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ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OF URBAN HEAT ISLAND: A CASE STUDY OF RANCHI CITY

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to discover issues which are changing the landscape as well as environmental composition and configuration of Ranchi city area and developing Urban Heat Island (UHI) phenomenon in this urban area. UHI is geographically a micro-climatic phenomenon. It is becoming general 'heat effect' due to the environmental impact of rapid and unsustainable urbanization. It occurs within urban areas and consists of, generally, warmer temperature than that's rural surroundings. UHI is the variation in Land Surface Temperature (LST) between the urban realm and the surrounding rural areas because it is an indicator for measuring UHIs (Voogt, J.A.; Oke, T.R., 2003). The surface temperature has indirect but considerably significant influence on air temperatures, especially the canopy layer that is closest to the surface (Zhang, J.; Wang, Y., 2008). The UHI intensity is defined as the difference between urban and rural air temperature (Oke 1972). The surface temperature of an urban area is influenced by many factors like the length of day, season, wind, ocean currents, clouds, topography, location, rural surroundings, land use, building material and city geometry (Valsson, S.; Bharat, A., 2009, Lo, C.P.;

Quattrochi, D.A., 2003). These impacts are seen in the form of thermal pollution, air pollution, water pollution and health risks. In UHI fields urban dwellers face general discomfort, respiratory difficulties, heat cramps, heat strokes, and heat related mortality. Ranchi, the capital of Jharkhand state, was earlier known as the summer capital, but it has now become a city of Urban Heat Island, especially during summer. This study is to investigate environmental issues of UHI impact in Ranchi Urban Area (RUA). Land surface temperature data (LST), data on land-Use/ land-Cover, air temperature data, rainfall data have been used in the

investigation of UHI of the study area.

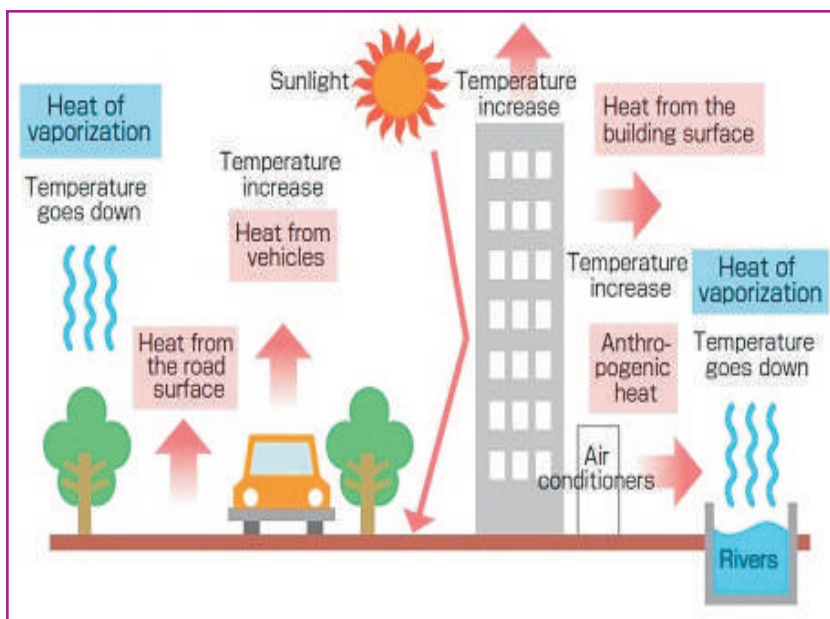
KEYWORDS: Canopy layer * City geometry * Ecological processes * Micro-climatic phenomenon * Surface temperature * Thermal pollution * Unsustainable urbanization * Urban realm.

ACRONYMS:

DEM Digital Elevation Model
DSH Direct Solar Heating
HEC Heavy Engineering Corporation
ISH Indirect Solar Heating
LST Land Surface Temperature
LULC Land-use and Land-cover
RUA Ranchi Urban Area
UHI Urban Heat Island

1. INTRODUCTION

The landscape of Ranchi is characterized by undulating



surface with several hills and irregular pattern of roads, lanes and unplanned areas. The average slope of Ranchi city is 10 to 20 meters over kilometers. Ranchi city enjoys good communication links of roads, railways and aviation. But the city area is being distracted. The topography of the city is characterized by an undulating surface with hard sub soil. The different areas of the city are highly affected by the pattern of traffic and haphazard housing system, supply of drinking water, sewerage system, drainage system and garbage disposal system etc. The texture and topography of the whole land are gradually changing due to urban growth, pressure of population as well as by industrialization. Above all this plateau city which was called a hill station three decades ago is now turning into an UHI. According to Ranchi district Gazetteer published in 1970 - the climate of Ranchi was cool and pleasant. Once Ranchi was the summer capital of the undivided state of Bihar but now it has become the heat field or Urban Heat Island especially during summer. The study investigates to know ...why?

