



Research Article

Building Innovative Livable and Sustainable Public Places

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Abstract

Public places play a vital role in improving the quality of urban life by fostering social interaction, cultural expression, and environmental balance. In the context of rapid urbanization and increasing population pressure, the need for innovative, livable, and sustainable public spaces has become more significant than ever. This research article explores the principles and practices involved in designing and developing public places that are inclusive, environmentally responsible, and adaptable to the changing needs of communities. It examines how urban planning, green infrastructure, smart technologies, and community participation can contribute to creating vibrant public environments. The study highlights the importance of integrating ecological sustainability, accessibility, safety, and cultural identity in the planning process. Through conceptual analysis and selected case references, the article demonstrates that well-designed public spaces not only enhance urban aesthetics but also support social well-being, environmental resilience, and economic vitality. The research emphasizes that sustainable public places should balance environmental conservation with human-centered design to ensure long-term usability and community engagement.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Public places are considered to be the pulse of each and every city and are considered to be essential for the citizens. As per the opinion of Meena *et al.* (2022), new open spaces and renovated places for the public are being constructed to an ever-increasing extent all over the world as a practical way to enhance the urban ability of living. They are frequently transforming into urban places where people can hang out, play, and connect which are mostly used for public assemblages. Modern public places are fascinating due to their innovation,

brilliance, and versatility. The best public places allow a flourishing multi-use of the urban area for all age groups and are treasured by locals and tourists at the same time.

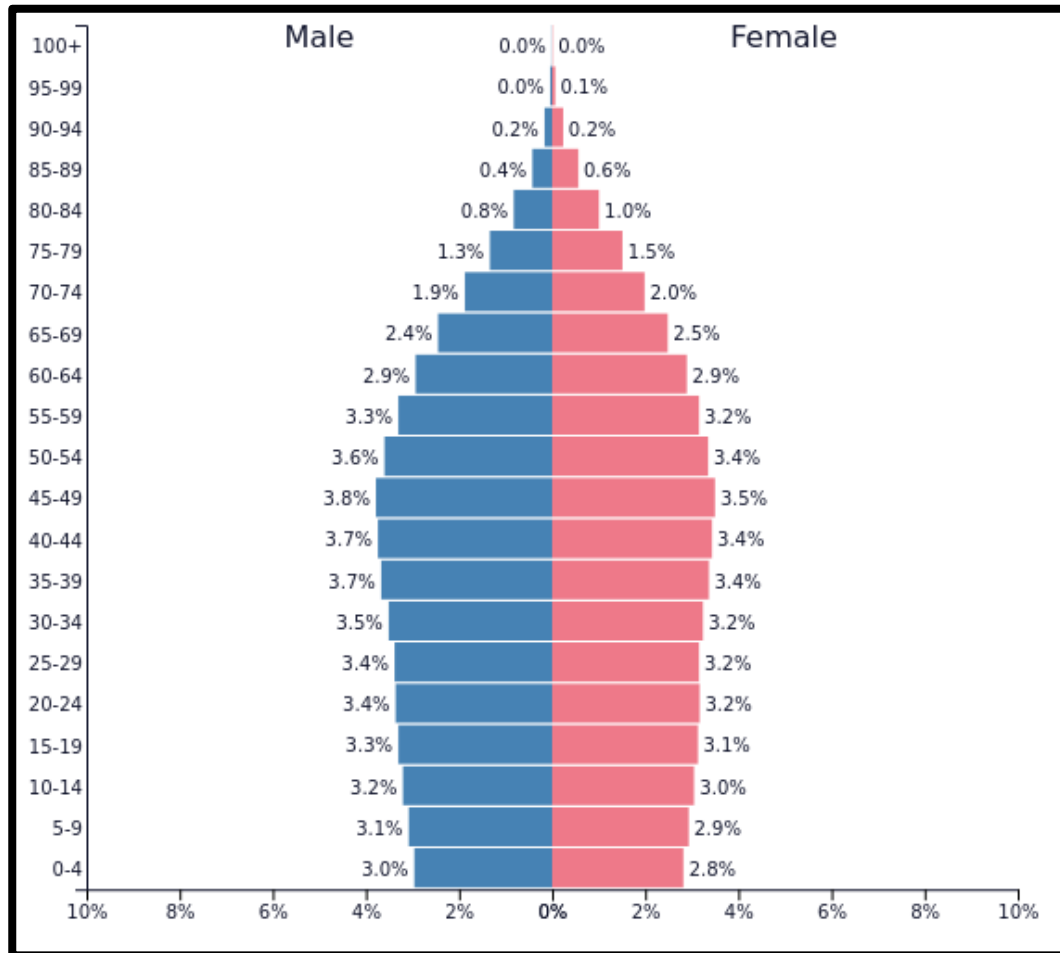
The public spheres are known for their buzzing activities throughout the year and become either performing stages or places to meet and express a shared will. It has been observed by Arya and Sharma (2022) that the reemergence of open areas serves as a catalyst for the growth of new communities. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the aspects that are interrelated with the building of innovative and sustainable

