



## Satellite Towns: An Overview of Jaipur

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**Abstract:** Jaipur, the capital city of Rajasthan, is facing intense pressure on basic amenities due to rapid growth in population caused by high birth rate and immigration as well. Besides, Jaipur is also witnessing haphazard, unplanned and unchecked urban growth. Therefore, the Rajasthan government has prepared the Master Plane of Jaipur 2025 to achieve holistic, inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development of entire Jaipur region. This master plan envisages to develop 15 cities in the form of satellite town. This research paper tries to discuss pros and cons of satellite towns along with making a set of recommendations of urban planning so that optimum utilization of available resources and sustainable development can be achieved in this regard.

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**Introduction:** According to United Nations estimate world's population by 2050 will be 9.8 billion and which of them 66% population will live in urban area. Africa and Asia are urbanizing faster than the other regions of the world and are projected to become 56 and 64% urban, respectively by 2050. India will be most populous country in the world by 2050, with 160 million people and 60% of them will live in urban area. The remarkable growth of India's population in urban areas over last two decades is alarming or perhaps giving the glimpse of what the Future of Indian towns and cities will be. The emerging new towns developed from the suburbs have been seen as a new hope for the cities which are already saturated and facing the dearth of every resource possible in their kit.

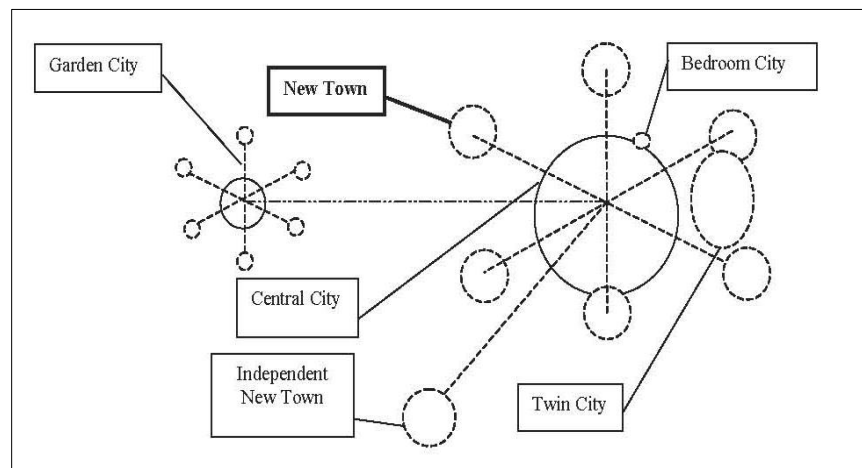
Jaipur being the capital of Rajasthan and the city full of opportunities and convenient linkages is attracting almost every trade and activity. There for it witnessed a phenomenal population growth during the past few decades. The city population has reached 3.04 million in 2011. Significant part of this growth can be attributed to immigration to the city. A continuous influx of population results in changes in the socio-economic characteristics of the city's population and has given rise to issues like stress on infrastructure, traffic congestion, emergence of unplanned areas, Jhuggi - jhopari colonies, slum and squatter settlements etc. and degradation of the environment. In order to combat above mentioned problems Jaipur administration has proposed to develop 15 satellite towns within Jaipur region. In this paper, the pros and cones has been discussed of these satellite towns.

What is the Satellite Town?

Satellite Towns are defined as towns or small cities located near large cities. They are preferably constructed to disperse the overcrowded, population and industries in the central cities and to promote co-ordinated development between the central cities and their surrounding regions. It can be defined as:  
*'A city designed to house the overspill population of any major city, but located well beyond the limits of that city, and operating as a discrete, self-contained entity'.*

These aims to decentralize urban growth by building new settlement beyond the parent city, linked to it by road and rail network. There are diverse types of satellite town, such as:-

- a) **Garden cities** (Howard, 1898) - newly developed a small form of satellite town with green belt.
- b) **Independent new towns**- distant from any large city.
- c) **Bedroom city**- with incomplete functions, where lived daily commuters to the main city.
- d) **Twin new city**- which locate beside large city and play almost the same important roles as the old cities.
- e) **Satellite town**- New town which appear like satellite around a planet.