We know that global warming has increased the temperature of the Earth Planet; and thousands of cities or urban islands and industrial areas on the Earth are being affected by higher temperature 'dome' or 'heat island' phenomenon. This higher-temperature 'dome' created over an urban or industrial area by hot air layers is by and large urban heat island (UHI). In 1810s Luke Howard investigated and described the phenomenon of Urban Heat Island. He first time discovered many factors to UHI and observed that the big cities' area is significantly warmer than its rural surroundings. Further the studies carried out earlier have found differential rate of change in temperature over urban and rural areas and indicated that the warming tendency is more pronounced in urban areas than the surrounding rural areas (Trușilova et al., 2008; Tayanc and Toroş, 1997). But it isn't climate change or land surface temperature (LST). In UHI area land surface temperature is an indicator for measuring it (Voogt, J.A.; Oke, T.R. 2003). It is because the surface temperature has indirect but considerably significant influence on air temperatures, especially the canopy layer that is closest to the surface (Zhang, J.; Wang, Y. 2008). The surface temperature of an urban area is influenced by many factors like the length of day, season, wind, ocean currents, clouds, topography, location, rural surroundings, land use, building material and city geometry (Valsson, S.; Bharat, A. 2009; Lo, C.P.; Quattrochi, D.A. 2003). The magnitude of surface UHI varies with seasons due to changes in the sun's intensity as well as ground cover and weather. As a result of such variation, surface UHI are typically largest in the summer (Oke, T.R., 1982; Charabi, Y.; Bakhit, A., 2011) though many studies have also shown intense UHI in winters (Chen, X.L.; Zhao, H.M.; Li, P.X.; Yin, Z.Y., 2006). Increased concretization and associated modifications of land-use and land-cover in urban areas have altered the patterns of surface temperature creating distinct micro climates in cities and towns (Singh, R.B.; Murai, S., 1998; Singh, R.B.; Kumar, D., 2012). It is because the thermal environment is directly influenced by the physical surface conditions of the region (Yue, W.; Xu, J.; Tan, W.; Xu, L., 2007). Activities of urban areas create and increase air pollution, water pollution, thermal pollution, caused by anthropogenic heat emission, and so on. Anthropogenic heat affects local climate in urban areas. So, areas in cities are generally warmer than

comparable rural areas. When this difference becomes a phenomenon with strong temperature difference then the change is considered as UHI. The main cause of the urban heat island effect is from the modification of land surfaces, which use materials that effectively store short-wave radiation. (William D. Solecki, Cynthia Rosenzweig, Lily Parshall, Greg Pope, Maria Clark, Jennifer Cox, Mary Wiencke, 2005; United States, Environmental Protection Agency).

UHI usually shows larger temperature difference at night than during the day. It is most apparent when winds are weak and is most noticeable during the summer and winter. A simple quantitative indicator of urban heat island phenomenon is the UHI intensity. This effect causes the city to become 1 to 6 degree Celsius warmer than surrounding landscapes. Impacts also include reducing soil moisture and intensification of carbon dioxide emissions. As far as Ranchi city is concerned it is flooded with magnificent natural beauty, surrounded by several dense forests, lakes and mind-blowing water-falls. Ranchi is also known as "City of Waterfalls." Several varieties of green vegetables are cultivated here; Ranchi is often described as "Vegetable Bowl" of Jharkhand. Since the British Era, Ranchi has been an important center of trade and commerce, particularly for sericulture and manufacturing of shellac. But the city is facing environmental crisis. That is why its urban outgrowths need a research-based direction to get back its cozy climate round the year. 2. Objectives: The specific objectives of the present study are as follows:

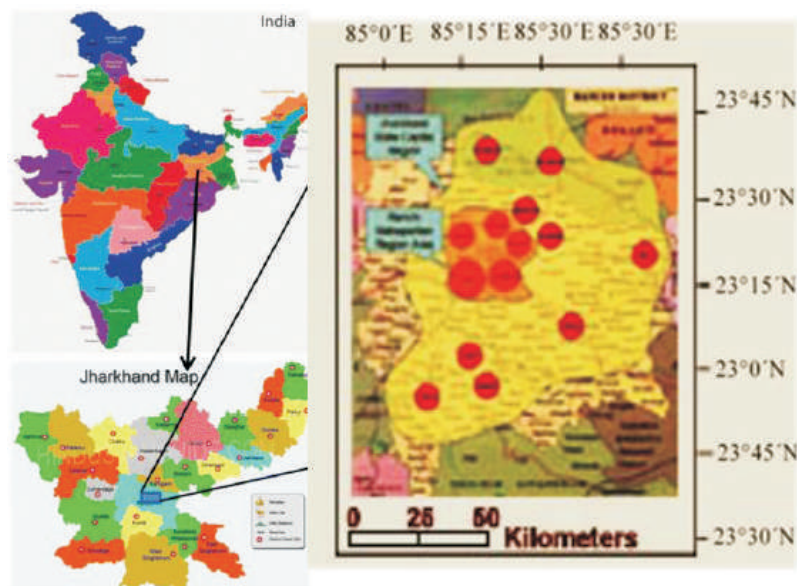
- To analyze the environmental issues of UHI in Ranchi city.
- To evaluate the higher-temperature effect prevailing in Ranchi city. Is it UHI?
- To find out the facts of the trends of Urban Heat Island phenomenon in the capital of Jharkhand.
- To point out the causes of UHI tendency in the city area of Ranchi.
- To suggest the actions to mitigate UHI.

3. DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY:

Several studies have been done regarding the environmental issues and aspects of Ranchi city, but there isn't any known proper studies regarding the UHI phenomena of this urban landscape. Therefore, the present paper is based not only on empirical observations but on author's micro level surveys. Some of the findings of the survey are in the form of figures. Secondary data and relevant information have also been obtained from RRDA, RMC, Ministry of Urban development, Govt. of Jharkhand & Govt. of India. Data have been obtained from India Meteorological Department (IMD), National Climatic Data Centre (NCDC) and Agricultural Physics and Meteorology Department of Birsa Agricultural University (BAU), Ranchi. Temperature difference data have been computed and evaluated from the obtained data from various sources.

4. Study Area:
Ranchi city (Fig. 1) is one of the oldest towns in India. It has been the district headquarters since 1843. This city was made summer capital of Bihar in 1912 for its cozy and wholesome climate. From November 2001 Ranchi is the capital of Jharkhand in India. It is situated on the Chotanagpur Plateau and lies between 23°14'58" N to 23°25'34" N latitude and 85°15'18" E to 85°24'15" E longitude. Ranchi town has a population of 1,073,427 according to 2011 census. The average elevation of the city is 629 m above mean sea level. Its urban landscape is characterized by Ranchi conical hills, beautiful Ranchi Lake, irregular pattern of roads and lanes and new emerged planned area having specification in different functions. The morphological characteristics of this urban landscape are also affected due to industrial center and habitation of the people of various cultural backgrounds. The mean annual rainfall is around 1270 mm. It receives largely 81 per cent rain during southwest monsoon season. Therefore, Ranchi city possesses about 439 mm amount of water surplus from June to September. This city is having normal water deficit of 240 mm water mainly during March to June months. Unplanned accelerated growth of the city has created several environmental problems in the city. Hence, annual mean maximum temperature of Ranchi indicates warming trend.

Figure: 1 Map of India, Map of Jharkhand and Map of Ranchi City (55 wards)



SOURCE: RMC, CDP & Secondary Sources

5. DISCUSSIONS AND RESULT:

Urbanization and industrialization are the creation of human beings due to which the physical presence of urban and rural area is different. This change directly and indirectly affects environment and human beings. One of those impacts is UHI and this phenomenon has occurred in Ranchi city also. For the evaluation of UHI evaluation of environmental issues is essential. We know, UHI is determined as the spatially-averaged temperature difference between an urban and its surrounding rural area (Magee et al., 1999; Kim and Baik, 2005). Here, a simple question arises – why is this temperature difference while the Direct Solar Heating (DSH) affects both urban and rural areas simultaneously and equally? The main cause of the urban heat island effect is from the modification of land surfaces, which use materials that effectively store short-wave radiation. (William D. Solecki, Cynthia Rosenzweig, Lily Parshall, Greg Pope, Maria Clark, Jennifer Cox, Mary Wiencke, 2005; United States, Environmental Protection Agency). Rural areas are almost free from this type of concretization. Various research works and experience of the author also find that this is due to the anthropogenic heat and the Indirect Solar Heating (ISH) which are the main causes of UHI. In this light the study finds the following main environmental issues relevant to the UHI of Ranchi city:

5.1. Population: It is population which gives growth to any city because the people make houses to live in, arrange all possible facilities as well as equipments without caring their warming effects. So, as population grows the city becomes more UHI friendly and that is the cause Geographer Hung et al. (2005) observed maximum UHI intensity of 8°C in Bangkok with a population of 11 million and maximum UHI of 7°C with a population density of 12.55 million in Shanghai. The population of Ranchi City has witnessed a continuous and rapid growth in number (Table 1). The rate of increase was (+) 70.79 percent in 1951. The period of very rapid growth was observed after the formation of Ranchi city as the capital of Jharkhand state. After 2001 Ranchi city experienced a very high degree of population growth i.e. 51.34 percent. According to Census, 2011 population of this city is 11, 20,374. Thus during the span of 60 years, Ranchi city witnessed its population size leading to over congestion and heavy pressure on the civic amenities. This trend of population increase has been owing to the combined environmental effect of UHI factors.

Table: 1. Ranchi City – Population Growth (1871-2001)

Census	Total Population	Increase in Population	Decadal Growth Rate (%)
1951	1,06,849		
1961	1,40,253	1,15,294	(+) 82.21
1971	2,55,551	2,34,075	(+) 91.60
1981	4,89,626	1,09,680	(+) 22.40
1991	5,99,306	2,64,148	(+) 41.24
2001	8,63,180	2,57,194	(+) 51.34
2011	11,20,374		

Source:Records of the Directorate of Census operations, Jharkhand.

