



Holistic development key to smarter Gurgaon: Experts

Governance Now and the Directorate of Information, Public Relation and Cultural Affairs, Government of Haryana organised 'Gurgaon—Millennium Next City' conclave on 12th August 2014 at Double Tree by Hilton in Guurgaon. The experts at the conclave talked about how Gurgaon has emerged as a new destination—both for people and industry—and what it needs to do to become a smart

city. The conclave witnessed participation of experts from diverse sectors.

According to reports, Gurgaon is one of India's fastest-growing districts, having expanded more than 70 per cent during the past decade, with population crossing the 1.5 million mark. It accounts for almost half of all revenues of the state of Haryana. But there are challenges which need to be addressed to make Gurgaon a smart city.

The conclave has seen participation from experts like Nitin Seth, chair,

NASSCOM Regional Council, Haryana, Lt General Rajender Singh, CEO, DLF Foundation, Ashis Sanyal, Former Director, DIT, Government of India and Himangshu Vaish, Chamber of Industries of Udyog Vihar.

Setting up the tone of the conclave Nitin Seth said that the three aspects of a smart city is its livability, ecosystem for fostering innovation and quality education and training system. Talking about the actionable points for the government, Seth said that there has to be a single



authority for executing all infrastructure projects. The road safety should be given utmost importance. The roads should have walkways and cycle paths. There should be a committee comprising members from government, industry and academia to prepare a vision document for Gurgaon and an action plan.

Lt Gen Rajender Singh said the city lacks soul and does not have facilities for poor. The focus should be on inclusive growth. Ashis Sanyal highlighted how ICT can turn Gurgaon into a smart city. He talked about various tools and software that can address various challenges prevailing in the city from transport to water.

Stressing on people's participation, Dr Amit Kapoor, said, "Each city should know what it wants to become in 15 years. Its people should come together and start a movement to achieve what they have visualized for the city."

Himagshu Vaish highlighted the need of supporting SME in terms of providing cheaper land and power, so as to boost local trade and employment. ■

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