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Importance Of Green Belts – Prospects And Challenges

Green belts are planned open spaces safeguarded from developmental activities such as construction of buildings, factories, dams, etc.

Over the years rising population has led to a decrease in open spaces and green belts in the cities. These green belts serve as lungs for cities and towns. They serve as a sink for pollutants, check the flow of dust and bring down noise pollution level. Plants provide innumerable environmental benefits and considering the steady increase in air pollution it has become imperative to increase the green belts in and around the cities

Green belts help prevent urban sprawl, prevent neighbouring towns to merge into each other, to protect historic town, and to prevent encroachments of residential area into the agricultural land. The dissertation deals with the planning of green belts in urban planning context. It also addresses the various threats, advantages, disadvantages, purposes and functions of green belts. The study is based on the policies and regulations on green belts around the world, background study on green belts round the world and the spatial manifestations of green belts in urban areas

The limitation of this project are that the accepted criticism about green belts is that they can encourage bouncing developments or the developments outside the green belts. Another point of view, it develops other problems indicating that resident people in towns or estates require longer daily trips for commuting to work or supplying their needs. Some regions that are allocated for green belts have quite low values or they are even worthless for the environment and urban population, despite maintaining the landscape.

Key words: green belts, urban sprawl, encroachments, pollution