utilities & Washrooms
- LakeFront Entertainment facility
- Lakefront Food Court facility
- Water sports facility
- floating restaurant

On 18th November 2015, this Tender was passed to enable the access of PPP to continue the Phase -2 development of the project. Phase 2 of the project is ongoing.

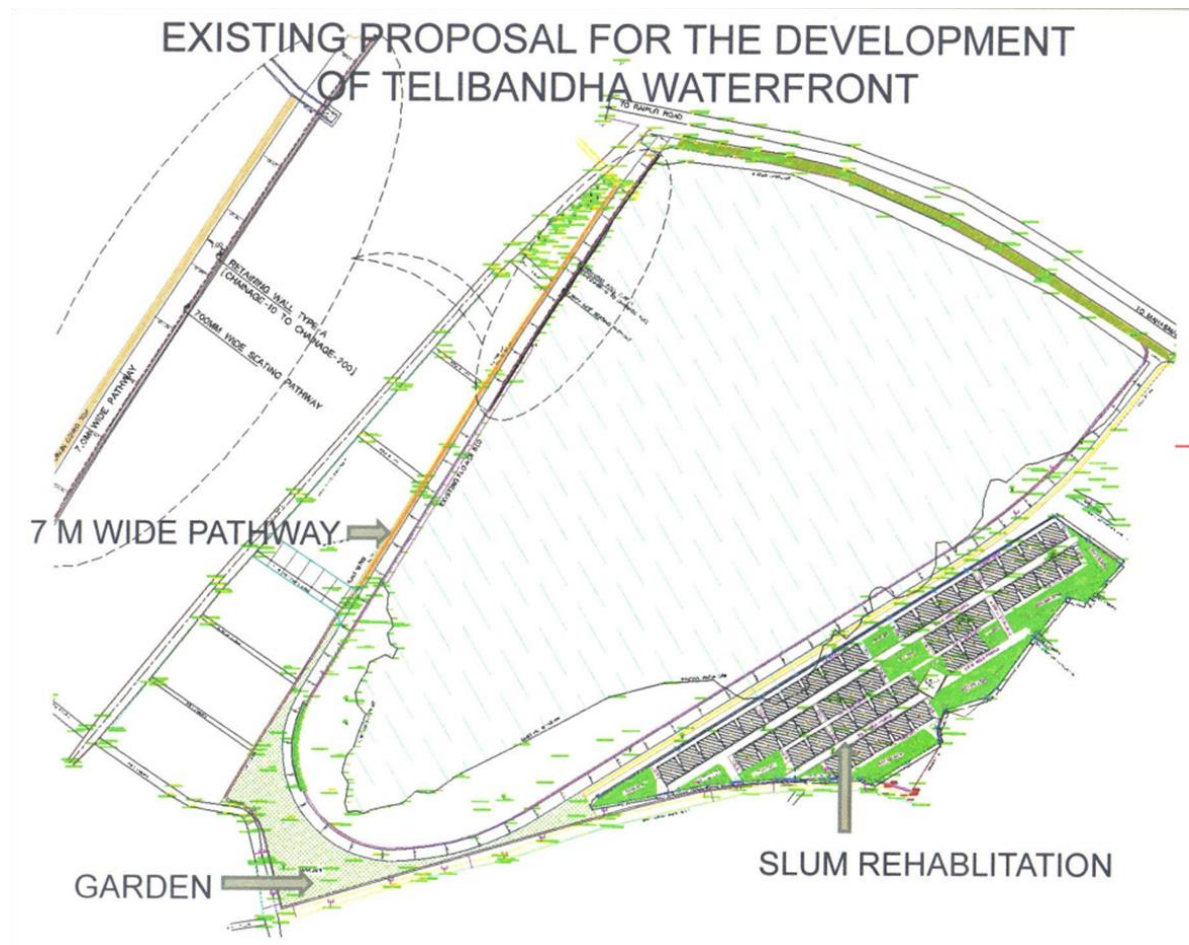


Image-7 Proposal for Telibandha Waterfront

	Scheme			
1	GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)	Supporting climate action in India.	Suggestion on Strome water drainage	The suggestion from GIZ gave the direction for initiation of a Local area plan/Area appreciation
		Protecting aquatic biodiversity in India	Quality of water	
		Economic development and employment	Sanitation	
		Social development	Environmental concern	
		Sustainable Economic Development	Health concerns	
		Sustainable Urban and Industrial Development	Enchrochment issue	
2	Chhattisgarh Housing Board	to provide housing facilities	Showing interest in PMAY scheme	The Housing Board of Chhattisgarh took initiation to take part in the program of PMAY Phase 1 and got successfully selected, the umbra of PMAY, BSUP, Jn Nurm, HFA provide merely all all necessity facilities that slum requires. This has developed Phase 1 of Telibandha Project
		housing facility according to the need of every section of the society	CHB become a key to holding all the board on one boat	
		Affordable housing	3.5 acre lake area reclaimed,	
3	Housing for all	envisages the provision of interest subsidy to EWS and LIG segments	One of the tallest tricolor national flag	
		to enable them to buy or construct houses		
4	BSUP	security of tenure at affordable prices		
		improved housing, water supply, sanitation and ensuring delivery through the convergence of other already existing universal services of the Government for education, health and social security.	Provision of houses for Telibandha slum	
5	PMAY	provide housing for the economically weaker sections in the country	Transit accommodation facility provided for all slum dwellers during construction.	
		individuals belonging to below the poverty line or BPL	720 DU's rehabilitated	
