





**LET'S
EXPAND
PUBLIC
SPACES**

MUMBAI WATERFRONTS CENTRE

AND

P K D A S

&

A S S O C I A T E S

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INTRODUCTION



As Mumbai expands, its open spaces are shrinking. The democratic 'space' that ensures accountability and enables dissent is also shrinking, very subtly but surely.

The city's shrinking physical open spaces are of course the most visible manifestation as they adversely affect our quality of life.

Open spaces must clearly be the foundation of city planning. An 'Open Mumbai' ensures our physical and democratic well-being.

Instead, over the years, open spaces have become 'leftovers' or residual spaces after construction potential has been exploited.

Through this plan, we hope to generate dialogue between people, government, professionals ... and within movements working for social, cultural and environmental change.

It is a plan that redefines land use and development, placing people and community life at the centre of planning — not real estate and construction potential.

A plan that redefines the 'notion' of open spaces to go beyond gardens and recreational grounds — to include the vast, diverse natural assets of the city, including rivers, creeks, lakes, ponds, mangroves, wetlands, beaches & the incredible seafronts.

A plan that aims to create non-barricaded, non-exclusive, non-elitist spaces that provides access to all our citizens.

A plan that ensures open spaces is not only available but is geographically and culturally integral to neighbourhoods and a participatory community life.

A plan that we hope will be the beginning of a dialogue to create a truly representative 'Peoples' Plan' for the city.

OBJECTIVES



- Expand and network public open spaces
- Conserve natural assets & protect eco-sensitive borders
- Prepare a comprehensive waterfronts plan
- Establish walking and cycling tracks
- Promote social, cultural and recreational opportunities
- Evolve and facilitate participatory governance practices
- Democratise public spaces
- Undertake necessary amendments in the DP and DCR

'OPEN MUMBAI' PLAN ELEMENTS



- Incredible Seafronts
- Beach Conservation and Nourishment
- From Rivers to Nullahs to Rivers Again
- Creeks and Mangroves
- Wetlands Conservation
- Lakes, Ponds and Tanks
- Integration of Nullahs
- Parks and Gardens
- Plots and Layout RG's
- Historic Forts and Precincts
- Hills and Forests
- City Forests
- 'Open' People- Friendly Railways Stations
- Area Networking

EXHIBITION INAUGURATION NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, MUMBAI MARCH 15, 2012

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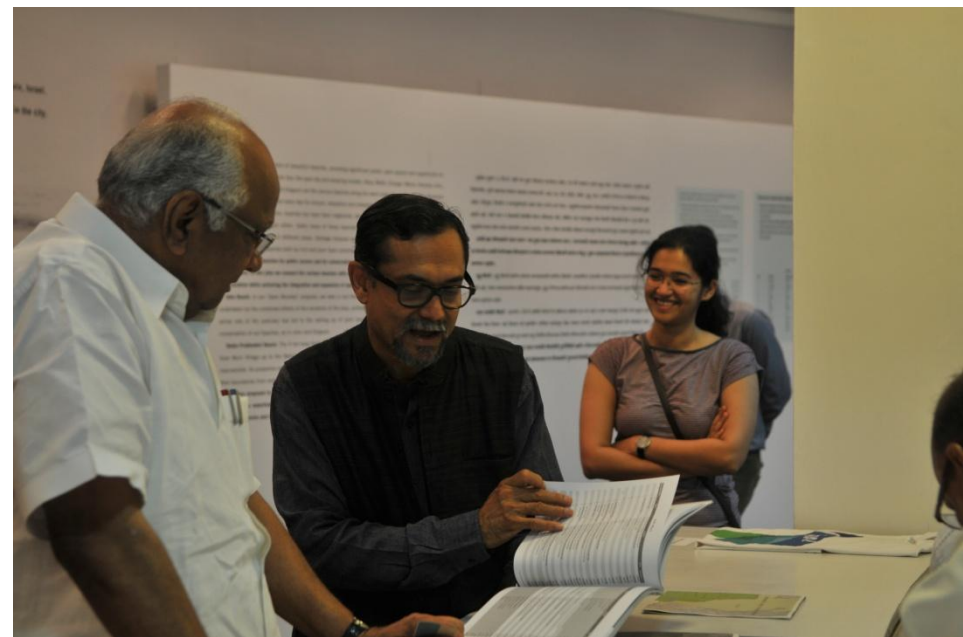


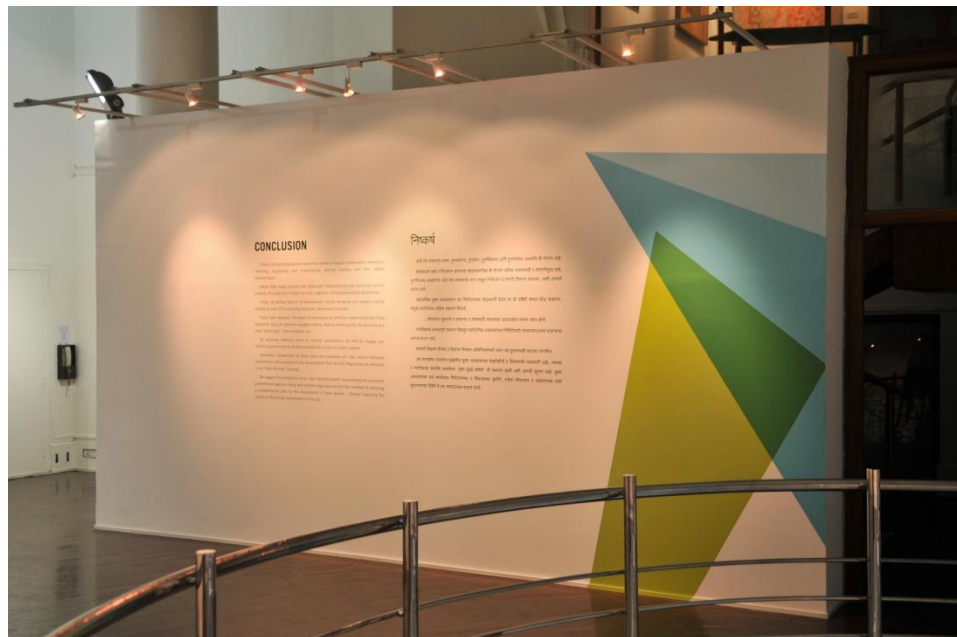
Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra
Shri Prithviraj Chavan











CONCLUSION



These plans and proposals are essentially rooted in ideas of conservation, restoration, recycling, re-planning and re-structuring existing realities and their spatial transformation.

Rather than mega projects with large-scale displacements and enormous revenue burdens, this approach is based on more pragmatic and people-oriented alternatives.

Firstly, we believe that all re-developments should recognise and respect existing realities as part of the planning and urban development process. Public open spaces as the basis of planning are an effective means to achieve these objectives. Such an approach engages citizens, leads to better quality life and ensures a more 'democratic', more equitable city.

By achieving intensive levels of citizens' participation we wish to engage and influence governments to devise comprehensive plans for public spaces. Successful achievement of these plans and proposals will also require necessary amendments and provisions in the Development Plan and DC Regulations as identified in our 'Open Mumbai' proposal.

We suggest the constitution of an 'Open Mumbai Board' incorporating the concerned governmental agencies along with citizens organisations with the mandate of preparing a comprehensive plan for the development of open spaces... thereby improving the quality of life and the environment in the city.

