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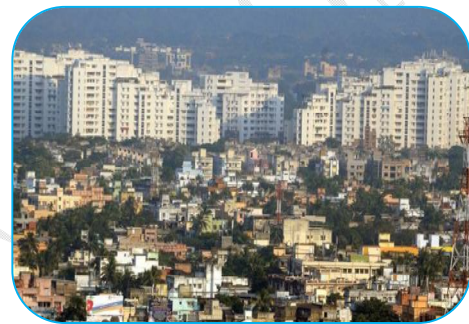
URBANIZATION IN TELANGANA - A STUDY OF GREATER HYDERABAD

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ABSTRACT:

The urbanization is global phenomenon. It is increasing continuously in the last two hundred years throughout the world. Most of the developed countries are pretty well urbanized and the developing world is also catching up. Though the urbanization is happening unabatedly it is throwing many challenges to the government and the society. Different strategies have had India after independence is rapidly urbanizing and many cities, towns have come into existence and everyday new areas are coming under the grasp of urbanization. Urbanisation has been an engine of inclusive economic growth. Urban agglomerations propel economic growth by bringing together interrelated industries in one geographical area, promoting positive externalities and reducing transaction costs, leading to new vistas of opportunities, especially for rural migrates. With this urbanization India is also facing different challenges which are of diverse nature.



The state of Telangana is one of the fast-urbanising states in the country, along with the rapid economic transformation. The urban centres have become epicentres for industrial and services-oriented business activity, robust transportation, civic facilities and availability of skilled workforce. Hyderabad alone accounts for a lion's share of the state's urban population which has become a growth centre for the state. The city of Hyderabad is being recognised as a true cosmopolitan city for being an accommodating city despite the existence of varied cultures. This greatness has resulted in the city hosting number of national and international events. In addition, cities like Warangal, Nizamabad and Karimnagar are fast changing the urban landscape of the state. This paper is an attempt to find out the challenges of that this town is facing.

KEYWORDS: *Urbanization, Telangana state, urban governance, challenges and prospects.*

INTRODUCTION

The urbanization is global phenomenon. It is happening continuously in the last two hundred years throughout the world. Most of the developed countries are pretty well urbanized and the developing world is also catching up. Though the

urbanization is happening unabatedly it is throwing many challenges to the government and the society. Different strategies have had India after independence is rapidly urbanizing and many cities, towns have come into existence and everyday new areas are coming under the grasp of urbanization.

Urbanization in India has become an important and irreversible process, and an important determinant of national economic growth and poverty reduction. The process of urbanization is characterized by a most dramatic increase in the number of large cities, although India may be said to be in the midst of transition

from a predominantly rural to a quasi-urban society.

Urbanization has been the dominant demographic trend with its high pace of social and economic development. Today, urbanization is being accepted as a lifestyle, which has become the essential part of growth and determines the material progress and social prosperity of human life.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

(a) to understand the concepts of urbanization, (b) to analyse the growth of urbanization in India, (c) to evaluate the growth of urbanization in Telangana state, and (d) to find out the issues, challenges and prospects in urban areas.

Methodology: this is a conceptual and analytical study, secondary data has been collected from the different sources, published and unpublished works, i.e., Census of India, Government of Telangana publications, books and other sources. This paper is an attempt to find out the challenges and prospects of urbanization.

URBANIZATION AND TELANGANA STATE

Urbanisation has been an engine of inclusive economic growth and social transformation. Urban agglomerations propel economic growth by bringing together interrelated industries in one geographical area, promoting positive externalities and reducing transaction costs, leading to new vistas of opportunities, especially for rural migrants. Growth in high-technology sectors depends heavily on inter-sectoral support, which is possible only through urban agglomerations. Urbanisation and economic development have a strong positive correlation, which is indicated by the fact that a state or a country with a high per capita income is also likely to have a high degree of urbanisation.

The state of Telangana emerged as 29th state in the Indian Union as per the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 (No. 6 of 2014) of Parliament, which received the assent of the President of India on the 1st March, 2014 and came into existence with effect from 2nd June, 2014. The said Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 was received an amendment called the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Act, 2014 (No. 19 of 2014) on the 17th July, 2014, transferring certain revenue mandals and villages of Khammam district to residual Andhra Pradesh, enforcing this amendment with effect from 29th May, 2014.

