CHAPTER - V

URBANISATION PROBLEMS AND POLICIES
As Mrs. Hicks remarks, “All over the world, the great cities are in trouble. The problem of how to deal with the large urban concentrations of the modern world has not yet been solved. It is a problem which besets not only the advanced countries, but affects all areas with dense population and consequently large cities. The worst difficulties occur in areas that have population of one million or over, rising steadily with the size of the population. No country has really succeeded in getting to grips with the socio-economic, or even with the sheer physical problems of catching up with the needs of modern communities of this size”.

The problems of urban areas in Kurnool district are synonymous to those of the other areas in Andhra Pradesh and also in the country. Over-urbanisation in the overwhelming majority of towns and cities leads to adverse living conditions for the main bulk of water supply and sewerage being especially acute.

Particularly unfavourable living conditions are in the congested parts of rapidly expanding and migrant attracting urban areas. Unorganised growth is accompanied by a sharp deterioration of sanitation, rapid sprawl of slums, shortage of transport facilities and water

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1 Hicks, Ursula, K. “The large city: a world population” MacMillion, London, 1974, p. 3.
### Table 5.1

**URBAN PROBLEMS IN INDIA HOUSEHOLD SURVEY 2001 (IN MILLIONS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>ASPECT</th>
<th>RURAL</th>
<th>URBAN</th>
<th>INDIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOUSING</td>
<td>Families living in one - room houses</td>
<td>55.0</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>73.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Houses with cement floors</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>88.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Houses with cement roofs</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>52.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POWER</td>
<td>Houses without Electricity</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>107.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER</td>
<td>Families that get water at homes</td>
<td>138.3</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>192.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAVING</td>
<td>Household and that are yet to open a bank account</td>
<td>41.6</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VEHICLES</td>
<td>Household and owning two wheelers</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Houses with L.P.G</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COOKING</td>
<td>Houses with Kitchen</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>122.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: India today July 2003.*
supply, withdrawal from agricultural use of valuable land in suburban areas and finally the growth of many social evils of a capitalist city (crime, begging, prostitution, etc...). It is clear that the urban growth and the demand for urban infrastructure is not shown balanced development. The first ever and the largest survey of household amenities and assets conducted by the Census of India paints a never before profile of India (Table 5.1).

It is often felt that the growth of towns and cities in Andhra Pradesh have been rather chaotic and not without a stress syndrome. These stresses are reflected in growing urban unrest, social tensions, proliferation of slums, congestion, environmental degradation, widespread poverty and lengthening queues for facilities such as education, health, transportation, water and other essential services.

I. OVER URBANISATION:

In this section an attempt has made to explain the excessive pressure of population on towns and cities. Over urbanisation in one sense implies excessive urbanisation in relation to employment growth. It also means that the urban population has grown to such a large size that the cities fail to ensure a decent way of life to the urban-dwellers on account of excessive population pressure on civic amenities, housing, etc. In the Indian context, the idea of over urbanisation has been advanced on the grounds that 1. There is an imbalance between the levels of industrialization and urbanisation. (ii) the process of urbanisation takes away a lion’s share of resources and thus, impinges upon the rate of the economic growth of society, (iii) The availability of civic amenities and facilities is so poor that these have now reached a point of break-down and have become almost incapable of bearing further growing urban pressures.
Contrary to the idea of over-urbanisation, several scholars have stressed that India does not suffer from the problem of over urbanisation. In order to support this argument, it has been pointed out that the trends of industrial-urban growth in India, confirm to similar trends in as many as 80 percent of the developing societies. Secondly, it has also been argued that with the rise of urbanisation in India diversification of economy, new opportunities of employment have also considerably increased. This has also led to a rise in the levels of income of the urban dwellers.

The analysis offered by the Institute of Urban Affairs does not support the idea that rapid urbanisation in India is causing a distortion in the allocation of resources between urban and rural areas, and thereby negatively affecting the pace of economic development. Their analysis shows that the real percent capital product in the country increased by about 50 percent during the period 1951–81. Meanwhile, the share of the primary sector in the Gross Domestic Product declined from around 60 percent in 1951, to less than 40 percent in 1981. This was accompanied by a rise in the share of the secondary and tertiary sectors. Moreover, the productivity of the manufacturing and service sector, representing urban segments, has risen much higher than that of the primary sector, representing the rural segment.²

In other words, the urban population in India is not the result of over-urbanisation, but largely due to a lack of effective urban policy governing the patterns of urbanisation.

