Urbanization: An Emerging Issue In India

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ABSTRACT

Urbanisation is a demographic process whereby an increasing proportion of population of a region or a country lives in urban areas. Global urban population is growing at rapid rate from 17% in 1951 to 20% in 2001 and expected to increase 41% in 2020. It is observed that developing countries urbanize faster than industrialized nations because they have more issues of urbanizations. It has been documented in studies that Cities and towns operate as mechanisms for growth, often driving much of people's cultural, intellectual, educational and technological accomplishment and modernization. Though, in contemporary living style of people of new, low-density approaches to urban development results in better consumption of energy, resources, transport and land, in this manner raising greenhouse gas emissions and air and noise pollution to levels that often surpass the legal or suggested human protection limits. Overall consumption, energy use, water use and waste generation go along with an increasing number of urban families.This paper analyses India's urbanization hopes to revolutionize city life and improve the quality of life for India's urban populationbut at the cost of neative issues.

Keywords: Urbanisation-Employment - Population

INTRODUCTION

Urbanization is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots on a global scale, whereby predominantly rural culture is being rapidly replaced by predominantly urban culture. There is a close connection between urbanisation and poverty. The characteristics of urban poverty are different from those of rural poverty.Urbanisation is growing rapidly in developing countries.

It is the growth of cities, brought about by a population shift from rural areas and small communities to large ones, and the change from a largely agricultural economy to an industrial one. This results in the development of cities and towns on formerly agricultural or natural lands.The 2011 Census directorate classifies an area as urban if it fullfills the conditions.   The places that have a population of 5,000 and above, have a density of 400 persons per sq km and 75% of the male population employed in non-agricultural occupations," classified as urban. Urbanization is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots on a global scale. According to UN projections, 70% of the total world population will live in urban areas by 2050 as compared to 50% in 2010. The percentage of urban population to total population in the US, Europe and China is 83%, 73% and 47%, respectively, which is much higher compared to India, which is just 32%.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF URBANIZATION

Migration is the key process underlying growth of urbanisation; and the process of urbanization is closely related with rural to urban migration of people. In most developing countries of the world where rate of urban growth is relatively higher the urban-ward migration is usually high. Rural to urban migration is by far the major component of urbanisation and is the chief mechanism by which urbanisation trends all the world-over has been accomplished. Through most of history, the human population has lived a rural lifestyle, dependent on agriculture and hunting for survival. In 1800, only 3 percent of the world's population lived in urban areas. By 1900, almost 14 percent were urbanites, although only 12 cities had 1 million or more inhabitants. In 1950, 30 percent of the world's population resided in urban centers. The number of cities with over 1 million people had grown to 83.The world has experienced unprecedented urban growth in recent decades.   In 2007 for the first time in history over 50% of the world's population lived in urban areas.There are 411 cities over 1 million. More developed nations are about 76 percent urban, while 40 percent of residents of less developed

countries live in urban areas.It is expected that 60 percent of the world population will be urban by 2030, and that most urban growth will occur in less developed countries.

FAST FACTS – URBANIZATIONININDIA

Most Urbanized States: Tamil Nadu 43.9%; Maharashtra 42.4%; Gujarat 37.4%.

3 out of world's 21 mega cities: Mumbai (19 million); Delhi (15 million); Kolkata (14 million).

Large Cities: 23 in 1991; 40 in 2001.

Urban Population: 25% of 850 million in 1992; 28% of 1,030 million in 2002.

Estimated Urban Population by 2017: 500 million.

% of Urban Residents who are Poor: about 25%.

Slum Population: About 41 million in 2001.

Estimated Slum Population by 2017: 69 million.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The specific objectives of the study are,

1. To study the growth of urbanizationin India.

2. To analyse the urban poverty and unemployment issue .

3. To discuss the measures to solve the urbanization issue in India.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The study is based on the extensive survey of secondary data which is collected from published research papers, websites, reference books, journals and reports etc.

