
A Temporal Analysis of Spatial Growth of Municipal Towns in Haryana: (1961-2011)

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ABSTRACT

Since its formation in 1966, Haryana has experienced rapid urbanisation reflected in territorial expansion of existing towns and emergence of new towns. There has been a steady rise in the number of towns from 61 in 1961 to 154 in 2011. The total number of towns comprises of statutory towns, census towns and a cantonment town. The statutory towns have registered a significant geographical spread although they have not grown much in numerical strength; from 58 in 1961 to 79 in 2011 whereas census towns have multiplied exponentially from just 3 to 74 during the same period. The significant contribution of statutory towns is brought out by the fact that the share of statutory towns in the total urban area of the state has risen from 319.39 km² in 1961 to 1499.84 km² in 2011. If the area under census towns is also taken into consideration, then the total urban area of the state has increased from 355.65 km² to 2034.54 km². This represents an urban conversion of not less than 1678.89 km² of rural land since the state came into being out of which the share of statutory towns is as high as 1180.45 km². The present paper is an attempt to meaningfully analyse the trend of spatial growth of statutory towns and to describe the areal extension of towns based on population size categories. It is based on census data from 1961-2011.

Key words: *urbanisation, territorial expansion, statutory towns, census towns, geographical spread, numerical strength, urban conversion*

Introduction

Urban growth is equated with the growth rate of urban population, measured either in relative or absolute terms. Net rural-urban migration and the contribution made by natural increase are adduced as its two basic explanatory variables. The additions made to urban population by the new towns are also duly taken into account. Interestingly, the change in the territorial jurisdiction of towns, a vital factor underlying urban growth is over looked. A passing reference to this factor of urban growth has been made by Gill and Gurinder (1986) in their paper on growth of urban population in Haryana during 1971-1981. Singh (1985) too while focusing on the development process and urbanization in Haryana has made a brief reference to inclusion of area from annexed village in town boundary in context of urban growth.

Ramachandran (1989) in his comprehensive study on urbanization and urban systems in India has differentiated between the concepts of the 'geographical city' and the 'administrative city' by pointing to the lack of correspondence between the two. Despite their noticeable frequency and overriding implications, changes in the territorial jurisdiction of towns have rarely been subjected to a systematic analysis. There is only a single contribution of Krishan (1983) that directly deals with this issue. Making a case study of towns in Punjab, he examined the territorial change in urban limits during 1951-81 in terms of its effect on urban growth by classifying towns in accordance to their distribution. Bala (1986) argued for a cumulative product of rural-urban migration, natural increase, emergence of new towns and extension of territorial jurisdiction of many existing towns over the spurt in urban growth during 1971-81 period. In another article, Krishan (1993) has pointed out that one of the reasons for reduced urban growth in India during 1981-91 was reduced frequency of extension in towns' limits in various part of the country.

Bhagat and Mohanty, in their paper presented in the Annual Meeting of Population Association of America, New Orleans, USA, in April 2008 suggested that instead of three there are mainly four components of urban growth namely i) the natural increase, ii) net migration to urban areas, iii) reclassification of settlements as towns or its declassification as a result of changes in the nature of economic activities and acquisition of urban characteristics, and iv) the extension of boundaries of cities and towns within their jurisdiction. While analysing the decadal growth of urban population in India at state level they attributed the slowing down of urbanization during the 1980s to the reclassification of towns, and the little geographical expansion of the existing towns by jurisdictional changes. Although its share declined in the 1980s, change in territorial jurisdiction or spatial growth of urban centres has re-emerged as a significant factor in the 1990s. In fact India's future urbanization would be much more contributed by this factor, given the fact that the emergence of new towns has been sluggish, increasing the share of migration is distant and there is a declining trend in the natural increase in urban areas.

The present paper, therefore, is a modest attempt to investigate the spatial growth, that is, areal extension of statutory towns of Haryana by size class since 1961.

