

TRENDS OF URBANIZATION IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India is a country where large portion of population live in villages up to industrialization. After industrialization most of villagers move to cities in search of employment. Urbanization indicates migration of people from villages to urban areas. Urbanization creates modern societies, transforming lifestyle, socio and economical changes, environment degradation. Trends of urbanization changes in India from the independence. It seems to rapid urban growth where big cities faces many problems. This paper take review of changes in urbanization after independence in various context like population, number of cities, urbanized state, number of cities, literacy. Research paper shows.

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INTRODUCTION:

Urbanization is described as the movement of individuals from rural areas to urban centers, characterized by a continuous increase in the urban population and the societal shift from rural to urban lifestyles. The Economist (2012) projects that by 2050, 86% of the developed world and approximately 64% of Africa and Asia will be urbanized.

The liberalization, privatization and globalization (LPG) policies of government of India and opening of FDI in various sector have brought a big boom in the development of large-scale private townships. These kinds of township are mostly found in big cities like Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Gurgaon, Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Bangalore. Rapid urban growth marked by the number of million plus cities increasing from 23 in 1991 to 46 in 2011. Urbanization is a process of transformation from traditional rural economies to modern industrial one.

OBJECTIVE:

1. To study the growth of urbanization in India.
2. To study the population in cities, Number of cities.
3. To study most populated cities in India.

HYPOTHESIS:

1. India's urbanization trend increases year by year.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Research methodology used for this research paper is analytical and descriptive data was collected from multiple source such as book, journals, research articles, professional magazines, documents of Government of India and Census of India. Some data has been collected from website of Government of India as well as Census.

Concept of Urbanization:

In simple word **Urbanization** refers to the increasing number of people that live in urban areas. According to Encyclopedia of Social Sciences: "urbanization is characterized by movement of people from small communities concerned chiefly or solely with agriculture to other communities generally larger, whose activities are primarily centered in Government, trade, manufacture or allied interests. Thus characterized can be said to be characterized by such self-evident factor as; a) Mobility of population from agricultural to nonagricultural areas; b) Concentration of populace in a new place of habitation or a place characterized by a new way of life; c) Variety of professions other than agriculture and continued mobility in these occupations, mobility both – vertical and horizontal, (d) A particular mode of habitation and non-agricultural (i.e., industrial, commercial etc.) pattern of economy.

According to Census of India, All places with a municipality corporation cantonment board or notified town area committee and places with minimum population of 5000 and at least 75 per cent of the male main working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits and density of population is 400 persons are consider as town.

Trends of Urbanization in India

The urban population is growing in India and because of this, opportunities are increasing as well. According to country data, the urbanization in India is mainly due to the expansion of cities and the migration of people. Investments are made in housing, road network, urban transport, water supply, power-related infrastructures, smart cities, and other forms of urban management.

Year	Urban Population (in million)	(in percentage)	Annual Growth Rate
1951	62	11.75	
1961	78.94	17.97	
1971	109.11	19.91	3.23
1981	159.46	23.34	3.79
1991	217.18	25.72	3.09
2001	286.12	27.86	2.75
2011	377.10	31.16	2.76
2020	487.70	34.93	

Source: Compiled from Census of India

Above table shows urbanization in India. In 1951 urban population of India is 62 million. Then it is continuously growing in every ten year. Annual growth rate of increase in population is rises in 1981 which is 3.79% but after that annual growth rate of urban population seems to decline. Even after economic reform growth rate of urban population is decline which is 2.75% in 2001 and 2.76% in 2011. After 2001 growth rate of urban population become constant.

Urbanized state in India

Number of cities in India increased year by year. Some states are also fully urbanized. Table gives information of most populates states in India where rural population are negligible.

Sr. No	State	Urban Population (%)	Rural Population (%)
1	Delhi	97.50	2.50
2	Chandigarh	97.25	2.75

Table shows most populated states in India. Delhi capital of India is most urbanized state in India where 97.50% population live in urban areas very negligible population that is 2.50% population live in rural areas. In Chandigarh urban population is 97.25% which is second urbanized state in India and 2.75% population live in rural areas.

Number of cities in India :

According to the last big count in 2011, India has about 7,935 cities and towns. Some are giant, like Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Chennai. Others are famous for history, like Bodh Gaya or Kanchipuram. And some, like Port Blair or Leh, are unique because of their location or weather.

Year	Number of Towns	Number of Cities with population more than One Million
1951	3060	5
1961	2700	7
1971	3126	9
1981	4029	12
1991	4689	23
2001	5166	35
2011	7935	46
2020	7445	49

Source – Census of India.

Above table shows number of towns and number of cities with population more than one million. In 1951 number of town in India is 3.60 and among those towns only 5 towns are having population more than 1 million. From 1981 number of towns is rapidly increases. In 1991 number of cities with population more than one million increases from 23 to 46 in 2011. After economic reform of India town's population started to increase rapidly and suburban area or area nearest to town start convert into new towns. There are 3 cities in India having population more than 10 million is known as Mega Cities which are greater Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata.

Most Populated of Cities:

The total census population of India 2011 was found out to be 1,210,854,977. Due to fast urbanization and developing and growing technology, it has been predicted that within 50 years, the population will go beyond one and a half billion.

Rank	City	Population (2011)	Population (2001)	Annual Exponential Growth Rate
1	Mumbai	12478447	11978450	1.1
2	Delhi	11007835	9879172	2.4
3	Bangalore	8425970	5438065	3.9
4	Hyderabad	6809970	3637438	2.9
5	Ahmedabad	5570585	3520085	3.4
6	Chennai	4681087	4343645	2.8
7	Kolkata	4486679	4572876	0.7
8	Surat	4462002	2433835	4.9
9	Pune	3115431	2538473	2.9
10	Jaipur	3073350	2322575	2.8

Source – Census of India.

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Highest Literate Cities in India –

India's literacy rate has improved significantly, reaching around **80.9%**. Urban areas consistently show higher literacy rates (around 88.9%) compared to rural areas (around 77.5%). Kerala typically leads, with high literacy rates. Bihar and Andhra Pradesh have historically shown lower literacy.

Rank	City	State	Literacy	Male	Female
1	Aizawl	Mizoram	98.36	98.52	98.21
2	Kochi	Kerala	97.36	98.25	96.51
3	Thrissur	Kerala	97.06	98.12	96.09
4	Kozhikode	Kerala	96.53	97.71	95.47
5	Alappuzha	Kerala	96.20	97.61	94.91
6	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	95.10	96.51	93.78
7	Nagercoil	Tamil Nadu	94.99	96.63	93.43
8	Alandur	Tamil Nadu	94.46	96.82	92.12
9	Agartala	Tripura	94.45	96.16	92.75
10	Khardaha	West Bengal	94.37	96.20	92.50

Above table shows highest literacy rate in cities Aizawl in Mizoram has highest literacy rate. Many cities in Kerala like Kochi, Thrissur, Kozhikode, and Thiruvananthapuram have literacy rate more than 95%. Khardaha in West Bengal have literacy rate of 94.37%. Male and female literacy in every cities seem less difference.

CONCLUSION:

1. Trends of urbanization increased in India after Independence.
2. Delhi and Chandigarh states in India are fully urbanized.
3. Population in many cities in India reached above one million.
4. Cities in Kerala found highest literacy ratio.
5. Number of towns increase day by day in India.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Well planned cities must be developed by Government. Government must provide all basic facilities in cities
2. Population in cities and towns is controlled by government through opening industries in rural areas.

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