

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL STUDIES

Sustainable Urbanisation in India and its Challenges: An Inclusive Perspective

Kirti Prabhakar

Student, Department of Economics, Teri University, New Delhi, India

Abstract:

The world is getting increasingly urbanised which means that the population living in the urban areas is increasing. With an increasing urban population there is also an increase in the numbers of the urban poor. Large cities are sites of production, development, creativity and innovation but due to increasing industrialisation in the urban areas there is increasing number of slums. The urban poor living in the slums do not have access to basic amenities (health and education) and the poverty in the urban areas is also ever increasing. The size of the cities is also fragmenting and the difference between the rich and the poor areas in the cities is also increasing. Urbanisation and economic development are linked and so in order to achieve economic growth it is important to better the urban areas. In this paper we provide an overview that if we want to live in a sustainable and inclusive world where there is more peace and equity and more environmental stability then, we should focus on sustainable urbanisation and the building of smart and inclusive cities wherein the main focus will be on the development concerns of the poor and the marginalised people.

Keywords: *Inclusive growth, Smart cities and Urbanisation*

1. Introduction

There is no standard way to define urbanisation but in its simplest way it can be defined in terms of the size of the population living in the urban areas. In such a scenario increasing Urbanisation would mean an increase in the population living in the urban areas. Therefore urban population is increasing and so is the city size.

Since there are better job opportunities in the urban areas there has been an increasing Rural-Urban migration and many rural areas have been transformed into urban areas and this has led to increasing urbanisation. The difference in the lifestyle between the rural and urban areas has almost become redundant due to improved technology and telecommunication and better transportation facilities (Cohen, 2006). According to (Brothie, Newton, Hall and Nijkamp, 1985) in the pre industrialisation era production was mainly agricultural however this pattern changed after the industrial revolution set in, since many industries now started to locate themselves inside the cities and this led to agglomeration economies which led to emergence of large cities which were way better than the small cities and towns (Mitra, 2014). Cities are centres of production, creativity and innovation (Beall and Fox, 2007). Cities are also the centre of modern living and social and cultural activities since there are many museums and art galleries in the cities. Female labour force participation is also more in the cities (Cohen, 2006).

There are technological improvements all over the world and these can be harnessed only by a highly skilled manpower and better governance and infrastructure facilities (Mitra et al 2002) (Mitra, 2014). According to (Mitra, 1999 and 2002) all these sources are more prevalent in the large cities therefore large cities are better compared to small cities and towns (Mitra, 2014).

As the city size grows it gets increasingly difficult to manage cities (Cohen, 2006). In cities there are higher wages due to higher levels of productivity. However the employment is informal since the manufacturing sector is becoming increasingly capital intensive. According to (Hoselitz, 1953 and Mitra, 1994) Since there are better job opportunities in the large cities there is an increasing migration directed towards the large cities this means that there is an increased labour supply as compared to demand within the cities which leads to high unemployment and low earnings in the urban areas and this causes an increase in poverty in the urban areas (Mitra, 2014).

Costs of living in the cities is very high and there is more reliance on money this means that, any disruption in the wage of a labourer implies a disruption in the ability to eat or live in a proper housing condition. Urbanisation also impacts the environment. The environmental condition in the cities deteriorates due to increased vehicular emissions and increased pollution due to industrial smoke and other activities. Due to this climate change the major impact is on the marginalised people that is, the urban poor since they do not have enough means to protect themselves and they are most prone to natural disasters and to poor housing conditions and they are also located in the most vulnerable places (Beall and Fox, 2007).

Therefore there is a need to develop smart and inclusive cities where diversity is appreciated and everybody has a say in the urban affairs and there is more equality. The quality of the infrastructure in the urban areas should be improved and the housing conditions for the urban poor should also be improved and the urban poor should be given adequate and proper access to the basic amenities.

This paper contains five sections:-

The first section discusses about urbanisation in India and the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's smart city project. The second section explains in detail the various challenges of inclusive urbanisation. In the third section we continue with our discussion on the challenges of urbanisation, in addition we do a data analysis of the trends of urbanisation and other basic amenities in the households in India based on census data 2001 and 2011. In The fourth section we study about the various policies and initiatives taken by the government to cope with the challenges and finally the fifth section leads us to the conclusion.

2. Section1- Urbanisation in India and the Smart City Project

In India urbanisation has stayed a little on the low side but the urban population has stayed very high (Mahadevia, 2001). "According to census 2011 the urban population grew to 377 million from 286 million in 2001 a growth rate of 2.76% per annum during 2001-2011. The level of urbanisation in the country as a whole increased from 27.7% in 2001 to 31.1% in 2011 – an increase of 3.3 percentage points during 2001-2011 compared to an increase of 2.1 percentage points during 1991-2001. It may be noted that the Indian economy has grown from about 6% per annum during the 1990s to about 8% during the first decade of the 2000s (Ahluwalia 2011). This clearly reflects the power of economic growth in bringing about faster urbanisation during 2001-2011." (Bhagat, 2011)

