



10. Urbanisation



Can you tell?

[A dialogue between a farmer (Tatya) in a village and his son (Suresh) is given here. Read it carefully and hold a discussion on the following questions]

Tatya : Suresh, I will come late to the field today. You go ahead.

Suresh: But father, today I was thinking of going to the factory.

Tatya : Why?

Suresh: I think I should work in that factory.

Tatya : Work in the factory? For what?

Suresh: Father, if I work in the factory, I will get a monthly salary. If I work overtime, I will get additional money. Also, I will get bonus in Diwali.

Tatya : But what about our fields?

Suresh: I will also look after the field simultaneously.

Tatya : All that is fine but will you be able to manage all this?

Suresh: Tatya, I will look after all that, you don't worry. We should think of the future now. Our village will change drastically from what it looks now.

Tatya : What changes are you talking about?

Suresh: Oh, Tatya, recall your past. Remember the earlier village. How small was our village! And look at our village today! Today there is factory near our village. Our field is near the village. Because of the factory, roads will develop and facilities like hospitals, school and colleges, administrative offices will come up. Huge buildings will stand tall in the village. People from outside will come and stay here. The sprawl of the village will increase. Village will develop.

Answer the following questions:

- ❁ Why is Suresh thinking of going to the factory for work?
- ❁ What is Tatya worried about?
- ❁ What changes does Suresh think will occur in the village?
- ❁ What other changes do you think will occur in the village?

Geographical explanation

You will notice that because of the factory near the village, the occupation of the people of the village has started changing. More and more people from outside come and start living in the village, transport, hotels, restaurants, messes, retail shops, medical services, etc. start developing. As a result, the basic structure of the village starts changing.

Looking at our country, agriculture is the main occupation in rural areas. Agriculture and its allied occupations are being followed since times immemorial. But now, various industries have started coming up in rural areas. For example, factories, mills, energy plants, multi-purpose projects, etc. People come from the surrounding regions to work here and thus the population of the village increases. To fulfil their needs, other services also develop like medical facilities, food, hospitals, recreation, etc. Consequently, the extent of the village grows and the form of earlier village changes.

The Gram Panchayat providing public services to the village gives way to Municipal Council or Municipal Corporation. These bodies provide the different basic services to the citizens like drinking water, roads, transportation, sewerage network, street lighting, etc. Besides these, other facilities like town planning, recreation facilities, tourist

places, parks, etc. also need to be developed. Consequently, the village transforms into a town/city.



Think about it.

Which facilities are necessary to be developed in urban areas for fulfilling the needs of the population?

In 1961, the Census of India has decided to define 'urban' on the basis of following criteria:

- More than 75% of the male working population should be engaged in non-agricultural occupations.
- The population of the settlement should be more than 5000.
- The population density of the settlement should be more than 400 persons per sq.km.



Try this.

Using the statistical information given in the table below, draw a line graph of the percentage of urban population using computer. Discuss in terms of urbanisation. After studying this graph, write the conclusions about urbanisation in our country from 1961-2011 in your own words.

S. No.	Year	Urban population (Percentage)	No of urban settlements
1	1961	17.79	2,270
2	1971	19.11	3,576
3	1981	23.34	3,245
4	1991	25.72	3,605
5	2001	28.06	5,161
6	2011	37.07	7,935

Geographical explanation

Talking of the urbanisation in India, the urban population has been increasing consistently from 1961 to 2011. From 1961-1981, this growth was around 5.5% only but from 1981-2011, this growth was around

13.73%. This means that the urban population is increasing rapidly in India. Urbanisation occurs because of many reasons. We will study some of the main reasons:

Industrialisation :

The development and concentration of industries in a region is a factor contributing towards urbanisation. Increase in industries leads to increase in the hopes of people who are attracted towards these industries from surrounding areas. This increases the speed of urbanisation. In the 19th century, Mumbai grew rapidly because textile mills started on a large scale in Mumbai. Many villages, which were originally fishing villages (*koliwad*), became part of Mumbai metropolitan area because of industrialisation and urbanisation.



Figure 10.1 : Industrialisation



Give it a try.

- ❖ Give example of villages in your area turning into urban settlement.
- ❖ Find out the main reason of that rural area turning into urban settlement.