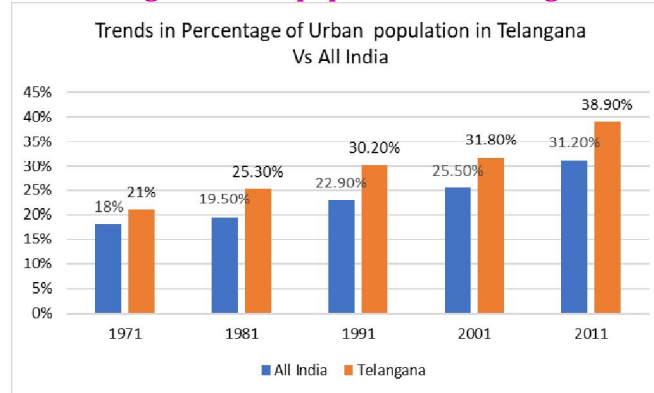
Telangana is a state in the Southern region of India. It has an area of 1,12,077 sq. kms., after the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (amendment) Act, 2014 (as per Act No. 6 of 2014 it was 1,14,840 kms.), and is the twelfth largest state in terms of both area and the size of the population in the country. Most of it was part of the princely state of Hyderabad, ruled by Nizam of Hyderabad during the British Raj, joining the Union of India in 1948. In 1956, the Hyderabad state was dissolved as part of the linguistic reorganization of states, and the Telugu speaking part of Hyderabad state, known as Telangana, was merged with former Andhra State to form Andhra Pradesh. On 2nd June 2014, Telangana was separated from Andhra Pradesh as a new 29th state of India, with the city of Hyderabad as its capital.

The state is bordered by the states of Maharashtra, Chattisgarh to the North, Karnataka to the west, and Andhra Pradesh to the south, east and north east. Presently, the Telangana state is comprising with 33 districts. The major cities in Telangana state include Hyderabad, Warangal, Mahabubnagar, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, and Khammam. The State is strategically located in the Deccan plateau in a semi-arid region. The climate is predominantly hot and dry.

The state of Telangana is one of the fast-urbanising states in the country, along with the rapid economic transformation. The urban centres have become epicentres for industrial and services-oriented business activity, robust transportation, civic facilities and availability of skilled workforce. Hyderabad alone accounts for a lion's share of the state's urban population which has become a growth centre for the state. The city Hyderabad is being recognised as a true cosmopolitan city for being an accommodating city despite the existence of varied cultures. This greatness has resulted in the city hosting number of national and international events. In addition, cities like Warangal, Nizamabad and Karimnagar are fast changing the urban landscape of the state. However, development experience the

world over shows that urbanisation is also a challenge as much as it is an opportunity. The sustainable development of urban areas largely depends upon their physical, social and institutional infrastructure. The new State of Telangana showed commendable foresight on the importance of urbanisation and its trickle-down effects. It initiated a wide range of reforms in the physical, institutional and social spectrum of the urban realm, to support the growth and development of urban areas. These components basically aimed to provide better quality of life to urban dwellers by ensuring accessibility and availability of physical infrastructure such as transport systems, roads, sewerage systems, garbage handling systems, etc.; social infrastructure like provision of safety and security; and institutional infrastructure like governance, regulators, etc.

Trends in Percentage of Urban population in Telangana and All India



Sources: Censuses of India 2011

According to Census 2011, about 31.2 per cent of total India's population lives in urban areas. State wise comparison of urban population in India reveals that, out of 29 states, 11 states have urban population higher than the national average of 31.2 per cent. Telangana, with 38.9 per cent urban population, stands seventh in terms of urbanisation in India. Four states, i.e., Odisha (16.7per cent), Assam (14.1per cent), Bihar (11.3per cent) and Himachal Pradesh (10per cent) have low urbanisation in the country.