For urbanisation not only should the urban population increase but the rural population should also decrease. As noted above in 2011 the urban population increased to 377 million as compared to 286 million in 2001 an increase of 91 million which was 90.5 points higher than the rural population this was mainly due to the fact that many new towns came up and there was an increased rural-urban migration (Bhagat, 2011). According to (Mitra, 2013) in India in the rural areas production is mainly agricultural and the urban areas are more dominated by the manufacturing and modern services sector therefore there is a significant difference in the occupational structure of the labour between rural and urban areas (Mitra, 2014). This implies that "In the backdrop of globalization the rural-urban distinction in sources of livelihood has grown much sharper." (Mitra, 2014)

However in the large cities despite the fact that there is increased economic development and high levels of productivity there are many problems which are mainly faced by the urban poor such as inadequate housing facility for the poor, insecurity of the tenure that is uncertainty about whether one will get a decent house in the city, vulnerability to diseases and deteriorating environmental condition. Urbanisation therefore leads to increased poverty and inequality. Apart from this, in the city the Public space is highly undervalued and as a result it is disappearing and this impact the urban poor since they anyways do not have a proper physical place to live and no say in the urban affairs. The public parks and other areas which were meant for increasing interaction among people are increasingly being privatised and commodified and only a few privileged people get proper access to these. Women should also be allowed to participate more in the city world (Beall and Fox, 2007).

2.1. Smart City Project

"Smart city is about integration, coordination and synergistic functioning of different participants." (DattaGupta, 2014)

Smart cities were built to move India from a backward and stagnant country to a country where modernity, planning and technological innovation is celebrated and appreciated. Ever since Independence India worked towards building more than 100 new towns which were located near the urban areas, this was clearly a precursor to smart cities. Majority of these towns were created from scratch and it was expected that development would trickle down but in the present almost half of these towns have gotten merged with the nearest big city and the remaining did not reach that density that could sustain them. Therefore the project of 100 towns was not very successful. Cities take along time to acquire density that makes them sustainable. During the 2014 elections the "Bhartiya Janta Party announced in its manifesto that "We will initiate building 100 new cities; enabled with the latest in technology and infrastructure - adhering to concepts like sustainability, walk to work etc., and focused on specialized domains." (Joshi, 2015). However there should be clarity about the division of responsibility between the centre and the state. (Joshi, 2015)

Cities are very complex since on the one hand cities are sites of new ideas, more economic development and production and on the other hand the very process of so many people coming together creates differences, intolerance and violence. Moreover urbanisation also leads to poverty and environmental degradation. As urbanisation increases so does the population. With an increasing population other problems such as traffic congestion, pollution and so on also increase. Therefore what is really needed is sustainable urbanisation. In the smart cities there is sustainable development, improved quality of life and better economic development. Smart cities will deal with a lot of problems in the modern cities since in the cities what is really needed is a smart way to solve the problems. (DattaGupta, 2014)

The various definitions of smart cities are as follows: According to (Giffinger et al, 2007) a smart city is a "City well performing in 6 characteristics (smart economy, smart governance, smart people, smart mobility, smart environment, smart living), built on the 'smart' combination of endowments and activities of self-decisive, independent and aware citizens." (DattaGupta, 2014) and according to (Hall, 2000) a smart city is "A city that monitors and integrates conditions of all of its critical infrastructures is a smart city" (DattaGupta, 2014). Smart city is a digital and well networked city. There are wifi networks and more technological innovations. There is also smart governance and better connection with people and better environmental conditions. Smart city basically is an instrument towards making cities more competitive and economically sound in order to attract investments (DattaGupta, 2014).

There are also certain disadvantages of smart cities which are as follows: there are challenges of the marginalisation of the less privileged, more urban slum growth and discrimination against the rights of the poor. In India a very big problem faced by the state is the problem of "land acquisition". Secondly, lot of cultural and regional differences and great amount of diversity is prevalent in India and there is also a huge gap between the middle class people and the urban poor within the cities. There have also been development of special economic zones SEZ's in many cities and these SEZ's take the land from the poor and this leads to the displacement of the poor and therefore, in a county like India which is mainly agrarian it creates a huge impact on the poor and the less privileged people.

Smart city is a way to create more jobs, employment and attracts foreign investors but the efforts should be made “to meet the needs of all the sections of the society rather than just emulating the western model of the cities.”(DattaGupta, 2014)

Smart cities should be made more inclusive and not just gated communities for the ultra rich. From a technical and financial point of view smart cities do not pose much of a problem but the main challenge is “to internalise high-tech solutions within the existing social ethos, urban planning and governance of the country.”(Sethi, 2014). Urbanisation should be done in a way such that the focus is on “creating institutional conditions for more inclusive and equitable development.” (Cook, 2006).

Development should be inclusive by keeping the spotlight on the poor and the less privileged people.

3. Section 2: Major Challenges Faced by the Urban Poor

Slums are a result of urbanisation although slums offer a large amount of skilled and unskilled labour and manpower but they also impose a very heavy burden on the civic amenities. For the 65th round of the NSS survey on urban slums in Delhi a slum is defined as “A compact settlement of at least 20 households with a collection of poorly built tenements, mostly of temporary nature, crowded together usually with inadequate sanitary and drinking water facilities in unhygienic conditions.”

