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Research Article

TRENDS OF URBANIZATION IN INDIA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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ABSTRACT

The Globalization has great impact on the country like India, which increases the economic growth of the country, and because of this, we are seeing a growing urbanized India. Historically, India's population has been predominantly rural, but since the year 1991 the urban population was increasing, and today it stands about more than 30% of the total population of the country. Although, urbanization in India has been underpinned by the rapid growth in the economy especially from the last decade of the 20th Century, and there is transformation from rural economy, based on agriculture and its allied activities to the modern economy related to industrial activities. However, as India's urbanization process is increasing we are seeing its negative impacts on the urban areas, by way of lack of basic facilities like infrastructure, drinking water, housing, transport etc. Thus, this article tries to present the urbanization taking place in India, and also gives particular attention to the emerging issues and challenges, associated with the urbanization process in India and some suggestions to overcome it.

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INTRODUCTION

The Globalization has led to the rapid growth in the world economy and movement of the people, product, capital etc in a faster and easier manner. And because of Globalization, the one concept which comes into full swing is the urbanization. The urbanization has a concept is an integral part of the process of development. Both Industrialization and urbanization are inseparable, just as agriculture fosters villages, industry encourages growth of towns (Maheshwari, 2006). There exist a close relationship between urbanization and economic growth, and good example is the many developed or industrialized countries and also a few developing countries. As a result, many populations are living in urban areas, because cities, towns and other urban areas have facilitated the evolution of knowledge and have been the incubators of civilization and the engines of growth (Singhsodhi, 2003). The urban population in almost every country will grow, as already for the first time in human history, the majority of the world population is living in urban areas.

But, the urbanization process is also accompanied by number of problems, because of unmanageable growth of population in urban areas, and it is related to provision of basic facilities and services in urban areas like water supply, sanitation, housing, transport etc. In India, which is one of the fastest developing economy, the urbanization process has been growing in good proportion. In our country, the focus on economic liberalization, financial sector reforms and the process of decentralization, since the 1990s is contributing to further economic growth, thus bringing into sharper focus the economic role of cities (Ibid.). But, there also exist the above mentioned problems of urbanization in India, which this paper will try to present and give some suggestions to make urbanization productive for our society, especially in this 21st century when many economist calling it as 'Asian Century', (especially in the context of China and India) GDP growth.

Review of Literature

By the middle of 21st century, the urbanization in India will be engulfing more than half of its population. But, the urbanization as a process in India is quite different from other countries, especially the western world, where it came into existence because of gradual progress of industrialization and urbanization together. Thus, in India, the varied nature of

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literature available on the topic of urbanization. Some of the important literatures are discussed below: Lalit Batra, 'A Review of Urbanization and Urban Policy in Post-Independent India', (2009) in this paper, he tries to give insight into the existence of urban policy starting from the British rule to the post independent period (here the shift in urban policy in every Five Year Plan periods) and more importantly, the current neo-liberal reforms undergoing in the field of urban affairs. Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, (2011) 'Report on Indian Urban Infrastructure and Services'. According to this report, the urbanization in India is inevitable thus, the need for solving the various problems associated with it requires a combination of actions, starting with increased investment; strengthening the framework for governance, and most importantly capacity building for the people and the institutions engage in urban affairs.

Isher Judge Ahluwalia, in her book 'Transforming Our Cities: Postcards of Change' (2014), discusses about, the majority of cities in India have been facing huge challenges in all the fronts or in other words, for the government, the governance of urban areas is a big challenge. The reasons being lack of basic facilities like good roads, water, housing, parks, electricity etc. Although Isher Judge Ahluwalia also given references about some cities in India, which have taken positive steps in solving the issues arises from urbanization. So, the need for big transformation of Indian cities is the need of the hour. Prasanna K. Mohanty, in his book 'Cities and Public Policy: An Urban Agenda for India' (2014), talks about the importance of cities in catalyzing growth, which in turn leads to the overall development of the country. The negative aspects of the urbanization can be overcome through meaningful urban public policy or undertaking reforms in various fields of urban areas like urban planning, finance and management etc. For that thing to happen, the book discusses about the number of examples from India and global also, regarding how to make and implement good urban public policy. Isher Judge Ahluwalia; Ravi Kanbur and P.K Mohanty (ed.), 'Urbanization in India: Challenges, Opportunities and the Way Forward', (2014) contains 11 scholarly articles written by experts on the field of urban studies. The challenges of urbanization in India have been discussed along with the opportunities it presents if it was utilized properly and efficiently through good urban planning. The need for urban infrastructure, for effective service delivery systems, its financing and most importantly its sustainability along with the role of urban local government has been the focus of this book. Thus, so many important literatures available on the present study, and here the authors tried to put all together and come out with some unique study on the theme of urbanization in India in one article.

Urbanization: A Concept

In the year 1950, only about 30% of the world population lived in urban areas, which were increased to above 50% in 2012. It was estimated that by the year 2030 more than 70% of world people will be lived in urban areas. The term 'urbanization' means the increasing share of a nation's population living in urban areas [and thus a declining share living in rural areas]. A nation's urban population can grow from natural increase [births minus deaths], net rural to urban migration and reclassification [as what was previously a rural settlement becomes classified as urban or as an urban settlement's

boundaries are expanded, bringing into its population people who were previously classified as rural] (Satterthwaite; Gordon, and Tacoli., 2010). According to the Census definition of India, an urban area consists of (Census of India, 2011):

1) All Statutory Towns: All places with a Municipality, Corporation, Cantonment Board or Notified Town Area Committee, etc. so declared by State law; and

2) Census Towns: which places and satisfy following criteria:-

- a minimum population of 5000 ;
- at least 75% of male working population engaged in non agricultural pursuits; and
- a density of population of at least 400 persons per sq km.