Study Area

Haryana emerged on political map of India when the Punjab-Reorganization Bill was passed by the Indian Parliament on September 10, 1966 bifurcating the bilingual state of Punjab and made provision for the setting up of the new state of Haryana. The state is located in the north-western part of the country and forms the western component of Great Northern Plains. The study area lies within the latitudinal extension of 27° 39' north to 30°55' north and the longitudinal extension of 74° 27' east to 77° 36' east. The total area of the state is 44,212 sq.km and as per the 2011 Census, the total population of the state stands at 2,53,53,081 persons. For administrative purposes as per 2011 Census the state is divided into four divisions (Ambala, Hisar, Rohtak and Gurgaon), 21 districts, 57 sub-divisions, 74 tahsils, 44 sub tahsils, 119 development blocks, 154 towns and 6841 inhabited villages (Fig. 1). The capital of the state is Chandigarh which lies within Chandigarh Union Territory.

Objectives

The basic objective of the present paper is to explain the trend of spatial growth of statutory towns and to describe the distribution of areal extension by size class of towns.

Data Base and Methodology

The data on the change in territorial jurisdiction of towns and their distribution by size class have been drawn mainly from secondary sources like census publications and occasional papers published by Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana, Chandigarh and Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, New Delhi. The present study will cover a period of 50 years (1961-2011) for which a reliable and continuous data on various aspects of urbanization in Haryana are available.

As per Census of India, the urban centres have been divided into six groups – *cities* (the urban centres with population of one lakh and more) comprising Class I towns; included are the cities with population of 10 lakh and more, i.e. one million and above, termed as *million plus cities*; *large towns* (the urban centres with population of 50,000 to 99,999) comprising Class II towns; *medium towns* (the urban centres with population of 20,000 to 49,999) comprising Class III towns; and *small towns* (urban centres with population of < 5000 to 19,999) comprising Class IV (10,000 to 19,999), Class V (5000-9,999) and Class VI (<5000) towns. This categorisation has been done to provide a meaningful analysis of change in size-class composition of statutory towns experiencing areal expansion.

To comprehend this task, methodological tools adopted include mainly ratio and percentage to arrive at meaningful conclusions.

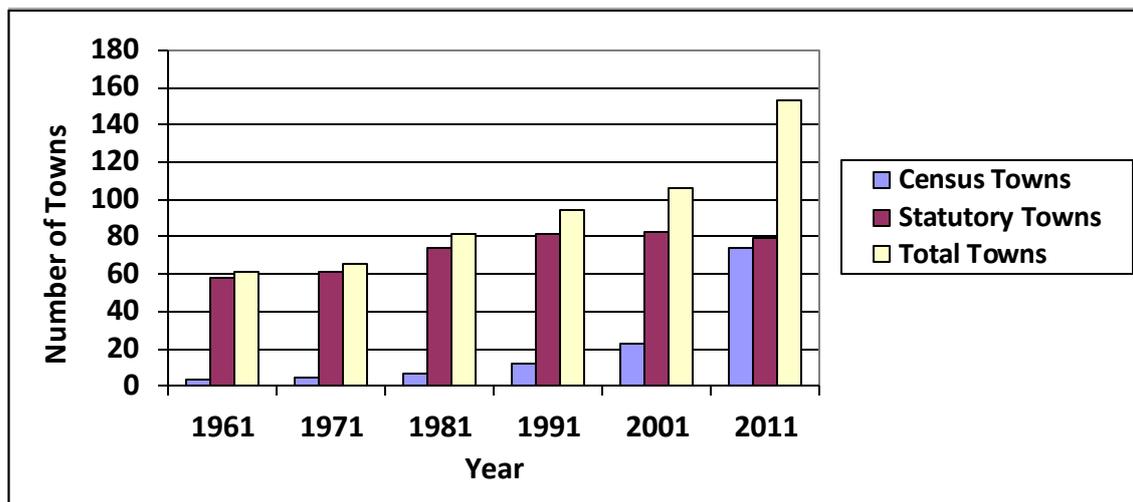
Spatial Growth of Statutory Towns: A Temporal Analysis

Haryana, a predominantly agricultural state has witnessed a steady increase in number of towns ever since it was carved out of Punjab as a separate state on November 1, 1966. According to 1961 census there were 61 towns in the state. The number of towns has since increased to 154 as per 2011 census. The total number of towns comprises of both census as well as statutory towns. The Statutory towns or the towns governed by municipal bodies have not grown much in numerical strength, 58 in 1961 to 79 in 2011 but they have registered a significant spatial growth. On the other hand, Census towns have multiplied exponentially. There

were just 3 Census towns in 1961 and the number now stands at 74 as per 2011 census. In fact, Census 2011 has seen the largest rise in the new Census Town creation in the history of the state pointing to the movements of large villages in the grey zone into the urban classification (Indian Institute for Human Settlements,2011), (Fig.2).

