

## Editor's Note

As the world spins on the axis of uncertainty with each new day bringing whiplash announcements, The Infravision Foundation (TIF) is doubling down on its fundamentals. Urban India will increasingly be the site where big decisions will take place, altering lives and livelihoods. Ensuring an effective model of urban governance is key, which is why TIF is expanding its ambit of collaboration with key organisations working towards the same goal.

# TIF and NITI Aayog seal partnership

In a significant milestone for TIF, it has signed a statement of intent with NITI Aayog through which it will assess the need for a dedicated urban and regional transport institution to plan, develop and manage an inclusive, well-integrated and future-ready transport system and the rapidly growing demand for integrated transportation as a service across metropolitan geographies. More inside.

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# TIF and NITI Aayog sign statement of intent

NITI Aayog is intent on transforming cities into growth hubs, ensuring they become engines of economic growth through appropriate planning. TIF is dedicated to study the challenges in implementing the current model of a Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (UMTA) and design a new initiative for urban governance which is receptive to citizen participation and transparent regulation. It is a perfect partnership and the statement of intent to work together was signed on September 25 at NITI Aayog in New Delhi. NITI Aayog was represented by Principal Economic Advisor Anna Roy and TIF was represented by its CEO Jagan Shah.



## TIF makes its voice heard

TIF Founder and Managing Trustee Vinayak Chatterjee wrote about high speed rail in Business Standard, arguing that it should be the next big transformational agenda for the nation, with the same impact as the National Highway Development Programme and the Renewables Energy thrust in the past.



Dr Mutum Chaobisana

TIF Head of Programmes Dr Mutum Chaobisana wrote in The Hindu Businessline about the impact of FSI deregulation in Hyderabad in 2006, arguing that it was a missed opportunity. She based her argument on a new report by TIF on the deregulation written by Raghu Dharmapuri Tirumala and Piyush Tiwari on the University of Melbourne.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/hyderabad-fsi-deregulation-a-missed-opportunity/article70026142.ece>



Vrinda Singh



Priyanka Bains

TIF Research Associates Vrinda Singh and Priyanka Bains wrote in Rural Voice on how cold rooms could be a gamechanger in rural markets preventing wastage and delivering nutrition.



## TIF in the PUBLIC DOMAIN



TIF Founder and Managing Trustee Vinayak Chatterjee spoke at the ET Now Infra Summit.

TIF Founder and Managing Trustee Vinayak Chatterjee spoke at the ET Now Infra Summit, while anchoring a session on Reassessing Infrastructure Impact: From Project Output to Project Outcome.

TIF CEO Jagan Shah was a key speaker at WRI India's Connect Karo Summit on A Place-Based Approach to Leveraging India's Transitional Urbanization.



Jagan Shah speaking at the WRI India summit

Kaveree Bamzai anchored a session of CII Women Exemplars at CII's 20th Global Sustainability Summit on the topic, Rooted in Change: Celebrating Two Decades of Women-Led Development.



Kaveree Bamzai at CII's 20th Global Sustainability Summit

## TIF Impact

Insurance Surety Bonds for NHAI contracts have crossed ₹10,000 crore which is a considerable achievement. TIF had recommended surety bonds as an alternative to bank guarantees to give a fillip to infrastructure projects. This is link for more on the TIF report <https://theinfravisionfoundation.org/assets/pdf/Surety-Bond-White-Paper.pdf>

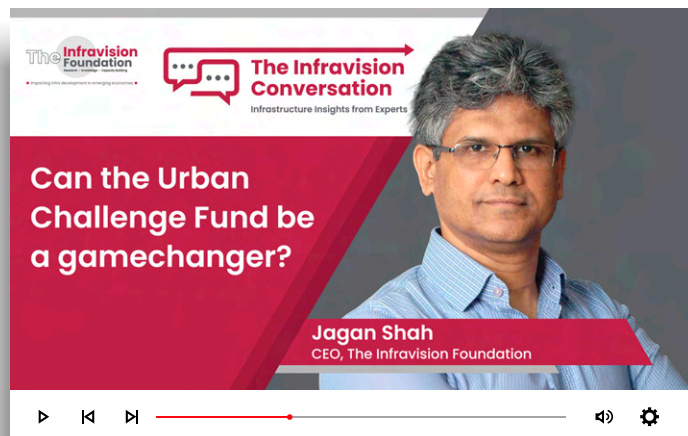
# Work Update

The L&T and TIF InfraPandit Awards selection process is on. A shortlist has been prepared for the jury from the applications received. The nominees will soon receive information for the jury interview.

## Talking About Action in the Infravision Conversations

The Infravision Conversations are an important aspect of TIF's outreach efforts, allowing it to assemble top experts on subjects of public interest. The last two months alone have seen intensive interactions on a variety of subjects,

#Head of Advocacy Kaveree Bamzai spoke to TIF CEO Jagan Shah on how the Urban Challenge Fund could be a gamechanger in treating the city as a start-up. For the complete episode, please click on the link below  
[https://www.youtube.com/embed/NJ0V0G7eZwE?si=Mp\\_0ul6iDz5QtJN4](https://www.youtube.com/embed/NJ0V0G7eZwE?si=Mp_0ul6iDz5QtJN4)



In another edition of The Infravision Conversation, former director of School of Planning and Architecture and NIUA, Chetan Vaidya; Director, Policy Engagements, Janaagraha, Santosh Nargund; and independent development consultant Vijaya Venkatraman spoke on the Greater Bengaluru Authority and its potential as a new model of urban governance. The complete episode is on the TIF website.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/wAo6LhfVPjY?si=0SIPKYLQA32W4Ewj>

Urban scholar and director of All India Disaster Mitigation Mihir Bhatt spoke to Kaveree Bamzai of TIF about the flooding in Gurgaon. among other things, saying that 40 per cent of the city lives outside gated communities and as much as one can gate a community one cannot gate out flood risk. For more, this is the link to the conversation.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/VR5Dw3Irg5Q?si=yRIIHxJXn2eyHyN0>

NITI Aayog's Growth Hub (G-Hub) initiative redefines cities, shifting from a tier-based hierarchy to a forward-looking mode. Participation will cultivate ownership, turning citizens into stakeholders and small cities into nodes of growth. In another urban-oriented edition of The Infravision Conversation, Nāgrika Founders Tarun Sharma and Yutika Vora offer a fresh take on small cities. Here's the link.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/ZGijUOfs9IU?si=-iX4ss69vegjRpoQ>

## QUIZ: Test Your Infra Power

1. In which city was the late Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival based?
2. Of which city is Zohran Mamdani expected to become mayor?
3. Where did King Charles host US President Donald Trump for a state dinner?
4. Where was Charlie Kirk shot?
5. In which city was the recent SCO Summit held?



1. Park City, Utah
2. New York
3. Windsor
4. Orem, Utah
5. Tianjin, China



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