Research Article

Urbanization, Challenges And Planning With Special Reference To India: Implications And GOI Initiatives

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
	Urbanization in India has been a significant and rapid phenomenon in recent decades, accompanied by both opportunities and challenges. India's urban population was 37.7 Crore (31.1 % of the total population) as per the 2011 census. This is projected to be 62.70 Crore by 2030 i.e. 40.9 % of the total population. Moreover, as per Census Report of 2011, an urban India account for 63 % of the country's GDP. It is projected to grow to over 75% by the year 2030 and may cross 80 % in 2050. The growing urban population will create tremendous pressure on management of urbanization. India has witnessed substantial urbanization, with a significant shift of population from rural to urban areas. This has led to the emergence of large metropolitan areas and the expansion of existing cities. The urban population in India has been increasing, leading to issues such as housing shortages, inadequate infrastructure, and increased pressure on urban services. Rapid urbanization has resulted in the growth of informal settlements or slums, characterized by poor living conditions, lack of basic amenities, and limited access to healthcare and education. India is facing various challenges in order to mitigate the urbanization and distribution and growth of metropolitan areas. Many Indian cities face challenges in providing adequate infrastructure, including transportation, water supply, sanitation, and waste management, to meet the needs of the growing population. The demand for affordable housing often outstrips supply, leading to the growth of slums and informal settlements. Unplanned urbanization contributes to environmental degradation, including air and water pollution, deforestation, and loss of green spaces. With the increase in the number of vehicles and inadequate urban planning, traffic congestion has become a common problem in many cities, affecting both mobility and air quality. Urbanization has sometimes exacerbated social inequalities, with marginalized communities facing challenges in accessing basic services and opportunities. India is witnessing tremendous grown in urban popoulation resulting many issues in the urban areas. the challenges are crucial to handle with a single agenda policy. even the growth is so rapid that it is changing the pattern rapidly and to mitigate such challenges a very wide range od different policies must be implicated. The Indian government launched the Smart Cities Mission to promote sustainable and inclusive development in urban areas. The focus is on improving infrastructure, efficiency, and quality of life in selected cities. The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) aims to improve basic infrastructure in cities, including water supply, sewage, and transportation. For affordable housing initiatives, Various schemes, such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, have been launched to address the housing shortage and promote affordable housing for different income groups. Some cities are adopting Transit-Oriented Development

(TOD) principles to integrate land use and transportation planning, promoting sustainable urban development. Indian Cities are increasingly focusing on green and sustainable practices, including tree planting, waste management, and renewable energy projects for better health quality of citizens.

Keywords: Urbanization, Sustainable Development, Urban Development Initiatives, Urban Planning,

1.0 INTRODUCTION TO URBANIZATION:

Today, the world stands on the brink of fourth industrial revolution. Technological revolution has resulted into many paradigm shifts. It has changed the way we live, work and relate to one another in terms of scale, scope and complexity. Dr. Klaus Schwab (2015) Chairman of World Economic Forum, explains the paradigm shifts in different four phases. The First Industrial Revolution used water and steam power to mechanize production. The Second phase used electric power and mass production as its outcome. The Third one used electronics and information technology to automate production. This has been resulted into digital revolution in it's the terminal phase since the middle of the last century. The Fourth and the last phase of Industrial Revolution known as Digital Revolution is characterized by fusion of all the technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres.

This global shift has made the world is flat. Thomas Friedman, a very famous New York Times journalist in his best-selling book – "The World is Flat", explained that the whole world is undergoing dramatic transition due to many disruptive factors. They are mainly three: Technological, Institutional and Cultural Convergences. These three disruptive factors have tremendous and fast impact on the velocity, scope and systems of governance of urban cities. Now, billions of people are connected by mobile devices with unprecedented processing power, storage capacity, and unlimited access to data, information and knowledge. Artificial intelligence, robotics, The Internet of Things, 3-D printing, nanotechnology, biotechnology, material science, energy storage, quantum computing are the catalytic factors of growth. This technological revolution is a Digital Fabrication or fusion, has increased the breadth and depth of the system of governance.

