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ABSTRACT

The origins of urban planning in India can be traced to the planned towns of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa belonging to the Indus Valley Civilisation as early as 2500 BC (Ramachandran 1989). Cities and towns were also built around forts and centres of trade and commerce at various periods in the history of India. More broadly, over the longer historical span, scholars argue that India witnessed very little in situ urbanisation. Historically, urban centres have grown up due to concerted investment in certain areas by state governments or through administrative mechanisms such as transplanting district and sub-district (tehsil) headquarters and municipal apparatus (Bhagat2005). Pre-colonial rulers built up prominent towns and cities mainly for political and strategic reasons. One can find many such cities that were built during medieval times. Fatehpur Sikri and Sikandra, in Uttar Pradesh, Murshidabad in West Bengal, Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Chittorgarh, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Mewar and Udaipur in Rajasthan, Ahmedabad in Gujarat, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh are some of the prominent towns and cities developed during medieval times under various rulers and dynasties.

Key Words: Urbanisation, India, Town Planning.

Data: The article consists of primary data, the data collected through different sources like internet, textbooks and magazines.



INTRODUCTION

During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the towns built by the Mughals were famous for their concentration of populations, their monumental buildings and their imperial grandeur and wealth. Agra, Delhi and Lahore were important centres of imperial administration and control. Mansabdars and jagirdars who were assigned territories in different parts of the empire usually maintained houses in these cities: residence in these centres of power was symbolic of the status and prestige of a noble. The presence of the emperor and noblemen in these centres meant that a wide variety of services had to be provided. Artisans produced exclusive handicrafts for the households of nobles. Grain from the countryside was brought into urban markets for the town dwellers and the army. The treasury was also located in the imperial capital. Thus the revenues of the kingdom flowed into the capital regularly. The emperor lived in a fortified palace and the town was enclosed by a wall, with entry and exit being regulated by different gates. Within these towns were gardens, mosques, temples, tombs, colleges, bazaars and caravanserais. The focus of the town was oriented towards the palace and the principal mosque. In the towns of South India such as Madurai and Kanchipuram the principal focus was the temple. These towns were also important commercial centres. Religious festivals often coincided with fairs, linking pilgrimage with trade. Generally, the ruler was the highest authority and the principal patron of religious institutions. The relationship that he had with other groups and classes determined their place in society and in the town.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Satya Prakash Panwar, Mohit Sharma and Navin Solanki M :



Urbanization is not purely a contemporary marvel, but a speedy and astonishing alteration from traditional rural/ agriculture based economy to urban-based industry. This paper examines the definition, trend and pace of urbanization in Indian context. Also, it exemplifies the relationship b/w urbanization and population in same context. The interfaces between urbanization, population and environment have often been observed instinctively. This paper illuminates the complexities and contextual specificities of these three relationships. Most of Indian cities are facing the challenges of “environmental decrepitude” due to rapid growth urbanization and population. These both are responsible for serious environmental mutilation in India. This paper elucidates the effect of population and urbanization on environment through the aspect of transportation, solid waste, waste water, agriculture land loss and climate change. Also, the end of this review concludes the challenges and current policies and strategies for environment sustainability in India.

SCOPE

Urbanization in India is neither exceptional nor exclusive but is parallel to a world-wide phenomenon. Indian urbanization has continued as it has elsewhere in the world as a part. In same context, urbanization is characterized by continuous concentration of population and activities in large cities with backward areas and smaller towns tending to stagnate. A. Trend of urbanization in India India portions further most distinguishing features of urbanization in the developing nations. Number of urban agglomeration /town has grown from 1827 in 1901 to 7935 in 2011. Number of total population has increased from 23.84 crores in 1901 to 121 crores in 2011. Whereas number of population residing in urban areas has increased from 2.58 crores in 1901 to 37.71 crore in 2011. In last decade 2001-11, the urban population increased from 28.6 crores to 37.7 crores, accounted as 31 percent of total population. It is assumed that the urban population will increase to 60 crores and account as 40 percent of total population by 2031



Major policies Impacting Urban Development in India

74th Amendment to the Constitution, This 1992 amendment requires state governments to modify their municipal bylaws to empower Urban Local Bodies to function as institutions of self-governance. However, most Urban Local Bodies suffer from poor institutional frameworks and talent shortages. Moreover, the degree to which decision-making powers have been devolved in practice varies widely from state to state.

OBJECTIVES

- The research paper explains the benefits of town planning and its benefits in India.
- The main objective of the paper is to explain the way of urbanisation in the India's history.

CONCLUSION

The people of the Indus region worshipped trees. Animals were also worshipped. The greatest artistic creations of the Harappan culture are seals. Sometimes Harappan culture is called Rig Vedic, but its principal features do not figure in the *Rig Veda*. Similarly, the de-urbanization of the Harappan city is not a simple transformation but meant the disappearance of towns, script, and burnt bricks

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Harappan Culture: Bronze Age Urbanization in the Indus Valley

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