

AN ANALYSIS OF THE URBAN POVERTY IN TAMIL NADU

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Abstract

In light of the development of rural areas and the rural residents' migration to cities in pursuit of survival, the urban population is rising. As a result, more and more people are moving to cities like Chennai in search of work that Chennai can support, making cities like Chennai untenable. The only way to solve this issue is to make tiny towns and villages livable places. Most people claim that if they could earn 40% less than they do in Chennai, they would be content to live in small towns and villages.

Key Words: Population, Urbanization, Poverty, Chennai

Introduction

Urbanization is the migration of people from the countryside to the city. People are flocking to cities for employment, education, medicine and personal reasons. Agriculture is no longer a profitable industry. Other industries in rural areas are not properly established. Thus people are coming to the cities from the villages. Factors promoting urbanization are industrialization, commercialization and a greater number of services and information exchange. Urbanization can be measured by the number of people engaged in non-agricultural occupations and the high population density. The rate of urbanization in Tamil Nadu is approximately 48.4 per cent in the 2011 census. Tamil Nadu is the largest state in India in terms of urbanization.

The areas of *Sriperumbudur*, *Kanchipuram* and *Arakkonam* in Tamil Nadu are rapidly urbanizing due to rapid industrial development and proximity to the city of Chennai. Thus, those areas are rapidly experiencing environmental degradation. Unauthorized occupations and the proliferation of unregulated huts on vacant government-owned land are causing various degradations to the urban environment. Due to urbanization, agricultural lands and grasslands surrounding urban areas have been

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converted into industrial and residential areas. Increasing traffic and its congestion are causing environmental pollution. As trees and shrubs are cleared for fuel, grasslands are reduced and rainfall is reduced. Deforestation, which is the habitat of living things, reduces the amount of oxygen in urban areas and pollutes the air.

The rapidly growing urban population is affecting municipal, city, and health facilities as well as the lack of service facilities. Competition for land demand increases the valuation of land and increases rent. Enriching such villages will reduce urbanization. The government should give priority to agriculture. More funds should be allocated for the prosperity of agriculture and agro-based industries in government schemes. It should be noted that government schemes work better in rural areas.¹

Urbanization in Tamil Nadu

The urban population is increasing day by day. They keep coming to the cities for jobs and education. While this is beneficial on the one hand, the growing population is also increasing the problems including health hazards in cities. Despite modern development such as the metro rail, the number of slums in cities has not decreased. Purity is also affected by population growth. It is predicted that the contribution of urban areas to India's gross domestic product (GDP) will increase as the number of cities in India increases. About Indian cities and urbanization, this study is to be carried out in such a way as to reveal it. Mumbai is a city with a high rate of migration from rural to urban areas in the 21st century. Mumbai is the fourth largest city in the world in terms of population. Chennai is the first municipal corporation in India. Formed in 1687-88 as the Chennai Municipal Corporation. Subsequently, in 1726, Mumbai and Kolkata were transformed into municipal corporations.

The amount of increase in urban character is called urbanization. It refers to the transition of a marked area from a less urban to more urban nature, while a residential area with a more rural character is considered urban by being integrated with an urban area. Generally when urbanization is measured it refers to what percentage of the total population lives in urban areas. According to a team of researchers, 70 per cent of the world's population will live in cities by 2050 due to urbanization. Unauthorized occupations and the proliferation of unregulated huts on vacant government-owned land are causing various disturbances to the urban environment. Due to urbanization, agricultural lands and grasslands surrounding the urban areas have been converted into

industrial and residential areas. Increasing traffic and its congestion are causing environmental pollution. As trees and shrubs are cleared for fuel, grasslands are reduced and rainfall is reduced.ⁱⁱ

Deforestation, which is the habitat of living things, reduces the amount of oxygen in urban areas and pollutes the air. The rapidly growing urban population is affecting municipal, city, and health facilities as well as the lack of service facilities. Competition for land demand increases the valuation of land and increases rent. Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized state in India. This is not something to be proud of when viewed in terms of statistics. Urbanization can be divided into two types. The first is urbanization caused by the development of rural areas and the second by urbanization due to the lack of livelihoods in rural areas and the migration of rural people to cities in search of survival. The reason why cities like Chennai are becoming uninhabitable is that more and more people are migrating to Chennai in search of work than Chennai can withstand. The only solution to this problem is to transform small towns and villages into liveable areas. No one likes cities like Chennai; they are looking for work, with no other option. The majority of people say they would be happy to live in small towns and villages if they could earn 40% less than they do in Chennai.