Globally, more people live in urban areas than in rural areas. As per one estimate in the year 2018, 55 per cent of the world's population was residing in urban areas. It was 30 per cent of the world's population in the year 1930. It is projected that by 2050, 68 per cent of the world's population is going to be urban. Not only this, there is significant diversity in the urbanization levels in different geographic regions also. As per the figures of 2018, the most urbanized geographic regions include Northern America (82 per cent living in urban areas in 2018), Latin America and the Caribbean (81 per cent), Europe (74 per cent) and Oceania (68 per cent). The level of urbanization in Asia is now around 50 per cent. In contrast, Africa remains mostly rural, with only 43 per cent of its population living in urban areas.

India's urban population was 37.7 Crore (31.1 % of the total population) as per the 2011 census. This is projected to be 62.70 Crore by 2030 i.e. 40.9 % of the total population. Moreover, as per Census Report of 2011, an urban India account for 63 % of the country's GDP. It is projected to grow to over 75% by the year 2030 and may cross 80 % in 2050. The growing urban population will create tremendous pressure on management of urbanization, etc.

1.1 Urbanisation - Definition:
The population division of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs is publishing World Urbanization Prospect for many years. For the 2018 Revision Report, it has compiled data of 233 countries. As per the definition adopted in this report, "Urbanization is a complex socio-economic process that transforms the built environment, converting formerly rural into urban settlements, while also shifting the spatial distribution of a population from rural to urban areas. It includes changes in dominant occupations, lifestyle, culture and behavior, and thus alters the demographic and social structure of both urban and rural areas".

Urbanization is shaped by spatial. It is because of the nature of public and private investments in buildings and infrastructure. An increasing share of economic activity and innovation becomes concentrated in cities. Cities develop as a hub for the flow of transport, trade and information. Cities also become places where public and private services of the highest quality are available and where basic services are often more accessible than in rural areas.

The degree or level of urbanization is typically expressed as the percentage of population residing in urban areas. This is as per the criteria used by concerned national governments for distinguishing between urban and rural areas. Urbanization refers to two aspects. One, the increase in the percentage of population residing in urban areas and two, associated growth in the number of urban dwellers, in the size of cities and in the total area occupied by urban settlements.

Thus, the definition of urbanization varies from country to country. In some cases, it is only City Proper. In many cases, it covers Urban Agglomeration or Metropolitan Areas. The following examples of different countries are presented to make the concept clear:

A. In **Australia**, urban areas are those, for 2001 and later, Significant Urban Centres representing concentrations of urban development with 10,000 inhabitants or more.

B. **Bangladesh** has a definition as : Localities having a municipality *(pourashava)* , town *(shahar)* committee or cantonment board. In general, urban areas are a concentration of 5,000 inhabitants or more in a continuous collection of houses where the community sense is well developed and the community maintains public utilities, such as roads, street lighting, water supply, sanitary arrangements, etc. These places are generally centres of trade and commerce where the labour force is mostly non-agricultural and literacy levels are high. An area that has urban characteristics but has fewer than 5,000 inhabitants may, in special cases, be considered urban.

C. In **China,** Urban residents are those in which city districts with average population density is of at least 1,500 persons per square kilometer; in case of suburban – district units and town-ship level units should have continuous built up area, being the location of the local government, etc.

D. **Denmark** has a definition of, Localities with 200 inhabitants or more to be considered for urban area.

E. **Ethiopia** defines localities with 2,000 inhabitants or more as urban centre.

F. In **France**, the urbanization is defined in terms of urban unit, namely communes with 2,000 inhabitants or more in dwelling separated by at most 200 metre.

G. In **Germany,** it is defined as a Commune with at least 150 inhabitants per square kilo metre.

H. **Hungary** has defined urban area as: Budapest (capital) and all legally designated towns.

I. In **Ireland,** Population clusters with 1,500 inhabitants or more (aggregate town areas, including suburbs) are urban areas.

