Problems of Providing Services and Amenities to Small, Medium & Large towns.

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Urban Settlement

Definition of census for an urban settlement as per the Census of India 2011, the definition of urban area is as follows;

1. All places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee, etc.

2. All other places which satisfied the following criteria:
   a. A minimum population of 5,000;
   b. At least 75 per cent of the male main working population engaged in non-agricultural activities; and
   c. A density of population of at least 400 persons per sq. km.

The first category of urban units is known as Statutory Towns. These towns are notified under law by the concerned State/UT Government and have local bodies like municipal corporations, municipalities, municipal committees, etc., irrespective of their demographic characteristics. Examples: Ajmer (M Corp.), Kota (M Corp.) etc.

The second category of Towns is known as Census Town. These were identified on the basis of Census of India example - Badlya in Ajmer District, Hameer garh in Bhilwara District, etc.
## Class of Town as per Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Population Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class I</td>
<td>1,00,000 &amp; Above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class II</td>
<td>50,000 to 99,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class III</td>
<td>20,000 to 49,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class IV</td>
<td>10,000 to 19,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class V</td>
<td>5,000 to 9,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class VI</td>
<td>Below 5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As per 2011 census, urban population of Rajasthan is 170.80 Lacs which is 23.89\% of state population with growth rate of 29.26\%.

### Urban Structure of Rajasthan 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Class of Towns</th>
<th>No. of Towns</th>
<th>Population (in lakh persons)</th>
<th>Growth rate %</th>
<th>% of Total Urban Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Class I (Above 1,00,000)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>75.58</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>57.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Class II (50,000 – 1,00,000)</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>18.40</td>
<td>+34.1</td>
<td>13.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Class III (20,000 – 50,000)</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>27.47</td>
<td>+27.1</td>
<td>20.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Class IV (10,000 – 20,000)</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>9.14</td>
<td>-29.3</td>
<td>6.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Class V &amp; VI (Below 10,000)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>-26.6</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>132.05</td>
<td>31.17</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 envisages the revitalization of Municipal Government in order to make them full-fledged local self governments to solve the urban problems and to make urban areas better places to live in.
## Classification of Urban Settlements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Classification/Nomenclature</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Range Local Authority (As per 74th CAA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Small town</td>
<td>5,000 - 20,000</td>
<td>Municipal Council / Nagar Panchayat (Municipal Board)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Small town II</td>
<td>20,000 - 50,000</td>
<td>Municipal Council / Nagar Panchayat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Medium town I</td>
<td>50,000 to 1,00,000</td>
<td>Municipal Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Medium Town II</td>
<td>1 lakh to 5 lakhs</td>
<td>Municipal Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Large City</td>
<td>5 lakhs to 10 lakhs</td>
<td>Municipal Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Metropolitan City I</td>
<td>10 lakhs to 50 lakhs</td>
<td>Municipal Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Metropolitan City II</td>
<td>50 lakhs to 1 Crore</td>
<td>Municipal Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Megapolis</td>
<td>More than 1 Crore</td>
<td>Municipal Corporation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As per URDPFI Guidelines*
Amenity & Services

Services
Basic services such as electricity, water supply, sanitation, Solid waste disposal and sewerage which are required to improve the lives of people.

Amenities
A desirable or useful feature or facility of a building or place such as school, college, club house, police station, bus stop, parks, etc.
The planning of amenities and utility services include the facilities like educational, medical, transport, housing, electricity, post office, telephone exchange, police station, fire station, community hall and library, cinema theatre, swimming pool, stadium, open air theatre, religious building, Auditorium, parks, play grounds, water supply, drainage, sanitation, Burial ground etc.
Major problems

1. Urban Expansion
2. Overpopulation
3. Housing
4. Slums and Squatter Settlements
5. Traffic & Transport
6. Water Supply
7. Sanitation & Sewerage
8. Solid Waste Disposal
9. Lack of Resources
10. Lack of Legal Framework
Urban expansion

- Urban expansion of the cities, **both in population and geographical area**, of rapidly growing cities is the root cause of urban problems.

- In most cities the economic base is incapable of dealing with the problems created by their excessive size.

- **Massive immigration** from rural areas as well as from small towns into big cities has taken place almost consistently; thereby adding to the size of cities.

- Such large cities act as magnets and attract large number of immigrants by dint of their employment opportunities and modern way of life.

- In several big cities **wealthy people are constantly moving from the crowded centers of the cities to the more pleasant suburbs** where they can build larger houses and enjoy the space and privacy of a garden around the house.
Overpopulation

- Overpopulation is a situation in which too many people live in too little space.

- According to the Indian census 2011, the population of India was exactly 1,210,193,422, i.e. India has crossed the 1-billion mark. This is the second most populous country of the world after China and the various studies have projected that India will be world’s number-1 populous country, surpassing China, by 2025.

- Delhi has a population density of 9,340 persons per sq km which is the highest in India. This is the overall population density for the Union territory of Delhi. Population density in central part of Delhi could be much higher. This leads to tremendous pressure on infrastructural facilities like housing, electricity, water, transport, employment, etc.
Housing

- Overpopulation leads to a **chronic problem of shortage of houses in urban areas**. This problem is specifically more acute in those urban areas where there is large influx of unemployed or underemployed immigrants.