The main findings from the data available for the 65th round of NSS survey on urban slums in Delhi were as follows:

- In Delhi a total of almost 4390 slums were found.
- 78% slums were located on the public land, 54% on the local bodies and about 14% on the railways and so on.
- Almost 9% slums were located near the nallahs or drains.
- Almost 65% slums were located near the residential areas, almost 16% near industrial areas and about 9% near other commercial areas.
- Almost 50% that is almost half of the slums were made up of pucca structure, 42% of the slum households were made of the semi-pucca structure and almost 8% of katcha structure. Now pucca structures are the houses in which the roof and the walls are made up of pucca material. Semi pucca structure are the houses where either the roof or the walls are made up of non-pucca material such as mud, bricks and bamboo and so on and lastly the kutchha structures are the houses where both the roof and the walls are made up of non-pucca material.
- In almost all the slum that is almost 97% of the slums the main source of drinking water is tap water or the hand pump.
- Although in case of the latrine system it was good to note that almost 63% of the slum households used flush latrine system (which has proper underground sewage and drainage system) but almost 20% of slum households did not have any latrine system whatsoever.
- Now in case of the drainage system 16% slums had no drainage, remaining slum households still had open pucca or open kutchha drainage system very few slum households had pucca underground drainage system.
- Apart from the amount of garbage collection near the slums was not at all there for almost 24% of the slums whereas for almost 66% slums there were local bodies collecting the garbage on a daily basis or on an irregular basis.
- As far as electricity is concerned almost 48% of the households had proper electricity available both for street light and household use. Only about 4% of the slums had no electricity at all.
- As far as other basic amenities are considered such as education and health care it was found out that almost 61% of the slum households had primary schools at a distance of less than 0.5 km and 33% had schools between a distance of 0.5 and 1km and only 1% of slum colonies had schools at a distance of 2to 5km. this showed that there was some improvement in the provision of education.

With an increase in income of the head of the family the expenditure on the per capita consumption also increases. Households with female heads stay in a worse state as compared to households with male heads in terms of the per capita consumption expenditures. The impact of the caste on the housing quality is negligible (Mitra, 2005).

Housing is the most basic requirement for human survival. Due to industrialisation more and more industries started to set up inside the cities and therefore, as a result the urban poor do not even have access to a proper house to live in. The urban poor live in katcha houses in squalid conditions and inadequate basic amenities (NSS 65th round on housing condition).

According to the data on the NSS 65th round on housing condition in Delhi, “The total number of households was found to be 39.23 lakhs and Out of them 1.80(4.59%) lakhs in rural areas and 37.43 (95.41%) lakhs in urban areas”

.In India overall almost 66% families live in pucca houses, almost 21% in semi pucca houses and almost 13% in katcha houses. It was found that in Delhi 76% of households had 1 married couple whereas almost 13% households did not have any married couple and almost 8% households had 2 married couples. Among the households having 2 married couples almost 18% households did not have separate rooms for each of the couples. It was found out that almost 56% of the people lived in their own houses, 4% lived in employer owned houses and about 32% lived in rented apartments. Majority of the households were found to draw water from the tap and only about 10% from the tube wells and for the majority of the households the source of drinking water could be easily located in the vicinity. Ventilation facilities were also decent except in about 12% of the households which had very bad ventilation facility. The houses facing flood risks were found to be almost negligible and about 56% of the households had proper drainage system and used flush latrine system (NSS 65th round on housing condition).

Census Years	HOUSEH OLDS (million)	Total Housing Stock (Mn)	Pucca (Mn)	Semi Pucca (Mn)	Kutcha Service Able (Mn)
1961	14.9	13.30	6.44	4.90	1.96
1971	19.1	18.50	11.80	4.35	2.35
1981	29.3	28.00	18.09	6.80	3.11
1991	40.7	39.30	29.79	6.21	3.30
2001	55.8	50.95	41.17	8.08	1.70

Table 1

Source- Report of the technical group [11th five year plan; 2007-2012] on estimation of urban housing shortage

From the table above we note that the growth rate of the pucca houses had declined from 53.3% in the 70's to 64.68% in the 80's and it declined further to 38.20% during the 90's. Therefore, it can be clearly noted that the growth in the total housing stock during 1991-2001 declined and this can be due to slow urbanisation during the 90's and many other factors too (Report of technical group on Housing shortage).

According to the monitor group it was found that "almost 60% of the households with the monthly income between 5000 and 20000 live in rental housing and want to buy a house of their own." (NAREDCO 2012). Therefore measures are taken to develop affordable housing and to minimise the costs of acquiring a house. The price of houses should depend on their affordability in other words for the families with monthly income between 7500 and 25000 the EMI should be allowed at a rate of 30 to 40% which will be spread over a 15 years period. The state government can also help to attain affordable housing in the cities by waiving off the land use conversion charges and by totally removing the stamp duty and other external development charges on the affordable housing project of 25-80 sqm carpet area. Apart from this, access to the credit should be made easier this can be done if banking institutions become more innovative by creating new schemes for providing loans, by operationalising credit guarantee fund and so on. More cost effective building materials and more feasible technologies should be used (NAREDCO 2012).