5.2. Physical Expansion:

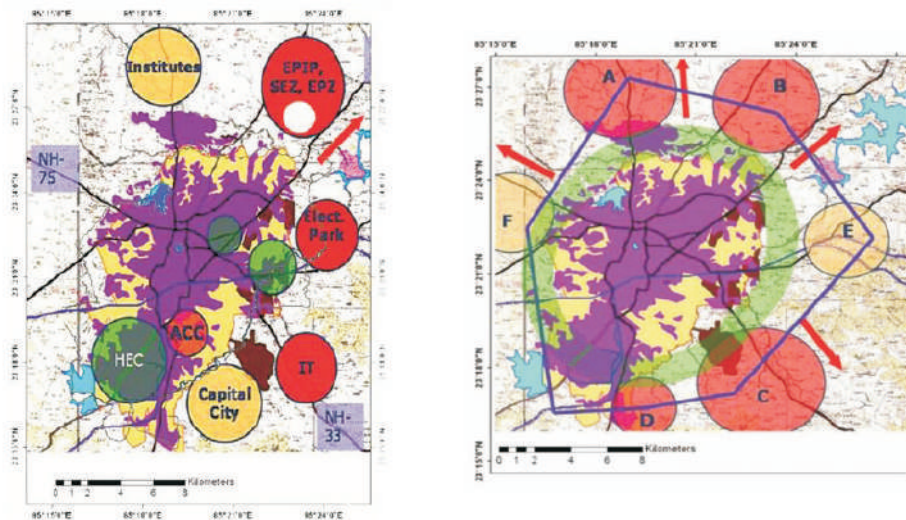
In 1989 the urban area was 6 km² that is now 257 km² excluding 273.23 km² of urban sprawl (Table 2). Large population density, increase in surface temperature and expansion of built-up environment affect the micro-climate of the city and develop UHI. The main cause of the urban heat island effect is from the modification of land surfaces, which use materials that effectively store short-wave radiation. (William D. Solecki, Cynthia Rosenzweig, Lily Parshall, Greg Pope, Maria Clark, Jennifer Cox, Mary Wiencke, 2005; United States, Environmental Protection Agency).

Table No. 2: Ranchi City: Spatial Growth (1869-2010)

Year	Area (sq. km)	Increase (sq. km)	Growth Per Year	Growth Percent	Time (years)
1869	6.00	-	-	-	-
1965	43.44	37.44	0.38	21.87	96
1985	175.29	131.85	6.60	77.01	20
2004	177.19	1.90	0.10	1.10	19
2010	257 (RMC Area) 273.23 (Urban Sprawl)	89.81 96.04	37.96 29.49	45.04 54.20	6 6

Sources: Secondary Data

Therefore, in Ranchi city built-up area is enough to welcome UHI phenomenon. Because increased concretization and associated modifications of land-use and land-cover in urban areas have altered the patterns of surface temperature creating distinct micro-climates in cities and towns (Singh, R.B.; Murai, S., 1998; Singh, R.B.; Kumar, D., 2012). It is because the thermal environment is directly influenced by the physical surface conditions of the region (Yue, W.; Xu, J.; Tan, W.; Xu, L., 2007). Ranchi city is getting too much growth. Without sustainability the planning of sub cities and industrial belts around Ranchi city may also enhance the intensity of UHI (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Figure 2: Proposed Sides for Industrial Areas Figure 3: Future Growth of Ranchi city

Source: Fig. 3 & Fig. 4: RMC & CPD, 2006

5.3. Industrialization and Pollution:

Industrialization started in Ranchi city during the post-independence period (1955-1965). Several large scale industries, namely, Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (MECON), Usha Martin, High Tension Insulator Factory, Walpole Industries, and Sri Ram Ball Bearing were established during that period. Among these HEC was the largest industry having three units viz Heavy Machine Building Plant (HMBP), Heavy Machine Tools Plant (HMTF) and Foundry Forge Plant (FFP). FFP was categorized as one of the most polluting and largest FFP in India. The emission from FFP includes smoke, dust, Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM), Reparable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM), Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), hydrocarbons and heavy metals like Lead (Pb), Cadmium (Cd), Chromium (Cr), Arsenic (As), Nickel (Ni) etc. The second phase of industrialization in Ranchi began

after the establishment of Ranchi Industrial Area Development Authority (RIADA) in 1973. About 540 ancillary industrial units were established by RIADA in and around Ranchi. After becoming the capital of Jharkhand state industrialization in this city is being established by leaps and bounds. With increased urban-industrial activities, the number of yearly registration of new vehicles with Ranchi transport office (RTO) is also growing since late 1990s. For the year 1997 it was only 1,735, for the year 2001 it almost doubled to 15,905 and reached to 28,786 for the year 2004. In 2000 the number of vehicles plying on the roads were 90,000 which rose to 1,03,964 in 2004 (State of the Environment Report, Jharkhand, 2005). New registration of vehicles was only 14,096 in 2010-11 and surprisingly it reached the number of 35828 in 2014-15 (Table 3).