*Source:-XuewenTan , 2010*

Satellite cities are a relatively new development. They are designed to curb urban sprawl to the suburb and supplement 'mother city' expansion. They are typically well-organized urban spaces that are self-contained and separate from the mother city, and gated to some degree. They contain living spaces such as villas, condominiums and their accompanying infrastructure, consumption spaces such as shopping malls, office space, and private hospitals, schools and other facilities, as well as recreational spaces.

### Population Scenario

The population projection made by the National Commission for Population states that demography of desert state is fast tilting towards urban areas. It shows that thirty-five percent of the total population of the Rajasthan will live in urban areas by 2050. Jaipur apart from being the capital of the state, these are major reasons responsible for the rapid growth in population:-

- 1) Jaipur is the largest city in the state of Rajasthan that makes it the largest employment option for a range of workers.
- 2) The increasing frequency of droughts and crop failures combined with reducing land holdings also forces people to turn to large cities like Jaipur in search of seasonal wage labour opportunities.
- 3) Jaipur is probably the first planned city of Modern India. Its features of beautiful Architecture, planned growth and cosmopolitan character have endowed it with uniqueness in India's urban setting.



- 4) Strategically located, with the capital of India, Delhi at 258 kms and Agra at 232 kms, the city forms part of the famous Golden Triangle. It is also located on the golden quadrilateral of National Highway Development Programme.
- 5) The locational advantage of the city as also it being a famous tourist destination, has boosted the growth of the city over the years with many new developments and projects coming all over.

As a result of the influx of population to Jaipur the following pattern of Population growth has been observed in the past few decades:-

Table 5.1: Decadal population average annual growth rate of Jaipur city (Source: Census of India, Rajasthan)

Years	Total Population	Growth rate (%)	Average annual growth rate (%)
1941	175,800	--	----
1951	291000	39.59	3.96
1961	403,400	27.86	2.79
1971	636,800	36.65	3.67
1981	1,015,567	37.30	3.73
1991	1,518,743	33.13	3.31
2001	2,322,575	34.61	3.46
2011	3,046,163	23.75	2.38

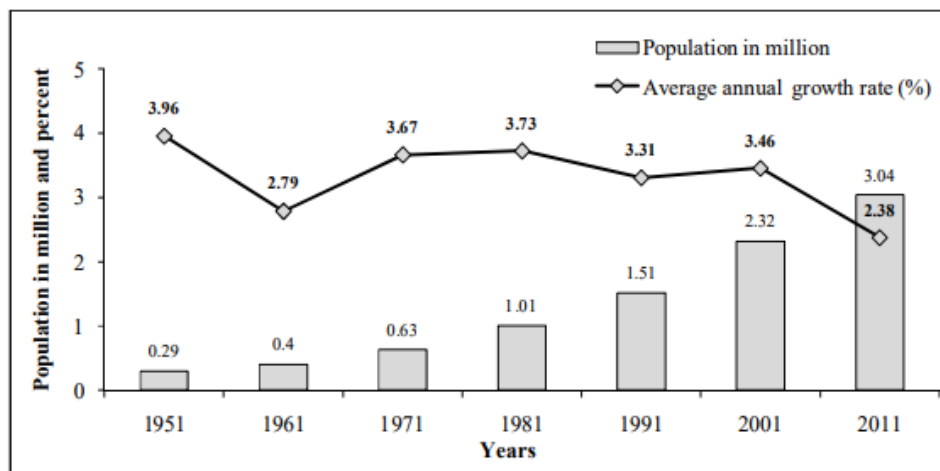


Figure: Population growth trend of Jaipur

Decadal growth in urban population is 55.50% in Jaipur city during 2001-2011. District holds top position among all district of state regarding urban population growth between 2001 and 2011. Hence, in order to reduce the burden of likely future problems associated with urbanization like population and pressure on infrastructure, there is a need to develop few towns located in the fringe area of Jaipur city. Achrol, Bhanpur, Kalan, Jamwaramgarh, Bassi, Kanota, Watika, Bagru, Kalwar, Kukas, Jahota and chomu, are the major urban centres which can become important for the regional development of the whole district in more planned manner.

