



Changes in number of Urban Centers and Urban Population according to Class wise and Size wise in Andhra Pradesh: A Geographical Study.

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Abstract: Urbanization is a socio-economic process by which an increasing proportion of the population of an area becomes concentrated into towns and cities. Industrialisation leads to the economic growth which further gives impetus to a vigorous process of urbanization. Urbanization brings spatial, temporal and structural changes in the demographic, social economic, technological and environmental aspects of life in a given society. According to towns class and population size Indian towns are divided into six categories/classes. Towns with above one lakh population are called as Class – I towns, Class – II towns have population between 50,000 to 99,999, Class – III towns have population between 20,000 to 49,999, Class – IV towns have population between 10,000 to 19,999, Class – V towns have population between 5,000 to 9,999 and Class – VI towns have less than 5,000 population. During 1901 India recorded 25.85 million urban populations. In this context an attempt is made in this paper to analyse the changes in number of urban centres and urban population according to classes and size in Andhra Pradesh.

Key Words: Urban population, Decadal changes, Towns, Size classes.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Urbanization is a socio-economic process by which an increasing proportion of the population of an area becomes concentrated into towns and cities. Industrialisation leads to the economic growth which further gives impetus to a vigorous process of urbanization. Urbanization brings spatial, temporal and structural changes in the demographic, social economic, technological and environmental aspects of life in a given society. The accumulation of wealth and availability of job opportunities in the urban centres have resulted into the concentration of human population in limited space. According to United Nations (UN) statistics global share of the urban population increased more than fourfold during the 20th century (UN 2020). About 29% of the total world population was recorded as urban population in 1951 and it increased to 54% in 2011 period. In India urbanization has come to occupy an important place in economic development of different regions. About 17.6% of the total Indian population was recorded as urban population in 1951 and it increased to 31.16% in 2011 census. Regarding Andhra Pradesh, about 17.42% of the total state population (combined AP) was recorded as urban population in 1951 and it increased to 33.35% in 2011. Urbanization is conventionally measured by size and growth of city population. As per the United Nations report, by 2050 around 64% of developing world and 86% of the developed world will get urbanized. India's urbanization pattern is disparate and governed solely by type of class / size of urbanization population in India. It is also different for different states, geographies in India. According to 1961 Indian Census report, there were two types of towns. They are (a) statutory towns – all places with statutory bodies like city corporation, municipality, cantonment boards, or a notified towns area committee, (b) census towns – all the places which satisfied the following criteria: (i) population of 5000 and above (ii) density of population not less than 400 persons per square kilo meter and (iii) at least 75% of the male main working population engaged in a non-agricultural sector.

According to towns class and population size Indian towns are divided into six categories/classes. Towns with above one lakh population are called as Class – I towns, Class – II towns have population between 50,000 to 99,999, Class – III towns have population between 20,000 to 49,999, Class – IV towns have population between 10,000 to 19,999, Class –



V towns have population between 5,000 to 9,999 and Class – VI towns have less than 5,000 population. During 1901 India recorded 25.85 million urban population distributed in 1917 towns where as by 2011 urban population increased to 377.11 million and the number of towns also increased to 7,935. Further during 2011 period 505 class – I towns, 605 class – II towns, 1905 class – III towns, 2233 class – IV towns, 2187 class – V towns, and about 498 class – VI towns were recorded in India. The major share of the urban population has been very high in class-1 cities, whose total share in the total number of towns is significantly small i.e., only 7.6% in 2011, but these towns had 70.2% of the total urban population and the share of other classes of the towns in the total urban population has over the years declined, but their share in the total number of towns, except class VI, has increased. In this context an attempt is made in this paper to analyse the changes in number of urban centres and urban population according to classes and size in Andhra Pradesh.

2. Literature Review:

According to Thompson (1935) urbanisation is characterized by movement of people from small communities with agriculture to other larger communities whose activities related to trade, manufacture and other allied activities.