Table No. 3. : Ranchi City: Registered Vehicles (2010-2015)

Types of Vehicles	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Trucks	416	312	277	317	412
Bus	65	72	25	70	86
Private Taxis / Cars	1284	1975	1681	2015	2172
Taxi	172	108	175	198	212
Jeep	472	178	285	318	514
3 Wheeler	972	4375	4542	5272	6382
2 Wheeler	10372	11282	10978	18384	25372
Tractors	342	448	572	384	678
TOTAL	14096	19950	18545	26961	35828

Source: DTO, Ranchi

Table 4: Environmental Problems of Ranchi

		Level of Problems					
		Low		Medium		High	
	Category	Absolute	Percent	Absolute	Percent	Absolute	Percent
01.	Air Pollution	4	2.68	43	28.86	102	60.46
02.	Water Pollution	26	14.28	46	25.27	110	60.43
03.	Land Degradation	145	56.20	45	17.44	68	26.35
04.	Noise Pollution	75	28.85	95	36.53	90	34.61

Source – JSPCB, Dhurwa, Ranchi

Urbanization creates environmental crisis if the urban growth does not follow the parameters of sustainable development. Ranchi city is also facing environmental crisis. Some of them are man-made and some are natural. The study needs to focus on some of them with their geomorphic solutions:

5.4. Land Pollution and Degradation:

Absence of municipal solid waste (MSW) storage and disposal system is a major cause of land pollution. Littering of waste on the streets, footpaths, open spaces and drains is highly harmful because it mixes with the air and becomes heat absorbing particles for UHI factor. In Ranchi city in slum areas, the problem is aggravated due to complete neglect of MSW collection and transportation system. Land pollution level in Ranchi city is 60.46 percent in high range, 28.86 percent in medium range and 2.68 in low range (table 4). Land pollution can also result from seepage of contaminated water from open and cultivated fields into the low lying areas. Silt and dirt accumulating from hilly areas to low lying areas as a result of heavy rainfall causes siltation in the low lying areas in Ranchi city. Land degradation level in Ranchi city is 26.35 percent in high range, 17.44 percent in medium range and 56.20 in low range (table 4).

5.5 Solid Waste Combustion:

It has also been seen that these toxic wastes are burned in an open area. In fact, burning of solid waste degrades the air quality. These wastes contain large amounts of plastics and medical wastes. The emissions from solid waste combustion include carbon monoxide, particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, mercury, lead, hydrogen chloride, and minor amounts of chlorinated dioxins. Low wind speed during these hours further compound the problem.

5.6. Water Pollution and Degradation:

Ranchi city is growing faster and without any proper municipal waste dumping policy. Municipal waste can be seen dumped here and there in the city. Most of the by lanes in the city are choked with municipal solid wastes. This municipal waste poses a serious threat to ground water quality. The problem of pollution from landfill is greatest where high rainfall and shallow water tables occur. Ranchi city is bounded by several small rivulets like Harmu River, Jumar River, Potpoto River, etc. These rivers are becoming sites for indiscriminate disposal of municipal, household and industrial wastes which contaminates the city groundwater. This is particularly true for the Harmu River as the flow of the river is choked with different household and municipal wastes. The water bodies get polluted due to the discharge of effluents from the industries, domestic activities and soil pollution from the nearby dumping sites and agricultural drainage. Due to increasing industrialization and population large quantities of wastes are being generated different forms such as solid, liquid, sludge and gases. Ranchi city produces tones of solid wastes daily from households, hospitals, industry offices, market centers etc. Some of these biodegradable, some are non-biodegradable and Hazardous waste. Wastes are directly thrown away on the street roads, city garbage collecting places etc. Out of which most of it still remain there, which later pile up and clog city drainage lines. So the Geological, Geotechnical and Hydrogeological Parameters fall within the environmental category. Water pollution level in Ranchi city is 60.43 percent in high range, 25.27 percent in medium range and 14.28 percent in low range (table 4).

5.7. Noise Level or Sound Pollution:

The rapid urbanization without proper sustainability has created gathering like situation on the roads and markets. Large number of people and vehicles are seen in public places, markets and on roads where noise and sound pollution has become inevitable. Increased population and industrialization coupled with increase in number of motor vehicles including cars, buses, trucks, motor cycles, rails, airplanes as well as Industrial activities, construction activity, commercial establishments etc. are not only the source of noise pollution but also make the atmosphere polluted with dust particles and increase the temperature of the sight which rise of the intensity of UHI in the city. Nowatoli, Siramtoli, Lalpur Chowk and Upper Bazar are the places where temperature level is observed higher (table 5). Noise pollution level in Ranchi city is 34.61 percent in high range, 36.53 percent in medium range and 28.85 percent in low range (table 4).