Furthermore, Population Census in India classifies urban settlement into six size classes as per the limits indicated below (Kundu, 2001):

Population Size	Category
100,000 and more	Class I
50,000 to 100,000	Class II
20,000 to 50,000	Class III
10,000 to 20,000	Class IV
5,000 to 10,000	Class V
Less than 5,000	Class VI

Urbanization in India

The growth of urbanization in India is basically through two ways, one is through increase in the urban population, which will be natural and the second one is through migration, which is result of people migrating from rural to urban areas and also from small towns/cities to big metros. However, in the 1990s, i.e. when the Indian government opened up their economy, there seen a rise in rapid economic growth of the country. But this economic growth was more of urban growth, which led to rapid migration of rural population to urban areas. In the year 1951, only five cities are having population of more than one million, which increase to 53 cities in 2011 and it was estimated that by 2031, it will be 70 cities in the country with million populations. Similarly, three cities are having more than 10 million populations in the year 2011, and it was estimated that six cities will be having 10 million populations by 2031. Thus, it was estimated that the total urban population by the year 2030 will be 610 million, which will account for the 40% of the total population of the country (Mohan, 2012). The many cities in our country, are becoming extremely crowded and if we see the 20 most densely populated cities in the world, out of which five will be from India including, Kolkata and Mumbai (Confederation of Indian Industry, 2010).

The (Table 1) clearly shows that the total population of India was increased from 102.86 crores in 2001 to 121.02 crores in 2011. The number of towns/urban agglomerations has increased from 5161 to 7935 from the period 2001 to 2012, which was an increase of 2774 towns/urban agglomerations. The urban population in the year 2011 was 37.71 crores, which was 28.61 crores in 2001. The percentage of urban population to the total population of the country was 31.16 % in 2011, which was 27.8% in the year 2001.

Table 1. Decadal Urban Population Growth in India (Census of India)

Year	Total Population (in crores)	No. of Towns/UAs	Urban Population (in crores)	Share of Urban Population to Total Population (%)	Decadal Growth of Urban Population (%)
1951	36.11	2,843	6.24	17.3	41.4
1961	43.92	2,365	7.89	18.0	26.4
1971	54.81	2,590	10.91	19.9	38.2
1981	68.33	3,378	15.95	23.3	46.1
1991	84.63	3,768	21.76	25.7	36.4
2001	102.86	5,161	28.61	27.8	31.3
2011*	121.02	7,935	37.71	31.16	31.8

*Data from provisional tables released by Census of India 2011. Source from-Report of the Working Group on Urban Poverty, Slums, and Service Delivery System, Steering Committee on Urbanization of Planning Commission, 3rd October, 2011, New Delhi, p. 59.

The (Table 2) shows the average annual percentage growth rate of population of both rural/urban and overall total. During the period from 1951 to 1961, the average annual percentage growth rate of population of rural was 2.06% and 2.64% for urban, whereas the overall total was 2.16%. One interesting fact about the (Table 1.2) is that, the average annual percentage growth rate of population for rural areas, since the year 1981 till present decreased.

Table 2. Rural/Urban Differential in Growth of Population-India

Period	Average annual percentage growth rate of population		
	Rural	Urban	Total
1951-1961	2.06	2.64	2.16
1961-1971	2.19	3.82	2.48
1971-1981	1.93	4.61	2.47
1981-1991	2	3.64	2.38
1991-2001	1.81	3.15	2.15
2001-2011	1.22	3.18	1.76

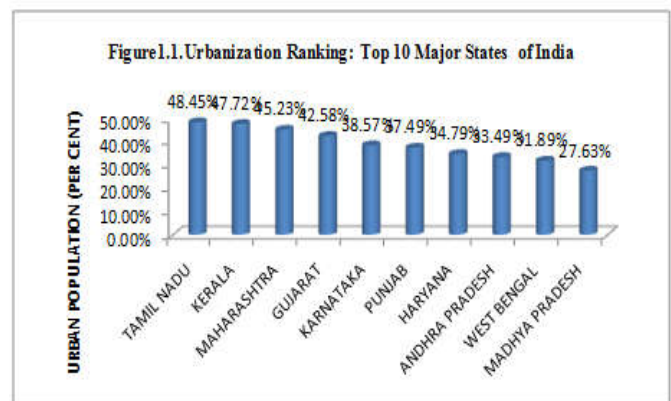
Note: 1991 population includes interpolated population figures for Jammu & Kashmir.

Source from-Selected Socio-Economic Statistics India-2011, Government of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Central Statistics Office, Social Statistics Division, New Delhi, October, 2011, p.20.

