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Urbanisation in India: Causes, Growth, Trends, Patterns, Consequences & Remedial Measures

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- Urbanisation is a form of social transformation from traditional rural societies to modern, industrial and urban communities. It is long term continuous process. *It is progressive concentration of population in urban unit.* Kingsley Davies has explained urbanisation as *process of switch from spread out pattern of human settlements to one of concentration in urban centers.*
- The process of urbanisation in India through history, because what distinguished India most, from many other countries of the world is its long tradition of urbanisation dating back as far as about five thousand years, when *Indus Valley civilization* saw the birth as the earliest urban settlement in human history. In India, the urban tradition continuous throughout these centuries and during the ancient period of our history there were many well planned, big and beautiful cities in different parts of the country.
- The process of urbanisation in developed countries is characterized by high level of urbanisation and some of them are in final stage of urbanisation process. Majority of the developing countries, the rate of urbanisation is very fast and it is not accompanied by industrialization but rapid growth of service sector in economies.
- Future growth of world's population is supposed to take place in the urban areas of less developed countries and the contribution of India in terms of urban population size, is quite substantial. *India is one among the country where the process of urbanization is an integral part of the development.*
- *According to 2011 census only 31 percent of the population of India lives in urban areas. According to UN's the urban population of India will be less than 35 percent in 2020 and approximately 40 percent 2030. By 2030 another 225 million people will be added to the Indian urban areas,* it is more than the population of Japan and Germany combined.
- This module aims to study the present and past tendency of urbanisation in India and also growth of cities, metropolitan cities and distribution of urban population in states and UT's of India since 1901 to 2011 Census periods.
- In India, urbanisation has been relatively slow during the last century period as compared with many other developing countries.

Definition of Urban Places (Global Scenario):

- **Argentina:** *Populated centers with 2000 or more inhabitants.*
- **Botswana:** *Agglomerations of 5000 or more inhabitants with 75% non-agricultural economic activity.*
- **Canada:** *Incorporated cities, towns and villages of 1000 or more inhabitants with urbanised fringe; Unincorporated places of 1000 or more inhabitants with population density of at least 390 persons /sq.km with urbanised fringe.*
- **China:** *(a) Location of country-level govt. agency (b) population of less than 20000*

with non-agricultural economic activity exceeds 2000 (c) population of more than 20000 with non-agricultural economic activity exceeds 10%.

- **Ethiopia:** *Localities of 2000 or more inhabitants.*
- **France:** *Communes agglomerations of 2000 or more inhabitants living in continuous houses.*
- **Israel:** *All settlements of more than 2000 inhabitants, except those where at least one-third of the heads of households, participating in the civilian labour force, earn their living from agriculture.*
- **Japan:** *Cities having 50000 or more inhabitants with 60% or more of the houses located in the main built-up area and 60% or more people engaged in manufacturing, trade, business or services.*
- **Mexico:** *Localities of 2500 or more inhabitants.*
- **Norway:** *Localities of 200 or more inhabitants.*
- **Portugal:** *Agglomerations of 10000 or more inhabitants.*
- **United States:** *Places of 2500 or more inhabitants and urbanised areas.*

Definition of Urban Places (Indian Scenario):

In India the definition of urban remained more or less same for the period 1901-1951. However in 1961 census, several modifications were made the definition of town adopted for the 1961 census was much more rigorous and further, this new definition was followed all over the country. *Indian Census definition of urban area in census of India, 2001 two types of town was identified.*

Statutory towns: The first category of urban units is known as Statutory Towns. These towns are notified under law by the concerned State/UT Government and have local bodies like municipal corporations, municipalities, municipal committees, etc., irrespective of their demographic characteristics as reckoned on 31st December 2009. Examples: Vadodara (M Corp.), Shimla (M Corp.) etc. All places with municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee declared by state law.

Census towns: The second category of Towns (as in item 2 above) is known as Census Town. These were identified on the basis of Census 2001 data.

City/Town: *according to Census of India (2011), places which satisfy following criteria can be defined as town*

- Any place with a Municipality, Corporation or Cantonment area, Notified town area.*
- A minimum population of 5000.*
- At least 75% of male working population engaged in non agricultural activities.*
- A density of population of at least 400 persons per square kilometer.*

Urban Agglomeration (UA): *An urban agglomeration is a continuous urban spread constituting a town and its adjoining outgrowths (OGs), or two or more physically contiguous towns together with or without outgrowths of such towns.* An Urban Agglomeration must consist of at least a statutory town and its total population (i.e. all the constituents put together) should not be less than 20,000 as per the 2001 Census. In varying local conditions, there were similar other combinations which have been treated as urban agglomerations satisfying the basic condition of contiguity. Examples: Greater Mumbai UA, Delhi UA, etc.

Out Growths (OG): *an out Growth (OG) is a viable unit such as a village or a hamlet or an enumeration block made up of such village or hamlet and clearly identifiable in terms of*

its boundaries and location. Some of the examples are railway colony, university campus, port area, military camps, etc., which have come up near a statutory town outside its statutory limits but within the revenue limits of a village or villages contiguous to the town. While determining the outgrowth of a town, it has been ensured that it possesses the urban features in terms of infrastructure and amenities such as pucca roads, electricity, taps, drainage system for disposal of waste water etc. educational institutions, post offices, medical facilities, banks etc. and physically contiguous with the core town of the UA. Examples: Central Railway Colony (OG), Triveni Nagar (N.E.C.S.W.) (OG), etc. Each such town together with its outgrowth(s) is treated as an integrated urban area and is designated as an 'urban agglomeration'.

In the 2011 Census, 475 places with 981 OGs have been identified as Urban Agglomerations as against 384 UAs with 962 OGs in 2001 Census.

Number of UAs/Towns and Out Growths (OGs):

Type of Towns/UAs/OGs		Number of towns	
		2001 Census	2011 Census
1	Statutory Towns	3799	4041
2	Census Towns	1362	3894
3	Urban Agglomerations	384	475
4	Out Growths	962	981

Source: Data computed and compiled from 2001 & 2011 Census report

At the Census 2011 there are 7,935 towns in the country. The number of towns has increased by 2,774 since last Census. Many of these towns are part of UAs and the rest are independent towns. The total number of Urban Agglomerations/Towns, which constitutes the urban frame, is 6166 in the country.

Population of UAs/Towns:

1. *The total urban population in the country as per Census 2011 is more than 377 million constituting 31.16% of the total population.*

2. **Class I UAs/Towns:** The UAs/Towns are grouped on the basis their population in Census. *The UAs/Towns which have at least 1,00,000 persons as population are categorized as Class I UA/Town. At the Census 2011, there are 468 such UAs/Towns.* The corresponding number in Census 2001 was 394.

3. *264.9 million persons, constituting 70% of the total urban population, live in this Class I UAs/Towns.* The proportion has increased considerable over the last Census. In the remaining classes of towns the growth has been nominal.

4. **Million Plus UAs/Towns:** *Out of 468 UAs/Towns belonging to Class I category, 53 UAs/Towns each has a population of one million or above each.* Known as Million Plus UAs/Cities, these are the major urban centers in the country. *160.7 million Persons (or 42.6% of the urban population) live in these Million Plus UAs/Cities. 18 new UAs/Towns have been added to this list since the last Census.*

5. **Mega Cities:** among the *Million plus UAs/Cities, there are three very large UAs with more than 10 million persons in the country, known as Mega Cities. These are Greater Mumbai UA (18.4 million), Delhi UA (16.3 million) and Kolkata UA (14.1 million).* The largest UA in the country is Greater Mumbai UA followed by Delhi UA. Kolkata UA which held the second rank in Census 2001 has been replaced by Delhi UA. *The growth in population in the Mega Cities has slowed down considerably during the last decade. Greater Mumbai UA, which had witnessed 30.47% growth in population during 1991-2001, has recorded 12.05% during 2001-2011. Similarly Delhi UA (from 52.24% to 26.69% in 2001-2011) and Kolkata UA (from 19.60% to 6.87% in 2001-2011) have also slowed*

down considerably.

Causes of Urbanisation in India:

Urbanisation has become a common feature of Indian society. Growth of Industries has contributed to the growth of cities. As a result of industrialization people have started moving towards the industrial areas in search of employment. This has resulted in the growth of towns and cities. Various reasons have led to the growth of cities. They are as follows:

- **Industrialization:** *Industrialization is a trend representing a shift from the old agricultural economics to novel non-agricultural economy, which creates a modernized society.* Through industrial revolution, more people have been attracted to move from rural to urban areas on the account of improved employment opportunities. *Industrialization has increased employment opportunities* by giving people the chance to work in modern sectors in job categories that aids to stir economic developments.
- **Commercialization:** Commerce and trade play a major role in urbanization. The distribution of goods and services and *commercial transactions in the modern era has developed modern marketing institutions and exchange methods that have tremendously given rise to the growth of towns and cities.* Commercialization and trade comes with the general perception that the towns and cities offer better commercial opportunities and returns compared to the rural areas.
- **Social benefits and services:** There are numerous social benefits attributed to life in the cities and towns. Examples include better educational facilities, better living standards, and better sanitation and housing, better health care, better recreation facilities, and better social life in general. On this account, *more and more people are prompted to migrate into cities and towns to obtain the wide variety of social benefits and services which are unavailable in the rural areas.*
- **Employment opportunities:** In cities and towns, there are ample job opportunities that continually draw people from the rural areas to seek better livelihood. Therefore, the *majority of people frequently migrate into urban areas to access well paying jobs as urban areas have countless employment opportunities in all developmental sectors such as public health, education, transport, sports and recreation, industries, and business enterprises.* Services and industries generate and increase higher value-added jobs, and this leads to more employment opportunities.
- **Modernization and changes in the mode of living:** Modernization plays a very important role in the process of urbanization. *As urban areas become more technology savvy together with highly sophisticated communication, infrastructure, medical facilities, dressing code, enlightenment, liberalization, and other social amenities availability, people believe they can lead a happy life in cities.* In urban areas, people also embrace changes in the modes of living namely residential habits, attitudes, dressing, food, and beliefs. *As a result, people migrate to cities and the cities grow by absorbing the growing number of people day after day.*
- **Rural urban transformation:** *As localities become more fruitful and prosperous due to the discovery of minerals, resource exploitation, or agricultural activities, cities start emerging as the rural areas transform to urbanism.* The increase in

productivity leads to economic growth and higher value-added employment opportunities. This brings about the need to develop better infrastructure, better education institutions, better health facilities, better transportation networks, establishment of banking institutions, better governance, and better housing. *As this takes place, rural communities start to adopt the urban culture and ultimately become urban centers that continue to grow as more people move to such locations in search of a better life.* Urban rural transformation can be observed in the following areas.