3. Objectives:

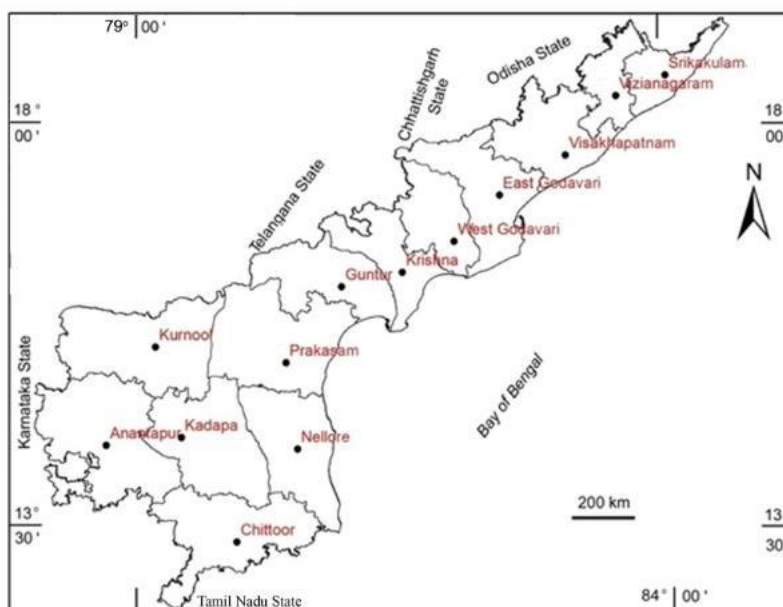
- To study the urban population changes according to districts in Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 Periods.
- To study the changes in number of towns /cities/urban agglomerations by classes and size in Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 period.

4. Materials and Method:

The major data used in this paper is pertaining to all districts of Andhra Pradesh and the study is based on Secondary data. The data is collected from the District Chief Planning officers of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, E & W Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam, and Nellore, from coastal Andhra Region and Chittoor, Anantapur, YSR Kadapa, Kurnool from Rayalaseema region. The data used in this study is about urban population and number of towns in Andhra Pradesh according to districts during 1961 to 2011 period. With the help of this data the study examine urban population changes, its decadal growth rate changes, urban population share to the total urban population and also changes in number of Towns by size class.

Profile of the Study area:

Fig no.1: Study area (Andhra Pradesh) showing districts.



Andhra Pradesh State is situated on the country's south – east coast and covers an area of 1, 62,975 sq. km and it lies between $12^{\circ} 41'$ and 19.07° N latitudes and 77° and $84^{\circ} 40'$ E longitudes. Following the Andhra Pradesh (AP) state reorganization act of 2014, the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated into Andhra Pradesh with 13 districts and



Telangana State with 10 districts on 23rd June 2014. At present the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh divided and increased to 26 but the present study is based on erstwhile Andhra Pradesh which contains 13 districts only. The state of Andhra Pradesh comprises two physical regions 1) Coastal Andhra region and 2) Rayalaseema region and there are 13 districts, of which nine are in coastal Andhra region and four are in the Rayalaseema region (Recently AP state reorganised and divided the 13 district into 23 districts). According to 2011 census, the residual state of AP had a population of 4, 93, 86,799 in which about 70.4% rural population and 29.6% of urban population.

5. Discussion and Analysis :

Changes in Urban Population according to districts in Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 periods:

Table No: 1. Percentage of changes in Urban Population according to districts in Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 periods. (Urban population to total population of the district)

S. no	District Name	1961 (%)	1971 (%)	1981 (%)	1991 (%)	2001 (%)	2011 (%)
1	Srikakulam	4.30	5.60	7.80	12.50	11.00	16.20
2	Vizianagaram	10.90	12.70	14.30	17.20	18.30	20.90
3	Visakhapatnam	19.10	24.90	30.20	39.80	39.90	47.50
4	East Godavari	16.70	17.80	20.10	23.80	23.50	25.50
5	West Godavari	14.90	16.30	18.70	20.70	19.70	20.50
6	Krishna	20.60	23.30	27.20	35.80	32.0	40.80
7	Guntur	19.90	22.90	25.90	28.90	28.80	33.80
8	Prakasam	7.50	8.70	11.30	16.50	15.30	19.60
9	Nellore	12.10	13.20	17.40	23.80	22.40	28.90
10	Chittoor	9.80	12.30	15.30	19.80	21.70	29.50
11	Kadapa	9.90	11.50	14.40	24.00	22.60	34.0
12	Kurnool	14.90	16.90	19.90	25.80	23.20	28.40
13	Anantapur	15.40	17.30	20.40	23.50	25.30	28.10
	% of Urban Population of Coastal Andhra Region	14.70	17.00	20.20	25.40	26.50	29.60
	% of Urban Population of Rayalaseema Region	12.60	14.60	17.60	23.20	23.20	29.70
	% of Urban Population of Andhra Pradesh State	14.10	16.30	19.50	24.80	25.50	29.60