Table No. 5. : Noise Quality in the Town

Serial No. & Location	Average Noise		Level in db(A)	
	Average Day Noise Level	Standard Limit	Average Night Noise Level	Standard Limit
1, Nowatoli	66	65	45	55
2. Siramtoli	60	65	43	55
3.LalpurChauk	63	65	45	55
4. Upper Bazar	80	65	51	55

Source: RMC & CDP

5.8. Local Weather Conditions:

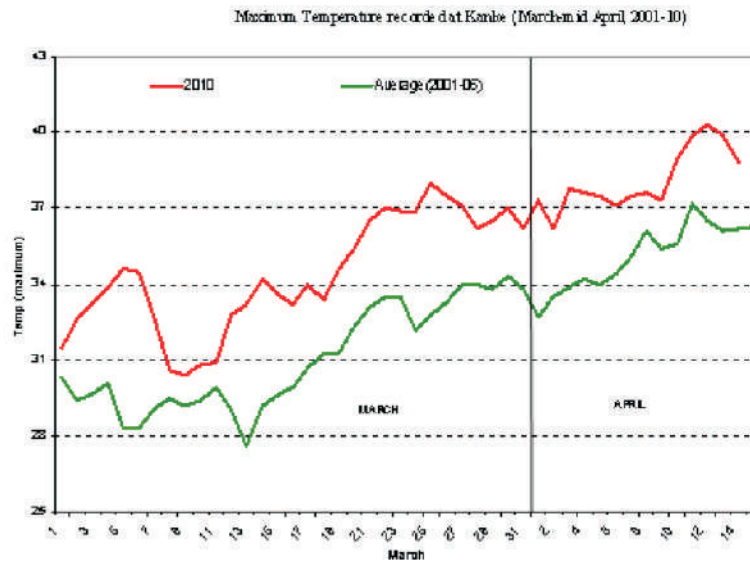
Ranchi's local weather conditions have been favorable for human settlements. Its salubrious climate with moderate summer and bracing winter suits even today for urbanization. Ranchi represents a sub-tropical climate. The local weather conditions of Ranchi area are important in determining the geomorphic landscape attribute. Temperature is the most important climatic and UHI element which has significant role in determining climatic characteristics of the city. The mean maximum temperature in 2005 and 2010 have been recorded 38.8°C in the month of May and 44.4°C in the month of April, 2010 where as the minimum temperature was 22.3 °C in the month of January 2005 and 4.56°C in the month of January, 2010. Highest daily maximum temperature 42.4°C has been recorded on the 18th June 2005 and 41.6°C in June, 2010. The lowest minimum daily temperature has been recorded 4.2°C on the 21st January in 2005 and 2.2°C on January, 2010. The average minimum annual temperature has been recorded 6.3°C in the month of December in 2005 and 4.56°C in the month of January in 2010. The average maximum and minimum monthly, average minimum and minimum mean monthly temperature have been asserted in the table 6.

Table 6: Mean Monthly Temperature of Ranchi (2005 & 2010)

Months	Maximum 0°C		Minimum 0°C		Mean 0°C	
	2005	2010	2005	2010	2005	2010
January	22.3	15.58	8.6	4.56	15.45	11.57
February	26.4	26.57	11.7	10.47	19.5	18.52
3 March	31.9	34.09	15.5	14.97	23.7	24.53
April	35.8	42.42	19.8	19.79	27.8	31.11
May	38.8	36.47	22.0	26.15	30.05	31.31
June	37.5	25.96	24.3	24.51	30.9	30.24
July	28.9	28.43	23.0	23.94	26.2	26.19
August	29.4	30.34	23.0	22.68	26.2	26.57
September	29.3	29.8	22.0	20.74	25.75	25.27
October	28.0	27.85	18.8	16.82	23.4	22.34
November	25.7	27.11	9.3	15.84	17.5	21.48
December	23.4	22.1	6.3	6.83	14.85	14.66

Source: Department of Meteorology, BAU, Ranchi, 2005

May and June with mean temperatures of 30.05 °C and 30.9 °C respectively are the hottest months while December and January with mean temperature of 14.8 °C and 15.4 °C respectively are the coldest months in 2005. April and May with mean temperature of 42.42 °C and 36.47 °C respectively are the hottest months while January and December with mean temperature of 4.56 °C and 6.83 °C respectively are the coldest months in 2010. But, due to elevation of the Ranchi Plateau there is uniformity in the range of temperature with mean maximum annual temperature 29.78 °C (2005) and 30.01°C (2010) and minimum of 17.02 °C (2005) and 17.28 °C (2010). These show its uniform nature. In the cool months there has been expressed lowest temperature in the night whereas increase at the day time. Occasional rain in the month of December decreases the temperature of the city to a considerable extent. The data shows that Ranchi city is becoming hotter gradually. (Figure 2.5 and Figure 2.6) During the pre-monsoon period temperature goes on steadily falling. The climate of Ranchi city during this period of the year remains far favorable than that of many other hill stations in India. The mean annual temperature is high in the city. It increases from the month of March onwards increasing moisture and sometimes high temperature. Then chemical reactions are great and the relative importance of mechanical fracturing is reduced. Evaporation increases temperature.



