CHAPTER – VII

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

Modern era started with industrialisation, factory system, large scale production and urbanisation. Improvements in transport and communication have been given impetus to rapid urbanisation. Tiruchirappalli District has a historical past. Similarly being located in the central part of Tamil Nadu, it is vibrant in every economic activity. Of the 32 districts in Tamil Nadu Tiruchirappalli has been registering rapid urbanisation over years. As a keen student of economics, the researcher wanted to make a study on impact of urbanisation on women development in Tiruchirappalli District. There has been greater mobility of people from rural to urban areas in search of better employment, better income and better standard of living.

The researcher has framed the following well defined objectives to conduct a meaningful study.

Objectives

1. To study the pattern / trend of urbanisation in Trichy District;
2. To have an empirical analysis of socio-economic determinants of urban women;
3. To analyze the impact of urbanisation on women development;
4. To analyze the consequences of increased urbanisation; and
5. To suggest possible measures to overcome negative consequences of urbanisation.

As per the rules of the game, the author has formulated three hypotheses for the study.
Hypotheses

1. Pull factors are more significant than the push factors for the growth of urbanisation.

2. Migration of women from rural to urban largely depends on economic factors than social factors.

3. Urbanisation promotes decision-making power of women

Sampling Design

For a survey come empirical research as the present one, A research has to formulate a suitable sampling frame. Accordingly it was decided to have a sample of three hundred respondents-divided into 175 with native as Trichy corporation and 125 living in other than Trichy area. Besides, secondary data collected from official sources, primary data were collected by using well devised structured and pre-tested schedules. The data were systematically collected, properly analysed by means of tables and ratios and meaningfully interpreted.

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Findings of the study

The comprehensive analytical study on urbanisation and its impact of women development has mapped out important findings of theoretical value. These findings would provide the vital empirical support required for any future study on urbanisation. The major results and unique features of the present study are briefly and crisply summarized here.
**Pattern and trend of urbanisation**

There are varieties of channels through which urbanisation can affect economic growth and the majority of studies suggest that urbanisation should have a positive impact on economic growth. First, cities play a vital role in the economic and social fabric of both developed and developing countries by offering opportunities for education, employment and health services. Education and capital determines the ability of a nation to develop new technologies and adopt existing technologies. Second, urbanisation implies agglomeration of people and firms, which reduces production costs. Urbanisation permits external scale and scope economies, reduces transactions costs and allows specialization among firms leading to low costs of production. Third, urbanisation seems to be a key factor in entrepreneurship. Urban population have easy access to finance and promote their ideas and have to some extent a local market (an urban market with higher consumer density) to do business. Moreover, a city’s prosperity and growth depend crucially on its ability to attract productive workers, match them appropriately to jobs and further develop their skills. The importance of skills has been stressed in urban economics since its beginning. Urbanisation causes migration of talent and skilled people to major cities. This concentration causes interactions and engenders spillovers of knowledge and skills. Skilled people upgrade their skills and knowledge more efficiently when they are exposed to similar profiles and skilled people (urban areas) than in places where they do not interact with peers (rural areas). This raises productivity in urban areas.

Urbanisation is closely linked to modernization, industrialization, and the sociological process of rationalization. Urbanisation is not merely a modern phenomenon, but a rapid and historic transformation of human social roots on a global
scale, whereby predominantly rural culture is being rapidly replaced by predominantly urban culture. Urbanisation occurs as individual, commercial, and governmental efforts to reduce time and expense in commuting and improve opportunities for jobs, education, housing and transportation. Many rural inhabitants come to the city for reasons of seeking fortunes and social mobility.

Tiruchirappalli district had urban population of 678071 in 1961 and rose to 1338033 in 2011. There is a declining trend in rural population. With respect to female population in urban there is an increase from 334133 in 1961 to 674301 in 2011. Whereas there is ups and downs in rural female population. It increased from 1267516 in 1961 to 1509739 and because of bifurcation of Perambalur district from Tiruchirappalli district during this decade there is a sudden decrease 640587 in 2001 and it is increased to 695705 in 2011.

