

IMPACT OF URBANIZATION ON ENVIRONMENT (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SATNA DISTRICT)

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ABSTRACT

The increase in the number of people living in towns and cities is known as Urbanization. It occurs due to migration of people from rural to urban areas and the result is an increase in the size of urban population. Due to an increase in population there is an increase in land use, there is change of culture. Economic and social transformation also occurs due to urbanization. Urban population leads to an increase in higher level of literacy and education, good health edict also causes disadvantages by unplanned and rapid growth resulting in poor infrastructures such as inadequate housing, water and sanitation, transport and health care services. Urbanization is a word for becoming more like a city. When populations of people grow, the population of a place may spill over from city to nearby areas. This is called urbanization. May be tall apartment buildings spring up on what had been the outskirts of town, bringing more people there to live and work. Urbanization can also apply to how people live. For example, if they stop driving their cars and instead rely on public transportation, as most people in cities do, that's urbanization. Environmental degradation is occurring at a rapid speed due to urbanization. The lands which were used for agriculture previously and the forest area are being converted into big apartments and malls due to which various problems like quality of water, air quality index, increase in air pollution and increase in noise pollution and water pollution is occurring at a very rapid speed. . Satna is a city included in the list of smart city project and urbanization is taking place at a rapid speed in the district. It is also known as Cement Hub of India nut we can see that due to urbanization the areas which were in remote location are also now included in the city causing adverse effect upon climate, uncertainty in climate, causing skin diseases etc. The main objective of this research paper is to emphasize upon the adverse effects of urbanization which are mainly upon uncertain climate, and upon the land and water resources. Urbanization is a process which cannot be stopped but it should be ensured that we are following the right path and going in the right direction. We can see urbanization from the ancient times of Harappan Culture, Mohenjodaro Culture etc. and can see that the population was first developed near the rivers and later on it moved to various parts of the country.

Keywords: *Urbanization, Environment, Infrastructure, Employment, Sanitary Facilities.*

Introduction

Generally the people only see the negative aspect of urbanization but there are some positive impacts of urbanization also.

- First positive impact of urbanization is that urbanization increases efficiency of people. In reality, cities are more polluted than villages but we can also see that efficiency in cities is more than efficiency in rural areas. The basic reason for this is that the infrastructure is already developed in cities when compared with rural areas.

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- The lifestyle is also more convenient in urban areas when compared with cities. In Satna district also we can see that the village people are migrating in the urban areas because the infrastructure in cities is good when compared with villages. The transportation and communication facilities are already developed in the cities which are not available in the village areas.
- Lot of social facilities like Education Centers, Health Services, Banking Sector etc. and Social as well as cultural facilities are available in urban areas which are essential for the development of a population. In this context we can see that in Satna District all these facilities are available and that is also one of the reason of urbanization.
- In spite of cultural we can see that people from different regions, religions and castes move towards the cities, work and live together. By living together they also learn and understand each other, and they also get rid from social and cultural barriers due to which conflict always arises. We can also see that in Satna Urban that people from various culture live together and help in the development of the city.
- People in urban areas earn more due to availability of jobs. We can see in Satna District that due to various industries and other service sector people living in Satna urban also earn more. We can see that Satna region had emerged as a Cement hub in the country and various big industrialists are setting up their industries in the district which is providing employment opportunities to the people in the district, reducing poverty problem and thereby increasing standard of living of people in the district.
- Better sanitary services like recycling of wastage and transport of garbage facilities are available in the urban area. We can see that in Satna urban there is door to door collection of wastage and garbage which helps in maintaining good environment.
- There is a major role of trade and commerce in Urbanization. Many new facilities of marketing of goods had developed which are developing in the towns and cities. We can see that in the Satna district also many big stores like Reliance, Ondoor etc. and many online stores are providing these services which had developed trade and commerce in the district thereby increasing the standard of living of the people and reducing the problem of unemployment.
- Education sector had basically developed in the district due to which many people who are far from Satna district are also coming to the district for taking good quality education. Private University in Satna (AKS University) is acting as a milestone in providing good quality education developing the quality of innovation and perfection among the people also involved in good quality research work.

Besides the advantages that urbanization have upon the society and the environment there are also some disadvantages of urbanization because every positive side also have some negative side also. Negative impact of urbanization are as follows:

- An impact on the environment and quality of life, pollution in cities is greater due to traffic, congestion of vehicles and poor collection of waste; cities often exceed the natural capacity to absorb waste, which harms health; cities demand land, water and natural resources that are disproportionately high than the surface they occupy due to high incomes and consumption and the large size of the population.
- 2 One of the serious problem that people in the urban city faces is the high prices of homes. We can see that duplex culture is flourishing in our Satna city also but the price of homes are out of the reach of the common people.
- Pollution' according to a WHO study, more than 80% of people living in urban areas are exposed to levels of pollution that exceed those recommended by the same organization.
- Floods, urban centers have extensive areas covered by concrete and asphalt, making it difficult to infiltrate rainwater into the soil.
- Hot and humid environment, because everyone is crammed in one central area there is a reduction in the flow of air which results in a humid weather. The environment in the Satna urban is also becoming hot and humid and the duration of summer season is increasing day by day.

