



## Growth of Patna urban area

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### Abstract

Patna is an ancient town. This town has witnessed many vicissitudes in its historical past and after a long struggle and evolution has formed the present shape. This town was known as different name in different era. In the time of 1951 census, there were 74 class I town in India, Patna was also in class I town. The urban population of Patna was increased in different census year due to infrastructure & amenities and its capital town characteristics. The horizontal & vertical expansion was shown in this town. In 1971, the area of different blocks were included in Patna town and known as Patna agglomeration. Master plan 2031, the area of different adjacent blocks will include with Patna agglomeration for development of Patna metropolitan town. The concept of Smart City was also introduced for the development of Patna town. In this concept, beautification of town, proper drainage planning, expansion of road etc. will be included.

**Keywords:** urbanization, town, Patna, agglomeration

### 1. Introduction

Urbanization is one of the indices of Socio-Economic growth of a region or a nation. The growth of urbanization in India as well as Bihar, new areas are constantly being engulfed into the urban land use, while villages in the immediate vicinity of cities and town acquire an urban character. Urbanization plays an important role to promote the social, economic, cultural, educational and political conditions of a region. The new urban centers are coming up and old centers are expanding horizontally and vertically both. Towns and cities are getting all their important necessity things from their surroundings. Each and every town has potentiality for urban growth. The bigger towns have wide area of influence and its growth is expanding vertically and horizontally but in smaller town, area of influence has narrow and its growth is expanding mostly horizontally. The census of India has defined an urban centre in different ways in the different census year. In 1951, towns included all municipal area irrespective of their size and so also all cantonments; in addition, some other places which had urban characteristics about them were also treated as towns<sup>[1]</sup>.

Patna is located on the southern bank of river Ganga and the levy of this river also. Here the bed of river Ganga is higher than Kankarbagh area. In the south, the Punpun River

is also higher than Kankarbagh area. Thus, the location of Patna is considered as a saucer shape. Patna is a linear town. The extend of the Patna is "from 25°25' N to 25°42' N and the longitudinal is from 84°55' E to 85°20' E. Patna is bounded by river Ganga in the north, flood plain of river Punpun in the south, flood plain of the river Son west of Dinapur and Khagaul in the west and the confluence of river Punpun with the Ganga near Fatwah in the east<sup>[2]</sup>.

Patna is an ancient town. It was also known as Patliputra. According to the report of Megasthenes "Patliputra was about a mile long and 1.7 miles broad and the city was surrounded by a moat 600ft. broad and 30 cubits deep."<sup>3</sup> In the early period, Patna lies between Purav Darwaja to Paschim Darwaja, presently in Patna City area. In that time, Patna town was near 12 mile long and one mile wide. It was surrounded by jalla (water body) and orchard (bagh). Later on jalla area and bagh were converted into residential area. Some mohalla are named after the name of baghs. For example- Chhajjubagh, Kankarbagh, Gardanibagh, Gulzar bagh, Sabzibagh, Gulab bagh etc. some settlement was located in patches near the availability of drinking water i.e. well as kuan. At present some mohallas are named after adding kuan like Kadam kuan, Agam kuan, Makhania kuan etc. Due to urbanization, Patna attracts the rural population for basic amenities & infrastructure.