The number of households increased from 660884 in 1961 to 964819 in 1991 in Tiruchirappalli district. When looking urban households, there was an increasing trend in number; it was 124636 in 1961 rose to 341160 in 2011 while there was a declining trend in rural households. The number of literates in urban increased from 327668 in 1961 to 1088739 and it decreased from 1907483 in 1961 to 1425999 in 1991. The rural figures show that there is decrease in the urban literates during the decade 1991-2001. There is increasing trend in urban SC as well as ST population in Tiruchirappalli district.

The total workers in urban area was 225428 in 1961 which increased to 288205 in 1981. Then it increased from 393201 in 2001 to 495835 in 2011. Likewise, in rural area of Trichy, there is a decrease of total workers from 1347056 in 1961 to 1199587 in 1981 and it increased from 671320 in 2001 to 718141 in 2011. Marginal
workers are two times greater in rural areas than in urban areas. In 1981 and 1991 the marginal workers in urban area were more than ten times lesser than in urban area. The number of main workers in urban area increased from 346874 in 1991 to 449650 in 2011. The number of main workers in rural area decreased from 1454267 in 1991 to 563050 in 2011. The number of non-workers is greater in rural areas than in urban areas during these decades.

The number of cultivators are more than 6 times greater in rural areas than in urban areas during these decades. The agricultural labourers are larger in rural than in urban in all census years. The household industrial workers decreased from 16433 in 1961 to 11196 in 2011. Similarly in rural also it decreased from 60127 in 1961 to 13978 in 2011.

Urban Amenities

The tap water drinking is the main source in both urban and rural areas of Tiruchirappalli. Out of drinking water availability untreated tap water is used as a source of drinking water largely by the rural households and treated tap water is used for drinking largely in urban households. In rural area the owned house is greater (323582) and in urban area the rented house is greater (159199). About 96.4 percent of the urban and 89.7 percent of the rural households have electricity facility followed by kerosene lighting at 3.3 and 9.4 percent respectively in urban and rural households.

About 67 percent of urban households use the water closet type of latrines whereas 76 percent of rural households are having no latrine facility. 75.7 percent of the rural households are not having drainage facility whereas 76.1 percent of urban households (45.7 percent closed and 30.4 percent open) having drainage facility.
About 75.7 percent of the urban households and 51 percent of the rural households cooking inside the house do not have kitchen facility. And 47.8 percent of rural households and 21.1 percent urban households cooking outside house do not have kitchen facility.

The type of fuel LPG is the highest (68.76) in urban households and 68.8 percent of the rural households use fire wood for cooking. About 67.5 percent and 54.6 percent of the urban and rural households respectively in Tiruchirappalli district have banking facilities. 81.4 percent and 87.7 percent of rural and urban households have television followed by mobile telephone 59.6 percent in rural and 68.3 percent in urban.

Profile of Urban Households

The selected sample consists of 58.3 percent native place Tiruchirappalli and 41.7 percent native place other than Tiruchirappalli. Out of 300 sample respondents 134 respondents are in low income group, 46 respondents are in middle income group and 120 respondents are in high income group. Age is an important factor determining occupation and income. With regard to total respondents majority of the respondents (213) are in middle age group. Very least number of respondents (14) are in younger group, 73 respondents are in old age group. Among the total respondents, majority of them (165) have less than three family members; next to this is three to five members (113) and the least is (22) more than five members. The majority of the low income group households are having less than three family members.

With regard to the total respondents, majority of them (209) belong to forward class, very least number of respondents (19) are in Scheduled class. There is very little
difference in the number of respondents belonging to middle and high income group 3 and 2 respectively under this backward community. With respect to scheduled class respondents, majority of them belong to low income group (12).

Among the total respondents, majority (228) of the respondents belong to Hindu religion. 37 respondents are Christians and 35 respondents are Muslims. This shows that Hinduism is the dominant religion in Tiruchirappalli urban city. With respect to the total samples, 92 percent of the respondents are married and the remaining 8 respondents are unmarried.

Among the total respondents, majority (33%) are having high school level education. Next to this is middle school (19%) education, 14 percent and 13 percent is professionals and illiterates respectively and 8 percent respondents are having UG level education. The least percent of the respondents are having PG level education.

