

# PUBLIC HOUSING AND PUBLIC AMENITIES

## ACHIEVING

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11.7

# Public Open Space: SDG 11.7

- **Be Inclusive**
- **Encourage Trust**
- **Promote Sharing**
- **Perception**
- **Active or passive recreation**
- **Facilitator of the above through leisure time activities**



- **Community**
- **Culture**
- **Experience**
- **Memory**
- **Association**
- **Defining Elements**
- **Design**

# Residential Context

## FACILITATORS

- Transitions between landform, water , vegetation
- Temporary, permanent defining elements
- Seasonal changes
- Diurnal changes
- LIFESTYLE RECOGNITION



## FACILITATION

- Responses to light
- Responses to shade
- Responses to rain
- Responses to wind
- Responses to defined space
- Responses to other users
- CULTURAL RESPONSES – segregation or a community

# Open Space Use

- Public open spaces and their necessity and benefits are well researched and documented
- Particularly, public open spaces as cultural facilitators and therefore of a sense of community is well researched and documented
- So typologies exist
- The physical and environmental role is fulfilled when its cultural role is evident as a reflection of user lifestyle and perception

Reference:

Rao, Sridevi (2015). *A Measure of Community: Public Open Space and Sustainable Development Goal 11.7*. Chennai, India. Notion Press

# Public Housing - Indian Context

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)

The PMAY mission seeks to address the housing requirements of the urban poor including slum dwellers through the following programme verticals:

- Slum rehabilitation of Slum Dwellers with participation of private developers using land as a resource
- Promotion of Affordable Housing for weaker sections through credit-linked subsidies
- Affordable Housing in Partnership with Public & Private sectors
- Subsidies for beneficiary-led individual house construction /enhancement

*Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) : Slum Dwellers*  
*Lower Income Groups (LIG)*

# Public Housing - Indian Context

- Templates as design solutions
- Central Government financial mechanisms are available to the States. The Central Government does not implement public housing in States because land is a State subject.
- A minimum of 30sq.m. covered area for a Dwelling Unit or 10sq.m. per capita
- “A Housing Cluster should provide a minimum space of 5sq.m. per capita each for green/open space/ play area, social infrastructure and transport [roads] and utilities”\*  
That is, all inclusive only 5sq.m. per capita

\* Ravi Kanth.M. April 2016. Editorial. *Shelter*. Vol.1 No.1. [www.hudco.org](http://www.hudco.org)

# THE PROBLEM

Housing and Urban Development Corporation or HUDCO has templates for EWS and LIG Housing which are based on actual living conditions.

However, only the covered area of shelter is taken into account.

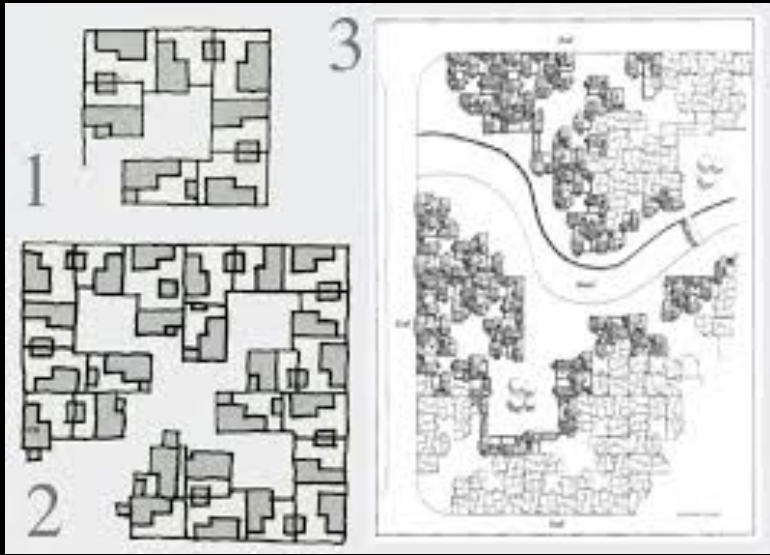
The beneficiary lifestyle is irrelevant because the emphasis is on the financial and legal aspects of public housing.

The psychosocial wellbeing is critical to ensure a sense of community.

The pictures are of public housing in India.

Building materials, land, services are quantifiable and convenient to ensure access to financial, legal mechanisms that fulfill targets.





