

## **FAQs**

### **Explain the factors considered in Belapur housing project?**

- Project demonstrates how high density housing (500 people per hectare) can be achieved in a low-rise typology.
- To include open to sky spaces and services, like schools that the community requires.
- To give each unit its own site to allow for expansion (Incrementality)
- Houses constructed simply and can be built by traditional masons and craftsmen – generating employment for local workers (Income generation)
- Several plans exist that cover the social spectrum, from squatters to upper income families (Pluralism)

### **Write a note on clustering principle and individual units adopted by Charles Correa in Belapur housing?**

Seven units are grouped of 8×8 meters. 3 cluster combine to form a larger module of 21 houses surrounding space of 12×12 metres. 3 such modules interlock to define the next scale of community space approximately 20×20 metres.

The footprint of each plan varies little in size (from 45 sqm to 70 sqm), maintaining equity (fairness) in the community. Scheme caters wide range from the lowest budgets of Rs 20000, Middle income groups Rs 30000-50000 and Upper income Rs 180000. Though ratio of costs is 1:5 the variation of plot is much smaller , from 45 to 75 square metres.

### **Briefly touch upon the planning strategies of Yerwada Housing project?**

Developed in Bombay, India, the Incremental Housing

Strategy is intended to allow districts to improve organically without uprooting communities. It is developed as a strategy to reform informal slums into permanent urban districts through a process of gradual improvement to existing dwellings instead of demolition and rebuilding. The project slated as part of the central government scheme, Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BUSP) under JNNURM, is being carried out by an alliance of Mahila Milan, National Slum Dwellers Federation, SPARC ( Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres), CHF and Prasanna Desai Architects from April 2009. The civic body had floated tenders for the project around two years back.

### **Explain the architects view or insights placed on Yerwads incremental housing project?**

"What we did was to involve the beneficiaries in the process. With a 270 sq feet carpet area and two different housing typologies, the possibilities of grouping to share walls, have individual homes or mixing options to fit individual demands are adapted to most arrangements. "Addressing the media Prasanna Desai, Architect Urban Designer said. For this we conducted workshops and activities that allowed the families play with maps and models and this is where SPARC and Mahila Milan led the way."

### **Write a note on tsunami housing project at Nagapattinam?**

The project objective follows a **holistic approach**. Beside the provision of physical habitat and community infrastructure the project aims at improving the living conditions of the community, particularly **disadvantaged persons and minorities**. It is also safeguarding against future tsunamies and other natural calamities. New livelihood opportunities were established and local skills developed.

Out of 1000 houses constructed, **about 250 were built in-situ. 750 families had to be relocated** to a reconstruction area provided by the Government. The project was divided

into clusters of 25 - 50 houses.

An elected committee of five house-owners managed the cluster along with a cluster volunteer. They are aided by a team of project engineers, architects and community development officers. Cluster engineers were trained to make decisions at a micro-level with house owners to control the details of each house. The project avoided the use of big contractors. The actual construction is done by labour teams who are trained so that quality of construction is ensured.