public places. The paper will offer a thorough background of the context of the study and will showcase the significance of green building over society. Finally, the paper will conclude with the importance of sustainable public places along with recommendations that will be beneficial in the long run.

2. Background of the study

The urban population of the world has grown in a dramatic manner, which has been seen clearly in the last 50 years. Megacities have proliferated dramatically, mostly in less developed areas. It has been stated by Ascione *et al.* (2022), that cities in India have seen the fastest urban growth worldwide, but urban planning has frequently been neglected.

One of the most noticeable aspects of cities in this country is their noise and congestion. From the viewpoint of Lucchi and Buda (2022), living in a city means paying more for housing, childcare, and health care. In addition to this, urban regions typically have greater rates of crime and income inequality as compared to the villages that are situated nearby to the same city. The urban population of this particular country has been seen to have expanded from 222 million in 1990 to 410 million in 2014 and is projected to cross the mark of 814 million by the year 2050. The figure below will demonstrate the Population pyramid of India for both male and female growth projected till the year 2050.



Source: Populationpyramid, 2023

Figure 1: Population Pyramids of India 2050

Rapid urbanisation is occurring in urban areas of developing nations, which has led to problems with urban planning such as a mismatch between supply and demand for infrastructure services and utilities, traffic jams, pollution, a loss of natural green cover, the typology of peri-urban settlements, etc., which have a negative impact on both the natural and built environments. As per the views of Almusaed and Almssad (2022), “smart development” has been recognised as a viable global solution to the current urban planning problems, with principles that aim to improve the quality of life and promote

livable communities. The growing population gradually raises the urgency to develop public places that will be sustainable in order to reduce pollution.

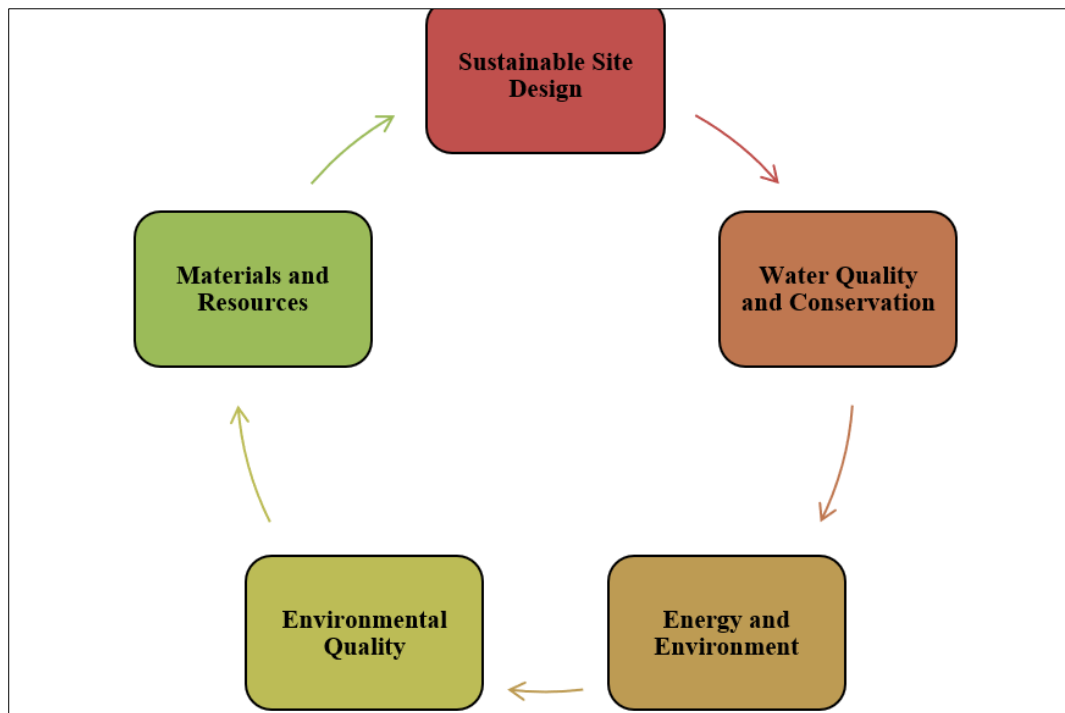
3. Impact and significance of green building technologies