- ❖ Change in Dress habits.
- ❖ Adoption of modern Technology
- ❖ Enlightenment of women.
- ❖ Modern transport and communication. E.g.: Cell phones have become common even among rural people.
- ❖ Active involvement in politics.
- ❖ Growth of infrastructure like Banks, Post office.
- ❖ Awareness among rural consumers.
- ❖ Increasing demand for sophisticated products like cosmetics etc.

Thus it can be noticed that there are significant changes in the life style of village people. Indian villages have adopted urban culture and urban style of living. However, all villages in India are not transformed. Only certain villages situated close to the cities have been transformed.

- **Spread of education:** *The literacy rate has increased among the rural people. They have become more modernized.*

Salient features of Indian Urban Centers:

A sociological analysis of urban community contains several salient features. They are as follows:

- **Size:** As a rule, in the same country and at the same period, *the size of an urban community is much larger than that of a rural community.* In other words, urbanity and size of a community are positively correlated.
- **Marriage:** *In case of urban community there is a preponderance of love marriages and inter-caste marriages.* One also comes across a greater number of divorces. Sons and daughters enjoy considerable freedom in choosing their life partners.
- **Class extremes:** In the words of Bogardus, *“Class extremes characterize the city.” A town and a city house the richest as well as the poorest of people.* In a city, the slums of the poor exist alongside the palatial bungalows of the rich, amidst the apartments of the middle class members. The most civilized modes of behavior as well as the worst racketeering are found in the cities.
- **Social heterogeneity:** *If villages are the symbol of cultural homogeneity, the cities symbolize cultural heterogeneity.* The cities are characterized by diverse peoples, races and cultures. There is great variety in regard to the food habits, dress habits, living conditions, religious beliefs, cultural outlook, customs and traditions of the urbanites.
- **Social distance:** Social distance is the result of anonymity and heterogeneity. Most of one's routine social contacts in a town or city are *impersonal and segmentary in character.* In the urban community social responses are incomplete and half-hearted. There is utter lack of personal involvement in the affairs of others.

- **System of interaction:** Georg Simmel held that the social structure of urban communities is based on interest groups. *The circles of social contact are wider in the city than in the country. There is a wider area of interaction system per man and per aggregate.* This makes city life more complex and varied. The city life is characterized by the predominance of secondary contacts, impersonal, casual and short-lived relations. Man, at any rate, the man in the street, virtually loses his identity being treated as a “number” having a certain “address”.
- **Mobility:** The most important feature of urban community is its social mobility. *In urban areas the social status of an individual is determined not by heredity or birth but by his merit, intelligence and perseverance.* Urbanity and mobility are positively correlated.
- **Materialism:** In the urban community the social existence of man revolves round wealth and material possessions. *The worth of an urbanite today is being judged not by what he is but by what he has. Status symbols in the form of financial assets, salaries, costly home appliances count a lot for the urbanites.*
- **Individualism:** The urbanites attach supreme importance to their own welfare and happiness. *They hesitate to think or act for the good of others.*
- **Rationality:** In urban community there is emphasis on rationality. *People are inclined to reason and argue.* Their relationship with others is governed, for the most part, by the consideration of gain or loss. *Relationship takes place on a contractual basis. Once the contract is over, human relationship automatically comes to a close.*
- **Anonymity:** As Bogardus observes, the “*Urban groups have a reputation for namelessness.*” By virtue of its size and population, the urban community cannot be a primary group. *Here nobody knows anybody and nobody cares for anybody. The urbanites do not care for their neighbours and have nothing to do with their miseries or pleasures.*
- **High Population & Density:** The urban areas comprise of the cities and the towns and they have *the higher density of population* as compared to other areas. Since urban areas are considered to be developed regarding education, medical and health care, employment opportunities and so forth, therefore, individuals migrate from rural areas to the urban. People belonging to rural and tribal communities, who are residing in the conditions of poverty and backwardness, possess this viewpoint that they will be able to enhance their living conditions by migrating to urban areas. The primary feature of urban areas is characterized by higher population density and vast human features in comparison to the areas surrounding it. Urban areas are created and developed by the process of urbanization (Indian Society and Social Change, 2011).
- **Cultural Heterogeneity:** In urban areas, cultural heterogeneity is commonly found. *This is due to the fact that individuals migrate to urban areas on a large scale.* The main aspects that lead to migration of the individuals are education, employment opportunities and health care and medical facilities.
- **Non-Agricultural Economy:** The occupations and the employment opportunities of the individuals in urban areas are based on *the non-agricultural sector*. Individuals are professionals such as doctors, lawyers, researchers, teachers, educationists and so forth. The other occupations include manufacturing, trade and commerce, professional and governance.

- **Higher Social Mobility:** In the urban areas, more social mobility is found amongst the individuals. *Individuals get easily adapted to the class structure, which can be upper, middle or lower class on the basis of the economic criteria.* The development of urbanization has contributed in the enhancement of skills and capabilities of the individuals, training of the managers and the administrators, distribution of technology and other innovative techniques and methods. With the development of industrial economies, people have become resourceful, inventive and conscientious in their workings. With the advent of industrialization, there has been expansion of employment opportunities amongst the individuals.
- **Higher Social Communication:** Communication is considered to be an imperative area for the progress and welfare of the individuals. Individuals are required to communicate with each other in order to implement all the activities of their daily lives. For instance, people interact with each other at home, in the offices, on the roads, at market places and so forth. *In urban areas, interaction amongst the individuals is based on secondary contact and not primary contact.* It means, people normally communicate with each other through technology and making use of other technical devices, such as emails, messaging, texts and so forth. Face to face interaction and individual to individual interaction is not possible to a much greater extent in urban areas. In other words, technology is more commonly used.
- **Telecommunication Services:** In urban areas, *the role of telecommunications has played an imperative role in the growth and advancement of the economy.* There is a broad potential for leading to an increase in the telecommunication services within the country. Advanced communication services such as, fax, data transmission and leased circuits are becoming increasingly common.
- **Technological area:** In urban areas, *the usage of technology in the implementation of all kinds of transactions and operations has largely led to progression of the individuals.* In offices, individuals make use of technology to prepare reports, documents and create communication links with the other individuals.
- **Self Living:** In urban areas, individuals *normally remain occupied with their own lives.* They normally adopt an urban way of life. Individuals, who are working and are engaged in full time jobs, normally leave their homes in the mornings and come back in the evenings. Full time employment opportunities are six days in a week and individuals are required to work eight to ten hours each day. Formal interaction, impersonal behavioral traits, non-kinship relationships, is some of the attributes that the individuals possess. *Establishment of shopping malls, parks, playgrounds, clubs and so forth are some of the features that have occupied individuals living in urban areas.*
- **Nuclear Families:** In urban areas, individuals mostly *reside in nuclear families and family disintegration is considered to be an important feature.* In the present existence, there are number of individuals who are migrating to foreign countries. In the local urban areas, too, individuals may live separately from their parents. The family system within the urban areas is characterized as unstable. *Individuals normally move out of their homes to other regions with the main purposes of education or employment opportunities.* Moving away from the family is not considered to be negative when one has the objective of looking for a better living opportunity.
- **Norm and social role conflict:** The urban community is characterized by *norm and social role conflict.* Factors such as the size, density and heterogeneity of the

population, extreme occupational specialization and the class structure prevalent in the urban context lead to such a state of affairs. *In the absence of uniform and fixed social norms, individuals or groups often seek divergent ends. This has a considerable share in causing social disorganization.*

- **Rapid social and cultural change:** Rapid social and cultural change characterizes urban life. *The importance attached to traditional or sacred elements has been relegated to the background.* The benefits of urban life have effected changes in respect of norms, ideologies and behavior patterns.
- **Voluntary associations:** The urban community is characterized by impersonal, mechanical and formal social contacts occurring among the people. *Naturally they have a strong desire for developing genuine social relationships to satisfy their hunger for emotional warmth and sense of security.* They form associations, clubs, societies and other secondary groups.
- **Formal social control:** Social control in urban community is essentially formal in nature. *Individual's behavior is regulated by such agencies as police, jails, law courts etc.*
- **Secularization of outlook:** *In cities ritual and kinship obligations are diluted.* Caste and community considerations yield to economic logic. This results in secularization of outlook.
- **Modernization:** Urban areas provide impulses for modernization in society as a whole.

