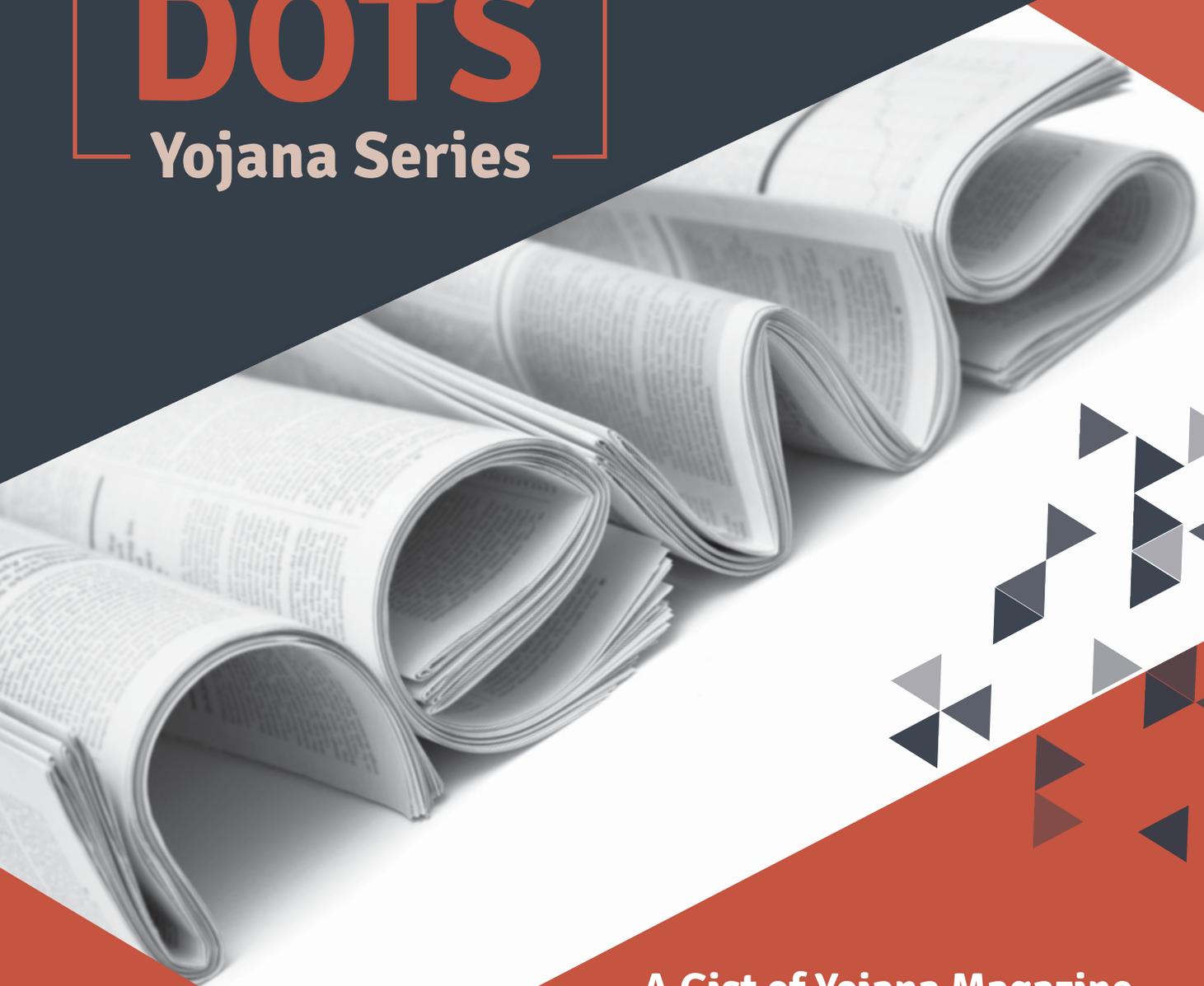


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Yojana Series



A Gist of Yojana Magazine (December 2019 issue)