Fig. 2

HARYANA: Census Towns, Statutory Towns and Total Number of Towns (1961-2011)



In 1961 there were 61 towns in Haryana covering 355.65 km² of area. Out of these 58 towns were statutory towns, that is, those governed by municipal bodies covering an area of 319.39 km². The partition of the country in 1947 stimulated the process of urbanisation in the north western part of the country. A large number of refugees migrated from Pakistan to the Indian Punjab and settled down in towns of Punjab and Haryana, known as ‘camps’ (Goel, 2012). Haryana was then part of undivided Punjab. This led to explosive growth of cities and towns in the state. However, the level of urbanisation in the state (17.22 per cent) was still low in 1961 as compared with that of Punjab (23.10 per cent) and the national average of 17.92 per cent (Table 1 and Fig.3).

Table: 1

Haryana: Urban population and its growth, 1961-2011

Year	Urban population(per cent)	Growth during the preceding decade
1961	17.22	-
1971	17.66	35.58
1981	21.88	59.47
1991	24.63	43.41
2001	28.92	50.82
2011	34.87	44.58

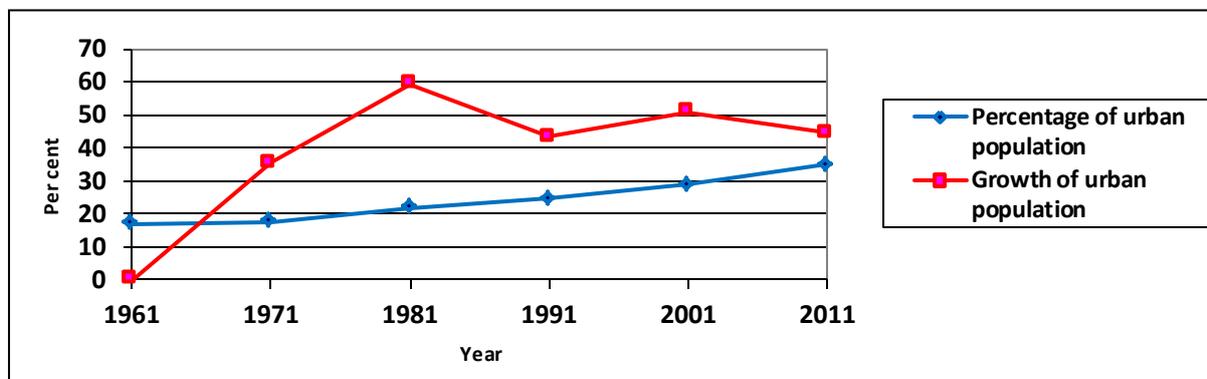
Source: i) Census of India, 1991, Primary Census Abstract, Part II B,

ii) Census of India, 2001, Primary Census Abstract, Total Population, Table A-5,

iii) Census of India, 2011, Primary Census Abstract, Haryana, Series-7, Tables- A5-A8, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

Fig. 3

Haryana: Percentage and Growth of Urban Population 1961-2011



Source: Computed from Census Publications, Haryana.

As a significant development the first and foremost Class I town emerged in the state in 1961. Ambala Cantonment achieved the Class I status covering an area of 36.26 km² and containing 8.07 per cent of the total urban population of the state (Table-2).

Table -2

Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 1961.

Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	Nil	Nil	-	-
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	1*	36.26*		
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	8	104.56	13.79	32.73
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	10	59.92	17.24	18.8
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	40	154.91	68.96	48.47
Class IV	10,000-19,999	14	78.24	24.14	24.49
Class V	5,000-9,999	14	50.66	24.14	15.84
Class VI	Below 5,000	12	26.01	20.68	8.14
Classes I-VI		58*	319.39	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001, General Population Tables, Haryana, Series-7, Tables - A4,

Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

**Ambala Cantonment excluded from calculations as it is under the jurisdiction of cantonment board and not under a municipal body. Hence, the total number of Statutory towns taken as 58 and total area taken as 319.39 km².*

There were 8 Class II towns of Faridabad, Panipat, Yamunanagar, Rohtak, Hisar, Bhiwani, Karnal and Ambala accounting for 32.73 per cent of the total urban area under statutory towns but they comprised of just 13.79 per cent of the total number of municipal towns in the state (Table -2).

Medium Towns contributed 18.8 per cent of the total urban area followed by *Small Towns* (48.47 per cent). However, the number of *Small Towns* (40) was more than two times that of *Medium* (10) and *Large Towns* (8) combined together. In other words, *Small Towns* comprised of 68.96 per cent of the total number of towns in the state in comparison to *Large* (13.79 per cent) and *Medium Towns* (17.24 per cent). The dominance of urban scene by *Small Towns* got reflected in the low level of urbanization and spatial growth of urban centres in the state which can be attributed to slow growth of industrial and service sectors and small degree of rural to urban migration.

After its formation as a separate state in 1966, Haryana experienced a rapid acceleration in its process of urbanisation. The decade of 1961-1971 witnessed growth of 35.58 per cent in its urban population (Table -1). The number of towns increased to 65. Out of these 61 towns were statutory towns comprising 391.25 km² of area. Still the level of urbanisation in the state was lower than that for the country as a whole. In Haryana 17.66 per cent population lived in urban areas as compared with the national average of 19.90 per cent. The absolute increase in area of municipal towns during 1961-1971 was 71.86 km² or a mere 22.49 per cent increase.

In 1971, 3 new municipal towns of Ganaur, Naraingarh and Tosham were added taking the total number of municipal towns to 61. After Ambala cantonment, Faridabad and Rohtak emerged as Class I cities of Haryana comprising of 9.58 per cent of the total area of statutory towns in the state. There were eight *Large Towns*, namely Panipat, Yamunanagar, Hisar, Sonipat, Karnal, Gurgaon, Bhiwani and Ambala comprising of 34.32 per cent of the area of municipal towns. *Medium Towns* which were 14 in number had a total area of 103.2 km². On the other hand there were 37 *Small Towns* having a total area of 116.25 km², revealing their predominance in the hierarchy of towns in the state. The combined area of *Small* and *Medium Towns* was 47.65 km² more than that of *Cities* and *Large Towns* combined together (Table -3).

Table -3

Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 1971.

Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	Nil	Nil	-	-
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	2	37.50	3.28	9.58
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	8	134.30	13.11	34.32
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	14	103.2	22.95	26.37
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	37	116.25	60.65	29.7
Class IV	10,000-19,999	13	49.00	21.31	12.52
Class V	5,000-9,999	19	56.19	31.14	14.36
Class VI	Below 5,000	5	11.06	8.19	2.82
Classes I-VI		61	391.25	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001, General Population Tables, Haryana, Series-7, Tables - A4, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

In 1981 there were 81 towns out of which 74 were statutory towns. 14 new municipal towns got added during the 1971-81 decade contributing a total area of 48.26 km². The total area of municipal towns stood at 691.05 km² registering an absolute increase of 292.8 km² during 1971-81. With 59.47 per cent growth in urban population during 1971-1981 decade, Haryana ranked 5th among all the states of the country (Table 1.1). The emergence of new towns of Taoru, Hathin and Hassanpur in the region surrounding the national capital of Delhi was mainly due to the rapid industrial development, in-migration of workers from the surrounding areas and expansion of industrial base of the cities of Faridabad and Gurgaon. New towns of Ratia, Rania, Kalayat, Kalanaur and Barwala derived benefit from the spill-over effect of Green Revolution. Rapid agricultural development due to availability of irrigation facilities, availability of High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds and chemical fertilizers and mechanization of agricultural operations like sowing, harvesting and thrashing led to the emergence and fast growth of these towns. Development of agro-based industries like flour-mills and rice shellers led to the emergence of new towns of Assandh, Taraori and Indri. Close proximity to the state capital of Chandigarh resulted in the transformation and acquisition of urban status by H.M.T. Pinjore.

