

URBAN GEOGRAPHY – 18MAG21C

UNIT – V: Urban Problems: Residential – Urban Environmental Pollution - Transport - Water Supply – Crime – Urban Slums - Urban Planning: Need – Types - Concepts – Master Plan – Urban Planning in India.

Urban Problems:

1. Urban Sprawl
2. Overcrowding
3. Housing
4. Unemployment
5. Slums and Squatter Settlements
6. Transport
7. Water supply
8. Sewerage Problems
9. waste Disposal
10. Urban Crimes
11. Problem of Urban Pollution
12. Social problems
13. High population density
14. inadequate infrastructure
15. flooding
16. poverty

Residential Problems

Sprawling of slums and squatter settlement

- 1/5 of urban population living in slums
- 1/3 of the population of Mumbai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Kanpur, pune and Nagpur staying in squatter settlements etc.
- Housing shortage – migration

Urban Environmental Pollution

- Air pollution – outdoor contaminates materials smoke , gas and dust etc.

Transportation and industries – mumbai – 2000 tonnes – every day.

- Water pollution – 70 to 90% of peoples drinking contaminated water
- Noise pollution – automobiles- Delhi 89 dB. Chennai 89 dB.
- Soil pollution

Transport

- Traffic congestion
- Peak hours
- Metro railway

Water Supply

- Human settlement inhabited in river valley and lake sites.
- Water consuming industries – leather, textiles, paper, dyeing and finishing plants etc.,
- Kolkata – 272 liters, Mumbai 190 liters, Delhi 90 liters.

Crime

- Due to unemployment
- Get protection from politicians and elite class.
- Murder, rape, robbery, theft, kidnaping etc.
- Slum dwellers commits serious crimes

Urban Slums

- the number of slum dwellers rising in Indian cities. Slums area always lack by some basic necessities of Life clean water, electricity and sanitation. The inhabitants are mostly rickshaw puller,sex workers, seasonal small vendors, house maidservants with a family income ranging from a meager Rs.1500 to Rs.3000.
- After a hard and low-earning working day, most of the men spend their daily earnings on homemade illicit liquor. Status of woman's in slum is not respectful, they used to do prostitution to full fill their basic needs to survive. The slum population is constantly increasing: it has doubled in the past two decades. The current population living in slums in the country is more than the population of Britain.

Dharavi Slum Mumbai: Mumbai “The Dream city” hold the biggest slum area in India known as Dharavi. Asia's largest slum,Dharavi, is spread over an area of 1.75 km along the Mahim river in central Mumbai.

- Dharavi is just one of many slum areas in city of Mumbai
- **Bhalswa Slum Delhi:** In”The Heart of India” the Slum population was considered as 20% of the total population of Delhi, It also has largest child labours. These slum tend to bank of river Yamuna. Slum dwellers from various parts of Delhi have been resettled to Bhalswa. Delhi Government is thinking to launch a survey to prepare a data base of slum dwellers in the city to help them. Delhi has become one of the most unsafe Indian city for women, due to the large population and crimes.
- **Nochikuppam Slum Chennai:** “The city of flyovers” has Nochikuppam slum with 1,300 huts where around 5 thousand people live below poverty level and they don't have enough money for two meals a day.