II. PROBLEMS AND ISSUES:

In this section an attempt has been made to explain the growing problems of industrial capitalism and urbanisation: The situation in our cities has become unmanageable and more alarming with the growing inequalities arising out of lag in adjustment to rapid and extensive urbanisation. A great many ‘urban’ dwellers and individual house holds are not integrated socially, economically or politically in urban life. Their low level of incomes; lack of education; sub-standard living in slums and squatter settlements and increasing population concentrations; overloading the community’s environmental life support system, in the face of already existing backlog of services and amenities, have added new dimensions to the problem increasing the maintenance cost of urban development.  

The most important problems of present day urbanisation are:

I. Informal growth of urban poor and city’s environs, slums and squatter settlements;
II. Unemployment and under-employment;
III. Inadequate expansion of educational facilities;
IV. Public health and sanitation;
V. Inadequate housing and land control measures including land acquisition, development and disposal;
VI. Inadequate urban information base;
VII. Poor communication system;

VIII. Extremely inequitable access to resource including land and capital;
IX. Land allocation and land use for housing and other sectors of urban use;
X. Inadequacy of transportation facilities;
XI. Lack of water including potable water supply;
XII. Lack of sewerage and drainage;
XIII. Improper solid waste disposal and management;
XIV. Conservation of basic resources;
XV. Control of pollution and epidemic diseases, and
XVI. Maintenance of law and order and security of the people.

The basic issues which emerge from the problems of urbanisation to which the urban planning process must address itself and indicated in brief as;

1. Urbanisation increases faster than industrialization and crosses a level which the degree of economic development does not justify.

2. The towns and cities do not have the capacity to absorb increase of population at the rates being experienced at present or in the near foreseeable future.

3. National urban economy cannot afford the investments needed to provide the environmental services and amenities of life support systems with a sound economic base to absorb population increases in cities.

4. How to rationalise the distribution of goods and services including economic activities compatible with population redistribution which
functions both as an agent of production as well as consumption, to minimize the friction of space?

5. How to improve the levels of living and conditions of human environment, in view of the low levels of per capital income and low levels of investable funds with the public exchequer?

6. How to absorb urban labour supply (both by way of migration as well as due to growth of local population) with increased earnings of the urban poor in the wake of a stagnant economy suffering from unemployment/underemployment?

7. What size groups of towns and cities would be most advantageous from economic and social viewpoint?

8. What should be the ratio of rural to urban population to release the pressure on rural land and maintain economic and social balance over the space?

9. How to suggest a most rational pattern of land use for the economic base of the city?

10. How to achieve an optimum and functionally integrated spatial structure of human settlement pattern to realize the overall goals of the society?

III. **URBAN PROBLEMS IN INDIA:**

In this section an attempt has been made to explain the serious urban problems of India

**HOUSING – A basic necessity of human beings:**

Housing is a global problem. Adequate shelter for each and every household is a fundamental pre-requisite to healthy
living in any society. The Indian Planning Commission has realised that the role of housing in economic development both as an end and as a means, is an important one; as an end, housing is an essential ingredient in the basic requirements of civilised living; as a means, besides adding to National income, it is a strong motivator of savings and plays an important part in the generation of employment.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>RURAL</th>
<th>URBAN</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>14.67</td>
<td>8.23</td>
<td>22.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>14.53</td>
<td>8.01</td>
<td>22.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>14.37</td>
<td>7.97</td>
<td>22.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>14.21</td>
<td>7.91</td>
<td>22.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>14.04</td>
<td>7.82</td>
<td>21.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>14.85</td>
<td>7.71</td>
<td>21.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>13.66</td>
<td>7.57</td>
<td>21.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>13.45</td>
<td>7.36</td>
<td>20.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>13.23</td>
<td>7.18</td>
<td>20.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>6.93</td>
<td>19.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>12.76</td>
<td>6.64</td>
<td>19.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: National Building Organisation, 2001

It is estimated that nearly 70 percent of the population in big cities lives in substandard houses. Usually, such decaying houses are found in the middle of the most of the cities, similarly, there are

hundreds of such people who are living in cities as pavement-dwellers, without any kind of shelter at all. In spite of all the tremendous boost provided to the housing sector in recent times, the housing shortage in the country continues to be alarming. According to N.B.O. Estimates the housing shortage that stood at 8.3 million in 1991 is expected to fall to 6.64 million in 2001 A.D. 5 (Table 5.2)

SLUMS - Symbol of urban decay and poverty:

Asish Bose defined slum as "a deprived human settlement - a settlement which is demographically, economically and environmentally vulnerable." 6 Slums are looked down upon. Extreme overcrowding, high density and high levels of mortality and fertility are typical demographic features of slums. A large unorganised sector, low levels of productivity and extreme poverty are the usual economic features, and the lack of access to basic needs like water, sanitation and clean environment make these areas environmentally hazardous.

