

ABSTRACT

Almost half of the world population lives in urban areas and the cities are growing rapidly, both the size and numbers. The trend is especially stronger in developing world, where in the rate of rural to urban migration is high as people flock to cities in search of employment and higher standard of living.

The growth of urbanization in India during pre-independence period was slow. It has shown its phenomenal growth during post-independence years because of pressure of growing population, rapid industrialization, rural to urban migration and the growing tempo of modernization. As a result new towns are coming up, already existing commercial and industrial towns are expanding to accommodate the continuing influx of rural population.

According to the Census 2001, out of total population of 1027 million about 285 million live in urban areas, thus nearly twenty-eight out of every one hundred persons in India live in urban areas. Growth of urban population in India during the past decade indicates higher growth for metro cities. However, development of basic infrastructure services like water supply, sanitation facilities, solid waste management and transportation could not keep pace with the growth of urban population. Inadequate supply of serviced land within affordable reach of economically weaker sections has resulted in unprecedented growth of urban slum population at 9 per cent per year. Presently, there is neither national urban development policy nor as a corollary a state urban development policy. There is no balance in the distribution of economic activities. There is excessive concentration of economic activities, mainly industries, in a few urban centres particularly in large cities. This increase in urban population has resulted into over-crowding. India being the developing country, has to face these problems particularly because, of urbanization.

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1. Introduction

Urbanization refers to the population of a nation living in urban areas. Urbanization is an indicator of modernization, the sign of growth and economic progress. It is a natural consequence of economic changes that take place, as the nation develops. It is indispensable to economic growth and leads to social equity. Urbanization is the result of more avenues of industrialization but it is not matched by a commensurate degree of energy and transportation. "The most distinctive feature of the twentieth century has been the rapid and massive urbanization taking place every where in the world as a consequence of process of modernization. Migration from rural areas into towns is not peculiar to developing countries alone, but is a worldwide phenomenon". In the 21st Century, the rate of urbanization is much more in developing countries than in developed countries.

Urbanization is a phenomenon, which is part and parcel of economic

development. It generates a substantial proportion of total jobs and as such makes a significant contribution to national economy. With increase in per capita income, demand for non-food goods accelerates and, consequently, the demand for non- agricultural activities increases. This heightened demand for labour stimulates urbanization. Urban agglomerations afford economies of scale in both manufacturing and services activities and, also in the provision of infrastructure services. In the context of development process, urban areas, depending on their size and type, spread innovations to their hinterlands through various forms of urban-rural and regional linkages. This diffusion process and the linkages give rise to different patterns of urban development, such as development poles with distance decay patterns, corridor patterns, and rural-urban continents.

The process of urbanization is a universal phenomenon. The developed countries had the chance of

rapid urban transformation earlier than the post-colonial countries as a result of the industrial revolution. In the post-second world war period, urbanization had taken a rapid stride in developed as well as developing countries. Urbanization is an incessant trend and its pace is accelerating. Poverty and lack of employment in the villages lead to migration from rural to urban areas; increasing industrialization has contributed to the growth of new towns; the expansion of means of transport has facilitated easy movement of men and material and, above all, cities provide a better quality of life, in terms, of educational and health facilities.

According to the Census 2001, in India, out of the total population of 1027 million about 285 million live in urban areas and 742 million in rural areas. Thus, around twenty eight out of every one hundred persons in India live in urban areas. This is only two more than the number that lived in urban areas a decade ago. For every one hundred persons living in rural area of

Arup Mitra, (1993): "Status of Basic Services in Indian Cities" in Bidyut Mohnty (Ed.), Urbanization in Developing Countries, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.

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India, twenty nine live in urban areas, which is four more than the number in 1991. The per cent of urban population and urban-rural ratio (urban population per hundred rural population) are the commonly used measures of degree of urbanization that will be discussed in this paper.

2. Urbanization in Developing Countries

The regions of the developing world differ markedly in the degree of urbanization achieved over the years. At one end, nearly three-quarters of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean live in urban areas, just about the same level of urbanization as in developed countries. At the other end, two-thirds of more of the population remain rural in China, India, Indonesia and sub-Saharan Africa (Table - 1).