- **Basanti Slum kolkata:** “The City of Joy” Kolkata has slum area known as Basanti slum, it is one of the major slum areas in kolkata. One third of Kolkata’s population, lived in 2011 registered and 3500 unregistered slums.
- **Rajendra Nagar Slum Bangalore:** “The garden city” Bangalore alone hold 570 slums form total of around 2000 slums in State. It is estimated that about 20% of Bangalore population reside in slums. The families living in the slum are not ready to move into the temporary shelters, saying it is unjust and risky to live under a flyover. As per the latest comments from people of Bangalore, Rajendra Nagar Slum does not exit now, all the slum dwellers has been rehabilitated.
- **Indiramma Nagar Hyderabad:** “The City of Nizam” Around 624689 peoples live in slums area of Hyderabad. There is very little land available for all the people’s live in 104 identified and 24 unidentified slums in Hyderabad.
- **Saroj Nagar Slum Nagpur:** “The Orange city” Nagpur has 424 legal slum area’s, Sarojnagar is just one of the 424 slums in the city. In Nagpur, approximately 40 % of the population live in slums. These slums are home to over 1,42,000 people and cover about 1,600 hectares of prime land. Due to struggle for land in Maharashtra, it was making second largest slum area in Nagpur after Dharavi Mumbai.
 - **Squatter settlements** are any collection of buildings where the people have no legal rights to the land they are built upon. The people are living there illegally and do not own the land. They provide housing for many of the world's poorest people and offer basic shelter.
 - **characteristics:** overcrowded, noisy and smelly. houses are made from cardboard, wood, corrugated iron, plastic sheeting and metal from oil drums. lack of sanitation, clean drinking water and open sewers.
 - A **shanty town** or **squatter area** is a settlement of improvised housing which is known as shanties or shacks, made of plywood, corrugated metal, sheets of plastic, and cardboard boxes. Such settlements are usually found on the periphery of cities, in public parks, or near railroad tracks, rivers, lagoons or city trash dump sites. Sometimes called a squatter, or spontaneous settlement, a typical shanty town often lacks adequate infrastructure, including proper sanitation, safe water supply, electricity, hygienic streets, or other basic necessities to support human settlements.

Urban Planning:

- is a dynamic profession that works to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthful, efficient, and attractive places for present and future generations.
- is a technical and political process concerned with the use of land, protection and use of the environment, public welfare, and the design of the urban environment, including air, water, and the infrastructure passing into and out of urban areas such as transportation, communications, and distribution networks.
- Urban Planning is also referred to as **urban and regional, regional, town, city, rural planning** or some combination in various areas worldwide.

1. NEED FOR URBAN PLANNING

"The modern city is a complex organism. It is a great human enterprise serving the material and spiritual needs of man. It is a segment of the land on which the people have selected to live and to work, to learn and to trade, to play and to pray. It is a mosaic of homes and shops, factories and offices, schools and libraries, theatres and hospitals, parks and churches, meeting places and government centres, fire stations and post offices. These are woven together by a network of streets and transportation routes, water, sanitation, and communication channels. To arrange all these facilities properly as the city develops is the function of the general plan" (Gallion and Eisner, 1969, 186).

To obtain and maintain public safety, public health and housing, proper transportation, commercial facilities, education, morality, peace and quiet law and order in urban areas, the area must be planned as a whole. It is not enough to remove existing buildings and structures that are in sanitary. It becomes essential to redesign the whole area so as to eliminate the conditions that cause slums. As we know slums are characterized by the over crowding of dwellings, the lack of adequate streets, and alleys, the absence of recreational areas, the lack of banks, the presence of outmoded street patterns, lack of light and air etc. It is believed that the removal of individual structures that are offensive, would be only a palliative. "The entire area needed redesigning so that a balanced, integrated plan could be developed for the region, including not only new homes but also schools, churches, parks, streets, and shopping centres. In this way it was hoped that the cycle of decay of the area could be controlled and the birth of future slums prevented" (Gallion and Eisner, 1969, 181).

Cities are human agglomerations characterised by a lot of economic, social and cultural diversities. These diversities lead to the development of differential land use, functional characteristics and layout patterns within the urban area. After Second World War the phenomenal growth in urban population in most of developing countries has not only lead to the increase in the size and number of urban centres, accentuation of intra and inter urban disparities but creation of numerous problems related to food, shelter (housing), transport, supply of water, electricity and fuels, drainage, environmental problems, public health and sanitation, etc. "These problems can be solved only by urban planning which can help in making our cities liveable,

Following are some significant definitions of urban planning given by prominent geographers, economists and urban planners :

1. Underlying idea of town planning is the welfare of citizens and to raise the standard of living of the people.
- L.D. Stamp.
2. City planning is the science and art concerned primarily with the city's ever changing pattern.
- James Forde.
3. City planning is simply the exercise of such foresight as will promote the orderly and sightly development of a city and its environs along rational lines with due regard for health, amenity and convenience and commercial and industrial advancement.
- Nelson P. Lewis.
4. The touch stone of planning is the accommodation of several limits to make a complete but harmonious whole.
- H.M. Mayer.
5. The essential aim of urban planning is to improve the quality of urban life.
- R. Knowledge and J. Wareing