Trends of Urban process in India

- ❖ Urbanization is an integral part of economic development, as the economy develops; there is an increase in the per capita income and also the demand for non farm goods in the economy.
- ❖ These goods are not heavily land dependent and use more of the other factors of production especially labour and capital. They are cheaper if produced in the urban sector of the economy, since urban settlements enjoy economies of agglomeration in manufacturing services and provision of infrastructure. Economic growth influences the rate of urbanization, while urbanization in turn, affects the rate at which the economy grows. *As the country urbanizes, the share of national income that originates in the urban sector also increases.*
- ❖ Urbanisation brings in its wake a number of *challenges such as rapid population growth in urban settlements, which is cited as the biggest challenges in most literature on this subject.* This is consequences of births exceeding deaths, migration of rural population to urban centers and also the classification of rural settlements as towns. Apart from growing population, there are other challenges too.
- ❖ The first set of *challenges relates to the inadequate growth of formal employment, resulting in the growth of the urban informal sector, open urban unemployment and under employment. The second set of challenges arises out of the inability of the urban physical and social infrastructure to grow in step with population, resulting in the deterioration the quality of urban life.*



Table: 1 Total population and urban population from 1901 - 2011

Census year	Total population (million)	Urban population (million)	Percentage of urban population to total
1901	238.3	25.8	10.83
1911	252.1	25.9	10.27
1921	251.3	28.1	11.18
1931	278.9	33.5	12.01
1941	318.6	44.2	13.87
1951	361.0	62.4	17.29
1961	439.2	78.9	17.96
1971	548.1	109.1	19.91
1981	683.3	159.4	23.33
1991	846.3	217.6	25.71
2001	1027.1	285.4	27.78
2011	1210.2	377.1	31.16

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1901-2011 Census report

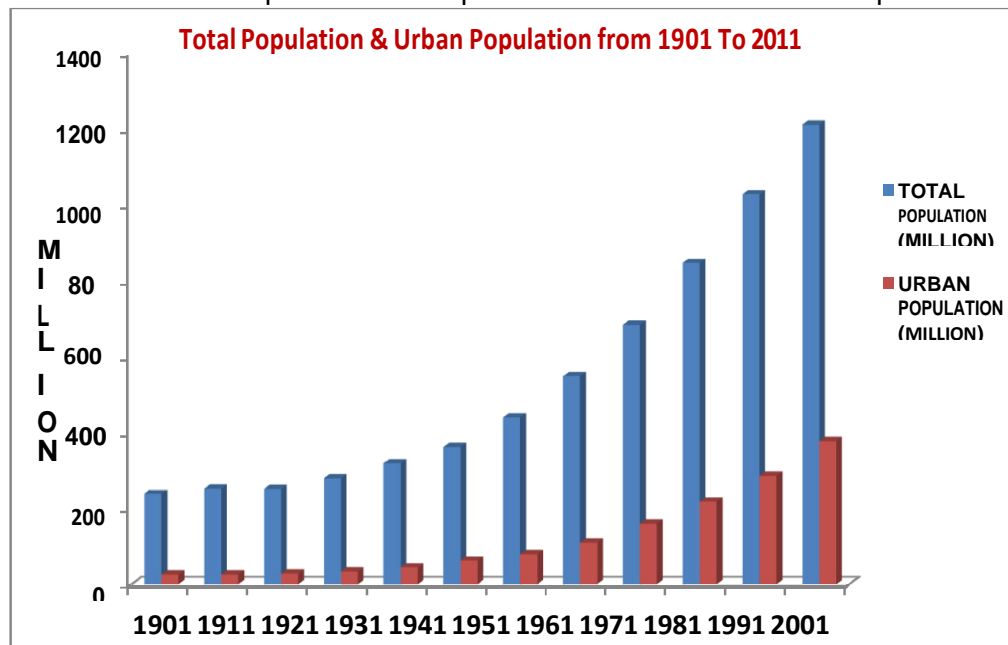


Figure: 1 Total population and urban population from 1901 to 2011

- ❖ Table 1 shows the total population and urban population from 1901 to 2011 census years. The population has increased from *238.3 million in 1901 to 1210.1 million in 2011*.
- ❖ The size of the countries urban population is increased from *11 percent in 1901 to 31 percent in 2011*.
- ❖ From this, it has been observed that there is *more than tenfold increase in the countries urban population* and the countries *level of urbanization* has increased by only about 2.5 times during past 100 years.
- ❖ From table it is observed that during first half century 1901 to 1951, the growth rate of urbanization has been very slow but after 1951 it starts increasing very sharply.
- ❖ When compare to the other means of development, *the growth of urban population in our country is almost similar to that of other modern*

developments, especially after independence.

- ❖ It has been noticed that during the *beginning of the 20th century, about ten percent of the population are living in urban areas, especially in cities of smaller size, with less than 20000 persons (Davis 1951) of 26 million urban population, about 50 percent of them living in urban areas during 1901.*
- ❖ During the *19th century the urban growth has shown increasing trend except on account of accidental decline, especially 1901 -1911 on account of epidemics like plague and others broke out population in many cities was temporarily evacuated and millions of urbanites died.* During later period until 1941 the growth rate of urban population was quite slow.
- ❖ In between the *1901-1941, the size of urban population increase from 25.9 million to 44.1 million* that is about 18 million of individuals was added in the period of four decades.
- ❖ The enormous increase in the size and the proportion of urban population accounted during the decade 1941-1951, and the proportion of urban population increased to 18.3 percent. This increase the volume of urban population on account of massive displacement of population at the time of partition of the country during 1947.
- ❖ Large number of displaced persons from Pakistan had settled in large cities of India.
- ❖ Apart from this, *generation of employment opportunities in the urban, government and service sectors.* The opening of large number of schools and colleges and other educational institutions in cities, increased the volume of security enhanced self confidence and freedom to live anywhere in India.
- ❖ After independence had gave ample opportunities to rural Indians to come and settle in the nearby cities.
- ❖ In the period of *1951-1961 the growth of population bit slow, the exponential growth rate was recorded as 2.34. Whereas the percentage gain in urban population is only about 0.07*, which was less than the gain 0.34 percent during 1941-1951 decade.
- ❖ This *decline is on account of reorganization of state boundaries during 1956*, and also adoption of new definition of classification of rural, urban areas and towns.
- ❖ As a result of this about *803 smaller towns were merged with other towns or declassified into rural areas.* In spite of such decline in gain in the size of urban population during the decade was on the increasing order as compare to earlier decade.
- ❖ During decade *1961-1971 and 1971-1981 the movement of growth of urban population had shown increasing order, growth rate exceeds 3.25 percentages* and the size of urban population had increased by 12.5 millions on an average per annum.
- ❖ From *1981 to 2001, census report shows the rate of growth of urban population was found to be slow, during 1981 to 1991 and 1991 to 2001 the average annual exponential growth rate recorded 3.9 and 2.73 per annum respectively.*
- ❖ But the percentage increase the *urban population stood at 17.97 to 27.78 during 1961-2001.* It shows almost uniformity towards increase in urban population.
- ❖ During the period between *2001 to 2011 the average growth rate of the urban population had increased to 3.38 percent* that is about 92 millions of urban population added, on account of globalization, attracted more employment

opportunities and improvement in both technical and professional education along with more security of life and others.

Growth of Cities (%) in India

- ❖ Some of the towns were historically known as *marketing and educational service centers, meeting the needs and necessary service* to the surrounding rural settlement in the region.
- ❖ It has been greatly believed that for a quite a long period of time before the second decade of the 20th century, both the size and number of towns remain the same.
- ❖ During this period the size, *growth rate urban population and transfer individuals rural to urban area were found to be very slow.*

Table: 2 Trends of urbanisation in India census from 1901-2011

Census year	Number of towns/UA	Total population	Urban population	Percentage of urban population
1901	1827	238396327	25851873	10.84
1911	1815	252093390	25941633	10.29
1921	1949	251321213	28086167	11.18
1931	2072	278977238	33455989	11.99
1941	2250	318660580	44153297	13.86
1951	2843	361088090	62443709	17.29
1961	2365	439234771	78936603	17.97
1971	2590	548159652	109113977	19.91
1981	3378	683329097	159462547	23.34
1991	3768	844324222	217177625	25.72
2001	5161	1027015247	285354954	27.78
2011	7935	1210193422	377105760	31.16

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1901-2011 Census report

- ❖ Table 2 gives the number of towns in each census periods from 1901 – 2011. From the table it has been observed that except some *negative increase during 1901-1911*, there have been always positive increases of percentage of urban population in India.
- ❖ During *1921-2011 the number of towns, and total urban population showing an increasing trend*. And also it has been observed that *some fluctuations in number of town 1961 census and after, it is because of some towns were declassified and some new ones were added at each census counts.*
- ❖ Following the changes in the definition of urban areas and city size in 1961 census. *1971 census after, the same 1961 census urban definition was adopted with slight modification of the term “town group” as urban agglomeration by merging several towns. In 2011 census the number of towns UA’s increased to 7935 accounted for 31.16 percent urban population.*

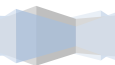


Table: 3 Percentage increase in number of towns from 2001 to 2011

Sl no.	India/State/UTs	2001			2011			Percentage increase in towns
		Statuary towns	Census towns	Total	Statuary towns	Census towns	Total	
	India	3799	1362	5161	4041	3894	7935	53.7
1	Chandigarh*	1	0	1	1	5	6	500
2	Daman & Diu*	2	0	2	2	6	8	300
3	Kerala	60	99	159	59	461	520	227
4	Dadar Nagar Havelli*	0	2	2	1	5	6	200
5	Nagaland	8	1	9	19	7	26	188.9
6	West Bengal	123	252	375	129	780	909	142.4
7	Lakshadweep*	0	3	3	0	6	6	100
8	Chhattisgarh	75	22	97	168	14	182	87.6
9	Tripura	13	10	23	16	26	42	82.6
10	NCT of Delhi*	3	59	62	3	110	113	82.3
11	Assam	80	45	125	88	126	214	71.2
12	Andhra Pradesh	117	93	210	125	228	353	68.1
13	Pondicherry*	6	0	6	6	4	10	66.7
14	Andaman Nicobar island*	1	2	3	1	4	5	66.7
15	Jammu & Kashmir	72	3	75	86	36	122	62.7
16	Orissa	107	31	138	107	116	223	61.6
17	Goa	14	30	44	14	56	70	59.1
18	Arunachal Pradesh	0	17	17	26	1	27	58.8
19	Manipur	28	5	33	28	23	51	54.5
20	Bihar	125	5	130	139	60	199	53.1
21	Jharkhand	44	108	152	40	188	228	50.0
22	Haryana	84	22	106	80	74	154	45.3
23	Gujarat	168	74	242	195	153	348	43.8
24	Maharashtra	251	127	378	256	279	535	41.5
25	Punjab	139	18	157	143	74	217	38.2
26	Meghalaya	10	6	16	10	12	22	37.5
27	Uttarakhand	74	12	86	74	42	116	34.9
28	Rajasthan	184	38	222	185	112	297	33.8
29	Tamilnadu	721	111	832	721	376	1097	31.9
30	Uttar Pradesh	638	66	704	648	267	915	30

31	Karnataka	226	44	270	220	127	347	28.5
32	Madhya Pradesh	339	55	394	364	112	476	20.8
33	Mizoram	22	0	22	23	0	23	4.5
34	Himachal Pradesh	56	1	57	56	3	59	3.5
35	Sikkim	8	1	9	8	1	9	0.0

Source: Data computed and compiled from 2001 & 2011 Census report



- ❖ From Table 3 it has been observed that increase in number of towns from 2001 to 2011. Among the states *Kerala, Nagaland, West Bengal has registered more than 100 percent increase in the number of towns since 2001 census.*
- ❖ Even in UT's like *Dadar Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep showing same trend in increase of towns* and also UT's like Chandigarh and Delhi which are most urbanised have some of the settlements classified as urban.
- ❖ In case of states like *Mizoram, Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh, the increase in rate of number of towns is much lesser than the average increase in number of cities in India*; these states are having 4.5, 3.5 and 0 percent increase in their cities during 2011. On account of the topographical factor even today the government made several efforts to increase the number of places into cities. But it is unable to achieve the target.
- ❖ On the other side states and UT's like *Chandigarh, Daman Diu, Kerala, Nagaland, West Bengal and others have recorded tremendous increase in the number of towns.* It may be on account of decentralization of administrative machinery, provision of better civic amenities and others had contributed on a large scale which promotes to increase in the number of towns and cities.