- Less arable land, as populations swell the need for land to build house and industries increases thus reducing land for agriculture. The land that is left for agriculture uses a lot of fertilisers to increase food production thus devaluing the quality of agriculture land. In Satna district we can see that the area available for agriculture is decreasing continuously due to rapid urbanization.
- The cost of living in urban areas is very high. When this is combined with random and unexpected growth as well as unemployment, there is the spread of unlawful resident settlements represented by slums etc. In Satna district although industrialization was started with the setting up of cement plants but still there are very few industries mostly cement industries which are providing employment in the district. Still large number of people in the district suffers from the problem of unemployment.
- 8. The overpopulation in the urban areas also leads to an increase in the sewage problems. Due to poor drainage system waste water is flown in the nearby rivers, ponds etc. which causes water pollution problem. When included in the list of smart cities sewage facilities are developing in the district but due to the problem of encroachment yet Satna district is lacking the facilities of good sanitation and sewage system.
- 9. Health facilities are also affected in the urban areas. There is a poor sanitation facility in the urban areas and insufficient and dirty water supply which leads to water borne infectious diseases. Satna is a district place but when it comes to health facilities few hospitals are present in the district and health facilities are not too good in the area. The area lacks the services of neurologist and cardiologist.
- 10. Due to lack of resources, overcrowding, unemployment and poverty many social problems are developing in Satna district. The tarai area of Satna district was facing robbery problem from many years out of which it got rid in teh recent past but many problems are still continuing in the district.

The global trend in urbanization is not the same in all parts of the world. Asia and Africa currently have the highest rates of urbanization which is shown in the following figure.

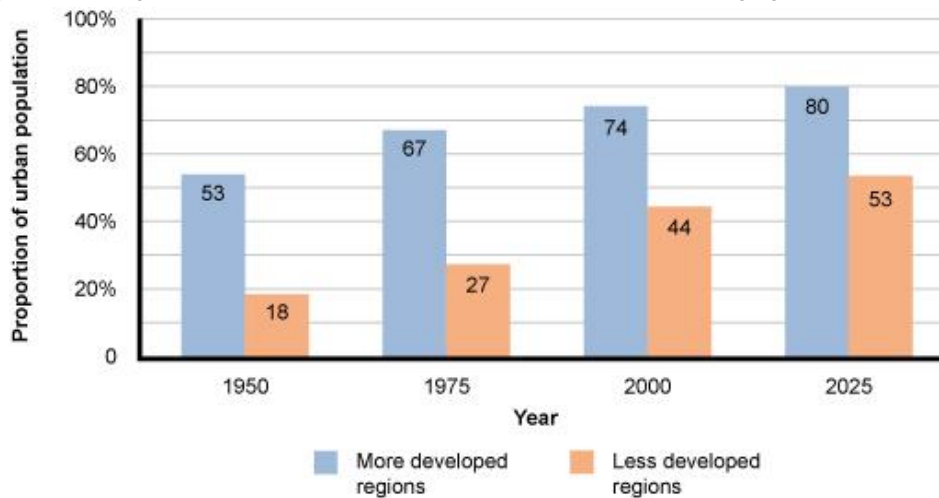


Fig. 1: Trends in urban population growth, comparing more and less developed regions. The graph shows the proportion of the total population living in urban areas.

Solutions to the Problem of Unemployment

- Environmentally sound cities and good technology should be emphasized by the government so that people do not live in overcrowded and polluted and unsafe areas.
- It must be ensured by the people living in the urban areas that essential services required for living must be present in such urban areas such as the facility of drinking water, sanitation, proper health facilities etc. Efforts should be made by the people living in such cities to take subsidies from government for the development of infrastructural facilities.

- Private investments should be encouraged and the government should try to take maximum contribution and develop the facilities in the basis of Public Private Partnership. Efforts should be done to increase employment opportunities so that the people do not get themselves involve in any criminal activities.
- Efforts should be done by the government and the people upon family planning and to reduce the size of the family so that all the facilities required for improving standard of living of the people could be provided to them due to which they can increase their status in society.

Conclusion

- The first conclusion we arrive is that due to failure of government in the urban areas and proper policies not framed by the government the slums area is increasing which is creating an unhealthy environment.
- Top priority should be given to controlling the pollution which is caused by vehicle emissions, chemical discharge from factories, wastages from homes etc.
- Efforts should be done so as to make full employment of the resources especially in urban cities.
- Pollution control due to vehicle emission and discharge of wastages from the factories and households should be given top priority.

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