## Issues

- Unlike other metropolitan cities, Jaipur has a limited area, where the orbit of influence is well beyond its administrative limits and it is expected that large part of Jaipur region will be under pressure of urbanisation.
- Rapid Urbanisation and increase of population at a tremendous rate has given rise to issues like
  - Stress on Infrastructure
  - Traffic Congestion
  - Emergence of unplanned areas, Jhuggi - jhopari colonies, Slum and Squatter settlements etc.
  - Degradation of the environment
  - Conservation of built up areas
- As long as Jaipur remains the only completely developed center and has a wide variety of economic opportunities, migration will be focused towards Jaipur in preference to other towns in the whole region.
- The major towns of the ring are not adequately planned for the great upsurge of growth. They lack in adequate provisions of social and physical infrastructure and have haphazard and piecemeal planning. The municipal boundaries ordinarily do not extend much beyond the areas which have already been built upon.

In order to have balanced regional development, Master Plan is prepared for 11 satellite towns and 4 growth centres within the Jaipur region. These satellite towns are Achrol, Bhanpur, Kalan, Jamwaramgarh, Bassi, Kanota, Watika, Bagru, Kalwar, Kukas Jahota and chomu.

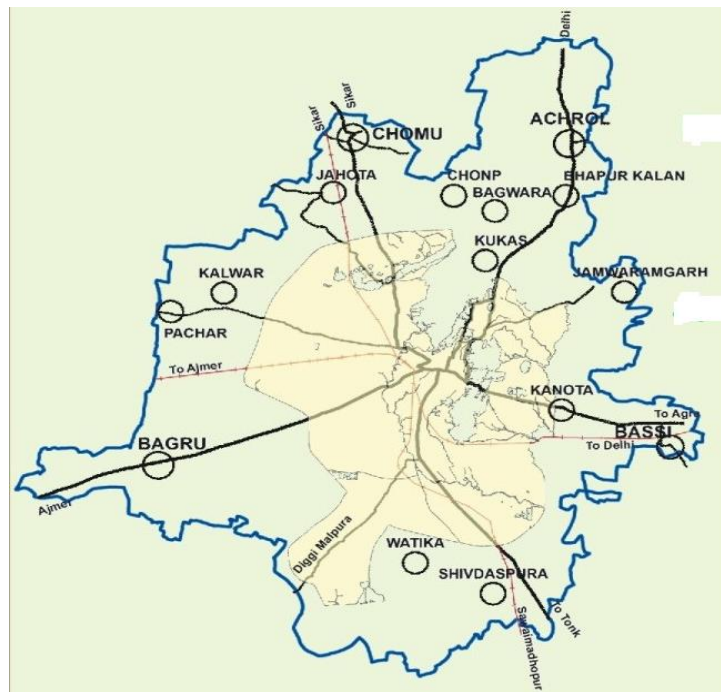


Figure: Propose satellite towns of Jaipur region



### **Objectives Of Satellite Town in Jaipur Region:-**

The broad objective of the Master Development Plan-2025, as enumerated in the Jaipur Development Authority Act, is to ensure development of Jaipur region in a planned manner. In order to meet the vision, the specific objectives for development of these settlements are as follows:

- to lay down broad proposals and directions for growth to seek balanced development of the settlement.
  - to fulfill the Spatial needs of the settlement.
  - to Determine and achieve the standards for social infrastructure facilities such as education, health & other social needs of the resident population.
  - to Identify the social and physical infrastructure requirements of the settlement for the horizon period.
  - to Identify the need for conservation of historic, ecologically sensitive and aesthetically important areas.
  - to develop a mechanism for sustainable developments that harmonize both the needs of the environment and of development, as well as guidelines for such development.
  - Development of these towns will encourage economic development thereby creating job opportunities for the town and the villages in the vicinity.
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- Satellite towns will help in reducing migration and urban infrastructural pressure to the mother city.
  - Urban Congestion in metro cities has been a major problem due to population explosion because natural growth and contribution from migration from neighboring cities. Urban congestion may be tackled by satellite towns. It leads to lowest land prices, and hence offers the poor the best chance for proper housing. In every way — financial, ecological, ethical, and social — satellite towns are the best cure for the major cities. Eg: Achrole, Bagru, Bhanpur etc.

