PREFACE

Urbanization has acquired a specific momentum in post-independent India, especially after 1961. Rural population, skilled or unskilled started migrating toward big cities in search of livelihood, better education facilities or post retirement life. Consequently, the cities flooded with human populations very rapidly. The decadal growth of urbanization was 38.23 percent during 1961-71 which become 41.42 percent during 1971-81 and still it is more than 30 percent. This has resulted in urban facilities to fall short to accommodate such a heavy influx of population and in turn encroachment of agricultural land around the city has become a continuous practice. Therefore, the study of rural fringe has its own importance in the light limited land resource and its carrying capacity under stress due to growing population, rural influx, land degradation and conversion of land.

The city of Allahabad has very ancient roots in the name of Prayag which has close association with Hindu mythology. It has evolved as religions, cultural, strategic as well as educational centre. Presently it is one of 35 million plus cities of India with 1.05 million urban population. The outgrowth of Allahabad city beyond its corporate limits has put bearings on rural landscape which are undergoing continuous transformation due to expansion of urban activities and other urban related phenomena.

We, therefore, focus not only on quantification of several aspects related to rural-urban relation and land use categories but also on quality socio-economic changes and land use.

The expanding urban fringe needs proper planning to check the imbalanced growth. Hence, an attempt has been made to prepare
land use plan at macro, meso and micro levels. Formation or revamp of institutions has also been suggested.

On the basis of extensive survey, personal observation, discussions with villagers in fringe areas, information collected from primary and secondary sources, the plan also includes general suggestion and specific tasks.

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