Distribution of urban population across the Telangana reveals that, about 20 per cent of the state population is concentrated in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area. The Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation (GWMC) has been another fast-urbanising geographical area in the state. At present, GWMC accounts for about 2 per cent of the state's total population. Warangal being a historical city and located in a central point, well-connected by rail network and other transportation means, the city and its adjoining urban agglomeration is growing fast, with increased economic activities. Another emerging urban agglomeration has been around the Ramagundam Municipal Corporation. The region has vast deposits of coal. Mineral-based and ancillary industries are coming up in and around Ramagundam, Godavari khani and Mancherial. Public sector undertakings of the state and centre viz., Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and National Thermal Power Corporation, are located in this area and provide added advantages for industrial development in this region.

URBAN GOVERNANCE

The Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA) is the apex authority, which provides guidance to municipal corporations and municipalities in performing their day-to-day activities. The main function of DMA includes: (i) coordinating between state and urban local bodies regarding taxation, revenue sharing, funding for schemes, etc. (ii) supervising and monitoring authority in implementation of various developmental schemes like Smart Cities - Smart Wards, waste energy plants, liquid waste management, AMRUT, IHHL, etc., and (iii) strengthening own revenue resources of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

The Government of Telangana has undertaken various initiatives for strengthening the infrastructure and to make cities and towns more inclusive.

1) The state government has initiated the 'Telangana Municipal Development Project' (TMDP) with an objective of preparing the Master Plan for 20 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) with the financial assistance of the World Bank. The preparation of GIS Base Maps for 37 ULBs in Phase-I and 22 ULBs in Phase-II are in process.

2) The government has initiated the Support to Urban Street Vendors (SUSV) scheme for identification, issue of ID cards, vending certificates, financial inclusion, and social security for street vendors. Until now, 67,294 street vendors have been identified, out of whom 63,361 have been issued identity cards. The survey has been completed in 66 ULBs.

3) With an objective to provide shelters for the urban homeless, the government initiated the Shelter for Urban Homeless programme. Till now, 25 shelters are functioning in the state providing accommodation to 1,163 homeless people. It is proposed to construct such shelters in 50 government hospitals for patient attendants and recovering patients.

3) The Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas (MEPMA) has been actively involved in implementation of poverty alleviation programmes through programmes like Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana--National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM), employment through skills training and placement, self-employment programmes, *Vaddi Leni Runalu*, (*Loans without any interest*) etc. Until 2017 end, 1.46 lakh SHGs were formed in urban areas under the aegis of MEPMA. During the year 2017-18, Rs. 716.41 crore were provided to 18,132 Self Help Groups (SHGs).

4) In order to ensure that cities and towns in Telangana become totally clean, sanitised, healthy and livable for all citizens, Swachh Telangana *Varostavam* was observed from 25 September to 2 October, 2014. The special focus of the campaign was on hygienic and affordable sanitation for the urban poor and women. One of the key initiatives of the Government of Telangana is to achieve 100 per cent sanitation in urban areas. Massive public awareness through an intensive campaign on cleanliness was conducted during the Swachh Telangana *Varostavam*.

HYDERABAD AS A GLOBAL CITY

The city of Hyderabad, founded in the year 1591 by Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah, offers a fascinating panorama of the past, with a rich mix of cultural and historical traditions spanning over 400 years. It is one of the fastest-growing cities of India and emerged as a strong industrial, commercial and technology centre, and at the same time it gives glimpses of past splendour and the legacy of its old history.

Hyderabad is also known as the City of Pearls and one of the IT power hubs of the country. The city is known for world-class educational institutions, hospitals, a highly skilled workforce, historical monuments, ancient religious places, museums, art galleries, cinema halls, concert venues, convention centres, restaurants, shopping centres, sports facilities, amusement facilities, organised events, parks, green areas, etc. Hyderabad has now become one of the global IT centres in the world, with the presence of a large number of Multi-national Companies (MNCs) such as Google, Microsoft, TCS, etc., and is emerging as the pharma capital of India. The city is also known as an educational and medical hub, with presence of reputed institutions, engineering colleges and affordable hospital networks.

This paradigm of development has opened up investment, employment and livelihood opportunities to people across the country. This city has an efficient and reliable physical infrastructure with strong public transport network like the Hyderabad Metro, Outer Ring Road (ORR) and a large fleet of Green Buses. The growth and development of Hyderabad as a global city is contributing significantly to the prosperity of State and to the overall economy of the country.