In 1981 the number of Class I cities increased to 9 covering an area of 366.92 km² as compared to 2 in 1971 that covered just 37.5 km² of area. The percentage share of area of Class I cities increased to 53.1 per cent in comparison to a mere 9.58 per cent in 1971. Besides Faridabad and Rohtak, Panipat, Yamunanagar, Hisar, Sonipat, Karnal, Bhiwani and Ambala acquired Class I status due to expansion of manufacturing, servicing, educational, health, and transportation, commercial and administrative activities in these urban centres. *Large Towns* comprising of Class II towns were 7 in 1981. Out of these was Ambala Sadar with newly acquired statutory status. Gurgaon continued with a sluggish population growth with no revision in municipal boundary since 1971. On the other hand, Sirsa, Jind, Kaithal, Rewari and Hansi shifted from lower size-class category to upper size-class category. The total area of these towns was 76.91 km² or 11.2 per cent of the total area of statutory towns in the state.

Medium Towns (14) contributed 15.82 per cent to the total area of municipal towns in the state. This was slightly less than the *Small Towns* (44) that comprised of 19.96 per cent of the total area of towns governed by municipal bodies in the state. Even though the number of *Small Towns* was more than three times the number of *Medium Towns* the lack of infra-structural facilities in these towns led to stagnation in their physical expansion and hence low percentage share in the total area of the towns (Table - 4).

Table -4

Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 1981.

Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	Nil	Nil	-	-
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	9	366.92	12.16	53.10
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	7	76.91	9.45	11.12
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	14	109.32	18.92	15.82
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	44	137.71	59.45	19.94
Class IV	10,000-19,999	22	93.60	29.72	13.55
Class V	5,000-9,999	20	41.8	27.02	6.05
Class VI	Below 5,000	2	2.5	2.70	0.36
Classes I-VI		74	691.05	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001, General Population Tables, Haryana, Series-7, Tables - A4, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

The decade (1981-91) took urban population in the state to 40.5 lakh, registering an

increase of 43.41 per cent (Table 3.1). 8 new statutory towns of Ellenabad, Cheeka, Samalkha, Kharkhoda, Siwani, Narnaund, Punahana and Tosham were added, taking number of Statutory Towns to 82 out of a total of 94 towns. Rania was declassified as rural in 1991. Samalkha was treated as Census Town till 1981. Tosham NAC, which had been declassified in 1981 census, again got the status of a town with a municipal committee in 1991 census. The number of Class I cities increased to 11 in 1991 with the up gradation of Gurgaon and Sirsa as Class I towns. These 11 cities comprised of 52.93 per cent of urban population which was more than half of the total urban population of the state. This was reflected in the total urban space occupied by these cities which was 418.51 km² or 49.24 per cent of the total area of statutory towns in Haryana.

There were 10 Class II towns having a combined area of 137.23 km² or 16.15 per cent of the total area of statutory towns. Thanesar, Ambala Sadar, Narnaul, Palwal and Jagadhari having the status of *Medium Towns* (Class III towns) in 1981 were upgraded as *Large Towns* (Class II towns) as per 1991 census. There were 29 Class IV towns which not only outnumbered Class III towns in numerical strength that were just 17 but also comprised of 159.9 km² of total area, that is, 57 km² more than Class III towns. These towns, however, comprised only 10.78 per cent of the total urban population in comparison to 14.95 per cent of Class III towns. 14 Class V contributed merely 3.49 per cent of the total area of statutory towns. There was only one Class VI town of Ateli which was just 1.65 km² in area. Jakhalmadi, another Class VI town in 1981 added 990 persons to its population and moved to the next higher population size category (Table-5).

Table -5

Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 1991.

Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	Nil	Nil	-	-
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	11	418.51	13.41	49.24
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	10	137.23	12.19	16.15
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	17	102.9	20.73	12.11
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	44	191.10	53.65	22.50
Class IV	10,000-19,999	29	159.9	35.36	18.81
Class V	5,000-9,999	14	29.7	17.07	3.49
Class VI	Below 5,000	1	1.65	1.22	0.2
Classes I-VI		82	849.89	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001, General Population Tables, Haryana, Series-7, Tables - A4,

Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

In 2001 there were 83 statutory towns with addition of just one town from 1991. Rania which was declassified in 1991 was again reclassified in 2001. Though there was addition of just one statutory town during 1991-2001 but the urban space increased by 210.67 km². There were 19 Class I towns accounting for 59.4 per cent of the total area of statutory towns in the state. As many as 8 towns got upgraded to the status of Class I towns/cities during 1991-2001. There were 6 Class II statutory towns contributing 72.4 km² of area or mere 6.89 per cent of the total urban area under municipal jurisdiction in the state. The remaining 58 statutory towns from Class III to Class V together contributed only 353.59 km², that is, less than half of the total urban area under municipal administration. A significant development that took place during this decade is that there was no town in Class VI class size category as Ateli that was a Class VI town in 1991 moved to the higher class size category.

Thus, Class I cities accounted for the largest proportion of the state's total urban space under municipal jurisdiction due to concentration of manufacturing, servicing, educational, medical, transportation, commercial and administrative amenities and activities in these urban centres. These cities continued to witness faster growth of population and geographical spread due to urban to urban migration from small and medium towns. Contrary to this, small towns declined in number as well as their share in total urban area under jurisdictional control of urban local bodies due to lack of infra-structural facilities and hence employment opportunities (Table-6).

Table-6
Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 2001.

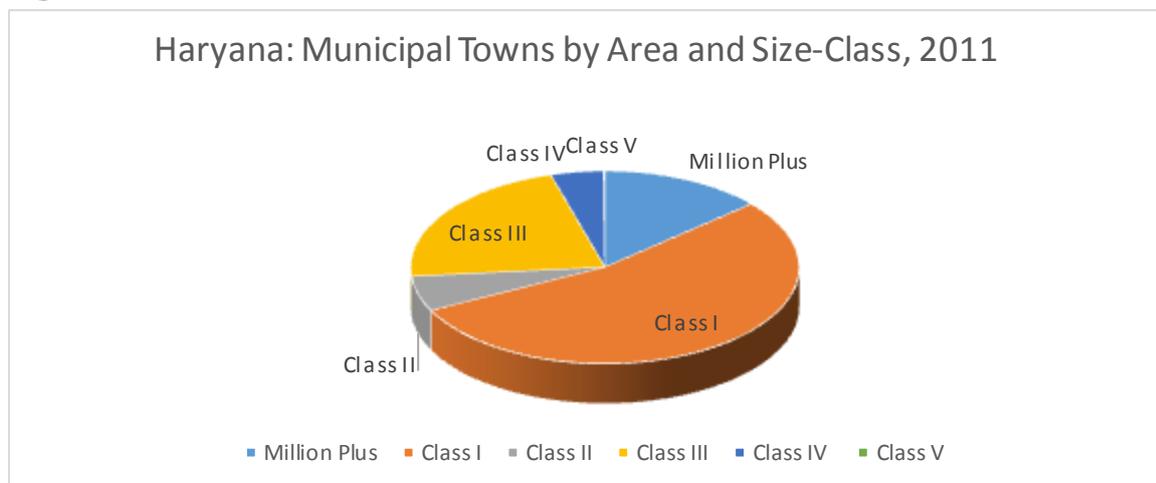
Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	Nil	Nil	-	-
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	19	634.56	22.89	59.4
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	06	72.4	7.23	6.89
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	23	212.6	27.72	20.30
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	35	140.9	42.16	13.41
Class IV	10,000-19,999	29	121.01	34.94	11.52
Class V	5,000-9,999	06	19.98	7.23	1.89
Classes I-VI		83	1060.55	100.00	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001, General Population Tables, Haryana, Series-7, Tables - A4, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

Unlike the previous decades that witnessed an increase in the number of municipal towns in the state; 2011 registered a decline in the number of statutory towns due to the merger of M.C. Kalka and Pinjore in Panchkula Corporation, M.C. Ambala Sadar in Ambala Corporation and M.C. Jagadhri in Yamunanagar Corporation. The total number of statutory towns stood at 79 as compared to 83 in 2001 and the growth in urban population too slackened to 44.58 per cent during 2001-2011 (Table-1) but the area under municipal jurisdiction increased by 439.29 km² to 1499.84 km².

