



A STUDY OF ART INFRASTRUCTURE IN MUMBAI: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PAINTINGS

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ABSTRACT:

"This paper examines the role and responsibility of Infrastructure in the field of visual art, specially painting. Infrastructure facilities are basic means which facilitate further progress of any economic activity, pre or post production. The Fine Art is one of the socio-economic activities that promote non-economic welfare in the society. Non-economic activities are as important as any economic activity, as non-economic activities play significant role in maintaining healthy and happy society and promote welfare. Fine art activities may not be purely economic activities but they are not independent of infrastructure facilities. The private sector is concentrated in Nariman Point".



KEY WORDS: Art Infrastructure, Painting.

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper examines the role and responsibility of Infrastructure in the field of visual art, specially painting. Infrastructure facilities are basic means which facilitate further progress of any economic activity, pre or post production. The Fine Art is one of the socio-economic activities that promote non-economic welfare in the society. Non-economic activities are as important as any economic activity, as non-economic activities play significant role in maintaining healthy and happy society and promote welfare. Fine art activities may not be purely economic activities but they are not independent of infrastructure facilities. Fine art industry need infrastructure before and after the production like any other product. The infrastructure facilities of fine art industry like fine art schools and colleges, art galleries, museums, auction house, investment houses, art spaces, cultural spaces and art environment play a significant role in promoting art and culture in the society. The state of Maharashtra and the city of Mumbai have played vital in building a fairly good network of art infrastructure in the country in post independence era. Maharashtra is one of the 29 states of India, which is declared as a republic state on 1st May 1960 with 26 districts and later 10 districts were added. Maharashtra is the third largest state in the country in terms of geographical area i.e. 3, 07,713 kilometers, which has 720 kms Arabian coastline on west and share geographical boundaries with states like Karnataka, Goa, Telangana, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and union territories Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The present paper is based on secondary data collected from various sources

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The world famous artists like M.F.Hussain, V.S.Gaitonde hails from Maharashtra soil. The state has nation's prestigious J.J.School of Fine Arts and Jahangir Art Gallery in Mumbai, (Hinge, Sanju and Karnik ,Dhananjay 2000).

Lalit Kala Akademi Akademi does not have its branch in Maharashtra but Mumbai is on the world map for paintings, it is because of solid foundation laid by Sir.J.J.School of Fine Art (1935) and Jahangir Art Gally (1952). According to Dr. Manisha Patil, Mumbai has witnessed a large number of artists of international repute with or without academic training, who adopted modernist language,(Dr. Patil, Manisha 2015).

The Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (1945) established by Dr. Homi Baba was one of the prime platforms to showcase the works of then artists like K.K.Hebbar, K.H.Ara, S. Chavda, M.Samant, D.G.Kulkarni, L.Pai, B.Sadwelkar and H.K.Lall based in Maharashtra (Godrej Pheroza j.,2015).

3. METHODOLOGY

- (i) Data; The present paper is based on secondary data and simple descriptive analysis method is used
- (ii) Scope and limitations; The paper deals about the infrastructure facilities used before and after production of painting art in Mumbai City between 2019.
- (iii) Objectives of the paper ;
 - a) To examine available infrastructure facilities in Mumbai
 - b) To examine number of public and private art galleries in Mumbai

4. ART INFRASTRUCTURE IN MUMBAI

"To summarize Mumbai, The Fishermen were here first. Before the East India Company built its fort...at the dawn of time, when Bombay was a dumbbell shaped islands, reaching westwards into Arabian Sea, where the Fishermen (Kolis) sailed. Above all, the presiding influence of goddess Mumbadevi, whose name-Mumbadevi, Mumbabai, Mumbai- may well have become the city's. But then, the Portuguese were the first invaders who named this place as Bom Bahai for its harbours" (Dwivedi, Sharada and Mehrotra, Rahul 1995).

Mumbai has fairly good network of art infrastructure facilities as compared to domestic cities like Delhi, Kolkatta, and Chennai but not well developed in cities like Paris, New York, London etc. The country's most famous art school and gallery i.e. Sir., J.J.School of Fine Art (1935) and Jahangir Art Gallery (1952) are in the heart of Mumbai City.

Table 1: Art Infrastructure in Mumbai, 2019. (Units)

Sl.No	Island	Art Galleries	Art Museums	Art Spaces	Cultural Spaces	Art Schools	Auction Houses
1	Colaba	19	--	02	03	--	2
2	Little Colaba	11	02	--	--	4	--
3	Bombay	04	--	--	--	--	--
4	Mazagaon	02	--	--	--	--	--
5	Parel	02	2	--	--	--	--
6	Worli	06	--	--	01	2	--
7	Mahim	02	--	--	--	--	--
8	Mumbai Metro	09	--	02	--	02	--
	Total	45	04	04	04	08	02

Source: 1) Mumbai Art Map- April 2019.