Africa has been the most rapidly urbanizing region during the past four decades. With the notable exception of China, where urban growth has accelerated even while population growth has declined, elsewhere, however,

urban growth is slowing down along with population growth. Indeed, rates of urbanization and urban growth rates would appear to follow the demographic transition. Rates of urban growth in developing countries have been higher than that for developed countries during their urban transition, but this is because the developing countries have experienced higher rates of overall population growth. The rate of urban growth in developing countries as a group in the 1960s and 1970s is estimated to have been 4.32 per cent per annum, which is doubled the English rates during its

urban transition. However, the overall population growth in developing countries in the 1960s and 1970s too was almost double of England during the first industrial revolution.

3. Degree of Urbanization in Global Perspective

It is estimated that in the year 2000 about forty seven percent of world population lived in urban areas, which essentially means that for every hundred people living in rural areas of the world, ninety lived in urban areas. Given below are the percentages of urban population and urban-

Table - 1: A Few Key Demographic Indicators

Country / Region	Annual Population Growth Rates (per cent)		Urban population (per cent of total population)		Urban population Annual Growth Rates (per cent)	
	1960-62	1982-2000	1960	1982	1960-62	1982-2000
China	1.9	1.0	19	28	3.1	3.8
India	2.2	1.8	18	26	3.4	3.9
Indonesia	2.1	1.5	15	33	4.7	4.3
Arab States	2.6	2.9	30	50	4.5	3.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.8	2.9	15	30	5.9	4.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.4	1.8	50	73	3.6	2.4
Developing Countries	2.3	1.8	22	36	3.8	3.2
World	1.9	1.5	35	44	2.7	2.6

Source : UNDP, Human Development Report 1995

Arvindar S. Sachdev, (2002): "Urbanization in India: Past trends and future Projections", The Asian Journal, Vol.9, No. 1, February pp 26-38.

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rural ratios for the year 2000 as estimated by the United Nations for various regions, continents and ten most populous countries of the World.

Table-2 shows the degree of urbanization in world, regions, continents and top ten most populous countries in the world. The two measures of degree of urbanization included are the per cent urban population and urban-rural ratio. While in the more developed countries about three quarters of people live in urban areas, in the least developed countries only around a quarter of the population live in urban areas. Among the continents, the lowest proportion of urban population is found in Asia being only thirty-seven percent. Brazil is the most urbanized and Bangladesh is the least urbanized among the ten most populous countries in the world, with around eighty-one per cent and twenty-five per cent of population living in urban areas respectively. When measured in terms of urban-

Table -2 : Degree of Urbanization (World, Regions, Continents and selected countries 2000)

Sl. No.	Region / Continent / Country	Percent urban population	Urban-rural ratio
1.	World	47	89
2.	More developed region	76	317
3.	Less developed region	39.9	66
4.	Least developed countries	36	35
5.	Africa	37.9	61
6.	Asia	36.7	58
7.	Europe	74.8	297
8.	South America	79.8	395
9.	Northern America	77.2	339
10.	China	32.1	47
11.	India	27.8	39
12.	USA	77.2	339
13.	Indonesia	40.9	69
14.	Brazil	81.3	435
15.	Pakistan	37	59
16.	Russian Federation	77.7	348
17.	Bangladesh	24.5	32
18.	Japan	78.6	367
19.	Nigeria	44	79

Source: World Urbanization Prospects – The 1999 Revision – United Nations
Note: For India the data relates to Census 2001

rural ratio, in the more developed region of the world three times as much population lives in urban areas in comparison to rural areas. In contrast, in the least developed countries, only about a third of every hundred (person living in rural areas) lives in urban areas. The urban-rural ratios for Africa and Asia are almost equal

being around sixty, which is strikingly much less when compared with Europe, Northern America and South America. Among the most populous countries Brazil has over four persons living in its urban areas for every person in rural area. Notwithstanding the difference in definitions of what constitutes an urban area in various countries, it is

Ashish Bose, (1980): India's Urbanization 1901-2001, Institute for Economic Growth, New Delhi.

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clear that the degree of urbanization in India is among the lowest in the world.

4. Urbanization in Pre and Post Independent India

The growth of urbanization during pre-independence period was slow. Urbanization in India has shown its phenomenal growth during post-independence years because of pressure of growing population, rapid

industrialization, rural to urban migration and the growing tempo of modernization. As a result new towns are coming up, already existing commercial and industrial towns are expanding to accommodate the continuing influx of the rural population. Thus, the census figure of 10.84 per cent of Indian urban population in 1901 had shown a marked increase to 27.78 per cent in 2001. Significance of urban local government in India has considerably

increased in the post-independence era with the inauguration of the constitution embodying the principles of democracy and a welfare state and emphasizing upon the government in urban areas to promote social and economic development.