4. Section 3: Challenges of Urbanisation and Data Analysis

A lot of industries set up themselves in large cities and this leads to employment generation and therefore to increased mobility due to increasing rural-urban migration. These industries and companies set up themselves anywhere they like due to more liberal trade policies and improvements in the global financial markets in the large cities. The main aim is to achieve sustainable urbanisation this means that the objective of poverty reduction and environment protection need to be attained and these however cannot be solved by the local governments effectively on their own and therefore, the support from many other actors in the city is needed such as private companies, local communities, partnerships involving two or more actors working together and this helps to attain urban development and economic growth in an effective way. When we talk about partnerships the most important requirement for it to be successful is that the 'partnerships' should be a harmonious process and this is difficult to achieve since people who already are in power will not let the competitors enter the market very easily and there is also great competition for the scarce resources and even in the established partnerships there are conflicts involving the way in which the profit will be divided (Baud, 2000).

Major changes in the role of government that has taken place has been decentralisation from national to local levels of governments and more privatisation as far as providing infrastructure services is concerned. However the motive behind decentralisation is mainly that the local governments are better aware about the needs and demands of citizens since they are in close contact with the citizens. However there is a problem of funds since enough funds are not always provided and how effectively can local governments manage city development still remains to be seen. It is also found that private sector can more effectively help in attaining urban development as compared to public sector. Therefore the government is increasingly adopting the "enabling approach" wherein the government restricts its functioning to only formulating policies for the private sector companies and therefore does not directly participate in the framework for urban development (Baud, 2000).

A very interesting feature to note about city growth is that despite the fact that there is overcrowding in the cities and large number of slums come up where people live in squalid conditions, there are many people who still continue to get attracted to the city and migrate since there are other features that city provides such as freedom and more opportunities that the rural areas cannot provide. Therefore, if the cities are made better, more people will come and live there and this is the dilemma of urban growth. The best way to improve cities is by making the rural life more attractive first.

The rural areas should be made more attractive by improving the infrastructure and increasing the employment opportunities by creating more jobs in the rural areas. Since with increased urbanisation there is increased rural-urban migration as a result the number of slums increase and this puts a lot of pressure on the city infrastructure and therefore, to reduce this pressure the government started to improve the infrastructure of certain secondary cities but however if the rural-urban migration rate is not reduced then it is likely that even these secondary cities will suffer from the same problems within next 10 years that the large cities suffer from that is, increasing number of slums, higher poverty rates and even increased crime rates. It is important to undertake measures to improve rural areas to the level that the rural people do not want to leave their native place. So if this happens it will benefit rural areas and will also help in achieving urbanisation efficiently (Epstein and Jezeph, 2001).

The main reason why rural people migrate is the lack of employment opportunities in the rural areas and this forces rural people to migrate to cities. Rural areas otherwise has many advantages such as social cohesion is far better in the rural areas as compared to urban areas and therefore, if adequate employment opportunities can be provided in rural areas this would reduce rural labours migration. Focus should be on reducing socioeconomic differences between urban and rural areas. Therefore, rural and urban

development is a complementary process. With increased rural development, demand for industrial goods will increase and this increases the GNP. On the other hand increasing urbanisation in the cities increases the demand for the farm products. But in many countries the cost of farm products are kept very low to keep the labour costs very less and therefore, in this way the rural sector subsidises the process of industrialisation. The government should focus more on rural development and at the same time should ensure an increasing GNP rate. There should be increased rural-urban partnership whereby urban centres are linked with rural growth centres and this leads to an overall balanced economic development/growth (Epstein and Jezeph, 2001).

Urbanisation has taken place and it was thought that industrialisation would be a major driving force for employment since more industries imply an increasing demand for skilled and unskilled labour power but this however was not very easy to achieve and hence many developing countries face employment challenges. The services sector role has increased in offering employment and after trade liberalisation, employment has increased due to coming up of new opportunities in manufacturing and services sector but this employment generation is not sufficient enough to benefit the poor and does not help much in poverty reduction. Therefore, the strategies which improve human capital formation and infrastructure are more beneficial and help more in poverty eradication. It is important to identify those sectors in the economy which have great potential for offering effective employment. In countries which are labour abundant, if the trade is done in the labour intensive goods that is if the exports of labour intensive goods increases then it is very good for employment and with more technology it is often argued that the need for less skilled labour reduces and only the highly skilled labour benefits and this affects the wages of the less skilled people and increases wage inequality. Moreover the goods that are imported in the developing countries from developed countries are generally capital intensive and therefore, creates a problem for employment generation. Tertiary sector does create jobs but does not offer productive employment for the less skilled labour force however manufacturing sector, telecommunications and IT and Banking sector offers a source for productive employment (Mitra, 2012).

With increasing urbanisation it is also important to keep in mind about the kind of family life in the cities. The environment children will get the kind of schools, the locality with proper playgrounds and other areas where likeminded people and families can interact. "It is important to build infrastructure that facilitates children culture and family housing. There should be enough space for households with children but not only for families." This will help build cities which are better accommodated (Karsten, 2009).