- Building Urban Infrastructure through AMRUT
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Urban
- Mission Indradhanush 2.0
- Urbanization and Informal Sector

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Join the dots! Yojna Synopsis

December 2019

Maps of newly formed Union Territories of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh

- The recommendation of the Parliament, the President of India effectively dismantled Article 370 of the Indian Constitution and gave assent to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019.
- The former State of Jammu & Kashmir has been recognised as the new Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the new Union Territory of Ladakh on 31 October, 2019.
- The new Union Territory of Ladakh consists of two districts of Kargil and Leh. The rest of the former State of Jammu and Kashmir is in the new Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
- In 1947, the former State of Jammu and Kashmir had the following 14 districts - Kathua, Jammu, Udhampur, Reasi, Anantnag, Baramulla, Poonch, Mirpur, Muzaffarabad, Leh and Ladakh. Gilgit, Gilgit Wazarat, Chilhas and Tribal Territory.
- By 2019, the State Government of former Jammu and Kashmir had reorganised the areas of these 14 districts into 28 districts.
- Out of these, Kargil district was carved out from the area of Leh and Ladakh district.
- The Leh district of the new Union Territory of Ladakh has been defined in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (Removal of Difficulties) Second Order, 2019, issued by the President of India, to include the areas of the districts of Gilgit.
- Gilgit Wazarat, Chilhas and Tribal Territory of 1947, in addition to the remaining areas of Leh and Ladakh districts of 1947, after carving out the Kargil District.
- On this basis, the maps prepared by the Survey General of India depicting the new Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, as created on 31 October, 2019.

MAP OF UT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND UT OF LADAKH



Building Urban Infrastructure through AMRUT

Urban India – Key challenges and opportunities

- India is witnessing a rapid increase in the urban population. As per the United Nations World Urbanization Prospects Report 2018, around 34% of India's population lives in cities—an increase of about three percentage points since 2011. By 2031, it is expected to grow by another 6% and by 2051.
- Such a surge puts significant challenges in terms of demands for basic infrastructure services such as water supply, sanitation, wastewater management, and solid waste management.
- At present, cities contribute nearly 65% of the country's GDP, which is likely to go up to 70% by 2030.

Government Initiatives

- Government of India has undertaken significant investments, as a result of which there have been notable improvements in basic services. However, challenges remain. For instance, as per Census 2011, while 70% of urban households had access to water supply, only 49% had access to water supply within premises.
- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) has been initiated by the Government of India to not only address the challenges of water supply and sewerage in cities across the country but also to harness the associated opportunities of economic growth.

About AMRUT

- It is one of the flagship Missions of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). It was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 25th June, 2015 in 500 cities across the country with the aim of providing basic services like water supply to all households, significantly upgrade sewerage and provide for non-motorised transport and public amenities like parks and green spaces at least one in each city. It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- In addition, AMRUT has an objective to help cities in develop green spaces and parks, footpaths, walkways, skywalks etc. to enhance ease of living and quality of life of citizens.
- The Mission has allocation of Rs.1,00,000 lakh crore including central share of Rs. 50,000 crore. Balance is to be shared by the States/UTs. Ten percent of central share is for Administrative and Office Expenses (A&OE) and another 10% is for reform incentive. The projects in the UTs are fully funded by the Centre.
- In North East and Hill States, 90% of the project cost is shared by the centre.
- In case of other States, one-third of the project cost in the cities with population above 10 lakh and half of the project cost in other cities is shared by the Central Government.