J. In **Japan**, urbanization means Cities defined as *shi.* In general, *Shi* refers to a municipality that satisfies the following conditions: 1. 50,000 or more inhabitants; 2. 60 % or more of the houses located in the main built-up areas; 3. 60 % or more of the population engaged in manufacturing, trade or other urban type of business.

K. **Kuwait** definition: For 1980 and later, the urban agglomeration of Al-Kuwayt and localities with 10,000 inhabitants or more.

L. Definition of **Libya:** Municipalities of Tarabulus and Banghazi and urban parts of other municipalities.

M. **Malaysia,** has adopted a definition as : Gazetted areas with their adjoining built-up areas and with a combined population of 10,000 inhabitants or more. Built-up areas are areas contiguous to a gazette area and at least 60 per cent of the population aged 10 years and over engaged in non-agricultural activities. Urban areas also have modern toilet facilities in housing units.

N. **New Zealand :** Cities, boroughs, towns districts, townships and country towns with 1,000 inhabitants or more.

O. **Oman :** The Government of Muscat, all Wilayat(s) centres and every named and permanent human settlement with 2,500 inhabitants or more and with at least three of the following basic services: preparatory or secondary school, public electricity network, health centre and telephone services.

P. **Pakistan:** Places with municipal corporation, town committee or cantonment.

R. **Republic of Korea:** Administrative divisions for urban areas (dong).

S. **Switzerland** defines urbanization as a Commune with 10,000 inhabitants or more including suburbs, and urban agglomerations with continuous built-up area with 20,000 or more inhabitants.

T. **Turkey:** Localities within municipality limits of administrative centres of provinces and district.

U. In case of **United Kingdom**, settlements with 10,000 inhabitants or more is classified as Urban area.

V. **United States of America** has a definition of urban area as, "A densely settled territory that meets minimum population density requirements and with 2,500 inhabitants or more".

W. Comparatively a small country like- **Bhutan** has adopted the urban area definition related to areas satisfying at least 4 out of the following 5 conditions: **1.** 1500 or more inhabitants; **2.** 1000 or more inhabitants per square kilometre; **3.** More than 50 % of the people depends on economic activities outside the primary sector, (i.e. other than agriculture, livestock and forestry); **4.** Area of the urban centre is 1.5 square kilo metre or more; and **5.** Identified as potential for future growth as urban centre in terms of revenue base.

Z. **Zimbabwe** has adopted a definition of: Places officially designated as urban, as well as places with 2,500 inhabitants or more whose population resides in a compact settlement pattern and where more than 50 % of the employed persons are engaged in non-agricultural occupations.

Finally, in India, the definition of Urban area is "Statutory places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee and places satisfying all of the following criteria: (1) 5,000 or more inhabitants; (2) at least 75% of male working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits; and (3) at least 400 inhabitants per square kilo metre."

From the above definitions, it can be concluded that the concept of urban area varies from country to country. It includes many criteria like- administrative nature of governance like- corporation, municipality, etc.; population size; density of population; urban characteristics like- occupation; area covered, potential of the area for future growth, etc.

2.0 URBANIZATION IN INDIA

Dr. Amitabh Kundu in his article "Trends and processes of urbanization in India" explains that An overview of the urbanization process in India reveals that the pre-existing system of settlement, based on interactions between a large number of handicraft-, service and commerce-based towns and their hinterland or primary production, as well as between large cities and small towns, was disrupted during the colonial period. The country was gradually drawn into the orbit of the capitalistic system during two centuries of colonial rule, but the political economy of the regime became an impediment to technological advancement in different sectors of the economy and led to a top-heavy urban structure.

India, which is conventionally a rural based economy. Before independence, it was distributed among large number of small kingdoms and the official figures of population were not available. The population details are available after the British government officially lunched census studies in 1901. Then after, at the interval of every ten years, the census is undertaken by the Government of India.

