Need of Study of an impact of urbanization of livability and evolving guidelines for self- reliant cities in western Maharashtra

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Abstract: Rapid urbanization has the potential to improve wellbeing of societies. Yet it also presents many human development challenges. Hence Urbanization is always not positive specially if it is unplanned. Existing urban cities in the country are facing tremendous pressure on livelihood and infrastructure facilities as a result of rapid urbanization. There is a need to evaluate potential of class II and class III cities as future urban centers. Objectives of particular research focus to understand the impact of urbanization in cities concerning the quality of life of people. To study the social, economic and political impact on the development. To understand the existing policy framework and various stakeholders in cities affecting the factors of livability standards. Aims majorly to understand the gaps between the expected and present status of livability standards. Study will be carried out step wise starting with identification of research area, understanding existing development and sprawl. It will focus on understanding city and area specific issues impacting cities regarding urbanization. Study will be carried out through primary surveys & interviews and secondary data sources. Research will primarily talk about various aspects of inclusive city planning and sustainable development along with a good quality of life.

I. INTRODUCTION

Urbanization in India is increasing at a fast pace with a rate of 36% till 2021[1]. Major observations in India today show haphazard development due to rapid unplanned urbanization. Urbanization, considered as the migration of people from rural to urban areas, generates many growth opportunities in urban areas when happened in a planned way. However, on the contrary, urbanization has proved to be a threat in many cities in India. There are many effects of urbanization in cities at micro and macro levels. Some of the effects include the impact on the environment and nature, change in land uses, and land cover. Unplanned Urbanization leads to environmental degradation, which in turn affects the quality of life in cities. As, to cater to the need of the growing population, the quality of life is adversely impacted, leading to low livability.

Considering the urbanized population, cities in India are classified into three types viz. class I, class II and class III cities[2]. Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D cities. As per the Mckinsey report published in the year 2010, the rate of urbanization in India by 2030 will be 40% and India will have 68 cities with a population of more than 1 Million by 2030. Furthermore, the projections suggest that with the current rate of Urbanization, existing class III will turn into class II cities and existing class II cities will turn into class I cities by 2050.

The rapid growth of existing major cities can be predicted for the future, particularly in countries like India, which have a large rural population. The scale and pace of growth, therefore, demands an appropriate planning framework that initiates economic prosperity and socially justified urban growth.

II. NEED OF STUDY

Many class-II cities have an urbanization rate greater than the state's average. As a result, the existing cities are bearing the pressure to cater to the increasing and changing needs of people, and are concentrated majorly in meeting the needs of people in the context of food, housing, and clothing, and henceforth an important factor, which is quality of life on livability standards, has taken a back seat. Added to the fact, as per the Mckinsey report published in the year 2015 "Across all major quality of life indicators, Indian cities fall

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[1] As per Ministry of housing and Urban Affairs

well short of delivering even a basic standard of living for their residents." Therefore, there is a need to focus on class II and class III cities and make them self-sufficient to slow down the pressure created due to the rapid urbanization rate and turn few threats of urbanization into opportunities to yield a maximum profit to all the stakeholders of the city.

Although to reduce the pressure on tier I cities, ambitious central/ state government schemes namely viz. like Smart city mission, AMRUT, have the objective to cater this issue. However, looking on to the progress reports, in many cities these schemes are limited to concentrating on digitalizing the city and have included various past projects under the name of various missions, which do not cater to the need of the hour. Hence the question arises, Is the need of the citizens met with such schemes? Do they address to the livability factors of citizens?

As a result of rapid urbanization and lack of policy framework, haphazard development is a common scenario in most of the growing cities. To find a solution for this issue government and statutory local bodies are focusing on the preparation of perspective plans, regional plans, development plans, etc., which are majorly catering to two Dimensional approaches and lacking in comprehensive planning which shall consider social and livability factors of citizens.

To relieve urbanization pressure on metro cities and reduce migration flows, a comprehensive policy structure focused on Class II and Class III cities is needed, which can transform negative aspects of urbanization into opportunities, allowing these cities to become self-sufficient. As a result, the livability index of these cities will rise. The policy framework must take into account various planning variants such as plan, elevation, Build Form, Time, People, and Economic Aspect. This will be an inclusive approach to the development of Class II and Class III cities, which is required because cities have always existed and evolved as a result of their people and way of life.

III. LITERATURE STUDY

To understand the depth of the research and parameters already evaluated various literature has been reviewed.