Important steps /Initiatives Taken

- With a view of facilitate Ease of Doing Business in construction permits, an Online Building Permission System (OBPS) with Common Application Form and seamless integration of all clearances/No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from internal/external agencies has been made operational in Delhi and Mumbai since April 2016.
- As a result, India's rank in Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in construction permits has recorded positive growth.
- Replacing Street lights with LED has led to energy savings of 139 crore KWH per annum and reduction in CO2 emission by 11 lakh tonnes per annum.
- Co-operative Federalism- State Governments have been empowered to appraise, approve and sanction projects for their AMRUT cities- a departure from the erstwhile Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) wherein individual projects were sanctioned by the then Ministry of Urban Development.
- Framework for institutional reforms- AMRUT lays major emphasis on institutional reforms which aim to provide governance and institutional capacities of ULBs.
- Principles of 'incrementalism' and prioritisation- A step-wise approach towards service- level benchmarking by the ULBs, a principle of 'incrementalism' has been introduced under the Mission, which is the gradual process of achieving the benchmarks. Recognising the urgent water and sanitation needs, states had to prioritise water supply and sewerage projects- water supply being the first priority.
- Incentivising over penalising- In order to encourage states and reward their initiatives constructively, reform implementation is incentivised under AMRUT- 10% of the budgetary allocation is earmarked for reform incentive and it is over and above the allocation for projects.
- Improved Credit Rating: Improved credit ratings of AMRUT cities helped city administration bring in investments through direct investment and purchasing of Municipal Bonds [8 Mission cities(Ahmedabad, Indore, Pune, Surat and Vishakhapatnam)].

- Municipal Bonds- Rs. 3,390 crore have been raised through municipal bonds during 2017-19 for upgrading urban infrastructure by 8 mission cities (Ahmedabad, Amravati, Bhopal, Hyderabad, Indore, Pune, Surat and Vishakhapatnam).
- Raising of bonds leads to improved governance, accounting systems, finance, transparency, accountability and delivery of services in the ULBs. It will also enhance their self-dependence and confidence to serve the citizens.
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Rainwater Harvesting, Reuse of treated wastewater Rejuvenation of water bodies and Plantation have been taken up to ensure water security and air quality.

Way Forward

- AMRUT has made remarkable strides in improving water and sanitation coverage in urban areas. During the Mission period, it envisages to cover over 60% of the urban population living in 500 cities with universal coverage of water supply and over 60% coverage of sewerage services.
- As per the United Nations World Urbanization Prospects Report 2018, around 34% of India's population lives in cities. By 2031, it is expected to grow by another 6% and by 2051, more than half of nation's population will be living in cities.
- At present, cities contribute nearly 65% of the country's GDP, which is likely to go up by 70% by 2030.

Know! the challenges

- As per census 2011, while 70% of urban households had access to water supply, only 49% had access to water supply within premises.
- According to CPCB 2015 report, more than 65% of the wastewater was being discharged untreated in the open drains resulting in environmental damage and pollution of water bodies.
- Water and sanitation program (WSP) of the World Bank (2011) estimated that the total annual economic impact of inadequate sanitation in India amounted to a loss of Rs. 2.4 trillion in 2006, which is equivalent to about 6.4% of India's GDP.
- Access to safe drinking water and scientific treatment of wastewater including septage are essential for the country in order to accomplish Sustainable Development Goal 6.

Jal shakti Abhiyan-Urban

- In order to address the national issue of water scarcity, Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) has undertaken Jal shakti Abhiyan (JSA) from 1st July 2019.
- The aim is to make water conservation measures a Jan andolan, through extensive Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities across the country in 754 water-stressed cities.

The Key thrust areas of Jal Shakti Abhiyan (urban) are as follows:

- Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) - to recharge ground water sources and to store water.
- Reuse of treated wastewater.
- Rejuvenation of water bodies- to clean and rejuvenate defunct wells and water bodies.
- Plantation- to mobilise the local community members to conduct plantation drives across the cities.

