

Chapter – XIII

STATUS OF URBANIZATION

Urbanization is an important indicator of economic development and social transformation. As compared to other states, Manipur is still far behind in the development of urbanization. In Manipur the nerve center of urban settlements is Imphal, where most of the state administration, economic activities, educational and judicial works are carried out. Most of the towns of Manipur are in a nascent stage of development with agriculture activities as their basic function.

Development works are largely concentrated in and around Imphal valley and there is therefore a wide regional disparity in urbanization. Over the years, it is noticed that a relatively higher level of regional development has been achieved where urban centers have strong linkages with Imphal city, and the opposite is also true. Absence of adequate road connectivity is one of the main causes for the low level of urban development.

During 1991-2001 the proportion of urban population to the total population declined by 3.64 percentile points. 2001 Census (provisional) shows that the decadal growth rate of population for the rural areas is higher in general than for the urban areas, the rural growth of population during the period being 36.55 per cent against a growth rate of 12.81 per cent for the urban areas. The decline in rate of growth of urban population along with a fall in the per capita productivity in agriculture is a cause for concern. This implies that the population is increasingly concentrated in the low growth agriculture sector.

Out of the nine districts in Manipur, only five have urban areas while the other four districts, namely, Senapati, Tamenglong, Churachandpur and Ukhul are entirely rural (all are in the hills). 42.54 per cent of the total urban population of the state is found settled in the two Imphal districts. Thoubal district with 23.01 per cent had the second highest urban population. Chandel has one big urban settlement in Moreh town, which is the center for the flourishing border trade. The growth rates of urban and rural populations in the period 1991-2000 are shown in Table 13.1.

Table 13.1: Population Growth Rates (1991-2001), Districtwise (Rural And Urban)

Population Growth Rate			
Rural	Percentage	Urban	Percentage
Senapati	81.96	Chandel	54.66
Chandel	57.66	Imphal East	42.77
Churachandpur	60.48	Thoubal	22.17
Tamenglong	29.23	Bishenpur	15.99
Ukhul	28.98	Imphal West	12.42
Thoubal	26.04		
Imphal West	19.34		
Bishenpur	12.79		
Imphal East	12.13		

Source: Census of India 2001. Series 14, Manipur, Provisional Population Totals, Paper 2 of 2001, Rural-Urban Distribution of Population, Directorate of Census Operations, Manipur.

Trade, industry and government administration are concentrated in Imphal. Most of the urban settlements outside the valley are concentrated along transport routes with a weak economic base and poor road linkages with the rural hinterland. The economy of Manipur is therefore not spatially integrated. Regional disparities can be reduced by creating urban centers that are

dispersed across the state and are infrastructurally well-equipped for establishing more agro-based industries, horticulture and other processing activities. Border trade through Moreh, Sutarkandi, Dawki and Zokhawthar will also develop these towns. Administrative decentralization is Important.

Recommendations

The focus areas should be as follows:

- (a) Upgrading and developing District Headquarters and Blocks in the hills to give a boost to trade, industry, tourism, horticulture, etc. These areas fall under the cash-starved District Councils, and therefore adequate provision needs to be made here.
- (b) Development of the authorized and unauthorized slum areas in the valley through the provision of decent housing, water and sanitation, home and street lighting, shopping complexes, health centers, bus shelters, roads, etc.
- (c) Provision of basic amenities and urban infrastructure at the semi-urban semi-rural areas under the 18 Nagar Panchayats in the valley.
- (d) Establishing/upgrading all existing or upcoming quasi-urban settlements along highways and in areas with tourist potential.
- (e) Establishing service and industrial centers in the hills for government, industry and trade.

Some of the possible projects are indicated in Table 13.2.