The huge amount of migration & natural growth in metropolis of India has boosted the concept of satellite town and has been quite successful in tackling the urban congestion. The introduction of satellite towns has come up as a solution to counteract the population explosion in major cities like metropolis.

### **Limitations of Satellite town:-**

Besides their advantages there are also several limitations of satellite towns:-

- a) The major disadvantage is being located far away from the city center. Therefore, commuting becomes harder and it can cause fatigue. Another important drawback of modern towns is expensive houses.
- b) Blindly joining the rush to build new satellite cities will do more harm than good, because smaller cities have limited resources, populations, simpler industrial structures, weaker research and development capacities, and smaller government budgets.
- c) Population and environment are closely related in a complex and dynamic manner and this relationship is mediated by number of socio-economic, cultural, political, and developmental aspects whose role varies considerably from one context to other (Richards, 1986 and Mallick, 2012). Thus, the rapid growth of human population is often identified as one of the main factors behind environmental degradation.
- d) Satellite towns are expected to work as counter magnet to the main mother city. However experience of the past has proved otherwise. A satellite town ultimately ends up being an extension of urbanisable area of the mother city in the long run. The interdependence of the two



city area marked with frequent to & fro movement essentially generate intensive ribbon development along the movement corridor.

- e) Declining in agriculture area to new urban area makes unemployed to the local farmers.
- f) Successes based on accesbility to the parent city. Large distance between satellite town and mother city makes difficult for daily commuters. It needs an efficient public transportation system which is very expensive.
- g) Dependency on private developers for the real estate, makes houses expensive and out of reach to the poor.

### Recommendations-

- Jaipur city needs to be planned together with Jaipur region. Jaipur city cannot sustain itself for long time without depending on whole region. Land being limited in administrative boundaries of Jaipur at present and near future, it has to co-survive with other cities of region in terms of population and economic activities.
- Satellite towns of Jaipur region need to be developed on priority basis.
- Poly-nodal concept with corridor form of development to be encouraged.
- Considering the development potential and economic forces of some of the S atellite towns( towns like Achrole, Bagru, Bhanpur, Chomu, Bassi, Watka etc. ) need to be promoted on priority and their existing economic activity may further be enhanced by inducing more developmental impulses so that they act as economic nodes in the region and may result balanced development by retaining considerable population, which otherwise would move towards the mother city of Jaipur.
- The land provisions for different activities in different satellite/ ring towns need to be specific so that there is no unintended duplicacy in such provisions which may encourage development in one town in comparison to other.
- Development of counter wholesale markets, industrial areas, educational institutions and other facilities in the satellite towns to promote voluntary shifting of establishments located in Jaipur and upcoming of establishments due to enhanced need of the future.
- The rampant conversion of rural land into unauthorised or residential areas need to be checked not only in Jaipur but also in Satellite towns, so that unintended urban growth does not distort the Plan provisions.
- To increase the mobility of people and goods, the transport linkages need to be strengthened with region in a big way. It is felt that the development in Jaipur region will directly depend on the level of development of transport linkages.
- To retain the population which otherwise would have migrated to Jaipur.
- The Satellite towns should offer incentives such as low cost of living, in accordance with their capacities to pay, relief in taxation, provision of adequate social and physical infrastructure facilities etc.

The 18th century city of Jaipur, known for its architectural beauty and vibrant culture, is selected under the center's smart city project but for the syncing its historic magnificence with modernity there should be improvement and beautification of facades, restoration of heritage buildings and smart roads with integrated traffic management system. Along with smart roads features like CCTV cameras, Wi-Fi system, intelligent lights, environment monitoring system, information display system, charging points, bins with sensor and safe movement of pedestrians should also be ensure.

Thus, in short, the image, Jaipur city offers, at national and international levels, needs a special attention at planning front to make it a world class city and satellite towns need to be developed with proper infrastructure to take off the chocking situation of Jaipur.



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