(Source: Hand book of statistics of each district from 1961 -2011)

In table no-1, the number of urban population converted into percentage, i.e., urban population percentage to the total population of the district.

It can be observed from the table no.1 that, during 1961 period, highest urban population recorded in Krishna district(20.6%) of the total district population among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Guntur district(19.9%), Visakhapatnam district(19.1%), East Godavari district (16.7%), Anantapur district (15.4%), West Godavari district (14.9%), Kurnool district (14.9%),Nellore district (12.1%), Vizianagaram district (10.9%), Kadapa district (9.9%), Chittoor district(9.8%), Prakasam district (7.5%), and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district (4.3%) respectively in Andhra Pradesh state.

In 1971, highest urban population recorded in Visakhapatnam district (24.9%) of the total district population among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Krishna district (23.3%), Guntur district(22.9%), East Godavari district (17.8%), Anantapur district(17.3%), Kurnool district(16.9%), West Godavari district (16.3%), Nellore district (13.20%), Vizianagaram district (12.70%),Chittoor district (12.3%), Kadapa district (11.5%), Prakasam district (8.7%) and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district(5.6%) respectively in the study area.

In 1981, highest urban population recorded in Visakhapatnam district(30.2%),of the total population of the district among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Krishna district (27.2%), Guntur district (25.9%), Anantapur



district(20.4%), East Godavari district (20.1%), Kurnool district (19.9%), West Godavari district(18,7%),Nellore district (17.4%),

Chittoor district (15.3%), Kadapa district (14.4%), Vizianagaram district (12.7%), Prakasam district (11.3%) and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district (7.8%) respectively in the study area.

In 1991, highest urban population recorded in Visakhapatnam district (39.8%), of the total population of the district among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Krishna district (35.8%) Guntur district (28.9%), Kurnool district (25.8%), Kadapa district (24%), East Godavari district (23.8%), Nellore district (23.8%) Anantapur district (23.5%), West Godavari district (20.7%), Chittoor district (19.8%), Vizianagaram district (17.2%), Prakasam district (16.5%) and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district (12.50%) respectively in the study area.

In 2001, highest urban population recorded in Visakhapatnam district (39.9%), of total population of the district among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Krishna district (32%), Guntur district (28.8%) Anantapur district (25.3%), East Godavari district (23.5%), Kurnool district (23.2%), Kadapa district (22.6%), West Godavari district (20.5%), Vizianagaram district(18.3%), Prakasam district (15.3%) and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district (11%) respectively the study area.

In 2011, highest urban population recorded in Visakhapatnam district(47.5%), of the total population of the district among all districts of the Andhra Pradesh followed by Krishna district(40.8%), Guntur district (33.8%), Kadapa district(34%), Chittoor district (29.50%), Nellore district(28.90%), Kurnool district(28.40%), Anantapur district(28.10%), East Godavari district (25.50%), Vizianagaram district (20.90%),West Godavari district(20.50%), Prakasam district(19.60%) and lowest urban population recorded in Srikakulam district (16.2%) respectively in the study area.

Regarding urban population of coastal Andhra Region, urban population is rapidly increasing from 14.7% during 1961 period to 29.6% during 2011 period. With regard to Rayalaseema region the urban population recorded was 12.6% in 1961 which is less than coastal Andhra region population and it further increased to 29.7% in 2011 period which is more than coastal Andhra Pradesh urban population. Regarding urban population of the entire Andhra Pradesh State, it increased from 14.1% in 1961 to 29.6% in 2011 period.

