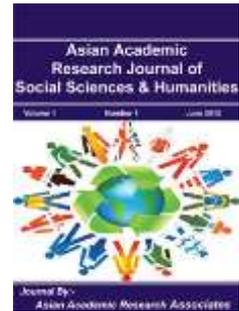




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URBANIZATION AND ITS IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

Urbanization is a form of social transformation from traditional rural societies to modern urban communities. It refers to general increase in population and the amount of industrialization of a settlement. Urbanization happens because of the increase in the number of cities, extent and density of urban areas. The chief forces driving Urbanization today are shifting of jobs from agriculture to industry and the concentration of economic opportunities in the urban areas. Since with Urbanization the concentration of people is increasing in cities so is the demands for basic necessities like food, energy, drinking water and shelter. The result is in terms of poor quality housing, lack of water supply and sanitation facility and lack of proper waste disposal facility leading to spread of communicable diseases. Due to uncontrolled urbanization in India, Environmental degradation has been occurring very rapidly and causing many problems like land insecurity, worsening water quality, excessive air pollution, noise and the problems of waste disposal. This has resulted in environmental degradation in a number of ways. This paper emphasizes on the effect of urbanization on environmental components.

In this study an attempt is made to examine population growth, increasing urbanization and its influence on environment and health of the people. The analysis reveals that Urbanization plays an important role in environmental problems of the country, from deforestation to land degradation, air and water pollution to the spread of disease. The study also discusses about the new approach to urban local bodies that can lead cities towards eco-cities. The Operation and development of urban areas involves: Infrastructure development, Resource utilization, Availability of support systems to sustain ever growing population. The study suggests that there is an urgent need to control population and environmental pollution in the country for better health of present and future generation.
