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RANA PLAZA: WORKPLACE SAFETY IN BANGLADESH (B)

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Population: 17.8 million (2014)

Area: 573 sq. mi

Delhi is home to the capital of India, and is one of the largest and most diverse urban regions in the area. It contains both Old Delhi, which was at the center of the Mughal Empire and later conquered by the British, and New Delhi, which is incredibly urban and houses India's governmental branches. This megacity has transformed and grown tremendously over the years, but it still faces many challenges, including urban sprawl, air pollution, health issues, and the education system.



Thecasesolutions.com Urban Sprawl

The Problem

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Over the years, the city of Delhi has expanded greatly. Though the physical area has remained generally consistent, the area of urban land has increased significantly, nearly doubling in size over the last twenty years. Along with this area expansion, the population of Delhi has grown steadily, as shown by Figure 2. Both of these factors have resulted in an urban sprawl, or the uncontrolled urban expansion of the city. Along with this challenge, many others have arisen, including the roadblocker traffic congestion, the increased pollution, and the fact that the housing is not able to accommodate the population. However, various organizations have been working on developing solutions to the urban sprawl problem.



WRI India

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World Resources Institute (WRI) India is a non-profit organization working to create and implement solutions for growing urban cities in Delhi. There is a large focus on expanding transport systems to accommodate the urban sprawl, and doing so in a way that is sustainable. The WRI also recently hosted the "Governance 2014" event in the center of New Delhi. This event was meant to bring together various companies, agencies, politicians, and other collaborators to focus on improving city efficiency. Among the topics of discussion were the future of mobility, increasing urban housing, and managing Delhi's urban sprawl. This is just one of the many projects that WRI India has planned over the years to deal with the challenge.

The Right to Land

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Article 18(2) of the Indian Constitution states that every citizen has the right to acquire, hold, and dispose of property in any part of the territory of India. However, this right is not absolute and can be restricted in the interest of the public. The Right to Land movement in Delhi is focused on ensuring that the government is transparent in its land acquisition process and that the rights of the citizens are protected.



Private Sector

Battles Urban Sprawl

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As Delhi battles the issues of congestion associated with urban sprawl and the need to invest in infrastructure, the private sector has stepped in. Companies such as Google, Microsoft, and others have begun working on creating the public-private partnerships to begin building some of the services that are needed. In addition, the city is working to reduce the pollution in the city by promoting a more sustainable urban environment. The private sector is also working to improve the urban infrastructure, which the government is not able to do on its own.



Little Government Aid

There are many urban sprawl issues within the city of Delhi. The government of Delhi has done little to inhibit the rapid growth of the city, much of which has been developed into slums and has a shortage of infrastructure. This is because of a large lack of urban planning and the city is building infrastructure that will help integrate the slums into the rest of the city. However, building infrastructure and promoting Delhi to become a world city, many of the claims have been shown. Further, allowing the people that build the city together (Sanjay Dutt and Indira Devi) to become the government of Delhi has led to a government of urban planning to make the city what they see it is and not to address the issues of urban sprawl that is occurring.

The Problem

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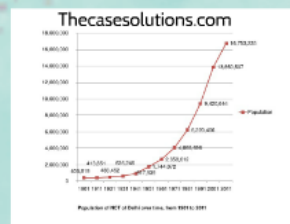
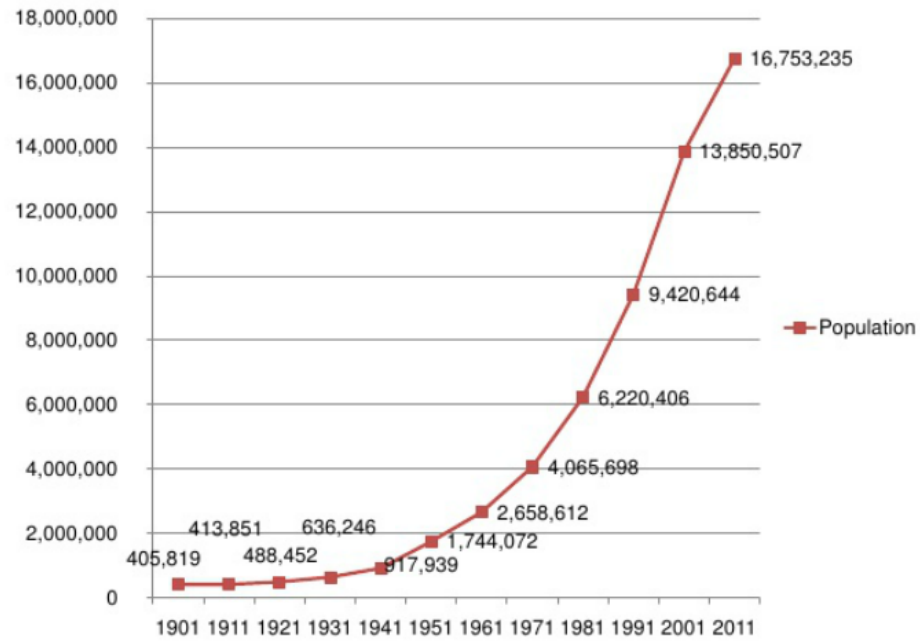


Fig 2 Population of Delhi from 1901 to 2011. Source: Statistical Abstract of Delhi 2012

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Population of NCT of Delhi over time, from 1901 to 2011

Fig 2: Population of Delhi from 1901 to 2011. Source: Statistical Abstract of Delhi 2012

WRI India

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World Resources Institute (WRI) India is a non-profit organization seeking to create and implement solutions for growing urban cities. In Delhi, there is a large focus on improving transport systems to accommodate the urban sprawl, and doing so in a way that is sustainable. This NGO also recently hosted the "ConnectKaro 2018" event in the center of New Delhi. This event was meant to bring together various companies, agencies, politicians, and other collaborators to focus on improving city efficiency. Among the topics of discussion were the future of mobility, increasing urban housing, and managing Delhi's urbanization overall. This is just one of the many projects that WRI India has planned over the years to deal with this challenge.

The Right to Land

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A similar NGO is the Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) which has been working to make sure that there is enough housing to meet the needs of the growing Delhi population. HLRN's has found that more than 260,000 people have been forcibly evicted across India in 2017, which is why it works so that every individual, especially those living in marginalized communities, has the right to housing and land in India. Their main concern is providing funding and land rights to all people as Delhi urbanizes.

EVICTIONS IN INDIA: 2016-18



Private Sector Battles Urban Sprawl Thecasesolutions.com

As Delhi battles the issues of congestion associated with urban sprawl and its nearly twenty million residents, the government has enlisted help from the private sector to begin to solve some of these issues. Companies such as Gurgaon, Mumbai, and Hyderabad have begun work on revamping the public metro transit system to begin to eliminate some of the vehicles that are on the road. In addition, the city is aiming to reduce the pollution in the city from all the vehicles that are being used in the urban sprawl, and have decided that a new hybrid bus system is the answer to that problem. With the help of the private company, KPIT Technologies, the city will now be cleaner and less congested, which the government could not have accomplished on its own.

