

STUDY OF OPEN AND GREEN SPACES IN AN URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD: CASE STUDY OF MALVIYA NAGAR, JAIPUR

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Abstract—Importance of green and open spaces in urban areas is quite relevant in present context. Many studies reveal the importance of open and green spaces. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the distribution of open and green spaces and its quality in terms of its maintenance. The paper is based on a study of Malviya Nagar neighborhood area in south Jaipur. It looks into the issues related to the study area which is a part of malviya nagar. Various issues concerned with the study area as the operation, maintenance and quality of the open and green spaces .The methodology followed is through reconnaissance survey of the study area inference drawn and observations made. The provision of even distribution of green and open spaces can be checked on policy intervention levels and master plan formulation levels.

1. INTRODUCTION

Parks and open spaces are urban spaces that provide contrast to the hard urban environment and opportunities for relaxation and recreation. Parks and open spaces shape adjoining sites by enhancing property value at their edges, being independent landscape composition internally.[1]

Population growth and high densities have an adverse impact on environmental resources. Preservation of green spaces improves the quality of life by providing breathing spaces in cities.[3] The biggest challenge for urban development is not only to ensure green spaces in cities and towns but also to maintain and strengthen the existing green spaces.[4]

In the present scenario in view of limited spaces in cities and towns the objective of planning policies is based on optimizing the sustainability of urban areas by promoting a high quality of green and open spaces. Open spaces as per urdpci guidelines consist of recreational spaces, organized green spaces and other open spaces as vacant lands, etc.[5] Urban green spaces natural or semi-natural ecosystems which were converted to urban spaces by human influence. Urban green spaces reduce the gap between urban areas and natural spaces. In this context, green areas in the urban spaces

are reflection of natural areas surrounding the cities. Urban green and open spaces are spaces vital to a city except from the fact that these spaces act as breathing spaces in a city these spaces have a larger contribution to the surrounding areas in a whole. These spaces provide society with interaction spaces improving the social quality of life here by increasing social inclusion, safety and equality. As well as increase the environmental value of a setting by improving the air quality, reducing pollution, surface run-off, heat island effect, etc. also proves beneficial in economic terms as areas around well maintained open and green spaces have higher land value and demand also generates sources of income in the surrounding area.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The role of urban planning is not merely to specify the distribution of open and green spaces in the matrix of development plans of any area but also look into the sustenance of such spaces in terms of its quality and maintenance. The ecology of site to be maintained as per site requirement with little interference in the fabric of open and green spaces. Often most successful design of places stems from minimal interference in the social and physical setting instead of radical transformation. This “ecological approach” to design (a term popularized by Ian McHarg in Design With Nature) aims at discovering and working with intrinsic qualities of given locale(1). Understanding the activities in around the open and green spaces, its misuse and impact will have a better solution to the issues related with green spaces in urban dense areas. Manipulating space enclosure and the greenery density could improve urban microclimate condition. Use behaviors such as visit pattern, sensation, and healing evaluation of the green open space can also be shaped manipulating space enclosure in dense urban contexts(2).

3. STUDY AREA

The study area is a part of Malviya Nagar ,Jaipur which is primarily residential area with few commercial centers , which evolved with the need of market place in south Jaipur as depicted in fig. 1. The study area mostly comprises of residential, commercial, mixed and recreational uses viz. 84 per cent of the site is residential , 8.7 per cent commercial , 3.85 per cent mixed use , and 1.8 per cent recreational. The area comprises of commercial center viz the gaurav tower zone and world trade park. The above mentioned commercial spaces are completely paved and do not comprise of green spaces.



Fig. 1: map showing the study area (source : mapsofindia.com)



Fig 2. Study area highlighting open spaces and organized green spaces. (source : author)

4. ANALYSIS

The survey of the study area shown in fig.1revealed that the green spaces in the study area is 0.36 ha which is not at par with the urdpfi guidelines needed to be 0.50 ha . Methodology adopted to measure the size of open spaces is through reconnaissance survey . The gap in the provision of open spaces is visible in the lack of buffer zones between commercial and residential zones, lack in the number of parks and playgrounds in the area as shown in fig.2. Vis-à-vis the quality of open and green spaces with no proper lighting facilities in around .The vacant land parcel in certain areas were being used as dumping sites by the residents near by. Lack of maintenance of parks and open spaces with the waste created by the parks being dumped over the adjacent streets like broken branches , twigs , burnt leaves. Groundsused for parking and dumping of waste.

5. INFERENCES

Inferences drawn from the analysis of a part of an urban area with respect to the green and open spaces present.

- i. The analysis of the study area shows that the open spaces, maidan, parks and playgrounds need to be allotted and distributed evenly with the requirement of per person space, this can be done by analysis of density of the area .
- ii. Developing a model in which allocation of green spaces at appropriate places that is location abutting cluster roads so that it can be under the vigilance of surrounding residences.
- iii. Maintenance of community green space to be put under the duties of surrounding plots monitored by municipal authority of the given ward under which the area falls. The analysis clearly shows the open spaces abutting the higher hierarchy roads are not well maintained.
- iv. Open spaces can be put under different community uses in different durations of the day. This will allow proper utilization of such spaces as well its maintenance and safety can be monitored easily
- v. Proper amount and species of flora to be maintained in such areas for increasing the shading of roads and here by enhancing the quality of environment in the area
- vi. Provision of proper parking space and proper solid waste collection system through proper monitoring of sufficient number and size of bins allocated in specified locations as to reduce the practice of utilization of open spaces as parking and dump sites.

- vii. Buffer zones between residential and commercial zones respectively to be considered while preparing the development plans of sites.

6. CONCLUSION

The findings indicate the critical need to take into consideration the size, maintenance and quality of urban open and green spaces and the analysis looks into the problems regarding these factors in the study area. Finally, the papers suggests certain interventions at policy level to mind this gap between the lack in facility and sustainable approach to maintain the quality of urban life by looking into proper quality of urban open and green spaces.

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