

The Mumbai Megaproject

Brief Description

It is every Mumbaikars desire that Mumbai be transformed into a city such as New York, Tokyo or Singapore and from time to time various city based development organizations and media houses have held seminars and even International Symposiums on subjects dealing with Mumbai's transformation. These events have enthusiastically promoted the cause of a total transformation of the city.

One common shortcoming in all previous initiatives has been the inability to come up with a project that addresses the five core parameters of governance, community issues, finance, engineering and logistics which are critical and must be addressed simultaneously for a project to be able to transform the city within a defined time frame of say 10 - 15 years. In fact , no one has ever even attempted to draw the boundaries of a project that can fire the imagination of the city and solve the simultaneous equation involving the above mentioned five parametric constraints.



The Mumbai Megaproject is the first, out of the box plan, that unravels the Gordian knot of Mumbai , in the manner of Alexander, circa 333 BC. Just as Alexander solved the problem of the Gordian Knot by slicing it in two with his sword , the Mumbai Megaproject solves the development riddle by looking at the city through a surgeons eyes, thereby cutting out the un-essential and bringing forth a project, which will make the world wonder, for the rest of the 21st century.

To produce a unique solution for Mumbai, the designer has looked for possibilities , not problems because he believes that if a plan / design is good enough , all self limiting constraints and outdated laws can be changed to make the Mumbai Megaproject happen.

To make a long story short , The Mega-Project unlocks **US \$ 210 Billion** of value in Mumbai to deliver the following.

1. Re-design the city in accordance with the principles of Intelligent Urbanism to create a very pleasant living environment with lots of open spaces, parks and recreation facilities
2. Provide decent quality, free housing and affordable education and healthcare for 9 Million slumdweller based on the dwelling concept
3. Provide robust civic infrastructure within 10 years (2014 – 2023)
4. Repay , the entire US \$ 46 Billion debt of Maharashtra State as a single bullet payment to deliver a debt free state by 2014.
5. Use principles of Urban Equity Withdrawal and innovative financial planning to create a net Investment multiplier effect on Maharashtra's economy of **US \$ 540 Billion** ... and ... in addition generate funds to invest another **US \$ 70 Billion** in Education and Healthcare Schemes across India, in the other 27 states and 7 Union Territories.
6. Create a Rural Economy impact in Maharashtra of **US \$ 200 Billion** to prevent mass migration into cities through large rainwater harvesting schemes, logistics ring corridors and Eco-cities in Marathwada and Vidharbha

The Mumbai Megaproject will feature some of the most advanced design concepts and innovative ideas to deliver on the above mentioned objectives. The plan has been prepared by Ashish Puntambekar, a city based project designer.

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