## Building an Inclusive Future: Embracing Accessibility in India's Built Environment


All the participants for the Built Environment training at NITS, Noida

evelopment Alternatives got a valuable opportunity to attend the two-day capsule course on the National Building Code of India 2016 - Accessibility in Buildings and Built Environment, which took place on 24th to 25th July 2023 at NITS, Noida. This comprehensive course delved into various critical aspects, encompassing planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of buildings. The knowledge gained from this course holds immense significance for professionals engaged with urban local bodies and building regulation authorities. It equips them with the necessary expertise to frame regulations and grant building permissions effectively.

The course specifically focused on cultivating an inclusive and accessible environment in accordance with the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) initiated by the Government of India. An accessible building and built environment strive to eliminate barriers for Persons with Disabilities (PwD's) enabling seamless access to all facilities within a building. This includes provisions for steps and ramps, corridors, entry gates, emergency exits, parking areas, as well as indoor and outdoor facilities, such as lighting, signages, alarm systems, and toilets. It is worth noting that this commitment to accessibility does not solely benefit Persons with Disabilities but also extends its advantages to the elderly and children, fostering an inclusive space for everyone.

By adhering to the guidelines outlined in the National Building Code of India 2016 - Accessibility in Buildings and Built Environment, we can ensure that buildings are thoughtfully designed, constructed, and operated to facilitate easy access and use for all individuals. Embracing such measures, leads us to forge a path toward a more equitable and compassionate society, where every person can flourish and contribute to their full potential.