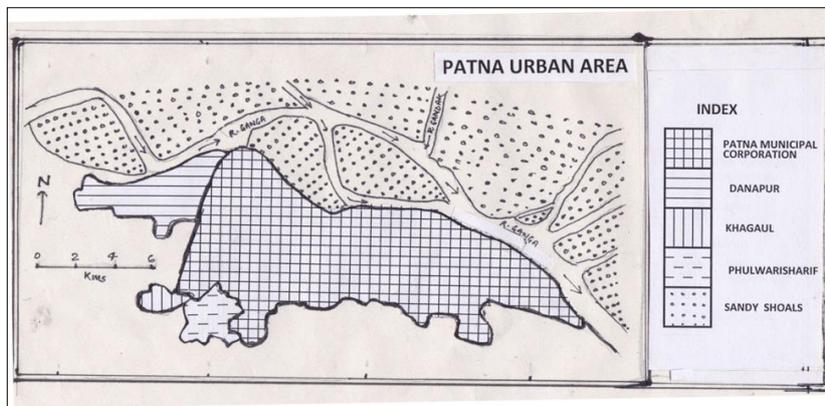


Fig 1

Patna is the oldest and most populous town in Bihar with a total population of 2049156 persons in 2011 [1]. Patna U.A. ranks 18<sup>th</sup> largest city in India. Though Patna is the administrative headquarters of the state of Bihar, it is surrounded by densely populated agricultural hinterland in the south fertile gangetic plain. Patna has a long history for their glory. Patna was founded in 490BC by the king of Magadh. Ancient Patna, known as Patliputra, was the capital of the Magadh Empire under the Haryaka, Nanda, Mauryan, Shunga, Gupta and Pala empires [2]. The old name of Patna was Azimabad during Prince Muhammad Azim, grandson of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, Pataliputra during Pala kings, Kusumpur is mentioned by the famous dramatist Vishakhadutt and Palibothra by Megasthenese in his book ‘Indica’. The origin of Patna to a mythological king, Putraka, who created Patna by a magic stroke for his queen Patali, literally trumpet flower, which gives it its ancient name Pataligram. It is said that in honor of the first born to the queen, the city was named Pataliputra. Patliputra was established by Uddan and after that King Ajatshatru provide galory to Patliputra as a capital.

Since Patna has a long history of urban development, the city has experienced several phases of urban growth and expansion. Patna is the capital town of the state of Bihar. The percentage of urban population in Bihar is 11.3% while in India is 31.2% in 2011. The detail information is provided in below table-

Table 1

% of Urban Population in various census year							
year	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
India	17.34	18.00	19.91	23.34	25.72	27.78	31.20
Bihar	6.32	7.48	7.97	9.84	10.40	10.47	11.30

2011

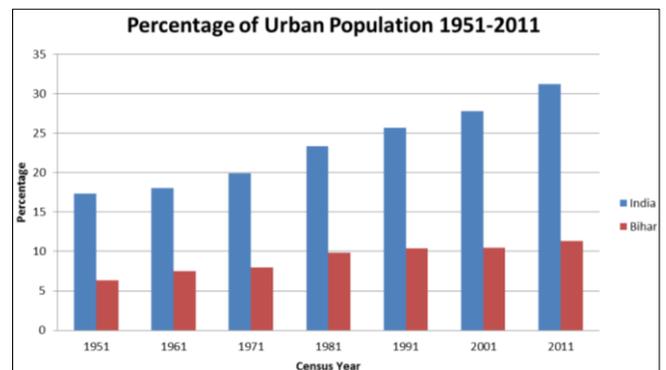


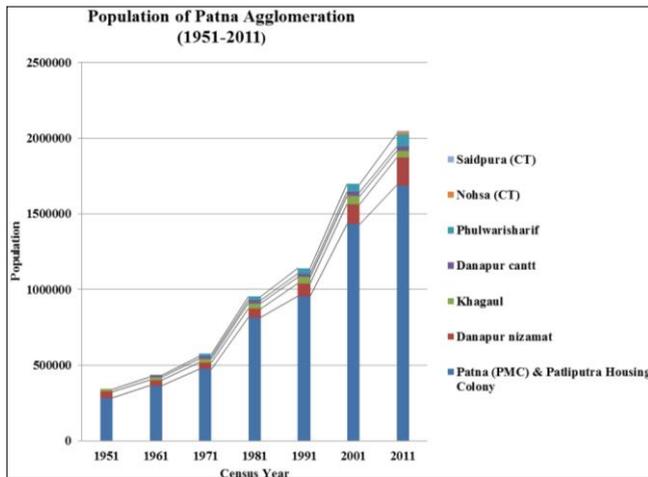
Fig 2

In the above table, it’s clearly shows that the percentage growth of urban population is very slow between 1991 and 2001 in Bihar. The second least percentage of urban population was shown in Bihar in 2011.

