Print ISSN: 2349-8404; Online ISSN: 2349-879X; Volume 2, Number 2; January-March, 2015 pp.

© Krishi Sanskriti Publications

http://www.krishisanskriti.org/jceet.html

## **Houses for the 21st Century**

### Meghna

Institute of Home Economics Department of Resource Management, Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi F-4, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi E-mail: meghnasharma77@yahoo.co.in

**Abstract**—The houses are a celebration of individuality to an extent reflecting the style of the designers, the owner and the culture of the country one resides in. In a lot of ways, 21st Century is still being regarded in terms of interior design and home decor. The homebuilding industry is undergoing unprecedented change and it seems likely that the future houses will include much more technology than ever before incorporated in the past and thus presenting challenges for construction and its operation. As far as this century goes, there are several key characteristics that are finding their way into the average contemporary home gradually. The housing construction in the 21st century has yet to catch up with people's lifestyles, where more people want to be associated in their homes and also let people of all ages live with various disabilities. The time has come to devise a truly hopeful strategy that will solve the problems associated with houses and their construction, a scenario that will transform architecture into a celebration of a human ecological footprint with wholly positive effects.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Housing has been changing rapidly and this process will continue over the next generation. Houses for the 21<sup>st</sup> century need to be more energy efficient, and must accommodate home-based work, as well as extended and the multigenerational families. Ultimately, we believe that the housing dream for all is not at all over, but is simply evolving. India's tradition of house ownership, privacy, and the primacy of the family has constituted a critical aspect of our society since before the nation's founding. It will need to remain so also in the 21<sup>st</sup> century ahead if the country is to prove true to the aspirations of its people and the sustainability of its demographics.

## 2. NEED FOR HOUSING IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

All Housing is a key part of our physical, economic, and social fabric. Adequate housing would contribute to our Purpose of sustainable economic growth to enable all of India. This would also empower us to achieve the country's full potential through better educational and employment opportunities, healthier lives and a more prosperous society to lead healthier lives. The need of an hour is to have accessible, affordable housing and attractive local environments that contribute significantly to our wider aims to tackle poverty and health inequalities and to build confidence and capacity in

communities. High quality housing with a surrounding environment helps to give our children the best start in life – for example through play areas where they can develop social skills and improve physical health. Houses for the 21st century must be with a vision for a housing system which provides an affordable home for all. As far as this century goes, there are several key characteristics that are finding their way into the average contemporary home gradually. The house of 21st century incorporate straight lines, moderate asymmetry, neutral colour backdrops, and minimal decoration to allow lighting and texture to subtly shine through. This approach makes elements prominent and in return fusing the lines between the outside and the inside of the house

# 3. CHALLENGES AHEAD FOR THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

To achieve this we will need a powerful construction sector and a sufficient increase in the number of homes for all, including houses to meet the needs of disabled people and the elderly to live an independent life. We also need to incorporate suitable changes in the quality of our homes, so that everyone has a comfortable house which may be their own or a rented accommodation. Most importantly the houses must provide for the variety of needs and demands, in order to enhance economic growth and social mobility, as well as strengthening the Indian housing scenario. For the 21st century we intend to achieve houses for the homeless community. The quality standards set for the Indian housing need to be implemented in a way to ensure that all our houses pass all elements of the housing quality standard. The improved design and greater energy efficiency in housing will significantly contribute to reduce our energy consumption. Although our population is increasing, the average household size is continuously decreasing. The supply for the housing system needs to be increased. There are also a greater number of people whose housing needs aren't met by the government or other private builders during the mentioned stipulated tenures and are struggling to afford private rents. The challenge is how to achieve this expansion in the difficult economic circumstances that we often face. Homes for the 21st century will ensure that the developments we support meet a range of needs across the

Houses for the 21st Century 199

whole of the country. The increase in supply must not be achieved by compromising on quality.

### 4. ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL

Excellence in design must ensure that the houses that are built in 21st century, and the surroundings that are created, will meet the needs of our people and stand the test of time. The most urgent requirement is that we develop suitable housing for the elderly and disabled people. The housing construction in the 21st century has yet to catch up with people's lifestyles, where more people want to be associated in their homes as they progress with age while enduring their day to day chores and also let people of all ages live with various disabilities. The Government's role should set the overall guidelines for the construction of the houses and to use our resources to maximize the supply of new affordable housing. The government further needs to support and develop the private sector as quickly as possible; and to uphold standards of quality and housing design which is needed to build sustainable communities. it is the utmost most priority to support housing options for the poorest, so we should also recognize the role of government to help address housing issues for those whom affording houses of their own is a mere dream and often find themselves without viable choices. For the 21st century it is imperative to deliver quality homes and neighbourhoods that support long-term economic prosperity for the country. The quality of our everyday environment is determined not just by the houses that we occupy, but by the spaces and streets altogether. The success or failure of housing developments often depends on whether the surroundings feel like a "place" rather than simple roads and buildings. Adequately designed and well connected neighbourhoods can provide opportunities for healthy lifestyles, where we can access our daily amenities and contribute positively to a vibrant and active society for the 21st century. Compromising on quality can lead to future failures and the high cost of correcting defects in design, construction or layout. We must construct in the 21st century which will stand the test of time and provide attractive and successful neighbourhoods for generations to come. We should ensure that the elderly and disabled people can live independently in their homes with security to lead fulfilling lives, with the same sort of opportunities for everyone. It is unacceptable that the elderly and disabled people or people with long-term health problems who require an adapted house live in a house that is not just suited to their needs.

### 5. CONCLUSION

Even in the 21st century challenging financial times the housing sector must do more to ensure that everyone can live in accommodation that meets their housing needs, and to prepare for the demographic challenges ahead. In future years to come we should plan a the housing sector which is accessible for disabled people has increased significantly,

giving more choice about where to live and that all elderly and disabled person can easily get adaptations made to their homes when they need it, without being subjected to excessive delayed possession. With wider options comes a greater need for information, so as to empower people for making housing choices that are just suitable for them. It is important to do more to make better use of existing housing facilities, simply by giving people better information and advice about the options open to them. Investing in the quality of our homes and neighbourhoods will provide long-term benefits and more sustainable communities. Sustainability is about much more than promoting energy efficiency and tackling the climate change. Creating sustainable, high quality houses means ensuring that a wide range of social, economic and environmental issues are mentioned in the regulations for housing and the environment. The time has come to devise a truly hopeful strategy that will solve the problems associated with houses and their construction, a scenario that will transform architecture into a celebration of a human ecological footprint with wholly positive effects.

#### REFERENCES

- Affordable Housing Resource Centre, retrieved on January18, 2015 from www.novoco.com/resource.shtml
- [2] Barton, H., Sustainable Communities, "The Potential for Eco-Neighbourhoods", London: Earthscan, 2000.
- [3] Litman, T., "Parking Requirement Impacts on Housing Affordability", VTPI, 2003 retrieved on January 19, 2015 from www.vtpi.org/park-hou.pdf.
- [4] © Crown copyright 2011, ISBN: 978-0-7559-9920-0www.scotland.gov.uk