

# Trends of Urbanization in West Bengal: A District Level Study

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**Abstract:** *The 21st century experiences a rapid pace of urbanization in the world and especially in the developing countries like- India. More than half of the world's population lives in cities and towns that symbolize the unprecedented growth of urbanization. This very urbanization is coupled with social, economic, spatial and environmental impacts and challenges. Though higher rate of urbanization seems to be positive sign for economic development and overall prosperity of the regions. The present work intends to study the recent processes and demonstrate the levels of pattern of development and inter-districts disparities of urbanisation of West Bengal by measuring some selected indices: like level of urbanisation, decadal growth of urban population, rate of urbanisation and urban growth, contribution of growth in urban population to total growth and human development index. It is a meso-level study and 19 districts of the state have been selected as units of study. The simple statistical techniques have been used to calculate the level development by the help of the data collected from secondary sources -Census 2001 & 2011.*

**Keywords:** Urbanization, development, levels of development, regional development, regional disparity, indices of urbanisation, process of urbanisation

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