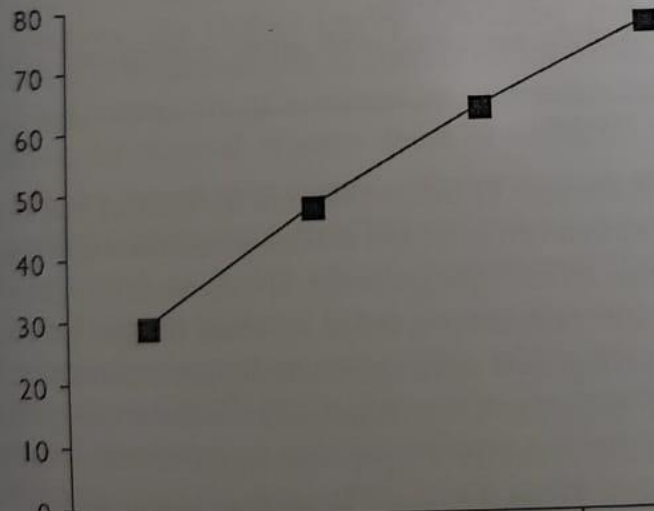


Urban Development Policies in India

Mamta Arora

Introduction

Urbanization is a key indicator of socio-economic transformation. Economic development of a region, as an economy grows, the urban system expands in size and volume and the contribution to the economy also increases. Indian cities and towns constitute the largest urban system in the world after China and in 2010-11 contributed more than 60% of country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).



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CHAPTER – 15

URBAN AGRICULTURE:
A Response to Combat Climate Change

MAMTA ARORA AND S.K. BANDOONI

INTRODUCTION

The process of industrialization and migration has incessantly increased the population and changed the climate of the cities. At present, 3.96 billion people are residing in cities and it is expected to increase by 5.1 billion by 2030. Urban areas are expanding both physically and demographically. Due to climate change many cities have the risk to become “disaster traps” including the risk of severe food supply problems due to floods, droughts, frost etc. affecting the food supply from the rural areas.

Traditional agriculture is climate sensitive as every crop requires optimum temperature and rainfall for its survival. Climate and Agriculture are interrelated processes any change beyond a limit may require shift in cultivators and crops, new technologies, and infrastructure or ultimately conversion to different land uses (Khan, *et al.* 2009). Moreover, any change in climate on a global scale will impact local agriculture, and

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CLIMATE CHANGE

Perspective and Challenges in 21st Century

V. S. NEGI



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5

Smart Urban Farming

Future of Agriculture

Mamta Arora and S.K. Bandooni

Farming in the urban and peri-urban areas is gaining recent momentum due to increasing urban population. Interestingly, population growth and changing consumption patterns indicate that agricultural production will need to increase by 70 per cent to meet the demands of population by 2050. It is estimated that climate change is likely to reduce agricultural production stability, and incomes in some areas that already face high levels of food insecurity (FAO, 2010). On the other hand, arable land in urban areas is decreasing every year as its demand in urban, industrial and infrastructural sectors. In many areas, fallow land is increasing but farmers are not taking interest to cultivate the land. Therefore, to meet the demand of food, urban agriculture should become the most essential part of urban policy and planning across. Urban areas are expanding both in terms of land and population. Rate of rural-urban migration is very high in all the metropolitan or mega cities of the world.

We know that, more than three quarters of the world's population is still dependent on rural live in rural areas. Through migration, these rural poor are becoming the main contributors to the rapid increase in urban population especially in the developing countries.

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