Allocation of Cities by Population Size

The structure of population of urban areas is obtained by analyzing the distribution of urban population in different size classes. According to Indian census the urban units have been classified into six categories.

Category	Population
Class I	More than 1 lakh
Class II	50000 to 1 lakh
Class III	20000 to 50000
Class IV	10000 to 20000
Class V	5000-10000
Class VI	Below 5000

- ✚ *The Class I urban units are generally referred to as cities that is all urban agglomerations or towns or cities with a population 1 lakh and above.*
- ✚ *The urban agglomerations with million plus populations are referred to as metropolitan places.*
- ✚ From Table 3 it has been observed that in spite of *discontinuity in the growth of total population at some points during 1901 to 2011.* The size of urban population was increased continuously from 25.85 million to 377.1 millions
- ✚ *In 1901 about 1827 cities were accommodating all urban population and then in 2011 the number of cities increased to 7935.*
- ✚ *In 1901 out of 1827 different cities about 1614 belonging to city size of class IV, V and IV which contain 90 percent of total urban population this was the beginning stage.*
- ✚ Later in 1930 new measures had been introduced to eliminate infectious diseases and hence efforts were made by the British rulers to improve the survival rate of Indian population.

- ✚ It has been described that it is a starting point of new demographic era in Indian context, then only few well off *people started moving to the nearby small cities for trading, schooling, seeking health services and finding jobs even then process of urban development is poor*, it forced the people to move settle down here by towns for the purpose of getting in the nearby cities, therefore the cities of smaller size, which were close to villages are found to be more convenient for the village out migrants.
- ✚ When the process of urbanisation starts, the large amount of population lives in cities of smaller size.
- ✚ According to the Indian context the *volume of concentration of urban population in small and medium towns and slow growth of urban population existed till 1951*.
- ✚ From *1901 to 1951 hardly thousand cities were added at the rate of 20 cities per year*.

Table: 4 Number of cities / towns by size in India census 1901-2011

CENSUS YEAR	ALL CLASSES	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1901	1811	24	43	130	391	744	479
1911	1754	23	40	135	364	707	485
1921	1894	29	45	145	370	734	571
1931	2017	35	56	183	434	800	509
1941	1990	49	74	242	498	720	407
1951	2795	76	91	327	608	1124	569
1961	2270	102	129	437	719	711	172
1971	2476	148	173	558	827	623	147
1981	3145	216	270	738	1053	639	229
1991	3609	296	341	927	1135	725	185
2001	5161	441	496	1388	1563	1041	232
2011	7935	468	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1901-2011 Census report

- ✚ There is not much variation in the percent share of urban population of each cities size category *until 1951, city class size of category IV, V and VI showing large in number*.
- ✚ Most of these *towns cater such services as materials for their daily need such as schooling, health, market for their products* etc., to the surrounding villages.
- ✚ On the other side it is surprising that, the trend increases in the *number of cities and size of population growth of class II and III cities*.
- ✚ Since in 1901 till recent census were not affected. Similar to this in case of *class I and class III cities during 1901 to 1911 the tendency is similar*.
- ✚ However there has been a slow tendency of transition of cities from class I to its immediate preceding or succeeding before the independence.
- ✚ It has been observed that during the two decades *1921 to 1941, the economy's growth of population had under went with great change and experienced high birth rate* as a reason of the same volume of migrants from village areas to nearby cities had increased on account of seeking better facilities, along with employment, especially in *cities of IV, V and VI the migrant volume had*

increased.

- ✚ After independence, the government of India is implemented a number of development plans for the period of 5 years, is known as five year plan. Apart from various objectives the government had given much trust for the process of urbanisation in the subsequent planning periods the *number of cities of smaller size IV, V and VI classes and percentage share of urban population of these classes have shown a gradually decline on account of transfer of these cities to the higher category.*
- ✚ But cities in other size classes have shown a greater tendency of increase in their numbers as well as the size of population and percentage share of urban population. *The number of cities of class VI size category had increased from 479 to 569 during 1901 to 1951. While during 1951 to 2001 the number was decreased to 232.*
- ✚ The number of cities of *class V had showing some fluctuations from 1901 to 1941, but showing decreasing trend during 1951 to 2001, from 40.21 percent to 20.17 percent* (Refer table 4).
- ✚ On the other hand, the number of *class I cities have shown steady increase* in their number from *24 cities with 1.33 percentage share of urban population to 49 in number with 2.46 percentage urban population between 1901 to 1941.* But during the period *1951 to 2001 the number was increased to 441 accounting for 8.54 percentage of urban population.*
- ✚ It has been observed that, in *2011 the number of class I cities increased to 468* but the *percentage share decreased to 5.9 percent* (Refer Table 3 and 4) on account of increase in the cost of living index, especially the people who are working in unorganized sector are unable to bear the burden of such high cost of living in class I cities.
- ✚ Obviously *they migrated to class IV, V and VI cities.* But even though government of India through various policies helps in providing all kinds of economic infrastructures to other class cities other than class I cities.
- ✚ But on the *rate of growing the number of economic facilities had attracted more population to class I cities only.*
- ✚ It is evident from the census period of *2001, 68.6 percent urban population are concentrated in class I cities.* Similar tendencies have been observed that in cities of *class IV and class VI.* There has been slight *decrease in the percentage of urban population during 2001.* But either the primary or secondary data is not available pertaining to 2011.
- ✚ Whereas in case of *class II, class III and class V cities there has been slight increase in the percentage of urban population* an account of either employment generation or for better economic facilities.

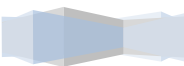


Table: 5 Percentage distribution of number of cities/towns in India 1901-2011

Census Year	All classes	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1901	100	1.33	2.37	7.18	21.59	41.08	26.45
1911	100	1.31	2.28	7.7	20.75	40.31	27.65
1921	100	1.53	2.38	7.66	19.54	38.75	30.15
1931	100	1.74	2.78	9.07	21.52	39.66	25.24
1941	100	2.46	3.72	12.16	25.03	36.14	20.45
1951	100	2.72	3.26	11.7	21.75	40.21	20.36
1961	100	4.49	5.68	19.25	31.67	31.32	7.58
1971	100	5.98	6.99	22.54	33.4	25.16	5.94
1981	100	6.87	8.59	23.47	33.48	20.32	7.28
1991	100	8.2	9.45	25.69	35.45	19.09	5.13
2001	100	8.54	9.61	26.89	30.28	20.17	4.5
2011	100	5.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

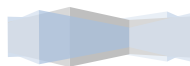
Source: Data computed and compiled from 1901-2011 Census report

Table: 6 Percentage distribution of urban population by city size class in India 1901- 2011

Census Year	All classes	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1901	100	26.00	11.29	15.64	20.83	20.14	6.1
1911	100	27.48	10.51	16.4	19.73	19.31	6.57
1921	100	29.70	10.39	15.92	18.29	18.67	7.02
1931	100	31.2	11.65	16.8	18	17.15	5.21
1941	100	38.23	11.42	16.35	15.78	15.07	3.14
1951	100	44.63	9.96	15.72	13.63	12.97	3.09
1961	100	51.42	11.23	16.94	12.77	6.87	0.77
1971	100	57.24	10.92	16.01	10.94	4.45	0.44
1981	100	60.42	11.63	14.33	9.55	3.58	0.5
1991	100	65.21	10.95	13.19	7.77	2.6	0.29
2001	100	68.6	9.67	12.2	6.8	2.3	0.2
2011	100	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1901-2011 Census report

- ❖ From table 6 it has been observed that *cities of other categories except class I have shown continuous fall in their growth rate*. Hence *after independence in India the process of urbanisation has been completely dominated by class I cities*. This shows that spatial direction of developmental process especially towards



concentration of various economic amenities initiated by the govt. Over the decades after independence.

- ❖ *Class I cities alone accounts for 68.6 percent of the total urban population in 2001.*
- ❖ Thus *class I cities are growing at the cost of other size classes and their growth is much faster than other cities* and towns in the country. Unless central and state govt. initiates decentralization in economic policies to build up economic infrastructure of cities of smaller order other than class I.