It was observed that in the first census which was carried out in the year 1901, 89.2 per cent of population was living in rural areas and only 10.8 % of the total population i.e. 25 million were living in urban areas. The population mix of urban habitants increased to 27.8 % after 100 years i.e. in the year 2001. In the last census which was carried out in the year 2011, the proportion of rural population has reduced to 68.9 percent age from the earlier 89.2 percent age in the year 1901. In the year 2018, the urban population is around 34% and it is likely to be around 41 % in the year 2030. The details are presented in the below shown **Table 2.1.**

TABLE : 2.1: Census wise Rural and Urban Population of India

Census Year	Population (Million)			% of Population	
	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1901	213	25	238	89.2	10.8
1911	226	26	252	89.7	10.3
1921	223	28	251	88.8	11.2
1931	245	34	279	88.0	12.0
1941	274	44	318	86.1	13.9
1951	298	63	361	82.7	17.3
1961	360	79	439	82.0	18.0
1971	439	109	548	80.1	19.9
1981	525	160	683	76.7	23.3
1991	629	218	847	74.3	25.7
2001	743	286	1029	72.2	27.8
2011	834	377	1211	68.9	31.1
2018 *	903	468	**1371**	**65.9**	**34.1**
2030 *	905	627	**1532**	**59.1**	**40.9**
2050 *	890	894	**1784**	**50.0**	**50.0**

(* These are the figures projected by the Population Division - Department of Economic and Social Affairs of United Nations in World Population Prospects 2019 Highlights and World Urbanization Prospects: the 2018 Revision.)

(Sources: 1. India: 1991 Observe Statistical Handbook; 2. Statistical Outlook of India-2004-2005; 3. Statistical Outline – Gujarat State: 2009, 4. 2017, 5. 2018; 6. Statistical Abstract of Gujarat state- 2018; 7. 2017 World Population Data Sheet- with a special focus on Youth; 8. 2018 World Population Data Sheet - with a Special Focus on Changing Age Structures.)

A general connection between demographic transition and urbanization is quite obvious. Growth in the population after independence for nearly 3 decade is very low and close to 2% only due to birth rate remains more a less similar. But after that declined growth rate and higher birth rate has played major role in the growth of population. This has also accelerated the speed of urbanization by creating a human surplus in rural areas and raising the natural growth rate of urban areas. During 1961-1981 higher growth of population created conditions favourable to migration and natural increase in the urban areas.

TABLE: 2.2: Urban Population : State wise

Sr.No.	State / Union Territory	Total Population Census - 2011 (In '000)	% of Urban Population in Total
	ALL INDIA	**1210855**	**31.1**
1	Jammu & Kasmir	12541	27.4
2	Himachal Pradesh	6865	10.0
3	Punjab	27743	37.5
4	Uttarakhand	10086	30.2
5	Haryana	25351	34.9
6	Rajasthan	68548	24.0
7	Uttar Pradesh	199812	22.3

8	Bihar	104099	11.3
9	Sikkim	611	25.2
10	Arunachal Pradesh	1384	22.9
11	Nagaland	1979	28.9
12	Manipur	2856	29.2
13	Mizoram	1097	52.1
14	Tripura	3674	26.2
15	Meghalaya	2967	20.1
16	Assam	31206	14.1
17	West Bengal	91276	31.9
18	Jharkhand	32988	24.0
19	Odisha	41974	16.7
20	Chhatisgarh	25545	23.2
21	Madhya Pradesh	72627	27.6
22	Gujarat	60440	42.6
23	Maharashtra	112374	45.2
24	Andhra Pradesh	84581	33.4
25	Karnataka	61095	38.7
26	Goa	1459	62.2
27	Kerala	33406	47.7
28	Tamilnadu	72147	48.4
1 UT	Chandigarh	1055	97.3
2 UT	NCT of Delhi	16788	97.5
3 UT	Daman & Diu	243	75.2
4 UT	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	344	46.7
5 UT	Lakshadweep	64	78.1
6 UT	Puducherry	1248	68.3
7 UT	Andaman & Nikobar Islands	381	37.7

(Source: Office of Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India; adopted from Statistical Abstract of Gujarat State 2018, pp: 2-3)

The followings are the major inferences drawn based on data provided in Table 2.2.:

➢ All India level average rate of urbanization is 31.1 %.
➢ Among the states, the highest urbanization rate is in Goa (62.2%) while the lowest is in Himachal Pradesh (10.0%).
➢ Of the 7 Union Territories, Chandigarh and Delhi have the highest levels of urbanization. All the Union territories have urbanization rate higher than the national average.
➢ More than 40 % of the population in states of Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu and Kerala lives in urban areas of the state.
➢ Only Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Andaman & Nikobar Islands have more population in rural areas, though the level of urbanization is higher than the national average.