There are two government organisations working towards strengthening of existing infrastructure and expanding to its outgrowths, viz., Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA). Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation was formed in 2007 by merging the surrounding 12 municipalities with the existing

Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad area. Presently, GHMC is spread over an area of 625 sq. kms and spread over in four districts, i.e., Hyderabad, Rangareddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri and a part of Sangareddy. The HMDA was formed in 2008 and it has an area of 7,257 sq. km under its purview. The HMDA's jurisdiction covers seven districts, 70 mandals and 1,032 villages, including Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation consisting of 175 villages and 12 municipalities / Nagar panchayats consisting of 31 villages, and the remaining 826 villages under jurisdiction of the HMDA. The Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority was set up for the purpose of planning, co-ordination, supervising, promoting and securing the planned development of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Region. It coordinates the developmental activities of the municipal corporations, municipalities and other local authorities, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, the Telangana Transmission Corporation, the Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation, and other such bodies.

SOME WELFARE INITIATIVES OF GHMC:

(i) Annapurna Meals: To provide hygienic and safe food to the poor and the downtrodden, the GHMC started an Annapurna Meals scheme. Under the scheme, a meal with a menu consisting of 400 gr. rice, 100 gr. dal, 100 gr. curry and one spoonful of pickle is provided at Rs. 5/-. At present 150 such Annapurna Meals centres have been identified and shortlisted from high-density labour *addas* (*centrers*) and urban poor locations. Presently, about 40,000 persons are getting meals once a day – for which the GHMC collects Rs. 5/- from each beneficiary and Rs. 24.25 is borne by the GHMC. The scheme is in partnership with the 'Hare Krishna Mission Charitable Foundation'.

(ii) Rehabilitation of Beggars: It is a Joint Action Team formed with the Traffic Police Department, UCD staff and the volunteers of Amma Nanna Ananda *Ashramam*, where 42 child beggars and 59 adult beggars have been rescued and sheltered at Amma Nanna Ananda *Ashramam*, Chowtuppall for about a month and reunited with their families. From 13th December 2017, 1,204 female and 2,317 males, altogether 3,521 beggars, have been rescued and 3,260 persons are reunited with their families and 261 persons are being sheltered at *Ananda Ashramam*.

(iii) Swachh Dooths: The Self-Help Group (SHG) members with good communication skills have been designated as Swachh Dooths and positioned to spread awareness about Swachh Hyderabad through door-to-door visit towards effective implementation of solid waste management. Till 12th December 2017 the Swachh Dooths facilitated 9,32,520 households towards segregation of waste at the doorstep.

(iv) Aasara: The GHMC has taken up a new initiative named Aasara, a welfare programme for senior citizens, with a view to extend services, to facilitate forming sustainable organisations to meet their needs, to face challenges and to create a platform. The senior citizens are provided with aids and appliances, medical camps are organised and day care centres are established to meet their recreational needs.

(v) Vikasam: The GHMC has established a separate cell called *Vikasam* to provide support and welfare to persons with disabilities (PWDs) through distributing aids and appliances, free surgery camps and supporting the PWDs to form SHGs and to avail financial benefits through banks towards better livelihoods and better standards of living.

KEY PROJECTS TARGETED TOWARDS HYDERABAD CITY INFRASTRUCTURE:

1) Strategic Road Development Plan (SRDP): To provide excellent transport facilities, the Strategic Road Development Plan (SRDP) has been taken up as high-priority project, which comprises skyways, major corridors, major roads and grade separators/fly overs, at a cost of Rs. 25,000 crores. For providing continuous traffic movement, the SRDP provides a conflict-free road network which minimises travel time, increases the average journey speed and also reduces the air pollution levels. Other infrastructural development related to junction improvements, Fly Over Bridges (FOBs), Road Under Bridges (RUBs), fish markets, sports complexes, swimming pools and stadia are being constructed at various places.