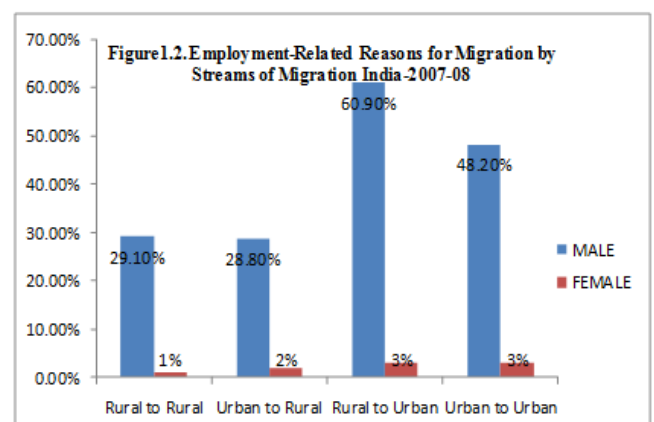
It was 2% during 1981 to 1991, which decreased to 1.81% in 1991 to 2001 and finally in last decade i.e. from 2001 to 2011 it was 1.22%. Whereas for urban areas, the average annual percentage growth rate of population was 3.64% during 1981 to 1991; which decreased to 3.15% in 1991 to 2001; and in last decade from 2001-2011, it increased to 3.18%. Thus, there seen a decrease in the percentage growth rate for rural areas, from 2% to 1.22% during 1981 to 2011 period. But, for urban areas the population growth rate, was still hovering around 3% plus, during the above mentioned three decades and interestingly during the period from 2001 to 2011, it increases slightly from 3.15% to 3.18%. Thus, the population growth rate for urban areas was more than rural areas.

Various Sources: Report on Indian Urban Infrastructure and Services, by High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) for estimating the investment requirements for urban Infrastructure services, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, March 2011, New Delhi, p.13. Source- www.niua.org/projects/hpec/finalreport_hpec.pdf, accessed on 15th September 2012. The urbanization rate among the top 10 major states of India in terms of population, area and per capita income, (see figure 1.1). The state of Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized state in India with 48.45%; followed by Kerala with 47.72%; Maharashtra with 45.23% and others respectively.

One interesting fact, can be seen from the (figure 1.1) is that in top 5 urbanized States, three are from southern States; and in top 10 urbanized State, a total of 4 southern States Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh represent. The four southern States mentioned before are also the major contributor for our country (India) GDP. The employment is the main reason for migration of male, compare to female in various streams of migration given in the (Figure 1.2). For male, the migration from rural to urban areas was 60.9%, whereas for female it was only 3%. Even within urban to urban areas, male migration was 48.2%, compare with 3% for female. On account of marriage only, female migrate more rather than for employment cause.



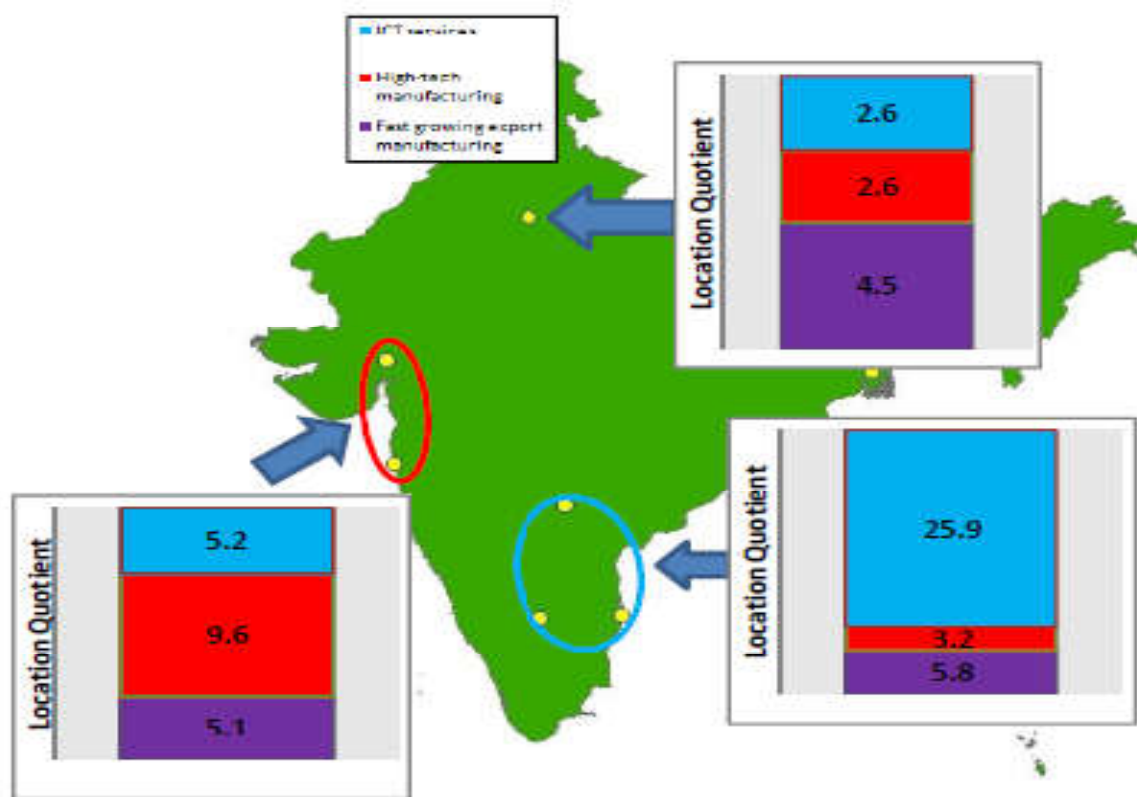
Various Sources: Report on Indian Urban Infrastructure and Services, by High Powered Expert Committee (HPEC) for estimating the investment requirements for urban Infrastructure services, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, March 2011, New Delhi, p.13. Source- www.niua.org/projects/hpec/finalreport_hpec.pdf, accessed on 15th September 2012.



Note: The above data is based on National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) 2010. Source from-Ram B. Bhagat, "Migrants (Denied) Right to the City", Urban Policies and the Right to the City in India 2011-Rights, Responsibilities and Citizenship, November 2011, UNESCO, New Delhi.