6	Jn nurm	to create economically productive, efficient, equitable and responsive cities	Smart public utility zone created with free Wi-Fi, yoga area, jogging track etc.	
7	Smart City Raipur(BHEL, NEERI)	promote cities that provide core infrastructure and give a decent quality of life to its citizens	Become the key to inviting BHEL and NEERI for holistic approach	Smart City Raipur had initiated for the scientific and technological approach for the cleaning and maintenance of the lake
		clean and sustainable environment	Operation and maintenance	
		application of 'Smart' Solutions	Organic technique floating garden	
			treating sewerage	

held here and this has also promoted natin concerns among the people. People have accepted this place and given it an identity and a major landmark to the city.

		provides a wide range of solutions to customers in power	Lake Purification	
8	BHEL	transmission, transportation, renewables, water, defence & aerospace, e-mobility & energy storage, oil & gas and industry	organically treating the sewerage	
		to achieve excellence and continual improvement through activities leading to scientific and technological innovations	Cleaning while maintaining the ecological balance in the pond	
9	NEERI	technical solutions, sharing knowledge and expertise for enabling government, industry, and society to improve quality of environment.	Organic technique floating garden	
10	PPP through RMC	Increase the availability of infrastructure services To do so with greater efficiency (lower cost for the level of services provided) than could be achieved using the traditional public sector approach	Recreational space creating Lake Front Meditation Centre & Event Area Jogging & Cycling Track Lake Front Kids Play facilities & Adventure Sports Public utilities & Washrooms Lake Front Entertainment facility Lakefront Food Court facility Water sports facility floating restaurant	For the Phase 2 of Telibandha project, Raipur Municipal Corporation prepare an EOI where PPP can register and initiate the development of Phase 2 of the Telibandha Project