Trade :

A place in a region is sometimes favourable in terms of transport, loading-unloading and storage of a good. This leads to development of trade and related services.

like business complexes, banks, credit societies, godowns, cold storages, houses, etc. start growing. For example, Nagpur in India is centrally located in India. Urbanisation started increasing here because this location facilitated trade.

Mechanisation and technology :

We can see lots of advantages of mechanisation and technology in various fields. Both are helpful to urbanisation too. In the recent decades, the use of technology has increased in agriculture. Mechanisation has also increased. In rural areas, agriculture is done with the help of machines on a large scale these days. The manpower employed in agriculture became devoid of agricultural work. This working class came to cities to look for work. As a result, urban population started increasing.



Find out !

Look for the changes that have occurred in the technology and mechanisation of agriculture with the help of internet. Write a short paragraph about the information you obtain.

Transport and communication :

In regions where transport facilities like roads and railways develop, urbanisation of small rural settlements occurs rapidly over there. For example, after the development of Konkan railway, many villages like Savarde (Dist. Ratnagiri) lying close to its proximity have started urbanising. Convergence of important rail routes through Bhusawal (Dist. Jalgaon), led to its rapid growth.



Give it a try.

Obtain information regarding development of settlements, villages, towns, etc. located on the main transport routes in your surroundings in the last five years.

Migration :

Migration is a major factor affecting urbanisation. This migration can be short-term, long-term or permanent. Migration occurs from rural to rural area, rural to urban area or urban to urban areas. The attraction of higher standard of life has also resulted in an increase in migratory population in the cities. For example, migration occurring in cities likes Mumbai, Pune from other parts of India.



Give it a try.

- ❖ Make a list of cities in your district.
- ❖ Discuss which factors from above are responsible for their development.
- ❖ If possible, talk to who have migrated people in your surroundings or the nearest town and find out reasons of migration.

Effects of urbanisation : Because of urbanisation, the characteristics of a region change largely. We can experience the difference in land use, for example, the land under agriculture is now under industries or residential use. While there are many advantages of urbanisation, some problems also arise.

Advantages of urbanisation :

Social harmony : There is an increase in secondary, tertiary and quaternary occupations with urbanisation. Hence economic activities increase. These areas grow rapidly. Cultural and social customs and traditions are exchanged as people from different parts live together in the cities. This creates social harmony.

Modernisation : In cities, people from different areas migrate. Their wisdom, skills and knowledge is exchanged easily. These areas are the first to get advantage of updated knowledge and literature. We can see new projects related to industries and businesses

coming up here. Urban settlements get an advantage of new ideas, updated technologies and technological facilities. Therefore, as a result, the standard of living improves.

Amenities and facilities : Various amenities and facilities develop in urban areas because of urbanisation. Transportation, communication, educational and medical facilities, fire brigade, etc. are very important.

Because of good transportational facilities, journey becomes easier. Its positive effect is also seen on freight transport, markets, trade, etc.

We see that even educational facilities develop well in urban areas. Many students come to urban areas especially to access the services of higher education like Pune city.

Medical facilities are also well developed in urban areas. To avail of these facilities, many patients and their family members come from different parts and stay for short periods.

Problems of urbanisation :

Slums : Because of urbanisation, the population in cities increases rapidly. But the housing facilities do not increase in the same proportion as the population. Most of the migrated people are economically weak. They cannot afford the housing offered in the cities. Migrated people have generally come



Figure 10.2 : Emergence of slums

for employment but it is not necessary that they get relevant jobs. Hence incomes are very low. Such people build temporary and semi-structured houses in open spaces. (See fig 10.2) These houses are mostly illegal. They do not get basic facilities from the local self-governments. The density of houses is very high. Roads are narrow. There is a lack of basic facilities. These slums keep on rising uncontrollably. This may give rise to social and health-related issues.

Traffic jams : As cities grow, people start living in the outskirts and suburbs of the city. People commute from the suburbs to the centre of the city for businesses and industries, trade, jobs, education, etc. Public transportation system is not sufficient and hence the number of private vehicles increases. This leads to an increase in traffic jams and travelling time increases significantly. See fig 10.3.



Figure 10.3 : Traffic jams



Use your brain power !