In India, especially after 1990s there emerge some metropolitan cities with specialize urban economy which we can (see in Figure 1.3) map of India. The reason for studying this map is, because employment is the main cause for migration and both skilled and unskilled people migrate from one place to another.

Hyderabad, Chennai, and Delhi and every day number of people is migrating towards these cities for jobs; and ultimately urbanization is increasing in these cities. Interestingly in year 2011, out of the seven States which accounts for 62% of India's urban population, the five cities



Note: The blue colour in the map is related to ICT services. The red colour is displaying high technology manufacturing which basically covers pharmaceutical products; aircraft, spacecraft and parts. The purple colour is related to fast growing export manufacturing industries include electrical, electronic equipment; machinery; organic chemicals; accessories, pharmaceuticals products; iron and steel; articles of iron or steel; and ships.

Source from-India: Urbanization beyond Municipalities-An economic analysis of urbanization and the urban economy, Centre for Policy Research, The World Bank, July, 2011, p.17. Source from-<http://www.cprindia.org/sites/default/files/18lal1.pdf>, accessed on 26th July 2012.

Figure 1.3. Three Emerging Distinct Metropolitan Specializations

The three distinct metropolitan cities region emerging are: first is Delhi and NCR [National Capital Region] in northern part of India, as fast growing export manufacturing industries with 4.5%, whereas ICT [Information and Communication Technology] services and high technology manufacturing industries accounts for 2.6 % and 2.6% respectively. The second is Mumbai and Ahmedabad in western part of India, emerged as high technology manufacturing industries with 9.6%; while for ICT services it was 5.2%; and for fast growing export manufacturing industries 5.1% respectively. The third one is Bangalore-Hyderabad-Chennai triangle in southern part of India, emerged as ICT services hub with 25.9%, quite largest in number compare with other two [fast growing export manufacturing industries and high technology manufacturing industries], which is understandable, as India is the major player in the world IT sector market. The high technology manufacturing industries accounts for 3.2%, whereas for fast growing export manufacturing industries it was 5.8%; which is slightly higher in number compare with other two metropolitan cities region. The cities mentioned in above three distinct metropolitan cities region, are also most populated in the country, especially the cities which are having more than five million population are: Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bangalore,

mentioned above Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai comes under in 5 States: they are Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat. However, there are also other cities in India, which also contribute towards the GDP of the country. And already 43% of the country's wealth is generated by top 100 cities (Staff Reporter, 2012, June 12).

Thus, cities are the real growth engines and generators of national wealth; not only in India but also across the globe, which was rightly proved by Jane Jacobs in her book 'Cities and the Wealth of Nations' in 1984. Further, her analysis suggests that the wealth of nations is actually the wealth of its cities, and the roots of the ailments that plague nations can be traced to the state of their cities (Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, 2011).

Issues and Challenges in Urbanization

As our country moves along on the path of urbanization, we will find new problems and challenges emerging out of it, some of which are already felt. While urbanization process resulted into economic growth in our society, but equally it is true that,

there exist number of problems associated with the urbanization. Some of them are discussed below: The urbanization is also one of the reasons, for the global warming throughout the world and led to climate change even in India, we already seeing the impact of climate change on monsoon pattern and in near future, we will see more in other areas.

The climate change is primarily caused by the building up of greenhouse gases e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and others in the atmosphere, which led to the rise in the temperature of the earth. The climate change is basically the result of human induced activities such as agricultural systems, industrial activities, fossil fuel consumption, land use pattern and many more (Sadashivam, 2010).

providers also depend on the growth of farmers incomes (Singh, 2010). Because of climate change, there has been a lot of desperate migration of those poor villagers to the towns and cities in search of ways to make a living; and this will increase when the land is no longer productive or severe drought, flood and other extreme weather conditions make it impossible to earn a living by farming. This will have political implications too, as these climate change migrants will put pressure on an already existing lack of infrastructure and basic amenities in urban areas (Sadashivam, 2010a). This will also affect the food production in the country, if we see, large number of rural people are depend upon for their living on agriculture profession and migrating to the cities will automatically affect the food security in India.

Table 3. State-wise projected Slum Population from 2011 to 2017 (in millions)