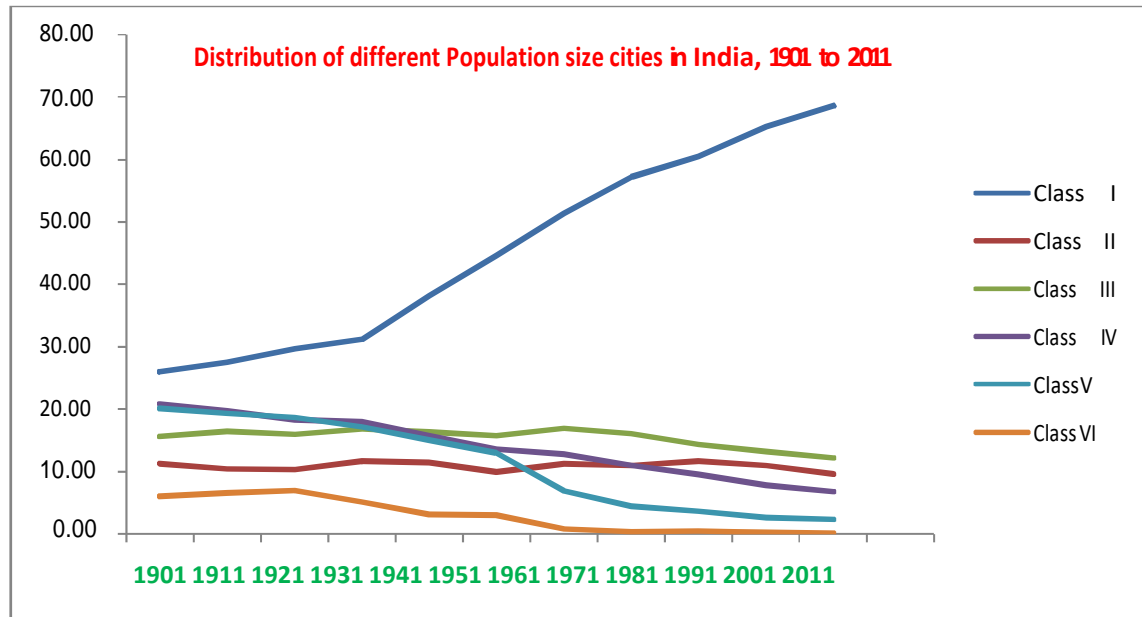


Figure: 2 Percentage distribution of urban population by city size class in India 1901 to 2011

Growth of Metropolitan Cities in India

- The decadal growth and distribution of urban population clearly shows the direction and development *process of the metropolitan cities which has been taking place since independence.*
- During post independence most of the *development has been taken place in India for strengthening the urban economy especially the cities of larger size.*
- *The larger sizes of city are recognized as metropolitan cities which possess the total size of population exceeding 1 million populations.*
- During *pre independence period there were only two places are recognized as metropolitan cities.* Calcutta (Now Kolkata) in 1911 and Bombay (Now Mumbai) in 1941.
- But *after independence the number of metropolitan cities had increased to 12 during 1981.* On account of higher scale of migration from rural- urban and urban-urban the number of *metropolitan cities had recorded to 23 by 1991.*
- It indicates that about *8.3 percent of the urban population at the total population of a country limiting in metropolitan cities.*
- Further during *2001 percentage of population living metro cities accounted for*

about 11.65 percent of the total national population.

- During *2011 the amount of metropolitan cities had increased to 53 obviously the population of the country recorded at 1210.1 million of which about 35 percent people are living in urban cities.*
- Nearly *13.54 percent of populations are living in metro cities.* This shows the tremendous improvement not only in the number of cities but also an increase in urban population decade after decade.



Table: 7 Indices of population growth of Urban Agglomeration /cities having the population more than a million 1951- 2011

Population rank in 2001/2011	Cities/Urban Agglomerations (1000000+population)	UA	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
1	GREATER MUMBAI	"	100	140	210	278	424	510	572
2	DELHI	"	100	164	254	399	586	896	1135
3	KOLKATA	"	100	128	159	197	236	283	302
4	CHENNAI	"	100	126	206	278	352	425	564
5	BANGALORE	"	100	153	212	372	525	725	1081
6	HYDERABAD	"	100	110	160	230	382	506	682
7	AHMEDABAD	"	100	137	201	292	378	516	724
8	PUNE	"	100	130	186	283	410	618	830
9	SURAT	"	100	134	208	389	640	1184	1934
10	JAIPUR	M.C	100	135	209	334	499	763	1010
11	KANPUR	UA	100	138	181	232	288	385	414
12	LUCKNOW	UA	100	132	164	203	336	452	584
13	NAGPUR	UA	100	143	193	272	371	474	556
14	GHAZIABAD	UA	100	161	313	656	1170	2213	5391
15	INDORE	UA	100	127	180	267	357	488	697
16	COIMBATORE	UA	100	156	256	320	383	509	749
17	KOCHI	UA	100	158	262	390	539	640	1000
18	PATNA	UA	100	127	169	282	337	521	627
19	KHODE	UA	100	168	257	306	450	494	1140
20	BHOPAL	UA	100	218	376	656	1038	1425	1840
21	THRISSUR	UA	100	97	136	318	365	438	2462
22	VADODRA	UA	100	147	224	370	533	705	860
23	AGRA	UA	100	135	169	199	252	354	465
24	MALAPURAM	UA	100	119	461	905	1373	1645	1640
25	TRIVANTHAPURA	UA	100	156	228	272	432	465	882
26	KANNUR	UA	100	205	165	506	563	604	1992
27	LUDHIYANA	MC	100	159	261	395	678	909	1049
28	NASIK	UA	100	137	173	282	462	734	996
29	VIJAYAWADA	UA	100	145	212	329	454	558	800
30	MADURAI	UA	100	132	191	245	293	324	394
31	VARANASI	UA	100	137	125	125	129	117	119
32	MEERUT	UA	100	120	130	142	156	137	123
33	FARIDABHAD	MC	100	158	208	269	187	171	133



34	RAJKOTA	UA	100	147	155	148	147	153	139
35	JAMSHEDPUR	UA	100	150	134	154	122	133	121
36	SRNAGAR	UA	100	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	129
37	JABALPUR	UA	100	143	146	142	117	123	115
38	ASANSOL	UA	100	164	124	158	152	140	116
39	VASAIVIRARCITY	UA	100	144	159	117	160	208	700
40	ALLAHABHAD	UA	100	130	119	127	130	123	117
41	DHANBAD	UA	100	313	199	150	119	131	112
42	AURANGABAD	UA	100	147	169	191	187	151	133
43	AMRITSAR	UA	100	116	117	131	119	142	118
44	JHODPUR	UA	100	124	141	159	132	129	132
45	RANCHI	UA	100	131	190	189	122	140	130
46	RAIPUR	UA	100	155	147	164	137	151	160
47	KOLLAM	UA	100	186	135	156	140	105	292
48	GWAILOR	UA	100	124	135	137	129	121	127
49	DURGABHILANGAR	UA	100	658	184	200	140	135	115
50	CHANDIGARH	UA	100	NA	235	182	136	140	127
	INDIA		100	126	175	252	348	462	608

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1951-2011 Census report



- Table 7 refers to indices of urban population growth in cities of UA's shows during 1961 – 2011. This *UA's have grown much faster than earlier decades*.
- The UA's *Ghaziabad, Delhi, Bangalore, Surat, Jaipur, Kozikude, Bhopal, Trissur and others have registered highest growth during 2001 to 2011 census period*. This indicates that both process of urbanisation and development have concentrated in these cities.
- In India there were *four mega cities with population more than 5 million in 1991* these are Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi and Chennai containing one fourth of the total population of the class I size cities.
- *In India and among 34 largest cities in the world, these occupy sixth, tenth, twentieth, thirtieth positions respectively in 1991 census*.
- Where as in *2011, in India there were six mega cities with population more than 5 millions these are Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad*.
- Among *largest cities in the world and these occupy eighth, ninth, twelfth, thirty-third, thirty - seventh and thirty- eighth positions respectively*.
- Thus in India the situation and problems associated with the process of urbanisation is more complex than elsewhere because of large concentration of urban population in a few agglomerations.



Table: 8 Decadal: Variations rate of UA's and metropolitan cities since 1951-2011

RANK		1951-61	1961-71	1971-81	1981-91	1991-2001	2001-2011
1	GREATER MUMBAI	40.37	45.98	42.94	33.69	30.47	12.05
2	DELHI	64.17	54.17	57.09	46.95	52.96	26.69
3	KOLKATA	28.14	24.01	23.9	19.88	19.81	6.87
4	CHENNAI	26.08	63.02	35.31	26.41	20.99	32.56
5	BANGALORE	53.49	37.88	75.56	41.36	38.04	49.07
6	HYDERABAD	10.48	44.66	43.67	66.6	32.17	34.96
7	AHMADABAD	37.46	46.02	45.24	29.51	36.62	40.38
8	PUNE	29.93	43.53	51.73	44.82	50.79	34.28
9	SURAT	33.75	55.27	87.4	64.41	85.1	63.09
10	JAIPUR	34.82	55.17	59.42	49.56	52.98	32.33
11	KANPUR	37.66	31.32	28.53	23.84	33.78	7.53
12	LUCKNOW	31.96	24.14	23.79	65.66	34.53	29.21
13	NAGPUR	43.32	34.56	40.8	36.45	27.97	17.29
14	GHAZIABAD	61.02	94.54	109.56	78.21	89.2	143.58
15	INDORE	27.05	42.03	47.85	33.73	36.78	42.88
16	COIMBATORE	55.99	64.26	25.01	19.6	32.74	47.25
17	KOCHI	57.69	66.02	48.82	38.27	18.88	56.20
18	PATNA	27.18	32.88	66.71	19.67	54.41	20.53
19	KHOZIKHOD	68.14	52.87	19.22	46.72	109.87	130.68
20	BHOPAL	17.87	72.62	74.35	58.38	37.23	29.14
21	THRISSUR	96.94	39.92	34.46	14.79	20.02	461.85
22	VADODARA	46.5	52.78	65.34	44.02	32.32	21.87
23	AGRA	35.41	24.76	17.76	26.86	40.43	31.18
24	MALLAPURAM	18.53	88.86	96.38	51.69	19.83	896.8
25	THIRUVANANTAPURAM	55.65	46.22	19.44	58.85	107.67	89.67
26	KANNUR	105.33	80.29	206.83	11.21	107.39	229.76
27	LUDHIYANA	58.67	64.39	51.32	71.77	34.11	15.40
28	NASHIK	37.41	26.03	63.06	63.73	58.87	35.62
29	VIJAYAWADA	44.61	46.58	55.34	37.81	22.91	43.45
30	MADURAI	32.39	44.32	28.02	19.73	10.79	21.55

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1951-2011 Census report



- A part from the growth rate of urban population the table 8, analyse the decade growth rate of population among major metropolitan in India 1981 – 2001 during the first decade *1981 - 1991, 1991-2001 the decade growth rate increase in some of metropolitan like Ghaziabad, Patna, Kozhikode, Kannur others.*
- But even though most of the metropolitan cities had recorded a steady increase in their decadal growth but there has been slight variation had observed during *1991 to 2001 and 2001 to 2011, stating that except Thrivananthapuram, Kannur, Kochi, Ghaziabad and other metropolitan centers have not undergone any such variation in their decadal growth* may be on account of industrializations, economic infrastructures and others, have influenced to control the rapid change in the composition of the population.

