

# Expanding Urban Dwelling vs Medical Science Research in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal

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## Abstract

People of Asia used to be mostly rural up till 1950. Since then, they have started favoring cities and urban dwelling. Because of the widening gap between urban and rural lifestyles, many preferred to live in agglomerations. Similarly, as many young people wished access to more education, and new skills, they chose urban life. In this way, many cities were overpopulated; a situation gradually appeared, in which many people could not be well handled and attended. Under such circumstances, some people could not find a regular and normal life. Inevitably, they had to choose slum-dwelling in which children had to face many sufferings such as child labor, abstaining education and many more. Many such dwellers could not easily access medical facilities, and meet their health and medical needs. Many of such new entrants to cities do not even have medical insurance. On the other hand, medical science research is quite weak and slow running in some Asian countries. Therefore, such Asian countries need to invest more on medical science research in different areas.

**Keywords:** urban population; policy makers; city sustainability; medical science research. Sociology

## Introduction

Sociologically speaking, urban areas are confronting challenges and increasing issues, and the phenomenon is being reflected in various spheres including medical science research and treatment. Asia as the largest continent of the world with 50 independent countries, and above 4.6 billion population, is widely involved with various medical problems. The Asian countries that lag behind educational development, are in short of medical science services as well. Many Asian countries with high population growth rate are not adequately high in science and technology. Such a lag prevents them from proceeding toward medical development. The entire backgrounds keep some Asian countries far from medical therapies. Such a scenario causes many Asian nations to face high rates of sickness and mortality. One of the devastating problems faced by many Asian nations is the expanding urbanization leading to various social, economic and environmental problems for all classes of residents. Such an action creates problems not only in cities, but rural areas are afflicted

too, through shortage of manpower, and the under-production caused, affecting the whole economy and the level of prices.

Chinese Academy of Sciences is the national academy for natural sciences of People's Republic of China. It mainly functions as the national scientific think tank and academic governing body, providing advisory and appraisal services on issues stemming from the national economy, social development and science and technology progress (Chinese Academy of Sciences, 2018). As far as India is concerned, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the apex body in India for formulation, coordination, and promotion of biomedical research is one of the oldest and largest medical research bodies in the world (Rao, 2018). Public health is defined as the science and art preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts (Gatseva, 2011). Generally speaking, public health is very weak and poor in many Asian countries. Therefore, the counties concerned need to invest more on the issue.

Countries	Number of Journals	Citation per Document
United States	13817725	27.82
China	7454602	10.49
Germany	3515309	23.17
Japan	3074206	17.61

France	2437589	22.92
India	2128896	10.44
Iran	662189	10.64
Malaysia	368061	9.60
Thailand	223696	13.10
Viet Nam	84359	10.84

Source: Metrics based on Scopus data as of 2021.

**Table 1:** *Comparative Selected Journals/ Documents by Country Rank and Citations per document 1996-2020*

As the young population is constantly increasing, the expansion of cities continues in its quantitative and qualitative form. Therefore, social planners, urban planners, demographic experts, etc., should put this issue on the agenda, so that they can lay the groundwork for a better and healthier future for new generations. Hence, cities, like the population, are constantly increasing. However, the different needs of such cities must be met in different ways. Policymakers need to prepare themselves for productive, inclusive and sustainable cities in light of the rapid growth of urbanization. While communities need different industrial, agricultural, educational, and other policies, urban policymakers must always design and introduce the required practical user policies. In this movement, the need for productive and sustainable cities is very much emphasized. Otherwise, many economic crises, problems related to employment, transportation and the like will appear inside the cities. Likewise, in order to have a dynamic and growing economy, urban centers must always be studied, managed and invested in various dimensions; This means that the institutions related to the management and provision of financial needs must be implemented in them. It is in such circumstances that productive cities can be reached. Cities, to varying degrees, need to plan, coordinate, and fund enough to expect a better future. Therefore, the role of urban policymakers, planners and sociologists has always been increasing along with their expectations; This means that both the population of cities has increased and the demands of this population are always increasing. Meeting such needs and investing in cities themselves becomes inevitable.