State	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.034	0.035	0.037	0.038	0.040	0.041	0.043
Andhra Pradesh	8.188	8.273	8.357	8.440	8.522	8.603	8.681
Arunachal Pradesh	0.098	0.103	0.109	0.114	0.120	0.126	0.131
Assam	1.071	1.100	1.130	1.160	1.191	1.222	1.254
Bihar	1.684	1.707	1.730	1.753	1.774	1.796	1.817
Chandigarh	0.332	0.349	0.365	0.382	0.397	0.411	0.430
Chhattisgarh	2.112	2.169	2.228	2.288	2.348	2.410	2.471
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.026	0.029	0.032	0.034	0.037	0.040	0.043
Daman & Diu	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.010	0.010
Delhi	3.163	3.261	3.361	3.464	3.571	3.682	3.793
Goa	0.155	0.161	0.168	0.175	0.181	0.186	0.192
Gujarat	4.663	4.760	4.857	4.954	5.052	5.150	5.246
Haryana	3.288	3.391	3.495	3.600	3.707	3.815	3.924
Himachal Pradesh	0.087	0.089	0.091	0.093	0.095	0.097	0.099
Jammu & Kashmir	0.494	0.504	0.514	0.524	0.534	0.544	0.554
Jharkhand	0.932	0.949	0.966	0.984	1.001	1.019	1.037
Karnataka	3.631	3.700	3.770	3.840	3.910	3.981	4.049
Kerala	0.533	0.536	0.539	0.541	0.544	0.546	0.548
Lakshadweep	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Madhya Pradesh	6.393	6.523	6.654	6.786	6.918	7.051	7.181
Maharashtra	18.151	18.550	18.951	19.353	19.754	20.153	20.557
Manipur	0.075	0.076	0.077	0.077	0.078	0.078	0.079
Meghalaya	0.205	0.209	0.212	0.215	0.219	0.223	0.226
Mizoram	0.106	0.108	0.110	0.112	0.114	0.116	0.118
Nagaland	0.083	0.084	0.085	0.086	0.087	0.088	0.089
Orissa	1.736	1.771	1.805	1.841	1.876	1.912	1.948
Puducherry	0.137	0.143	0.150	0.156	0.162	0.167	0.174
Punjab	2.798	2.864	2.930	2.996	3.063	3.128	3.194
Rajasthan	3.826	3.895	3.962	4.030	4.095	4.160	4.225
Sikkim	0.013	0.014	0.014	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.016
Tamil Nadu	8.645	8.863	9.081	9.299	9.515	9.730	9.940
Tripura	0.131	0.134	0.137	0.140	0.143	0.146	0.149
Uttar Pradesh	10.878	11.127	11.379	11.631	11.885	12.140	12.394
Uttarakhand	0.826	0.846	0.866	0.887	0.907	0.927	0.948
West Bengal	8.547	8.641	8.733	8.825	8.919	9.014	9.106
India	93.056	94.978	96.908	98.845	100.787	102.729	104.668

Source from: Report of the Working Group on Urban Poverty, Slums, and Service Delivery System, Steering Committee on Urbanization of Planning Commission, 3rd October, 2011, New Delhi, p.60.

Rather than, those occurring naturally in bio-physical environments. Although, agriculture is also the villain for contributing the above cause, but more importantly it was because of increase in the growth of vehicles in the cities and towns, more use of fossil fuels and construction activity by clearing the green and vacant lands for constructing buildings, roads, highways, malls etc. According to Medha Patkar a well known social activist in India, in last 10 years more than 18 lakh hectares of agricultural land directed to non-agricultural purpose (Patkar, 2012, August 23). The climate change will have sufficient impact on agriculture, as already more than 55% of the country's consumers draw their livelihood directly from agriculture as cultivators and agricultural labourers. Moreover, rural non-farm workers, such as rural artisans and rural service

As the population is increasing, we will see this problem more, already food inflation in our country is increasing, and affects the lives of both rural and urban people. But, more on the former category and even in urban areas, it will be more on the poor urban people. Furthermore, it will be increase more, as the contribution of agriculture and its allied activities towards the GDP in recent times is going down. Also, with the increase in urban population, more and more agricultural land or areas need to be converted for constructing houses, bridges, highways for urban use, which will affect agriculture production in near future.

B) Over the next few decades, the population growth in urban areas will be increase, because of rural-urban migration and

also, because of natural population growth in urban areas. But, the one issue, which too becomes more pertinent is urban poverty and even in present time, it is an important issue in urban development and governance. The urban poor occupy the lowest rungs of the social hierarchy and deprive of basic services and amenities. They occupy the marginal positions in the socio-cultural system of the communities (Singh, 2004). The Government of India since, the Fifth Five Year Plan [1974-1979] has emphasized on removal of urban poverty and initiated various policies and programmes in this direction (Ibid.). The most important one being SJSRY [Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana] which was designed to provide gainful employment to the urban poor, by encouraging setting up of self-employment ventures and provision of wage employment opportunities for families below poverty line in urban areas (Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India, 2007). But, still the urban poverty remains the major problem for the government to solve. One factor comes, in the way of urban poverty eradication was being migration in large number of people from rural to urban areas, which results in poor living in urban areas are more than rural areas. These people are usually stays in slums and sometimes in road side, with temporary tent or even did not get any shelter also [especially in all big metros], which can be seen visibly in day light and more so at night, when you take round of the city. The policies and programmes implemented by the governments, for decrease of urban poverty were some extent ineffective, because of lack of supervision, monitoring and coordination on the part of the agencies of the governments. The late Prime Minister of India Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had once said, that out of 100 paisa* only 15 paisa reaches the intended beneficiary of various development programmes in the rural areas. This saying is also true for the urban intended beneficiary for any development programmes.

The all India HCR [Head Count Ratio] for below poverty line has declined by 7.3% from 37.2% in 2004-05 to 29.8% in 2009-10. The rural poverty has declined from 41.8% in 2004-05 to 33.8% in 2009-10, which was a decline of 8% during above period. In the above mentioned same period, the urban poverty has declined from 25.7% to 20.9%, which was decline of 4.8%. If we compare data of both rural and urban areas, it clearly shows that urban areas are lagging, behind in the reduction of poverty rate, even though during the above mentioned period was the most successful period for the Indian economy, which saw huge economic growth. But this doesn't truly translate in reduction of poverty in urban areas, especially to the urban poor. Also, the poverty ratio among the different social groups in urban areas is high for SC [Scheduled Caste] 34.1% and ST [Scheduled Tribe] 30.4%; whereas for OBC [Other Backward Classes] 24.3% and for all other classes it was low as 20.9% (Press Information Bureau, 2012, March 19). It is interesting fact, which clearly reflects with majority of population, who stays in slums and unauthorized places are SC people and they are mostly poor.

