

## World Habitat Day Celebrations- Habitainment Quiz, October 31, 2013

The United Nations has designated the first Monday in October every year as “World Habitat Day” to reflect on the state of human settlements and the basic right to adequate shelter for all. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat. This year, the Day was celebrated on October 07, 2013 with the theme “Urban Mobility”.

The theme Urban Mobility was chosen because mobility and access to goods and services is essential to the efficient functioning of our cities and towns as they expand. Mobility is not just a question of building wider or longer roads; it is about providing appropriate and efficient systems that serve the most people in the best, most equitable manner. This includes encouraging a transition from car use to trains, buses and bicycles, and bringing more pedestrians onto well-lit sidewalks. Further, urban planning and design should focus on how to bring people and places together, by creating cities that focus on accessibility, and optimal urban densities, rather than simply increasing the length of urban transport infrastructure.

As part of the celebrations, National Housing Bank in association with India Habitat Centre have been organizing the “Habitainment Quiz” for the past 5 years. However, unfortunately the 6th Habitainment Quiz which was scheduled on October 4, 2013 had to be postponed due to heavy rains. The quiz was then held on the 31st October 2013 at the Amphitheatre, India Habitat Centre.

### HABITAINMENT QUIZ 2013

As a part of the World Habitat Day celebrations in 2012, the National Housing Bank in collaboration with the India Habitat Centre organized the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the “*Habitainment Quiz 2013*” on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013 for the institutional and individual members of the India Habitat Centre and also intended to remind the different individuals of its responsibility for the future of the human habitat. The idea behind the event was to raise awareness among the people on the significance of “World Habitat Day”. The quiz also aims to provide an chance to the employees of various institutions in Habitat to network as also bring together the individual members of IHC together to work towards building a sustainable habitat for all. The theme of the quiz was ‘*Urban Mobility*’

The event brought together the employees of various institutions working within the India Habitat Centre including its individual members. The event witnessed participation from over 90 teams from amongst the various institutional and individual members. The institutions which participated in the event included teams from NHB, TERI, HUDCO, IHC, OWH and some

Individual and Corporate Members of the India Habitat Centre. The qualifying round was held at the Amphitheatre of the India Habitat Centre followed by the *Quiz Finale*.



The quiz was hosted by Rajiv Makhni, a well known media personality who hosts TV shows on technology, cars and lifestyle. He is also a multiple award winning columnist and writes for major publications like Hindustan Times, GQ, Outlook and may others.



The quiz started at around 1.30 pm in the amphitheatre of India Habitat Centre. It was a pleasant afternoon and in a short while, Rajiv Makhni invited Mr. R. V. Verma, Chairman and Managing Director, National Housing Bank and Mr. Raj Liberhan, Director, India Habitat Centre to address the audience and set the proceedings rolling.

Mr. Verma and Mr. Liberhan, while addressing the audience expressed hope and confidence that the event will sensitize the people to the significant issues of creating accessible cities that focus on optimal urban densities and sustainable urban transport.



The first stage was the Qualifying Round. A group of six teams were selected to compete in the Final Rounds.



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The final leg of the Quiz comprised of six rounds was a mix of audio visual questions and verbal questions. The themes included landmarks, culture, current affairs etc. A special round was also conducted on urban mobility. These also included Audio-Visual rounds. Shri Makhni also asked the audience questions and made the interaction very

“Awesome Twosome” who were employees of the Indian Oil Corporation as also Habitainment Quiz Winners in the year 2012 were the winners this year as well and were awarded a trophy and a cash prize of ₹ 20,000. “Corbusier” stood second and were awarded a cash prize of ₹ 10,000. The third prize which was a cash prize of ₹ 5000 was won by a team “Plebians” consisting of individual members of IHC . The audience actively and enthusiastically participated in the quiz and won several audience prizes.



Habitainment Quiz 2013.

National Housing Bank (NHB) during its 25<sup>th</sup> year celebrations had conducted a painting competition for students of Municipal schools who cater to the downtrodden and economically weaker children. The theme of the competition was “Mere Sapne ka Ghar”. More than 100 students participated in the competition. The children were given prizes during the