State Wise Distribution (Spatial Distribution) of Urban Population in India

- The distributive aspect of urban population as per 2011 census each state and UT's are shown in the table 9.
- It is analysed a wide variation has occurred as during the attainment of urbanisation among *29 states under the analysis the smallest state is HP which attain 10 percent of urban population. It is the lowest among all states.*
- Whereas *Delhi attained 97.5 percent of urban population has the highest proportion of urban people during 2011.*
- Among union territories, earlier *Dadar Nagar Haveli had remained as smallest and largest proportion of urban population.* But in 2011 census Among UT's *Andaman and Nicobar islands have registered lowest percentage of urban population registered about 35.67 percentages, whereas Chandigarh recorded at the highest level 97.25 percentage.*
- When compared to 2001 census *the situation is much better in 2011 where West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and UT's of Andaman and Nicobar, Pondicherry, Daman and Diu had registered urban population much above the national average 31.16 percentage.*
- But in case of many *backward states like Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Orissa and Most of the newly formed states possess less proportion of urban population and below the national average* (Refer table 9).

Table: 9 Percentage of urban population of different states/UT'S 1991 – 2011

RANKS (based on 2011)	INDIA/STATE/UT	1991	2001	2011
1	GOA	41.02	49.47	62.17
2	MIZORAM	46.2	49.5	51.51
3	TAMILNADU	34.2	43.86	48.45
4	KERALA	30.91	25.97	47.72
5	MAHARAHSTRA	38.73	42.4	45.23
6	GUJURAT	34.4	37.35	42.58
7	KARNATAKA	23.83	33.98	38.57
8	PUNJAB	29.72	33.95	37.49
9	HARAYANA	24.79	29.00	34.79
10	ANDRAPRADESH	26.84	27.08	33.49
11	WESTBENGAL	27.39	28.03	31.89
12	UTTAR KAND	-	-	30.55
13	MANIPUR	27.69	23.88	30.21
14	NAGALAND	17.28	17.74	28.97
15	MADHYAPRADESH	26.44	37.35	27.63
16	JAMMU & KASHMIR	-	-	27.21
17	TRIPURA	15.26	17.02	26.18
18	SIKKIM	9.12	11.1	24.97
19	RAJASTHAN	22.88	23.38	24.89
20	JAHARKAND	-	22.24	24.05
21	CHATTISGHARH	-	20.09	23.24
22	ARUNACHALPRADESH	12.21	20.41	22.67
23	UTTAR PRADESH	19.89	20.78	22.28
24	MEGALAYA	18.69	12.72	20.08
25	ORISSA	13.43	14.97	16.68
26	ASSAM	11.08	12.72	14.08
27	BIHAR	13.17	10.47	11.3
28	HIMACHAL PRADESH	8.7	9.79	10.04
INDIA		25.72	27.78	31.16
1	NCT OF DELHI*	89.93	93.01	97.5
2	CHANDIGRAH*	89.69	89.78	97.25
3	LAKSHDWEER*	56.29	44.47	78.08
4	DAMAN & DIU*	46.86	36.26	75.16
5	PONDICHERY*	64.04	66.57	68.31
6	DADAR NAGAR HAVELLI*	8.47	22.89	46.62
7	ANDAMAN NICOBAR ISLAND*	26.8	32.67	35.67

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1991-2011 Census report

*Union Territory's of India.

- The *proportion of urban population in most of the states was increased during 2001 and 2011*, except a few states *like Madhya Pradesh , Bihar, Maharashtra, West Bengal Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh where percentage of urban population in 2011 census had not much increased when compare to 2001 census.*



- During 2001 – 2011 some of the states like Goa, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Chandigarh, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu among the UT's have shown more than 5 percent increase as compare to the level at 2001 census (Refer table 9).