☞ When heaps of wastes accumulate bad odour and diseases are spread.

☞ Traffic jams are a regular routine
Write a paragraph suggesting measure for these problems of urbanisation.

Pollution : Pollution is a major problem in the cities. It has adverse effects on urban life. Air pollution, noise pollution and water pollution are clearly visible. Increase in the

development of the city, paucity of facilities and breaking of laws makes pollution a big problem. As cities grow, pollution also increases.

Crime : The people who have migrated do not always find employment in the cities. Some of them look for means to earn money through illegal ways. This leads to an increase in the crime rate of the cities. Thefts, burglaries, scuffles and murders are the crimes that happen in the cities. This leads to serious law and order issues bringing pressure on the police and judicial system.

Besides the above problems, enormous increase in land prices, struggle between various groups, etc. create tension in the cities. This can disturb the social harmony of the cities.



Do you know ?

To update the cities using information technology and for handling the assets of the urban areas easily, a scheme called the 'Smart City' came into being. The main aim of this programme is to collect information regarding various aspects of the city through the use of ICT and carry out planned development of the cities. This can be used to strengthen the transportation and communication system of the city. It also includes response to emergency systems in moments of crisis.



Think about it.

- ☞ Why do the sources of water near the city get polluted?
- ☞ How is the polluted water disposed off in the cities?

- ☞ Is the water supplied to the cities good for health?
- ☞ What are the adverse effects of water, air and noise pollution on health?

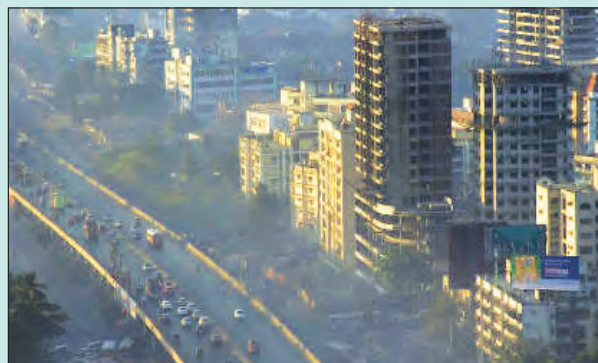


Give it a try.

- ☞ Write five sentences on each picture after observing them.



Air pollution



Air pollution



Water pollution



Water pollution



Noise pollution

- What does the symbol signify?
- Obtain information regarding it through internet.
- Write how this programme is related to your daily life.



Exercise

Q 1. Suggest measures for the following problems:

- (A) The slums in the cities are increasing.
- (B) Because of the increasing traffic jams within the city, lot of time is consumed in commuting.
- (C) The question of law and order in the urban areas is serious.
- (D) The problem of pollution is grave because of urbanisation.
- (E) Migration has created questions of health and education in urban areas.

Q 2. Match the correct pairs :

Group A

- (1) Technological development and mechanisation
- (2) Permanently staying away from your original place
- (3) 75% males are engaged in non-agricultural occupation
- (4) The problems of solid waste

Q 3. Outline the importance/ advantages of the following:

- (A) Technology and mechanisation
- (B) Trade
- (C) Industrialisation
- (D) Amenities in urban areas
- (E) Social harmony in the cities

Q 4. Compare the following and give examples:

- (A) Transportation system and traffic jams
- (B) Industrialisation and air pollution
- (C) Migration and slums
- (D) Amenities and increasing crime rate

Group B

- (A) Urban areas
- (B) Lack of planning
- (C) Migration
- (D) Urbanisation

Q 5. Complete the table :

Process of urbanisation	Effects
Emergence of slums	Illegal settlements Insufficient facilities
	Increase in population because of attraction of good lifestyle Can be short-term or long-term
Pollution	
	Employment opportunities were generated Increase in amenities and facilities
Change from rural to urban	

Q 6. Explain:

- (A) The growth of cities takes place in a specific method.
- (B) A planned city of your imagination
- (C) Industrialisation causes cities to develop.
- (D) Pollution- A problem
- (E) Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan

Activity :

- (1) Make a list of the large cities in India and show them on a map of India.
- (2) Visit a big city near your village and write the facilities and problems you come across with the help of your teacher.

Q 7. Suggest measures for the following problems of urbanisation shown in the following pictures.