The governing authorities of this country have launched initiatives over the years in the form of programmes that have mainly focused on providing services that are related to basic infrastructure and utilities to the cities. It has been stated by Yang *et al.* (2022), that the authorities have not paid much

attention to achieving sustainability in the approach in order to address the issues created by this phenomenon. The smart city mission, which is something along the lines of smart development, was recently established in India.

The value placed on smart cities compels the researcher to investigate the urban redevelopment of India. As per the perspective of Razmjoo *et al.* (2022), this false notion needs to be disproved by looking at the cracks in urban planning in order to identify the theme, essence, and course of action that modern

cities choose in their smart reorganisation. The restructuring of urban planning in India has also been systematically blind to the requirements, desires, and restrictions that are unique to the local setting. On the other hand, small towns develop primarily in connection to bigger cities, which continue to be the centre of infrastructure growth and metropolitan city planning. In cities of all sizes and types, demand for every essential service will rise as fast as the urban population and income will increase.



Source: Self-created

Figure 2: Fundamentals of green building

The above figure illustrates the fundamentals of a green building. “Green building technologies” can play an important role in the conservation of important natural resources and pave the way for a sustainable future at the same time.

4. Importance of sustainable public places

It has been seen that because of energy consumption buildings are among the biggest culprits of carbon emissions that is contributing about 40% of yearly global emissions. As per the opinion of Niklas *et al.* (2022), there has been a necessity to carefully plan and build the futures of existing cities as well as

physical areas for their residents to interact and to create and maintain community.

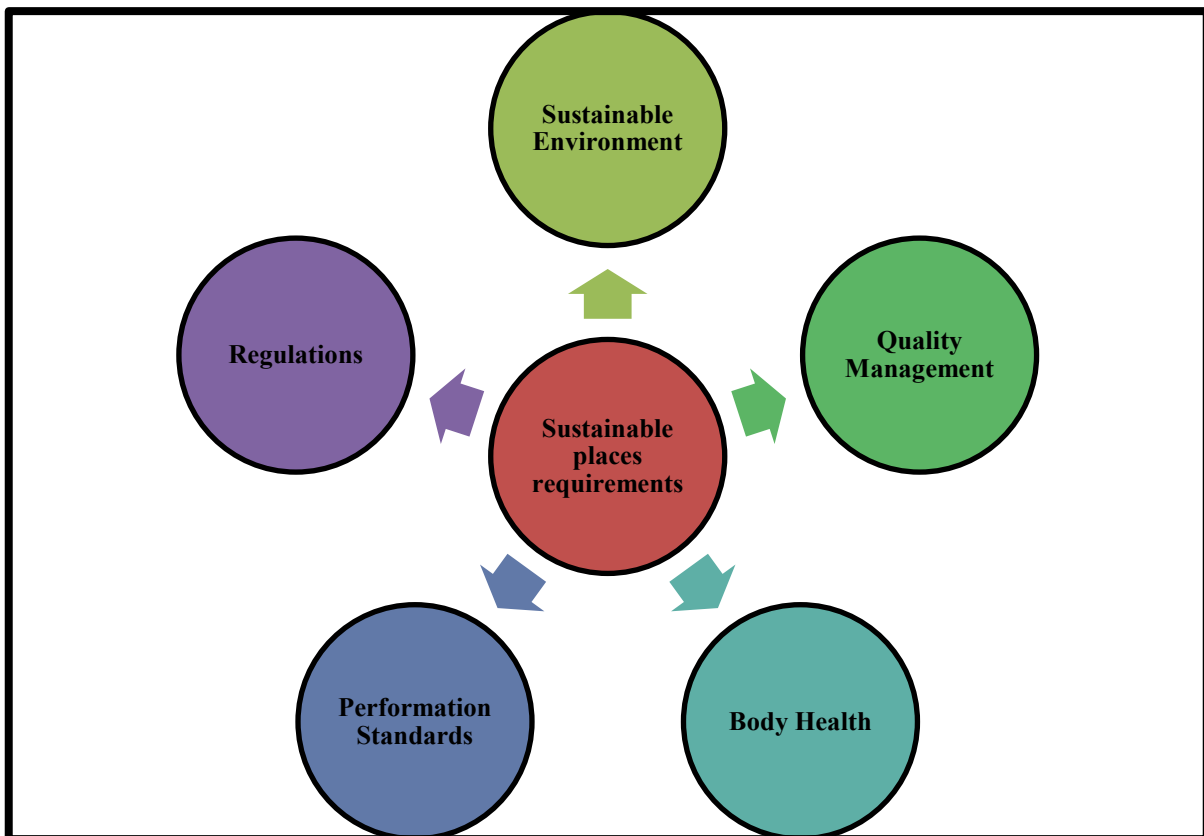
For India to establish livable and healthy cities, sustainable public spaces are crucial. It has been argued by Cao *et al.* (2022), that they encourage civic participation, give citizens access to green places, and lessen the environmental impact of cities. The country can create a sustainable urban future for its population by implementing sustainable urban planning and investing in sustainable public spaces. It has been observed that public places require high maintenance as compared to

