

ISSN: 0975-8534



Vol. XIX

July-December, 2020

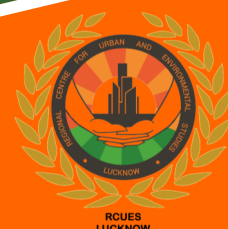
No. 2

URBAN PANORAMA

(A Journal of Urban Governance & Management)

**Regional Centre for Urban &
Environmental Studies**

(Established by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India)



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FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF EDITOR

Dr. Nishith Rai, Director

The world is affected by intersected economic, social, and environmental challenges of a magnitude difficult to comprehension, much less address. Population growth and urbanization are at the center of these challenges, with 2.5 billion additional people expected to be living in urban places by 2050.

For a significantly long time cities have been the engines of economic development and revolution and they are the main players in macroeconomics. As per The Economic Survey, from 1991 to 2011, there is an increase of a quarter to a third of the percentage of India's population living in cities and towns and this sections contributes to more than three-fifths of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). Fueling that growth is the country's urbanization, which is accelerating speedily in outright numbers, although not as fast if considering decadal growth rates. Urbanization acts as a double-edged sword, as it brings magnificence but also new challenges along with it.

Over the last 20 years, cities have developed as the world's economic stage for manufacturing, invention and vocation. The swift economic development usually concomitant with urbanization can be moderately credited to structural change, as work-hand moves from the agrarian sector to commerce and services. Cities provide significant openings for both formal and informal engagement, creating a substantial portion of fresh private-sector employments. Urbanization has facilitated many to get out of insufficiency through increased yield, employment openings, better-quality of life and all-encompassing investment in infrastructure and services. The trans-formative influence of urbanization has in part, been enabled by the speedy positioning of ICT. It can also be credited to agglomeration and scale economies, as closeness and concentration reduce the per capita costs of providing infrastructure and service.

Urbanization aids in creating knowledge abundance and gaining expertise that hugely augment the output of urban inhabitants. Urbanization has also given birth to many Socio-Economic challenges. The sheer scale of the urban population, chaotic and unforeseen growth of urban areas and a lack of infrastructure are the main reasons of such a state. Poverty, joblessness and underemployment among the rural settlers, beggary, thefts, robberies and other social vices are on rampage. Urban spread is quickly infringing valuable farming land. The urban population of India had already crossed the 285 million mark by 2001. By 2030, more than 50 per cent of India's population is expected to live in urban areas. Migration will last as urban areas act as a core of economic development. Problem of slums is about to increase and thus posing a challenge to the public health system. The problem of joblessness is no less grave than the problem of housing mentioned above. Urban joblessness in India is estimated at 15 to 25 per cent of the labour force. This percentage is even higher among educated people.



The quick growth of urban population both regular and through migration is putting stress on public conveniences like housing, sanitation, transport, water, electricity, health, education and so on. It is evident that the cost of living in cities is too high and is increasing by the day. The natural consequence of unrestrained, unforeseen and random growth of urban areas is the development of slums and unlawful resident settlements which present a prominent feature in the environmental structure of Indian cities, especially of city centres. Growth in artificial and natural disasters is another trial because of inadvertent cities.

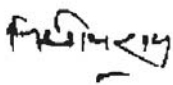
Urban development should not be done in isolation and should consider the human aspects as well. In order to create an atmosphere of sustainability playgrounds, green areas, open spaces, walkways, and public parks have to be purposely created. Digital India program and Information technology solutions must be made available at reasonable price to all sections of society. Connecting the existing digital divide should be of prioritised for sovereign operation of urban areas. The policy proposal by the government to concentrate on peripheral areas is a welcoming step.

The flagship schemes like the Smart Cities, AMRUT, Housing for All, HRIDAY and Swachh Bharat are intended to not only address various shortfalls but to deliver healthier urban governance, also pursue to create Indian cities and towns centres of development and sustainable growth. A chain of reforms through incentives and deterrents have been put in place to attain these objectives. Also, the government is endorsing ground-breaking measures like waste-to-energy, waste-to-compost and the reuse of building and demolition waste as part of sustainable urbanisation. Urban areas are living ecosystems and have to be managed thus.

