Profiles of speakers for the track on Affordable Housing

Keynote Speaker: Shri Lalit Kumar, GM, NHB

“Challenges & Opportunities in Affordable Housing- Setting the context for Policy debate”

Shri Lalit Kumar joined NHB in 1990 and is currently a General Manager. He is also the CEO of Credit Risk Guarantee Fund Trust for Low Income Housing set up by Govt. of India under the aegis of Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation which is being managed by NHB. He was associated in formulation of National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy in 1998 and 2007; State Housing & Habitat Policies of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Rajasthan; and in formulation and framing of Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor and various refinance Schemes of NHB.

Lalit Kumar Masters in Economics and is a Gold Medalist from Kurukshetra University.

Panel 1: Affordable Housing- Idea from the ground.

Chair: Dr. Chirantan Chatterjee

Dr. Chirantan Chatterjee is an Assistant Professor in Corporate Strategy & Policy at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore with research interests in empirical industrial economics & global healthcare markets. At IIMB he also holds the Young Faculty Research Chair. Chatterjee’s
dissertation work has been supported by the National Science Foundation and he has consulted for the World Bank having also published for NBER and Brookings Press. At IIMB he teaches *Economics of Innovation & Competition & Strategy* to doctoral and MBA students. He holds a Ph.D. & M.Phil in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University and engineering and management degrees from IIT, Roorkee and IIM, Calcutta.

**Presenters:**

1. **Naresh Narasimhan**

   Mr Naresh Narasimhan is a partner at Venkataramanan Associates (www.vagroup.com) – an award-winning architecture firm that saw a meteoric rise under his leadership. His contribution to urban development- as an architect, urbanist, activist and creative entrepreneur- has been significant. As co-founder of MOD (an international collective of urban designers, researchers and curators), core member of the erstwhile Bangalore Agenda Task Force (BATF) and director of Janaadhar, (a Bangalore-based affordable housing company), Naresh has fuelled a variety of progressive causes in the city. He also regularly advises government bodies on infrastructure development.

   Naresh studied architecture at Manipal Institute of Technology and Project Appraisal & Risk Management at Harvard.

2. **Dr. Narayanan Edadan**

   Dr. Narayanan Edadan is an Economist and Urban and Regional Planner with 35 years of experience covering teaching and research, urban and regional planning and policy making, and consulting in disaster management financing and Post disaster reconstruction, and urban development financing. Dr. Edadan has specialized in Urban and Regional Economics and did his post doctoral works in Urban Land Use Planning and Mobility at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is member of the Royal Town Planning Institute, UK.
Dr. Edadan has been working as International Consultant for International Development Agencies such as the World Bank, ADB, European Commission, and DFID. He provides technical assistance for design and implementation of investment programs in areas such as Urban Development Planning, Housing and Micro Finance, Urban Finance Reforms etc. Recently, Dr. Edadan worked for the ADB for developing an Affordable Housing Framework for the Ministry of Housing and Poverty Alleviation, GOI. Dr. Edadan has published many articles and a few books.

1. Vidyadhar K. Phatak

Vidyadhar K. Phatak is an independent professional in the field of urban housing and planning since 2004. Earlier he was with the Mumbai Metropolitan Development Authority for 28 years. He has carried out number of studies for the World Bank and is currently carrying out a study of Land Based Fiscal Instruments for the Ministry of Urban Development.

Panel 2: Affordable housing- Ideas for planning

Chair: Dr A. Ravindra, ex- Chief Secy, Govt of Karnataka

Dr. A. Ravindra was advisor to the chief minister on urban affairs. He began his career as a subdivision director and then district commissioner in Karnataka, his home state. Through a variety of positions, he developed expertise on the urban sector. He twice served as commission of Bangalore City Municipal Corporation and was chairman of Bangalore Development
Authority (BDA). His career included work at Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and a position on the board of Agenda for Bengaluru Infrastructure and Development task force (ABIDe).

He holds a doctorate in urban studies and is the author of *Urban Land Policy: A Metropolitan Perspective*.

**Presenters:**

1. **Stuthi Vijayaraghavan**

   Stuthi has more than 16 years of experience in Strategy and Genl Management and aspirations to help 'build the nation' one brick at a time!. She has worked with Mckinsey in New York City, consulted for the UN and World Bank, and been responsible for P&L at IBM, and LexisNexis. She entered the world of real estate by heading strategy for the Lodha group in 2007. She founded AgileStrat in 2010 to leverage these skills and apply them to businesses in India. Her passions are travel (she has managed to hit up more than 50 countries) and affordable housing (currently developing her own project under the RedEarth Properties name). Stuthi has a 360 degree view of real estate with significant experience with developers (Lodha, Oberoi, ETA), contractors (Bouygues, ECCI), architectural firms and construction technology.