Table 5.3A reveals that the maximum percentage of slum population as against the total population of the district is seen in Hyderabad district (16.85 per cent) followed by Rangareddy district (15.66 percent) and Adilabad district (9.58 percent), similarly the least percentage of slum population as against the total population of the district is observed in Mahabubnagar (1.47 per cent), Srikakulam (1.92 per cent) and Medak (2.35 per cent).

5 Ansari, P.N. "Housing Situation the Malaise and some suggestions", Yozana, March, 1999, p.p 22
The cities with highest proportion of slum population are Chirala city of Prakasam District with 98.86 per cent, Kothagudem of Khammam district with 92.93 per cent and Srikalahasti of Chittoor district with 76.05 per cent.

The cities with lowest proportion of slum population are Ongole of Prakasam district with 2.33 per cent followed by Kukatpalle and L.B. Nagar of Rangareddy district with 6.74 per cent and 8.96 per cent respectively. In Kurnool district the percent of slum population in Yemmiganur is highest i.e., 72 percent where as Kurnool city (47 percent) and Nandyal city (37 percent) are in next place (Table 5.3 B).

It is clear that the proportion of slum-dwellers increases with the size of the urban population. The four metropolitan cities, Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi, and Madras have around 50 per cent of the total population living in slums by now.

The National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi has recorded that the emergence of slums is essentially the product of three forces:

1. Demographic dynamism of a city attracting more people from rural areas offering greater potential for employment;
2. Its incapacity to meet the rising demand for housing, and
3. The existing Urban land policies which prohibit the access of the poor to the urban land market.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>TOTAL POPULATION</th>
<th>SLUM POPULATION</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF SLUM POPULATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Adilabad</td>
<td>2,479,374</td>
<td>237,460</td>
<td>6.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Nizamabad</td>
<td>2,342,803</td>
<td>198,453</td>
<td>8.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Karimnagar</td>
<td>3,477,079</td>
<td>190,852</td>
<td>5.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Medak</td>
<td>2,662,296</td>
<td>62,622</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>3,686,460</td>
<td>621,295</td>
<td>16.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Rangareddy</td>
<td>3,506,670</td>
<td>549,129</td>
<td>15.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Mahaboobnagar</td>
<td>3,506,876</td>
<td>51,481</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Nalgonda</td>
<td>3,238,449</td>
<td>106,610</td>
<td>3.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Khammam</td>
<td>2,565,412</td>
<td>179,487</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Srikakulam</td>
<td>2,528,491</td>
<td>48,632</td>
<td>1.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Vijayanagaram</td>
<td>2,245,103</td>
<td>67,525</td>
<td>3.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>3,789,823</td>
<td>196,990</td>
<td>5.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>E. Godavari</td>
<td>4,872,622</td>
<td>170,372</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>W. Godawari</td>
<td>3,796,144</td>
<td>267,592</td>
<td>7.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>4,405,521</td>
<td>406,766</td>
<td>9.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Prakasam</td>
<td>3,054,941</td>
<td>87,969</td>
<td>2.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Nellore</td>
<td>2,659,661</td>
<td>190,327</td>
<td>7.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Kadapa</td>
<td>2,573,481</td>
<td>81,415</td>
<td>3.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>3,572,266</td>
<td>253,341</td>
<td>7.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>3,639,304</td>
<td>343,378</td>
<td>9.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>3,735,202</td>
<td>208,266</td>
<td>5.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 2001
### TABLE 5.3 B

**SLUM POPULATION IN KURNOOL DISTRICT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL No.</th>
<th>TOWN/DISTRICT / REGION/ STATE</th>
<th>TOTAL POPULATION</th>
<th>SLUM POPULATION</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF SLUM POPULATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>2,67,739</td>
<td>1,20,387</td>
<td>44.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Adoni</td>
<td>1,55,969</td>
<td>22,132</td>
<td>14.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Nandyal</td>
<td>1,51,771</td>
<td>55,648</td>
<td>36.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Yemmiganur</td>
<td>76,428</td>
<td>55,174</td>
<td>72.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Kurnool District</td>
<td>35,72,266</td>
<td>2,53,341</td>
<td>7.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Rayalaseema Region</td>
<td>1,34,60,253</td>
<td>8,86,400</td>
<td>6.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>7,57,27,541</td>
<td>51,49,272</td>
<td>6.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source**: Census of India, 2001.

