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BIO-PROFILES: INDIAN LEADER'S 2016

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Shri Sahadeva Singh

Executive Director (Civil)
Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, Ltd.

Shri Sahadeva Singh, Executive Director (Civil)/DMRC Ltd. has varied and rich experience in the field of various facets of Civil Engineering especially in infrastructure development.

He graduated in Civil Engineering from prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee in 1981 and post graduated from IIT Delhi in Water Resources Engineering in 1981, both with honours. He also holds PG Diplomas in alternate dispute resolution and in software technology.

During professional career of more than 33 years as an officer in Government of India and other enterprises he gained extensive experience in the execution, planning and design co-ordination of challenging civil engineering works in Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, RITES Ltd, Defence Infrastructure Development and Hydro Power Sector. He has track record of ensuring high quality standards, adherence to time schedule, quick decision making and effective contract management of multi-disciplinary projects.



Dr. Manvendra Deswal

**Head Smart City Mission (SCM)
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**

Dr. Manvendra Deswal, currently the Head of Smart City Mission (SCM), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is an urban strategist who works closely with all stakeholders on various urban initiatives in the country. He has been with CII for more than 6 years.

*Smart City Mission is an ambitious scheme by Government of India that aims to develop 100 Smart Cities in India. CII is a non-government, **not-for-profit**, industry-led and industry-managed organization, playing a proactive role in India's development process. It works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering industry, Government, and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.*

Dr. Deswal was awarded his PhD from the prestigious Faculty of Management Studies (FMS), University of Delhi in the area of Economics, with the topic being, "Impact of FDI on Structure & Productivity of Indian Automobile Industry", publications from which were well appreciated in academia & industry. He also holds Masters in International Business (MIB) from Delhi School of Economics.

Another key area of responsibility with him in CII is the proposed new Land Acquisition Act in India that aims to replace the archaic Act of 1894, besides stimulating Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Infrastructure. He is credited with coming up with numerous policy papers on these areas which have been submitted to the Indian Government on frequent intervals.

He is currently in the process of coming up with a framework for setting up a dedicated Centre for Excellence on Smart Cities in the country.

Prior to joining CII, he was in academics & was last serving as Assistant Professor in University of Petroleum & Energy Studies in Dehradun where he taught & published on various themes of International Business & Economics.



Ms Akshima Tejas Ghate

**Associate Director, Cities and Transport
Sustainable Habitat Division
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**

Ms Akshima Tejas Ghate is working as an Associate Director in the Cities and Transport group of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi. She graduated as a Development Planner and has a Master in Planning with specialization in Environmental Planning from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. She has done a certificate course on 'Transport infrastructure' from TERI University and is currently pursuing her PhD from the Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi on sustainable urban transport.

At TERI, she is involved in research projects related to sustainable urban development and transport. Her recent research work focuses on policy issues related to promotion of sustainable urban and transport systems in India; analyzing transport sector's energy consumption and climate change impacts; estimating carbon footprint/life cycle impact of transport projects and urban energy consumption; and sustainable mobility planning in large urban developments. She is also engaged with the TERI University as an Associate Faculty for delivering sustainable transport related courses at the University.

Ms Ghate is part of and actively works with several important national and international committees and networks focusing on sustainable urban development and transport. She is/has been part of several committees on transport and urban development issues constituted by the Ministry of Urban Development, Institute of Urban Transport (India) and erstwhile Planning Commission. She is/has been actively involved in and follows works of international knowledge and action networks on sustainable urban development and transport like SLoCaT Partnership on Sustainable Transport (SLoCaT), GENUS (Global Energy Network for Urban Settlements of UN-Habitat), etc.

She has an extensive publication record on policy issues related to sustainable urban development and transport and has contributed to several important reports of the Government of India and UN. She was a contributing author to the 'India Transport Report: Moving India to 2032' prepared by the National Transport Development Policy Committee of the Government of India. She was also the coordinating author of the Working Group Report on Environmental Sustainability of Indian Cities under the Housing and Urban Development Working Group constituted as part of preparation of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. She has contributed to transport chapters of the UNEP's Green Economy Report and Government of India's Report submission to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. She has published several policy briefs, newspaper and magazine articles, research papers and reports on policy issues related to promotion of sustainable transport.



Mr. Kunal Rajnikant Purohit

**Principal Correspondent
Hindustan Times**

Kunal Rajnikant Purohit is a journalist, researcher and an aspiring urban practitioner, based out of the city of Mumbai, India. Kunal, 27, has been working with the Hindustan Times, India's third largest English daily newspaper, for six years now.

As its Principal Correspondent, Kunal's primary responsibility is to closely track and report on the governance of India's second largest state of Maharashtra and Mumbai, its capital.

His core areas of reportage have been policies and practices surrounding urban development and planning along with gender empowerment and rural development.

For his work on the issues of urban governance and planning, Kunal received the prestigious Ramnath Goenka Award for Excellence in Journalism in 2012. Similarly, his work on highlighting the gender perspective while reporting on the agrarian crisis affecting large parts of Maharashtra fetched him the United Nations Population Fund's Laadli Media Award for Gender Sensitive Reporting, 2014 as well as the Statesman Award for Rural Reporting, 2014, India's oldest award in journalism.

Along with work, Kunal also fancies himself as an aspiring urban researcher. His co-authored a paper on the decline and marginalization of the aboriginal 'East Indian' community of Mumbai owing to urban processes of change along with the community's efforts to preserve the culture. The paper was selected for the 'Urbanism, Exclusion and Change in South Asia' conference to be held in Lahore, Pakistan in March 2016. Kunal is also a contributing author for the 'Mumbai Reader', an annual research collective on the city.

Kunal started his journalism career at 16, while he was still a student. He graduated with a degree in Mass Media from Mumbai's Kishinchand Chellaram College