



# Urbanization And Its Impact On Agriculture In India

**Dr Sadhna Tyagi**

**Associate Professor, Geography Department**

**CRA College, Sonapat**

India shares most characteristic features of urbanization in the developing countries and as a part of the development process and going through a transformation from agriculture based economy to industry and service lead urbanized economy. Urbanization is an index of transformation from traditional rural economies to modern industrial one and progressive concentration of population in urban unit. The total population on its pitiful 2.4 per cent world surface of 135.79 million square km. It is arguably the most dramatic form of irreversible land transformation. The world has experienced an unprecedented increase in population during the past century, with a billion people added every decade during the last three decades. In India, urban population has grown more rapidly than the rural population throughout the Independence period. India had shared the development designs with a portion of the quickly developing districts in Asian. The nation has seen around 8% development in GDP over most recent few years and India urban population is expanding at a growth rate than it's all out population. Urbanization has been perceived as a significant segment of financial development. India is at the acceleration stage of the process of urbanization.

For the analysis 15 major agricultural states of India are considered for the period of 1981 to 2015 by sourcing data from mainly Census of India and Ministry of agriculture, government of India. The empirical estimations reveal that the higher share of agriculture in GDP, amount of cultivated land area, and rural male employment in agriculture have had a negative effect on urbanization in India. On the other hand, higher consumption of fertilizer, state government expenditure on agriculture, production of major crops (wheat, maize, jowar, and bajra), rural female employment in agriculture, and rural literacy rate have had a positive impact on urbanization. The results also show that the effect of agriculture productivity is positive on urbanization. This paper to study the pattern of urbanization in India is characterized by continuous concentration of population and activities in large cities.

## Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy due to its from head to foot share in employment besides livelihood nevertheless its abridged contribution to the kingdom's gross domestic product (GDP). Rural India is experiencing not only a decline in its rate of growth as well as share of population in the total, but also a decline in its contribution to national GDP. On the other hand, the limited urban GDP data currently available in the public domain shows that the share of urban sector's contribution to total GDP has increased significantly over time, i.e. from 38 % in 1970-71 to 52 % in 2004-05. Agriculture sector in India is majorly dependent on monsoon which is often unpredictable; therefore, it is has been characterized by disguised and seasonal unemployment. The decline in employment opportunities in the agriculture and lower productivity

level are the major reasons for the decline in the share of agriculture sector to total GDP. On the same logic, it could be construed that the increasing share of industry and service has also led to the decline in the share of agriculture in GDP.

Urbanization is an index of transformation from traditional rural economies to fashionable business one and modern concentration of population in urban unit. It is perhaps the most theatrical shape of irreversible land transformation. With consistent with capita earning higher in city regions than in rural areas, and non-agricultural boom having a greater effect on urban incomes, get entry to urban possibilities via migration and remittance is an important element of the diffusions of earning. With large migrations from rural to urban areas, there have been full-size adjustments in land utilization. Land transformed to city makes use of is increasing, even though it has little impact on overall crop manufacturing. Urbanization and rising buying energy have moved up the meals chain. The demand for high priced animal merchandise grows. The developmental factors like agriculture modernization, commercialization, elevated call for non-crop items and services, urbanization, developing literacy and even welfare-orientated policy intervention leading to accelerated job opportunities, and so forth., have attempted to tug the labour force faraway from agriculture in the direction of more beneficial non-farm sports.

The agriculture quarter, therefore, acts as a mainstay of the Indian financial system for preserving meals protection and, inside the process, countrywide protection as properly. Urbanization and economic improvement are broadly synonymous and consequently the issue of agricultural production needs to be dealt within the context of latest trends of sustained increase in incomes and Urbanization as well. Therefore, a strive is completed in this paper to study the relationship between Urbanization and agriculture increase in India.

### **Growth in Agricultural Production**

Indian agriculture has witnessed tremendous changes during the last three decades following the adoption of green revolution technology during late 1960s. As this technology possessed vast potential for increase in productivity, it led to impressive growth in agricultural output in the regions where it was adopted. Because of the spread of green revolution was highly skewed in favour of certain states and regions, this led to high growth in agricultural output in selected regions while the other regions suffered from stagnancy or poor growth in agricultural output. The performance of agriculture growth could be broadly classified into a few major phases . The first phase covering the period up to mid-1960s, widely known as pre-green revolution period, was marked by growth achieved through area expansion. The agricultural production of all crops registered an annual growth of 3.15 per cent with the growth rate in area of 1.58 per cent and productivity of 1.21 per cent. Despite major achievement in the initiatives taken by the government, the food grain production was not adequate to meet the needs of growing population, particularly from the year 1961. The imports of food grains increased steeply from 3.5 million tonnes in 1961 to 10.36 million tonnes in 1966. The possibility of increasing production by bringing more additional area under cultivation was limited. Hence, it was felt necessary to look for alternatives to meet the demand of increasing population in the near future. The situation worsened by the droughts in two successive years in mid-sixties. As a response the Green Revolution was ushered in through,

adoption of high-yielding varieties seeds (wheat and rice) and increased use of chemical fertilisers under irrigated conditions. During this phase the country witnessed a significant growth in food grain production. The growth in this period was characterised by productivity-led growth. Soon the negative externalities of the technological changes began surfacing in various forms. The decade of nineties indicated mixed performance for the agricultural sector. Initially, the agricultural sector showed positive signs of growth but soon under the pressure of inter-sectoral growth pulls the investment trends in the agricultural sector showed signs of deceleration.