4. TYPES OF URBAN PLANNING

Patrick Abercrombie has stressed on the elements for urban planning which are : zone, means of communication, open land and community agglomeration. A.M. Basset has included 7 elements for the purpose of urban planning : 1. roads, 2. parks, 3. place for public buildings, 4. communal reserve land, 5. zonal areas, 6. public routes, and 7. small roads. In this way, on the basis of constituent elements, urban planning may be divided into following groups :

(1) **Landuse Planning** : Land use planning is regarded as the base of urban planning. For the purpose of urban planning suitable zones are defined for different functions. For different functional classes like industry, trade, administration, residential, educational institutions, public offices, public land, parks, and transport centres (bus stop, railway station, air field etc.) separate functional zones are to develop within the municipal boundary.

(2) **Transportation Planning** : Transport planning is concerned to remove transport bottlenecks and traffic congestions and to improve urban traffic. It involves various solutions such as widening of roads, segregation of slow moving vehicles, construction of over bridges, tunnels and subways, bypass roads, and underground railways etc. In metropolitan cities crowded business area are often segregated from vehicular traffic.

(3) **Functional Planning** : It is also known as economic planning. It includes delimitation of various functional zones and functional structure of population. It also includes the present and future appraisal of working population (work force) engaged in different functional classes.

(4) **Residential or Housing Planning** : Plan related with location and layout and house planning of residential areas are included under residential planning. Determination of layout of residential areas according to site and situation, determination of separate residential areas for the families belonging different economic and social status, and provision of house plans are the major aims of residential planning. Slum clearance or improvement is also a part of residential planning. Where slum clearance is essential, slums are removed and slum dwellers are offered residences in new planned colonies mainly free of cost. In many cases basic civic amenities like drinking water, roads, drainage, electricity etc. are provided to improve the environmental conditions of such slums.

(5) **Planning of Services** : It includes the evolution, study and planning for different type of services, amenities and other supplies to be provided to the urban residents. Management and planning of public facilities like supplies of drinking water, electricity, gas etc., drainage and sewage, parks and entertainment, schools and colleges etc. are included under the planning of services.

(6) **Planning for Future Towns** : It is related with the formation of new planned towns outside the municipal limits of the big congested city. This planning is adopted in order to check the concentration of population in metropolitan cities. This is done through the development of satellite towns, expanded, dispersed, linear or radial towns.

6. URBAN PLANNING IN INDIA

The practice of urban planning in India was in vogue since as early as prehistoric times. The nature and condition of urban planning in different historical periods have been changing considerably according to geographical, social, economic and political conditions of the country.

(1) Prehistoric Period

The first highly advanced Indian civilization began its evolution as early as 3000 B.C. and reached its peak between 2500 and 2000 B.C., known as Indus Valley Civilization. It covered a large area extending about 1600 kilometres through the Indus Valley and along the coast of Arabian Sea to the west and east of the mouth of the River Indus. "It was essentially an urban civilization, with a cosmopolitan society and extensive trade with the outside world. Among some 70 metropolitan centres thus far uncovered, the two principal sites are Mohenjo-Daro, about 480 km. from the sea coast, and Harappa, about 640 km. farther up the river. Both were durably constructed of brick and laid out in accordance with ambitious and intelligent planning (Burns, 1991, 115).

The streets, varying in width from 2.5 to 10 metres were regularly aligned, sometimes running straight for nearly 800 metres. The main streets were duly oriented to the points of the compass and intersected at right angles, dividing the city into square or rectangular blocks, each of which was divided lengthwise and crosswise by a number of lanes (Majumdar, 1977, 21). Generally each house had a well, a bathroom and a good system of covered drainage along the street. The house were made of well-made burnt bricks.