Image-8 Roles and responsibilities of departments under the project

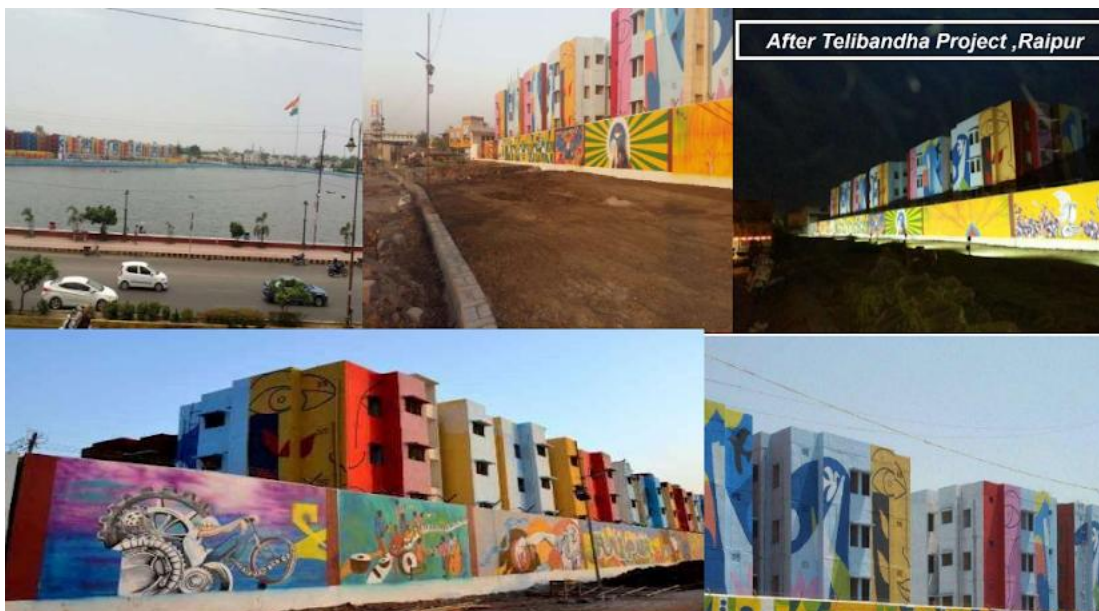


Image-9 Transition of Telibandha Settlement

After the completion of the project, the whole scenario of the locality changed.

1. Basic facilities for slum dwellers
 1. Provision of shelter with all basic facilities
 2. Water, electricity, public space
2. Recreational space and green space
3. Enhancement of microclimate
4. Self-reliance through revenue generation from food stalls, and parking
5. Increase in Land value
6. Major landmark

7. Change the ambience from aesthetic vision

Telibandha is one of the success stories of local area planning approaches adopted in India. A planning which is carried out through the efforts of local bodies, community participation turns out to be in true sense a real situation reflecting continuous growth and development in the local area. New Raipur in Chhattisgarh being a new State with new challenges and issues and stood fair and strong in implementing and showcasing decentralization and 74th CAA.

Findings of the Study:

The major reason for the success of the Telibandha site is the institutional system of municipal corporations and collaboration within the hierarchy system. The schemes and collaboration of multiple departments under one umbrella, inter-department collaboration like CHB, BHEL, RMC, public-private partnership, schemes from central government PMAY, BSUP, JnNurm, and HFA. This lets the other experts suggest their respective field issues and helps with the funding which makes it easy to do. Other than making the project successful was the acceptance of the public to use the space. From the year 2000 onward, when the city of Raipur grew rapidly, green and recreational spaces were not prioritized or given importance in planning and development of the city. Recreational spaces are essential for the well-being of the citizens. Through the Telibandha project this need was realized and fulfilled.

Overall, at the governance front, lack of coordination between different Departments was observed. This not only caused great inconvenience but also caused wastage of funds in the redevelopment and revitalization. Instead, planning and designing separately in silos, the projects need to be designed and executed with a common vision. An institutionalized holistic approach towards planning and development is the need of the hour from past experiences. PM Gati Shakti Yojana is one such mission that has emerged in 2021 with a holistic and sustainable development approach in planning. Through the study of Telibandha local area development plan, it is recommended to adopt the mission aims and objectives for future projects.

From the above explanation, few actions can be undertaken for the success of any Local Area Plan to be initiated and executed:

- Issue and impacting human life

- Public demand
- Accessibility
- Footfall
- Historic importance
- Umbrella scheme
- PPP
- CP
- Self-reliable

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