3.0 CAUSES OF URBANIZATION

It is said that the future of the world's population is in urbanization. There are four major emerging factors related to population. They are:

3.1. *Rapid growth in world population*: According to United Nation's Department of Economic and Social Affairs Report on World Population Prospects – 2019, the world's population continues to grow. From an estimated 7.7 billion people in the world in the year 2019, it is estimated that the population may reach to 8.5 billion in the year 2030, 9.7 billion in the year 2050 and 10.9 billion in the year 2100. The current population position, projected figures for the year 2050 and the year 2100 of some selected top contries is provided in Table 2.1: (Population in Millions)

TABLE: 3.1 Population Data of Selected Countries

	Year - 2019	Year - 2050	Year - 2100
1	China - 1434	**India- 1639**	**India- 1450**
2	**India - 1368**	China- 1402	China- 1065
3	USA - 329	Nigeria - 401	Nigeria- 733
4	Indonesia- 271	USA - 379	USA - 434
5	Pakistan - 217	Pakistan - 338	Pakistan - 403
6	Brazil - 211	Indonesia- 331	Congo - 362
7	Nigeria- 201	Brazil - 229	Indonesia- 321
8	Bnagladesh - 163	Ethopia- 208	Ethopia- 294

3.2. *Distribution of population more in urban areas:* United Nation's Department of Economic and Social Affairs Report on World Urbanization Prospects – The 2018 Revision Report, provides estimates and

projections of the total, urban and rural populations of the world for the period 1950-2050. According to this report, the world's population residing in urban areas in the year 1950 was 30%. In the year 2018, it has increased to 55%. It is estimated that in the year 2050, the urban population will be around 68 % of world population. There will be significant diversity in the level of urbanization in different countries. In the following Table-2.2, it is depicted percentage of population residing in urban areas in the selected countries.

TABLE: 3.2 Percentage Share of Urban Population is Selected Countries

No	Country	Year- 1950	Year- 2000	Year- 2030
1	China	12.5	35.8	59.5
2	**India**	**17.3**	**29.0**	**40.9**
3	USA	64.2	77.2	84.5
4	Brazil	36.5	81.2	90.5
5	Indonesia	12.4	41.0	63.7
6	Nigeria	10.1	44.1	63.6
7	Pakistan	17.5	33.1	48.9
8	Mexico	42.7	74.4	81.9
9	Japan	50.3	78.8	84.8
10	Bangladesh	4.3	25.0	44.3

(Source: Different reports: World Population Reference Bureau; www.worldpopdata.org)

3.3. *Ageing of population:* According to World Population Prospects – 2019, persons aged 65 years or more has outnumbered children under age five. It is projected that by the year 2050, persons above 65 years will be double then the children under the age of five years. By 2050, the number of persons aged 65 or more will also surpass the number of adolescents and youths aged 15 to 24 years. This is the result of increase in life expectancy due to improved health services and fall in the fertility rate.

3.4. *International, Domestic Migration and Reclassification:* International migration is the fourth reason for the change in population mix. According to World Population Prospects 2019 report, between 2010 and 2020, 36 countries are experiencing a net inflow of more than 200 thousand migrants. Not only this, large number of people from rural areas migrate to urban areas for different reasons like- better jobs, better living conditions, education for children, etc. When cities grow in areas, they cover neighbouring rural areas in to the cities. As a result of reclassification of geographical boundaries, the urban population is shown more than rural population.
All the above mentioned changes have made significant changes in the population living in urban areas. This has resulted into more attention of policy makers to develop in urban areas so that better living conditions and other services can be strengthened.