The rate of urbanization varies over time and space. In the earlier part of 20th century, in 1901, the level of urbanization was only 10.84

Table -3 : Urbanization in India

Census year	Total Population (in million)	Urban population (in million)	Number of towns	Urban population as % age of total population (%)	Population per Town (000)	Decadal growth rate of urban population (%)	Annual exponential growth Rate
1901	238.0	25.85	1627	10.84	14	—	—
1911	252.09	29.64	1615	10.29	14	0.36	0.03
1921	262.32	29.09	1940	11.13	14	0.27	0.79
1931	278.08	33.49	2072	11.99	18	18.12	1.79
1941	318.60	44.15	2290	13.86	20	31.97	2.77
1951	361.09	62.44	2843	17.29	22	41.42	3.47
1961	439.24	78.93	2958	17.97	34	28.41	2.34
1971	548.16	106.11	2990	19.91	42	38.23	3.21
1981	683.33	160.48	3378	23.34	47	48.14	3.83
1991	844.32	217.18	3368	25.72	58	38.19	3.09
2001	1027.02	285.35	5161	27.78	65	31.38	2.71

Source: Census of India, 1991 & 2001

Hans Nagpaul, (1996): Modernization and Urbanization in India- Problems and Issues, Rawat Publications, Jaipur.

percent with only 25.85 million people in 1827 towns. In 1951, at the starting point of planned economic development, the level was 17.29 per cent with 62.45 million urban populations. The 2001 population census has recorded 285.35 million urban population which accounts for 27.78 per cent of 1027 million total population, distributed over 5161 urban agglomerations/ towns.

During the post-independence period, India has urbanized at fast rate up to 1981 while during 1981-1991 and 1991-2001 decades, the rate has slowed down. In 1991 and 2001, even though the extent of urbanization is low at 25.72 per cent and 27.78 per cent respectively, the magnitude of urban population of 217.18 million and 285.35 million respectively is very high. While the percentage of population living in urban areas has increased from 10.84 in 1901 to 27.78 in 2001, the increase in the

absolute growth from 25.85 million to 285.35 million during this period is about eleventh-and-a-half times.

The decadal growth rate of urban population at the all-India level increased steadily over the period from 1951 to 1981. As per Table -3, it raised from 26.41 per cent during 1951-1961 to 38.23 per cent during 1961-1971 and 46.14 per cent over the decade 1971-1981. The decade 1981-1991 witnessed a decline in the growth rate of urban population (38.19 per cent). The decade 1991-2002 also witnessed a decline in the growth rate of urban population (31.38 per cent).

Urbanization in India has been relatively slow compared to many developing countries. The trends in urbanization show that while the urban population increased more than eleven folds between 1901 and 2001, the number of urban settlements approximately trebled. The annual growth rate of urban population during 1981-1991

was 3.03 per cent, as against 3.83 per cent during 1971-1981 and 3.21 per cent during 1961-1971. The annual rate of growth of urban population has declined from 3.09 per cent (during 1981-1991) to 2.71 per cent (during 1991-2001).

Urbanization in India reveals that:-

- The country's urban population has increased by little over eleven times.
- The proportion of urban population and the total number of towns have been increasing decade after decade.
- There is a decline in the total number of towns during 1951-61.
- There is a steady rise in the total number of towns after 1961.

5. Degree of Urbanization India

Data related in Table- 4 gives the total population, urban population, rural population and degree of

Planning Commission, (1983): Task Forces on Housing and Urban Development, Vol.1, Government of India, New Delhi.