2) The mailing list, 2016-Neharu Center, Worli Mumbai.

The Table No. 1 shows the number of art galleries, museums, art spaces, cultural spaces and art schools and colleges in the city of Mumbai. There are total 46 art galleries in Mumbai Metro City; out of which 36 are in our study areas and the remaining 9 galleries are situated outside the study area.

Table 2: Art Museums in Mumbai, 2019.

Sl No	Museums	Year of Establishment	Location
1	Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum	1872	Byculla
2	Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya	1922	Fort
3	National Gallery of Modern Art	1996	Fort
4	The Piramal Museum of Art	2014	Lower Parel

Source: Mumbai Art Map- April 2019.

It is observed from Table No. 2 that there are 4 museums in Mumbai which are owned by the individual, the institutions and the government. The museums are non-profit organizations as their objective is to preserve, protect and promote art, culture and heritage in the society.

Table 3: Art Spaces in Mumbai, 2019.

Sl No	Name of the Art Spaces	Location
1	What About Art	Bandra (W)
2	Space 118	Mazagaon
3	Clark House Initiative	Colaba
4	Mumbai Art Room	Colaba
5	Cona	Borivali

Source: Mumbai Art Map- April 2019.

Table No. 3 shows that the status of The Art Space in Mumbai city, which is an open platform created by the individuals and the institutions to offer residency spaces, studios, labs and libraries, accommodations, the study materials, audios and video facilities to the artists and curators with an objective to encourage art projects, exhibitions, workshops, talks, seminars, conferences, etc in the society.

Table 4: Cultural Spaces in Mumbai, 2019.

Sl.No	Name of the Cultural Spaces	Location
1	Godrej Indian Culture Lab	Vikhroli
2	National Center for Performing Art (NCPA)	Nariman Point
3	Alliance Francaise de Bombay	Charchgate
4	Max Mueller Bhavan Mumbai/ Gallery MMB	Fort

Source: Mumbai Art Map- April 2019

The Cultural Spaces are non-profit organizations established by the individuals, institutions or the corporate houses or in collaboration with foreign organizations to protect and promote art, cultural and heritage with social objectives. It is evident from the Table No.4 that there are 4 cultural spaces in Mumbai metro city, out of which 3 are in the study area.

Table 5: Art Schools and Colleges in Mumbai, 2019.

Sl No	Art Schools and Colleges	Year of Establishment	Location
1	L.S.Raheja College of Art	1953	Bandra (W)
2	L.S.Raheja School of Art	1953	Worli
3	Model Art Institute	1932	Dadar (W)
4	Sir. J.J.School of Art (Fine Art)	1857	Dr.D.N.Road
5	Sir. J.J. Institute of Applied Art	1935	Dr.D.N.Road
6	Indian Art Institute	1966	Dr.B.M.Girgaum Road
7	J.K.Somani College of Art	1989	Bhulabhai Desia Road
8	Rachana Sansad College of Applied Art and Craft	1960	Prabhadevi

Source: The mailing list 2019-Neharu Center, Worli Mumbai.

Art schools and colleges are basic infrastructures in any field, which play the role of industry in an economy. One of the India's oldest and most reputed art schools is in Mumbai, Sir. J.J.School of Fine

Art was established in 1857. The school has produced many world renowned artists and made Mumbai city an artist's hub. It is observed the Table No. 4 that there are 8 art schools and colleges in Mumbai City, which cater the need of aspirants across the nation. Further, the auction house one of the top end infrastructure facilities in the field of art but it plays the role of mediator between the painting seller (may be artist or buyer in previous market) and the buyers.

5. FINDINGS

- 1) Majority of art infrastructure facilities are owned by Private Sector
- 2) Though, the primary of objective of Private Art Galleries, Art Spaces and Cultural Center is to promote art and culture but they are profit-centric
- 3) Maximum Art Galleries, Art Spaces and Cultural Center are localized in Nariman Point
- 4) The reputed Sir. J.J.School of Art (Fine Art) and Jahangir Art Gallery are not only known at national level but also at international level

6. CONCLUSION

The city of Mumbai is the heart of study area i.e. in Colaba, Little Colaba, Bombay, Mazagaon, Parel, Worli and Mahim. The State is strongly emerging as artist's hub in the country. The parts of study areas like Colaba, Little Colaba and Worli have already exposed to fine art talents of our nation and rose to the level of international both commercially and artistic appreciation. It is observed that Maharashtra and Mumbai have laid foundation in the field of painting or art market in the country.

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