Table 13.2

(Rs. in lakh)

Towns identified for Planning in next 10-15 years	Interlinkages Justification	Existing Projects: ongoing		Approved but yet to start		Not yet approved	
		Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
IMPHAL							
Construction of BT Flyover	To ease traffic in CBD area of Imphal	2,492.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI				
Keishampat Flyover	For better traffic flow on NH-150					4,142.41	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI
2nd Khwai Bridge & improvement of areas around Maharani bridge	A part of the overall plan to improve Khwairamband bazar area					2,221.33	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI
Improvement of Municipal roads & drains in IMC area	For improvement of physical infrastructure			332.59	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		

Towns identified for Planning in next 10-15 years	Interlinkages Justification	Existing Projects: ongoing		Approved but yet to start		Not yet approved	
		Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Slum Upgradation-Iroishemba & Lamboikhongnang khong	To alleviate the living condition of urban slum in Imphal	139.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI				
Shopping Complex at Old District Hospital Complex	A part of the overall plan to improve Khwairamband bazar area						
Solid Waste Management/ Treatment site at Tingri	To adopt a modernised & practical solution to clean IMC area					2,310.00	
Water Supply Project	To improve the physical infrastructure of Imphal city					4,110.00	
Sewerage & Sanitation project						1,270.00	
Solid Waste Management project						1,300.00	
Urban Roads & Transport						10,030.00	
Storm Water drains						2,740.00	
Street lighting						310.00	
Reconstruction of Purana Bazar	Overall improvement of Khwairamband Bazar	1,978.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI				
Reconstruction of Laxmi Bazar		1,022.00					
Reconstruction of Linthoingambi Bazar		1,531.00					

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LILONG							
Upgradation of Slums, Langhabal Kunja Awang Leikai (Ward No. 8, Lilong NP)	To alleviate the living condition of urban slum in Lilong			244.95	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)	Overall improvement of Lilong town						
THOUBAL							
Thoubal Market- A	To improve the existing Thoubal Market in light of the proposed upgradation of NH-39 to a Trans-Asian Highway			2,215.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		
Thoubal Market- B				1,218.00			
Market complex at Thoubal - Retaining Wall				290.00			
Low Cost Sanitation-TMC						141.23	for funding under the CSS of Low Cost Sanitation and Liberation of Scavengers
Upgradation of Slum-Thoubal Athokpam, Phase-I	To alleviate the living condition of urban slum in the town	132.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI				
Upgradation of Slum-Thoubal Athokpam, Phase-II				340.48	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		

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<u>YAIRIPOK</u>							
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>WANGJING</u>							
Construction of Wangjing Bazar	For upgradation of commercial centres lying along the NH-39			1,158.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>SUGNU</u>							
Improvement of Roads & Drains for Sugnu Town (Sugnu NP)	For improvement of physical infrastructure			623.20	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		
<u>MOREH</u>							
Integrated development of Moreh	To improve the border town & to examine prospect for physical growth					10,000.00	
<u>JIRIBAM</u>							
Construction of Jiribam Bazar	For upgradation of commercial centres lying along the NH-53			1,606.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI		

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		Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<u>NINGTHOUKHONG</u>							
Slum Upgradation-Fishermen's colony	To alleviate the living condition of traditional fishermen colony inhabiting on the banks of Loktak lake	207.00	Ministry of UD & PA, GOI				
Construction of Ningthoukong Bazar	For upgradation of commercial centres lying along the NH-150						
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>BISHNUPUR</u>							
Construction of Bishnupur Bazar	For upgradation of commercial centres lying along the NH-150						
Low Cost Sanitation-Bishnupur Municipal Council							
<u>LAMSHANG</u>							
Low Cost Sanitation for Lamshang Nagar Panchayat area						66.68	for funding under the CSS of Low Cost Sanitation and Liberation of Scavengers
Slum Upgradation-Lamdeng under Lamshang Nagar Panchayat	To alleviate the living condition of urban slum in Lamshang						
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							

Towns identified for Planning in next 10-15 years	Interlinkages Justification	Existing Projects: ongoing		Approved but yet to start		Not yet approved	
		Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund	Total cost	Source of fund
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<u>LAMLAI</u>							
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>KAKCHING</u>							
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>SEKMAI</u>							
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							
<u>THONGKHONG LAXMI BAZAR</u>							
Urban Infrastructure Development projects (including markets, community hall, roads, bus terminus, drains etc.)							