Mission Indradhanush 2.0

- The Government of India is dedicated to achieving the highest standards of health and well-being for the nation. Immunisation programme is a critical component of its commitment towards Universal Health Coverage. It is integral to India's efforts of reducing the burden of vaccine preventable diseases and achieving universal care for children.
- Over the years, efforts have been fruitful and proved India's belief in quality, equitable, and affordable health care for all.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched Mission Indradhanush (MI) in 2014, to target underserved, vulnerable, resistant, and inaccessible populations. These included pregnant women and children who had previously been left out or had dropped out, of immunization programmes.
- This contributed to an increase of 6.7% in full immunization coverage after the first two phases of Mission Indradhanush.
- In October 2017, the Prime Minister of India launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)—an ambitious plan to accelerate progress. It aimed to achieve 90% full immunization coverage (FIC) with a focus towards districts and urban areas with persistently low levels

- An Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0 is being carried out between December 2019-March 2020 to deliver a programme that is informed by the lessons learnt from the previous phases and seeks to escalate efforts to achieve the goal of attaining a 90% national immunisation coverage across India.

Salient Features:

- Immunisation activity will be in four rounds over 7 working days excluding the RI days, Sundays and holidays;
- Enhanced Immunisation session with flexible timing, mobile session and mobilisation by other departments;
- Enhanced focus on left outs, dropouts, and resistant families and hard to reach areas;
- Focus on urban, under-served population and tribal areas;
- Inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination;
- Enhance political, administrative and financial commitment through advocacy;
- Intensified Mission Indradhanush Immunisation drive, consisting of 4 rounds of
- Immunisation will be conducted in the selected districts and urban cities between December 2019- March 2020;
- After the completion of the proposed 4 rounds, the States will be expected to undertake measures to sustain the gains from IMI, through activities like inclusion of IMI sessions in routine Immunisation plans. The sustainability of IMI will be assessed through a survey.

Developing Natural Forest Cover: A Case Study from Yadadri, Telangana

The State of Telangana has taken an initiative using technology and planning to leave greener footprints for the future generations through natural Forest restoration

- To plant and protect the saplings planted under ‘Telanganaku Haritha haram,’ a flagship programme of the State to create an entire forest instead of mere plantation.
- A systematic approach of forest management to sustain the ecological balance and stability of the forest is gaining momentum in India. Innovative reforestation approaches are explored to increase the forest cover and climate amelioration.
- Professor Akira Miyawaki, a well known Japanese botanist, plant ecologist and expert started restoration of natural vegetation on degraded land invented the Miyawaki restoration technique to protect the lowland areas against natural calamities like tsunami.

Miyawaki restoration technique

- The basic principle of Miyawaki is to initiate high density plantation in small piece of land with native tree species that can protect the low-lying areas from natural disasters.
- A method of developing a natural forest in the degraded forest areas is developed in a cost effective manner and is known as Yadadri Natural Forest (YNF) Establishment Model.
- The principles of Miyawaki method and local practices and local materials are utilised in developing this model.

Miyawaki Principles of Natural Forest:

- No defined spacing between plants;
- Soil enrichment must be done before taking up plantation;
- High density planting of herbs, shrubs and tree species up to 10000 plants per hectare;
- Further supplementation of site by seed dibbling of native species;
- Watering should be done at least upto next rainy season after planting;
- Mulching should be done after planting to suppress weeds and prevent evaporation;
- No existing tree in the area should be removed while doing soil enrichment;
- Watering is to be done with tankers and pipe sprinkling instead of flood irrigation;
- Periodical weeding is to be done till the end of the next rainy season after planting;
- Huge crown developing tree species like Ficus should be avoided;
- Seedlings or saplings of all sizes can be planted to give the plantation a 3-tier look of a natural forest;
- Analysis of soil properties done in advance so as to choose the best soil enrichment practices;
- Except weeds no other naturally grown species shall be removed from the plots.

Methodology:

- The basic principle behind the YNF model is high-density plantation in small areas.
- There is no defined spacing between the plants and required number of plants per hectare may go up to 10000.
- It is necessary to demarcate the area and clear the site of existing unwanted vegetation (except trees). The quantification of biomass and saplings requirement of the area is calculated based on the site demarcation.
- To ensure long-term sustainable growth, soil testing and soil enrichment and soil amendments are very important, especially to support high density planting during the establishment years.

