

Spatial Distribution of Urban Population and changing scenario of Urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir

Shokat Chowdhary

Ph. D Research Scholar

Centre for the Study of Regional Development,

School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Abstract: The rapid growth of urban population is a world-wide phenomenon of 21st century but the urbanisation process is still sluggishly growing, India in general and J&K in particular. The process of urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir is slow and is being suffered by many constraints. The continue encroachments of fragile and delicate ecology of the Jammu and Srinagar because of massive migration from the nearby rural areas in search of better employments opportunities, education etc. It is therefore indeed, be seen that how substantial to study urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir. The urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir is being increased in a very haphazard and unplanned manner irrespective of the urban amenities. There are only few cities or towns growing at alarming rate and other at sluggish rate which has given to imbalance development and growth of unsustainable urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Keywords: Urbanisation, Growth, Sustainable Development, Ecology.

Introduction:

The Urbanisation is a multi-dimensional concept and everyone has tried to define it differently, with different spectrums. Urbanisation is a process where people engaged in Non-Agricultural Activities or concentration of Non-Agriculture people in one particular area. Urbanisation is a distinguished process, whereby both inhabitants and the land are transformed themselves. So, it is a change in both i.e. among the people and the area occupied by them. Urbanisation is measured and expressed mostly in terms of population statistics that purport or presumed to distinguish the people of cities and towns from the rural people in terms of their habits, their occupations and their behavioural patterns as well. Urbanisation means, an augmenting proportion of human society becomes townfolk, this leads to swelling of town's population and make in ever-increasing impacts of the countryside and life of the people itself. The degree of urbanisation of a region or country is usually defined from the total population of that region, how much are being resided in urban places. So, the demographic aspect of the urbanisation is very significant while defining the concept of urbanisation. Migration is one of the substantial factors for the development and in the progress of urbanisation. It is logically presumed that virtually all the urban people are alien and had been migrated from other regions, for different purposes and different factors (pull and push) are responsible for their migration.

Urbanisation is a continuing process, it encompass not merely concomitant of industrialisation but whole gamut of economic growth and social change; in another sense, and urbanisation is a process of population concentration in urban areas to the total population. However, United Nations has defined the urbanisation, as a process, whereby an increasing proportion of country's population lives in urban localities, and the degree of urbanisation means, the extent at which a country is being urbanised. Those people who involved in the process of urbanisation, their life has significantly been changed in terms of, both socio-economically and culturally, but in these days, the process of urbanisation is being much inclined towards the process of economic change, because of the effects of globalization.

There are five significant factors, which have given impetus to the process of urbanisation, these are Agriculture Revolution, Technological revolution, Commercial revolution, transportation revolution and demographic revolution; as the repercussions of these development and progress of human society, stand out as deterrents of city growth and urbanisation. While of these deterrents had effected upon urban expansion in various period of

history, particularly since agriculture revolution, with the rapid changes in science and technology in the human history and has changed the human society as “Modern society” is the representative example of urbanisation and industrialisation. The urbanisation comprises four important aspects and these are Structural, Behavioural, Demographic and Spatial. The structural aspects of urbanisation means, change in the economic structure of the society. It implies the differential ordering of occupations within a territorial space, instance, and society changes from agricultural to non-agricultural economic structure, like some people engage in agricultural, some in manufacturing and some in tertiary sector, so there is orderly change in the economic structure (secondary sector). The behavioural aspects of urbanisation means change in attitude, lifestyle and values of the people, for instance, a person who is living in city, is more refined and his standard of living and quality of life is different from the persons living in rural area. The demographic aspects of urbanisation, refers to the increase of urban population to the total population over a period of time, for instance, people migrated to cities for the purposes of better employment or other causes lead to urban growth and ultimately known as a process of urbanisation. The spatial aspect of urbanisation means the transformation of the landscape with regard to utilisation of space from single use to complex one.

Review of Literature:

Bala R et al (1982) Urbanisation has got a major setback at the time of partition of India. Millions of people migrated from India to Pakistan under the communalist force. The most damaging effect was noticed in the Punjab sector which was most developed and populated as well. But in Jammu and Kashmir, these effects were not so severe. Smaller towns grow faster than the larger ones, the trade towns have shown greater bounciness than the industrial towns. The border areas of the towns of Jammu and Kashmir sector are not showing faster growth, because of embittered rift and military-terrorists intervention, which hampered the process urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir. The smaller trade and transport towns in the last couples of decades are being shown greater expansion of existing towns, because of its crucial and strategic location, which had brought huge investment and have had impetus on the economy and urbanisation.

