CONCLUSION

Present study is concerned with the urban infrastructural development and levels of social well-fare in Aligarh city, which attempts to find out spatial variations in infrastructural facilities and social well-fare development in residential areas of the city. The study further takes into account the infrastructural facilities and social well-being at the household level in different localities of individual wards of the city. These aspects have been correlated with each other, in order to find out with a view that any improvement in infrastructural facilities can help in the upliftment of quality life of people, and to examine how these basic amenities can play an important role in overall urban development of the city.

Urban development in Aligarh city dates back with the pre-Christian era. Upper Kot (Balai Qila) forms the core area and serves as the centre of city. The city of Aligarh acquired its basic form in medieval period and its development is still continuing in similar form even today. Generally, concentric but sometimes sectoral growth has taken place in this area. Laying of Railway Line in the later half of the 19th century has divided the city into western and eastern halves, and thus it segregates the city in more pronounced manner.

Aligarh city is expanding at the same rate as many of the cities of the country in recent years. Many new localities namely, Hamdard Nagar, Maulana Azad Nagar, Dori Nagar have came under the Municipal limits, but all of these lack in adequate infrastructural facilities.

As a result of the influence of various social and economic factors there has emerged, a new functional pattern of the city.

Basic civic amenities like roads, sanitation, solid waste management, health care and education very much lack in Aligarh city, especially in the old parts of city and in peripheral areas. In an effort to see the distribution and variations in infrastructural facilities in different localities of wards of Aligarh city, it was observed that 10 out of 70 wards possess good quality roads, whereas 13 wards have medium quality of roads, and an equal number of wards have very poor quality of roads, even some of them possess unmetalled roads. Northern most and eastern fringe areas are two zones which have worst quality roads.
An overall condition of sewerage in the city is in pitiable condition. Not in a single ward is seen to have satisfactory level of sanitation development. Out of total 70 wards, only 27 wards have a considerable development in sanitation facilities. These wards mostly belong to old parts of city, and some of these are located in northern parts, have a good number of drains to carry waste water. At least 20 wards show a low level of sanitation development, most of them are located in fringe areas. Upper Kot area of old city forms an elevated part of the city has a better drainage due to gravity induced natural drainage. Peripheral northwestern wards are characterised with worst sewerage condition. A core periphery relationship is evidently seen in case of sanitation.

So far as the garbage collection and disposal is concerned, only 11 wards were found with adequate number of dustbins placed on proper dumping locations, number of sweepers engaged in cleansing works and animal drawn carts for lifting garbage. As low as 15 wards have very low level of solid waste management. Western and southeastern wards have poorest level of solid waste management. Some wards inhabited by high income group people are served by private sweepers who are seen working to keep their surroundings clean. A private agency designated A to Z is engaged in service entrusted by the Municipal Corporation for this purpose. The workers of this agency are seen engaged in collecting garbage on day to day bases from doors of houses in different localities and from public streets/roads and they dispose it at the waste disposal sites outside the premises of city.

Very high level of installed street lights is seen in 9 wards. Often this facility if interrupted takes number of hours and takes days to regulate light supplies. Core areas of the city better served by the street lights as compared to ill served peripheral wards. As peripheral wards spread over large areas, therefore, they have a dilute density of street lights.

Very high distribution of health care facilities is seen in 11 wards, but these facilities are provided mainly by private clinics. Very low distribution of health care facilities is seen in 24 wards, most of them form the northwestern and southwestern parts of the city, which are occupied mainly by the very low income household families.
With respect to education, 9 wards are characterised with very high level of educational facilities. These areas form newly developed parts of the city, and most prominently the areas belonging to northeastern, wards where there are good number of educational institutions. As many as 24 wards have low level of educational development.

By combining all the variables related to infrastructural facilities, an overall infrastructural development index was computed for each ward of the city. Only 11 wards, out of 70, were categorized as having very high infrastructural development, benefiting only 15.40 per cent of population of the city. Most of these wards lie in Civil Lines area and in central part of the old city. Very low infrastructural development is seen in 15 wards, this covers 22.83 per cent of population. Evidently it is seen that, Aligarh city has an uneven distribution of infrastructural facilities. Wards located in northeastern and some wards of core areas are served with these better amenities.

