Need For Good Urbanisation

What is the issue?

The Covid situation has reinforced that good urbanisation is the most powerful technology for poverty reduction.

What are the causes of urbanisation?

> Urban area is where most of people work in secondary or tertiary (service) sectors. It includes statutory towns, census towns and outgrowths.

- Poor infrastructure
- Lack of productivity - 50% of our population in rural areas generate only 18% of the GDP
- Poverty
- Poor quality of education without bilingual possibilities
- Poor quality of healthcare
- Caste discrimination in villages

What are the issues with urbanisation?

- **Inadequate planning** – Causes congestion , pollution and aggravates the problems during disasters like flood
- **Non-scalable infrastructure** –Pressure on resources such as land, capital limits the scope of scaling the infrastructure
- **Unaffordable housing** – Leads to unhygienic living conditions and multiplication of slums
- **Poor public transport** – Tokyo has one-third of Japan’s population but planning has ensured that essential workers don’t commute more than two hours
- **Dependence of local governments** - only 13 per cent and 44 per cent of the budget of rural and urban bodies was raised themselves
- **Policy distortion** – Separate central rural and urban ministries hampers the continuity and efficiency of policies
- **Lack of power and resources** with the local governments

- **Men-only migration** - leaves women with the burden of farm work, taking care of children and elderly , having no access to health services and no emotional support from the spouse
- **Pollution** – Noise pollution and air pollution are serious issues in cities especially in Delhi
- 21 of the world's 30 cities with the worst air pollution are in India, according to 2019 World Air Quality Report
- **Water scarcity** - In four metros (Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai & Mumbai) only 30% of dirty water is treated

How can a good urbanisation promoted?

- More devolution of powers and resources by the states to the local governments is in need.
- Instead of debating on whether cities are hostile to migrants and infection hotspots they must be empowered to deliver economic justice for women, children and vulnerable.

Source: The Indian Expres

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering