

URBANISATION, PROBLEMS OF MIGRATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES IN UTTARAKHAND

Pushpanjali Arya, Jagdish Chandra & Akanksha Arya

Associate Professor, R.S.R Government Degree College, Barkot (Uttarkashi), India

Assistant Professor, R.S.R Government Degree College, Barkot (Uttarkashi), Uttarakhand, India

Research Scholar, Govt. P.G. College Kotdwara, Uttarakhand, India

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ABSTRACT

In the beginning of the human civilization the pattern of most of the human settlements was rural in nature. Most of the urban settlements have developed from the rural settlements. Prior to the Industrial Revolution the world's population resided in rural settlements, but the period that followed the Industrial Revolution witnessed rapid migration of rural population to the towns and cities. This trend led to the speedy increase in the population in the towns and cities. Besides, many urban settlements emerged as centers of trade and industrial activity, hence attracted people from other areas. People kept coming in large numbers in search of better employment opportunities and high incomes. The 19th Century was the century of Industrialization and Urbanization. The uncontrolled urbanization has led to the overcrowding in the urban areas leading to over consumption of natural resources, increase in pressure of population on land, decreasing land man ratio, disturbing the land use pattern of the region, increasing the problem of waste disposal, thus causing serious ecological and environmental crisis. Today the modern society must realize that luxury and comfort of urbanization cannot be achieved at the cost of environmental degradation. Environment conservation measures need to be implemented at the earliest. This paper seeks to study urbanization in Uttarakhand with special reference to Dehradun (U.K) and at the same time highlights environmental challenges of urbanization. We have to conserve the environment for the rich biological diversity, natural resources or aesthetic value and for man's very survival.

KEYWORDS: *Civilization, Migration, Urbanization, Environment, Population, Uttarakhand*