This study, which explores the problems of urbanization in Tamil Nadu, focuses on the challenges posed by the trend in cities in Tamil Nadu, how to approach solutions and what are the responsibilities of each of us. Most of the studies do not give an overall description of Tamil Nadu but narrow district-level research is therefore possible. This study describes the overall situation in Tamil Nadu and distinguishes it from other studies. Further, studies describing the possible urbanization environment in Tamil Nadu often fall within a certain range. Most studies are for the most primitive study. This study, which is currently being conducted, has shown that, unlike any other study, the urbanization environment in Tamil Nadu has undergone some kind of change over the last twenty years. Is located in a way that proves its uniqueness by revealing that.ⁱⁱⁱ

The effects of urbanization

The effects of urbanization make many poor. And many more are living in poverty According to the 2011 census, 338 villages in Tamil Nadu have been reduced of these, 265 cities have increased in size and the demand for housing is increasing due to this rapid growth in cities. The total number of houses required is 9.11 lakh Approximately 10 lakh

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houses out of which 50 per cent are required in urban areas. Such a trend makes human society vulnerable to many vulnerabilities and thus makes it the most essential need of a society if it is exposed and given the right solutions for it. So this study expresses its purpose in a way that expresses ideas. Urban growth is intensifying with the overwhelming support of the state. Tamil Nadu is one of the most urbanized states in the country.^{iv}

The main purpose of this study is therefore to reveal the adverse effects of urbanization. Urban growth is the main reason for the neglect of agriculture and the increase in the number of slums. Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Jayalalithaa's Vision Plan - 2023 was announced with the create cities. These cities are to be set up with lavish bathrooms, toilets and garbage-free facilities with a 24-hour water supply and hygienic bathtubs. This does not include smart cities. The focus is only on modernizing cities. It has no plans for the city's poor or poverty alleviation. So a rural environment can lead to many urban developments as many people settle in cities and urbanization leads to many problems such as lack of food and drinking water and lack of sanitation. Furthermore, urbanization is a major cause of global warming. Further deforestation in villages and the construction of new settlements are indirectly affecting the community directly in the causes of urbanization in many ways such as traffic congestion. Urbanization is also an indirect cause of many robberies and crimes. One purpose of this study is therefore to explore and reveal such a trend. The government is pushing for urbanization a result of which many urban projects such as drinking water and sewerage facilities are being carried out government and many of the basic human needs such as telecommunication and transport facilities are being questioned. Extreme urbanization weakens agriculture and prices rise. From 1960 to 2000, agriculture's subsistence crop declined by 17 per cent to 6.6 million hectares. Many agricultural suicides are due to this.^v

In many villages, there is a tendency to leave agriculture. The main goal of this study is to point out such drastic changes and explain the appropriate solution. Urbanization is the cause of many cultural and cultural upheavals, especially as people living in rural areas leave the countryside and grow up in urban environments where even the most basic way of life is forgotten. Increasing trends such as industrialization and commercialization as factors promoting urbanization, urbanization in Tamil Nadu and the realization of many occupied lands, government-owned lands, unregulated huts and the

creation of air-polluted meadows are some of the major factors contributing to monsoon change and declining rainfall. So what are the implications of these crises in Tamil Nadu?

The historical trajectory of urban governance reforms in Tamil Nadu

The earliest intervention in the domain of urban infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu was the initiation of the Madras Urban Development Project (MUDP) in 1977 with a loan from the World Bank. Madras in the 1970s was considered “a suitable place to test and demonstrate the reformist theory of urban development, especially housing, for developing countries” (World Bank 1988, quoted in Joshi, 2003). The first MUDP project (MUDP I, 1977-1982), focused primarily on the city of Chennai, and was meant to finance urban infrastructure sectors like transport and housing. The housing project included a component for poorer sections which was partly subsidised by a Revenue-generating housing component for higher income sections. The MUDP was extended for another 5 years (MUDP II 1983-1988) and included other infrastructure development components as well.^{vi}

