

URBANIZATION AND MISS USE OF AGRICULTURE LAND A CASE STUDY OF DERA ISMAIL KHAN NWFP (PAKISTAN)

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ABSTRACT

The process of urbanization is a manifestation of national and regional development that generates both benefits and problems. Some people consider it a sign of economic growth, modernization and social change, while other views it as a negative phenomenon. Urbanization is one of the most dramatic global social transformations of the present society. Urbanization means increased spatial scale and/or density of settlement and/or business and other activities in the area over time. The urbanization typically involves the transformation of peripheral population from rural to urban, together with the settlement of incoming migrants. The fast pace of urbanization and sprawl of cities and towns has resulted in competition among various uses such as agriculture, residential commercial, industrial and other infrastructure with no regard to environmental concerns and the importance of other important uses. The countries where maximum peoples depend on agriculture and maximum portion to GDP is contributed by agriculture, urbanization will have negative impacts on economy. Urbanization in Asia, however, is coming at a price. More than 12 km² of mainly productive agricultural land and foreshores are lost daily to generally poor-quality forms of urban development. Traffic congestion and pollution continue to grow, reducing the quality of life in many urban environments. Overcrowding has become endemic in many cities. Urban poverty, associated with unemployment and the lack of access to adequate housing and services, is an increasing social problem. (Brian Roberts and Trevor Kanaley 2006)

In this paper I have selected the D.I.Khan as a case study. I have made comparison of conversion of green land in towns and its negative impacts on agriculture productivity and miss-use of green land.

INTRODUCTION

Pakistan like many other developing countries is primarily an agriculture country. Agriculture is the largest sector of economic activity and plays a crucial role in the country's economic development by providing food and raw materials and employment to a large portion of the population. The fastest rate of conversion of agriculture land in urbanization will have negative impact on agriculture sector of the county.

One of the powerful social forces that may have a great impact on a society is urbanization. It involves the migration of people from the countryside to cities, increasing the proportion of a population that lives in small groups. Urbanization and misuse of agriculture land is the problem of all those developing countries where population growth rate and migration rate from rural to urban is high. The problem needs proper attention of the government. The 2005 Revision of the UN World Urbanization Prospects report described the 20th century as witnessing "the rapid

urbanization of the world's population". as the global proportion of urban population rose dramatically from 13% (220 million) in 1900, to 29% (732 million) in 1950, to 49% (3.2 billion) in 2005. The same report projected that the figure is likely to rise to 60% (4.9 billion) by 2030. (World Urbanization Prospects, 2005). Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN. Pakistan since its inception as an independent state in 1947 has experienced dramatic changes in economy and demographics. The agriculture sector, which contributed more than 53% of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1949-1950, declined to 24% of GDP in 2004 (Zaidi, 2005). Over the same period, manufacturing increased from 8% to 26%, and services and trade increased from 25% to 51%. Whereas the share of agriculture in the national GDP halved over the last 5 decades, the agricultural labor force has declined less, from 65% in 1951 to 48% in 2003 (Zaidi, 2005).

In this paper I have selected the Dera Ismail Khan a second big city of NWFP (Pakistan)