those that are developing as new ones emerge and older ones expand, which has not been the case in Indian cities. It has been observed that planning for the parks and public space is one of the major areas that have received the greatest attention from the authorities. As stated by Khanra *et al.* (2022), city planning in this country has completely failed to guarantee that this type of space is promoted and protected, let alone in newer neighbourhoods. Instead, valuable lands are divided up and sold, with little effort made to safeguard the general welfare. The effectiveness of social media and Internet and mobile communication has increased the importance of cities providing

privately owned places as they are utilised by a large mass of people. From the observation point of Hong *et al.* (2022), it gradually becomes necessary to build public places in such a way that it lasts long and possess the nature of sustainability in itself. Due to this reason, it can be said that building sustainable public places is both necessary and challenging. It is considered to be the responsibility of the power holders to make sure that public places are constructed in such a way that it stands out from pollution and are built using technologies that make them long-lasting. The findings that have been derived effectively

suggest that green areas have a positive impact on a variety of health outcomes. As per the observation of Tura and Ojanen (2022), utilising green spaces as part of a green prescription

may offer significant health advantages. The figure below shows the primary requirements that are necessary for building a sustainable public place.



Source: Self-created

Figure 3: Necessary requirements for building sustainable public places

5. Recommendations & Conclusion

Public places are not meant for construction a large number of times as it goes through tremendous maintenance process for a lifetime. It must be both sustainable and built strongly so that the intensity of heavy maintenance can be reduced. It should focus in a way that encircles the whole city in its apparatus and the people of that city get benefitted. The places should be built with a vision to capture the overall stature of the city.

Recommendation 1: To construct low-emission zones as public places

Cities might start by establishing low-emission zones, where vehicles with carbon emissions above a certain threshold will be prohibited from entering. The proportion of travel that uses public transport will decrease the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. In addition to car pollution, industry emissions also need to be under control.

Recommendation 2: To provide civic engagement

Every urban city consists of green spaces which include parks, community gardens, and playgrounds. These places are important as they are directly connected with the physical and mental health of their residents. It should provide possibilities for community building and civic involvement, which are crucial for the growth of a thriving and democratic society.

Recommendation 3: To utilise creative waste management as part of urban planning

Sustainable urban planning is considered to be crucial for the growth of livable and healthy cities in this country and sustainable public spaces are treated as a significant part of that whole process of planning. Utilising creative waste management techniques, and lowering carbon emissions, sustainable public spaces can help lessen the negative environmental effects of urban areas.

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