**ENVIRONMENTAL POPULATION - A great threat to humanity:**

Economic growth and ecological problems are so closely related that it has been said that “the affluent society is becoming an affluent society”. Alvin Toffler, in his book ‘Future Shock’, characterises the modern industrial society as a “throw away society” Napkins, towels, non-returnable containers, cans, toys, plastic sacks, pastry tins etc., create mounting solid disposal problems. Margaret Mead has said that pollution is one of the greatest problems generated by the industrial urban civilisation.
The problem of population is becoming increasingly acute with the rise of urbanisation on account of the following reasons.

1. Indiscriminate growth of industrial and chemical plants in spite of the efforts through legal measures checks such growth.

2. Pre-industrial structure of cities with narrow streets and roads, which have become defective and inefficient in regulating traffic.

3. High-rise buildings, representing vertical growth of cities, ultimately causing high density of population, congestion on roads and pollution, effective and systematic use pattern on account of source land and its commercial speculation.

If effective steps are not taken to control environmental damage, economic growth may become self-defeating and not self-sustaining, for the seeds of destruction are present in the process of growth itself.  

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**TABLE 5.4**

ALL TYPES OF VEHICLES IN ANDHRA PRADESH WITH PERCENTAGE AS ON MARCH, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI No</th>
<th>DISTRICT/STATE</th>
<th>MOTOR CARS</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>TWO WHEELERS</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>OTHER VEHICLES</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>TOTAL VEHICLES</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Costal Andhra</td>
<td>89,733</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>16,40,745</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>2,45,231</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>19,70,667</td>
<td>39.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rayalaseema</td>
<td>15,144</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>3,93,005</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>85,730</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>4,93,878</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>2,07,319</td>
<td>66.4</td>
<td>19,51,299</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td>3,40,578</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>25,04,239</td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>3,12,196</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>39,85,049</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6,71,539</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>49,68,784</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A.P. Statistical Abstract 2004
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY – Unsafe and insufficient:

A United Nations report has ranked India a poor 120th country, for water quality among 122 countries, making it the third worst after Belgium. In India, many urban areas do not have protected water supply; and in most cases the supply is quite inadequate.8

One of the tragic aspects of municipal water supply in developing countries is that sometimes the water supplied is contaminated, causing epidemics. There have been instances of municipal sewerage mixed up with drinking water supply.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE – Serious health hazards:

Apart from environmental problems, the drainage and sewerage situation causes serious problems, which pose the threat of Malaria and other diseases. “While open drains have posed a big threat to most of the urban dwellings, the entire absence of a drainage system itself has aggravated the situation. In bigger cities and towns, the expanding slums and growing emigration are mostly the cause and effect of deteriorating drainage conditions leading to serious health hazards.”9

It has been argued that “the supply of a pucca sewerage system without a commensurate improvement in the road


network has proved uneconomical and frivolous. The inability of the towns to get a pucca drainage and the inadequate spray of the larvicideals have brought about a deterioration in hygienic conditions."10

URBAN TRANSPORT – Facilitated urban revolution:

The technological revolution in transportation facilitated quick and easy movement of men and materials and brings about sweeping changes in many spheres. The transport revolution helps not only in the expansion of the hinterland of the cities but also in the sprawling of the cities.

In fact, an efficient and well-knit network of transport facilities is essentially required for the movement of the city dwellers between their residence and place of work and to the central business areas. It also facilitates the movement of the daily computers, who depend upon the city for their earning without living there permanently. The narrow roads and streets, their poor conditions on one hand and on the other, the numerous vehicles, public buses, rickshaws, two-wheelers, cars, bullock-carts, trucks, tractors/bicycles, all playing together, create a unique scene of traffic congestion and traffic jams. Particularly in every part of the city, more so in the central business area and other importance zones in the city. Table 5.4 presents the growth of vehicles in Andhra Pradesh State. The Transport system and the urban system are indispensable, one cannot exist without the other.

