

Do you think that Indian urbanisation is witnessing a policy paralysis from the top? Discuss.

The urbanisation in India predates back during the time of Indus valley civilization. The present day urban governance needs a policy tweak to fit in new age requirements.

Urban and India

Presently 35% of population resides in urban areas and contribute 60% of GDP. By 2030, cities are projected to contribute 80% of the GDP of India.

At this juncture as per world bank estimates \$840 billion is required to meet the needs of urban demand and \$55 billion is needed annually. The present policy measures are futile in investment.

Policy paralysis

The urban planning in India is decided at the legislative level. The 74th constitutional amendment though gave representation not implemented in letter and spirit. The urban centres are starved of funds and 80% of the own resource comes from the property tax.

Better urban place

The planning must come from bottom and the creditworthiness of the cities must improve the municipal bodies can work wonders for the cities.

The 3Fs - fund, functions and functioning must be devolved to the cities and Finance Commission can play a lead role.