## Method of Research

Methodology used in the present article is of qualitative type. In that, various paradigms have been used to find out about the facts regarding pandemics during the history. Qualitative research usually studies people, events or areas in their natural settings. In finding facts for the research, the researcher engaged in careful data collection and thoughtful analysis of what was relevant. In the documentary research applied for the present research, printed and written materials were widely regarded. The research was performed as a qualitative library-type in which the researcher had to refer to the relevant and related sources. In the current research, various documents were thoroughly investigated, and the needful inferences were made. The data fed by the investigator in the present article is hopefully reliable. Though literature on pandemics is very limited, yet the author tried to investigate many different resources in order to elicit the necessary information to build up the text.

## The future of the urban population

Between 2013 and 1950, developing countries should be prepared to accommodate another 2.7 billion people in their cities. This means that the urban population and even the cities themselves will increase over the next 3.5 decades. Therefore, job and job planners, economics, environmental, law enforcement, and the like should all pay attention to this in their place. Urban problems lead to socio-economic and environmental problems. As far as the economy is concerned, economic planners must plan and anticipate in proportion to migration to urban areas; Meet the economic needs of the immigrant population. The world's urban population is projected to exceed 6 billion by 2045. Most of this expected increase will be in developing countries, especially in Africa; That is, a situation that will confront them with the challenges of housing,

transportation, energy, employment, and so on. Education, and health care, too, need to be addressed (UN, 2014). Therefore, despite the advent of electronic and automated devices, employment opportunities for the growing population, especially within cities, must be provided for years to come. Failure to do so, and slow economic growth, will lead to unemployment and many social challenges. Hence, economic sociologists must always be responsive to this massive population movement to urban areas.

The growing population will put more pressure on basic services and urban infrastructure. Population growth at a time when there is a high volume of births, especially in developing and developed countries; In the following years, with increasing age, turning to urban areas inevitably occurs. This situation is evident in most developing societies today; That is, places where urban spaces are always faced with a large population. The high population size in urban areas in its unforeseen conditions puts increasing pressure on employment infrastructure and the like. Therefore, economic sociologists should always put the growth of infrastructure in urban areas on their agenda. In this way, population and resources find a reasonable balance with each other. While industrialized nations realized this much earlier, and addressed it, less developed societies, which measured less the relationship between population and infrastructure, and also paid less attention to these two areas, today face economic disputes and challenges. And have encountered many social.

While cities in developing countries are currently facing a shortage of resources and institutions, the population of such cities is growing. In a situation where the mentioned phenomenon has led to a newer phenomenon; That is to say, the phenomenon of working children, many cities in developing countries that have faced widespread migration in recent years, the children of such immigrants have also entered the labor market irrationally, which are called working children. The phenomenon of migration between southern (developing) countries is widespread, accounting for two out of every five migrants. The children of such immigrants largely become working children (Ratha and Shaw, 2007). Such children are generally employed in inhumane and underground forms for low wages; That is, a situation that leads to many more problems now, and in the future. For example, according to published statistics, today in India alone 30 million of these children are generally employed in urban areas; That is, those who have also faced educational deprivation. In such circumstances, the population entering urban areas will face restrictions on employment, housing and other basic services. One of the significant challenges in developing societies is the continuous influx of citizens from other places to large urban areas, which itself has many and significant limitations and disorders in the field of employment, transportation, health, water resources, energy and the like. Follows. This phenomenon is not only current, but will continue even faster in the coming years. The only way to get rid of this phenomenon is to balance the flow of industrial development, industrialize and activate the economic situation in all cities in a balanced way in terms of population capacity and manpower. Therefore, developing countries still have a long way to go to reach cities with desirable populations.