Decadal growth rate of urban population in Andhra Pradesh according to districts during 1961- 71 and 2001-2011 period:

It can be observed from Table no-2 that, during 1961-1971 period, highest urban population growth recorded in Visakhapatnam district (58.9%) followed by Srikakulam district (50.5%) Chittoor district (48.4%), Kurnool district (43%) Guntur district (41.3%) Krishna district (35.6%), Kadapa district (36.2%) lowest urban population growth recorded in Prakasam district (31.9%) and also in West Godavari district (31.2).

During 1971-1981 period, highest urban population decadal growth recorded in Nellore district (63.9%), followed by Prakasam district (58%), Kadapa district (54.2%), Visakhapatnam district (53.5%), Srikakulam district (52.7%), Chittoor district (50.7%) Krishna district (43%), Kurnool district (42.4%) Anantapur district (41.5%) and lowest urban population decadal growth observed in Vizianagaram district (27.4%).

During 1981-1991 period, highest urban population decadal growth noticed in Kadapa district (95.2%) followed by Srikakulam district (90.1%) Prakasam district (72.7%) Visakhapatnam district (68.3%), Nellore district (61.9%), Kurnool district (60.7%) Krishna district (59.5%) Chittoor district (54.2%) and lowest urban population decadal growth observed in Guntur district (33.4%).

Table No: 2. Decadal growth rate changes of urban population of Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 periods.

S. No	District Name	1961-71 (%)	1971-81 (%)	1981-91 (%)	1991-2001 (%)	2001-2011 (%)
1	Srikakulam	50.50	52.70	90.10	-4.00	56.70
2	Vizianagaram	31.70	27.40	40.90	13.50	19.00
3	Visakhapatnam	58.90	53.50	68.30	17.00	33.00
4	East Godavari	26.10	34.90	45.60	6.60	14.70
5	West Godavari	31.20	39.20	35.40	3.10	7.70



6	Krishna	35.60	43.00	59.50	1.40	37
7	Guntur	41.30	36.10	33.40	8.30	28.50
8	Prakasam	31.90	58.00	72.70	2.90	42.20
9	Nellore	26.20	63.90	61.90	5.30	43.20
10	Chittoor	48.40	50.70	54.20	25.60	51.80
11	Kadapa	36.20	54.20	95.20	7.80	66.60
12	Kurnool	43.00	42.40	60.70	6.40	40.60
13	Anantapur	34.90	41.50	44.30	22.90	24.60
	CAR	36.80	42.90	52.10	7.00	29.20
	Royalaseema R	40.50	45.90	59.70	15.80	43.70
	AP	37.70	43.70	54.10	9.40	33.40

(Source: Hand book of statistics of each district from 1961 -2011)

During 1991-2001 period, highest urban population decadal growth recorded in Chittoor district (25.6%) followed by Anantapur district(22.9%), Visakhapatnam district(17.0%), Vizianagaram district(13.50%), Kadapa district(7.80%),Guntur district(8.30%), East Godavari district(6.60%), Kurnool district(6.40%), Nellore district(5.30%), West Godavari district(3.10%), Prakasam district(2.90%), lowest urban population decadal growth recorded in Krishna district (1.4%) whereas urban population decreased in Srikakulam district (-4% decrease). Further it is important to mention that very lowest urban population growth recorded during 1991-2001 period when compared to other decadal periods (between 25.6% and 1.4%).

During 2001-2011 period, highest urban population decadal growth recorded in Kadapa district (66.6%) followed by Srikakulam district(56.7%), Chittoor district(51.8%), Nellore district(43.2%), Prakasam district(42.20%), Visakhapatnam district(33.00%),Krishna district(37.00%), Guntur district (28.50%), Anantapur district (24.60%), Vizianagaram district(19.00%), East Godavari district (14.70%), and lowest urban population decadal growth recorded in West Godavari district (7.7%).

Regarding urban population decadal growth changes in the entire Andhra Pradesh state, highest urban population growth recorded during 1981-1991 period(54.1%) followed by 1971-1981 period (43.7%) 1961-1971 period(37.7%), 2001-2011 period(33.4%) and lowest growth recorded during 1991-2001 period(9.4%).Regarding urban population decadal growth changes according to regions, the coastal Andhra region recorded highest growth during 1981-1991 period(52.1%), followed by 1971-1981 period(42.9%), 1961-1971 period(36.8%), 2001-2011 period(29.2%), and lowest growth recorded during 1991-2001 period(7%). Regarding the Rayalaseema region, highest growth recorded during 1981-1991 (59.70%), followed by 1971-1981 (45.9%), 2001-2011 (43.7%) and lowest decadal growth recorded during 1991-2001 (15.8%).