Due to increasing urbanisation there is increasing slum dwellers and increasing housing shortage. Sustainability implies meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of the future generation. For sustainable urbanisation we need sustainable housing that is housing in a way that is affordable in both short run and long run and is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. We therefore need to adopt technologically and environmentally friendly methods to attain sustainable housing. Now due to increasing urbanisation there is a lot of pressure on our natural resources and there is tremendous shortage of basic amenities and services such as portable drinking water, proper disposal system, electricity and roads etc and all of this damages both the health of the citizens and the city environment. In addition modern day cities use a lot of energy while air-conditioning and lighting (Singh and Pandey, 2012).

"Due to polarisation of growth towards metro or mega cities" there is a lot of problem in providing proper housing facilities and therefore the number of slums increase and there are no basic amenities as well. Since there are many industries coming up, slums are increasing and therefore there is a lot of pressure on our land resources and forest area and green cover and there is a loss of green infrastructure. Apart from this the transport and the way people travel in cities also affect the environment. There is increased pollution level due to vehicular emissions and hence there is a need for 'green transportation' that is the city transportation should be eco-friendly and public transport should be used more often (Singh and Pandey, 2012).

Due to increasing industrialisation and urbanisation in our country there is also an increase in the number of metropolitan cities and towns. More than half of our population now lives in metropolitan cities and towns. Since the underemployed and unemployed people from rural areas migrate to the cities there has been increasing urban agglomerations and many settlements display urban characteristics for a very long time and are now referred to as towns. Many of the modern metropolitan cities such as Delhi, Madras, Bombay etc have reached a saturation point in offering jobs and cannot create more employment opportunities since the jobs are more capital intensive than labour intensive and this has led to urban poverty and the people living in poverty in the urban areas have become greater in number than those in rural areas. Though the rate of population growth can be controlled for but the rate of urbanisation cannot be easily controlled for (Pitale, 1901).

At present our land resources are very poorly managed, both the government and the private agencies acquire land wherever possible for meeting their own limited purposes without planning optimal and integrated use of land. After globalisation there has been urbanisation and increasing economic growth but however the benefits of this growth has not trickled down to the small villages and rural areas and has majorly benefitted the modern cities and towns. The inequality between rural and urban areas is also increasing and the growth has mainly benefitted the top 10% of the population. There is also a fall in agricultural productivity due to increasing use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, poor investment in the development and research of agricultural sector and inefficient use of land and water resources and so on. Therefore, due to low agricultural productivity there is high unemployment in the rural areas and India has one of the world largest labour force yet the least number of skilled workers and the number of trained youth in India is also one of the lowest. Since land is a scarce natural resource and increasing urbanisation leads to competition therefore land should be used in a planned and systematic manner. Due to increasing infrastructure development more and more land is used and there is a fear that even the forest land may be encroached upon. The need is for the government to develop infrastructure like power, communication, health and so on only then the private investment will also flow faster. In the long run what is needed is urbanisation over a large number of cities rather than a handful of metropolitan cities (KathPalia and Kapoor, 2009).

In India services sector contributes more than half of the total output in the economy but employs less than one third of the country's total population. More than half of the population is still engaged in the agricultural sector therefore it is very important to focus on the growth of rural sector in order to achieve proper economic growth. Land shortage is a major problem of urbanisation since supply of land in housing has not kept pace with urbanisation and this leads to coming up of slums which lack basic amenities and offer very poor living conditions. According to census 2001, about 40% of the people living in urban areas live in a single room house and only 60% of the urban residents have proper water supply almost 35% of the residents do not even have a bathroom within the house and the condition for the urban poor is even worse. The main body looking after the housing condition in the country is the central ministry of housing and urban poverty alleviation and as far as public sector housing is considered the responsibility for that is mainly with the state government (Joshi, P).

Moreover due to urban land shortage the price of the land in the urban areas is very high as compared to India's household income. In majority of the cases the formal land markets fail to provide land to the urban poor as a result the urban poor depend on informal markets to acquire land and now a days due to abnormally high prices and inadequate supply of the land, even the middle income families depend on the informal markets for land there by driving out the urban poor even from the informal markets. As a result the urban poor are forced to stay in the dangerous and vulnerable areas (where chances of landslides and floods are high). Hence in order to achieve sustainable urbanisation it is important to provide secure tenure to existing slums and to provide access of land to urban poor to reduce growth of future slums (Joshi, P).

In order to make 'world class' cities in India the main aim is to develop infrastructure in order to attract investment but it is also important to make these cities socially inclusive. Non-inclusive cities are less competitive and are hence not attractive to businesses and people. There is a process of 'self-construction' wherein the homeowner is involved in the process of building, by either undertaking the building work himself or by contracting a mason. This self-construction does fulfil the need for supply of house for the low income households but however health and safety issues are generally ignored. Most of the families do not have any access to the formal loans and so have no tenure over their land and hence they either seek financial help from friends or take money from the moneylenders who charge abnormally high rates of interest. Moreover the local mason that is hired plays a role of an architect, engineer or a contractor and in most of the cases he does not have any formal training and in the absence of proper technical assistance generally, poor structures of houses are built which are prone to disasters and do not even have proper ventilation. What is needed is to work in partnerships with financial institutions, NGO's and civil society organisations and various private sector players with support from government especially in enabling a proper regulatory framework whereby financial institutions will actively finance for technically sound construction (Mehra, Ferrario, Naik, Janu, and Yengkhom, 2015).