Among religious groups in urban areas, the Muslims have highest poverty ratio 33.9%; and the lowest religious group is Christians having 12.9% poor. In the category of poverty ratio among different occupational categories in urban areas, it was more in case of casual labourers which was 47.1%. Even in States like West Bengal and Punjab, which are the prosper

States in India, they have poverty ratio of 53.7% and 56.3% respectively among casual labourers in urban areas, which was more than the national average for urban areas (Ibid.). Also, according to the provisional results of the 68th NSSO [National Sample Survey Organization] which was conducted in 2009-10, has come out with some important findings. Firstly, in the category of monthly expenditure of the poorest 10 per cent of urban population has risen by 17.2%, while that of the richest 10 per cent is up by 30.5%. In the second category in urban India, the poorest 10 per cent spend rupees 23.4 per day on an average, while in contrast the richest 10 per cent spend rupees 255.1 per day (Sethi, 2012, August 2). C) Rampant growing number of urban slums in metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Calcutta were because of poverty, many poor urban people can't afford even a rented house, just forget about buying a house in cities and towns. They have no choice but to live in slums, which are developed on most unhealthy and polluted land sites, where even the basic facilities of water, electricity, sanitation etc were absent or in some cases are not sufficient. According to the 2001 census of India, the slum population was 42.6 million, which forms 15% of the country total urban population and 23% of population of cities and towns reporting slums. The census also reports that 41.6% of the total slum population resides in cities, which have over one million populations (Planning Commission, Government of India, 2011).

According to the (Table 1.3), the projected slum population from the period 2011 to 2017 is highest for the State of Maharashtra, which will going to increase from 18 million to 20 million; the next was the State of Uttar Pradesh which will be increase from 10 million to 12 million; and whereas for the States like Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, it will increase from eight million to nine million. Many of people living in slums areas are depend upon the community type toilet, and in some cases, especially in small and medium towns people use open defecation, which is less hygiene and more prone to various diseases.

It is a great disrespect to female, who are most affected because of open defecation. But, one thing has to be noted that all poor people didn't live in slums. According to UN-Habitat, a slum household is a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area, who lack one or more of the following: durable housing, sufficient living area, access to improved water, access to sanitation and secure tenure (Arabi, 2009). One main problem associated with the slums in many metros and cities are that, the governments don't have reliable and correct data, about how many populations are living in slums. Also, government authority didn't include and count those poor urban people, who don't reside in slums, which is a mistake on the part of the governments and it abstain from its duty to provide the basic services to these non-slums people, who are poor and needed some help.

For example in Delhi, according to the 2001 census an urban slum population was 1.85 million, which constitute 18.7% of Delhi's urban population. But, if full data has taken of unauthorized settlements, including jhuggi jhopdi clusters [Squatter settlements], slum-designated areas [slums recognized by the government, many of which are in the walled city], unauthorized colonies and jhuggi jhopdi resettlement colonies [Squatter resettlement colonies], these are estimated to

have a population of 9.84 million in 2011. Thus, represent more than half of Delhi's total population, which is estimated to be 19 million in 2011. Further, more than 100, 000 people are residing on under bridges, pavements and by the road side and basically many of them are rickshaw pullers and casual workers (Agarwal, 2011). Even, the evacuation and rehabilitation of the people living in slums areas to other areas are complex issue.

Because of two reasons, one is political vested interest of the politicians, who use these slum areas as their vote bank constituency, since majority of elite and middle class people don't go for vote during elections. Thus, these slum votes become more important for winning an election. Second reason is even when the people are rehabilitated from the government side, but slums people don't want to go to rehabilitation site because, their newly houses are far away from the main city, and lacking basic facilities related to water, electricity and transportation.

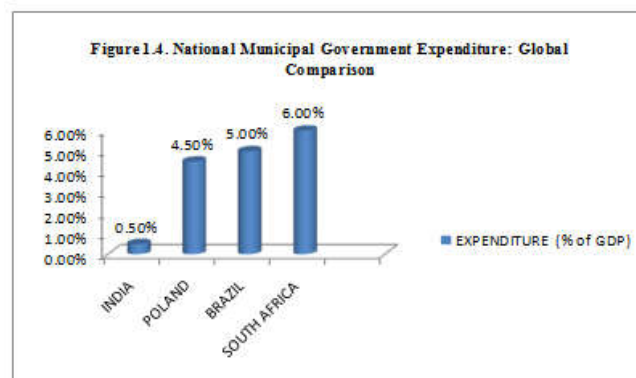
D) There exist many sociological implications of the concept of urbanization and the some important one being, first because of urbanization lot of construction activity taking place in the metropolitan cities like Delhi, Chennai etc. Furthermore, there is an increase in number of vehicles, where one family have more than one vehicle which resulted into lack of parking spaces and traffic jams especially in Delhi roads, which in recent time has led to lot of quarrels and heated debate between the people and in some cases it led to minor injury and even deaths also. The second social implication is increasing number of street children, who either stays with their parents or lives alone in streets. There exist a number of novel provisions in our constitution, for the child protection and development, but all these are good in papers only not in practical life. The street children are involved in rag picking, begging, selling small items [toys, balloons etc], shoe polishing, loading and unloading etc. The child labor became a more prominent in big cities and towns including the capital of India. The children are employed, because they are cheaply available and work long hours without any complaints (Staff Reporter, 2012, August 6). The street children are the most abused and exploited group, other than exposed to hazardous work; they also face the problem of child trafficking, pornography, prostitution, begging; and as a result, living a vulnerable life in cities and towns. In the State of Delhi, the street children who are below 18 years are constitute 1% of total children population, which is quite large in number. Thus, the crime rate* against children was the highest at 166.9% in Delhi as per the NCRB [National Crime Records Bureau] 2014, among the various States in India. The children also fall prey to substance abuse, and they never able to get timely or adequate medical assistance (Shajan Binda Perappadan, 2012, August 6). The street children don't have access to education, health and other facilities, as a result, some children automatically involved in some kind of petty crime during childhood and when they became adult, their nature of crime will become serious one.

