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MONTHLY NEWS LETTER FROM BARANAGAR MUNICIPALITY

From Chairman's Desk

Greenhouse Effects in Big Cities

Cities are major contributors to climate change. cities consume 78 per cent of the world's energy and produce more than 60 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. Yet, they account for less than 2 per cent of the Earth's surface.

The sheer density of people relying on fossil fuels makes urban populations highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Fewer green spaces exacerbate the problem. According to the IPCC report, limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius would "require rapid and far-reaching transitions in uses of energy, land, urban and infrastructure (including transport and buildings), and industrial systems."

An added challenge is the projection, near about 3 billion people will reside in urban areas by 2050; nearly 95 per cent of them in cities in Asia and Africa. The good news is that cities around the world have already begun to take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are putting policies in place that encourage the use of alternative energy sources. Efforts by policy makers and administrators to address climate change, however, will need to accelerate to keep pace with population growth and the rapid climate change.

The effects of climate change are worse among poor and low-income communities, in part because many live on the margins of society, in unstable structures, and in areas more susceptible to flooding, landslides, earthquakes, but also because of inadequate capacities, inadequate resources and reduced access to emergency response systems. This is even more pronounced in developing countries.

Pollution, mostly associated as a by-product of urban landscapes, is also linked with climate change. Both climate change and air pollution are exacerbated by the burning of fossil fuels, which increase CO₂ emissions, the cause of global warming.

WHO recommends and supports the implementation of policies to reduce air pollution, including better waste management, the use of clean technologies and fuels for household cooking, heating and lighting to improve the quality of air in homes.

Environment's Air Quality and Mobility Unit. Together with the WHO and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, UN Environment is part of the global Breathe Life campaign, helping to mobilize cities and encourage individuals to protect the planet from effects of air pollution.

Thanks and regards

Progress report:

1. Work for 15-16 and 16-17 is completed.
2. Construction Work for OHR at Ward 17, and 21 completed and OHR at Ward 18 in progress.
3. Construction of Park for the year 17-18 in progress.