



Research Paper

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Evaluation of the gardens on the basis of public perception to develop future alternative landscape strategies

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ABSTRACT : In present experiment we have explored the garden visitor expectations on the basis of their perception to develop future alternative landscape strategies for planning, design and development of public participated and need based gardens for Delhi and NCR region. Through our demographic profile studies we came to know that most of the garden visitors are of young age of 22-35 year old, the most garden visitors spend about 30-60 minutes in garden. To design gardens on the basis of public participation it was quintessential to know about use of garden by different activity group, what emotions they experience when they visit garden and to know about confirmation of necessities for garden softscape, hardscape and featured gardens or garden areas. The present study explores and discusses different aspects of public perceptions towards garden and confirms intensity of public intentions for future gardens

KEY WORDS : Landscape evaluation, Public perception, Sociographic studies, Urban planning, Future landscape

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The gardens are needed to be designed and developed for the private and public uses according to the existent space, time and public perception towards gardens for their possible and sustainable use for mankind. The international efforts are given to the endangered and near extinct species conservation through conservation of virgin landscapes. For both conservation and sustainability of the garden itself knowing public perception is of prime importance, because the biodiversity is ultimately get protected if public has ethically scientific and social sense. Urban landscape and open green spaces are of a strategic importance for the quality of life of our increasingly urbanized society. Presence of natural assets (*i.e.* urban parks and forests, green belts) and components (*i.e.* trees, water) in urban contexts contributes to the quality of life in many ways. This is very important to study the demographic perspectives of visitors visiting gardens, time spend and their activities in the garden, in addition the public perception and garden necessities for cost-effective need based gardens to inhale fresh breath and exhale all human stress. More research is needed to understand how

the location, design, and management of affect use patterns, perceptions, and preferences. Finally, it must be stressed that recreational greenway development must be evaluated in light of other environmental and social goals (Gobster., 2005).

Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR) has enormous green spaces. Pubic and private gardens are aesthetically designed and developed for the recreation and closeness to nature. The Delhi gardens have not yet been characterized though. The historical to modern gardens developed in and around city are conceptualized on strong aesthetic, philosophical and cultural values. Mughal gardens are designed to imitate the idea of heaven on earth. English gardens have scientific approach towards nature and inclusive biodiversity elements in the gardens but the plants taken to grow under strict supervision and assistant while Buddhist gardens are close to nature and stick to the principle, "best way of cultivating plants is to let them grow." The modern gardens are developed by professionals are having strong essence of landscape design; the gardens are contemporary, free style and are having hardscape design quintessence.