

Note to Chief Secretary, Government of AP on Buddha Purnima Project Authority

In 1981 Bhagyanagar Urban Development Authority (BUDA) (HUDA was renamed as BUDA for a brief period) formulated a scheme called Buddha Purnima scheme to develop the areas around Hussain Sagar lake. The scheme approved by the Government vide GO Ms No 1047 of MAUD dept dated 8 September, 1981 sought to save Hussain Sagar lake from encroachment, provide entertainment and commercial activities in the area, preserve aesthetics of lake by landscape treatment, take steps for conservation of lake and develop water sports. BUDA was authorized to purchase land, if necessary, and to acquire all Government land in the area mentioned in the GO, free of cost, treating it as Government's contribution to the scheme. Many projects were taken up by different agencies of the Government. HUDA developed necklace road and Lumbini Park, Tank Bund beautification was taken up by MCH, etc.

From a mere project, in order to give a statutory authority to the umbrella agency and to effect intensive development of the area, the Government constituted Buddha Purnima Project Authority (BPPA) under the AP Urban Areas (Development) Act, 1975 as a Special Area Development Authority (SADA) vide GO Ms no 575, MAUD dept, dated 12-12-2000. This was in line with the other SADAs like Hyderabad Airport Development Authority (HADA- set up for special development in new airport area) and Cyberabad Development Authority (CDA- for special development in IT specific area). Vide GO Ms no 576, of MAUD dept dated 12-12-2000, Principal Secretary, Tourism was designated as the Chairman of BPPA for a period of two years. But after one year, taking into consideration the statutory powers for planning and development control vested with BPPA, problems associated in management of such a huge project and its financial and manpower requirements, BPPA was transferred to HUDA under the administrative control of the MAUD department vide GO Ms No 528, MAUD dated 25-10-2001. This was approved by the then CM. Hence it may not be appropriate to transfer the administrative control of BPPA to tourism department without sufficient reasons.

Points for consideration as to why BPPA should be with MAUD department:

- BPPA is a statutory Authority constituted under the AP Urban Areas (Development) Act, 1975 as a Special Area Development Authority (SADA) in the lines of HADA and CDA.
- All Urban development authorities are under the control of MAUD department.
- BPPA is empowered to make zonal planning, give to developmental permissions and collect developmental charges in its jurisdiction for which MAUD dept is the appropriate government department and tourism department is not competent.
- Urban development authorities all over the country are developing urban infrastructure and urban amusement centers.
- The projects in the BPPA area are not really tourism projects, but urban amusement centers.
- These projects require lot of skilled manpower- engineers, workers, landscapers, and gardeners etc, which are now provided by HUDA.
- Tourism department does not have Engineering wing to oversee all tourism projects where as HUDA/BPPA has 1 Chief Engineer, 1 Superintendent Engineer, 7 Executive Engineers, 24 Deputy Engineers and 26 Asst Engineers at its disposal, in addition to several landscape experts, foresters and forest service officers under its Urban Forestry wing for guidance.
- Already HUDA has invested over Rs 140 crores of its funds for various projects in the BPPA area, mostly from Megacity projects funds under MAUD dept .
- Till BPPA is capable of generating adequate revenue, handholding support is provided by HUDA in the form of funds and personnel.
- In the meetings with the CM (with the present CM on 26-9-2004 and with previous CM on 21-10-2003) it was decided that all area notified under BPPA will be brought under one umbrella and that MCH, Tourism department and Tourism Corporation should hand over all projects in BPPA area to BPPA.
- BPPA area and HUDA areas are limited and focused in Hyderabad and hence intensive efforts can be made for its development, whereas the tourism

department has to develop tourism- amusement, historical and religious tourism spots- all over the state. Tourism department should concentrate on developing tourism spots outside BPPA area.

- HUDA/BPPA has taken up the Hussain Sagar Beautification project with the assistance of Japanese Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC). The proposed project under very mature stage of negotiation is for Rs 316 crores and would involve establishment of three tertiary sewage treatment plants and laying of trunk sewage lines from six municipalities in the catchments of the Hussain Sagar lake. Whole of Kukatpalli, Qudbullapur municipalities, parts of Alwal and Serlingampalli municipalities, whole of Cantonment Board area and part of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area would come in the proposed Hussain Sagar lake catchments area development program to be funded by JBIC and its necessary that MAUD department should be the controlling department to attain co-ordination among the various municipalities.
- HUDA vice chairman, who is also the BPPA vice chairman, is under the administrative control of Department of MAUD. It is better to have one department controlling the authority rather than having the control of two departments , which may lead to confusion.

Submitted for kind perusal and consideration of above points