



Unit 3 Geography

Good morning students, Today let us know about Urban Settlements

Urban Settlements

- The settlements in which most of the people are engaged in secondary and tertiary activities are known as urban settlements.
- In other words, urban is related to cities and towns.
- The word urban is often used in terms of town, city, mega city, conurbation, megalopolis.

Classification of Urban Settlements

The definition of urban area varies from one country to another. Some of the common basis of classification are

- Size of population
- Occupational structure
- Administration

Town

- Town is a general name for an urban place, usually a settlement meeting a prescribed minimum population threshold.
- Population more than 5000 people. Based on the function that cities perform they can be classified into the following types of towns, such as administrative, cantonment, academic etc.,

City

- The term City is generally applied to large urban places with no strict definitions to separate it from smaller town.
- City is a nucleated settlement which is multifunctional in character, including an established central business district. In India an urban place with more than one lakh population is considered as a city (Population more than 1,00,000).

Mega city

- A mega city is a very large city typically with a population of more than 10 million people.
- A mega city can be a single metropolitan area. E.g. Canton, Tokyo, Delhi, Mumbai are some of the examples of megacities.

Megalopolis

- The word megalopolis is given for a large conurbation, when two or more large cities



whose total population exceeds ten million.

- The region made up of cities between Boston and Washington D.C is a well-known megalopolis.
- In India, Kolkata is the largest urban area which is a megalopolis. Gandhinagar, Surat, Vadodara, Rajput in Gujarat are the important megalopolis cities in India.

Conurbation

- A Conurbation is a region comprising of a number of cities, large town, and other urban areas that through population growth and physical expansion have merged to form one continuous urban (or) industrially developed area.
- West Midland in England, the Ruhr in Germany, Randstad in the Netherlands are example of conurbations.
- Mumbai in Maharashtra, Gurgaon, Faridabad in Haryana, Noida in Uttar Pradesh are the conurbation cities of India.

Satellite Town

- A satellite town is a town designed to house the over population of a major city, but is located well beyond the limits of that city.
- Satellite towns are generally located outside the rural urban fringe.
- In India most satellite towns are purely residential in character.
- Satellite towns occasionally present a look of twin towns such as Dehri and Dalmianager in Rohtas district of Bihar.
- They may be connected with roads. For e.g. Patna, Barauni, Varanasi and Hajipur.

Smart City

- In an urban region, a city which is very much advanced in terms of infrastructure, real estate, communication and market availability is called a Smart City.
- The first ten smart cities of India are Bhubaneshwar, Pune, Jaipur, Surat, Ludhiana, Kochi, Ahmedabad, Solapur, New Delhi and Udaipur.
- Tamil Nadu has 12 major cities to be transformed as smart cities.
- They are Chennai, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Tiruppur, Salem, Vellore, Coimbatore, Thoothukudi, Dindigul and Erode.