**Population of Patna town from 1951 to 2011**

**Table 1**

	1951	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Patna (PMC) & Patliputra Housing Colony	283470	364594	475300	813963	956417	1432209	1687828
Danapur nizammat	42684	35159	42694	58684	84616	131176	182429
Khagaul	15748	20549	24266	34161	40453	52906	44364
Danapur cantt	0	15058	17299	23544	23491	28234	28723
Phulwarisharif	0	0	15917	22712	35123	53451	81740
Nohsa (CT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	16680
Saidpura (CT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	7392
Total	341902	435360	575476	953064	1140100	1697976	2049156



**Fig 3**

The population of Patna town was 283470 in 1951 which was a part of class I town means the town having more than one lakh population. In 1951 the total no of towns in class I is 74 and 3 in India and Bihar respectively. Out of 3, Patna was most population town in Bihar. Due to the capital town of Bihar, the basic amenities were found. After a decade means 1961, the population of Patna town is increases by 81124 i.e. 28.62%. It was mostly due to natural increase of population. Very less population were either migrate or shifted to other town. The municipal corporation was established in 1952 for provide the basic amenities to the urban people and knows as Patna Municipal Corporation. After that in 1953 Patna improvement trust was established for look after the urban land use purpose. This Trust provides land for different purposes like educational, medicals as well as residential etc. Mostly educational centre was established in the land provided by Improvement Trust as lease for 60 year or 90 year or 99 year. Due to development of irrigational facilities in the surrounding Hinterland of the Patna town, normal condition of food supply was found. The people of surrounding area were attracted by its facilities. The expansion of Patna Municipal Corporation boundary in 1952 extended the town towards Chiraiyatand, Gardanibagh and Mithapur as well as south of Paschim Darwaja and Purav Darwaja.

Patliputra housing colony is a housing co-operative society in Patna. The society was formed in 1954 and was meant to be a housing society for government officials only, consisting of both residential and business settlements. In between 1961-1971, the population of Patna town was increased by 110706 i.e 30.36% from 1961. In this period Patna was expanded and rural-urban fringe zone was visible. Patna town was located between the south of river Ganga

and the north of railway lines. Patna by-pass road was found just south of railway lines. The last point of the Patna town was Patna by-pass road. The growth of Patna town was slow. Patna improvement trust plays an important role for the development of Patna town. The residential area lies between Patna city to Patna Jn. The surrounding area of Patna Jn. was known as Bankipore. In the west of Patna Jn, the administrative block was found. Secretariat, G.P.O., Assembly house etc was found. Some residential and market were established in the circle of those administrative area.

In between 1971-1981 the population of Patna UA was 953064 in 1981 which was increased by 65.61% from 1971. In this period the population increase rapidly due to the urban area of Patna had included Phulwarisharif, Patliputra housing colony, Danapur cantonment board and Digha-Mainpura urban area also and it was being named as Patna urban agglomeration. The concept of urban agglomeration was introduced for the first time in 1971 census. An urban Agglomeration was defined as “a continuous urban spread constituted of a town and its adjoining urban outgrowth or two or more physically contiguous town together with continuous well recognized urban outgrowth of any such town [4].

The three new residential colonies were established during this period. These residential colonies were Kankarbagh area, Gardanibagh area and Sri Krishnapuri area. After disbanding Patna improvement trust, the PRDA was set up in 1975 and was formed in 1979 under the provision of Patna regional development authority act 1978 for preparation of regional plan, master plan and zonal plan.

The population of Patna UA was 1140100 in 1991 which was 19.62% Increase from 1981. In between 1981 to 1991 the Patna town was expanded horizontally. The Kankarbagh area was expanded and developed to some new colonies like Bahadurpur Housing Colony, Bhagwat Nagar, Hanuman Nagar, Kankarbagh Housing Colony area etc. Patna by-pass was shifted 2km south of old by-pass. A large agriculture land was converted residential area with the help of housing board and the area of Patna town was increased. The west part of Patna Jn., Raja Bazar, Khajpura, Jagdeopath and Rukunpura area was develop along the road side. And the area of Rajeev nagar, Indrapuri, AG colony etc was developed. Chiraiyatand was emerging the vast populated area. The people of Chiraiyatand area crossed the railway line with the help of Chiraiyatand Railway Bridge for their livelihood, medical and educational facilities.

In between 1991 to 2001, the population of Patna UA was 1697976 which was 48.93% growth from 1991. During this period, Patna town extends from Didarganj in east and up to Sherpur in west. Bailey Road to Shaguna More area and Shaguna More to Danapur railway station (Khagaul) and

Shaguna More to Danapur was developed. The continuous settlement was found between Rajapur pul to Danapur along with the road. A new culture i.e. apartment culture was found during this period. The town extended from horizontal to vertical. The apartment was constructed in Dak Bunglow Road, Exhibition Road and CBD zone.

