

ADVERTISEMENT



Imperia Bandhan  
GREATER NOIDA WEST

Invest in Imperia Bandhan - India's 1st One-Stop Wedding Mall  
Earn ₹ 27,500 per month AR\*

BOOK NOW

\*T&C Apply

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

Concept

The Times of India

Advanced Search »

Home | City | India | World | Business | Tech | Sports | Cricket | Entertainment | TV | Life & Style | Travel | Women | Spirituality | Blogs | NRI | Real Estate | Photos | Videos | Buy@Amazon.in

You are here: [News Home](#) [Smart Cities](#) » Concept

## Journey to Smartness: The race begins now

Aug 14, 2015, 10.06 AM IST

### Offer on 2 BHK on NH-24

Price starting at 35L\*. Book now & get gold voucher worth Rs.41,000\*  
[wavecity.in/wave-floors-premium](http://wavecity.in/wave-floors-premium)

### Start a Play School

Start Earning From First Month. Low Investment and High Returns.  
[shemrock.com/StartaSchool](http://shemrock.com/StartaSchool)

Ads by Google



The urban sector at present is going through a lot of action and upheaval. Every State and City in the country wants to hop on to the "Smart City" bus.

Every State is struggling, intra political and administrative battles in order to include their best horses in the "Urban Premier League". I have never witnessed such a feeling of euphoria and fierce competitiveness amongst states and cities on discussing urban challenges and branding their best horses for undertaking this journey.

### Connect with us

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER ✪



### FROM AROUND THE WEB

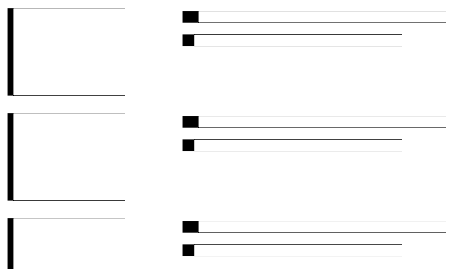


However, surprisingly, the names which are emerging as potential candidates for this premier list are not big cities but small and medium towns. Further, a surprise factor is that erstwhile JNNURM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission) cities are struggling to find their way into this league.

One would have thought them as 'low hanging fruits', where huge infrastructure investments and reforms have already happened during the last five years and only a minimum push to introduce smart solutions was required to take them to the next level. Even the conditions laid down for participation in this race provided a clear advantage for JNNURM cities.

The rules suggested for taking this journey toward smartness calls on cities to address two broad

### MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA



parameters (1) Physical Smartness: Retrofitting, Redevelopment, and Greenfield; and (2) Operational Smartness: Incorporating smart solutions for bringing operational efficiencies in cities responsiveness to citizens needs and requirements.

Once each state has earmarked/identified their suitable candidates, the race for smartness will begin. Out of 100 only 20 will be qualified in round one to take this journey forward and the rest will be asked to prepare and again come up for the subsequent rounds. It is the first time that states and cities are competing not only in branding themselves as Smart but also in creating a unique identity for themselves. This not only represents a paradigm shift which is taking place in addressing the challenges of urban transition which India is witnessing but also sending serious policy signals to state and local governments to work in converged and coordinated frameworks for addressing the urban menace.

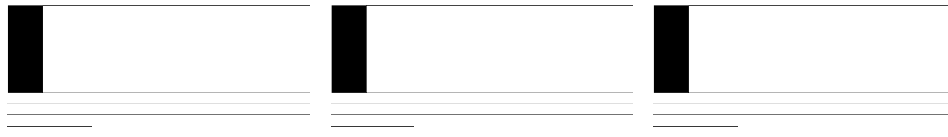
However, to embark and sustain this journey is not going to be easy. Looking at the existing governance and service delivery frameworks, it is surely a daunting task and cities will require huge handholding and implementation support ranging from knowledge products, expert consultant services, hands-on training, peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing platforms. But the journey offers an opportunity to discard old ideas and mind-sets in changing the way we plan, implement and develop longer visionary approaches for managing cities rather than short term knee-jerk reactions which have started haunting our governance systems at local levels.

*By Hitesh Vaidya, Practice Head (Urban Reforms), IPE Global*

Stay updated on the go with Times of India News App. Click [here](#) to download it for your device.

Post a comment

### FROM AROUND THE WEB



### MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA



Recommended By Colombia

FROM AROUND THE WEB

MORE FROM THE TIMES OF INDIA

Recommended By Colombia

### [Top SIP Investment plans](#)

[www.myuniverse.co.in/ZipSip](http://www.myuniverse.co.in/ZipSip) - Compare & invest in best Funds. 0 paper work. Start today.

Ads by Google

Recommended By Colombia

### FEATURED TODAY IN SMART CITIES

37 consulting firms to prepare Smart City plans for 88 cities

MLC invites suggestions from citizens of Mangaluru

Meerut shuts down for smart city tag

No smart cities' consultant for now

US companies may partners with West Bengal for smart cities

[more](#)



**Hi there,**  
Login with your Facebook ID to see what your friends are reading on Times of India.

Log In with Facebook

### FEATURED TODAY IN

37 consulting firms to prepare Smart City plans for 88 cities

MLC invites suggestions from citizens of Mangaluru

Meerut shuts down for smart city tag

No smart cities' consultant for now

US companies may partners with West Bengal for smart cities

9-point action plan to clear Delhi-NCR's traffic mess

Citizens' views to count in smart city project in Lucknow

Smart City: Exclusion hurt Gayaites

Full list of 98 smart cities

Govt releases list of smart cities

**YOUR CHANCE TO WRITE WITH YOUR FAVOURITE AUTHORS**


Powered by


**KNOW MORE**



### TOP STORIES

'I retire from all forms of international cricket and IPL'

ALSO ON TOI



Monarch butterflies getting bo...