Changes in Urban population share of Andhra Pradesh according to districts during 1961-2011 periods:

Table No-3. Urban Population share to the total urban population of Andhra Pradesh During 1961-2011 Period.

S. No	District Name	1961(%)	1971(%)	1981(%)	1991(%)	2001(%)	2011(%)
1	Srikakulam	2.00	2.20	2.30	2.90	2.50	3.00
2	Vizianagaram	4.70	4.50	4.00	3.60	3.80	3.40
3	Visakhapatnam	9.70	11.20	12.00	13.10	14.00	13.90
4	East Godavari	13.30	12.20	11.40	10.80	10.50	9.00
5	West Godavari	9.00	8.50	8.30	7.30	6.90	5.50
6	Krishna	13.00	12.80	12.80	13.20	12.00	12.60
7	Guntur	14.00	14.50	13.70	11.90	11.70	11.30
8	Prakasam	3.80	3.70	4.00	4.50	4.30	4.50
9	Nellore	5.20	4.70	5.40	5.70	5.50	5.90
10	Chittoor	5.70	6.10	6.40	6.40	7.40	8.40
11	Kadapa	4.00	4.00	4.30	5.40	5.40	7.00
12	Kurnool	7.10	7.40	7.40	7.70	7.50	7.90
13	Anantapur	8.30	8.10	8.00	7.50	8.40	7.80
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



	CAPR	74.8	74.3	73.9	72.9	71.3	69.1
	Rayalaseema R	25.2	25.7	26.1	27.1	28.7	30.9

(Source: Hand book of statistics of each district from 1961 -2011)

It can be observed from the Table no: 3 that, during 1961 period highest urban population share recorded in Guntur district (14%) of the total Andhra Pradesh urban population share followed by East Godavari district (13.3%), Krishna district (13%), Visakhapatnam district (9.7%), West Godavari district (9%), Anantapur district (8.3%), Kurnool district (7.1%) and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district (2%).

In 1971 period, highest urban population share again recorded in Guntur district (14.5%) of the total Andhra Pradesh Population share followed by Krishna district (12.8%), East Godavari district (12.2%) Visakhapatnam district (11.2%), West Godavari district (8.50%), Anantapur district (8.10%), Kurnool district (7.40%), Chittoor district (6.10%), Nellore district (4.70%), Vizianagaram district (4.50%), Kadapa district (4.0%), Prakasam district (3.70%), and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district (2.2%).

In 1981 period, highest urban population share again recorded in Guntur district(13.7%) of the total Andhra Pradesh urban population share followed by Krishna district(12.8%), Visakhapatnam district(12%), East Godavari district(11.40%), West Godavari district (8.30%), Anantapur district(8.00%), Kurnool district(7.40%), Chittoor district (6.40%), Nellore district (5.40%),Kadapa district (4.30%), Vizianagaram district(4.0%), Prakasam district (4.0%), and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district(2.3%).

In 1991 period, highest urban population share recorded in Krishna district(13.2%) of the total Andhra Pradesh urban population share followed by Visakhapatnam district(13.1%), Guntur district(11.9%), East Godavari district (10.8%), Kurnool district(7.70%), Anantapur district(7.50%),West Godavari district (7.30%),Chittoor district (6.40%), Nellore district (5.70%),Kadapa district (5.40%), Prakasam district(4.50%),Vizianagaram district (3.60%), and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district(2.9%).

In 2001 period, highest urban population share recorded in Visakhapatnam district(14%) of the total Andhra Pradesh urban population share followed by Krishna district(12.0%), Guntur district(11.7%), East Godavari district (10.5%), Anantapur district(8.4%), Kurnool district(7.5%), Chittoor district(7.40%), West Godavari district(6.90%),Nellore district (5.50%), Kadapa district(5.40%), Prakasam district (4.30%),Vizianagaram district(3.80%), and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district(2.5%).