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Table - 4 : Population, urban population, rural population and degree of urbanization, India 1901-2001

Census Year	Population			Degree of urbanization	
	Total	Urban	Rural	Percent urban	Urban-rural ratio
1901	238,396,327	25,851,873	212,544,454	10.8	12
1911	252,093,390	25,941,633	226,151,757	10.3	12
1921	251,321,213	28,086,167	223,235,046	11.2	13
1931	275,977,228	33,453,989	242,523,239	12.0	14
1941	318,660,580	44,153,297	274,507,283	13.9	16
1951	361,088,090	62,443,934	298,644,156	17.3	21
1961	439,234,771	78,936,602	360,298,169	18.0	22
1971	541,159,652	108,113,977	433,045,675	19.9	25
1981	683,329,097	159,462,547	523,866,550	23.3	30
1991	846,387,888	217,551,812	628,836,076	25.7	35
2001	1,027,015,247	265,354,954	761,660,293	27.8	39

Source: Census of India for various years

Note: 1. Total population and urban population of India for the year 2001 includes estimated population of those areas of Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh where census could not be conducted due to natural calamities during the specified period.
2. The total population and urban population of India for the year 1991 includes interpolated population of Jammu and Kashmir where 1991 Census could not be conducted.
3. The total population and urban population of India for the year 1981 includes interpolated population of Assam where 1981 Census could not be conducted.

increase registered was significantly higher being eleven per hundred. It is, therefore, clear that levels of urbanization which were low at the beginning of the twentieth century did not alter significantly even at the dawn of the twenty first century. One should not be misled by the fact that in 2001, the size of the urban population is a little over ten times than it was in 1901, whereas the corresponding increase in the size of the rural population is only three and a half times.

6. The Urban Scene in India by States / Union Territories

India is a large country with sub-continental proportions. It has 28 states, 6 union territories and 1 national capital territory. About a third of the country is urbanized. However, in times to come, it is believed that urbanization will increase the prediction is that in a few decades, half of India's population will come to live in urban areas. Obviously, this is going to have serious

urbanization measured in terms of per cent urban population and urban-rural ratios for all Census years for India starting from 1901.

It can be seen from Table - 4 that the number of persons living in urban area for every hundred population of the country increased from about eleven to twenty-eight between 1901 and 2001, registering an increase of

seventeen per hundred during the time span of a century. When measured in terms of urban-rural ratio, only twelve persons lived in urban areas for every hundred persons living in rural areas in 1901, and this number increased to thirty-nine in rural areas in 2001. While during the first half of the century the proportion of urban population increased by six per hundred, during the second half, the

Planning Commission, Annual Report 2001-2002, Government of India.

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Table - 5 : Urban Population and Level of Urbanization

States	Population (Number)			Level of Urbanization (%)		
	1991	1998	2001	1991	1998	2001
Andhra Pradesh	17887126	19680821	20503597	26.89	27.02	27.07
Assam	110628	180528	222988	12.80	17.74	20.41
Bihar	2487795	3089097	3389413	11.10	12.21	12.72
Chhatisgarh	11303012	13581561	14665867	13.14	13.29	13.36
Goa	419152	626402	863693	41.01	46.98	49.77
Gujarat	14246061	17362877	19899377	34.40	36.47	37.35
Haryana	4054744	5405349	6114139	24.63	27.61	29.00
Himachal Pradesh	449196	546804	594881	8.69	9.44	9.79
Jammu & Kashmir	1839400	2283625	2506309	23.83	24.56	24.88
Karnataka	13907786	16607781	17919858	30.32	33.03	33.98
Kerala	7680294	8296524	8267135	28.39	28.09	28.96
Madhya Pradesh	15338837	18981162	20277919	23.18	24.86	24.98
Maharashtra	30541586	37545895	41019734	38.69	41.25	42.40
Manipur	509645	590154	570410	27.32	24.92	23.88
Mizoram	330047	411700	422912	18.60	19.31	19.82
Nagaland	317946	399798	441040	46.09	48.45	49.49
Nagaland	208223	301194	352821	17.21	17.58	17.74
Orissa	4234983	5062832	5496318	13.37	14.47	14.97
Punjab	5993225	7402944	8245866	29.55	32.58	33.95
Rajasthan	10067113	12173027	13205444	22.88	23.23	23.38
Sikkim	37006	51905	60005	9.10	10.46	11.10
Tamil Nadu	19077592	24480449	27241553	34.15	40.69	43.86
Tripura	421721	503408	543094	15.29	16.48	17.02
Uttar Pradesh	17609816	30594103	36662874	12.85	20.66	21.02
West Bengal	18707601	21278964	22486481	27.48	27.86	28.03
Union Territories						
Andaman and Nicobar Island	74810	101994	116407	26.80	30.8	32.67
Chandigarh	574846	729974	808796	89.68	89.75	89.77
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11720	32562	50456	8.47	16.98	22.89
Daman and Diu	47538	54190	57319	46.86	39.16	36.26
Delhi	8427083	11303661	12819761	89.93	92.08	93.01
Lakshadweep	29089	27573	26948	56.28	47.73	44.47
Pondicherry	516834	603679	648233	64.06	65.80	66.56
Total	207565056	259367803	286354954	24.57	26.76	27.78

Source: Compiled from the Census of India Reports, Government of India.