Unrest in Kashmir, Yasin Malik...



Justin Trudeau elected Canada...



Ahmedabad: Hospital staff memb...



Don't be stubborn, let's work ...

Follow the Times of India - section

Search for News

Search

Recent Messages (0)



Add your comment here

Characters Remaining: 3000

SIGN IN WITH

FacebookGoogleEmail

OR PROCEED WITHOUT REGISTRATION

Full Name

Email

Location

POST

X

Be the first one to review.

Sehwag uncomplicated with rural flair: Bedi

Don't be stubborn, work together: Kejriwal to PM

Uber driver found guilty of raping passenger

Acts of vandalism are disturbing: Arun Jaitley

more

MOST POPULAR

Read | Commented

From

Driving in Canada

Canada needs immigrants as much as immigrants need Canada

Canada Votes!

Canada - a home away from home

more

Across Times of India

This teenage girl is a rapist's nightmare

Virender Sehwag denies reports of retirement

Sonia was miffed when told Indira favoured Priyanka: M L Fotedar

Ink attack on Jammu & Kashmir MLA Engineer Rashid who had hosted a 'beef party'

more

FEATURED TODAY IN TRAVEL

India's most stunning wedding venues



8 beautiful locations that'll refresh your memory of Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge



The world's best sunset destinations




Bangalore's most haunted places that will scare the daylights out of you!








Top 10 historic cafes in Prague



FROM OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS



All		TOI	My Profile
Today	Last 7 Days	Last 30 Days	Last 365 Days
	<b>GRajaagopalan</b> Points: 553		<b>1</b>
	<b>Sunil Mahendra</b> Points: 527		<b>2</b>
	<b>Aditi Rajnandini</b> Points: 526		<b>3</b>
	<b>Danny Kohli</b> Points: 525		<b>4</b>
	<b>Ashok Kumar</b> Points: 521		<b>5</b>

[Know more about Times Points](#)




**NEVER FORGET A PROGRAM ON TV**  
**SET REMINDERS FOR YOUR FAVOURITE PROGRAMS**

[CLICK HERE](#)

### More inside The Times of India

<p><b>CITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moulavi arrested for raping student in Surat</li> <li>Chain-snatchers strike again in Hyderabad</li> <li>Bengaluru gets 2nd cyber cell police station</li> <li>No festival holidays for zoo and parks in Chennai</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">» MORE FROM CITY</p>	<p><b>INDIA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cong includes children in protest, faces flak from AAP, BJP</li> <li>Telugus in US to raise fund for new Andhra capital</li> <li>Army man opens fire, kills 4 in Punjab</li> <li>Hardik moves Gujarat HC to set aside sedition charges</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">» MORE FROM INDIA</p>	<p><b>WORLD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Korea preparing for fourth nuclear test: Report</li> <li>UN chief in surprise visit to calm Israel-Palestine unrest</li> <li>Canada's new PM Trudeau vows to bring hope, change</li> <li>South Koreans travel to North to reunite with war-divided kin</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">» MORE FROM WORLD</p>	<p><b>BUSINESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tata Steel blames China for British jobs cuts</li> <li>Audi launches 'S5 Sportback' in India at Rs 62.95 lakh</li> <li>Gold recovers on renewed buying, silver remains weak</li> <li>CBDT to connect with taxpayers online in smaller cases</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">» MORE FROM BUSINESS</p>	<p><b>TECH HOMEPAGE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why you really don't need to buy new iPhone 6S, 6S Plus</li> <li>Samsung to launch Galaxy S7 in January: Report</li> <li>IBM revenue falls, cuts profit forecast</li> <li>Asus launches A series Windows 10 laptops at Rs 23,990</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">» MORE FROM TECH HOMEPAGE</p>
---	---	---	--	---

## THE TIMES OF INDIA

Powered by **INDIATIMES**

[About us](#)  
[Privacy policy](#)  
[Newsletter](#)  
[Sitemap](#)

[Advertise with us](#)  
[Feedback](#)  
[TOI Mobile](#)  
[Archives](#)

[Terms of Use and Grievance Redressal Policy](#)  
[RSS](#)  
[ePaper](#)

### Other Times Group news sites

The Economic Times  
इकॉनॉमिक टाइम्स | एंडीनोमिक्स टाइम्स  
Pune Mirror | Bangalore Mirror  
Ahmedabad Mirror | ItsMyAscent  
Education Times | Brand Capital  
Mumbai Mirror | Times Now  
Indiatimes | नवभारत टाइम्स  
महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स | മിഷൻ മനോരമ

### Living and entertainment

Timescity | iDiva | Entertainment | Zoom  
Luxpresso | Gadget Reviews  
| Online Songs

### Interest Network

itimes

### Hot on the Web

World | Politics  
Business | Sports  
Entertainment  
New Cars  
Xiaomi Mobile  
Motorola Mobile

### Services

Book print ads | Online shopping  
Matrimonial | Astrology | Jobs | Tech Community | Property | Buy car  
Bikes in India | Free Classifieds | Send money to India | Used Cars  
Restaurants in Delhi | Movie Show Timings in Mumbai | Remit to India | Buy Mobiles  
Listen Songs | Real Estate Developers

### Trending Topics

Samsung Mobile | Micromax Mobile | You Tube | Delhi Travel Guide | Katrina Kaif  
Photos | Sony Mobile | Hindi Songs | Horoscope 2015 Predictions | Asus Mobile |