The contribution to this end is also done by the experts, researchers, academicians, etc. in the field of Urban Development with whose support we at RCUES Lucknow bring out the Biannual Journal Urban Panorama. The journal presents the refereed results of original scientific research, and new developments in policy and practice in the fields of housing, spatial planning, building and urban development.

The aim is to give exposure to recent developments, providing a forum for the exchange and discussion of new ideas. The journal benefits a diverse readership of scientists, specialists, practitioners, and policy-makers in government and in organizations dealing with housing and urban issues.

Lucknow
December, 2020


(Dr. Nishith Rai)
Director



FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

The Journal Urban Panorama aims to provide an effective means for the exchange of research findings, ideas and information in the fields of urban development and environment among researchers, activists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) international agency staff, students and teachers.

With every new issue of Urban Panorama, we focus on newer areas of urban and environmental issues and their interconnections. In this issue, we have a bouquet of articles by experts and researchers in the field of urban governance and management.

In this issue of Urban Panorama, Dr. Shailendra Kumar and Dr. Santosh Kumar Singh, in their joint paper titled; 'Urban Sanitation: A Study on Impact of Swachh Bharat Mission in Varanasi City' purports to examine the awareness and participation of urban dwellers in urban sanitation programs. The paper is based on a major research study conducted in Varanasi city of Uttar Pradesh. The study covered a sample of 515 households from all the major administrative zones of the Municipal Corporation. The survey was conducted with the help of structured interview schedule. The filled in interview schedules were thoroughly checked and processed through use of SPSS while results were discussed, interpreted and analysed besides critical appreciation of pertinent literature.

Dr. Baby Kizhakkekalam, in her paper titled: 'Decentralised Local Planning and Economic Development with Special Reference to Kerala' discusses about the push factor from the rural economy, which includes lack of employment opportunities, rural poverty and unsustainable livelihood. Indian cities are extremely hazardous for migrants, since they live on the edge of the city and they still migrate because the push factor from rural areas is strong. The paper highlights that the Cities in India will need to create housing, provide access to quality education, health care services, water, and sanitation and transportation infrastructure to accommodate the flow of migrants. For that Urban planning is critical to ensure success of cities and urban development. Decentralized and regional planning can promote



active participation of local people in implementing various local programmes. Participatory Planning allows local bodies to make informed decisions. The paper reflects on the fact that the Urban Local bodies depend heavily on grants from state and central government for funds hence greater autonomy should be given to urban local bodies through integrated regional local level planning.

Prof (Dr.) Indrasen Singh, in his paper titled, 'Imperative of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 on Real Estate Sector in India' focuses on the need for the Act as housing sector is one of the top contributors to country's GDP and employment creation. Despite that the real estate sector has remained by and large unregulated. The Real estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 is an act of the parliament of India. An act to establish the real estate regulatory authority for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector and to ensure sale of plot, apartment or building, as the case may be, or sale of real estate project, in an efficient and transparent manner and to protect the interest of consumer in the real estate sector and to establish an adjudicating mechanism for speedy dispute release.

Onkar K. Chothe and Vinay Mohan Agrawal, in their joint paper titled, 'Implications of Solid Waste Management in India: Challenges, Technologies, Policies and Outcomes' focuses on the present municipal solid waste management system, policies and practices followed by Indian societies. The focus of this study are in terms of the current challenges, scope for mitigation, suggestions, and comparative statements among the different areas dealing with solid waste. The authors suggest that the study will help new researchers and policy managers to have corporate insights to the industrialist and hence to help the society to keep the environment sustainable, clean and green.

Dr. A. K. Singh, in his paper titled, 'Municipal Finance and Role of Central Finance Commission in India', highlights how urban local governments are entrusted with a set of responsibilities of providing basic urban amenities and services to the people. And they are dependent on states and centre for grant in aid and loans as the own resources of ULBs are grossly inadequate. The mismatch between functions and municipal resources lead to efforts for additional resource mobilization to fulfil the

commitments by the ULBs but they are not adequate due to various factors. The paper attempts to examine the recent trends in municipal finances in India in the context of 15th Finance Commission report recommendations.

