

P. K. DAS

A summary Profile

P.K. Das is popularly known as an Architect–Activist. His priority has been to establish a very close relation between architecture and people by involving them in a participatory planning process.

His wide spectrum of work includes organizing slum dwellers for better living and evolving affordable housing models, engaging in policy framework for public housing, reclaiming public spaces including developing the waterfronts, re-envisioning the city of Mumbai, along with an architectural practice involving urban planning, urban design, architecture and interior design assignments across India.

His work in the development of Mumbai’s coastline and his slum rehabilitation projects has won him several national and international awards including the first Urban Age Award instituted by the London School of Economics and Deutsche Bank conferred to the Mumbai Waterfronts Centre of which P.K.Das is the Chairperson. Recently he has been conferred with the prestigious first International ‘Jane Jacobs Medal- 2016’ .

‘Struggle for Housing – A people’s Manifesto’ and ‘A village called Puntamba, a Social-Architectural study’ , ‘Vision Juhu-Expanding Public Spaces in Mumbai’, ‘On the Waterfront-Reclaiming Mumbai’s Open Spaces’, ‘Mumbai’s Open Spaces – Maps & A Preliminary Listing Document’ are some of the known publications of Mr. Das

He has been widely published and has also delivered talks and lectures across the world. A few - ‘Unification of the fragmented landscapes for achievement of Just & Equal Cities organized by the IFLA World Congress in 2016 at Torino, Italy, Conference on Smart City Expo World Congress held in 2014 at Barcelona, Talk at the Urban Waterfronts conference in 2014 at Columbia University, Talk on ‘Urbanizing Indian Cities (A Synopsis) in 2013 at MAS Summit for New York City, Conference on Developing a Global City Network for Livability and Resilience organized by The Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Centre in 2012 at Bellagio, Italy; The integration of Urban Planning & Democracy organized by Morgan Tomorrow Congress in 2009 at Amsterdam; Presentation on the Mumbai Waterfronts projects organized by Urban Age South America, Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2008; ‘The cities in crises and the hope of architecture, The case of Mumbai organized by XXIII UIA World Congress in 2008 at Torino.

With an extremely strong emphasis on participatory planning, he hopes to integrate architecture and democracy to bring about desired social changes in the country.

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