In 2011 period, highest urban population share recorded in Visakhapatnam district(13.9%), of the total Andhra Pradesh urban population share followed by Krishna district(12.6%), Guntur district(11.3%), East Godavari district (9%), Chittoor district(8.4%), Kurnool district (7.90%), Anantapur district (7.80%),Kadapa district(7.0%),Nellore district(5.90%), West Godavari district (5.50%), Prakasam district (4.50%), Vizianagaram district(3.40%), and lowest urban population share recorded in Srikakulam district(3%).

It can be observed from the above discussion that highest urban population share recorded in Guntur district during 1961, 1971 and 1981 periods respectively where as Visakhapatnam district recorded highest urban population share in 1991, 2001, and also in 2011 periods in Andhra Pradesh.

Regarding urban population share according to regions in Andhra Pradesh, Coastal Andhra region urban population share decreased from 74.8% in 1961 to 69.1% in 2011 period whereas Rayalaseema region urban population share increased from 25.2% in 1961 to 30.9% in 2011 period.

Changes in number of Towns/ Cities / urban agglomerations by size classes of AP during 1961-2011

Table.No:4. Changes in percentage of share of Towns /Cities/ urban agglomerations by size Classes of AP during 1961-2011.

Size of Towns	1961 (%)	1971 (%)	1981 (%)	1991 (%)	2001 (%)	2011 (%)	Decadal growth rate change				
							1961-1971 (%)	1971-1981 (%)	1981-1991 (%)	1991-2001 (%)	2001-2011 (%)
Class -I	10	10	6	22	24	15	25	60	43.75	21.7	10.70
Class -II	6	13	21	21	23	21	133	50	0	28.5	55.50



Class -III	47	41	40	40	30	30	19.5	-6.90	5	-16.6	51.40
Class -IV	27	18	15	12	11	16	-20.80	-21.00	-13.30	0	146
Class -V	10	12	5	4	10	17	50	-58.30	0	140	183
Class -VI	0	6	1	1	1	1	0	-85.70	0	0	200
Total AP	100	100	100	100	100	100	20.60	-6.60	7.10	10.4	68.10

(Source: computed from Hand book of statistics of respective districts during 1961-2011)

It can be observed from the Table no-4 that, the total number of towns recorded in 1961 were 87(100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class-III towns category (47% share) followed by Class – IV towns category (27% share), Class – I towns category & Class – V towns category recorded 10% share in each category and lowest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class – II towns category (6%). The total numbers of towns recorded in 1971 were 105 (100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class – III towns category (41% share) followed by Class – IV towns category (18% share), Class – III towns category (13% share), Class – V towns category (12% share), Class – I towns category (10% share), Class – VI towns category (6% share).

The total number of towns recorded in 1981 were 98(100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class – III towns category (40% share), followed by Class – II towns category (21% share), Class – IV towns category (15% share), Class – I towns category (6% share), Class – V towns category (5% share), and lowest percentage of towns recorded in Class – VI towns category (9% share). The total number of towns recorded in 1991 were 105 (100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in class – III towns category (40% share) followed by Class – I towns category (22% share), Class – II towns category (21% share), Class – IV towns category (12% share), Class – V towns category (4% share), and lowest percentage of towns occupied by Class – VI towns category (1% share). The total number of towns recorded in 2001 were 116 (100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class – III towns category (30% share) followed by Class – I towns category (24% share), Class – II towns category (23% share), Class – IV towns category (11% share), Class – V category (10% share), and lowest percentage of towns recorded in Class – VI towns category (1% share). The total number of towns recorded in 2011 were 195(100% share), highest percentage of share of towns recorded in Class – III towns category (30% share), followed by Class – II towns category (21% share), Class – V towns category (17% share), Class – IV towns category (16% share), Class – I towns category (15% share), and lowest percentage of towns occupied by Class – VI towns category (1% share).