4.0 DISTRIBUTION AND GROWTH OF SMALL CITIES IN INDIA

The distribution and growth of small cities in India are influenced by various factors such as economic development, urbanization, infrastructure, government policies, and geographic location. Important key points to understand the distribution and growth of small cities in India are;

4.1 Urbanization Trends: Urbanization is a significant driver of the growth of small cities. As people migrate from rural areas to urban centers in search of better economic opportunities, small cities often witness an influx of population. The expansion of industries and services in urban areas contributes to the growth of small cities as employment opportunities attract people from nearby rural regions.

4.2 Government Policies: Government policies play a crucial role in the development of small cities. Initiatives like the Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation), and other urban development schemes aim to enhance infrastructure and living standards in smaller urban centers.

4.3 Economic Development: Economic activities and industrial growth are key factors contributing to the development of small cities. Many small cities serve as regional economic hubs, attracting businesses and industries that drive local economic development.

4.4 Connectivity and Infrastructure: Improved connectivity through roadways, railways, and air transport facilitates the growth of small cities. Cities with better infrastructure tend to attract investments and population growth.

4.5 Geographic Location: Proximity to major urban centers, ports, and transportation hubs can positively impact the growth of small cities. Strategic locations often make these cities attractive for trade and commerce.

4.6 Education and Healthcare Facilities: The presence of educational institutions and healthcare facilities can contribute to the growth of small cities by attracting students, professionals, and families.

4.7 Technology and Communication: The advent of technology and better communication networks has allowed small cities to participate in the global economy. This can lead to increased economic activities and growth.

4.8 Cultural and Historical Significance: Some small cities have cultural or historical significance, which can attract tourists and contribute to local economic development.

4.9 Environmental Considerations: Some individuals and businesses are increasingly considering smaller cities for their lower environmental impact, lower congestion, and potentially better quality of life compared to larger metropolitan areas.

It's important to note that the growth and distribution of small cities can vary across different states and regions in India. Additionally, ongoing changes in policies, economic conditions, and societal trends continue to shape the urban landscape in the country.

5.0 MAJOR CHALLENGES IN INDIA

After the independence, great transformation and the rapid speed of the developments have been observed in India. There is paradigm shift from the traditional rural communities to modern urban economy. It has been recognized that urbanization seems to be a panacea for all human issues and perceived by the policy makers that urban centers create better opportunities. The urban centers are seen as knowledge banks for innovation and creativity. It has been accepted that there is a close interrelationship among industrialization, modernization and commercialization. Urbanization also leads to social equity by removing all the distinctions between caste and creed.

However, rapid urbanization has a dark side also. It is unsustainable because of the unplanned growth leading to many social, cultural and environmental challenges. Unplanned urban development leads to strained infrastructure, growth of slums, pollution problems, traffic issues, inadequate medical facilities, poor surveillance for law and order, etc.

Pankaj Bahadure and Sarika Bahadure in their paper on "Sustainable Urban Development in India: Challenges and Approaches" presented at International Conference on Advances in Architecture & Civil Engineering (AARCV 2012) held at Bangalore, have categorized challenges of urbanization in four broad areas. They are:

5.1 Climate Change leading to Environmental distress:
Increase in the emission of carbon dioxide is a major area of concern among the environmental issues. India's national energy consumption is the primary reason for Green House Gases which may lead to climate change. Impact of climate change will be on hydrological cycle resulting into change in temperature, draught, flood, etc. Though India is trying its best on United Nations Framework on Climate Change, a lot more is to be done.

5.2 Spatial Planning:
Urban planning decisions are very difficult as there are multiple models of development which are spontaneous and not based on rigorous planning. Common solution for all urban cities is not possible as they have different issues. High density in urban areas in particular metropolitan cities puts pressure on financing and its management. Majority of urban growth in India is natural, spontaneous and unplanned. There is tremendous pressure on urban authorities for providing safe drinking water, sanitation, adequate power supply, storm water drains, social amenities like-education facilities, health services, etc. It is also very difficult to remove unplanned growth and get people resettled.

