

Sustainable development Strategies for an Industrial Township: A Case of BHEL, Bhopal

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ABSTRACT

As a result of the liberalization policies and the shift in focus on industrial development, Indian cities have experienced increased influx of migrating population resulting in a steep rise in their size and population. In such a scenario it becomes imperative on the part of the government to provide for the necessary infrastructural and service related facilities in order to sustainably regulate the development of the overburdened cities. The development of new towns is not possible always due to a lack of the required amount of financial and land resources. It therefore, puts in front of us a challenging task of redesigning or redeveloping the existing urban/development centers within our cities in order to achieve sustainability in our development process. Many such centers have come up around the industrial clusters developed in major cities across the nation. In many of these cases there is a huge potential of redevelopment or more efficient development due to the fact that they have substantial amount of underutilized land resources.

This paper tries to highlight the similar kind of sustainable redevelopment potential within an urban center developed around the BHEL industrial cluster in Bhopal. It focuses on the factors that led up to the existing trends of development within the identified urban center since its inception in 1970 and tries to analyze how the trend matches with the development happening around it in the rest of the city. It then, highlights some of the growth theories and concepts that could be utilized in developing it in a more sustainable manner finally, highlighting some of the strategies for sustainably redeveloping it as an efficient urban growth center.