Moreover, transport network has become a major source of environment pollution due to traffic jams and poor conditions of vehicles.

CONSERVANCY AND PUBLIC HEALTH: for quality Human resources

Conservancy services, such as the cleaning and watering of roads and streets, the provision of dustbins, garbage disposal etc., remain by and large unsatisfactory. In developing countries "the citizens themselves are not conscious of the feelings of neighbours and pedestrians, and all sorts of waste matter, including human refuse, are thrown on the streets or footpaths. The house holds allow their children to freely use the footpaths as latrines." At the same time public health services are quite inadequate. In fact, the unhygienic conditions and the absence or inadequacy of the drainage and conservancy services breed many contagious diseases. Urban bodies are not sufficiently equipped to prevent the outbreak and spreads of contagious diseases. Hospital facilities are quite inadequate too.

ENERGY: Strengthens urban life

Energy is closely interlinked with transport. The more the city is served by modern transport, the more is the consumptions of fossil fuels as transportation is a major sector that requires energy. The demand for energy has been rising from all quarters.

AGITATIONS: Focus on urban unrest

Abrupt strikes by the employees of public utilities, students, politicians, communal courses, bandhs, rasta rokos, hartals, rallies, etc., often for no valid reasons hold the public to reason by sabotaging whatever minimum essential facilities are available.

NATURAL RESOURCES: Mirror of exploitation

Urbanisation by its impact of the quality and quantity of natural resources and energy resources is inevitable. Urbanisation creates a strain on natural resources. This strain is felt in two of its aspects. In the first place, increased consumption of water and other natural resources and sources of energy, leads to shortage of those resources. Secondly, there is the question of pollution of those resources. The second issue relates to the environment, particularly water, air and noise pollution.  

Other services and facilities, such as street lighting, power supply, communications etc., are by and large, in very poor shape in the cities and towns. In the Indian cities even basic shopping facilities are absent in the new residential areas in the beginning stages. It takes five, ten or even more years to establish satisfactory shopping and related facilities in residential areas.

IV. URBANISATION PROBLEMS AND GOVERNMENT POLICY:

In India, it is recognized that urbanisation is not a trivial aspect of the process of economic development and social change. This has led to a demand that there ought to be a National policy statement on urbanisation, as it is true in matters of industrial development, population growth and education. Several reasons account for the lack of National policy on urbanisation, foremost among which have been the issues of overwhelming concern for self-sufficiency of villages and the inclusion of urbanisation in the state subjects of our constitution. However, in our efforts of planned development, the five year plan do reflect the general policies being followed for the management of the urban problems, which are assuming massive proportions due to unprecedented rise in the rate of urbanisation. It should be noted here that, by and large, the emphasis on these efforts has been towards the amelioration of the conditions of the poor and the lower income groups. A brief appraisal of efforts to solve the problems of housing, sanitation, water supply, slum and several other problems of urban development are presented in statement 51.

The National Housing and Habitat Policy, 1998, was formulated to address the issues of sustainable development of housing infrastructure through strong public-private partnership. Under a special action plan two million additional houses are targeted for construction every year.

The working group on housing has estimated the urban housing shortage at the beginning of the 10th plan at 8.89 million units. While this indicates an alarming number, it include the congestion needs of joint families, obsolescence and replace of old houses and upgrading of all the kachcha houses. The total number of houses required currently during the tenth five year plan period is assessed at 22.14 million.
**Statement 5.1**

**SELECTED URBAN PROBLEMS AND MEASURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Urban Problems</th>
<th>Concerned Institutions / Organisations</th>
<th>Legislative Enactment / Policies</th>
<th>Government Programmes / Projects / Schemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Shortage</td>
<td>Housing and Urban Development Corporation, (HUDCO) National Housing Bank (NHB), National Co Operative Housing federation (NCHF), Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC), National Urban Infrastructure Development Finance Cor.(NUIDFC), National Building Organisation (NBO) and LIC, GIC, Banks, Housing Cooperatives, State Housing Boards, Urban Development Authorities, private Housing Finance Institutions etc.,</td>
<td>Transfer property Act 1882 Land Acquisition Act 1894, India Stamp Act 1899 Registration Act, 1908 Urban Land Ceiling and Regulating Act, 1976, Apartment (construction &amp; Management ) Regulation Act, 1987, National Housing and Habitant Policy, 1998</td>
<td>Land Acquisition for house sites, 1996</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Source: Prepared from various books related to urban development.
The National Slum Development Programme Central launched in 1996. Under this programme, additional Central assistance is being given to states / union territories for the development of urban slums. According of India, 2003, out of the Rs. 1,528 crore released by the Central Government for this programme, 819.47 crore were utilized till June 2001, benefiting nearly 2.82 crore people since the inception of the scheme.