In between 2001 to 2011, the population of Patna UA was increase by 351180 which was 20.68% growth from 2001. During this period Patna town was expended both horizontally and vertically. Functional change was visible in this period. A house was used commercially in day time and residentially in night. Master plan was shown on ground. Large number of slum was visible. Illegal construction on public & private land use common phenomena. Town was developing rapidly. The CBD areas were functional on Raja Bazar Market, Anishabad-Phulwari Market etc. In this period, large number of apartment built and large number of green tree degraded. Some Govt. building was built after cutting a large number of trees. Hence it effects the environment and temperature increased.

In between 2011 to 2019, the population of Patna town increased rapidly. Settlement area develop between east of Baily road and west of Patna Digha road. In 2016 celebrating 350<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Govind Singh was celebrated. The new road bridge/pul was constructed from by-pass to Patna city chowk and Patna Saheb railway station area for easy and smooth communication. The area of Patna Saheb was developed and development shown in the both side of by-pass. The tent city was prepared for temporary residing the pilgrim. The part of jalla's area was converted in plain area with road facilities. New by-pass road is prepared nearly three kilometer south of existing by-pass. Metro railway plan was introduced and development of ring road for transportation facilities. The draft of master plan for Patna metropolitan area purposes that Patna metropolitan region would incorporate Bihta, Danapur, Khagaul, Daniyawan, Dhanaura, Fatuha, Khusrupur, Maner, Masaurhi, Naubatpur, Phulwarisharif, Punpun and Sampatchak block of Patna district, area of Vaishali and Saran districts are included. Master plan 2031 is introduced. But finally, the Patna planning area remained only to the district of Patna only, comprising 13 CD block, (Patna, Danapur cum Khagaul, Maner, Bihta, Naubatpur, Punpun, Phulwarisharif, Sampatchak, Fatuha, Dhanarua, Daniyawan, Masuadhi and Khusrupur) fully and partially, and 575 revenue villages [5].

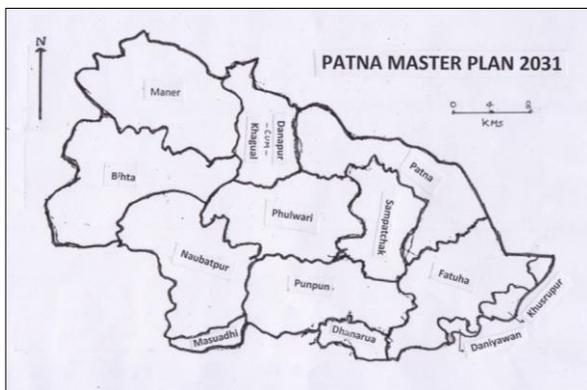


Fig 4

In this period, smart city concept is also introduced and Patna has been selected as one of the hundred Indian cities

to be developed as a smart city under Govt. of India's flagship smart city mission. With the grade of a smart city, Patna will have highly up-to-date and radical provisions like uninterrupted electric supply, fast fist rate traffic and transport system, superior health care and many other prime utilities. On 22 Nov 2017 Eptisa Servicios de Ingenieria SL of Spain was chosen as the project management consultant. The work of smart city is started. In the present time, some housing colony, which was developed by Bihar Govt., Central Govt. and other private concern are remain visible in this region. Details of the major housing colonies are given below –

**1. Developed by Bihar Government**

- i) Kankarbag Colony
- ii) Patliputra Colony
- iii) Bahadurpur Colony
- iv) Rajendranagar Colony
- v) Hanuman Nagar
- vi) Chhajjubagh
- vii) Shastri Nagar
- viii) Gardanibag
- ix) Sri Krishnapuri
- x) Rajvanshi Nagar
- xi) C.D.A. Colony

**2. Developed by Central Government**

- i) R.B.I. Colony
- ii) Revenue Colony
- iii) P & T Colony

**3. Developed by Private**

- i) Ashiana Nagar
- ii) Plice Colony
- iii) A.G. Colony
- iv) Rajeev Nagar
- v) Budha Colony
- vi) Krishi Nagar
- vii) B.M. Colony
- viii) Sri Krishn Nagar (I.A.S. Colony)
- ix) Anandpuri
- x) M.L.A. Flats Colony

The areas are extended in Patna agglomeration day by day. The rapid population growth is visible in Patna agglomeration. Patna is remain class I town from 1951 census to till today. The work of smart city plan has started. By the year 2031, its will be a metropolitan town.

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