2) Conservation and protection of prioritised lakes in HMDA area: HMDA has taken up initiatives towards conservation and protection of prioritised lakes in the HMDA area. A survey on 3,132 lakes is being carried out for fixing the Full Tank Levels (FTLs) boundaries by fixing the coordinates latitude-longitude. So far, survey has been completed in respect of 2,546 lakes.

3) Development of Musi River Front Development: The Musi River Conservation and River Front Development at Uppal Bhagat is being developed by the government. The layout is fully developed in all respects with roads, external drainage, water-supply distribution, network, electrification, avenue plantation, etc. An area of 9.50 acres on the eastern side of Uppal Bhagath, abutting the Musi River, was identified for development of Shilparamam.

4) Inter City Bus Terminal at Miyapur: The bus terminal will provide one-stop integrated facilities to passengers, public and private bus operators and their staff. The state-of-the-art Inter City Bus Terminal (ICBT) at Miyapur, Hyderabad, has been initiated on public-private partnership (PPP) basis, which will also cater to interstate bus services with better infrastructure and modern facilities for commuters and bus operators.

5) Hussain Sagar Lake and Catchment Area Improvement Project: The project has been taken up in partnership with JICA ODA with a loan of 7729 million Japanese Yen (equivalent Rs. 310 crore) and Rs. 60 crores from the state government, with an objective to improve the quality of lake water by preventing entry of pollutants, removal of nutrient rich sediments, etc.

6) Development of Eco-Park at Kothwalguda: The government has proposed to develop an Eco-park at Kothwalguda near Himayatsagar, in an area of 85 acres. The salient features of the park are an aquatic bird park, aviary, butterfly park, amphitheatre, rural huts, sculpture park and mountain biking tracks, with landscape and greenery.

7) Safety and security: The government has increased the safety and security of Hyderabad through various initiatives. It has acquired modernised vehicles which maintain round-the-clock surveillance in the city. Under the CCTV project, CCTV cameras were installed in various public places and connected with the Command and Control Centre. 'SHE Teams' have been introduced with an objective to provide safety and security to women and to make Hyderabad a safe and smart city.

8) Hyderabad Metro Rail is a rapid mode of transportation system for the city of Hyderabad. This commuting system follows the Secant Operational model. Inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi, the first phase of the project is being conceived and controlled completely on public-private partnership (PPP) pattern, with the state government holding a minority equity stake. The 30-km long stretch this metro rail is sure to ease congestion on roads and is expected to cost nearly Rs 15,000 crores. The 30 km-long first phase of the metro will run between Miyapur and Nagole was launched by the Prime Minister at Miyapur station. Built by L&T and Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited, the project is said to be the country's biggest public private partnership.

CONCLUSION:

Telangana has carried out tremendous work on several areas to manage its urbanisation and strengthening physical, economic, and social infrastructure to make urbanisation sustainable and inclusive. Initiatives of the government are targeted towards both to facilitate the growth and to make urbanisation more inclusive. Policies are targeted to disperse economic activities such as development of IT incubation centres in Warangal, Khammam, Karimnagar, Nizamabad. The Government is developing towns and other urban centres based on their inherent strengths. Heritage and cultural towns like Vemulawada and Yadadri are being developed to tap their potential. Similarly, other towns and cities are being promoted as economic growth centre.

Hyderabad city and its surrounding urban agglomerations are together, the main growth centre in the state. Apart from existing IT and ITeS sectors, pharma, engineering and diverse new areas of economic activity are thriving in the city. The initiatives of the T-Hub and RICH (Research and Innovation Circles around Hyderabad) have made the city, a place for start-ups and a city of ideas. Availability of excellent infrastructure and civic amenities in Hyderabad are attracting skilled workforce from within and outside the country. Commencement of the Hyderabad Metro Rail Project is a stellar

example of the government's efforts to ease urban commuting problems on everlasting permanent basis.

The government has taken up a number of initiatives to make cities and towns clean through the Swachh Telangana programme. Hyderabad is well connected by road, rail and air transportation and has best-quality and affordable accommodation, eating establishments, shopping and other hospitality services. Existence of such diverse tourist attractions, along with tourist support services, in one city provides an opportunity to transform the Hyderabad into a global city of tourism.

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