- The right to adequate housing is recognised as a **basic human right** by the United Nations and its constituent bodies.

- Indian cities require annually about 2.5 million new dwellings but less than 15 per cent of the requirement is being constructed.

- For about a third of urban Indian families, a house does not include a kitchen, a bathroom, a toilet—and in many cases there is no power and water supply.

- Only 79 per cent (42.6 million) urban household live in permanent (pucca) houses. 67 per cent (36 million) of the urban houses are owned by the households while 29 per cent (15 million) are rented.
Slums and Squatter Settlements  
(Kachi- Basti)

- The resultant of unchecked, unplanned and haphazard growth of urban areas.

- Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act 1956, section 3. As areas where buildings:
  
  (i) Area in any respect unfit for human habitation.

  (ii) Area by reason of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangement and design of such buildings, lack of ventilation, light, sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors, which are detrimental to safety, health and morals.

- In spite of several efforts by the Central and State Governments, the number of slum dwellers, their growth has been increasing sharply exerting tremendous pressure on the existing civic amenities and social infrastructure.
Traffic & Transport

- Transport problems increase and become **more complex as the town grows in size**. With its growth, the town performs varied and complex functions.

- As the town becomes larger, the travelling time increases which makes it more complicate in terms of distance, cost, frequency, traffic, etc.

- In most cities the **rush hour or peak traffic hour lasts for about two hours** and during that period roads are overcrowded with vehicles and the movement of traffic becomes very slow and almost jam.

- In other towns, the narrowness of the streets, **lack of parking facilities, awareness among public** are the main cause of congestion.
Water Supply

- Sites for settlements have always been chosen keeping in view the availability of water to the inhabitants of the settlement.

- Today we have reached a stage where practically no city in India gets sufficient water to meet the needs of city dwellers.

- In many cities people get water from the municipal sources for less than half an hour every alternate day. In dry summer season, taps remain dry for days and people are denied water supply at a time when they need it the most of demand as the cities grew in size and number.

- Many small towns have no main water supply at all and they depend on such sources as individual tubewells, household open wells or even rivers.

Keeping in view the increased demands for water by the urban population, Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) fixed

- 125-200 litres of water per head per day for cities with a population of more than 50,000,

- 100-125 litres for population between 10,000 and 50,000,

- 70-100 litres for towns with a population below 10,000.
Sewerage & Sanitation

Urban areas in India are almost invariably plagued with insufficient and inefficient sewage facilities. Unauthorised growth of the cities is one of the major cause of this pathetic state of affairs.

According to latest estimates, only 35-40 per cent of the urban population has the privilege of sewage system. Most of the cities have old sewerage lines which are not looked after properly. Often sewerage lines break down or they are overflowing.

Most cities do not have proper arrangements for treating the sewerage waste and it is drained into a nearly river (as in Delhi) or in sea (as in Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai), thereby polluting the water bodies.
Solid Waste Disposal

- Huge quantities of garbage produced by our cities pose a serious health problem. Most cities do not have proper arrangements for garbage disposal and the existing landfills are full to the brim. These landfills are hotbeds of disease and innumerable poisons leaking into their surroundings.

- Municipal laws governing the urban local bodies do not have adequate provisions of solid waste management to deal effectively with the increase in population.
Lack of Resources

- State Government & Urban Local Bodies are having insufficient funds to meet out the requirement of service sector.
- As a recurring expenses are required to construct, run and maintain all services for that a regular source of fund is required through various taxes.
- Public are not willing to pay various taxes.
- There is dearth of man power in the system and require a complete ground database with the present techniques like Remote Sensing & GIS, IT based solutions.
- There is a lack of coordination among departments which are directly associated with development activities.
- The available information/ resources/ manpower are not shared by the other department.

In few cases information are available with one department but due to absence of awareness, other department recollects data from initial stage which is a not only duplicacy of information but wastage of state fund.
Lack of Legal Framework

- Municipalities lack the ability to apply the legal and administrative frameworks for efficient service delivery and management of urban planning, land tenure and finance.

- Land Acquisition

- In the urban planning context, the state is not having a Comprehensive Act to provide legislation control over planning and development activities.

- Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, etc. are having their own Town & Country Planning Act’s which facilitate to guide planned phased development.
Recommendations

- There is an **need to improve the quality of life in smaller towns by providing the needed civic amenities** to avoid the rural push and to prevent the urban pull.

- A perfect mechanism is required to developed the systematic collection method of taxes so as to feed regularly.

- **Municipalities should find fresh sources of revenue** by which they can improve their finances and be self supporting.

- There is a **need to plan & control urban growth** and provide adequate public qualities and communities facilities.

- Urban Local Government are expected to **initiate strategic planning by investing the human and material resources in an planned manner** which contributes to the overall development of the towns and cities.

- **Policy decision is required** on the part of government and political will lessens the complexities in the plan of action.
Thank You