Malik I M,(2012), being most urbanised valley (*valley of Kashmir*) of the Himalayan states, is dominated by the urban primacy by the Srinagar city which has had administrative hub since time memorial. The Kashmir valley is witnessed of rampant urbanisation, in terms of spatial expansion, which is being conducive by the natural increase and unprecedented immigration for employment opportunities; has led to emergence of two problems, one is disproportionate growth and concentration of people in Srinagar city which have resulted virulent repercussion by giving births to many urban ecological and other socio-economic problems; the main accessorized, which impetus these problems are absence of urban planning strategy at regional level and could be rectified by providing civic amenities , infrastructure facilities to small and medium town; this will provide/maintain balanced development. The second problem is emerging concentration of population in hilly towns because of tourism and is being hampered the fragile ecosystem.

Lawrence W, (1996). In the Kashmir valley, the main concentration of urban population is found along the river Jhelum. The small towns in Jammu and Kashmir cities are facing environmental problems or environmental degradation because of the large influx of tourism and becoming stumbling because by reducing their carrying capacity. The geographical Information system could be helped us to know the emerging pattern of urbanisation and would give panacea to resolve this menace tribulation.

Rashid A M (2013), Tourism has both negative and positive aspects, on the one side, it is encouraged the economic development and impetus foreign exchange, on the other side, damage the delicate and fragile ecosystem by disturbing its carrying capacity. Tourism is led to the generation of millions of employments both for the natives of the states and outsiders directly or indirectly and conducive to urbanisation which is substantial for the modern economy.

Lone and et al, (2003), Through their work on degrading land use pattern, the Kashmir valley is on the verge of ecological degradation because of continuously increasing pressure, resulted, deforestation, polluting rivers, directly discharge of effluent in Jhelum river, encroaching in the enclave of endangered species (Hangul), all these are alarming and adumbrate the changing scenario of land use pattern and have had put the life of millions in jeopardy. They also asserted that, the karewas, which was once supported innumerable horticulture, today is being produced only a few. The wetland ecosystem is also on the brink of extinction.

Objectives of the Study:

The main objective of the study is to analyse the temporal changes, patterns and growth of urbanisation in the districts of Jammu and Kashmir

Data Source:

Census of India 1981, 2001 and 2011

Methodology:

$$1. \text{ Levels of urbanisation} = (Pu / Pt) * 100$$

Where, Pu = urban population and Pt = Total Population

$$2. \text{ Growth of urban population} = (P1 - P0 / P0) * 100$$

Where, P1 = Population of the current year and P0 = Population of the base year.

$$3. \text{ Exponential Growth Rate} = Pt = po^{ert}$$

Where, Po = is the base year population, r = Growth rate and t = time.

Results and Discussion:

Urbanisation in India

Rapid urbanization has been a worldwide phenomenon in the 20th century. In the global context, the level of urbanization of India is 31.16 per cent, which is not of much significance. The level of urbanization is the proportion of urban population to the total population of a region. We can express it in two ways (a) percentage of urban population to total population and (b) percentage decadal growth rate. It is independent to the size of number of urban settlements, their average size etc. the level of urbanization is one of the most important characteristics of urbanization. It has been rightly remarked that level of urbanisation reflects the level of development of a nation. It varies from region to region and from place to place in a country.

Kingsley Davis in his book “The population of India and Pakistan” Which was published in early 1950’s had described Indian population is highly immobile population. He pointed out that the main factors of immobility is the prevalence of caste system, joint family, lower level of education, agriculture based economy, traditional values, poor transportation facility etc. All these factors restricted the people to migrate from their native villages to other areas. Whereas, According to *Ashish Bose*, in the first six decades of 20th century the factors which were responsible for slow growth of urban population were namely, race, rainfall, plague, attachment to village life a famines.