(2) Ancient Period

The scattered descriptions of villages and towns are found in ancient Indian literatures such as the Puranas, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, Buddhist and Jain literatures, Kautilya's Arthashastra, Patanjali's Mahabhashya, etc. It is found that all capital cities were located on major rivers and occupied a site on high banks or levees. The other towns and cities which were not particularly associated with rivers, lakes or seas are those whose location was based on strategic points, religious sanctity or important routes.

- Urban planning guides and ensures the orderly development of settlements and satellite communities which commute into and out of urban areas or share resources with it. It concerns itself with research and analysis, strategic thinking, architecture, urban design, public consultation, policy recommendations, implementation and management.
- Urban Planners work with the cognate fields of *Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Public Administration* to achieve strategic, policy and sustainability goals. Early urban planners were often members of the these cognate fields.
- Today urban planning is a separate, independent professional discipline.
- The discipline is the broader category that includes many different sub-fields such as *land-use planning, zoning, environmental planning, and transportation planning*.

WHAT IS TOWN PLANNING ?

- The art and science of ordering the use of land and siting of buildings and communication routes so as to secure the maximum practicable degree of economy convenience and beauty economy, convenience, and beauty.

- An attempt to formulate the principles that should guide us in creating a civilized physical background for human life whose main impetus is thus ... foreseeing and guiding change.

Master Plan

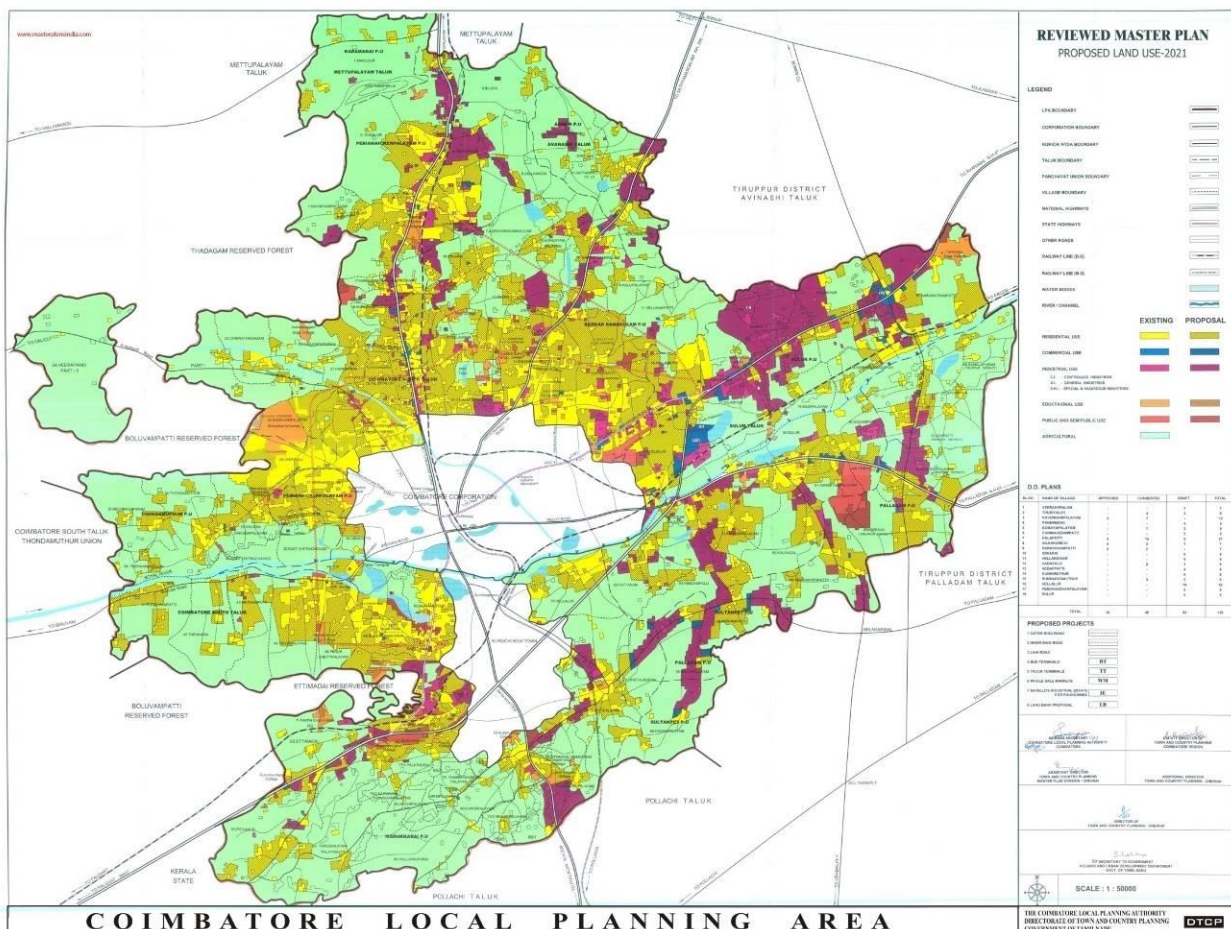
- ✓ **The Master Plan for a city includes the following :**
 - Land use plan for lands within city borders: Residential, recreational, industrial, commercial, green, cemeteries,....etc
 - Roads and transportation
 - Building lines
 - Water and sewage
 - Professions
 - Building regulations : setbacks, density, height, services,....etc
- ✓ The Master Plan of Coimbatore was prepared by LPA, approved by the Government in Go.Ms.No.661, H&UD Dept; dt.12.10.1994, being enforced by the LPA.
- ✓ The Master Plan is reviewed with the consent of the Government in Go.Ms.No.22,H&UD DEPT; dt.27.1.2011. The total extent of the Local Planning Area is 1276sqkms with a population of 14, 34,607 as per 1991 Census.
- ✓ The LPA area includes Coimbatore Corporation, 1 Township, 31 Town Panchayats and 55 Revenue Villages spread over in Coimbatore, Palladam and Mettupalayam taluks.
- ✓ The decadal growth of population is decreasing from 15% in 1991 to 10.54% in 2011. The percentage of working force in agriculture is less than 1% and the total working force is 38.90% in 2011. The gross density is 115 persons per hec. The developed area is 75.9%, out of which residential use predominates 78.76%.