The MUDP projects introduced some pronounced shifts in the policies governing urban housing and slum development in Chennai. The dominant strategy of slum clearance at the time, which consisted of in-situ tenement construction, was the replicates-and-services- services model offering secure tenure to slum residents. Financial sustainability was an important goal in these projects, and the principle of full cost recovery was introduced in sectors where costs were rarely sought to be recovered (Joshi 2003). The Bank’s ideas about urban problems and their ideal solutions were articulated in a series of policy documents, Urbanization published in 1972, Sites and Services Projects published in 1974 and Housing published in 1975. These expressed a very coherent vision of what the Bank believed were the appropriate municipal policies to respond to the problems of urbanization faced by developing countries, especially shelter. Apart from financial sustainability, an important aspect of reform pushed by the Bank in these projects was the insulation of government bureaucracies and their policy-making mechanisms from political interference. The Bank attempted to impose these policies and reforms in all their urban sector projects. Indeed, from 1972 to 1986, sites-and-services projects and slum upgrading projects made up more than 70% of total shelter lending.^{vii}

The MUDPs was followed up by the Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project (TNUDP I) in 1988. The launch of the TNUDP I (1988-1997) coincided with the onset of

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liberalisation in India, and hence constituted an important means to push forward critical reforms in the provisioning of urban infrastructure and services. Under the TNUDP, a fund called the Municipal Urban Development Fund (MUDF) was set up to finance urban infrastructure investments, with a World Bank loan of Rs.167 crore, managed entirely by the state government. The fund operated for 8 years and extended loans of about Rs.200 crores to 74 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) up to September 30, 1996. The successful track record of the MUDF enabled GoTN to “broaden the scope of the fund to attract private capital into urban infrastructure, and facilitate better performing ULBs to access capital markets” (TNUDF website). The Tamil Nadu Urban Development Fund (TNUDF) was established in 1996 on a ‘Public-Private Partnership’ (PPP) mode by the Government of Tamil Nadu in partnership with ICICI, HDFC and IL&FS, all of which are well-established Indian financial institutions with private equity ownership. The ownership pattern is: GoTN equity: 49%, ICICI 21%, HDFC 15%, IL&FS 15%. This reformed structure of the fund was a response to the perceived lower efficiency of the MUDF, and its vulnerability to bureaucratic interference. Its funds were transferred to the TNUDF, an institution which enabled the entry of private domestic capital into urban infrastructure for the first time in the state. An important stated objective of TNUDF is to facilitate private sector participation in urban infrastructure through joint ventures and public-private partnerships. The fund operates with a line of credit from the World Bank “to bridge the demand-supply gap, provide for linking ULBs with capital markets and to instil a sense of market discipline” in these bodies.^{viii}

The Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Ltd (TNUIFSL), an asset management company, was floated and designated as the fund manager of TNUDF. The company’s income was based on the amounts disbursed and was majority-owned by the three participating financial institutions (PFIs). The fund was overseen by a trusted company, the TUIFC (elaborate), which operated as a board to the TNUDF, representing all major shareholders. The fund also manages a complementary window, the Grant Fund, to assist in addressing the problems of the urban poor. The Grant fund component was meant to finance infrastructure projects which directly benefit low-income populations such as water supply and sanitation, to provide viability gap funding for sub-projects and to meet the cost of resettlement and Rehabilitation of projects financed by the TNUDP.^{ix}