Peripheral wards, namely, of Beema Nagar, Indra Gandhi Khair Road, Shajamal, Nagla Masani and Maulana Azad Nagar are most poorly affected areas in terms of provision of infrastructural facilities. In these areas there are very bad quality roads with inadequate sanitation. There is no provision for the collection and disposal of garbage, and in most localities garbage is thrown around the houses and alongside the streets. Health care and educational facilities are also lacking here. There are no government dispensary and schools in the vicinity of these wards.

On part of the government, it is needed to provide following basic amenities in localities of the respective wards:

- Good quality of roads be constructed with proper drainage system.
- Emphasis should be laid to manage the solid waste disposal in peripheral areas by providing adequate number of dustbins. A good number of sweepers should be placed on duty there for the garbage collection and its disposal.
- Adequate street lights should be installed at proper distances along all the streets and roads.
- Government aided dispensaries and schools should be opened bearing an easy access.
- Medical assistance and treatment should be free to deprived persons.
Healthcare and educational programmes through the government and other social organizations should be arranged to create an awareness among people with regard to health and education.

On the basis of some selected parameters of social structure and social well-being in the city, it is concluded that, there is a very high literacy rate among the households in 17 wards; low and very low rates is seen in 14 and 11 wards respectively.

With respect to male and female literacy, very high male literacy is seen among the households in 19 wards, and a high male literacy among households in 16 wards. These wards belong to Civil Lines area, whereas the households in 8 wards show very low male literacy. Very high female literacy among the households is seen in 18 wards (these areas also belong to Civil Line wards), and households of 16 wards show very low female literacy.

Only in 4, out of 70 wards the households belong to very high category of educational attainment. These wards are namely, Sir Syed Nagar, University Area, Medical College and Kela Nagar. All of these wards inhabited by high income group of families who are educationally more advanced. A good number of professionally educated families live there. Most of these wards form newly developed parts of city. These wards are mainly occupied by service class people, who intend to invest freely on education of their children. Very low level of educational development is seen in 18 wards, which form western and central parts of the city.

Very high employment status of households is seen in 9 wards, where most members of households are engaged in jobs, working in various department of AMU. Some members of households also run their private business. These wards are located in northeastern i.e. they form new parts of the city. Very low level of employment is seen in 18 wards, which are located in fringe areas of old city, where most members of family are engaged in factory and manufacturing works.

As regards the average monthly income of households of wards, there are only 2 wards (accounting for 3.03 per cent of population) form the category of very high average monthly income, and households in 22 wards (accounting for 32.19 per cent of population) come under the category of very low average monthly income.
Households in 7 wards of Aligarh city come under the category of very high per capita income, whereas households of 27 wards lie in the category of very low per capita income. Most of them are located in fringe areas, where mostly low income group of people live.

Households representing 9 wards show a very high economic status. In these wards members of households are engaged in first class jobs. Beside this, the members of households also belong to medium service class people. All of these wards form newly developed parts of the city. Very low economic status of households is seen in 12 fringe wards, where the members of households have low income because they work as labourers.

Very high level housing conditions are seen in 9 wards. Most houses in these wards have enough open spaces with adequate water supply. Very low level of housing conditions among the households are seen in 12 wards, most of them form outer parts of the city. In these wards very low income group people resides. Housing conditions are very much pathetic as most houses are made of thatches and grass roofs without proper ventilation. They have no provision of proper water supplies and toilets.

Only in 1 ward households have a good number of luxury goods in possession. Having an adequate number of luxury goods in possession, there are large number of households seen in 22 wards. Almost all wards belong to newly developed areas, but some of these wards also belong to the old parts of the city.

The results of the analysis of overall socio-economic development in Aligarh city show that, only in 10 wards development is visible convincingly. The households of these wards belong to high income group, well educated and engaged in first class jobs are affluent and have a very high purchasing power. Households attaining very high socio-economic status category in respective wards occupy 27.50 per cent of total area, and form 14.67 per cent of total population of the city. Very low socio-economic development among the households in 12 wards lying in southeastern and western parts of the city is seen where members are engaged in low income jobs. This category covers 20.80 per cent area, and 16.72 per cent of the total population of the city.

In terms of social well-being some households of wards are far below in terms of infrastructural development. Most areas of these wards are inhabited by low income
group, most of them illiterate and employed in small jobs working as labourers in factories and manufacturing units. It is needed that:

- Good schools should be opened, with low fee structure so that, poor people can send their children for study.
- Child labour is a common practice here, this problem can be solved only by creating awareness among people for the education.
- Female education should be provided with incentives and encouraged.
- Employment in these areas can be raised by establishing new industrial units and
- Housing conditions should be improved and equipped with better facilities.