Slums in India – Facts and Misconceptions

- Slums in the modern cities are usually looked upon as places having lesser aesthetic value in urban planning.
- In reality, they are self-sustaining micro-cities within larger cities helping sustain the industries as well as households through the services they provide.
- Slums are further classified in terms of their social, economic and legal status. So, implementing a common slum policy does not represent a good use of resources.
- Census 2001 first included slums but only in a small number of cities. Census 2011 was the first to look at this category of settlements in all urban centres.
- The definition of slums and enumeration methodologies differ among official agencies, but commonly they underestimate the slum population.

The Un-Habitat employs five criteria to identify slums, each related to a living condition that households in slums usually lack.

- a. Durable housing of a permanent nature
 - b. Sufficient living space
 - c. Easy access to safe water
 - d. Access to adequate sanitation
 - e. Security of tenure.
- Residents of slums at different points have diverse needs and require different kinds of public support.
 - The Law lays down that slum residents can only avail themselves of municipal services and property titles after their slum has been officially notified following a prescribed procedure.
 - In theory, a city should provide municipal services such as garbage pickup, piped drinking water, sewerage, internal roads, and street lighting- only after a slum has been notified. Public expenditures cannot be justifiably incurred for places that do not exist in the official record.
 - In Practice, many non-notified slums are provided with services and infrastructure, while many notified slums are left uncovered. The scope of corrupt practices gets accelerated by such administrative indiscretions.

Mobility –Responsive Urban Planning

- A proactive approach to migration can lead to significant benefits for the city economy and city vibrancy. The last decade has seen a substantive increase in varied forms of mobility in India. These forms of mobility stretch way beyond the stoic imagination of migration as reflected in definitional aspects or its directions as rural-rural, rural-urban and urban migration.
- While the census data estimates the number of migrants at 3.3 million; several studies including the Economic Survey of India 2017 suggest that this is a significant underestimation.
- It is a concern in itself because it leads to potential neglect of policy. Most urban policies, initiated at the central or state level, seemed to have overlooked these emerging forms of mobility.
- Most migrants therefore are compelled to find solutions that are accessible to them and secure them outside the formal system.
- Such solutions in domains of shelter, basic services, education, and healthcare not only create different living conditions for the migrants, but more importantly most of these solutions lead to new challenges for the city government.

- The census defines a migrant as a person whose residence has shifted from the place of residence enumerated in the previous census or one who has shifted from her birthplace.
- Recently, several scholars and even the Economic Survey of India has pointed out that there is a significant underestimation of migration in census data as well as National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) data and that both these official data sources tend to neglect the short-term and circular migration.
- Mobility in India is significantly increasing and the forms of mobility are varied and do not correspond to a permanent move.
- Two forms which are particularly significant are commuting and circular migration.
- Both these forms of mobility have implications for the way in which cities are shaped.

Impact of Mobility

- Temporary forms of migrants are people who contribute to the city economy while they are there but their effort is directed at places which they come from, i.e., the source areas.
- They contribute in terms of remittances, investments, asset building, and state revenues.
- On the other hand, they contribute significantly to the economic flows and outputs, extract less resources from the city, and bring in new ideas and ways of doing things.
- These create specific demands on city infrastructures and services.

Way Forward

- Short-term housing is one of the most critical and unmet needs of migrants to India cities. The need for temporary housing goes way beyond rental housing that extends to several months. Short-term visitors to cities include all those groups that use the city as a resource. Need for stays longer than hotel stays and lesser than rental housing is the most neglected.
- Although there are some examples of civil society response, these are far too few and limited in proportion to the needs. Further, the prevailing land and housing market dynamics also act as a constraint to undertaking such initiatives. There is a definite need for governmental action in this sphere.

Urbanisation and Informal Sector

- *Migration affects the informal sector and the overall standards of living in Urban as well as Rural India. It dwells upon how migration, urban informal sector, employment and the incidence of socially backward population in the Urban and rural areas are all connected with each other.*
- Growth that is currently taking place is accompanied by informalisation, e.g., sub-contracting in the production process and various other mechanisms that tend to leave labour with less bargaining power. The informalisation process is feared to involve substantial welfare losses and deterioration in terms of governance.
- However, in the face of inadequate livelihood opportunities in the rural areas, even the urban informal sector, which is grossly characterized by low productivity, tends to attract migration.
- This in turn has serious challenges in terms of urbanisation. Though in the Indian context rural-urban migration rates are moderate, rural-to-large city population-flow has always been alarming.
- Thus, city growth, informal sector employment, and low living standards including slum inhabitation involve considerable overlaps.

Migration and Opportunities

- Higher rural literacy and improvements in educational level may raise the rural-to-urban migration rate. The presence of disadvantaged social categories in the rural areas also has motivated migration rate, supporting the view that they migrate to escape their vulnerability.
- Migration reduces both rural and urban poverty. In other words, rural poor by shifting to the urban location are able to access better livelihood opportunities and thus, poverty declines.
- The urban informal sector, notwithstanding the manifestation of low productivity activities, appears to be better in comparison to the rural job market scenario.
- Higher urbanisation and work participation rate in both rural and urban areas are positively associated with migration, suggesting that those in the labour market are more likely to migrate, and after migration they are expected to continue in jobs rather than moving outside the labour force.
- Migration, urban informal sector employment, and the incidence of socially backward.

- population in the urban and rural areas are all positively connected with each other, suggesting that such groups are more likely migrate and land up in the urban informal sector.
- Though there is no definite relationship between the size of the informal sector and the extent of urbanisation, the role of the urban informal sector in providing sources of livelihood cannot be undermined. In fact, with rapid urbanisation the rural transformation is faster as the positive spillover effects initiate new activities and opportunities.
- The other new challenge for urban India can be envisaged in terms of the emergence of the census towns. The constituents of urban areas are statutory towns, census towns, and outgrowths.
- The major distinction between statutory and census towns are as follows: All places with a municipality, corporation cantonment board, or notified town area committee constitute statutory towns.

The census towns are defined on the basis of the following criteria:

1. A minimum population of 5000
 2. At least 75 per cent of the male workers are engaged in non- agricultural pursuits
 3. A density of population of at least 4000 per square Km.
- The results from 2011 census show a huge number of census towns which emerged in the last ten years (2001-2011).
 - If we analyse the locational aspect of these town we can say that they are mostly situated in the neighbourhood of very large cities; these towns may be treated as the satellite towns growing in response to the spur of economic activities.
 - The number of statutory towns of all sizes is rather positively associated with the number of census towns implying that urbanisation as a whole seems to be expanding from the spill-over of the existing urban localities into the hinterland.
 - The residential and infrastructural facilities in these towns are inadequate to keep pace with the new activities that are spilling over as a result of saturation of the large urban centres.
 - The new towns do not have enough living space to accommodate the migrant workers.
 - As migration is usually more than the actual number of job vacancies it would mean that the surplus labour would get residually absorbed in low productivity jobs.
 - Though the very large cities also have had the similar problems, there have been several support mechanisms at the same time. Besides, the real earnings in the informal sector have been higher in the large cities than in smaller towns.
 - The capacity of the small towns to provide for the population is highly limited even after discounting for the scale factor that the large cities enjoy. There are problems relating to generation of resources required for sustainable development.
 - If such new towns grow purely in response to the dynamics of agriculture growth and the subsequent demand for trading or other non-agriculture activities, the outcomes are desirable.
 - The urbanisation spill-effect which ushers in a major change in land use patterns may pose threat not only in terms of food security in short run but also sustainable livelihood for those who lose their agricultural land.
 - The mismatch between the demand for and the supply of labour can be serious in these towns keeping in view the employability issue.
 - Trade-offs to certain extent between growth and agricultural land are inevitable here. However, sufficient safety nets need to be created to meet the deficiencies and the new challenges.

