The Idea Of Smart City: Pune

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Abstract-

The Smart Cities Mission is a well-known concept and gaining popularity day by day. Urbanization and population growth are the critical areas that are creating the urge for the cities to be better and employ more smart solutions to address urbanization issues. Smart Cities Mission aims to make cities "smart" and their citizens even more "smart". Providing "smart" infrastructure that can enhance better quality of life in people. Smart City makes use of ICT (Information and Communication) technology to prevent this core urban issues. ICT is making a city more inclusive, sustainable and boosting its citizen engagement. Smart Cities enables smart living by imbibing smarter solutions. This study further aims to identify the feasibility of smart city mission and also reviews that how this mission redefines the city to be a better version of itself.

ICT, Smart living, and Urbanization

I. INTRODUCTION

With the growing population, cities grew and developed and this led to urbanization. It was quite obvious that for educational and other livelihood purposes, people in rural areas took a shift to urban areas and the Indian economy is not an exception to it. Since the Independence, the Indian economy led to economic planning. Further, it was seen that goals of economic growth took a shift to inclusive growth and sustainable development. Similarly, in terms of the global scenario, the 8 Millennium Development Goals were revised to 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable development implies quality of life and this core feature of quality of life is focused on by Smart City Mission

II. So, the 100 Smart Cities Mission was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India on 25 June 2015. The cities have been claiming urbanization and developing the cities smartly. Also, various hurdles come their way like pollution, sanitation, slums, etc. So smart cities' mission will impart a way that will deliver a resolution to it.

While implementing the smart cities mission it has undergone various stages. In First Stage, Cities are shortlisted by the respective States. Then a recommended list is been sent to the Ministry of Urban Development. In the Second Stage, each city formulates a vision, mission, and plan for a smart city. And in Stage Third evaluation take the place of the proposal prepared by every city.

First City to evolve as a Smart City was GIFT (Gujarat International Financial Tech) City in India. In simple terms, Smart City is using Smart Solutions and smartly developing cities.

Smart City makes use of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) that allows having a better lifestyle. The Smart City aims to promote sustainable development by providing sound infrastructure that leads to a better quality of life. It offers a clean and green environment.

Smart City considers the challenges faced by urban areas and accordingly adopts flexibility in policies. Smart City is a technologically sound city. It makes use of diverse electronic methods, tools, and sensors for the collection of data.

In Smart Cities, the participation of the citizens plays a key role in making a city smart. Smart Cities are adaptive. Smart Cities adapt to the needs of the citizens. Smart Cities grow and develop as per the needs of the residents.

2. Pune City

Pune City lies at 18°25'N and 18°37'N latitude, 73°44'E and 73°75'E longitude. Formerly, Pune City was just a mere "hamlet" that is a small village. Earlier it was known as "Puny Vishaya" in 758 A.D. and "Punaka Vishava" in 768 A.D. The word "Puny" means holy and "Vishaya" is referred to as a region. It was given that name as the rivers "Mula" and "Mutha" which are

worshipped in Hinduism, meet in the city of Pune.

Later on, it rose to eminence during Maratha and Peshwa Eras in the 18th Century. The decision to build "Ladkdi Pul" paved the way for further development of Parvati, Erandavane, Deccan, and Kothrud. Thorale Madhavrav and Nana Saheb Peshwa deserve special recognition for their futuristic foresight as city or town planners to shape Pune City.

Post Independence, it was seen that Industrialization and Economic Liberalization Policy helped Pune City to accelerate and move towards the path of economic growth and development. Starting its journey from a small village and now having recognition as an educational, IT hub, Pune City has outgrown itself.

3. Pune as a Smart City

Maharashtra is a progressive state and Pune is the Educational Hub, IT Hub, etc. Pune City is also known as the "Oxford of the East" and is well-known as the cultural capital. Then Industry Minister Subhash Desai said during a session of the legislature that Pune. is being served as the top FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) destination.