Table 1.1 Volumes and Trends of Urbanisation in India (1901-2011)

years	Total population	Urban population	Percentage of urban population	Growth of urban population
1901	238396327	25854967	10.84	----
1911	252093390	25948431	10.29	0.35
1921	251321213	28091299	11.18	8.22
1931	278977238	33462539	11.99	19.14
1941	318660580	44162191	13.86	31.97
1951	361088090	62443709	17.29	41.38
1961	436234771	78936603	17.97	26.41
1971	548159652	109113977	19.91	38.23
1981	683329097	159462547	23.34	46.02
1991	846421039	217611012	25.7	36.19
2001	1028737436	285354954	27.79	31.13
2011	1210193422	377105760	31.16	31.8

Source: Census of India 1981, 1991, 2001 & 2011.

Levels and Trends of Urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir

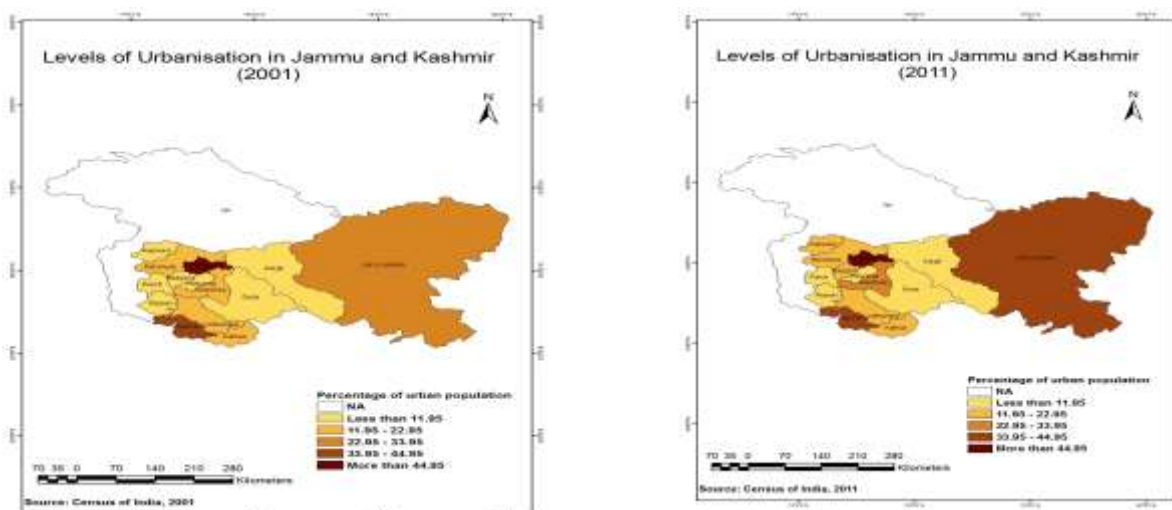
The Trend shows the fluctuation in the levels of Urbanisation over a period of time. The component of urban population in Jammu and Kashmir (Proportion of urban population to its total population) has always lower than that of India from 1901 to 2011. If we compare the trend of urban population of Jammu and Kashmir to the urban population of India; it is evident that except from 1911, the levels of urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir was always lower than National level i.e. in 1911, there was only (10.48 %) of urban population in Jammu and Kashmir as compared to the India (10.29%). In 2001, there was only 25% i.e. (¼) of the Jammu and Kashmir's urban population was residing in urban localities, however, in 2011, the urban population has increased to around 28%, with a growth rate of 34% (exponential growth rate 2.97 %). It is therefore; clearly evident that the urban population of Jammu and Kashmir has increased from 10.48 % in 1911 to 28 % in 2011 in one century and India urban population is always remained higher than the Jammu and Kashmir.

Table 1.2 Levels of Urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir and India (1911-2011)

YEARS	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	INDIA
1911	10.48	10.29
1921	9.95	11.18
1931	10.64	11.99
1941	11.60	13.86
1951	12.32	17.29
1961	14.28	17.97
1971	15.68	19.91
1981	17.47	23.34
1991	-----	25.7
2001	24.81	27.79
2011	27.68	31.16

Source: Census of India 1981, 2001 and 2011, PCA tables of Jammu and Kashmir

Map 1.1 Levels of Urbanisation in Jammu and Kashmir (2001 to 2011)



In 2001, some interesting things have come out, the Srinagar which remained in the top of ladder in terms of urban population showed decline in urbanisation followed by Pulwama, Badgam and Anantnag. The reason was that due to emergence of insurgency in Kashmir valley in 1989, the migration and tourist had affected abysmally but the Jammu remained unaffected from that and its urban population increased because of exodus of huge Pandit Kashmiris in Jammu, therefore, Jammu's urban population increased from 30 per cent to 44 per cent. The district Leh (Ladakh) also showed an increase in urban population from 12 per cent to 24 per cent followed by Anantnag

In 2011, the total urban population of the state is 28 per cent. The Srinagar district's urban population has increased from 78 per cent to 98 per cent with a growth rate of 25 per cent. The Jammu district did not show any significant changes in the urban population but district Leh, Anantnag, Baramula and Udhampur have shown profound changes in urban population.

