

## **Dr Ayon Kumar Tarafdar**

Dr Ayon Kumar Tarafdar is presently working as Head, Department of Planning and Associate Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada. He completed his doctorate degree from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU, Norway) in 2010, with the acclaimed full-time Norwegian Government Research Fellowship. His doctoral thesis focussed on understanding linkages between development practices and its environmental impact at a local level.

He has over 15 publications with international journals and publishers (ISBN/ISSN), 5 book chapters, and 11 international conference presentations (see attached CV for details). He is currently a reviewer of manuscripts for 3 international journals published from the UK, USA and India. He has experience of over ten years in research, industry and teaching, excluding the time spent for acquiring all his educational qualifications.

He finished his Bachelors degree from the School of Planning and Architecture (Delhi) in 2000. Thereafter, he completed his MSc in Urban Ecological Planning in 2002 from the Dept of Town and Regional Planning at NTNU, Norway with NTNU full-scholarship. Then, he worked for about five years as an urban planner and GIS analyst in the private industry based out of Delhi. During this period, he was also the Editor of the largest GIS portal of the world "Geospatial World" for a period of one year. His professional practice includes projects and field experience in India, North America, UAE, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, and parts of Europe. His professional experience spans the domains of environmental management, disaster preparedness and use of GIS in urban development. He has academic interests in livelihoods analysis of the less-endowed.

He has delivered special invited lectures and served as external jury member at IIT Kharagpur, SPA Delhi, CEPT University Ahmedabad and SPA Bhopal. He was the Head of the Department of Planning at SPA Vijayawada during the period April 2011-August 2013, wherein he was instrumental to the initiation of credit patterned CGPA system, syllabus revision of B.Plan, start of the first M.Planning (Environmental Planning) and Doctoral programme in the Department. He has taught and developed MS level courses at NTNU, Norway (2008-10) and was a visiting faculty at Department of Environmental Planning at SPA, Delhi (2005-06). He is also an Advisory Member to certain Govt Commissions and is a Member of the National Educational Standing Committee of the Institute of Town Planners, India (ITPI), under MoUD, Gol.