In 2011, Faridabad Municipal Corporation became the first city to register a population of million plus in the state. There was an addition of one more city to the category of Class I cities taking the number to 20 (including the million-plus city) in 2011. Panchkula which was till now under the jurisdiction of Estate Office was made a Corporation in which Pinjore M.C. and Kalka M.C. were merged. As many as 9 Class I cities saw a revision in their municipal limits by as much as 348.76 km². This decade saw an unusual increase in the number of *Medium Towns* (Class III towns) from 23 in 2001 to 33 in 2011. After Class I cities which accounted for 53.98 per cent of urban area under municipal jurisdiction, *Medium Towns* had 22.02 per cent of urban space under municipal towns (Fig -4).

Fig.-4



Due to up gradation of towns from lower to higher class sizes, the number of Class IV statutory towns were reduced to 16 in 2011 from 29 in 2001. The area under their territorial jurisdiction accounted for just 4.40 per cent of the total area. There was just one Class V town of Ateli having an area of mere 1.65 km² under its municipal limits. Like in previous decade, 2011 too has no Class VI municipal town. Fig. 1.4 reveals that though Class IV and Class V statutory towns are on a continuous decline, *Medium Towns* (Class III towns) still dominate the urban scene if not in geographical spread but in numerical strength.

Fig.- 4 and Table -7 reveal that cities are growing faster than the towns of other class sizes both in terms of physical expansion and population size. They account for 67.58 per cent of the total area under municipal towns and 49.81 per cent of the total urban area of the state. Not only this, they comprise 68.02 per cent of urban population.

On the contrary, only 17 *Small Towns* (Class IV and V towns) are under municipal

jurisdiction comprising of 4.5 per cent of total area under statutory towns and their population size is also small, less than one tenth of total urban population. Meanwhile, *Medium Towns* (Class III towns) still continue to thrive both in number as well as in terms of urban space under their territorial jurisdiction.

Table - 7

Percentage of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Number of Municipal Towns and Percentage of Area of Municipal Towns in each Class to Total Municipal Area of the State : 2011.

Size Class of Towns/Cities	Population Size	Number of Towns	Area (in km ²)	Percentage of No. of Towns	Percentage of Area of Towns
Million-Plus City	10,00,000 and above	01	204.00	1.26	13.60
City/Cities					
Class I	1,00,000 and above	19	809.54	24.05	53.98
Large Towns					
Class II	50,000-99,999	09	88.41	11.39	5.89
Medium Towns					
Class III	20,000-49,999	33	330.24	41.77	22.02
Small Towns	<5,000-19,999	17	67.65	21.51	4.51
Class IV	10,000-19,999	16	66.00	20.25	4.40
Class V	5,000-9,999	01	1.65	1.26	0.11
Classes I-VI		79	1499.84	100.00	100.00

Source: 1.Census of India (2011), Primary Census Abstract, Haryana, Series 7, Tables - A5-A8, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana. 2. Computed from unpublished tables of Census of India, 2011, Haryana, Directorate of Census Operations, Haryana.

The distribution of population in different size class is likely to become more and more skewed. The share of Class I towns or cities with population size of 1, 00,000 or more will continue to increase while the share of Class IV, V and VI towns, having less than 20,000 people, on the other hand, will continue to go down. This is largely due to the fact that the towns in lower categories have grown in size and entered the next higher category (Kundu, 1994).