Decadal growth rate changes in number towns during 1961-2011 periods:

Decadal growth rate of Class -I towns during 1961-1971 was 25% which increased to 60% during 1971-1981 period and again decreased to 43.75%. During 1991-2001 its growth rate further decreased to 21.7% and further its growth decreased to 10.7% during 2001-2011 period. Decadal growth rate of Class -II towns during 1961-1971 periods was about 133% which decreased to 50% by 1971-1981 periods. It further decreased to 28.5% during 1991-2001 period but it increased to 55.5% during 2001-2011 periods. Decadal growth rate of Class-III towns during 1961-1971 periods was 19.5% which decreased to -6.9% (negative growth) during 1971-1981 period. It again increased to 5% during 1981-1991 period which decreased to -16.6% (negative growth) during 1991-2001 period. Finally it showing growth to 51.4% during 2001-2011 period. Decadal growth rate of Class -IV towns noticed negative growth during 1961-1971 (-20.8%) which further decreased to -21%. During 1981-1991 period also recorded negative growth (-13.3%) which showed no change during 1991-2001 period also. During 2001-2011 period its growth increased to 146%. Decadal growth rate of Class -V towns during 1961-1971 recorded was 50% growth which decreased to -58.3% (negative growth) during 1971-1981 period and no change occurred during 1981-1991 period. During 1991-2001 period it recorded abnormal growth about 140% which further increased to 183% during 2001-2011 period. Decadal growth rate of Class -VI towns during 1961 was 0% which decreased to -85.7% during 1971-1981 period. During 1981-1991, and 1991-2001 period this category towns were not shown any growth but by 2001-2011 period it recorded 200% growth rate.

It can be observed from the above discussion that highest decadal growth recorded in Class –II town’s category and lowest number of town’s growth recorded in Class – I town’s category during 1961-71 period. During 1971-1981 period, highest growth noticed in Class – I towns category and Class – II towns category whereas all other categories of towns showed negative growth. During 1981-1991 period highest growth recorded in Class – I towns category, whereas other category towns showed no growth in number of towns. During 1991-2001 period highest growth recorded in Class – V town’s category and low growth noticed in Class – I town’s category. Negative growth recorded in Class – III towns and no growth recorded in Class – IV & Class – VI town’s category. During 2001-2011 period



highest growth recorded in Class – VI towns category followed by Class - V town's category, Class IV towns category, Class – II towns category, Class – III towns category and least growth noticed in Class – I towns category. Regarding growth in all category of towns in Andhra Pradesh highest growth recorded in 2001-2011 period, followed by 1961-1971 period, 1991-2001 period, 1981-1991 period and negative growth recorded during 1971-1981 period.

Further , an attempt is made to study the changes in number of towns in each category during 1961-2011 period(for 50 years period).Highest growth about 600% growth recorded in Class-II towns category during 1961-2011 period followed by Class-V towns category with 325% growth, Class-I towns category with 287% growth, Class-IV towns category with 33% growth and lowest growth recorded in Class-III towns category with 29% whereas negative growth recorded in Class VI towns category with -57% decrease in number of towns during 1961-2011 period.

Changes in percentage of share of Towns Cites/ /urban agglomerations by size classes according to regions of Andhra Pradesh during 1961-2011 periods:

In 1961 period, the number of Class – I towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 7 with a share of 87.5% where as Rayalaseema region recorded one Class- I town with a share of 12.5% . By 2011 period the total number of Class – I towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 18 and its share decreased to 58% whereas Class – I towns in Rayalaseema region increased to 13 and its share also increased to 42%.

In 1961 period the number of Class – II towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 3

With a share of 50% whereas Rayalaseema region also recorded 3 Class – II towns with a share of 50%. By 2011 period the total numbers of Class– II towns recorded in costal Andhra Pradesh were 29 and its share increased to 69% where as Rayalaseema region recorded 13 Class – II towns its share increased to 31%.

In 1961 period the number of class – III towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 28 with a share of 68.2% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 13 classes – III towns with a share of 31.8%. By 2011 period the total number of classes – III towns increased to 35 and its share decreased to 66% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 18 towns and its share increased to 34%.

In 1961 the number of class – IV towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 17 with a share of 70.8% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 7 towns with a share of 29.2%. By 2011 period the class – IV towns recorded were 19 and its share decreased to 59.3% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 13 classes – IV towns and its share increased to 40.7%.

