

AMOGHVARTA

ISSN : 2583-3189



Urbanisation: An Indian Outlook

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Author

Dr. Kusum Chandrakar
Assistant Professor
Govt. Naveen College
Gudhiyari, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, INDIA

Abstract

Modernization, industrialization, and the sociological rationalization process are all directly related to urbanization. Urbanization is not just a modern occurrence; rather, it is a historic and swift change of human social roots occurring all over the world, with a quickly replacing rural culture with an increasingly urban one. Urbanization happens when private, public, and corporate initiatives cut down on travel time and costs while expanding access to employment, housing, transit, and educational possibilities. Many people from rural areas go to the metropolis in search of social mobility and better fortunes. But the picture of urbanization is not so much glorious as it apparently seems. Modern cities have grown in a haphazard and unplanned manner due to fast industrialization. Cities in developing countries become over-populated and over-crowded partly as a result of the increase in population over the decades and partly as a result of migration.

Key Words

Urbanisation, Rural, Industrialization.

Introduction

An indicator of the shift from traditional rural economies to contemporary industrial ones is urbanization. The population is gradually congregating in urban areas. The process of moving from a dispersed to a concentrated pattern of human settlements in urban centers is known as urbanization. It is a limited process, a cycle that a country goes through as it transitions from an agrarian to an industrial culture. The first of the three stages of urbanization is marked by a traditional rural civilization centered mostly on agriculture and a dispersed pattern of communities. The second stage is known as the acceleration stage, during which investments in social capitals and fundamental economic restructuring take place. Terminal stage refers to the third stage, where at least 70% of the population lives in urban areas. The degree of urbanization is essentially unchanged at this point. At this terminal stage, the rate of growth of the urban population equals that of the overall population.

India experienced high rates of unemployment, poverty, and a stagnating economy after gaining independence. India concentrated on the fields of science and technology after gaining independence. The adoption of the mixed economy system led to the expansion of the public sector in India, which severely hampered the country's economic progress and produced the so-called Hindu rate of growth. Even though

the South Asian region is primarily rural 69.9% of its inhabitants lived in rural areas as of 2010 it has seen significantly faster annual increase in the urban population.

India, the most populous nation in South Asia, has seen an extraordinary rise in its urban population in recent decades; between 1901 and 2011, the country's urban population expanded by about 14 times. The majority of this growth is uneven, but it is not skewed or focused in just one nation-wide city. The majority of characteristics common to emerging nations, where urbanization is occurring at a higher rate than in industrialized nations, are also present in India.

Causes of Urbanization in India

- The Second World War led to an increase in Government services.
- The Indian division caused migration. Urban regions saw industrial development. India's eleventh Five-Year Plan focused on urbanization as a way to speed up economic development.
- Economic prospects, such as jobs; improved educational opportunities
- Infrastructure in urban areas
- Private sector expansion after 1990
- land fragmentation—some villages have been completely destroyed by the construction of roads, highways, dams, and other infrastructure

Challenges in Urbanization

- Due to the rising temperature crop pattern in India has changed and agriculture has become a villain for the rural peoples.
- According to an estimate 55% of the Indian consumers draw their livelihood directly from agriculture as cultivators and labourers. Moreover, it has decreased the growth of farmer's income. It is also said that in the coming years India will have to face severe droughts in many parts.
- Climate change has negatively impacted basic amenities in urban areas.
- Rising urban population has increased demand for agricultural land for housing, bridges, and highways.
- Future population growth in urban areas is expected to exacerbate issues such as water, energy, education, pollution, health, and transportation.
- Urban poor are at the bottom of the social order, lacking access to essential services and amenities. However, the Indian Government has also developed a number of programs and programmes to alleviate urban poverty.
- In metropolitan areas such as Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, and Kolkata, urbanization has significant societal ramifications, including limited parking, traffic congestion, and high levels of pollution.

Negative Impact of Urbanisation

- It has produced housing issues in Indian cities. Slums and the hardships that come with them have become commonplace in major cities like Delhi.
- It has a harmful influence on the environment. For example, environmental pollution in Delhi has exceeded the quality standard several times.
- It has generated traffic congestion and fuel concerns in the country. Today we are facing the problem of urban solid waste management. We know it very well that the solid waste consists of building materials, plastic containers, hospital waste in urban areas.
- It has caused sanitation issues. Most urban regions in India are experiencing this problem as a result of toxic plastic materials, metals, and packing waste.

- It has caused an issue with sewerage. However, certain uncontrolled structures in and near cities contribute to this problem. During the rainy season, this problem gets even more severe.
- Today, most Indian cities are experiencing water shortages. During the summer, the water supply changes dramatically, and people are forced to live without clean drinking water.

Positive Impact of Urbanisation

- Cities are experiencing growth in critical services such as clean water, power, and transportation.
- Urban residents have better access to health, education, cultural, and social services compared to those in rural areas.
- Migrant children benefit from increased access to schools, colleges, and institutions.
- Urbanization creates harmony among people coming from different strata of society allowing people of different castes groups languages and religions to live and work together breaking down the social and cultural barriers.
- Urbanization allows people to acquire modern communication skills knowledge of computers smartphones languages etc which enable them to get jobs.
- Urbanization also provides people the opportunity to acquire training and work experience in hi-tech industries enhancing their skills and facilitating them to migrate to other countries.

Conclusion

Today, metropolitan and megacities have reached their employment generation capacity, and slums have become an urban identity. Nowadays, Indian cities are dealing with issues such as water, electricity, traffic congestion, air pollution, slums, sewerage, solid waste, etc. As a result, we must prioritize long-term development planning. It is proposed that urban agencies be given additional financial and independent capabilities to address the numerous health-related issues. Today, fundamental urban infrastructure must be constructed, and sustainable development should be pursued at all levels. In other words, urbanization must benefit all people equally in terms of social inclusion and environmental sustainability in the changing perspective.

References

1. Arabi, U. (2009) "Dynamics of Recent Urbanization Trends", *NagarlokAn Urban Affairs*, Quarterly, Vol. XLI (1).
2. Kundu, A. (1994) *Pattern of Urbanization with Special Reference to Small and Medium Towns in India*, HarAnand Publications, New Delhi.
3. Premi, M.K. (1991) *India's Population: Heading Towards a Billion*, B.R. Publishing Corporation, New Delhi.
4. Ramchandaran, M. (2011) "Proper Development Strategy Needed for Indian Cities and Towns", *The Economic Times*, New Delhi, 01 Oct. 2011.

---==00==---