Concluding Remarks

At the time of grant of statehood to Haryana in 1966, there were 61 towns covering an area of 355.65 km². The total urban area made less than one-hundredth km² (0.85 per cent) of the total geographical area of the state. The grant of statehood induced new zeal and enthusiasm among the masses, bureaucracy and the leadership of the state. The expansion of administrative and developmental activities in the state on a large scale which continues till date has transformed the urban landscape. Since then, the number of towns has steadily increased to 154

as per 2011 census covering an area of 2034.54 km². Out of these there are 79 statutory towns, 74 census towns and one cantonment town. This comes to an increase of more than five times in area under urban centres during 1961-2011. Now 4.60 per cent of the total geographical area of the state makes urban. Consistent with a rise in the number of municipal towns from 58 in 1961 to 79 in 2011, along with a territorial redefinition of four-fifth of them during 1961-2011, the area under statutory towns in Haryana increased from 319.39 km² to 1499.84 km².

The process of increase in the number of municipal towns was gradual during 1961-71, 58 to 61 but rapid during 1971-81 when the number of towns went up from 61 to 74 and the urban area too increase significantly from 391.25 km² to 691.05 km². This large increase in urban area was mainly due to the establishment of urban, residential, industrial and commercial estates by the urban development authorities in many towns and expansion of market towns and centres of agro-processing industries due to the success of Green Revolution.

The 1981-91 decade witnessed a slowdown in the increase in urban area as compared to the previous decade. The increase in urban area was just 158.83 km² as compared to 292.8 km² during 1971-81 taking the total area to 849.88 km² in 1991. The launch of various centrally sponsored schemes during the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) and the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) with a focus on rural development resulted in decreased emphasis on reclassification of towns, that is, emergence of new towns and change in territorial jurisdiction of existing ones by the state so as to derive more benefits from the Centre directed towards rural areas.

The increase in area under municipal towns again picked up during 1991-2001 with 1060.55 km² of urban area under municipal jurisdiction in the state. The post-liberalisation phase saw the expansion and concentration of industrial activity in large-sized towns which led to their physical spread.

The decade of 2001-2011 saw the number of municipal towns decline from 83 in previous decade to 79 due to the merger of a few municipalities into corporations yet the increase in urban area due to territorial expansion was 439.29 km² as compared to 210.67 km² during 1991-2001 taking the total area under municipal jurisdiction of statutory towns in the state to 1499.84 km². The majority of urban centres that witnessed expansion of their jurisdictional limits are located either in the eastern part of the state along the G.T. Road (NH 1) or in the National Capital Region. High degree of diversification of economy, rapid industrial development coupled with agricultural advancement particularly in the NCR and along the National Highways and highly developed transport and communication network have contributed to a high degree of urbanisation in this part of the state (Goel, 2012).

The combined area of small towns and medium towns was more than that of cities and large towns combined together over a period of two decades from 1961-1971. However, 1981 onwards cities and large towns continue to dominate the urban scene in terms of urban space under their jurisdictional control.

Class I cities which have grown in number from just one city in 1961 to 20 as per 2011 census account for the largest proportion of the state's total urban space (67.58 per cent) under municipal jurisdiction due to concentration of manufacturing, service, medical, educational, transportation, commercial and administrative activities and amenities. These cities have witnessed rapid population growth and physical spread. On the contrary, in terms of numerical strength, small towns still outnumber towns of other size class but they have

witnessed decline in their number as well as their share in total urban area under jurisdictional control. This type of tendency certainly reflects the imbalance of distribution but at the same time it indicates the more definite and dynamic pattern of urban development (Sangwan, 2013).

The emergence of new towns as well as territorial expansion of existing ones have both contributed to the transformation of rural landscape to urban in Haryana ever since it was carved out as a separate state in 1966. Increased agricultural productivity under the impact of Green Revolution leading to increased rural-urban interaction as well as rural to urban migration in search of better employment opportunities and health and educational services led to the expansion and establishment of mandi townships and agro-based industries. Moreover, 1980s onward the state benefitted from the spill over of industries and commercial activities from the National Capital of Delhi. This reflected in fast urban-industrialisation in the areas of the state falling in the NCR. As many as 11 districts of the state out of a total of 21 districts come in NCR. As a consequence, the cities of Faridabad, Gurgaon, Palwal, Rohtak, Bahadurgarh, Sonipat, Panipat and Karnal have experienced an unprecedented growth both in terms of area and population.

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Fig. 1.1