The third social implication can't be ignored especially, the issue of suicide which is especially rising every year in cities and towns. According to the NCRB in the year 2014, more than 1, 31,666 suicides has taken place in India, out of which more than half of them in urban areas. The suicide rate* in cities was higher (12.2%) as compared to all-India suicide rate which was (10.6%). In the year 2004, the number of suicide cases was 1,13,697. Thus, during one decade from 2004-2014, there has

been seen an increase of 15.8% in suicide cases. The percentage share of suicides among the top States in India was 12.4% for Maharashtra; Tamil Nadu accounts for 12.2 %; West Bengal 10.9%; and Karnataka 8.3% respectively. Interestingly, these are the States which comes in the top ten urbanized States in India. Thus, the four metropolitan cities starting with Chennai (2214); Bengaluru (1906); Delhi (1847); and Mumbai (1196) have reported highest number of suicides (National Crime Records Bureau, 2015). The increase in suicide cases was seen from the period 1990s, when in India Liberalization policies were started. Although, slowly economic growth of the country increased, this has impacted the lives of the people in positive manner. However, this also resulted into increased in stress and anxiety levels of the people, because of disparity in incomes; the race to reach the top of the professional ladder and excess competition, which leads to increase in suicide of the people in number of cases. Thus, the post-liberalization atmosphere which is also a one of the reason for the increase in urbanization has led to severe aspirational backlash, causing thousand of Indians, from students to techies and corporate honchos to housewives, to kill themselves (Punj, 2012, August 5).

Suggestions to Overcome Negative Implications of the Urbanization

The reforms in institutional frameworks of urban institutions are need of the hour, so to have effective urban governance. For making this, there is a need to re-look and updated the 74th constitutional amendment act of 1992, related to urban local self government.



Source from-A Report on Intelligent urbanization- Roadmap for India, Confederation of Indian Industry, Prepared by BooZ & Co in association with CISCO, 2010, New Delhi, p.11.

The urban agencies should be given more financial and independent powers and include in its various provision of urbanization, according to the changing situation and environment, so that it can face the challenges of urbanization, as the powers and functions given in the 74th act was two decades old. And also, it is still matter of choice for the State government, to devolve various powers and functions in what manner and extent to their urban local bodies, which is unfortunate and needs to be done away with. There was also a instances in many State, where the government is emphasizing and creating new urban development authority or agency for urban development, and which was actually under the control of State government, which undermines the functioning of urban local self government in the State and needs to be discouraged in totality. S.R. Maheshwari has rightly emphasized that, the several functions performed hitherto by

local bodies were taken away and are now performed by urban development authority or single purpose agencies, which are State government organization. Thus, the State government has transferred responsibility to different organizations at the local level, other than the municipal government like trusts, transport undertaking, housing boards, electricity boards etc (op.cit., Maheshwari). Furthermore the (Figure 1.4) shows the percentage of municipal government expenditure of GDP of the country was 0.5% for India, whereas for other countries like Poland it was 4.5%; Brazil 5.0 %; South Africa 6.0%. Even the comparison within the BRICS [Brazil; Russia; India; China and South Africa] countries, where both Brazil and South Africa were the members, the India's share was quite low and unsatisfactory. Thus, the economic viability of urban local bodies needs to be strengthened and increase in its expenditure for various municipal activities.

Rural areas need to be made developed, so that people don't thing about migrating in such huge number. Here, the role of State government becomes more important, along with the Panchayati Raj Institutions, the latter needs to be given more powers and functions. The 73rd constitutional amendment act related to rural local self government needs to be re-look and frame according to the real needs of the rural people, especially because of climate change, the people who depends upon agriculture directly or indirectly are mostly going to be affected. Furthermore, initiating number of programmes for the welfare of the people living in rural areas, especially related to providing employment by the government; like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which guarantees 100 days of work for one unemployed person in a family in a year. Since, unemployment is the main reason for migration of the people, especially to urban areas. Also, the private players need to be encouraged, so to set up business in rural areas by giving them concession of various kinds. Even if people want to migrate for better opportunity and life in that situation, instead of putting pressure on big cities, it is preferable to identify and develop the small towns and cities, which can absorb the rural migrant located near to their place.

The basic infrastructure of urban areas, need to be developed. For which over the next decade, the investment of rupees in excess of US Dollar 1 trillion of public investment is needed, according to an estimate of CII [Confederation of Indian Industry] (op.cit., Confederation of Indian Industry, 2010). Similarly, other organizations and committees have also estimated, like the Mckinsey which estimates the urban infrastructure expenditure for next 20 years, will be total of \$1.20 trillion; out of which the two most important sectors is water infrastructure which needed \$200 billion and second one urban transport which needed \$590 billion. The Ahluwalia Committee of the Government of India estimates, urban infrastructure expenditure will be total of \$785 billion, out of which water infrastructure needed \$150 billion and urban transport \$460 billion (op.cit., Mohan, 2012).