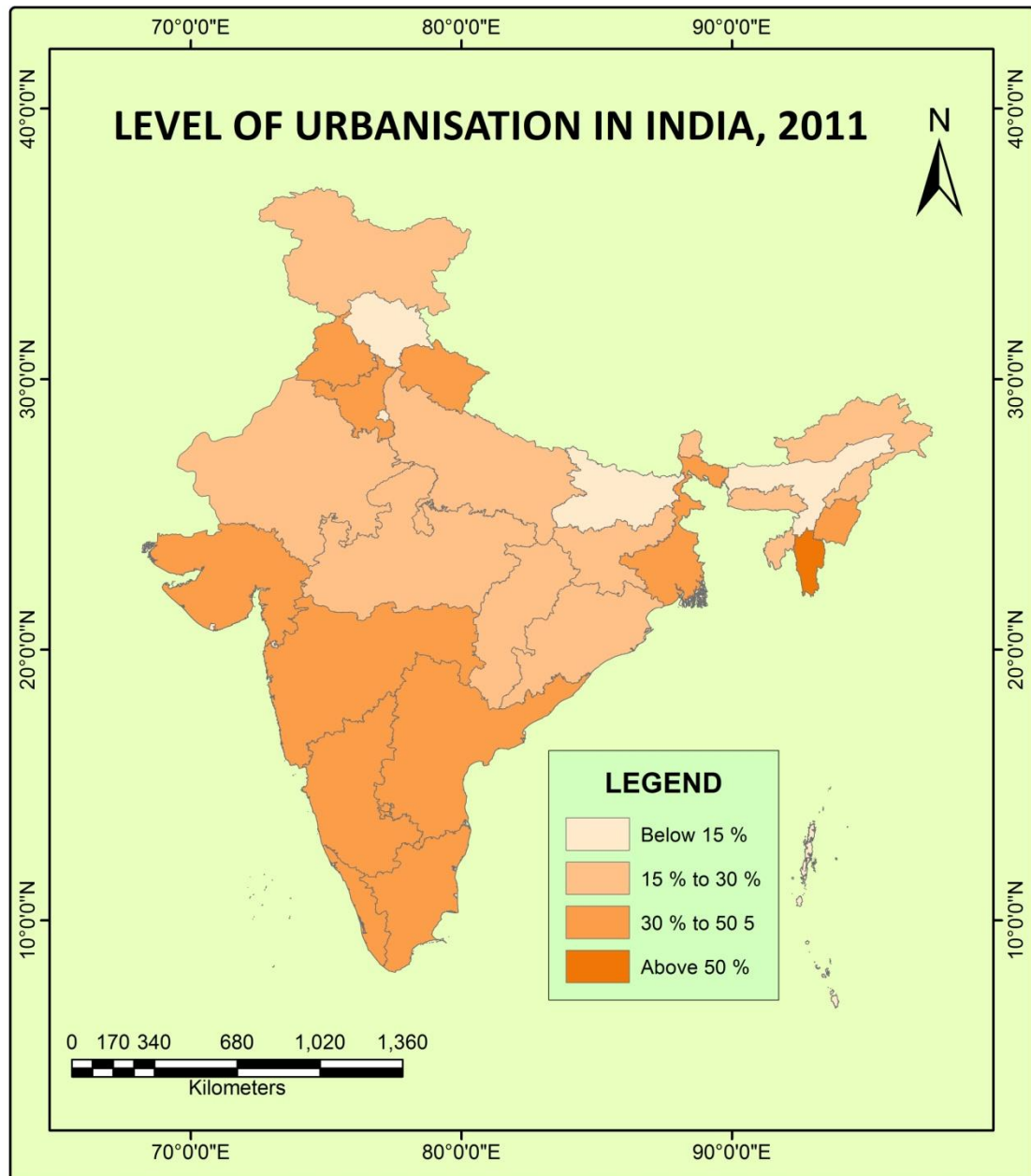


Figure: 3 Levels of Urbanisation in India, 2011

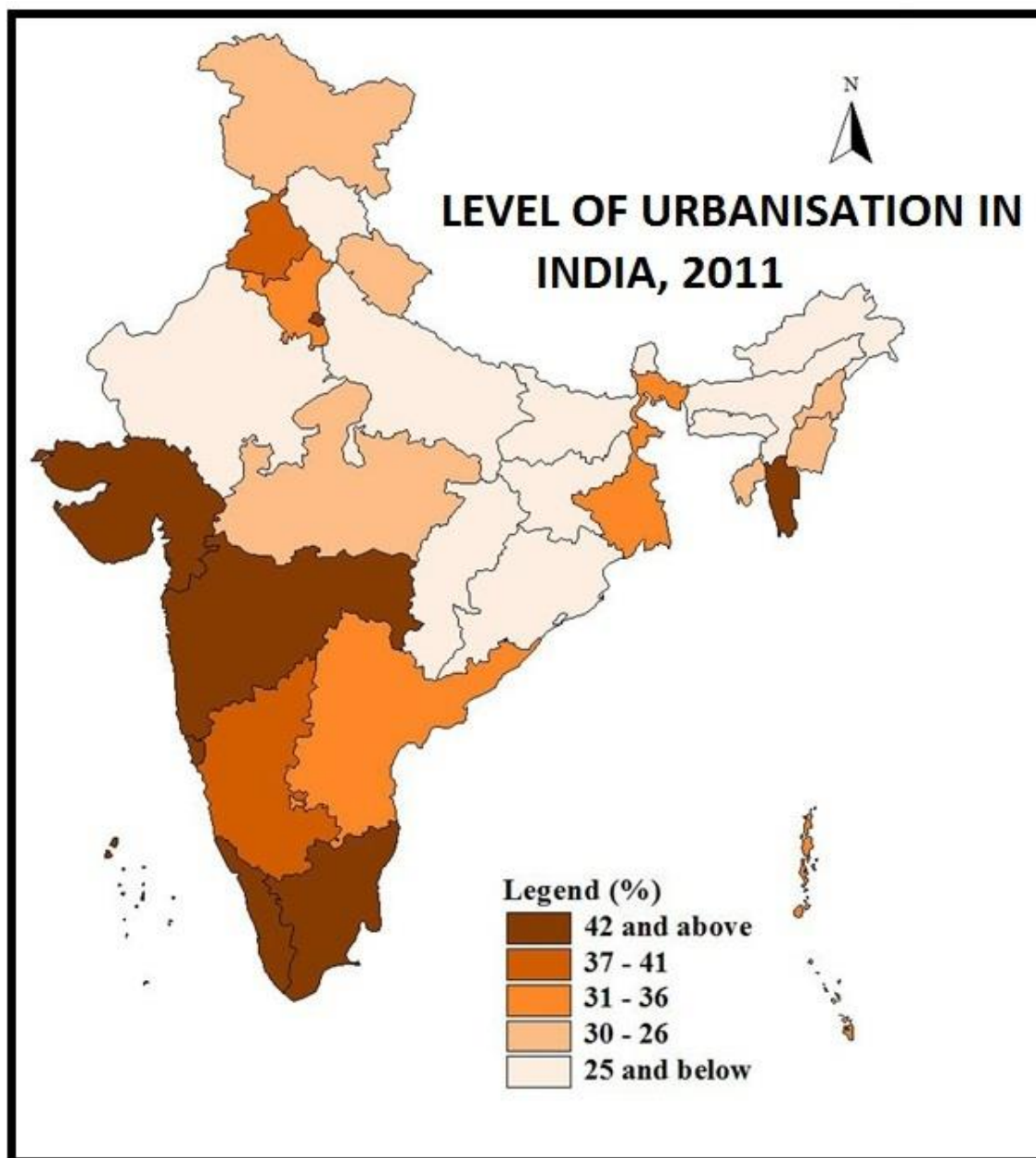


Figure: 4 Levels of Urbanisation in India, 2011

**Table: 10 Average annual exponential growth rate Urban Population
States/UT's 1961-2011**

RANKS (based on 2011)	INDIA/STATE/UT	1961-71	1971-81	1981-91	1991-2001	2001-2011
1	SIKKIM	10.55	9.54	-3.29	4.84	9.29
2	KERALA	3.05	3.19	4.76	0.74	6.56
3	TRIPURA	4.55	3.29	6.19	2.59	5.65
4	NAGALAND	9.87	8.5	5.58	5.18	5.15
5	HARAYANA	3.04	4.67	3.58	4.13	3.66
6	MANIPUR	7.37	9.76	2.98	1.2	3.55
7	CHATTISGHARH	-	-	-	-	3.49
8	UTTAR KAND	-	-	-	-	3.49
9	ARUNACHALPRADESH	-	8.74	9.28	7.54	3.2
10	ANDRAPRADESH	2.92	3.96	3.55	1.41	3.1
11	GUJURAT	3.44	3.47	2.9	2.88	3.06
12	JAMMU & KASHMIR	-	-	-	-	3.04
13	GOA	8.24	4.66	3.96	-2.7	3.01
14	BIHAR	3.64	4.37	2.65	-2.7	3.00
15	JAHARKAND	-	-	-	-	2.80
16	KARNATAKA	3.02	4.1	2.55	2.58	2.72
17	MEGALAYA	2.25	4.95	2.74	3.19	2.70
18	WESTBENGAL	2.50	2.76	2.54	1.89	2.61
19	RAJASTHAN	3.25	4.62	3.31	2.74	2.56
20	UTTAR PRADESH	2.68	4.74	3.29	2.22	2.52
21	ASSAM	5.01	3.27	3.27	3.16	2.43
22	MIZORAM	9.74	11.71	9.57	3.3	2.42
23	TAMILNADU	3.27	2.47	1.76	3.59	2.40
24	ORISSA	5.09	5.22	3.08	2.61	2.37
25	MADHYAPRADESH	3.83	4.45	3.71	0.48	2.28
26	PUNJAB	2.25	3.68	2.56	3.18	2.28
27	MAHARAHSTRA	3.42	3.36	3.27	2.96	2.12
28	HIMACHAL PRADESH	3.05	3.19	4.76	0.74	1.45
INDIA		3.21	3.83	3.09	2.73	2.76
1	DAMAN & DIU*	5.54	2.12	4.93	1.87	11.58
2	DADAR NAGAR HAVELLI*	-	-	5.28	14.6	11.53
3	LAKSHDWEET*	-	-	4.46	-0.76	6.23
4	PONDICHERRY*	8.01	4.66	4.92	2.26	2.7
5	CHANDIGRAH*	8.53	4.96	3.07	3.42	2.38
6	NCT OF DELHI*	4.36	4.58	3.79	4.2	2.35
7	ANDAMAN NICOBAR ISLAND*	6.22	6.38	4.1	4.42	1.54

Source: Data computed and compiled from 1961-2011 Census report

- For Further analysis it is considering that table 10, which gives an average exponential growth rate of urban population during each of the census decades



1961 onwards.

- During the period of two decades *between 1991 to 2011 the phase of urban population in most of the states in India has shown a consistent increase*. If the same trend would continue in the later decades of the country we may find that about 31 percent of total living in the urban areas in place of 28 percent during 2001 census.
- This clearly indicates that *our country fails to continue the tempo of growth of urban population that existed during 1981 – 1991*.
- In the later period the *tempo of growth of urban population continues to decline during 1991-2001*. The intensity of decline has further compared to previous decades.
- *Most of the states shows better performances during the previous decade have shown a glaring decline in the growth rate of urban population during 1991-2001*. This may be due to a fall in the natural growth rate of urban and rural population in addition to the decline in the process of urbanisation.
- *But during 2001 – 2011 the intensity in gradual increase in urban population had recorded*.
- The *present state of urbanisation creates a large number of towns for middle and lower categories* where they qualify the urban status because of their population size without necessary infrastructures; in fact it is not hold good in case of other higher order cities.
- But it has been examine that, apart from providing basic infrastructure, *the topographical future and climate in the towns and cities had gradually increase in the number of persons in the urban areas between 2001 to 2011*.

Effect of Urbanisation in India:

With a high rate of urbanization significant changes have taken place. The effect of urbanisation can be summed up as follows: *Positive effect and Negative effect*

- **Positive effects:** Urbanization yields several positive effects if it happens within the appropriate limits. *Some of the positive implications of urbanization therefore include creation of employment opportunities, technological and infrastructural advancements, improved transportation and communication, quality educational and medical facilities, and improved standards of living.*
 - i. Migration of rural people to urban areas.*
 - ii. Employment opportunities in urban centers.*
 - iii. Transport and communication facilities.*
 - iv. Educational facilities.*
 - v. Increase in the standard of living.*
- **Negative Effects:**
Extensive urbanisation or indiscriminate growth of cities may result in adverse effects. They may be as follows:



- **Slums and associated problems:** The acute *shortage of housing facilities is one of the most serious problems plaguing the Indian cities*, whether it is a metropolitan city or a small town. The reason for this is that the availability and development of housing facility has not expanded fast enough to meet growing demand for rapid urbanization process. *The acute shortage of housing facilities compels the poor to live in slums*. Slums have developed in almost all the Indian cities. *Slums are called by the names of Bustees in Calcutta, Jhuggis in Delhi, jhopar-patti in Mumbai and Cheri in Chennai. The slums or Bustees have been defined by the government of India under Slum Area (Improvement and clearance) Act of 1954 as predominantly a residential area, where dwellings by reason of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangement and lack of ventilation, light or sanitary facilities or any combination of these factors detrimental to safety, health and morals. It is estimated that 40 per cent of people in mega-cities like Calcutta, Mumbai and Delhi live in slums. These slums have extremely unhygienic conditions.* They have impoverished lavatories made by digging a shallow pit in-between three to four huts and with sackcloth “curtain” hanging in front. The children, of course, are used to defecate anywhere around the huts. All such areas have several cesspools and puddles. These are invariably dug in the middle of a state dirty pool. People wash their clothes and utensils under the hand pumps. This causes diseases like blood dysentery, diarrhea, malaria, typhoid, jaundice and conjunctivitis, which stalk them all the year around. Children with bloated bellies or famished skeletons suffer from polio and common sight.
- **Transport system:** *There are 300 million cars, trucks and buses all over the world. During peak hours, there will be huge traffic jams in the main junctions.* Because of traffic jams more petroleum products are wasted which results in fuel problem. During peak seasons the vehicles are parked and overloaded and there are more chances of occurring accidents. It the State which provides good transport system. *The combustion of petroleum products, diesel leads to increase of carbon dioxide which helps in increasing Global Warming, air pollution and noise pollution, besides carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide which is released by automobile.* The noise pollution affects both auditory and non-auditory organs. The auditory effects are fatigue and deafness in human beings. The non-auditory effects are interference in speed, communication, annoyance, loss of working efficiency and psycho-physiological disorders. *The transportation picture in all Indian cities is critical while Mumbai is still having the best city transport system and Chennai, Ahmedabad and Pune being reasonably well-served by the city buses.* One reason why we are in this mess is that, whilst planning city expansion, we are still tender to follow the western concept of commuting time and distance being the determinants of the location of activities. This has resulted in compartmentalized zoning of cities, which necessitates extensive travel. At the same time, the level of incomes and affordability being low, our citizens are unable to pay an economic fare for the use of a public transport system. Therefore, all city bus services sustain such heavy annual losses that they cannot really expand or maintain a fleet adequacy to meet city needs.



