

Session 3: Potential for Economic Geography-based Approaches towards Inclusive Growth in India

**Development of India's Megacities and its Suburban Spaces**

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Since the New Economic Policy of 1991 (commonly referred to as the New Economic Policy), Indian cities have undergone rapid growth and development and become the country's most distinctive landscape. Urbanisation in India is noted for its unique characteristics, unlike the development seen in the Chinese and southeast Asian cities of Shanghai and Singapore. This paper will explore the new realities of urban structures and suburban spaces in India, focusing on urban planning, housing supply, and the characteristics of residents in the Delhi metropolitan region. Suburban development in this region is controlled by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), which has made every masterplan for Delhi. However, DDA understood that it is difficult to control urban planning in Delhi. Therefore, the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) was established to control the development of Delhi and its surrounding regions. NCRPB made regional plans in order to restrict urban developments in Delhi and encourage urban development in surrounding regions. Bose (1990) explained these new trends by pointing out that Indian mentality has been changing, and the middle class and young families now seek to purchase and construct their own houses or make improvements to them. Housing demand is increasing, accelerated by economic growth.