The governments don't have such sufficient resources in their hands, thus both Central and State governments need to encourage private participation investment in the infrastructure creation and development. The Scheme of PPP [Public Private Partnership] should be explored and encouraged, in the field of financing various public goods and services in urban areas. For example, recently in the month of August 2012, the Delhi

government has identified three areas in Delhi [Vasant Vihar, Mehrauli and Malviya Nagar] under pilot study through PPP, for providing water services to the people residing in the above mentioned places. One thing has to be done for making PPP successful, is that all the projects under PPP should be brought under RTI [Right to Information] Act, so that any information [except vital information related to the safety and security of the country] related to the project can be accessed by the people at any time, as it was done in South Africa under RTI act. Also, people have to be involved in the policy making, implementation and management of any PPP project by the governments. The reason for being involvement of people is to make them felt, that the goods and services generated from the project is for their own benefit and they also equally responsible for its management.

India is not only a developing economy, but also a liberal democracy too, where there are competing demands for public investment. There required a lot of money for infrastructure build up and governments don't have such huge amount; and also, the big foreign and domestic companies are not interested to invest in India, because they cite the problem of high costs [interrupted] power, bad infrastructure and high transactions costs in general (Menon & Mitra, 2009). Here, the SEZ [Special Economic Zone] can be promoted and utilize as a tool; to attract and locate investments not only in big metros and cities, but also more importantly in those areas where investments for infrastructure were lacking, especially in small towns and cities, which also create employment opportunities. Although, already number of SEZs were established and functioning in the country, which came through the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 which was passed by the Parliament in May 2005, but it came into effect on 10th February 2006. So far 585 SEZs are approved, out of which 381 have been notified and among them 143 SEZs are already functioning and exporting in excess of Rupees 3,00,000 crore, which accounts for over 28% of the country's total exports. It also provides direct employment to 7,00,000 persons in the country ("Special Economic Zones in India", 2007) But, the issue of land acquisition, especially related to agricultural land for a project is a big controversy, which needs to be taken into account in a proper manner. Otherwise, we have to face the problem like Nandigram SEZ controversy which took place in the year 2006, in the state of West Bengal and created lot of problems between farmers and the administration.

Climate change policies should be made central, to India's long term urbanization policies. Especially, if we see there exist a major problem of water and power in big cities and towns, this can be partially solved by making every citizen accountable for climate change. Initially, starting with the upper middle class, who are staying in posh colonies or areas making it mandatory for them, for having rain water harvesting and installing solar plant in their roof top. The reason, for being start with the rich people because, they have the money and space for doing it. Gradually, the governments should implement it for the middle and below middle class, although it will be not easy to do it for the latter two category, because of financial and space limitation. But more than space, it was the financial constraint which is a big hindrance. Here, both Central and State governments need to take initiative, for providing freely to rain water harvesting and installing solar plant, in roof top of the

houses of the people belong to below poverty line and subsidizing it for the middle class. The above initiatives of the governments should be started as a pilot project. If the results are good, then it needs to be expanded and if not satisfactory, then it needs to be re-modified by rectifying the present problems.

But, one thing has to be remember that the policy for rain water harvesting and solar plant installation, can't be put in a backburner or discarded from now onwards, rather it has to be implemented in more effective manner. Along with this, the policy of water and power conservation should be taken into seriously, as both go hand in hand. Although, Government of India on 30th June 2008, released its NAPCC [National Action Plan on Climate Change] in which 8 national missions are given and out of which, one related to National Water Mission; and second on National Solar Mission (op.cit., Sadashivam, T. 2010). However, according to one recent study by two authors, Sujatha Byravan and Sudhir Chella Rajan who have evaluated India's NAPCC, and some of which are published in one of the reputed English national newspaper in India called 'The Hindu'.

According to two of them, if sustainable development is indeed a central guiding principle in India's climate policy, it has not been prioritized in the approaches and outcomes of individual missions. These missions were placed in 8 separate bins has led to viewing the problems and solutions with sector-specific lenses. And according to them, India needed an approach that is inter-disciplinary in its character, breaks traditional ministerial boundaries, and learns rapidly from the effects of warming that are ongoing and our successes and failures in dealing with them (Byravan & Sudhir, 2012, April 22).

Conclusion

This is rightly said, that this century is urban century, where more people are living in urban areas. The urbanization concept provides both the challenges and opportunities for every country, although it may not be uniform in every country. In India also, the urban population is increasing in good number, but there exist a problem of infrastructure deficit, which was a big hurdle in the way of providing basic services to the people and also more importantly the economic growth of the country. Thus, it is the right time for our country, to think and act seriously about the negative implications of the urbanization concept, and make it useful for the development of the country. But, urbanization needs to be sustainable in two counts i.e. First, it is need to equally benefit all the people in the society i.e. socially inclusive and secondly, environmentally sustainable.

Also, generally the three important questions needs to be answered by the future study on urbanization was, first question is regarding, 'what does urbanization mean for rural areas needs to be explored'? The second question is 'does urbanization leads to reduction in poverty rate is questionable'? Thirdly, 'are the developing and under-developing countries are prepared to handle their urban transition'? The answer to these questions will help us to understand, the urbanization concept very well for the development of the any society and people living in it, including India.

Notes

Note 1: Crime Rate means: incidence of crimes committed against children per one lakh population of children (up to 18 years of age).

Note 2: Suicide Rate means Number of Suicides per one lakh population.

Note 3: 100 Paise means One Rupee (Indian Currency).

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