The Union Government approved in October 2001, an ambitious and first ever subsidy based housing scheme – Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojan (VAMBAY) for urban slum dwellers and the poor across the country.

The scheme would have a quota of 50 per cent for SCs / STs 30 per cent for OBCs, 15 per cent for economically weaker sections, and 5 per cent for mentally retarded and physically disabled persons. An interesting feature of the scheme is that allotment of unit under it will be either in the name of husband and wife jointly or just the female member of the household.

The Manual on water supply and treatment, published in May, 1999 by the Central Public Health and Environment Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO), Ministry of Urban Development and poverty Alleviation, Specifics norms and standards of municipal water supply for domestic and non-domestic needs such as institutional, commercial, firefighting and industrial requirements.

The Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme is a centrally sponsored scheme initiated with the object of solving drinking problems in the towns having a population of less than 20,000 as per
the Census. The scheme is funded by the Central and State Government
in the ratio of 50:50.

The low cost sanitation scheme was envisaged to
convert the existing dry latrines into low-cost, pour-flush latrines. The
object of the scheme is to eliminate manual scavenging work According
to the Economic Survey 2002 - 2003 up to December 31 2002, 860
schemes in 1468 towns were sanctioned at a project cost of Rs. 1468.72
crore involving Central subsidy of 512.24 crore and HUDCO loan of Rs.
514.96 crore for construction / conversion of 36.75 lakh individual units
along with 3,966 community toilets. 387 towns were declared scavenger
free.

V. URBAN POLICY DURING THE FIVE YEAR PLAN PERIODS:

In order to comprehend the above issues and problems of
urbanisations, the National development plans have, from time to time,
developed certain techniques and solutions in the process of urban
planning policy. The key factor that must be faced is that urbanisation
will continue in India in the foreseeable future. It is going to place
heavier demands on the Government for the provision of a host of
necessary urban public services. The administrative and fiscal problems
that arise from such demands will not be solved by widening the cities
that would regard the growth no doubt, but city growth might be
curtailed only temporarily. Yet ever since the third plan (the early sixties)
stated objectives of planning have been to slow down the rate of
urbanisation. Similarly a common theme running through most plans is a
hostility towards the growth of large cities. Now we see how the urban
policy was initiated by the Five Year plans to control the process of
urbanisation.
The urban planning technique and solutions that developed during the course of plans suggested quite a few measures to tackle the problems of urbanisation and urban growth. The First Five Year Plan (1951 – 1956) policies laid emphasis on rehabilitation of refugees by augmenting the stock of housing supply and linking housing problems on the sound footing of town and country planning.

In the Second Five Year Plan (1956 – 1961), although the task of rehabilitation was considered, the supply of housing was not considered merely as a problem in itself, but as a part of a wider spectrum of planning of urban areas and the regions of their location. As a consequence, the plan recommended that studies should be directed to there problem areas:

1. Methods of securing planned development in urban areas;
2. Expansion of housing facilities; and
3. Development of civic administration along sound and progressive lines.

The Third Five Year Plan (1961 – 1966) laid emphasis on town planning for which the responsibility was shifted from the Centre to the States. A Model Town Planning Act was prepared in 1957 by the Town and Country Planning organization, Delhi and this led to the enactment of laws in other states. The Third Five Year Plan extends financial support for the preparation of master plans for the development of cities and towns in the states. As a result of such efforts, nearly 400 master plans were prepared. Moreover, the Third Plan also initiated Urban – Community Development Scheme in selected cities as an experimental scheme to solve social and human problems associated with urban slums.
The Fourth Five Year Plan laid (1969 – 1974) more emphasis on the need to take positive steps for the dispersal of population for balanced distribution of economic activities over the space. The Plan Laid more emphasis on the need to prevent unrestricted growth of metropolitan cities and a recommended regional approach to the problems of under development. It also stressed the need for a National Urban Land Policy. But the concrete programmes confined to ‘Social housing’ and a few other-schemes concerned with (a) urban water supply and sanitation, (b) Land acquisition and development and (c) The preparation of Master Plans for selected towns and regions.

