

Urbanization and Its Causes and Effects: A Review

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Abstract: - Urbanization can describe a specific condition at a set time, i.e. the proportion of total population or area in cities or towns, or the term can describe the increase of this proportion over time. Urbanization is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots on a global scale, whereby predominantly rural culture is being rapidly replaced by predominantly urban culture. Urbanization is putting pressure on already strained water and land resources, creating competition between the urban and agricultural sectors. In this paper we studied about what are the cause of Urbanization and effect of Urbanization on us and environment.

Keywords:- Urbanization.

I. INTRODUCTION

Urbanization is a process whereby populations move from rural to urban area, enabling cities and towns to grow. It can also be termed as the progressive increase of the number of people living in towns and cities. It is highly influenced by the notion that cities and towns have achieved better economic, political, and social mileages compared to the rural areas.

Urbanization is a population shift from rural to urban areas, "the gradual increase in the proportion of people living in urban areas", and the ways in which each society adapts to the change

Urbanization is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots on a global scale, whereby predominantly rural culture is being rapidly replaced by predominantly urban culture. The first major change in settlement patterns was the accumulation of hunter-gatherers into villages many thousand years ago. Village culture is characterized by common bloodlines, intimate relationships, and communal behavior whereas urban culture is characterized by distant bloodlines, unfamiliar relations, and competitive behavior. This unprecedented movement of people is forecast to continue and intensify during the next few decades, mushrooming cities to sizes unthinkable only a century ago.

Urbanization is simply defined as the shift from rural to an urban society, which is triggered by social, economic, and political developments. Urban expansion in India will happen at a speed quite unlike anything the country or the world has seen before. It took nearly 40 years (from 1971 to 2008) for India's urban population to rise by nearly 230 million; it will take only half that time to add the next 250 million.

According to a survey by UN State of the World Population report in 2007, by 2030, 40.76% of country's population is

expected to reside in urban areas. As per World Bank, India, along with China, Indonesia, Nigeria, and the United States, will lead the world's urban population surge by 2050.

Urbanization is pervasive and recent phenomenon. In present global atmosphere, all nations undergo with the challenges of environment, social, transportation, economy in their respective cities. These issues are commonly occurred in developing countries due to the difference of development in cities and villages (Latif Fauzi, 2007).

II. CAUSES OF URBANIZATION

Industrialization, Social factors, modernization and economic opportunity cause urbanization, or an increase in the number of people moving from rural to urban areas. Reasons of urbanization are given below:

Migration: People migrate themselves from rural areas to the town, industrial areas because of the relatively better employment opportunities available there.

Commercialization: Commercialization and trade comes with the general perception that the towns and cities offer better commercial opportunities and returns compared to the rural areas.

i. Industrial growth:

Industrial growth is a major cause of urbanization. It has expanded the employment opportunities. Rural people have migrated to cities on account of better employment opportunities. When urban population growth rate is 40% in India, the industrial growth rate is about 60% per annum.

ii. Social Factor:

Many social factors such as attraction of cities, better standard of living, better educational facilities, need for status also induce people to migrate to cities. There are numerous social benefits attributed to life in the cities and towns.

iii. Employment opportunities:

In rural sector people have to depend mainly on agriculture for their livelihood. But Indian agriculture is depending on monsoon. In drought situations or natural calamities, rural people have to migrate to cities. In cities and towns, there are ample job opportunities that continually draw people from the rural areas to seek better livelihood. Therefore, the majority of people frequently migrate into urban areas to access well paying jobs as urban areas have countless employment opportunities in all developmental sectors such as public

health, education, transport, sports and recreation, industries, and business enterprises.

iv. Modernization:

Urban areas are characterized by sophisticated technology better infrastructure, communication, medical facilities, etc. In urban areas, people also embrace changes in the modes of living namely residential habits, attitudes, dressing, food, and beliefs.

defective town planning:

A more alarming factor in the general deterioration in the standard of civic services is the growing sense of helplessness of our planners and administrators.

III. IMPACT OF URBANIZATION

The urban heat island has become a growing concern and is increasing over the years. The urban heat island is formed when industrial and urban areas are developed and heat becomes more abundant. Urbanization also comes with costs. Some impact or effect of urbanization is given below

- Crime is the worst impact of urbanization.
- Global warming
- Pollution
- Lack of sanitation
- Slums and its consequences of overcrowding
- Urbanization is encouraged socially and culturally through the media
- Waste are a major problem in large cities.
- Traffic congestion
- Unemployment grows, as do drug abuse, crime and homelessness

IV. CONCLUSION

Today, 54 per cent of the world's population lives in urban areas, a proportion that is expected to increase to 66 per cent by 2050. China and India are both urbanizing rapidly, but China has embraced and shaped the process, while India is still waking up to its urban realities and opportunities. Urbanization in India began to accelerate after independence, due to the country's adoption of a mixed economy, which gave rise to the development of the private sector. From above review we conclude that Urbanization is not good for us. Urbanization impacts the environment through the strain of resources, including food, water, energy and the land itself, which increases as the population within the urban area increases.

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