Asia is experiencing high rates of urbanisation especially cities in China and India. In the 1990s India’s population grew by 23% but faster growth was experienced in the main cities. Delhi grew by 70%, Bangalore 38% and Mumbai by 21%. Cities are chronically overcrowded and traffic jams are common. Of India’s 300 million urban dwellers 100 million live in slums without access to clean water, sanitation and power. However, Indian cities, such as Mumbai, are linked to the rest of the world through finance, tourism, trade, culture, technology, aid and international agreements.

**Urbanisation in India 1901–2030**

**Graph: Urban growth**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>53,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>63,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>72,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>81,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>99,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>102,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>108,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>111,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>119,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>121,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>125,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Activities**

- Calculate the difference in the total population in India from 1901 to 2030
- What are the percentages of Indians living in urban areas in 1901, 2010 and 2030?
- List the pull forces attracting Indians to move to cities

**Graph: Urban growth in four Indian cities 1900–2020**

**Activities**

- What city had the largest population in 1980?
- What city is expected to contain the largest population by 2020?
URBAN INDIA USING GEOGRAPHICAL TOOLS

Table: Population growth of urban places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>2,857,000</td>
<td>18,963,000</td>
<td>23,931,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>1,369,369</td>
<td>16,671,894</td>
<td>23,705,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>4,513,496</td>
<td>14,827,582</td>
<td>18,799,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangalore</td>
<td>745,999</td>
<td>6,963,832</td>
<td>9,531,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>12,338,471</td>
<td>19,040,493</td>
<td>20,369,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai</td>
<td>6,066,000</td>
<td>14,986,000</td>
<td>18,464,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>8,361,000</td>
<td>8,567,000</td>
<td>8,618,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>2,883,000</td>
<td>19,957,000</td>
<td>22,185,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johannesburg</td>
<td>900,000</td>
<td>3,420,000</td>
<td>3,741,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>3,351,757</td>
<td>3,405,954</td>
<td>3,435,579</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities
- List the four Indian cities in the table.
- Calculate the difference in the populations of Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata/Calcutta and Bangalore between 1950 and 2020.
- Rank in order from the largest to the smallest population of cities in 2020. List the ranks of the four Indian cities.

Table: Comparing cities

Activities
- Name the city with the:
  - Largest area
  - Largest population
  - Smallest density of population.

Comparing density
High density in Mumbai is indicated in the mountainous peaks in the diagram. Delhi occupies a larger area with less dense areas than Mumbai.

The ability of Indian cities to accommodate high numbers of people is reflected in the huge number of squatter and slum settlements. In some areas in Mumbai such as Dharavi, known for the movie *Slum Dog Millionaire*, accommodates 100,000 residents per Km².

Activities
- Compare density between Mumbai and Delhi.
- Explain why Mumbai contains more people than New York.

*Note these figures are a few years out of date*
URBAN INDIA USING GEOGRAPHICAL TOOLS

Photograph: Dharavi

Source: http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2007/05/dharavi-mumbai-slum/jacobson-text

Photograph: Overview of Dharavi


Activities

- What proportion of Mumbai is built up?
- List the other uses of land in Mumbai

Urban morphology

The spatial structure of Indian cities shows a compact arrangement of buildings.

Old Delhi is located around a circular layout of Connaught Place.

Kolkata or Calcutta shows a 1960s redevelopment of a former wetland. It reveals space and a regular grid pattern.

Bangalore surrounds a central park with regular street patterns.

Graph: Mode of transport

High proportion of Indians walk or take public transport as their home and place of work is close. In Mumbai walking makes up 55.5% of all forms of travel with few using cars. This contrasts with Los Angeles where 80% of the workforce drives to work.

Graph: Landuse in Mumbai

Graph: Mode of transport
Tickets in Indian cities are 10 to 30 times cheaper than in London and reflect the importance of the metro system as a mode of transport. Also Mumbai contains extensive rail infrastructure.

Adult literacy is higher in all Indian cities compared to the national average. Large cities offer better educational opportunities.

There are more males than females living in Mumbai and more males in the working age group.
Activities

- Calculate the difference between males and females in the 20–29 age group
- What is the difference between the average age in Mumbai and India’s average age?
- Compare Mumbai’s population pyramid with New York

Photograph: Access to water and electricity

Source: J.Bliss

DVD: Slumming it!

Slums: India

Kevin McCloud immerses himself in one of the most extreme and densely populated places on earth: Dharavi, Mumbai. Over one million people are crammed into 2.6 square kilometres. Living and working with the locals, Kevin explores the 15,000 one-room industries contained within the slum. Despite the hardships of life in the area, Kevin discovers an extraordinary sense of spirit and community and reflects on the lessons Western cities could learn from its sustainable society.

Cost: $24.99

Activities

- Name the city with greatest access to electricity and tap water
- Explain why there are more facilities in Indian cities than the national average

Photograph: Roadside dwelling, Dharavi

Source: http://getgem.files.wordpress.com/2011/02/img_6826-hut.jpg

Resources

YouTube Trailer – http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTu5bOrKols 10.02 min
Mumbai’s Slums – the Real Scene Behind ‘Slumdog Millionaire’ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtkvsNUVF5Y&feature=related 3.39 min
Dharavi Slum Rehabilitation – http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYa6ooID1ZE&feature=relmfu 8.57 min
Graphs – Urban Age India Newspaper – http://v0.urban-age.net/0_downloads/UrbanAgeIndiaNewspaper-web.pdf