



PRESENT HOUSING CONDITION OF SLUM DWELLERS

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ABSTRACT:

Improving quality of life in the slum is one of the development goals for current scenario. Slums are the product of socio-economic conditions of a particular social system inhibiting the physical, mental, moral and social development of the individual. It is observed that the basic amenities related to housing such as electric lighting, toilet facilities and access to water are also at for lower standards in slum area. In this paper socio-Economic condition of the urban slum dwellers of Nagpur city were analysed. Social conditions are analysed in terms of Socio-Economic status, Basic Amenities available in slum, Causes of slum, problems faced by slum dwellers discussed and analysed. Sample size of this study was 100 slum dwellers family's .Purposive sampling method was selected for the study. Survey method selected for research work. Questionnaire cum Interview method was selected for the survey. Slums are increasingly faced with problems such as population, Shortage of housing, basic civic amenities, poverty and unemployment.

Key words: - Slum, Slum dwellers, Socio-Economic status, Housing Condition, Basic civic Facilities

INTRODUCTION:

A slum is a heavily populated urban settlement characterized by substandard housing and squalor. While slums differ in size and other characteristics, most lack reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, law enforcement and other basic services. Slum residences vary from shanty houses to professionally built dwellings that because of poor quality construction or provision of services have deteriorated into slums.

Slums were common in the 18th to early 20th centuries in the United States and Europe. More recently, slums have been predominantly found in urban regions of developing and undeveloped parts of the world, but are also found in developed economics.

Slums form and grow in many different parts of the world for many different reasons. Some causes include rapid rural-to-urban migration,

economic, poor planning, politics, natural disasters and social conflicts. Strategies tried to reduced and transform slums in different countries, with varying degrees of success, include a combination of slum removal, slum relocation, slum upgrading, urban planning with citywide infrastructure development, and public housing.

Meaning of slum

- i) A slum is predominantly an overcrowded area which is an advanced state of decay where dwellings are unfit for human habitation.
- ii) It is an area where basic amenities like water supply, drainage for standard living are lacking, insanitary conditions prevail and diseases flourish.

- iii) It is poverty –stricken area, where there is a high rate of birth, infant mortality, illegitimacy, juvenile crime, delinquency and death, thus representing state of hell on the surface of earth.

The characteristics of Slums :-

- Slums are associated with poor sanitation due to lack of proper garbage and sewage disposal.
- Houses in slums are very cheap since they are of poor quality and also due to low income of people living in slums.
- Slums are associated with high crime rate.
- Houses in slums are very close to each other, unplanned and overcrowded.
- Slums do not have enough supply of water and power.
- Many people living in slums are unemployed.

Causes of Slum:-

1. Rural –Urban migration: Many people move to urban areas primarily because cities promise more jobs, better schools for poor’s children, and diverse income opportunities than subsistence farming in rural areas. However, some rural migrants may not find jobs immediately because of lack of skills and the increasingly competitive job markets, which leads to their financial shortage.
2. Urbanization: Rapid urbanization drives economic growth and causes people to seek working and investment opportunities in urban areas. Local government are unable to manage urbanization, and migrant workers without an affordable place to live in, dwell in slums.
3. Poor Housing Planning: Lack of affordable low cost housing and poor planning encourages the

supply side of slums. Insufficient financial resources and lack of co-ordination in government bureaucracy are two main causes of poor housing planning.

4. Poverty: Urban poverty encourages the following and demand for slums.

5. Politics: Removal and replacement of slum created a conflict of interest, and politics prevented efforts to remove, relocate or upgrade the slums into housing projects that are better than the slums.

6. Natural Disasters: Major natural disasters in poor nations often lead to migration of disaster-affected families from areas crippled by the disaster to unaffected areas, the creation of temporary tent city and slums, or expansion of existing slums.

Aim of the study: - To study present Housing condition of slum dwellers in Nagpur city.

Objectives of the study:-

1. To study the socio-Economic status of slum dwellers.
2. To study a basic housing amenities available in slum area.
3. To study the causes of slum.
4. To study the problem faced by slum dwellers.

MATERIAL & METHODS:

The study was conducted in Nagpur city of Maharashtra state. The sample involved 100 slum dwelling families. Purposive sampling method was used for selection of sample. The data was collected with the help of questionnaire cum interview method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Socio-economic Status

The educational background of sample respondents is given in the a table no 1. Nearly 46% of sample respondents studied up to primary level and 28% studied up to secondary

level of school education. About 16% have access to pre-University education. Only 10 % respondents studied up to graduation. None of the respondents have access to post-graduation. 55 % respondents were employed and 45% were unemployed. Maximum numbers of respondents were labour.

Income plays an important role for socio-economic activities. Most of the slum dwellers do not have enough source of income. It is evident from the table no 1 that 43 % respondents' monthly income between Rs.5000 -10000. 32% families had income between Rs.10001 -15000 /. 13 % had income between below Rs.5000 /.8% had income between Rs.15000 -20000/. Only 4% had income above Rs.20, 000/.

This shows that maximum families had income just enough to run their daily household expenditure.