In 1961, the numbers of class – V towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 4 with a share of 50% whereas Rayalaseema region also recorded 4 towns with the share of 50% share. By 2011, the class – V towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 23 with increased share of 67.6 whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 11 towns and its share decreased to 32.4%.

There were no significant changes noticed in class – VI towns, both in coastal Andhra Pradesh and Rayalaseema regions during the study period. Regarding towns according to regions in Andhra Pradesh, during 1961 – 2011 period, the class – I towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 74 with a share of 63.7% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 42 Class – I towns with a share of 36.3%. The Class – II towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 84 with a share of 64.1% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 47 towns with a share of 35.9%. The Class- III towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 181 with a share of 71.2% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 73 towns with a share of 28.8%. The Class – IV towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 75 with a share of 64.6% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 41 towns with a share of 35.4%. The Class –V towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 44 with a share of 57.8% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 32 towns with a share of 42.2%. The class – VI towns recorded in coastal Andhra Pradesh were 13 with a share of 53.8% whereas Rayalaseema region recorded 6 towns with a share of 46.2% among all categories of towns. During 1961-2011 period, highest number of towns recorded in class – III towns category both in coastal Andhra Pradesh (181 towns) and Rayalaseema region (73 towns).

Table No: 5: Changes in number of Towns / Cites / Urban agglomerations by size class according to regions of Andhra Pradesh (CAR & RR) during 1961-2011 period. (CAR= Coastal Andhra Region, R R=Rayalaseema Region)



Years	No of Class -I Towns (% of share)		No of Class -II Towns (% of share)		No of Class -III Towns (% of share)		No of Class -IV Towns (% of share)		No of Class -V Towns (% of share)		No of Class -VI Towns (% of share)	
	CAR	RR	CA R	RR	CAPR	RR	CA R	RR	CA R	RR	CA R	RR
1961	7 (87.5)	1(12.5)	3(50.0)	3(50.0)	28(68.2)	13(31.8)	17(70.8)	7(29.2)	4(50.0)	4(50.0)	0(0)	0(0)
1971	9 (90.0)	1(10.0)	6(42.8)	8(57.2)	31(72.0)	12(28.0)	13(68.4)	6(31.6)	4(33.0)	8(67.0)	7(14.2)	6(85.8)
1981	10(62.5)	6(37.5)	11(52.3)	10(47.7)	33(82.5)	7(17.5)	10(66.6)	5(33.4)	4(80.0)	1(20.0)	1(100)	0(0)
1991	14(60.8)	9(39.2)	14(66.6)	7(33.4)	32(76.1)	10(23.9)	8(61.5)	5(38.5)	2(40.0)	3(60.0)	1(100)	0(0)
2001	16(57.1)	12(42.9)	21(77.7)	6(22.3)	22(62.8)	13(37.2)	8(61.5)	5(38.5)	7(58.3)	5(41.7)	1(100)	0(0)
2011	18(58.0)	13(42.0)	29(69.0)	13(31)	35(66.0)	18(34.0)	19(59.3)	13(40.7)	23(67.6)	11(32.4)	3(100)	0(0)
Total	74(63.7)	42(36.3)	84(64.1)	47(35.9)	181(71.2)	73(28.8)	75(64.6)	41(35.4)	44(57.8)	32(42.2)	13(53.8)	6(46.2)

(Source: computed from Hand book of statistics of respective districts during 1961-2011)

6. Conclusion :

It is concluded that, urban population of the entire Andhra Pradesh State increased from 14.1% in 1961 to 29.6% in 2011 period. Regarding urban population decadal growth rate changes in the entire Andhra Pradesh state, highest urban population growth recorded during 1981-1991 period(54.1%) followed by 1971-1981 period (43.7%) 1961-1971 period(37.7%), 2001-2011 period(33.4%) and lowest growth recorded during 1991-2001 period(9.4%). Regarding changes in number of towns during 1961-2011 period, highest growth about 600% growth recorded in Class-II towns category followed by Class-V towns category with 325% growth, Class-I towns category with 287% growth, Class-IV towns category with 33% growth and lowest growth recorded in Class-III towns category with 29% whereas negative growth recorded in Class- VI towns category with -57%.

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