   Stuthi holds a Bachelors in Engineering from PSG College of Tech, an MBA from IIM-Bangalore and a Masters degree from Carnegie Mellon University.

2. **Dr Charan Singh**

   Dr. Charan Singh is a RBI Chair Professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, India. Earlier, he was a Senior Economist at the International Monetary Fund, Washington DC from August 2009 to November 2012. He has worked extensively for more than two decades in Reserve Bank of India. He was the Director of Research from 1997 to 2009 during which he worked for cash, debt and liquidity management; fiscal policy; banking policy; and financial markets. Dr. Singh earned his doctorate in Economics from the University of New South Wales,
Sydney, Australia and was a visiting scholar (post-doctorate) for more than a year each at Harvard University and the Stanford University. His current policy interests include international economics, monetary policy, fiscal policy and debt management. He has regularly been teaching experienced bankers, managers, and government officials from India and abroad.

3. Ms Varsha Joshi

Varsha Joshi is an IAS officer of 1995 batch, AGMUT cadre. She is a postgraduate in Physics by training.

Having earlier served in the Governments of Delhi, Chandigarh, and Arunachal Pradesh, she presently holds the post of Director Census Operations Delhi and Director Admin, Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Urban Planning, Education, Gender Issues and leveraging data for development are her passions.

Panel 3: Ideas for markets-

Chair: Dr Chinmoy Ghosh

Professor Chinmoy Ghosh is currently the Gladstein Professor of Business and Innovation and an Ackerman Scholar at the School of Business, University of Connecticut. He is also the Head of the Department of Finance. He has been a faculty member at UConn since 1986. He has written over forty articles in academic journals including Journal of Financial Economics, Real

Dr Ghosh has a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania, USA, and an MBA from Indian Institute of Management.

Presenters:

1. Dr. Prashant Das

Prashant Das is a founding partner of realism.in, an India-based real estate research and education firm. He joins Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne, Switzerland as an Assistant Professor of Real Estate Finance, this year. He is a Colquitt “Buck” Chandler scholar at Georgia State University’s Business School in Atlanta, USA where he received a ‘Teaching Excellence Award’ for 2012. He co-authored (with Divyanshu Sharma) the first book on real estate finance in India to be released soon by Sage Publications. Additionally, he has published book chapters and papers in international level publications and has been awarded ‘best paper awards’ for two years by the American Real Estate society.

2. Dr. Madalasa Venkataraman

Dr. Madalasa Venkataraman is a Lead researcher at IIMB- CRERI. Her primary research interests are centered around real estate markets and price movements and valuations. She has worked extensively in Land and housing markets in Bangalore as a researcher with the Center of Excellence in Urban Development, Center for Public Policy, IIMB. She obtained her Fellow in Management at IIMB in the area of reverse mortgages in 2010. Madalasa is also an Adjunct
faculty at IIM-Indore and IIM Rohtak, where she teaches elective courses in investments and real estate finance.

3. Swastik Harish

Swastik's core area of research is around housing, with a focus on small towns. He has recently completed a short-term researcher exchange programme on knowledge creation on Asian cities in Delft, Netherlands, a project funded by the European Union. His topic of research is around rental housing for low-income groups – policy and practice. At IIHS, he is part of a team developing case studies on the subject.

He has published an article and made films on ancient and medieval rain-water harvesting systems in Gujarat and Rajasthan.
Roundtable:

“Policy imperatives to promote innovation along the value chain for Housing- Improving Affordability, Growth, Sustainability and Governance”

Chair: Mr. V. Balasubramanian

Mr. Balasubramanian joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1965 and retired as the Additional Chief Secretary of Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore in 2001.

He is currently, Chairman of Centre for Policy and Practices, a Public Trust.

Previously, he was adviser to the Joint Legislature Committee on Land Encroachments in Bangalore Urban District from June 2006 to November 2007. He was also the Chairman, Task Force for Protection of Government Lands, from September 2009 till June 2011.

He has widely traveled in all states of India and in over 20 countries.

Moderator- Ganapathy P.G. (PG)
PG brings with him more than 18 years of experience in the infrastructure sector spanning real estate, water & environment, transportation and urban infrastructure. Currently, he is Senior Advisor at Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), Consultant (Special Projects) at Wipro Technologies and Advisor to Infrastructure Development Corporation of Karnataka (iDecK). Till recently, he was the Director in charge at EcoFirst Services, a sustainable design consultancy which offers infrastructure and services design to large buildings and township projects. He also served as an external infrastructure specialist consultant at Mckinsey & Co. for about 5 years.