The Fifth Five Year Plan (1974 – 1979) recognized the importance of urban and regional planning, and laid down the following objectives as its urbanisation policy:

1. To augment civic services in the urban centres;
2. To tackle the problems of the metropolitan cities on a regional basis;
3. To promote the development of small towns and new urban centres;
4. To support industrial township under Government undertakings and.
5. To assist inter state projects for the metropolitan projects

The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980 – 1985) also laid special importance on urban problems but greater emphasis was given to the problems of housing in both urban and rural areas. In this plan necessary attention was drawn for the first time to regional variations in the levels of urban development. It should also be mentioned here that, during the Sixth Plan provisions were made to develop adequate infrastructure and other facilities at the small, medium, and intermediate towns so as to make them ‘Growth Centres’ in promoting rural
development. Further 200 towns were to be identified for integrated development in various states. Similarly, provisions were also made to provide for the development of Water Supply Schemes in 550 towns and sewerage projects in 110 towns in the country.

Thus the **Sixth Five Year Plan** recognized the problems of basic needs of urban dwellers and took some concrete steps towards amelioration of their conditions.

The **Seventh Five Year Plan (1985 – 1990)**, on the one hand stressed the need for integrated development small and medium towns and, on the other, minimising the growth of the metropolitan cities. To attain this objective, special incentives were offered for the establishment of industries in small and medium towns. It also advocated greater financial support to local bodies by the State Governments. In terms of institutional set up, the Seventh Plan recommended the establishment of the National Urban Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation, to provide capital for the development of infrastructure in small and medium towns.

Apart from these steps, the emphasis on housing for the urban poor and the low income groups integrated development and provisions for promotion of basic amenities for the urban dwellers were conditions in the plan period.

The **Eight Five Year Plan (1992 – 1997)** made a short shift of the significance of development of small towns. The pattern of outlays for urban development of the Central sector reveals the delinking of urban policies from new economic policies on the one hand and the neglect of issues which the Planning Commission itself considers important.
Realizing the enormity of the budgetary requirements to meet the growing, housing needs of the teeming millions in the country, the National Housing Policy announced in 1994, envisages a major shift in the role of the Government from that of provider to facilitator in the field of housing and related infrastructural services. Economic liberalization effectively worked on the urban sector, during the period. The National Slum Development Programme and Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) were launched in this period. Urban reformations were strengthened with the 74th amendment of the Constitution.

**The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997 – 2002),** received the New Economic Environment of liberation and structural reforms in the urban sector. To tackle the problem of housing, which was felt much more acutely, public and private participation was encouraged also allowing Multi National Companies (MNCs) in this plan period. The planning commission expected 50,000 crore for the facilities of drinking water supply and sanitation in urban areas. Union Government designed and took important steps for the development of the urban sector. Urban Development planning again came into limelight due to the era of economic liberalisation. Private sector is also playing a key role in developing infrastructure in the urban areas. The Union Government also lift the ban on foreign investment in the urban sector especially in the creation infrastructure.

**The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002 – 2007) has opened many avenues for the development of urban areas. It has also augmented many services including social economic infrastructure. The gates of the private sector and Multi National companies are wise open for the expansion of the urban sector.**
Although the Nine Plans do not as yet exhibit any comprehensive policy on India’s urbanisation and urban problems there are obviously certain aspects which have received greater attention the conditions of urban dwellers.

CONCLUSION:

Unchecked growth in urban population has put a great strain on the meager civic services available, besides leading to the break down of law and order and that the situation calls for massive investment and a much higher priority for urban development programmes. The galloping growth by itself is disturbing, but the skewed distribution of the urban population, scarcity of urban land resources to provide facilities for the ever increasing population and the inability of local bodies to raise resources have added to the gravity of the situation. The result is growth in slums, with sub-human living conditions in urban areas.

The over urbanisation situation in Kurnool district has created so many economic, social, political, institutional and psychological problems from all categories of the population. The solution lies in controlling the urban pull and rural push factors. For, this the Government at the National, State, Regional and district levels should sponsor many programmes through urban policy measures. A more realistic people-oriented approach to urban policies and planning is needed to solve urbanisation problem.