5.3 Social Issues:
One of the challenges of rapid urbanization is its impact on poverty. The slum population of India has exceeded population of U.K. Rich is becoming richer and poor is becoming poor. There is lack of public participation in planning process. It is a top down approach and ignoring all social issues. An attempt is being made to empower local bodies but they lack professional approach to deal with the issues. It is also found that globalization, privatization and fast rate of industrial development has been the main reason for the erosion of existing culture and social identity. The time tested, indigenous knowledge system is getting vanished. Using the natural resources with care and responsibility is missing.

5.4 Governance Issues:
Governance is concerned with the process of decision making and its execution. Many organizations like- political parties, Government Establishments, NGOs, research and financing institutions, etc. are involved in planning and execution process. Governance issues can be divided into three categories, viz.,

(5.4.1). Policy related issues: There is a lack of clear cut policy guideline for land use, building byelaws and infrastructure related issues. Most of the initiatives are focusing on creating new infrastructure, rather than revitalizing the existing. There is a need to have grass-root level planning by strengthening the urban governance system and processes. There are many government agencies working for better living conditions in urban areas but there is a lack of coordination among them like- department of road, drainage, electricity, telecommunication hardly work in coordination with each other.

(5.4.2) Administrative problems: The size of urban population is so big that it is difficult for the municipalities or any other authorities to handle many urbanization issues. They are overburdened with inadequate systems. Most urban municipalities or authorities have lack of professional approach and poor skills

in planning. Most of staff is also not trained to meet the expectations of new generation. There are issues of overlapping jurisdictional authority and quality of local elected representative also.

(5.4.3) Financing for urban development: Most of the urban cities are depending on State Government and now, to some extent on Central Government for building and maintaining infrastructure. Major source of funding is collection of tax (property, stamp duty, advertisement, etc.) by the body. According to one study, aggregate revenue of all urban local bodies is very low at around 0.75 % of the country's GDP.

6.0 IMPLICATION OF URBANISATION :

During the last decade, India has undergone many economic reforms. This has resulted into strong economic growth. Urbanization attracts to business and people create a virtuous cycle that creates jobs, fosters talent, attract capital, boosts productivity, and improves the quality of life of its habitants. This virtuous cycle can be created. For that the model is well explained by Mackinsey Global Institute Analysis (India's Urban Awakening: Building inclusive cities, sustaining economic growth, April-2010 p-53) as given below:

WHAT GOOD CITIES DELIVER

ROBUST ECONOMIC GROWTH	Sustained Productivity Advantage --------------	# Cities have established a robust economic growth agenda and provide a favorable investor climate ---
	Robust job creation	# Ensures creation of sufficient jobs and livelihood
SUSTAINABLE QUALITY OF LIFE	Scaled public infrastructure	# Uninterrupted access to clean water supply for every resident; # 100 % coverage, proper treatment of sewage and solid waste; # 45 minutes maximum intra city travel time for all citizens. --
	-------------------- Reliable social services	# Quality, affordable education and health care facilities for all; # Access to affordable housing for all sections of the society; # No urban slums --
	-------------------- Good recreational and community infrastructure	# Open spaces throughout all cities; # Entertainment hubs and community spaces that celebrate diversity and foster innovation for all residents.
	Sustainable environment	# Preserve natural resources and ensure access to clear air, water and land; # Matching national standards on climate change, emission and sustainability.

In order to achieve both the robust economic growth and sustainable quality of life, big cities need better infrastructure and sound planning. In that connection, there are five major issues that need to be addressed:
1. **Funding:** How to raise money to manage urbanization?
2. **Governance:** Who will lead and be accountable? LMC/State/Central ?
3. **Planning:** How will cities make and enforce land and space choices?
4. **Sectorial Policies:** Economic growth, affordable housing policy and Environmental sustainability and Transportation policies
5. **Shape:** How will the country's population be distributed?