Conclusion:

- Once the largest cities exhaust the economic opportunities the second rank cities come up to replace them in terms of investment, growth, and employment generation.
- However, for them to take over the lead role, a proper coordination between the state and those who have a thorough understanding of the growth dynamics of the urban space is essential.
- In the Indian context, a clear-cut initiative for urban investment or planning is yet to emerge on the basis of the growth potential of different cities and towns with an economic-cum-geographic perspective.

Addressing Stubble Burning with Cooperative Model

- Pollution by stubble burning becomes an annual phenomenon in large parts of northern India.
- Rice-growing States including Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi add to the problem of stubble burning. Managing the stubble becomes a constraint for the farmers because of the adopted cropping pattern.
- The only reason to burn this asset that can yield income and fertility to the soil is the small gap of time between harvesting of paddy and sowing of wheat, the other main crop. Also, the farmers have limited access to dispose of the straw, clean the land and prepare the seedbed for wheat well in time.
- Punjab had been contributing about 60 per cent of the share in the food stocks of paddy even with only 1.5 percent of the area. Apart from burning of paddy straw, the State has other problems like overuse of chemicals, depletion in the water table, etc.

Way Forward

- Disposing the paddy straw is not a problem that has no solution; rather, it is simple and remunerative and must be adopted at the earliest. Farmers of Punjab are known for their ability, initiatives and entrepreneurial spirits.
- They would immediately adopt anything that is remunerative, but sometimes the encouragement and sponsorship of the State become imperative. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) was provided to paddy along with its marketing assurance by State procurement.
- The issue of straw burning has to be settled through other measures like manufacturing of paper and cardboard, production of mushroom where paddy straw can be used as raw material, etc. But there is scepticism that an individual farmer may not install such a unit irrespective of the size of the farm he is holding.
- Also, a single unit even of the largest size cannot be economical because the straw is spread throughout the area and transportation to a single point would be a big constraint.
- Therefore, the cooperative model already experienced in the dairy is the most viable and prudent option in addressing this problem. There is a need of at least two cardboard and paper manufacturing units in every block.

Cooperative society:

- A cooperative society in the area with the membership of local farmers and farm labourers can be formed and such units must be affiliated to the apex body of the State federation of cooperative for rice straw management. The Cooperative Department is already in the field to sponsor and help cooperative ventures.
- Such patronisation can yield the most desirable results not only to tackle this problem but also to generate income and employment in the State. Production of bio-gas needs technical help and extension services.
- The cooperative umbrella of the same pattern can however help the farmers and farm labourers throughout the State in this venture.

Highlights about the model:

- Holding with less than 10 acre is unable to provide sufficient income to maintain their moderate standard of living but in Punjab 89% of the farmers have their holding less than this size.
- These farmers are therefore unable to take any risk either of volatile price or of marketing. In case of rice, price and marketing is assured.
- The same assurance has to be granted for the alternative crops to increase the area of cultivation under them. Basmati is a variety of rice that is grown on the river banks, India and Pakistan being its major producers.
- The supply cannot fulfil the demand of foreign orders. Punjab cannot discard this single much paying export crop, albeit it involves the problem of stubble burning.
- Stubble burning has to be stopped. But looking into the real problem at micro as well as macro level concerned with food security and concerns of the farm community at large, it should be dealt sympathetically with the alternative measures, and cooperative model stands out to be the most appropriate approach to address this problem, which is more viable and sustainable.
- Small-scale farmers would be satisfied with less but assured income than to drift towards commercial crops irrespective of their profit that have any risk of fluctuating price and yield.

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