It helped to understand recent patterns and trends of urbanization along with the process of economic development of India. The study focuses to understand the process of urbanization and its positive and negative impacts on urban India and its citizens. It helps to understand urbanism as a dynamic complex phenomenon invading large-scale changes in land uses at local levels. it helps to understand the direct relationship of urbanization and its influence on neighborhoods resulting in urban sprawl or peri-urban growth. It talks about a weak regulatory framework that is incapable to cope up with rapid urbanization and its impact on urban areas, which strongly says to have a proper regulatory framework in place to deal with urbanization, to minimize concentration in particular urban centers, and to

promote growth of class II and Class III cities to encourage decentralization. Literature study helps to understand the relation of urbanization and livability index.

It is supportive in the formulation of the objectives of the research. It focuses on understanding the impact of urbanization in cities concerning the quality of life and the existing regulatory framework related to the development of urban centers.

IV. ESTABLISHING AIM & OBJECTIVES

AIM: To study and understand the impact of urbanization on livability and to evolve a set of guidelines for making cities self-reliant.

OBJECTIVES

Following are the major objectives of the proposed research work

- To understand the impact of urbanization in cities concerning the quality of lives of the people.
- To study and understand the role of social, cultural, economic, and political impact on city development.
- To study and analyze various schemes, plans proposed by the central government, state government/statutory bodies related to the development of cities.
- To study guidelines concerning Livability issued by the Ministry of Urban Development with special reference to some selected cities in western Maharashtra.
- To Understand the role of various stakeholders in cities affecting the factors of livability and urbanization.
- To study the gaps between the expected and present status of livability standards.
- To study the dynamic development status of the cities using geo in formatics tools.
- To prepare guidelines for such cities, using the above data to make them self-reliant

V. APPROACH TOWARDS STUDY

Based on a study of literature review and objectives set for a research study, the following methodology will be adopted to meet the research goals.

The first step will involve the identification of the research area (sample size of cities each Class II, and Class III cities).

To understand the existing scenario of the Class II and Class III cities in context with literature study and objectives established.

The second stage will be to study the development pattern (spatial and morphological) of tier II and tier III city in western Maharashtra

To study the original extent of the city and sprawl over the ten years' timeline with the use of geo informatics tool

The next stage will cater to understand specific issues impacting cities regarding urbanization. This stage will involve a city-specific issue. The data for the study will be collected majorly from secondary data sources.

Further, after data collection, comparative analysis and inference will be made to understand parameters affecting the livability in cities.

The next stage will involve the identification of demonstration areas for detailed study and proposal with the use of geo informatics tool and cartographic tools.

Study of the primary data using Questionnaire method and observation method.

Data analysis will be comparative analysis using statistical tools to frame guidelines for cities.

VI. CONCLUSION

India's future will be shaped by its ability to create more urban employment. Accelerating urbanization would be driven by productivity and economic growth. Existing metropolises are overburdened with people, resulting in a decline in quality of life. Existing physical and social infrastructure systems are unable to keep up with population growth, resulting in problems such as the growth of slums, insufficient infrastructure services, unsanitary living conditions, overcrowded public transportation, and so on. As a solution for this government is focusing on the development of class II and class III towns that will reduce pressure on metros. and create new urban centers. However, these cities have a traditional approach in development, which is time consuming and does not meet the pace of urbanization, such as making regional plans or development plans, etc. as on today there is no appropriate guidelines have been developed for meeting rapid urbanization that is knocking doors. development of urban fringe areas, development takes place in a dangerous way which leads to urban sprawls. This is since there was no holistic approach to Class II and Class III growth methods and planning process

It is also observed that, instead of metro/tier I cities, urbanization is rapidly taking place primarily in tier-II cities, of western Maharashtra. This is purely due to the preference given to these places by major industrialists/organizations to establish their product/manufacturing centers /service establishments due to lower labor costs, land availability, and other cheaper resources.

As there is no established guideline for the development, haphazard expansion of thee cities takes place leading to the acute socio-economic problem, affecting the livability of the people and considering this there is a need to set development guidelines.

The above literature study also focuses on urbanization trends, effects of urbanization, and different concerns of urbanization on livability standards and broad measures to take care of those. But it does not say anything about the inclusive development approach in detail which will help in controlling the negative impacts of urbanization. considering the gaps seen above the present research aims to study the effects of urbanization and formulate a set of guidelines that need to be framed for the upcoming class II and class III cities which will consider social and physical indicators together. This will help in making these small urban areas self-reliant instead of getting into urban sprawls.

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