Source: Department of Meteorology, BAU, Ranchi

The figure-5 shows that the maximum temperature level of Ranchi city is increasing not only because of global warming but also due to developing UHI factor.

Table 7: Ranchi City Long Term Seasonal and Annual Rate of Change in Temperature in degrees (2001-2010)

Sl. No.	Seasons	Maximum Temperature		Minimum Temperature		Mean Temperature	
		LT Change	LT Mean	LT Change	LT Mean	LT Change	LT Mean
01.	Winter	+ 15	24.1	- 0.7	10.8	+0.3	17.5
02.	Summer	+0.6	34.6	- 0.7	20.6	0.0	27.6
03.	Monsoon	+0.5	30.3	- 0.6	22.7	0.0	26.4
04.	Post Monsoon	+1.1	27.2	- 0.2	16.2	+0.4	21.7
05.	Annual	+ 0.8	29.3	- 0.6	18.1	0.1	23.7

Source – Secondary Data

The maximum temperature of Ranchi city is increased 0.80 c and in every season there is an increase in temperature. The mean temperature is also becoming higher (Table-7). In surrounding rural area the increase in accordance to global warming but in urban landscape it is due to the developing UHI,

5.9. Atmospheric Pressure and Wind Conditions:

Pressure generally follows the temperature when the temperature increases to a maximum of 37.2 °C in the month of May, the pressure in June decreases to a minimum of 723.4 mb at 17 hr. I.S.T. It is very remarkable phenomenon which is clear from the table 8.

Table 8: Atmospheric Pressure and Temperature

Month	Pressure in mb At 8hrs IST	Pressure in mb at 17hrs. IST temp. (0°C)	Mean daily minimum	Mean daily maximum temp.
January	732.8	730.8	10.6	23.1
February	731.4	729.8	12.6	25.0
March	730.9	728.7	17.3	36.0
April	730.0	726.6	21.7	35.3
May	726.3	724.3	24.0	37.2
June	724.2	723.4	24.1	33.5
July	722.9	722.4	22.9	29.1
August	722.8	722.4	22.6	28.5
September	725.8	720.9	22.1	29.0
October	731.0	729.5	18.9	28.3
November	734.1	733.2	13.8	25.3
December	738.8	737.2	10.3	22.9

Source: Department of Meteorology, BAU, Ranchi, 2005

5.10. Hills, Rocks and soil:

The area underlain by schistose rocks is having more deep red soil than those of granite rocks due to the dominance of minerals, particularly garnet. Present in the rocks, such variations in soil type is observed in the areas around the Ranchi Hill, Hehal Hill and Argora Hill with the Harmu River traversing the whole area. This texture of soil mixed with land pollution observes heat and radiates it at night which increases the intensity of UHI.

5.11. Wetland Shallow Water Body:

Urbanisation requires wetlands within its circumference and Ranchi city is rich having three main wetlands in Ranchi i.e. Dhurwa Dam, Getalsud reservoir (out of RMC boundary), Kanke dam, Bariyatu lake, Ranchi lake besides the three important rivers. The wetland, here regulate the flow of water and nutrients, thereby facilitating optimum functioning of the physical and biological cycles of nature. But, the changing rate of water bodies of this area is also showing decreasing trend. According to some secondary data there is approximately 2.2% decrease of water bodies since last 12 years (from year 1997 to 2009). The result of classified map also indicates that decreasing rate and this is also approximately equal to the result came after on screen digitization. Reduction in area of shallow water body has been from 5.83 sq km to 5.60 sq km which is estimated to be (-) 0.23 sq km, with a percentage variation of (-) 4.11%. This also seems to be due to increase in population, urbanization, pollution and other allied factors of land use.

5.12. Change in Forest Area:

Forest the most important part of land cover is decreasing year by year and shows negative change in search of agricultural land just because of increasing human population need as well as to generate more income. In this study, it was found that there is approx. 5% decrease of forest cover from 1997 to 2009, but this change is more from 1997 to 2004 but from year 2004 to 2009 there is slow rate of change because of awareness of environment in people living nearby the forest area. But, there has been increase in Acacia plantation in linear patterns along roads, railways and also airports as it is a noise absorbent tree. It is not enough. In fact, deforestation is anti-mitigation to UHI which is continued in Ranchi city.

5.13. Cultivation:

Decrease in area of cultivation from 21.77 sq km to 20.24 sq km, is estimated to be (-) 1.53 sq km with a percentage variation of (-) 7.56%. This seems to be due to land use conversions and encroachments following increase in urban infrastructures etc. Scrubland with vegetation : Decrease in area from 21.42 sq km to 20.85 sq km is estimated to be (-) 0.57 sq km, with a percentage variation of (-) 2.73%. This seems due to encroachment,

infrastructure and increase in agriculture in those areas.

