

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Having been actively associated in the field of prevention and cure of blindness including eye donation and eye banking, the Author, an Architect & Civil Engineer by profession holding Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from the U.S.A., was motivated to write on the subject as he had always felt that a booklet covering the basic information of the subject would help promote this far neglected cause. He is Ex-President of Eye Bank Association of India (1998-2001) and is Chairman and Managing Trustee of Eye Bank Coordination and Research Centre, Mumbai. Earlier (1978-1990) he had actively supported the activities of Indian Red Cross Society at Dholka in Gujarat initiated by Shri Gautam Mazmudar, one of the pioneers of this movement in India. He was honoured by the International Federation of Eye Banks, U.S.A. in June, 1994 for "his selfless devotion to improving the future of the corneally blind of India" and also in May 2002 for "his dedication to Sight Restoration through Eye Banking." He had presented papers and also addressed the plenary session at the International Conference on 'Cornea and Eye Banking' held at Istanbul in July 2000.

He has contributed several papers and articles on Housing, Urbanisation and related topics in professional journals and other publications. He was invited to co-chair some of the special sessions in the World Congress on Tall Buildings held at Chicago in 1985 and Amsterdam in 1995 wherein he had also presented papers on various topics. He has authored a book on 'High-rise Buildings' the first book on the subject in the country. A member of the Executive Committee of Maharashtra Chamber of Housing Industry (**MCHI**) since 1986, he was also on the Managing Committee of Practising Engineers Architects and Town Planners Association (India) (**PEATA**) during 1983-1992.

Among the author's other areas of interest is his abiding passion for evolving a better democratic alternative than the current political set-up prevailing in our country. With this in view, he has authored a book "Quest For A Better Democratic Alternative", which has been widely acclaimed as making a substantive contribution to the debate on the issue. In this regard, he had earlier written a book on 'Electoral Reforms' and "Presidential system – A Better Alternative?" He is a recipient of Gold Medal awarded by the Institution of Valuers.