# REFERENCE

- Public Housing in India is well researched and documented
- Balakrishna Doshi and Charles Correa have documented and implemented layouts that encourage continuity of lifestyles of residents through design.
- So typologies exist for the Indian context. The pictures are from 'Aranya' Housing by Doshi in Indore, in the State of Madhya Pradesh, India





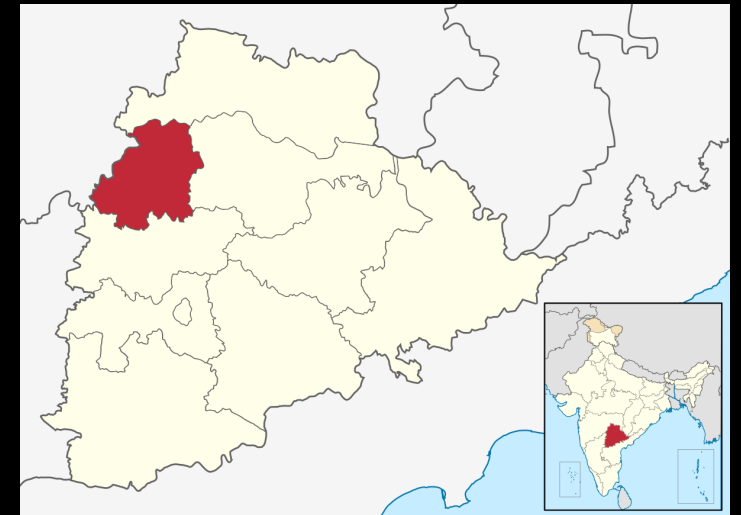
# Case Study

## The Hut (in a slum)

On an average, Huts are around 6 sq.m. in area. Nearly all activities, of livelihood or of lifestyle are carried out in the open.

Recreation in particular is reflected in the use of leisure to paint and enhance premises, stitch, meeting friends at water wells or hand pumps and cooking, drying, grinding ingredients for food is also in the open.

Location of Hyderabad,  
Telangana State, India



# Singam Cheruvu Tanda, Nacharam, Hyderabad\*

Each flat consists of 2 bedrooms, a kitchen and 2 toilets.

The flats are built where the slum existed. There are 11 blocks spread over two acres or 8094sq.m. Each Flat occupies an area of 560sq.ft or 52sq.m.

The layout differs. Whereas the slum had a centrally located open space with huts around, now the families will live above each other.

The open space is the area around. It is green!

A representative beneficiary profile is as follows:

Banam Tariya is a daily wage earner with his wife and four children,

Tejawat Ravi runs a small fancy store. He supports a family of 9.

\*Nitin.B. *176 Lambada families 2BHK houses in Hyderabad.* April 8, 2018. [www.thenewsminute.com](http://www.thenewsminute.com)





# The Lambada

- The Lambada is also known as Banjaran.
- They are traditionally nomads. Perhaps this is the reason their houses in traditional habitats known as Tanda are whitewashed.
- However, rich embroidery and jewellery adorn the attire of women.
- Historically they traded in salt and grain. However they can be seen at the roadside and traffic signal junctions, selling pottery, flags on Republic Day, toys, umbrellas during the monsoon and so on.
- Their celebrations are common with Hindu festivals.

Ref: [www.TelanganaToday.com](http://www.TelanganaToday.com)





# Lifestyle

- The Lambada make the maximum use of the area outside the hut.
- Drying food ingredients, spending time with families.
- Festivities and community celebrations are dependent on the central open space.
- They now have voter ID cards. So they return to their Tanda when they have to vote. This gives them Government benefits.
- It is difficult to imagine their psychosocial happiness in their new flats which only needs layout appraisal.

Ref: <http://www.hati.ch/Projects/ATVillageProject>



# Public Open Space as Amenity

- Public Open Space is seen as a facility to enable legal financial related instruments.
- Facility segregates. It is physical only. It generates income. Represents 'municipal sterility' (Mumford)

Public Open Space is a priceless amenity

- Amenity integrates. Experienced and expressed as culture.
- Amenity is a relationship to nature through Vegetation, Landform and Water
- Amenity emerges when people come together:

Through Visual or Physical access

Through tangible or intangible experiences

# Rationale

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, cannot restrict itself to providing a house but needs to fulfill the dream of women children and the aged of a home.

Reuse, Recycle, Reduce are inherent in their rich traditional humble lifestyles.

Minimising the ecological footprint of public open spaces could be achieved by minimizing the cultural footprint of public open space which otherwise force patterns in use incompatible with lifestyles.

It is the sense of community nurtured outside the dwelling facilitated by the public open space that public housing may not capture because of the absence of an open space policy facilitating and fulfilling lifestyles of beneficiaries.

In the broadest sense Sustainable Development Goals which reduce the impact of climate change begin by the activities of a person 'drop by drop' to eventually have a National and a global impact.

It is not difficult to find utopia in a dystopian setting, provided rules allow.