An overall social well-being in Aligarh city at present is characterized with medium level of development. Comparative figures clearly reveal that, very high and high levels of development are confined mainly to areas belonging to newly developed parts of the city, and in some recently developed colonies.

Findings of the study substantiate that, there is a positive and strong relationship between infrastructural facilities and social well-being in different wards of Aligarh city. Still, however, there is a medium level of infrastructural development, and the facilities are unevenly distributed, confined mainly in core areas and in newly developed parts of the city. So is the status of social well-being, which also of bears a variation. Deprivation is seen mostly in the fringe parts of the city, where most people still live in slums with limited income and very bad housing conditions.

**Suggestions for the Improvement in Infrastructural Facilities for Social Well-Being**

The present study negotiates the levels of infrastructural and social well-being development with reference to different wards of Aligarh city and highlights disparities in levels of development. There are glaring inequalities arising out due to inadequate provision of infrastructural facilities which in turn affect the quality of life of the people. From the study, it is also clear that western and southern parts of the city are the most deprived areas, whether it is in terms of infrastructural development or social well-being.
Major problems associated with infrastructural facilities in wards of Aligarh city are as follows:

- A big problem is associated with the inferior quality of roads. Although road construction initiatives have been well taken with the World Bank aid, but still there is a gap as many roads are in bad condition or lying unbuilt. Traffic congestion is another problem which is faced by many of the dwellers in the city.

- Inappropriate sanitation condition is a major problem which the city dwellers are facing. Not a single ward is marked with good sewerage condition. Drains have been constructed in fringe areas for proper disposal of waste water.

- Solid waste management is another problem in the city. Heaps of garbage are seen on and along the roads and also seen stucked in drains. But due to the privatization, it is collected and disposed off in an effective manner. As door to door garbage collection was started, therefore, many areas, specially the core area and northeastern part of the city look more cleaner than other parts of the city.

- Number of installed street lights is inadequate and insufficient in the city. Few street lights serve large area, most of these remain out of function, therefore, there are many incidence of accidents on roads.

- Health care facilities are of medium standard, poor people face a lot due to lack of access to these facilities.

- Aligarh is important from the point of view of education, known as ‘educational town’. Educational facilities have increased by leaps and bounds, but they are unevenly distributed.

- On the social front, literacy and employment structure is lopsided. High literacy and good status of employment is seen among the households forming new parts of the city, this condition has created pockets of deprivation and inequality among city dwellers.

On the basis of personal observations, information obtained and experience gained during the surveys and results obtained, there are some suggestions which may be incorporated for bringing the improvements:
- Good quality roads should be constructed and existing roads be maintained properly.
- Roads should reasonably be broadened, flyovers should be constructed wherever necessary to avoid traffic congestion in the city.
- Proper drains should be constructed to regulate the surface flow of water in fringe areas of the city.
- Existing drains should be properly cleaned well before the start of rainy season.
- Existing drainage pumping sets should be replaced by newly designed pumps, as the entire disposal of waste water in the city depends on them.
- Open drains should be properly covered to avoid the germs/bacteria responsible for the spread of diseases.
- Dustbins should be kept at the proper distances for the garbage disposal, and the wards devoid with this service should be provided with them.
- Number of cleansing staff and vehicles for garbage collection should be increased.
- The installation of street lights should be done at proper places and distances.
- Health care facilities should properly be provided in fringe areas of the city.
- Good health care facilities should be provided to people at low cost, specially to weaker sections of localities in the respective wards.
- Arrangement of low cost medical buses to and fro for the fringe wards is needed so that ill patients can easily avail treatment which are present in core areas of the city.
- Conditions of government aided medical hospitals should be improved by increasing doctors and number of beds, and facilitating them with advanced appliances. Free dispensaries with qualified doctors and proper facilities should be opened for poors.
- There is a need to create awareness among people regarding their health in the light of urban health programmes offered by the health department of the government.
- Infrastructure facilities for the education should be improved.
- Fee structure of schools and colleges should be revised, so that the students with weak financial background can enroll themselves for education.
- Last but not the least, the improvement should commence in infrastructural facilities for better social-wellbeing of the people.