Among the total sample respondents, majority of the households of respondents (94%) have the child-adult ratio less than one. Remaining 6 percent of the respondents’ households have child-adult ratio greater than one. Majority of the respondents’ (80%) households have earner-dependent ratio as greater than one and the remaining 20 percent of the respondents’ households have earner-dependent ratio as less than one.

Among the total sample (300), majority of the respondents’ (123) main occupation is business which includes street vendors, petty shop, groceries, tailors, cookeries, browsing centers etc., 93 respondents are in government and private employment. 87 respondents are doing agricultural work. In the native place Trichy, the total average income of the high income (1594100) group is four times greater than the middle income (392867) group and nine times greater than the lower income
(180836) group. In the native place other than Trichy the average annual income is nearly two times greater for high income group than the middle income group and three times greater than low income group.

With regard to average annual expenditure of native place of Trichy, all the 175 households in the three income groups have spent almost the same percentage on necessaries of life as 85.05 percent, 84.52 percent and 85.05 percent respectively. The corresponding figures in the native place other than Trichy are 87.26 percent, 85.49 percent and 87.10 percent for the low, middle and high income groups respectively.

The annual savings per household both in the native place of Trichy and native place other than Trichy are high for the high income group. On the other hand, the savings level of the low income group both in the native place of Trichy and in the native place other than Trichy are low.

Total borrowings is two times greater for the respondents native place other than Trichy than native place Trichy. Average borrowing for house loan is the highest (Rs.72897) for respondents native place as Trichy and similarly house loan is the highest (Rs.120658) for the respondents native place other than Trichy.

**Impact of urbanisation on women development**

Due to urbanisation, a lot of changes occur in every individual, family, society as well as the country as a whole. As we have already discussed urbanisation has both, positive and negative impact on the society and on the individual itself. Therefore, some of the important and authentic impacts of urbanisation can be summarized as Change of family dynamics, Increased burden on female members, Immigration, Unemployment, Poverty, Crime, Increased stress, Disturbance of biological rhythm, Stressful life events, Poor social network.
Migration to urban areas is influenced by a number of push and pull factors. Many migrants seek the economic opportunities offered by urban areas as a way to escape rural poverty and insecurity.

Years of living in Trichy is categorized into three such as less than 20 years, 20 to 50 years and more than 50 years. Among the total sample (300), majority of the respondents (205) are living 20 to 50 years. 74 respondents are living less than 20 years. 21 respondents are living more than 50 years.

The push factors are draught and famine, unemployment, to earn more income, lack of water facility, lack of educational facility, lack of amenities, lack of transport facility, lack of medical facility, family pressure, perceptions, poor living conditions, urban environment and problem of power and mechanization of agriculture.

Score values for these factors were sought from the respondents. Among these factors with respect to native place Trichy, maximum average score value was given by the respondents for draught and famine. The factors such as education facilities, employment, marriage, family and relatives, housing, medical/health, to earn more income, bank facilities, entertainment, to do business employment, better living conditions, nearness to market, urban environment, transport facilities and postal services were given to respondents as pull factors and score values were collected. Among the pull factors, with respect to native place Trichy, the average score value given by the respondents was the highest (12) for housing; next highest was (11) for family and relatives; next average score (10) was given to marriage and nearness to market.
There are five reasons for the pull factors for migration towards urban centers. They are English medium schools, availability of private tuition, nearness to school, college facility and library facility. According to Garrett ranking test, pull factors played dominant role for migration since the mean score value for the major pull factor (82.74) was greater than the mean score value for the major pull factor (72.39). With respect to total sample (300), maximum number of respondents (203) say that availability of English medium school is the main reason for education as a pull factor for urban. There are three reasons about employment to choose urban centers to live such as for government job, private job opportunities, to do business and other reasons include construction work etc. With respect to total sample, maximum number of respondents (138) told that they chose urban centers to live because of the availability of private jobs. 51 respondents told that the reason was to get government employment and 42 of them told that the urban centers are much useful to do business.