Housing Condition

Housing condition tells us if the respondents have a kaccha house, semi-pakka or pakka house. Kaccha house is temporary made of bamboo, soil and other temporary construction materials. Pakka houses were properly cemented house with nice simple flooring and semi-Pakka house were cemented at some area with poor flooring. The survey showed that 59% of respondents have semi –pakka house. 7% people have kaccha and Pakka house respectively.

Table no 2 shows that 48% of the respondent's houses were low ventilated, 37 % of them had no proper circulation space, 25% had lack of open space, 22% were illegally occupied nazool lands and 13% had insufficient sunlight. It is clearly seen that maximum houses had low ventilation. Poor housing conditions are associated with a wide range of health conditions, including

respiratory infections, asthma and mental health.

Available facilities

According to above table it is observed that 52% respondents are depending on public tap for drinking water (municipal corporation water) 25% had bore well and hand pump 20 % of households have tap connection in the house. Only 3 % respondents used well for water.

It was found that electricity supply was mostly regular. 78% had regular electricity supply and 22 % complaint of irregular electricity supply to their home.

One of the most hygienic problems that slums are lack of adequate toilets. 68% of the respondents had toilet in their house and 32 % used common toilet.

It is important to have proper bathroom facility in the house. It is secure for the women of the house to participate in daily chores within the safety of the house.68% of respondents used in house washroom and 32% used out house washroom. This shows that maximum slum dwellers are well aware and thus have privately maintained washrooms.

Causes of slum

Causes of slums shows the reason for which the slum dwellers have been struggling in their current lifestyle. Table no 3 shows the main causes for the formation of slums. 86% respondents opined that formation of slum is due to unemployment.81% said that economic condition is one of reason for formation of slum.79% of the respondents said that the slums are overcrowded.72% people felt that they faced poverty.66% opined overcrowding in the slum is due to growing industrialization in the slum.66% respondents thought due lack of education slums are growing.60% and 53%

people opined that due to urbanisation and migration respectively.

There are some solution to resolve the issue of slum in India like improving rural life, overcoming urban poverty, Encouraging small and medium sized enterprises in rural areas, better urban planning and the regeneration of slums in India.

Problems faced by slum dweller

In slum areas ,the people facing several problems like lack of sufficient street light, lack of cement concrete roads, Drainage problems ,pollution etc.62% said that improper waste disposal ,15 % opined that Blocked and overflowing sewage .10 % respondents said that open manhole is a very dangerous problem. Sewage disposal plays a very big role in area sanitation. Improper disposal leads to blockages and hence to various water-borne diseases.

Disposal of garbage is important since it has been a major issue to the sanitation of slum areas. No proper disposal of garbage leads to unhygienic conditions causing various diseases among the slum dwellers.78% respondents faced the problem of proper garbage disposal system.

Pollution is major problem in slum area. 57 % respondents complaining due to dirty water bodies foul smell is spreads everywhere. 30 % dwellers said that there is no proper street lights facility. 50 % opined that not health facilities are available.

CONCLUSIONS

Slum is a group of buildings or an area characterized by overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, or absence of basic and essential facilities like portable water, drainage system, and health facilities.

On the basis of facts concluded that the socio-Economic conditions of the slum dwellers are

very low. There is lack of the basic amenities in the slum areas. They are facing various types of problems in daily life. Housing condition of the slums area is very poor. They lived in damaged house, lack of cross ventilation, lack of lighting source effects the health of the slum dwellers.

Now days slum areas, all members of family men and women work for their economic growth. Their children get free education facility. To change the scenario of the slum area, there should be a rehabilitation programme scheduled for them so that they can improve their skills and knowledge and can get employment.

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Table No 1

1	Education	Percentage
	Primary	46 %
	Secondary	28%
	Pre-University	16 %
	Graduation	10 %
	Post-Graduation	Nil
2	Employment Status	
	Employed	55 %
	Unemployed	45 %
3	Family Income(Monthly)	
	Below Rs.5000 /	13
	Rs.5001- 10000 /-	43
	Rs.10001-15000/-	32
	Rs.15001-20000/-	8
	Above Rs.20000	4

Table No 2

1	Type of House	Percentage
	Kaccha	7%
	Semi-Pakka	59 %
	Pakka	7 %
2	Housing Condition	
	Low Ventilation	48%
	No circulation space	37%
	Insufficient Light	13%
	Illegally occupied nazool lands	22%
	Lack of open space	25%

Table No 3

Sr. No	Causes of Slum	Percentage
1	Education	66%
2	Unemployment	86%
3	Economic Condition	81%
4	Poverty	72%
5	Urbanization	60%
6	Industrialization	66%
7	Migration	53%
8	Overcrowding	79%

Table No 4

Sr no	Problems	Percentage
1	Drainage problems	
	Improper waste Disposal	62%
	Blocked & overflowing sewage	15%
	Open manhole	10%
2	Garbage Disposal	78%
3	Pollution	
	Dirty water Bodies	50 %
	Foul Smell	57%
4	Street Lights	30%
5	Health Facility	50%

Tables: Table no 1 Socio-Economic Status, Table no 2 Available Facility,
Table no 3 Causes of slum, Table no 4 Problems faced by slum dwellers.