URBANIZATION TRENDS IN INDIA

The top three most populated urban agglomerations (UA) in India, viz. Greater Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata, far exceed in population than the rest of the UAs in India. These three urban centres have therefore been given the title of Mega Cities. The three mega cities of Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata are facing considerable urban sustainability challenges which are unique to the respective mega city.

Urbanization in India was mainly caused after independence, due to adoption of mixed system of economy by the country which gave rise to the development of private sector.Population residing in urban areas in India, according to 2001 census 28.53% increased to 31.16% in 2011 census.

TABLE.1

Most Populated Metros		
City/UA	**2011**	**2019**
Mumbai	18,394,912	18,394,912
Delhi	16,349,831	16,349,831
Kolkata	14,035,959	14,035,959
Chennai	8,653,521	8,653,521
Bangalore	8,520,435	8,520,435

Census Population 2019 Data

The City Populations 2011 clearly shows how important cities are in India and how fast India is developing. The urbanization factor and the educational factors are the most important factors which play a huge role in this kind of urban population density.

Recent population data of the top six most populated urban agglomerations in the world indicates that the Delhi UA has now surpassed Greater Mumbai UA in population .Tokyo is noted to be the most populated UA in the world and four (Tokyo, Delhi, Shanghai and Mumbai) out of the top six most populated UAs in the world are found to be located in Asia. Interestingly, two (Delhi and Mumbai) out of the six most populated UAs in the world are located in India.

CHART 1

Our Heritage

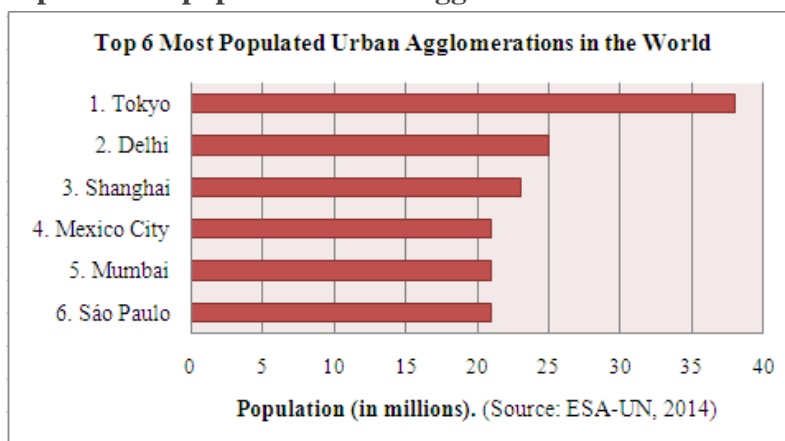## Top six most populated urban agglomerations in the world

Top 6 Most Populated Urban Agglomerations in the World

Population (in millions). (Source: ESA-UN, 2014)

TABLE.2
Top 10 Urbanized States of India

Rank	State	Total Population	Urban Urban Pop (%)	Rural Rural Pop (%)
1	Delhi	16,787,941	97.50	2.50
2	Chandigarh	1,055,450	97.25	2.75
3	Lakshadweep	64,473	78.07	21.93
4	Daman and Diu	243,247	75.17	24.83
5	Puducherry	1,247,953	68.33	31.67
6	Goa	1,458,545	62.17	37.83

Rank	State	Total Population	Urban Urban Pop (%)	Rural Rural Pop (%)
7	Mizoram	1,097,206	52.11	47.89
8	Tamil Nadu	72,147,030	48.40	51.60
9	Kerala	33,406,061	47.70	52.30
10	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	343,709	46.72	53.28

Census Population 2019 Data

According to the State of World Population report, more than half of the world's population lives in urban areas, and the number is steadily growing every year. India, where the majority of the population is still dependent on agriculture, is no exception to this trend. As per the census, the level of urbanization in India has increased from 27.81% in 2001 to 31.16% in 2011. Urbanization in India is a consequence of demographic explosion and poverty-induced rural-urban migration.