In such circumstances, immigrants entering urban areas will inevitably settle in the suburbs, which will lead to many vulnerabilities. Urban migrants, who are generally unable to afford housing and other expenses in the interior of cities, inevitably settle in the suburbs in the form of slums; That is, a residence that itself contains social, behavioral, health, and other harms. It is noteworthy that marginalization itself transmits anomalies, diseases and unconventional behaviors into cities. This means

that marginalized people must pursue activities in ordinary parts of urban areas to meet their economic needs. The information of these citizens with their ordinary urban residents leads to unexpected challenges. This is the case in cities such as Mumbai (India), Johannesburg (South Africa), Manila (Philippines) and other major cities in developing countries.

Climate change, lack of facilities and the like put extra pressure on them (immigrants). In these circumstances, their satisfaction can only be obtained through proximity to job opportunities, both legal and illegal. Lack of water and food in rural areas, lack of health and medical facilities, as well as lack of educational facilities, each in its place, while causing migration, migrants in destination areas generally face these shortages. Such people generally engage in illegal activities in many cases without permission in order to meet their financial needs; That is, a set of activities that themselves lead to various injuries. Most international migrants switch from low-wage to high-wage jobs in the job market; Simply because they are more financially self-sufficient (Martin, 2005).

### **Duties of policy makers**

In such circumstances and given the growing trend of urban areas, policymakers and social planners must always invest and foresee productive, inclusive and sustainable cities. In order to achieve a better and more satisfactory future, and on the other hand, due to the unprecedented expansion of urban areas in general, such areas must have the facilities to produce and meet the economic needs of the population in various forms. Therefore, investing in such cities, preparing jobs and employment and dynamizing economic conditions are among the priorities that should be on the agenda of urban planners and economic sociologists. If they are not foresighted in the form of scientific cities, future crises and their various forms such as unemployment, deviations, environmental degradation and the like will be inevitable.

Planning, communication and financing of cities are also among the issues that should be a priority and agenda of city officials. Issues of inequality and discrimination are seen as common challenges in many urban areas (Sustainable Development, SD21). Relating different areas such as changing consumption patterns, changing lifestyles, the introduction of new goods and services into urban communities, especially in urban areas, increasing life expectancy and variables of this type should be related to each other by planners, and anticipated To take. Also, meeting financial needs, raising incomes, exploiting resources, etc., each in turn requires a dynamic economy in urban and rural areas. It should also be noted that rural areas must also maintain their importance, so that economic and agricultural productivity in those areas has a progressive and growth trend; In such a way that the products and products of those points are used in urban communities as a support and primary producer of economic products. Hence, the two urban and rural points are inextricably linked.

Mayors and other urban policymakers must remove barriers to urbanization; That is, to provide the necessary grounds politically, technically and financially; Or provide in some way. Given the increase in population on the one hand, and the relentless influx of population on the other hand to labor resources, employment and economic opportunities; That is, cities and municipal institutions have a heavy responsibility in this regard to be able to provide different patterns of urban population consumption. Providing housing, food facilities, employment, transportation, leisure and recreation, meeting educational needs, providing health and medical services, providing water and energy resources, establishing a waste disposal system and other needs within cities, require policies. Is relevant. The provision of each of these items depends on economic support; That is, adequate funding, adequate investment, and sustainability of policies and plans were implemented. In many cases, however, effective policy development generally lags behind population size and population needs. The existence of this gap brings with it many challenges and shortcomings in economic, environmental, housing and the like. Many developing countries are in such a situation today. Deficiencies and inconsistencies between these indicators, in many cases, lead to economic challenges, rising prices, shortages of various

materials and the like; That is, what ultimately leads to economic inflation and unemployment. It is noteworthy that in the context of politics, progress and having future-oriented plans, it has caused countries such as Japan to have only 1% economic inflation in 2014. Developing countries, on the other hand, generally face rising double-digit economic inflation. In order to provide economic and financial resources, economic and production cycles must always be in motion, and the use of resources. In other words, the process of exploitation of economic resources such as agricultural land, exploitation of mines and quarries must be done in a reasonable and forward-looking manner. Likewise, in a situation where a society can always add to its wealth by exploiting its financial and human resources, and thus increase the per capita income of the people annually, this in itself creates more purchasing power, and consequently the emergence Inflation is prevented. Inflation reduction policies are those in which central banks target this decline, and there are several economic policies, such as monetary policy, that must be applied in detail (Pettinger, 2017).