Decrease in area from 21.15 sq km to 20.35 sq km is estimated to be around (-) 0.8 sq km, percentage variation of (-) 3.93%.

5.14. Change in Agricultural Land and Vegetation:

The observation indicates that the image interpretation reveals that the study area is predominantly comes under poor to medium cultivation and paddy is the predominantly crop of this area. The crop growing conditions are not very much favorable in this area due to Plateau and rock region. The growth rate of vegetation is quite good here; there is overall 1.8% increase of agricultural and vegetated area since last 12 years of the total area. It is vegetation which is a strong agent for mitigation of UHI.

5.14. Waste Land:

Waste land is described as degraded land, which can be brought under vegetation cover with reasonable effort. Three patches are registered more in white color and a little of yellow or brown color in the satellite data especially in north and N-E portion of the imagery. The study area comes under plateau region, so maximum portion of the waste land is categorized under barren rocky waste. In this study it was found that wasteland in part of Ranchi city is showing increasing trend. This may be because of increasing human & animal population on land. The intensive cultivation has extended even to areas under ecological stress leading to accelerated soil erosion and excessive land degradation, and there is overall 2% increase of this part of land.

5.15. Use of Solid Geology and Urban Hazards:

The rapid growth of Ranchi city cannot meet the solid construction without the use of solid geology in building material, housing, road and bridge construction etc. It is due to which the stone quarrying and crushing industry is growing by leaps and bounds in and around the Ranchi city. This area is a part of a part of the Chotanagpur Plateau which is made up of Archean, the oldest rocks containing Dharwar charnockites, banded gneissic complex, older metamorphic and basement complex rocks. Older age black granites viz dolerite and gabbro occur as dykes in Archean, which are of later age. Use of these rocks causes deforestation, Loss of top soil, air pollution in the form of fine dust generated by the mining and crushing of hard rocks and health problems like regular reports of cough and cold among the miners. Huge constructions of these rock materials are one of the most heat observing and heat releasing materials which of course increase the intensity of UHI of Ranchi urban landscape.

4.16. Anthropogenic Effects:

There are two types of the urban heat – by the sun and by the manmade buildings, industries, electrical electronic equipment etc. Anthropogenic heat represents the heat generated from stationary and mobile sources of an area. The sunset every morning for average 12 hours but anthropogenic heat continues round the clock except the use of vehicles in number becomes less. That's why anthropogenic heat is highly considerable in UHI Phenomenon. The emissions of large amount of gaseous species and aerosols which affect the composition and chemistry of the atmosphere (Timothy et al. 2009) can have adverse effect on the environment in the cities and their vicinity. Moreover, this can negatively impact the population (Gurjar et al. 2010).

5.17. Urban Metabolism of Ranchi City:

Ranchi city is a hybrid of new and old developments. It is common to observe here that new urban areas which have been developed without consideration of urban structures and provision of services are also already settled. It is leading to uncoordinated transport systems, inefficient water/energy supply planning, no waste management plan and even no local economy analysis. This urban context carries out severe problems to the urban environment, related to water supply, urban heat island effects, hotter and colder local climate, floods, droughts, etc., not only at local scale, but also at regional level too (Olazabal, M., et al., 2008). The urban metabolism of Ranchi city has started to respond in the negative. The heat of the Sun observed by the physical

body of the Ranchi city as well as the anthropogenic heat cannot be digested by this city; and so this develops UHI phenomena here.

6. CONCLUSION:

All the environmental issues discussed above indicate that there are enough issues and factors which are responsible for UHI phenomenon in Ranchi city. Each and every factor and issues discussed in the study is a contribution to urban heat island phenomenon. Although Ranchi city is situated on a high plateau; its height can save it from urban heating by the usual rainfall and wind velocity also; even then the city is experiencing temperature higher than the surrounding areas. Experiences and personal surveys too indicate that temperature in central area of Ranchi city is 10°C higher than the local temperature of Kanke because it is situated at the north boundary of the city. Now Kanke is a part of RMC. Whenever the author tested the temperature of Ranchi urban locality and its rural surroundings at a time, especially in summer and winter seasons the difference of temperature was about 0.50°C to 2.50°C. It varied in accordance to the wind velocity, clouds in the sky and greenery of the area. This way too the UHI factor is being established here. This formula is also a recognized system as some geographers opine - the comparison time period used to be a season, a month, or a year, or in some cases using few selected days (Velazquez-Lozada et al., 2006). The selected days were clear and quiet nights and days that minimize the effects of temporary effect variables. Of course, UHI varies from area to area and method to method. That's why Saitoh et al. (1995) have collected weather data using an automobile and reported the surface- temperature based UHI intensity of 8°C in Tokyo. So, the UHI phenomenon of Ranchi city may be concluded as a mild UHI. Green roof revolution, 'save water bodies' action, forestation, jam less transportation, garbage free gardens and streets; and congestion less constructions as well as settlements may be enough to lessen or mitigate the UHI phenomena in Ranchi city.

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