(4) Master Plan Concept

Master plan refers the comprehensive city plan. It must include a review of the physical structure of a city or planning area, a measurement of development trends, a definition of goals and objectives for future growth and change, and specific recommendations in the form of maps and charts which delineate the plan and establish standards of density and building intensity in support of the plan (Gallion and Eisner, 1969, 186).

Master plan is synonymous with 'General Plan'. The term 'Master Plan' has been applied to almost every scheme for property development from an individual lot to a large estate, a shopping centre or a city. The term 'General Plan' identifies long-range, comprehensive planning by or for a government agency as a foundation for overall land development policies within specific corporate limits. These terms are interchangeable, but General Plan has been adopted to distinguish it from the varied non-governmental applications associated with Master Plan (Gallion and Eisner, 1969, 1987).

Master plan is based on careful and comprehensive surveys and studies of existing conditions and the prospect of future growth of the city, having scientific techniques and creative experience. It directs the physical development of the urban community and its environs in relation to its socio-economic well-being for the fulfilment of common requirements of the people. Master Plan prepared and adopted by planning commission is a comprehensive and long-term general plan for the physical development of the city. Thus, however, Master Plan may be referred to as



Urban planner

- An **urban planner** or **city planner** is a professional who works in the field of urban planning for the purpose of optimizing the effectiveness of a community's land.
- They formulate plans for the development and management of urban and suburban areas, typically analyzing land use compatibility as well as economic, environmental and social trends. In developing their plan for a community (whether commercial, residential, agricultural, natural or recreational),
- urban planners must also consider a wide array of issues such as *sustainability, air pollution, traffic congestion, crime, land values, legislation and zoning codes*.
- The importance of the urban planner is increasing throughout the 21st century, as modern society begins to face issues of increased population growth, climate change and unsustainable development.
- An urban planner could be considered a green collar profession.

Mr. N. SARAVANA KUMAR
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
P.G. & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
GOVERNMENT ARTS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)
COIMBATORE – 641 018.