Growth of Urban Population:

Population growth rate (PGR) is the increase of country's population over a period of time, and it is usually expressed in percentage. It reflects the number of births and deaths during the period and the number of people migrating to and from a country.

Table 1.3 District Wise Growth of Urban Population in Jammu and Kashmir

DISTRICTS	1981		2011	
	Arithmetic Growth Rate	Exponential Growth Rate	Arithmetic Growth Rate	Exponential Growth Rate
<i>J&K</i>	<u>46.86</u>	<u>3.84</u>	<u>34.55</u>	<u>2.97</u>
Anantnag	36.87	3.14	40.14	7.70
Pulwama	58.54	4.61	41.33	3.46
Srinager	38.60	3.26	28.89	2.54
Badgam	36.55	14.76	38.71	3.27
Baramula	46.63	3.83	26.25	2.33
Kupwara	27.01	28.62	36.78	14.13
Kargil	47.57	3.89	53.31	4.27
Leh	57.96	4.57	59.47	4.67
Doda	28.86	2.54	24.47	2.19
Udhampur	52.18	4.20	15.93	1.48
Kathua	67.39	5.15	13.95	1.31
Jammu	46.15	3.79	16.74	1.55
Rajouri	88.56	6.34	55.44	4.41
Punch	2.67	0.26	61.11	4.77

Source: Census of India, Primary Census Abstract tables of Jammu and Kashmir 1981, 2001 and 2011

In 1981, there were some changes occurred in the composition of population because the state of Jammu and Kashmir has entered in the new demographic transition and the growth rate fallen down. In 1981 the state's urban population was growing at the rate of 46.88% and 1991 the census was not done in Jammu and Kashmir because of emergence of insurgency in the state. The above table is clearly indicating that there are only four districts having very high growth rate and these are Rajaouri (88%) and Kathua (67%), Pulwama (58%) and Leh (57%); whereas Punch was the only district whose population was growing at the rate of 2.67 per cent. However, in 2011, there has not so many changes occurred in the urban population scenario and only showing that urban population of Jammu and Kashmir has started growing slowly i.e. 46.86% in 1981 to 34.55% in 2011. The Punch is the only district which is growing at the rate of 61.54% followed by some other states like Leh which previously (1981) was growing at the rate of 57% and in 2011 is being grown at the rate of 59% followed by district of Rajaouri, whose urban growth has drastically reduced from 88.56% in 1981 to 55.37% in 2011 and the next is Kargil (53.45%). The high urban population growing districts in 1981 like Udhampur, Kathua and Jammu have come down to low growth rate in 2011 i.e.16%, 14.38% and 15.87%. If exponential growth rate of urban population of Jammu and Kashmir in 1981 is compared with 2011, it can be said that State's urban population has started decline i.e. 3.84% in 1981 and 2.90% in 2011. There are only two districts whose exponential growth rate is much higher and these are Kupwara (28.62%) and Badgam (14.62%) in 1981 but again in 2011, Kupwara has remained the top most exponentially growing district (14.13%) followed by Anantanag(7.70%). Whereas low exponential growing districts in 2011 are Kathua (1.31%), Udhampur (1.48%) and Jammu (1.55%). In few words it can be said that Rajaouri, Punch, Leh and Kargil have high arithmetic growth rate and in terms of exponentially, Kupwara, Badgam and Anantanag have high exponential growth rate; whereas Udhampur, Kathua and Jammu have low exponential growth rate.

Conclusion

The Jammu and Kashmir is an agrarian state where about 72 per cent population lives in rural areas. The urban population is increasing at fast rate. The two capital cities of the state are the primate cities and the main attraction of the migrants. Being a mountainous state which has very delicate ecology, there is a need for proper planning of urban development with adequate urban amenities. There is also need for providing urban amenities to the rural people as well for balance and sustainable development of urban centres.

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