### **Urbanisation in India**

In India, urban population has grown more rapidly than the rural population throughout the Independence period, taking the share of urban population up from 17.29 per cent in 1951 to about 28 per cent in 2001. But the rate of increase in the urban share has been only one per cent per annum, and this rate has in fact slowed down during 1980s and 1990s. According to 2001 census, in India out of total population of 102.87 crore about 28.61 crore live in urban areas and 74.25 crore live in rural areas. The number of total population has increased from 23.84 crores in 1901 to 102.87 crores in 2001 whereas the number of population residing in urban areas has increased from 2.59 crores in 1901 to 28.61 crores in 2001. It reflects a gradual increasing trend of urbanisation. At the time of Independence, the country's population was 342 million. The population of India almost tripled during last five decades period of 1951-2001. The decadal growth rates of the population are irregular, as it increased from 13.31 per cent in 1951 to 24.8 per cent in 1971 and afterwards it marginally declined to 24.7 per cent in 1981, 23.9 per cent in 1991 and 21.5 percent in 2001. Nearly 62 per cent of urban population reside in Class I towns, but they account for only 9 per cent of towns. Cities grow on account of urban pull factors, created due to emergence of economic opportunities and push factors from rural areas.

### **Urbanization and its problem**

Definition of urbanization is the increasing share of a nation's population living in urban areas (and thus a declining share living in rural areas). Most urbanization is the result of net rural to urban migration. Differences in rural and urban rates of natural increase also influence urbanization, although generally these act to reduce urbanization. The term urbanization is also used for the expansion of urban land uses. By way of contrast, much of the expansion of urban land use is the result of a shift from dense to more dispersed settlement. In effect, the term urbanization is being used to refer to two opposing spatial shifts in settlement patterns, likely to have opposing effects on, for example, the land available for agriculture.

Many development professionals see urbanization as a problem. Yet, no nation has prospered without urbanization and there is no prosperous nation that is not predominantly urban. Over the past 60 years, there is a strong association between economic growth and urbanization and most of the world's poorest nations remain among the least urbanized nations. Urban areas provide many potential advantages for improving living conditions through the economies of scale and proximity they provide for most forms of infrastructure and services. Urbanization over the past two centuries has also been associated with pro-poor social reforms in which collective organization by the urban poor has had important roles. But there are still very serious development problems in many urban areas, including high levels of urban poverty and serious problems of

food security and of high infant and child mortality.

The consequences of this are evident in most cities high proportion of the population living in very poor and overcrowded conditions in informal settlements or tenements lacking adequate provision for water, sanitation, drainage, healthcare, schools and the rule of law. This is evident even in cities where there has been very rapid economic growth. There are problems of undernutrition, lack of education and serious problems with exploitation, as well as deeply entrenched discrimination against women in almost all aspects of life.

### Conclusion

India is characterised by continuous concentration of population and activities in large cities. With heavy migrations from rural to urban areas, there have been significant changes in land utilisation. Land converted to urban uses is increasing, though it has little effect on total crop production. Therefore, given the current thrust of sustained growth in gross domestic product (GDP), the processes of urbanisation and economic development will be irreversible and hence how agricultural production will respond to such changes needs to be analysed. Indian agriculture has witnessed significant variations over the last five decades, there were phases of significant growth and stagnation. But over years, the country has emerged out of the state of chronic hunger and abject dependence on the import, to achieve self-sufficiency in availability of foodgrains. The faster growth in urban population is largely on account of migration from rural areas. Exchanges of goods between urban and rural areas are an essential element of rural-urban linkages. Urbanisation is an important determinant of demand for high value commodities. By 2025, urban population is expected to be nearly 45 per cent of the total population. This is expected to fuel rapid growth in the demand for high value food commodities. There is a need to control poverty and population growth below replacement level in the country and unless significant measures are taken to incorporate environmental concerns into agricultural development, urban planning, technological innovations, industrial growth, and resource management, the situation is likely to worsen in the future. Finally, it is suggested that transformation from rural based economy to urban based economy is unavoidable phenomenon as it is the crucial stage of development. Agriculture has a positive effect on urbanization. Therefore, development in agriculture is essential for higher urbanization in India. India's urbanization has a very strong positive effect on economic growth. However, we need a planned urbanization with strong agriculture development policy for the overall development in India.

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