In order to cater to the needs of urban habitants, the government will have to investment heavily in creating infrastructure and other services, in particular good quality roads and public transport systems, buildings for catering to citizen services, hospital and medical facilities, education and training facilities, sound police and vigilance facilities, etc. The policies for developing urban infrastructure and rural needs should also be balanced.

7.0 MAJOR GOI INITIATIVES IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT:

The Government of India has taken initiative to address the urban issues as a part of its agreement of United Nations agenda for 2030. The following major initiatives are converted into missions by the Government.

7.1. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) has been set up under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India. Five hundred cities have been selected under AMRUT. The thrust areas of mission are on providing five basic services of 1. Water supply, 2. Sewage facilities and septage management, 3. Storm water drains to reduce flooding, 4. Pedestrian, non-motorized and public transport facilities and 5. Enhancing amenity value of cities by creating and upgrading green spaces, parks and recreation centers, especially for children.

7.2. Smart Cities Mission:

It is a new concept applied in India for sustainable urban development. At present Government of India, has identified 100 major cities for developing them as Smart Cities.

The developments of Smart Cities have a two way approach. On one hand it emphases on strengthening the existing infrastructure by expansion and modernization, creating new infrastructure and facilities for improving the quality of life. On the other hand it puts more stress on going for digitization and automation for providing quick reliable and better citizen services. Different online services and bringing transparency in administration is the focus.

7.3. Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U) :

In order to make urban India free from open defecation, achieving 100 per cent modern and scientific management of municipal solid waste and eradication of manual scavenging, to effect behavioural change regarding healthy sanitation practices and its linkage with public health, capacity augmentation for Urban local bodies, and to create an enabling environment for private sector participation in Capex)Capital Expenditure) and Opex (Operation and Management). 4041 statutory towns are covered in the mission.

7.4. Urban Transport:

Urban Transport Wing of Ministry of Urban Development is the nodal division for making all the interventions in Urban Transport. Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) and Metro Rail Projects are the major initiatives.

7.5. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Housing for all (URBAN):

The yojana is aimed at rehabilitation of existing slum dwellers and using land as a resource through private partnership Credit Linked Subsidy. Non-slum urban poor are also covered under the scheme. The Mission is being implemented during 2015-2022. It provided central assistance to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

7.6. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY) Under National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM): DAY-NLUM:

The NULM focuses on organizing urban poor in their strong grassroots level institutions, creating opportunities for skill development leading to marker-based employment and helping them to set up self-employment venture by ensuring easy access to credit. The Mission is aimed at providing shelter equipped with essential services to the urban homeless in a phased manner. In addition, it would also address livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors.

7.7. HeRItage city Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY)

The scheme was in operation from 21st January 2015 to 31srt March 2019. Its aim was to bring together urban planning, economic growth and heritage conservation in an inclusive manner by preserving character of the city. Twelve cities of : Ajmer, Amritsar, Amaravati, Badami, Dwarka, Gaya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Puri, Varansi, Velankanni, and Warangal have been identified for development. The scheme supported development of core heritage linked civil infrastructure projects. It included development of water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste management, approach roads, footpaths, street lights, landscaping, tourist convenience, electricity wiring, etc. In 2018, 20 projects amounting Rs. 140.14 crore have been completed in 12 cities of Ajmer, Amaravati, Amritsar, Badani, Dwarka, Puri and Varanasi.

8.0 CONCLUSION

India is witnessing worlds largest, fastest and challenging urban transfomations. The rapid growth of manufacturing segment, Vocal for Local, Make in India has bossted the economy and cities vary dramatically. There is a need for comprehensive and integrated urban planning that considers housing, transportation, environment, and social aspects. Inclusive planning involving local communities can lead to better-designed urban spaces that meet the diverse needs of the population. Leveraging technology for smart solutions, such as digital governance, data analytics, and the Internet of Things (IoT), can enhance urban management and services. Strengthening local governance and administrative capacities is crucial for effective urban planning and implementation of development initiatives. Given the challenges posed by climate change, incorporating climate-resilient strategies into urban planning is essential for long-term sustainability.

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