The "current top-down policy for land acquisition need to be changed and replaced by more participative processes in which landowners and peri-urban residents themselves are involved." Peri-urban residents are those residents who stay in peri-urban areas which are rural areas that surround the city and bear the pressure of urban growth and peri-urban areas depict both rural and urban characteristics and in order to sustain the new peri-urban livelihoods it is important to improve transportation and connectivity in the cities (Narain, 2009).

In India political contacts can help to attain basic amenities and other facilities such as land tenure. Since for slums and poor households political contacts are essential for proper survival more dependence on these leads to an increase in the vulnerability of these slum areas. Political parties look for groups instead of individuals since during the elections groups help in mobilisation of political support. When the rural people migrate to urban areas and they live in slums due to inadequate housing conditions and lack of land tenure, Migrants dwell on the public land where there is a fear of demolition and even the basic amenities are inadequate. The political parties take interest in these issues since they expect these migrants to support them during elections and the head of the slum cluster negotiates with these political parties over these issues and first receives a 'token' which is in a way legal permission to stay in the city and then later attain ration cards and voter Id's to stay in the city as city residents. The political parties spend during the election times and offer the slum residents with water connectivity and other services but these are highly insufficient and when the party concerned wins the election, due to insufficient funds and past backlog it cannot fulfil the needs of the slum people in the long run (Edelman and Mitra, 2006).

High levels of education, age of the head of the family and gender of the head of the households all these factors are important determinants of the group leaders. The smaller households are less dependent on the political parties since they can meet their basic requirements even through the market place but larger households are largely dependent on political parties since they are more vulnerable. Even the duration of migration is a determinant for political contact but however social networks along lines of caste or kinship can help people depend less on political contacts since through social networks people can connect more and get together and resolve their issues and also achieve self-sufficiency, also if the incomes of the households increase then the dependence on the political contacts is minimised. Political contacts benefit only in the short run in majority of the cases it is found that the condition of the household after the elections has generally worsened or deteriorated (Edelman and Mitra, 2006).

4.1. Data analysis

Census Years	Total Population	Urban Population	Percentage of Urban Population to Total Population
2001	1028610328	286119689	27.82%
2011	1210569573	377106125	31.15%

Table 2: Trends of urbanisation all India level

Source: National institute of urban affairs and agricultural research and office of the registrar general and census commission, India

The above table depicts the trends of urbanisation at all India levels for the year 2001 and 2011 and it is found out that the level of urbanisation increased in the year 2011 as compared to year to 2001. The decadal growth was found out to be about 31.8%. Hence the population living in the urban areas is increasing it increased from 27.82% in 2001 to 31.15% in year 2011.

	2001	2011	Absolute change	Decadal Growth from 2001-2011
Slum households	10150719	13920191	3769472	37.1%
Slum population	52371589	65494604	13123015	25.1%

Table 3: Trends of Number of slums and population living in slums

Source: census report 2001 (primary census abstract for slum, 2011 office of the registrar general and census commission, India)

The above table depicts the trends for the number of slums and the population living in the slum areas and it is found out that between year 2001 and 2011 there has been a rise of almost 37.1% in the number of slum households. Even the number of people living in the slum areas has been increasing and between 2001 and 2011 the number of people living in the slums has increased by almost 25.1%.

Type of houses	2001	Percentage of Total Population	2011	Percentage of Total Population
Permanent	99431727	51.8%	10687862	77.7%
Semi-permanent	57664327	30%	2206298	16%
Serviceable	22096480	11.5%	438974	3.19%
Non-serviceable	12719139	6.6%	283238	2.05%

Table 4

Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)

Condition of housing	2001	Percentage of the Total Population	2011	Percentage of the Total Population
Good	96446785	50.2%	8031664	58.4%
Liveable	84964317	44.3%	5163169	37.5%
Dilapidated	10552833	5.5%	554591	4.03%

Table 5

Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)

The table above on the type of houses depict that there has been an increase in the number of people living in the permanent houses from 51.8% in 2001 to almost 77.7% in 2011 and there has been a fall in the numbers of semi-permanent and serviceable as well as non- serviceable households.

From the table above on the condition o the housing available it is clear that the numbers of people living in the houses which are in a good condition have also increased and the population living in the houses which are in a dilapidated or liveable condition has reduced.

