

Acknowledgements

Principle Architect : PK Das



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



1. First Jane Jacobs International Award 2016
The Rockefeller Foundation, New York City
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For his Campaign for Equitable development in the City
4. Clearwater Citizen's Award by Waterfront Centre, Washington, USA, 2002
for Bandra Bandstand & Cater Road Seafront redevelopment

FIRST JANE JACOBS INTERNATIONAL AWARD, 2016



Mumbai architect wins global award

The Indian Express, 23/09/2016 - 9:11 PM (MUMBAI)

MUMBAI-BASED architect P K Das has been awarded the prestigious Jacob's First International Medal-2016 for his work in revitalising waterfronts, rehabilitating slums and making urban planning a democratic and participatory process.

A native of Odisha, Das has been involved in restoring Bandra Bandstand and the Mithi Riverfront Development in Mumbai.

Das mapped Mumbai's slums and prepared a comprehensive slums redevelopment and integration plan, which showed the city actually has nearly 50 per cent of natural assets in riverbodies, mangroves, and lakes.

He is currently engaged with integrating more than 300 km of the city's open drains and water courses and turning them into open, public spaces so that neglected areas can come alive.

Promoted by the Rockefeller Foundation and administered by The Municipal Art Society of New York, the Jane Jacobs Medal honours the author and urbanist Jane Jacobs, who died in 2006.

The medal, and cash prize of \$100,000, will be awarded at a ceremony in Quito, Ecuador, on October 17 to coincide with the UN Habitat III Conference.



THE HINDU

CITIES • MUMBAI

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City architect for Jane Jacobs medal

• Special Correspondent



Architect P.K. Das at the Carter Road promenade. — Photo: Vivck Bendre



JANE JACOBS MEDAL – 2016 ACCEPTANCE SPEECH IN QUITO

17th October, 2016

P.K.Das – Architect & Activist, Mumbai, India

I am hugely humbled and deeply honored by the first international Jane Jacobs Medal 2016, being conferred upon me.

Also, I am enormously motivated and at the same time challenged by this recognition, particularly when this award is in commemoration of a very significant urban thinker and activist as Jane Jacobs. Her work, thoughts and writings are monumental. Learnings from them inspire us constantly, providing simple human ways of dealing with complex urban development and city making efforts. She reminds us that cities are made of social and civic capital.

I am indeed grateful to Judith Rodin and the jury comprising of urbanists, architects, activists, artists and academics for considering my work worthy of this honor. I am thankful to the Rockefeller Foundation for instituting this very important international award in memory and honor of the legendary Jane Jacobs. A special thanks to the Municipal Art Society for administering this award process.

I am hugely disturbed by the fact that cities are being constantly divided into disparate fragments, both in social and spatial terms. Indeed our cities are producing and re-producing backyards of exclusion, discrimination, neglect and abuse; even natural habitats are being systematically destroyed. These conditions manifest in multiple forms of inequality- gender, religion, caste, faith, classes and are leading to increasing levels of intolerance and social unrest.

Sadly, while cities are expanding, public spaces are rapidly shrinking, in both physical and democratic terms. This means space for wider public participation and dialogue are shrinking.

In these prevailing conditions, I am committed to the idea of public spaces being the foundation of city planning. It is my resolve to work towards the unification of the disparate fragments and integration of the backyards. For me as an architect, it is planning and design that are incredible democratic tools for achievement of this objective and in bringing about significant social and environmental change for an all inclusive and just development.

I struggle to pursue this idea of unification of cities through my architectural and design endeavors, while engaging closely with social and environmental movements. My priority has been to establish a close relationship between people and architecture. With strong emphasis on participatory planning I hope to contribute to larger struggles for democratization of cities.

Very often we find ourselves absorbed into zones of comfort and complacency, engaging in issues and places that have developed or achieved exclusivity- areas where middle and upper classes live or work, but to get out and engage with situations of instability and discomfort, deal with the invisible yet perceived barriers across city landscapes and their unification is the biggest challenge for the achievement of equality and justice.

HT Changemakers Award 2013 to PK Das

For his campaign for equitable development in the city

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To vote for the HT For Mumbai Popular Choice Award, SMS HTMUM <CODE> to 54242

ht for mumbai AWARDS 2013
Celebrating changemakers

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For the award, HT's panel of judges whittled down a longlist of nominees to six finalists in two categories, 'Individuals' and 'Organisations'. Here, every day, you will find the profile of each of the 12 in the shortlists. Today, we profile PK Das, an urban designer who has relentlessly campaigned for housing for the poor.

CATEGORY >> INDIVIDUAL **NOMINEE >> PK DAS**

Architect of Mumbai's affordable dreams

CRUSADER From building picturesque beachfronts to rehabilitating slum-dwellers, activist PK Das has his pulse on city's urban geography

DAS' PROJECTS
PK Das has been active in various projects in Mumbai, including the rehabilitation of the old Marine Drive area, the development of the old Marine Drive area, and the development of the old Marine Drive area.

YOUR FAVOURITE
You, the reader, can select the favourite HT For Mumbai award. You can vote in either category till 11:59 PM on Nov 26. To cast your vote, go to www.htfor-mumbai.com.

THE AWARDS
The HT For Mumbai award is a recognition of the individuals and organizations who have made a significant contribution to the city's development. The award is presented annually to the person or organization that has made the most significant contribution to the city's development.

HE IS THE BEST EXAMPLE OF AN URBAN DESIGNER WHO MADE A SIGNAL CONTRIBUTION TO MUMBAI'S WORK. HAS MADE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE.

THE CITY HAS OFFERED PLACES NEAR THE SEA. HE HAS RECLAIMED THEM, ALLOWING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE CITY'S COAST.

HE HAS BEEN THE BACKBONE OF CITIZENSHIP WHO ASPIRE TO DO GOOD. THERE ARE VERY FEW PROFESSIONALS WHO WORK WITH PEOPLE ON THE GROUND.

**Clearwater Citizens' Award by Waterfront Center, Washington, USA, 2002
for Bandra Bandstand and Carter Road Seafront redevelopment.**