Poverty alleviation and urban development in Tamil Nadu

In the first Multidimensional Poverty Index released recently by Niti Aayog, Tamil Nadu has been ranked fourth among the states with the lowest poverty level. Bihar has the highest poverty rate with 51.91% of the population living in poverty, while in Tamil Nadu the ratio is 4.89%. Other states with lower poverty levels than Tamil Nadu are Kerala, Goa and Sikkim respectively. It is noteworthy that Tamil Nadu has a higher population than these states. The methodology used by NITI Aayog for Multidimensional Poverty Index follows Oxford Poverty and Human Development Program and United Nations Development Programme. These poverty-level indices are determined based on metrics such as nutrition, child and adult mortality rate, prenatal care, children's school attendance, school attendance record, cooking fuel facilities, toilet facilities, electricity, housing, assets and bank account. Based on National Family Welfare Survey 2015-16. These indices indicate the Government schemes should allocate more funds for the prosperity of agriculture and agro-based industries Tamil Nadu is better than other states in these very basic needs. In Tamil Nadu, state parties have continued to rule since the end of the sixties, and this can also be interpreted as a victory for state politics. Tamil Nadu also tops the list of cities with sustained sustainable development published by Niti Aayog. Tamil Nadu is in the second position after Kerala. The difference between Kerala and Tamil Nadu is only one mark. It is significant that Tamil Nadu is leading in the sustainable development of urban areas compared to industrialized states like Gujarat and Maharashtra.^x

Job opportunities in urban areas

Looking at the development of urban areas, it has been revealed that the cities of Tamil Nadu have relatively more employment and quality of life than other states. More specifically, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli are ranked second and eighth in the country in the city-wise list for sustainable development. Action plans should be developed for other industrial cities of Tamil Nadu to achieve such sustainable development. Likewise, Tamil Nadu's lag in poverty metrics, including lack of toilet facilities, needs to be remedied urgently.^{xi}

74th Amendment and its Impact on Tamil Nadu

The 74th Amendment passed by the central government in 1992 attempted to i) bring in an elected political leadership at the municipality level, ii) devolve a set of functions and responsibilities, including planning, to local governments, in theory reducing their

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dependence on state government parastatals, and, iii) ensure a reliable flow of uncommitted funds to local bodies, to enable them to build up their financial autonomy, including their powers to borrow. Tamil Nadu's conformity legislation in 1994 involved amending the District Municipalities Act of 1920 and its various Municipal Corporation Acts. It also brought Town Panchayats, hitherto governed as rural bodies under the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act 1958, into the rubric of urban governance and the jurisdiction of the District Municipalities Act. Three State Finance Commissions were appointed in Tamil Nadu in accordance with the provisions of the 74th Amendment. On the recommendations of these commissions, a routine devolution of funds from the state government to ULBs, currently amounting to 9% of the state budget, and a slow process of devolution of functions has been occurring over the years.

The state now has 516 town panchayats, 148 municipalities and 6 municipal corporations, each with elected councils and leaders (mayors, chairpersons or presidents). Elections to all ULBs have been held three times since 1996. Staffing has been strengthened in ULBs. Several steps have been taken over the years to enhance the powers of ULBs to design, plan, implement and finance their own projects. For example, the administrative and technical sanction powers of councils have been enhanced, their capacity to prepare viable project proposals and procure contracts has been strengthened, and their taxation and revenue-raising powers have been increased. Officials of the TNUDF and the TNUDP perceive the 74th Amendment as an important threshold in the progress of market-oriented reforms. According to them, key features of the legislation have enabled ULBs to function as autonomous and viable economic units that are "bankable" from a financial perspective. A former head of the TNUDF outlined these features. First, the existence of a political body and a political leader in every ULB allows for the articulation of demand-driven projects, as elected representatives can be taken as the proxy for local demand. Interestingly, while the World Bank-funded projects (MUDP and TNUDP) made strong efforts to insulate state services such as housing and transport from political influence, the 74th Amendment sought to relocate these services within a framework of local government headed by elected political heads. Second, based on the recommendations of State Finance Committees, municipalities have access to uncommitted flows of regular cash, which they can use to take loans for building infrastructure.^{xii}

In other words, the relatively stable revenue stream enabled by financial devolutions and own revenue sources enables municipalities to use debt finance for developing infrastructure. Third, there is at least a push toward reducing problems arising from “functional fragmentation”, so that basic services like water and sanitation are being gradually moved from the jurisdiction of parastatals like the Tamil Nadu Water and Drainage Board (TWAD) to ULBs. Spurred by these three achievements, several small and medium towns have, since 1996, began to use opportunities opened up by projects like TNUDF. The most prominent example in Tamil Nadu is that of Alandur Municipality, which pioneered the now widely used model of constructing underground sewerage schemes in small/medium municipalities through raising a portion of the capital costs from residents, borrowing from the market, and repaying through user charges.