Source of Drinking Water	2001	Percentage of the total Population	2011	Percentage of the Total Population
Tap water	70448827	36.7%	8981772	65.32%
Hand pump	68456319	35.7%	1741458	12.64%
Tube well	10676594	5.6%	1050578	7.64%

Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)

Source of Lighting	2001	Percentage of Total Population	2011	Percentage of Total Population
Electricity	107209054	55.8%	12448161	90.5%
Kerosene	83127739	43.3%	1133954	8.24%
Solar energy	522561	0.3%	37543	0.27%
No electricity	614849	0.3%	73449	0.53%

Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)

Type of latrine	2001	Percentage of Total Population	2011	Percentage of Total Population
Pit latrine	22076486	11.5%	757128	5.5%
Water closet	34598446	18%	3369832	24.5%
No latrine	122078136	63.61%	4673575	33.9%
Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)				
Type of Drainage System	2001	Percentage of Total Population	2011	Percentage of Total Population
Close drainage	23925761	12.5%	5080245	36.94%
Open drainage	65142354	33.9%	6090103	44.29%
No drainage	102895820	53.691%	2579076	18.75%
Source: census India 2001 and 2011 (office of the registrar general and census commission, India)				

Table 6: Data on the basic amenities in the households

From the above table it can be noted that there has been an improvement as far as providing the basic amenities to the households is concerned. The number of households using tap water significantly increased from 36.7% to 65.32% of the population and the households using hand pump or tube well for water have reduced considerably. When it comes to lighting there has been considerable improvement. The households having access to proper electricity increased considerably from 55.8% in 2001 to 90.5% in 2011 on the other hand the households that have no access to electricity have also increased but by very insignificant amounts. The data on latrine and drainage system depicts that the number of households that have access to water closet have increased from 18% in 2001 to 24.5% in 2011 while the number of households with access to pit latrines or no latrines at all have reduced by almost half the amount in 2011 as compared to that in 2001. The households open and closed drainage system have increased while those with no drainage system at all have declined tremendously.

Now the data above is collected from Census 2001 and 2011 and it can be concluded that though there is an increase in the population living in the urban areas and the number of slums and people living in it have also increased, but the living condition shows some improvement. For instance availability of basic amenities such as access to proper drinking water, proper electricity, proper latrine system and proper drainage system have improved in the last decade (2001-2011). In the census 2011 all the statutory towns were considered regardless of the population size when the data was estimated and three types of slums were recognised Notified slums, recognised slums and identified slums. Now Notified slums are all the notified areas in a town or city which are classified as "slums" by the state, union territories administration or local governments under any acts even 'slums act'. Recognised slums are those areas which are recognised as slums by the state or union territories administration or local governments even though they are not formally notified as slums under any act. Finally identified slums are those areas which contain at least 60-70 households and have a population of about 300 living in squalid conditions with housing structures and lack of basic amenities. Such areas should be identified personally by the Charge Officer and also inspected by an officer nominated by Directorate of Census Operations (Report on the committee of slums statistics, government of India NBO).

However there are few Gaps in the report as well. In the census report 2001 the data on slums was not collected from many small states such as Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Sikkim etc. In many of the states the town/district authorities have not reported all the enumeration blocks and some of these states do not even accept the slum data. In some states many of the towns/districts covered in the census did not consider the non-notified and non-recognised slum areas wherever there were land disputes. The census report defines slum as any compact area with 300 population and 60-70 households in squalid condition with inadequate basic amenities but this definition does not take into consideration those areas which have less than 60 households that is areas in small towns with 20-25 households in slum like condition are excluded and this leads to under coverage and under estimation of the slum population in the country and hence does not depict the true picture. Moreover as far as definition of slum is considered there is no common definition of a slum and every state uses its own definition to define a slum. There are differences between the estimates of NSSO and RGI this is due to the fact that both use a different definition for a slum. NSSO considers a cluster of 20-30 households as slum and RGI on the other hand considers 60-70 households as slum. Therefore there is an urgent need for a common definition of a slum which is acceptable to all the states and union governments. Due to the underestimation of the data on slums in many states like Bihar and UP etc there has been less allocation of funds towards slum development and hence there is a need to design suitable statistical techniques for estimation of the data and proper allocation of the funds (Report on the committee of slums statistics, government of India NBO).

5. Section 4: Measures to Cope with the Challenges

Various measures have been taken to deal with the challenges stated above which are as follows;

Various legal initiatives to protect the environment such as the passing of the water pollution act in 1974 and environment protection act in 1986 have been undertaken. To protect the environment the Solid Waste Management project (SWM) have also been undertaken and NGO'S have played a major role in successfully implementing this project. Other programs such as sustainable cities program (SCP) have also been undertaken this program was also aimed, towards improving environmental quality. Apart from this there has been a focus on the infrastructural development such as building of flyovers and wider roads to reduce the traffic congestion.

Other programs such as poverty reduction and shelter program especially for the urban poor and the decentralisation of the urban governance have also been undertaken (Mahadevia, 2001).

Many schemes such as Swarna Jayanti Shaheri Yojana (SJSRY), Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) and Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) have been launched to reduce urban poverty. But these suffer from a few drawbacks such as there is a lack of community participation, lack of a proper convergent approach and the undue attention on the employment of unskilled worker instead of the focus being on the skill up gradation (Report of the working group on urban poverty, slums and service delivery system). For effective implementation of the JNNURM and other yojanas a huge amount of data needs to be collected on the slum population and therefore there is a need for the development of a national information system and knowledge base and more better monitoring and reviewing. Authentic Database is a pre requirement. Since non-availability of authentic data has resulted in faulty planning and insufficient allocation of funds.

What is really needed is to frame policies which lead to universalisation of certain basic amenities and policies which are based on community participation. In framing policies to help the urban poor it is most important to include them in the process of framing the policies. The main aim is to attain sustainable development and development should be inclusive and the policies should be designed such that the main focus should be on slum up gradation and poverty alleviation. Therefore more work needs to be done in this area.