सोनिया सिंह ने अपने शोध पत्र जिसका शीर्षक 'इलाहाबाद के चयनित मलिन बस्तियों में स्वच्छता के प्रति जागरूकता का एक अध्ययन' है, में स्वच्छ भारत मिशन के लागू किये जाने पर बल दिया है और मिशन के पूर्व नगरीय क्षेत्रों में किस प्रकार की स्वच्छता योजना का संचालन किया जा रहा था, जिसके तहत मलिन बस्तियों और पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में गरीबों को शौचालय निर्माण में सरकारी छूट दी जा रही थी। लेखक ने अपने प्रपत्र में इस बात का जिक्र किया है कि स्वच्छ भारत मिशन के तहत यद्यपि शौचालय का आच्छादन बढ़ा है तथापि सतत स्वच्छता का मुद्दा भी उभरा है। इस शोध पत्र से लेखक ने हमारा ध्यान इस बात पर आकर्षित करने कि कोशिश कि है कि आज अधिकांश छोटे व मझोले शहरों में सेप्टिल टैंक के मलगाद के एकत्रीकरण, परिवहन, उपचार तथा निस्तारण की कोई वैज्ञानिक व्यवस्था नहीं है। बड़े शहरों में भी बड़े अनुपात में अपशिष्ट जल को बिना उपचारित किये ही नदियों में छोड़ दिया जाता है। इस प्रकार नगरीय स्वच्छता में सुधार के बावजूद भी स्वच्छता प्रबन्धन में अनेक चुनौतियां उभर रही हैं। प्रस्तुत प्रपत्र में मलिन बस्तियों में स्वच्छता के प्रति जागरूकता का अध्ययन किया गया है।

It is expected that the readers at large will be benefitted by the content and new presentation of the journal. Urban Panorama has achieved the present status due to all round support from our authors, referees, members of Editorial & Advisory Board of the journal and also time to time guidance and suggestions from the officials of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, and of course the readers.

I am sure joint efforts of all of us will make our task easier to achieve the heights of new successes in the field of Urban Development education and research through such publications.

Lucknow
December, 2020



Rachna Rishi
Publication Officer



STATEMENT OF FORM IV

As per Rule & Registration of Newspapers (Central Rules, 1959)

1. Place of Publication : Lucknow
2. Periodicity of Publication : Bi-Annual
3. Printer's Name, Nationality and Address : Prakash Packagers, Indian
257, Golaganj, Lucknow (UP)
India
4. Publisher's name, Nationality and Address : Dr. Nishith Rai, Indian
Regional Centre for Urban and
Environmental Studies,
Lucknow University Campus,
Lucknow- 226007
5. Chief Editor's Name, Nationality and Address : Dr. Nishith Rai, Indian
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Lucknow- 226007
6. Name and Address of Individuals who own : Regional Centre for Urban and
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I, Nishith Rai, declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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The editors and the publishers of this Journal welcome the submission of original research papers and brief research reports, notes for publication on condition that they are submitted solely to the Urban Panorama and that they will not be reprinted or translated without the consent of the editor. Papers will be judged on the content of their original data or interpretation and Referee's comments.

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Contributors must give their affiliations, complete mailing address (both postal and email), as well as their phone and fax numbers.

Consistency should be observed in the use of hyphen. For e.g. either 'psycho-social' or 'psychosocial' should be used throughout the article.

Tables and Figures should be indicated by numbers (Table 1) and not location (the Table below).

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Book reviews and review article will be accepted only when accompanied by one copy of the book reviewed.



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CONTENTS

1. Urban Sanitation: A Study on Impact of Swachh Bharat Mission in Varanasi City. -Dr. Shailendra Kumar and Dr. Santosh Kumar Singh 1-16
2. Decentralised Local Planning and Economic Development with Special Reference to Kerala. -Dr. Baby Kizhakkekalam 17-38
3. Imperative of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 on Real Estate Sector in India. -Prof. (Dr.) Indrasen Singh 39-56
4. Implications of Solid Waste Management in India: Challenges, Technologies, Policies and Outcomes. -Onkar K. Chothe and Vinay Mohan Agrawal 57-68
5. Municipal Finance and Role of Central Finance Commission in India. -Dr. A. K. Singh 69-86
6. इलाहाबाद के चयनित मलिन बस्तियों में स्वच्छता के प्रति जागरूकता का एक अध्ययन। -सोनिया सिंह 87-98



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8. सोनिया सिंह, शोध छात्राएँ समाजशास्त्र विभाग, डा. भीम राव अम्बेडकर सेन्ट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी, लखनऊ।

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(Established by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India)



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