Urbanization Trends in Tamil Nadu ranks first on the share of urban population among large States in the country and third on the absolute urban population. As per provisional estimates of the 2011 census, Tamil Nadu, with a provisional urban population of 34.9 million, has 48.45 per cent of its population living in urban areas. Gives the details for a relative comparison (among States and in India) for urbanization and show that Tamil Nadu is the most urbanized State. Housing demand-supply: An overview of The housing stock in Tamil Nadu, Given the varied and disaggregated information available on housing stock, key observations made by various studies on housing stock shortage and slums in Tamil Nadu are summarized below Census 2001: As per the house listing of the Census of India 2001, of the total number of 13,962,609 census houses in the State used as a residence and residence cum other use, 58.41 per cent were permanent houses while the proportion of semi-permanent houses and temporary houses were 18.19 per cent and 23.39 per cent respectively. The proportion of permanent houses in urban areas was 74.16 per cent, while the proportion of semi-permanent houses and temporary houses was 15.31 per cent and 10.51 per cent respectively. Given the urban population of Census 2011, this translates to roughly 8.2 million households, depending on semi-permanent and temporary housing structures. Slums were reported in cities and towns in Tamil Nadu with the overall slum population in urban areas estimated at 28.38 lakh of which 10.79 lakh was in Chennai.

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The Census of 2011 has revealed that 13.96 lakh families (59 lakh persons) are living in the urban slums in Tamil Nadu. A report of the committee on slum statistics/census appointed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation on the other hand estimates the slum population in Tamil Nadu at the higher figure of 86.44 lakh in 2011. In 2001, out of the total housing shortage of 6.95 lakh units, nearly 5.97 lakh units were in the urban areas, accounting for about 85 per cent of the shortage in housing. More than two-thirds of the households requiring housing fall in the (Lower Income Group) and EWS (Economically Weaker Section) categories. These groups largely depend on rental housing provided by households. For the construction of their own housing units, they are dependent on the supply of plots by public agencies. Total housing demand is currently estimated at 26.27 lakh units,

Conclusion

Introduced in India after 1991, the policies of liberalization, privatization, globalization and many other foreign investments in India have led many domestic companies to expand themselves globally and fall into the hands of sector companies. On that basis, the influx of many foreign companies after 1991 has led to an increase in the number of people seeking employment and migration to urban areas and the impact of the new economic policy implemented in 1991 based on which has led to the transformation of the Indian economy even today.

On that basis, the government plans to create an environment of urbanization. That means government planning can create the environment in which the emergence of an urbanization environment in a way that can bring good results in technology in the future and if it cannot control it will create an environment where the human race will be deprived of many basic needs so the government will change the status quo of state-owned policy institutions controlling their over-growth and the rural environment. What we need to realize is that we are forced to adopt a cooperative economic system to create. So the message of this study is what kind of legal plans we should bring in to control the urban population. Accordingly, we can mention the Land Ceiling Act and implement strict legal schemes to prevent the formation of multiple dwellings and the government can bring in several rules to control the over-growth of many industry-based companies. The government may also impose several conditions to control the waste generated by many industries and the government will have to bring in several agronomic changes to improve

the rural environment and will be compelled to focus on several schemes that will help farmers improve their livelihoods. This study will certainly be instrumental in advancing positive changes as we identify and expose such trends as research.

The advantages of this urbanization environment are that the disadvantages of urbanization outweigh the disadvantages, although it is considered a benefit for a number of reasons. So if a society wants to get rid of those evils, it needs to be aware of them. On that basis, this study which expresses the ideas of what are the evils in urban areas and what kind of efforts should be made by human society to defend itself from it will surely provide a solution to the many fundamental problems of society. Poor children and street children are more prevalent in urban areas, and slums are more likely to be affected by urbanization, which disrupts the healthy mental health development of children. Gaining influence. One identifies with oneself by evaluating one's thoughts, abilities, skills, ability to function, and sociology. This is the main nature of urbanization. Attitudes and feelings about oneself are different from urbanization. That is, one's social attitude in an urban area with sophisticated amenities is different from one's in an urbanized area. For example, when school dropouts are due to family economic circumstances, it can cause childhood to act with a sense of humiliation.

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