Conclusion

Urbanisation leads to development of large cities which are centre for production and new innovation. But however with the urban population also increasing at a very high rate there are many negative impacts of urbanisation. Since increased urbanisation and industrialisation creates a shortage of housing condition and this leads to the increase in the number of slums within the city. The urban poor living in slums live in squalid conditions and do not even have access to basic amenities such as proper education, healthcare and so on. If the problem of urban poverty is not corrected for, our cities will soon become politically and economically unsustainable. More resources should be devoted towards improving urban development. It is not only important to deal with poverty but also with inequality which is very high in our cities today. It is important to combine the rural, urban and global concerns to achieve a common outcome. Focus should be on building inclusive cities with stronger governance and better environmental state.

India has experienced a high growth but with high inequalities. Inclusive growth will help to curb problems such as exploitation and exclusion of the migrants (de Haan, 2011). The development should be done in an inclusive manner this implies inclusion of all people and all dimensions of development. Therefore, the growth process should be multidimensional. It is also important to systematically and smartly organise the protests groups, environmental groups and development groups in order to achieve the optimal outcome.

“Urban governance and management of the services is far from satisfactory. To improve urban governance and delivery of services there should be constitutional amendments as well administrative actions. Most importantly, inter-government transfers should have built-in incentives to improve performance and capacity building should be an important component of the future urban program.”(Vaidya 2009)

The main sufferers in the process of urbanisation are the urban poor since they find it difficult to face the increasing competition in the cities, the efforts should be made to increase employment but this will benefit only in the short run therefore, to gain in the long run the Investment in the social sector is what is really needed.

6. References

- i. Baud, I. S. A. (2000). Collective action, enablement and partnerships: issues in urban development. Inaugural Lecture, Free University, 27.
- ii. Beall, J., & Fox, S. (2007). Urban poverty and development in the 21st century: towards an inclusive and sustainable world.
- iii. Bhagat, R. B. (2011). Emerging pattern of urbanisation in India. *Economic and political weekly*, (46), 10-12.
- iv. Cohen, B. (2006). Urbanization in developing countries: Current trends, future projections, and key challenges for sustainability. *Technology in society*, 28(1), 63-80.
- v. Cook, S. (2006). Structural change, growth and poverty reduction in Asia: Pathways to inclusive development. *Development Policy Review*, 24(s1), s51-80.
- vi. DattaGupta, O. Global Integration and Developing Indian “Smart Cities”: New Hopes and Challenges.
- vii. de Haan, A. (2011). Inclusive growth?. *ISS Working Paper Series/General Series*, 513, 1-28.
- viii. Edelman, B., & Mitra, A. (2006). SLUM DWELLERS'ACCESS TO BASIC AMENITIES: THE ROLE OF POLITICAL CONTACT, ITS DETERMINANTS AND ADVERSE EFFECTS. *Review of Urban & Regional Development Studies*,18(1), 25-40.
- ix. Epstein, T. S., & Jezeph, D. (2001). Development—There Is Another Way: A Rural–Urban Partnership Development Paradigm. *World Development*, 29(8), 1443-1454.
- x. Joshi, B. (2015). Smart Cities Mission: Project Not Policy. *Swarajya*, 5th May.
- xi. Joshi, P. Providing Land and Secure Tenure to Urban Poor in Indian Cities.
- xii. Karsten, L. (2009). From a top-down to a bottom-up urban discourse:(re) constructing the city in a family-inclusive way. *Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, 24(3), 317-329.
- xiii. Kathpalia, G. N., & Kapoor, R. (2009). Management of land and other resources for inclusive growth: India 2050. *Water and Energy International*, 66(4), 24-40.
- xiv. Mahadevia, D. (2001). Sustainable urban development in India: an inclusive perspective. *Development in Practice*, 11(2-3), 242-259.

- xv. Mehra, R., Ferrario, M., Naik, M., Janu, S., & Yengkhom, V. (2015, April). BRICK BY BRICK: A MODEL FOR SELF-BUILT HOUSING IN INDIA. In Universitas Forum (Vol. 4, No. 2).
- xvi. Mitra, A. Agglomeration Economies and Wellbeing: Evidence from India.
- xvii. Mitra, A. (2005). Living Standard in Delhi Slums: Consumption Expenditure, Housing and Ability to Save. Indian Journal of Labour Economics, 48(3), 509-20.
- xviii. Narain, V. (2009). Growing city, shrinking hinterland: land acquisition, transition and conflict in peri-urban Gurgaon, India. Environment and Urbanization, 21(2), 501-512.
- xix. Pitale, M. S. (1901). Urbanisation in India: an overview. population, 1827(238396327), 25851873.
- xx. Sethi, M. (2014). India needs to be clever about smart cities.
- xxi. Singh, V. S., & Pandey, D. N. (2012). Sustainable Housing: Balancing Environment with Urban Growth in India. RSPCB Occasional Paper, (6), 17.
- xxii. Vaidya, C. (2009). Urban Issues, Reforms, and Way Forward in India. Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.