URBANIZATION IN TAMIL NADU

More people in Tamil Nadu have moved from rural to urban areas the last 10 years compared to other states.According to the 2001 Census, only 34.15% of the total population in Tamil Nadu was classified as urban but in 2011, it has tops the list of urbanised states with 48.45% of its population living in urban areas whereas in Kerala(47.72%).

TABLE.3

Urban Agglomerations Witnessing Rapid Growth

City / UA	Population 2001 (in Lakh)		Population 2011 (in Lakh)	
	City / UA		City / UA	
Chennai	42.16	65.60	46.81	86.89
Coimbatore	9.23	14.61	10.61	21.51
Madurai	9.23	12.03	10.17	14.62
Trichy	7.52	8.66	8.47	10.22
Tiruppur	3.51	5.51	4.45	9.63

Source: Census 2001 and 2011. Secondary Research
UrbanAgglomeration (UA)

The data was collected on the basis of several categories like age, sex, occupation, housing details, ownership details, literacy rates, standard of living and other details. There were certain criteria and definitions chalked out for the census of 2011. The total population of Urban Agglomeration (UA) and the city's population 2011 were calculated. The total census population of India 2011 was found out to be 1,210,854,977. Due to fast urbanization and developing and growing technology, it has been predicted that within 50 years, the population will go beyond one and a half billion. Tamil Nadu has urbanised rapidly in the last few decades.

URBAN POVERTY: AN EMERGING ISSUE

People who live in informal settlements are often systematically excluded from opportunities, decent employment, security, capacity, and empowerment that would enable them to gain better control over their health and lives. The issue of urban poverty is not new, but it is often narrowly viewed as an economic issue that is best addressed by economic policies and interventions. Urban poverty today, as driven by globalization and rapid uncontrolled urbanization, also needs to be recognized as a social, political, and cultural process that has profound impacts on public health. Exclusion of the urban poor from the benefits of urban life fosters discontent and political unrest. Within the broader context of health and human development, rapid urbanization of poverty and ill health characterized as a new human security threat.

Rapid uncontrolled urbanization results from the interaction between global and local forces. The interconnectedness of cities through trade, business, industry, tourism,

international travel, information technology, and media is reshaping social determinants of health that are manifest at the city level. On the other hand, local and national governance capacity in relation to health systems, housing, transport, property rights, migration, land use policy, working conditions, and employment may be unable to cope with the speed of change brought about by global economic restructuring. Inequity in cities that leads to urban poverty, and poor health, therefore, are also products of global and local forces in the urban setting. Public health can play an important role in ameliorating urban poverty through social processes (participation, social capital, social accountability, and social inclusion) that influence urban governance at multiple nodes of power. Addressing urban poverty as an urgent public health issue opens a policy space for fairer health opportunities and healthier and more equitable cities.

URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT

The National Sample Survey Organisation reported the following urban unemployment rates for the period July 2011–June 2012.

TABLE.4

Category of persons	Male	Female
Unemployment rate (per 1000 persons in the labour force)	30	52

The above table shows that according to NSSO 2011 and 2012 the unemployment rate is increaing trend in case of female as compared to male in the urban areas.

SOLUTION TO URBAN PROBLEMS

- Systematic Development of Urban Centres (Smart Cities).
- Encouraging industries to move to backward areas.
- Creation of modern services in villages.

- Combat poverty by promoting economic development and job creation.

- Involve local community in local government.

- Reduce air pollution by upgrading energy use and alternative transport systems.

- Create private-public partnerships to provide services such as waste disposal and housing.

- Plant trees and incorporate the care of city green spaces as a key element in urban planning.

CONCLUSION

Urbanization is an index of transformation from traditional rural economies to modern industrial one. Operational planning should take care of improvement of urban infrastructure and resolve the problem of urban poverty issue to the certain extent.

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