Prabir, C. Bhattacharya, (2002): "Urbanization in Developing Countries", Economic and Political Weekly, October 12, 2002.

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implications on the manner in which cities are governed in the country. In the year 1991, while there were only 23 metropolitan cities (having more than 1 million population), today, there are as many as 35 in this category. Similarly, the total number of urban areas in the country was around 4000 in the year 1991 and the number has risen to over 5000 by the year 2001. Table - 5 shows the urban population in various states of India and the level of urbanization.

7. Level of Urbanization by States

Among the States and Union Territories, the National Capital Territory of Delhi is the most urbanized with 93.0 per cent urban population followed by the Union Territories of Chandigarh (89.8 per cent) and Pondicherry (66.6 per cent). Among the major States, Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized state with 43.9 per cent of the population living in urban areas followed by Maharashtra (42.4 per

cent) and Gujarat (37.4 per cent). The proportion of urban population is the lowest in Bihar with 10.5 per cent, followed by Assam (12.7 per cent) and Orissa (15.0 per cent). Understandably, the hill State of Himachal Pradesh is the least urbanized state (9.8 per cent) among all the States and Union Territories as per Census 2001 (Table-6).

8. Causes of Urbanization

There is no single factor which can be regarded responsible for the development of cities. This is because every city has its own history and certain causes for its development. Broadly the following factors may be regarded as the main causes of the growth of cities.

Table - 6 : Urbanization Level of States	
States: Urbanization Level 2001	
Highly Urbanized	Percentage
Delhi	93.0
More Urbanized	
Andhra Pradesh	27.1
Goa	49.8
Gujarat	37.8
Haryana	29.0
Karnataka	34.0
Maharashtra	42.4
Mizoram	49.5
Punjab	34.0
Tamil Nadu	43.9
West Bengal	28.0
Less Urbanized	
Nagaland	17.7
Orissa	15.0
Sikkim	11.1
Tripura	17.0
Assam	12.7
Bihar	10.5
Himachal Pradesh	9.8
All India	27.8

Source: The State of the Indian City 2001, and Census of India 2001

Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, (1988): Urbanization in India -Problems and Prospects, New Age International Publishers, New Delhi.

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A. Migration

The most important factor that affects urbanization is rural-urban migration. Bogue and Zachariah remarked of rural-urban migration by for the major component of urbanization and as the chief mechanism by which all the world's great urbanization trends have been accomplished.

- (a) *Industrialization:* Migrants from rural areas migrate to urban areas in search of employment in industrial centres of urban areas. Besides industries, urban areas possess some significant things e.g. transport centres, administrative offices, advanced educational health services. Big cities in India keep on evolving and suffering from population explosion from rural areas.
- (b) *Employment:* Most of the studies have established that people with higher educational attainments on the rural areas tend to

migrate to the city in research of better job opportunities. As unemployment grows in cosmopolitan cities men with educational qualifications migrate to other areas. Hence, among the urban migrants the uneducated labourers for outnumber those with educational qualifications became the uneducated labourers early get employment as labourers.

- (c) *Marriage:* The number of females who migrate to the urban areas because of marriage is nearly 40-50 per cent of the total female migrants. So, the marital status also plays an important role in migration to urban areas.
- (d) *Business:* People migrate to urban areas in search of high business in order to make huge money and wealth for themselves. For example, most of the Marvaries of rural Rajasthan have migrated to cosmopolitan cities

like Mumbai, Hyderabad and Calcutta for business purpose.

- (e) *Sequential Migration:* Some people migrate to urban areas because the head of the family or the main worker moves to the urban areas due to promotion or in search of employment.

- (f) *Means of Transportation:* If the place is situated on the sea-coast, it also turns into a big city or town due to industrialization. Industrialization implies enhancement of import and export and it is done by ships. If the coastal town has good harbour facilities, traffic through it is bound to increase. The greater the traffic through harbour, greater is the increase in population and also greater would be the turnover of handling of goods. All these things help in the rapid development of cities.

