Urban Poverty

Ashekur Rahman shines a light on how stronger municipal bodies are needed to tackle rapid urbanisation

THIS year, for the first time in human history there will be more people living in the world's cities and towns than in the countryside. But this growth is not happening evenly across the world: urban settlements in developing countries are, at present, growing five times as fast than those in developed countries.

Bangladesh is facing a potentially disastrous time with regards to the ever-increasing urban population. Trends show that the urban population growth rate currently stands at 3.5 percent per annum, almost more than twice that of the rural sector, and should it continue, more than 50 percent of the population will become urbanites by the year 2030. Dhaka has amongst the highest urbanisation rates in the world with a population already over 12