### **The basic principle of city sustainability**

A better future for cities itself requires addressing the following three principles that should be prioritized in urban policy-making; that's mean: 1) Planning or prioritizing land management, which is of great importance for all countries and cities at all levels of urban development. Since cities are generally attracted to a large number of people due to their economic situation, land management in terms of utilization, price, conversion of agricultural land and green spaces into residential areas, requires proper and effective management in order to provide them with housing; Otherwise, there will be a kind of turmoil in the land and housing market; That is, a situation that can deprive a large population of housing. While the number of cities is constantly increasing, land management itself has an effective role in improving the social and economic spaces of cities. Consequently, in order to attract investment from the special sector and provide housing, policy-making needs to strengthen planning, land use and their coordination with transportation infrastructure and its potential risks. Following the development of cities, the need to increase investment seems inevitable, at the same time, officials and planners must always have constant monitoring of how land is used. At the same time, providing infrastructure conditions such as water supply system, sewage, garbage transportation, health centers and hospitals, creating a proper transportation system and predicting potential hazards such as floods, storms, earthquakes, etc., are technically necessary. It counts. While less developed countries pay less attention to these issues due to weakness, investment and lack of experience, industrialized societies generally include these resources in their urban development. Also, creating job opportunities and strengthening economic interactions in urban development are recognized as top priorities in urban planning. Urban planning is a technical and political process related to the development and use of land, protection and use of the environment, public welfare, etc., such as air, water and the necessary infrastructure. It is also referred to as urban design (parks, streets and buildings) (Assche et al., 2013).

2) Connecting cities It is necessary to connect people (citizens) with jobs, schools, businesses and markets. At the same time, the relevant proportional infrastructure also depends on the speed and expansion of urban growth. It itself (the desired relationship) requires careful analysis; In a way that identifies short-term and long-term priorities. Therefore, cities should always put different areas of employment, services and economic prosperity on their agenda. While a significant proportion of the population is still migrating to urban areas due to past population growth, any failure to meet the needs for employment, services, and the like carries with it irreparable risks in cities.

This process (communication) is also needed to coordinate how land is used in urban areas. While urban areas are demographically expanding, access to land and housing needs must be considered or provided in a coordinated manner. In this way, a kind of economic interaction is created in the budgets of different households living in urban areas. Otherwise, a significant share of household income must be spent on housing; That is,

a process that itself affects other household needs such as nutrition, services, and the like. It is noteworthy that many developing and urbanizing countries are in such a situation today.

3) Urban finance / finance itself is problematic. This means that payments and financing of urban and urban projects also face challenges. By 2050, when the world's population reaches 9 billion, and at least 70% of it is likely to live in urban areas, this scenario will be mainly related to low-income or middle-income countries. Thus, a large proportion of these challenges will be related to financial challenges and related acute needs (Department for International Development, 2015). Expansion of urbanization and high population density in urban areas make financial investment and financing opportunities weak and incapable; At the same time, the flow of taxes and the payment of urban plans through tax deduction and taxation along with economic growth is generally practiced. Therefore, in a situation where citizens cannot easily contribute to the payment of taxes, this poses a challenge to the city's governance system. For this reason, industrial societies are generally very sensitive to taxes from citizens and even new urban residents; Simply because strengthening the financial management and budget of its urban areas helps the continuation of economic and entrepreneurial plans and projects. However, many cities in developing countries do not have a registered trading system; That is, they usually trade through a non-registered economy or the black economy. This means that the tax system cannot easily understand the amount of taxes and income turnover of such economic and business owners, and collect taxes from them; That is, a situation that weakens the economic planning systems in these countries. In this move, the power and quality of policymakers is also important in favoring the land market by creating a loan market. Immigrant and expanding cities, where more construction is generally done, sell more land to meet the housing needs of citizens. Markets and loan transactions are also booming. This means that many newcomers and those in need of housing are forced to take out loans from banks and other economic institutions in difficult circumstances in order to be able to cover their housing facilities. In some cases, this situation leads to financial weakness and lack of monthly budget for such people, which challenges and shortages the economic cycle of the family.