United Nations, (1995): World Urbanization Prospects, Population Division, New York.

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- (g) *Educational Centres:* If a University, High Court, or medical college is set up anywhere, there is great influx of population to that area. With this influx of population, many shops, markets, hotels, restaurants, clubs, cinema theatres etc. are established and in this way the foundation of city is laid down.
- B. The rate of natural Increase**
- Even the natural growth rate in urban areas is lower than that of in the rural areas; it is also an affecting factor in the growth of urbanization.
- Hence, in short, it may be said that wherever there is industrialization, location of government office, good climate or scenic beauty, educational and cultural institutions, such places would be developed into cities.
- 9. Consequences of Urbanization**
- Due to influx of population to cities, which is mainly due to industrialization
- and progress in trade and commerce, development in transportation and communication and also due to various other reasons sizeable managerial cadre is required. In developing nations of the world, one or the other new industrial unit is set up almost daily. This increase in urban population has resulted into over-crowding. Many other grave problems have also cropped up and by more problems are springing up. They are all the consequences of industrializations and change in the life in cities.
- (a) *Housing Problem:* Due to increasing urbanization, providing houses to all the people have become a serious problem. Rents are high in the urban areas and even middle class families live in slums.
- (b) *Slums:* Another serious consequence of urbanization is the mushroom growth slums in cities and towns. City attracts migrants from surrounding rural and semi-urban areas, who develop slum colonies in the city. These slums are above of poverty and diseases.
- (c) *Employment:* People in the areas migrate to urban areas in anticipation of better jobs as they are pushed out from rural areas by the pressure on land on account of growing population. These people are unskilled and without any adequate source of livelihood and add to the heavy existing unemployed people in the city.
- (d) *Social Problems:* The co-existence of rich life and dirty slums in all medium and major cities of India has led to a sort of discontentment among the urban poor. Poverty, unemployment and lack of access to amenities have led to their involvement into the anti-social activities.

United Nations, (2001): World Urbanization Prospects (The 1999 revision), Population Division, New York.

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- (e) *Environmental Pollution:* Urban industrialization lead to the pollution of water, air, noise and land. There is lot of congestion and unhealthy conditions due to slums. Water pollution leads to the outbreak of epidemics. High traffic on roads in urban areas leads to lot of noise and air pollution.
- 10. Conclusions and Suggestions**
- Urbanization is an indicator of modernization and it is the sign of economic growth and progress. Urbanization is the result of more avenues of industrialization, but it is not matched by a commensurate degree of energy and transportation. The overall population growth in developing countries in 1960s 1970s was almost double of England during the first industrial revolution. Urbanization in India has shown its phenomenal growth during post-independence years because of pressure of growing population, rapid industrialization, rural to urban migration and the growing tempo of modernization.
- According to the Census of India 2001, out of the total population of 1027 million about 285 million live in urban areas and 742 million in rural areas. Nearly twenty-eight out of every one hundred persons in India live in urban areas. Today there is more emphasis on economic reforms, modernization and urbanization. Growth of urban population in India during the past decade indicates higher growth for metro cities. However, development of basic infrastructure services like water supply, sanitation facilities, solid waste management and transportation could not keep pace with the growth of urban population. Inadequate supply of serviced land within affordable reach of economically weaker sections has resulted in the unprecedented growth of urban slum population at 9 per cent per year. Presently, there is neither national urban development policy nor as a corollary a state urban development policy. There is no balance in the distribution of economic activities. There is excessive concentration of economic activities, mainly industries, in a few urban centres particularly in large cities. In developing nations of the world, one or the other new industrial unit is set up almost daily. This increase in urban population has resulted into over-crowding. India being the developing country, has to face these problems particularly because, of urbanization. The following measures to be needed for better urbanization.
1. To streamline the process of urbanization, which is recognized as a barometer of progress, growth centre concept should be adopted and accordingly other new and vibrant growth centres are to be developed all across the country.
 2. Urban development should be viewed as an integral part of the total development process.

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3. New urban areas will have to be planned and developed in adequate number to accommodate such a growth of urban population and to provide them basic infrastructural services.

4. There is a need to increase the supply affordable housing to the socially and economically weaker sections through a proper programme of allocation of land, extension of funding assistance, and provision of support services.

5. Urban areas particularly big cities have to be viewed as centres of social and cultural diversity and varied opportunities.

