

**Center for Indian Knowledge System in Town Planning  
School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal**

**COURSE TITLE: INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM IN TOWN PLANNING AND  
GOVERNANCE**

**Focus Area/Subject Area:** Town Planning and Governance

**Credits:** 2

**Eligibility:** Candidates with degree of Higher Secondary Education

**Details of the Instructor:**

1. Dr. Kailash Rao  
Director, SPA,  
Bhopal
2. Dr. Ajay Khare  
Professor, Department of Conservation, SPA, Bhopal
3. Dr. Vishakha Kawathekar  
Professor, Department of Conservation, SPA, Bhopal
4. Dr. Kshama Puntambekar  
Associate Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, SPA, Bhopal
5. Dr. Ashfaque Alam  
Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, SPA, Bhopal
6. Dr. Mayank Dubey  
Assistant Professor, Department of Transport Planning, SPA, Bhopal
7. Mr. Ramesh P Bhole  
Assistant Professor, Department of Conservation, SPA, Bhopal
8. Dr. Shanu Sharma  
Assistant Professor, Department of Design, SPA, Bhopal
9. Ms. Somrita Bandhopadhyay  
Research Associate, C-IKS-TP, SPA, Bhopal
10. Mr. Vishnu Suresh  
PhD Scholar, SPA, Bhopal

## **Course Objectives:**

To impart necessary knowledge and skills so as to enable students to:

1. understand the premise of Indian Knowledge System (IKS) in the domain of town planning and governance
2. illustrate, recognise and appreciate the relevance and importance of the above knowledge in the present context.
3. acquaint with Rajya, Varna and Sthan Vyavastha

## **Learning Outcome:**

Students will be able to understand and interpret text related to town planning and governance with examples.

## **SYLLABUS**

### **Unit 1 - Ancient Text and Town Planning**

Introduction to ancient text in the context of Town Planning and Governance; terminologies; Indic languages in which the knowledge is embedded; Chronology of development of ancient text and changing principles.

### **Unit 2 - Socio-Cultural Expression in Spatial Planning (Varna Vinyas)**

Through the study of various typologies including dwelling units, their form and sizes; social infrastructure- gathering spaces, places for worship, places of entertainment; places of cremation etc; interpreting the social- cultural progress and its spatial manifestation.

### **Unit 3 - Geopolitics and Economy in Ancient India (Rajya Vinyas)**

Geopolitical relationships in smaller kingdoms through dynasty, kingship, marriage alliance, supremacy etc in formulation and guarding of the extents; Economy of the state primarily depended on trade and collection of taxes; principles of land management, the establishment of local and global trade routes and trade centres; the establishment and decay of urban settlements are a function of the geopolitics of the reign. Ancient texts including Arthashastra elaborate on these governance systems and town planning.

### **Unit 4 - Principles of Town Planning (Sthan Vinyas)**

Ancient India progressed towards urbanisation with cities of various sizes and shapes. The texts elaborate definite theories of organising layouts of towns on the geography of the place. Elaboration of basic understanding of the layouts in terms of geometry, formulae and theory based on population, geography, and various communities shall be understood.

### **Unit 5 Ancient Towns and present planning practices**

Many discussions and arguments are deliberated on the evolution of the cities following the ancient town planning principles in urban centres. Examples to elaborate on the interconnection between ancient knowledge of town planning and present planning practices to establish the relationship between theory and practice.

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