Addressing the three areas of planning, communication, and finance must be accompanied by valuation, coordination, and leveraging (advancing one project with the help of another). Hence, these three fields are inextricably linked and correlated with each other. The expansion of cities, if it is far from the three mentioned areas, will bring many challenges.

In this process, the assessment of spatial evolution or geographical process is of considerable importance. To protect the environment, social ecologists believe in a decentralized society in which citizens at the city and county levels adjust their production and industry processes to their financial resources (Bookchin, 1990). How the urban economy is evolving, as well as how the boom in demand within cities is changing, the size of new inputs in terms of where they live and commuting to and from work, are issues without a discussion of urban finance. Therefore, in this evaluation, the observed urban patterns are compared with the measurements and criteria of other points or with the past conditions. Such comparisons help to detect policy deviations; That is, what limits the flow of urbanization, and how such cases limit the benefits of urbanization. According to what has been said, urbanization always needs continuous monitoring, meeting needs, providing funding, providing the necessary infrastructure, employment facilities, providing food for the population added to urban areas and the like. Therefore, developing countries, which generally face widespread urbanization, must always consider the disadvantages and negative aspects of this process. Coordination and cooperation between the public and private sectors is recommended to meet urban needs; That is, considering financial, regulatory, support and similar facilities. Public-private partnerships in water, transportation, housing, and other projects can minimize many of the city's shortcomings. For example, Tunisia in Africa has reduced its slum dwelling from 23% in 1975 to 20% in 1995 by adopting a national housing promotion program. Such a model should be applied in various

social and economic sectors in other developing countries. Likewise, if developing countries distribute their industrial and economic capacities in a decentralized manner to all their provinces and geographical areas, it will itself prevent many of the harms of migration and population influx to large urban areas; That is, the process itself prevents many potential socio-economic harms in these areas. It is noteworthy that the current industrialized countries also faced poor social health and high urban mortality in the 19th century due to their unplanned urban population growth, high urban population density, and inadequate environmental and health services, along with financial and economic inequalities. Cain and Hong, (2009). When evaluating, identifying challenges, potential grievances, and other shortcomings, proposing options and policies, the program (diagnostic evaluation) It shows how a city can not only defend socio-economic interests today, but also benefit in the future as the economy grows, technologies change and institutions are strengthened. Therefore, assessing the diagnosis can help the future of urban areas and maintain their health, and thus provide more guarantees for future generations. For example, urbanization in Singapore itself has led to widespread transportation engineering challenges that require appropriate spatial design due to population density (Retrieved, 2018).

## Conclusion

It could be concluded that many Asian countries are widely involved with various problems including high population growth, migration, medical shortage, lack of medical science research, shortage of insurance, and many more. Such a situation causes higher mortality for certain age groups such as maternal mortality for those women who are delivering babies, infant mortality among the infants under the age of 5, etc. Shortage of nursing services cause the article focusing on public medication. It reaches the fact that medical science research does not function well and accordingly. Many smaller cities and towns are not well equipped with medical facilities and medical staff necessary for diagnostics and treatment. Under such circumstances, the patients in need of various diagnosis and therapies reach out for medications from a place to another to get it. Therefore, what many Asian countries need, is to improve their medical potentials, medical services, increase their hospital beds and health administration. The returns of such facilities would be better health and longer longevity.

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