- **Problem of garbage:** *Urban solid waste consists of building materials, plastic containers, hospital wastes, kitchen waste etc.* The building materials and household solid wastes are dumped on the public places. The hospital wastes do not have covers while transporting. The stringent smell contaminates the air. The Urban sewage does not have proper let-out facility. As Indian society prospers, it trash mainly hazardous plastics, metals and packing is growing exponentially. In the last decade, garbage was produced at nearly twice the rate of population growth. *Only eight out of 3,119 towns and cities in India have full wastewater collection and treatment facilities. A third of India's population has no access to sanitation services. It becomes worse in smaller cities and provincial towns.*
- **Sewerage problems:** *The urban areas in India are plagued with inefficient and insufficient civic amenities. Not a single city in India is fully sewerage.* The reason for this is that the unauthorized constructions in and around the city lie outside the purview of the main systems. *It has been estimated that only 38 per cent of the urban population have a sewerage system.* Mumbai's crumbling sewer network is a century old, put in place by the British planners when city was no more than a series of fishing villages. Today, it breaks down frequently with waste about eight million more people than it was designed for. *The sewer lines lead to drains, which take the sewage – 93 percent of it untreated – directly into the sea, killing virtually all marine life along Mumbai's coast. Delhi's Yamuna has turned into a giant sewer, chiefly from raw sewage, 40 per cent of Delhi's sewage is untreated.*
- **Water supply:** India has reached a stage where no city has water supply round the clock. Intermittent supply results in a vacuum being created in empty water lines which often suck in pollutions through leaking joints. *Chennai, Hyderabad, Rajkot gets water from municipal sources for less than half an hour every alternative day.* Many small towns have no main water supply and depend on such sources as individual wells, household open wells or even the rivers which have some storage water in pools during summer. *Within the city, the drainage system hardly exists and the annual flooding of large areas, even in Delhi, it is now a regular phenomenon in many urban centers. Mumbai is located in a keel-line depression, which also happens to be the main railway artery. With every monsoon showers, it gets flooded choking the communication.* The problem is particularly acute in the cities of Indo-Gangetic plain. This is the case with Varanasi and Patna. *The situation is worse in the eastern part of Patna, which remains water logged throughout the monsoon period.* The terminal case is that of Katihar (Bihar) where, because of the peculiar bowl-like configuration of the city and the non-existence of a drainage system. *Large pools of stagnant water can be seen even in the month of May and June. In Srinagar, whole colonies have become sewage to be forced back by hydraulic pressure into the sub-soil, rendering the whole land unfit for human habitation. The drains, which are open, serve as depositors for road sweepings and also human wastes. In rainy season, water over flows and spreads into streets presenting a dingy view, promoting unhygienic conditions and causing outbreak of numerous diseases.*
- **Environmental problems:** Environmental pollution is causing concern and affecting human health today than yester decades. *It has been reported by the World Bank*



that 40,000 persons die in India every year because of air pollution. Recent studies also revealed that a large number of people have been suffering from respiratory diseases, allergies and cough. It has been doubled since 1990s. Further, it has been noticed that 23 Indian Cities have crossed the dangerous limits because of auto-exhausts and industrial emission. Therefore, it is not the task of Central Pollution Control Board that has to take control but it is the duty of the institutions, individuals to initiate possible care and measures to prevent the polluting works. Hence, it should initiate in the form of a social movement. This, indeed, prevents problems arising out of pollution especially in urban areas.

- **Degradation of environmental quality:** *Due to urbanization, there is environmental degradation especially in the quality of water, air and noise. With the influx of more people in cities, there is great demand of facilities such as housing.* Some unlawful factories and even houses which have a poor infrastructure, the waste from buildings are directly channeled to the nearest river or water resources which directly pollute the water. *The domestic waste, industrial effluents and other wastes that were dumped directly to the river, degrade the water quality.* Another after effects of rapid urbanization is the air pollution which has also increased due to emanation from motor vehicles, industrial development and use of non-environmental friendly fuel sources. *The noise pollution is produced from the various human actions which also degrade the environment and ultimately affect the human health.* The growth of population has generated a very high quantity of solid waste and there is pressure to provide a waste disposal place in the urban areas.
- **Decline in quality of living for urban dwellers:** Urbanization is major concern for management researchers because it decline in quality of living for urban inhabitants. As the metropolis becomes a developed city, the land value will also increase. *The housing provision will focus more to fulfill the needs of the high income group.* As such, there will be a problem in the provision of housing, especially for the middle and low class people. *The supply of housing for the urban poor is still inadequate as the cost of these houses is very high to which low and middle income group cannot afford.* The lack of housing provision for the low income group has led to the continuation of unlawful resident settlements in the city. *These unlawful tenant settlements will certainly lack in proper infrastructure that will bring about many hindrances to the urban environment and create social problems such as child education, crime, drugs, delinquency and others.* Besides housing problem for low income group, the process of urbanization has also increased the demand on infrastructure and utility which cannot be fulfilled from the existing facilities. *The maintenance of drains and debris collection is incompetent which can raise other serious problems such as flash floods and poor public health.* The reappearance of flash floods is due to the drainage system being unable to contain surface water run-off that has greatly increased with the higher intensity of urban activities.
- **Unsuccessful urban governance:** The urban authority undergoes with multifaceted challenges to manage a city. *The fast speed of urbanization is major challenges which need every party to be more focused in undertaking each and every*



responsibility in urban development. However, the involvement of several agencies and departments in urban management made it complicated to synchronize many actions and resultant, it affects the efficiency of those actions. Besides this, *the local authority also deals with the different goals and interests of community groups which they need to fulfill*. The local authority also needs to find solution for different social issues.

- **Housing:** It is another intense problem due to urbanization in India. *Overcrowding leads to a constant problem of scarcity of houses in urban areas*. This problem is particularly more severe in those urban areas where there is large invasion of jobless or underemployed immigrants who could not find place to live when they come in cities and towns from the nearby areas. *The major factors for housing problems are lack of building materials and financial resources, insufficient expansion of public utilities into sub-urban areas, poverty and unemployment of urban immigrants, strong caste and family ties and lack of enough transportation to sub-urban areas where most of the available land for new construction is to be found*.
- **Unemployment:** The problem of joblessness is also serious as the problem of housing. *Urban unemployment in India is estimated at 15 to 25 per cent of the labour force*. This percentage is even higher among the educated people. It is approximate that about *half of all knowledgeable urban unemployed youth are living in four metropolitan cities such as in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai*. Additionally, although urban incomes are higher than the rural incomes, they are awfully low because of high cost of living in urban areas. Major causes of urban unemployment are the huge relocation of people from rural to urban areas.
- **Slums and Squatter Settlements:** *The natural development of unchecked, unexpected and random growth of urban areas is the growth and spread of slums and unlawful resident settlements which present a prominent feature in the environmental structure of Indian cities, particularly of urban centers. The fast urbanisation in combination with industrialization has resulted in the enlargement of slums. The explosion of slums occurs due to many factors, such as, the lack of developed land for housing, the high prices of land beyond the reach of urban poor, a large influx of rural migrants to the cities in search of jobs.*
- **Overcrowding:** Overcrowding means a huge number of people live in a small space. *This form of congestion in urban areas is consistent because of overpopulation and it is an aspect that increases day by day as more people and immigrants move into cities and towns in search of better life*. Most people from rural or undeveloped areas always have the urge of migrating into the city that normally leads to congestion of people within a small area.
- **Poor health and spread of diseases:** The social, economic and living conditions in congested urban areas affects access and utilization of public health care services. *Slum areas in particular experience poor sanitation and insufficient water supply which generally make slum populations susceptible to communicable diseases*. The environmental problems such as urban pollution also cause many health problems namely allergies, asthma, infertility, food poisoning, cancer and even premature deaths.



- **Traffic congestion:** When more people move to towns and cities, one of the major challenges posed is in the transport system. *More people means increased number of vehicles which leads to traffic congestion and vehicular pollution. Many people in urban areas drive to work and this creates a severe traffic problem, especially during the rush hours.* Also as the cities grow in dimension, people will move to shop and access other social needs/wants which often cause traffic congestion and blockage.
- **Urban crime:** *Issues of lack of resources, overcrowding, unemployment, poverty, and lack of social services and education habitually leads to many social problems including violence, drug abuse, and crime. Most of the crimes such as murder, rape, kidnapping, riots, assault, theft, robbery, and hijacking are reported to be more prominent in the urban vicinities.* Besides, poverty related crimes are the highest in fast-growing urban regions. These acts of urban crime normally upset the peace and tranquility of cities/towns.

Remedial Measures of Urban Problems in India

- **Building sustainable and environmentally friendly cities:** *Governments should pass laws that plan and provide environmentally sound cities and smart growth techniques, considering that people should not reside in unsafe and polluted areas.* The objective here is to build sustainable cities that embrace improved environmental conditions and safe habitats for all urban populations. *Governments should also encourage sustainable use of urban resources and support an economy based on sustainable environment such as investment in green infrastructure, sustainable industries, recycling and environmental campaigns, pollution management, renewable energy, green public transportation, and water recycling and reclamation.*
- **Provision of essential services:** Urban stakeholders must ensure *all populations within the urban areas have access to adequate essential social services namely education, health, sanitation and clean water, technology, electricity, and food.* The objective here is to provide and implement employment opportunities and wealth creation activities so that people can earn a living to pay for the maintenance of the services. *Subsidies can also be availed by the government to lower the costs of basic healthcare, basic education, energy, education, public transportation, communication systems and technology.*
- **Creation of more jobs:** To lessen the negative effects of rapid urbanization while at the same time *conserving natural ecosystems, private investments should be encouraged so as to utilize natural resources and create more job opportunities. Tourism promotion and the sustainable exploitation of natural resources can create more jobs for the urban populations.* Subsidies and grants may as well be provided to foreign and private investment in environmentally friendly development projects that encourage job creation.
- **Population control:** Key stakeholders in urban areas must provide campaigns and counseling for effective medical health clinics and family planning to help *reduce the high rates of population growth. Medical health clinics oriented towards family*



planning options must be made accessible across the entire urban area with the objective of controlling diseases and population growth.

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