It is the major contributor to Maharashtra's GDP and along with this, the City of Pune ranks second in the 1st Round of Selection of 20 Smart Cities by the Ministry of Urban Development.

Smart City Goals: -
- Smart City Governance and Education
- Smart Healthcare
- Smart Building
- Smart Mobility
- Smart Infrastructure
- Smart Technology
- Smart Energy
- Smart Citizens[1]

Above mentioned are the eight goals of Smart City. Though each city follows different parameters. But one thing that is crucial for any city is citizen engagement.

Source: Pune Smart City Vision Document Vol II

PILLARS

For Assessing Pune City's transformation, three key aspects have played a vital role. For shaping any city to be a better version of itself, three key pillars are very essential. a) Livability – Basic access to basic services of survival

b) Competitiveness – Set of entities, policy structures that determine overall productivity of a city

c) Sustainability – Growth and development of any country but not at the cost of environment. Mercer conducts its Quality of Living survey annually. According to Mercer's Quality of Living Rankings in 2015 Pune is 2nd best city in the country after Hyderabad.

PUNE CITY'S CONSCIOUS EFFORTS

According to Pune Smart City Vision Document Volume II, several initiatives were taken by the Pune Municipal Corporation to make Pune City a Smart City. When any city is transformed into a smarter or better version of itself, various stakeholders are associated with this. So, keeping this in mind, it undertook a Ward Level Consultation that involved various stakeholders that will be a part of this Smart City Mission.

PMC also encouraged some of the data science experts to be a part of various ongoing discussions. To take citizens closer to this city, Online Portal Samvad was developed. This portal created awareness about this mission and also citizen's suggestions were taken into account. "Maza Swapna, Smart Pune"

Online Competition was organized so that citizens can participate and citizens' ideas to be smart can be perceived in a better way.

Similarly, several steps were taken to build citizen engagement such as Open Forum, use of social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Citizen Survey, etc.

These initiatives were taken by the Pune Municipal Corporation to make Pune City a better place to live. Any city is quite incomplete without a citizen. So, this shows how youth-centered, this city is where with every decision it takes, citizens are a part of it.

The peculiar feature of Pune City of engaging into quality education indicates a positive sign to transform into a "Smart" City. Pune City has positioned itself well to gain advantage as an IT Hub, manufacturing hub, evolving start-ups. With its unique features such as being associated as an "Economic Hub", performing extraordinarily well in automotive sector, Information Technology, etc. Pune City is exceptionally carving its path towards sustainable growth.

Pune City has mainly given importance to the strategy

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[1] https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/smart-city-mission-features-strategy-and-challenges/

of retrofitting. iPune City wants to create residential townships and IT Parks. And, the strategy of retrofitting helps to transform the existing areas effectively.

The main goal of Pune City for this mission is to restore its present urban infrastructural network and transform it into a smarter and more livable city. So, while studying Pune City as a Smart City, it is also necessary to study other Smart Cities in India that have contributed towards this Smart Cities Mission.

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MODEL

Pune City makes use of the Citizen engagement model. The local area was chosen and assessed as the very first step of this Smart City Mission. It also considered potential interactions with urban or town planners that could help to initiate this mission effectively.

Making a vision and profile for this city that will focus on areas to act upon will prove to be a key strategy after a thorough review and shortlisting of the areas for development. This model will serve as a link between the city and the citizens which will also emphasize citizen's suggestions and ideas.

This model includes elements such as,

1. envisioning
2. diagnosing
3. co-creating
4. refining
5. sharing

This will help to concentrate on the goal and agenda of Smart City Mission. This will help to shape Pune City to be a better version of itself. Open discussion forums are great sources to understand citizen's views regarding the Smart City Mission.

CONCLUSION

For any city to be smart and better, certain strategies and directing the actions towards achieving their objectives is very crucial. Like that, what worked for Pune City is its Citizen engagement. Pune City has always made conscious effort to take citizens closer to itself. Citizen engagement has tremendously helped the Pune City to grow and establish a position and to really stand out.

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