Availability of government hospital, private hospitals, access to medical shops and medical laboratories and follow up of diseases are the reasons for health as a pull factor. Among the total sample majority of the respondents (147) told that health is a pull factor because government hospitals are in urban centers. There are various factors influencing the women to go for job, they are, spouse employment, friends and relatives, urban atmosphere and comfortable life. With respect to native place Trichy, majority of respondents (105 out of 175) accepted that spouse employment is the most influencing factor to go for job.

Among the total respondents, majority of them (194) are living in their own houses. 106 respondents are living in rented houses. With respect to native place
Trichy and other than Trichy, majority of the respondents (112 and 82 respectively) live in their own houses. The remaining are living in rented houses. Out of total respondents, majority (129) of the respondents are living in flats (apartments); 90 are living in bungalows. Least number of respondents (6) are living in kutcha houses. This shows that the apartments are largely promoted in urban areas. There are various benefits of banking for the respondents such as to get salary, to get pension, to save, to make deposits and ATM facility. Among the total respondents, majority of them (132) revealed that the most important facility of bank is to get salary. Among the total respondents, majority of them (177) preferred private transport and 134 respondents preferred public transport. With respect to type of vehicles, majority of the respondents (178) are having bikes and 39 are having car. This shows that in urban centers most of the households have bikes and cars.

Among the total respondents native place Trichy, majority of them are having the household amenities like TV (174), Telephone (160), mobile phone (171), fridge (164), video player (117), inverter (107) and cooking gas (175). Majority of the respondents (130) are not having vacuum cleaner, oven (139), air conditioner (110), camera (82), washing machine (109), generator (109), solar power (152) and water heater (107). 50 percent of respondents are having RO water purifier. With regard to the total sample majority of the respondents are not having leadership quality. With respect to standard of living, majority of the respondents in the native place Trichy and other than Trichy told that their standard of living has increased after moving to urban areas. 82 percent of respondents viewed that their standard of living has increased in various activities due to urbanisation.
More than 160 respondents out of 175 respondents with regard to native place Trichy, told that the growth of slums (163), health hazards (165), pollution (163), selfish attitude of the people (165) and materialistic living (164) are the major urban problems. Majority of the total sample, opined that health hazards and materialistic living are the major urban problems. Because of urbanisation, health may be affected due to pollution in urban centers. Many of the respondents told that health hazard is the most important problem in urban centers.

Majority of the respondents are actively participating in household decision making process. The study shows that majority of high income group (71) are participating in household decision-making where as majority of low income group respondents (112) are not participating. The Chi-square results show that urbanisation promotes decision-making power of women.

**Suggestions**

Better networking, patronage, sponsorship and higher vision are required for the women to be successful in their career. Support structures such as reliable child care services, improved working conditions, particularly in medical and collieries, hostels for working women, crèche, day care centers, senior citizen hostels, social security measures are recourse to help these women in executing their occupational roles better. The policy makers should realise that a society could develop only when; modernization and urbanisation are used as tools to improve the status of working women’s both in organized and unorganized sector. Without job security, proper health, social security measures and proper recognition, they would fail to cater the growing economic demand of the nation. Women are the most important pillars of the society.
A.K. Sen has been waging an intellectual war with the Indian policy makers, economists and socialologists to improve the health, nutrition and education of women in India. Greater care and attention have to be given to ease the problems of women. Expectations have been changed to a greater extent by the process of urbanisation which attribute to increasing stress. Increasing general awareness of the society and mental health professionals about this burning issue shall go a long way in finding a lasting solution to this problem.

If cities can effectively provide the space for women’s voice, agency and action, and integrate gender-sensitivity into urban policy, planning, and development, cities will be better equipped to address the needs of all its residents, and to meet the challenges of the future.

**Scope for Future Research**

Though there are numerous studies on urbanisation, this study underlines some areas of research, which will focus on emerging and important issues of urbanisation.

1. A Study on the changing structure of society and its impact on mental health of women.
2. A study on decision-making ability of urban women.
3. A study on economic empowerment of urban women
4. A comparative study on urban and rural women in political participation.