Prior to this, PG held senior positions in a number of corporations: he was the Regional Manager for South Asia in the water division of Black & Veatch (B&V), worked with the Mahindra Group in their real estate and infrastructure division, and worked for 9 years (of which 6 years as a partner) in a start-up firm called Feedback Ventures.

PG is a Mechanical Engineering Graduate from IIT Madras and a PGDBM from IIM Ahmedabad (1993).

Other panelists:

Rajesh Krishnan

Rajesh Krishnan is the founder and CEO of Brick Eagle, a frontrunner in the affordable housing industry. The company’s vision is to transform the housing poverty in India to a $100 billion market opportunity through its four complementary business lines:


Mr Krishnan started his career with Schlumberger Oilfield Services as an engineer and later as Drilling Services Manager, responsible for the drilling program of seven oil companies in the North Sea region. Mr Krishnan then pursued an investment banking career with Lehman Brothers and concluded his
banking career with Standard Chartered Bank as Regional Head (South Asia) of the Structured Solutions Group. In 2006, Mr Krishnan co-founded Vishalam Builders, a budget housing developer based in Chennai. The company delivered 17 middle income housing projects in South India.

Rajesh holds a B.Tech degree from IIT Delhi and an MBA in Finance from Wharton School."

**Srinath Mukherji**

Srinath Mukherji is a management consultant and an entrepreneur, with over 25 years of experience in assisting leadership teams grow and transform their business.

As an entrepreneur, Srinath has co-founded a housing finance company and a microfinance company in India. As a co-founder and Director of India Shelter Finance Corporation (“ISFC”), Srinath has direct experience of lending to urban households with monthly income of between Rs 10 to 30 thousand. ISFC has branches in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. It provides loans for construction, extension and purchase of homes.

As a consultant, Srinath has held senior leadership positions at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture), Arthur D. Little, Stern Stewart, Gartner Consulting and Deloitte Consulting. He has deep experience of working with multiple cultures, having worked out of the US, India and South East Asia.

Srinath has a B.Tech from IIT Kanpur in Electronics and Communications, and a PGDM from IIM Ahmedabad.

**Prof Ashok B Lall**
Prof Ashok Lall is the founder of an architectural firm (estd. 1981) that is committed to the principles of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. It has won a number of awards and its work has been published widely. He has published many articles and presented papers on environmentally sustainable design. He has been an active member of institutions and group providing awareness and building competence in Sustainable design of buildings. He has been invited to deliver lectures and present papers at various fora in India and internationally, including Switzerland, Egypt, London, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Mexico. He was chair of the Jury for the Holcim Awards for Sustainable Construction, Asia Pacific Region.

Prof Lall has a degree from the University of Cambridge U.K. in Architecture & Fine Arts.

**SV Kamath**

![SV Kamath](image)

Mr. Kamath is currently a General Manager (Projects) at HUDCO Regional Office, Bangalore covering operations for the States of Karnataka and Goa. He has about 27 years of service in the organization. His experience spans most functions as well as geographies, which has periodically resulted in significant achievements in partnership with the various borrowing agencies. He has received awards for significant operational performance during the service tenures at Mumbai and Lucknow Regional Offices.

Mr Kamath has a Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) from University Vishveshwarayya College of Engineering (UVCE), Bangalore University, Master of Urban & Regional Planning (MURP) from School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), New Delhi, and a PG Diploma in Housing, Planning & Building (PGDHPB) from Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

**Pramod Kumar**

![Pramod Kumar](image)

Mr Kumar is currently Director, Value & Budget Housing Corporation Pvt.Ltd. He is responsible for identification of new land parcels across the country & engaging with regulatory authorities for approvals.
He has over 25 years of experience in real estate industry, covering all aspects from conceptualization to execution of projects. He has been involved in over 25 projects, including construction of 15 million square feet of residential and commercial projects.

Mr. Kumar holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Post Graduate degree in Law, from Bangalore University.

Vikram Jain

Vikram Jain heads the low-income housing practice within Monitor Inclusive Markets. He is responsible for defining the low-income housing agenda and managing relationships in the ecosystem, including developers, housing finance companies and government. His focus is to:

a) increase low-income housing supply, b) deepen the affordability of homes in the urban income pyramid, and c) engage with government to catalyze the private sector housing market.

He has over 13 years of experience in advising top tier clients on strategy, operations and technology topics. Prior to joining Monitor Inclusive Markets, he was working with McKinsey & Company, London as a Senior Engagement Manager advising top tier investment banks and retail banks on acquisitions, operational excellence and IT strategy. Prior to McKinsey, he worked with Deloitte Consulting and SoftPlus (a startup) in US and UK advising clients on operations and technology topics.

Vikram has an MBA (Dean's List) from London Business School and a BE in Computer Science from University of Pune.