

International Journal of Scientific Research and Reviews

Quality of Life in Slums of Jammu city

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ABSTRACT:

Though urbanization is an indicator of development, but it is also bitter fact that poverty is growing faster in urban areas than in rural areas. Around the world, approximately one billion people live in urban slums, which are typically overcrowded, polluted and lack basic services. The situation is worst in developing countries like India. The slums of Jammu city portray a pathetic picture of life in slums. Social problems, disparities, well-being and quality of life are the new domains of geographic study in this post-modern era. Quality of life studies form part of human geography, radical geography, welfare geography and of philosophical geography. The quality of life studies are becoming more relevant for inclusive development of society and country.

This paper is an attempt to determine the quality of life in slums of Jammu city. For determining the Quality of Life in slums. The result emphasizes the need for measures to improve the physical environment of the dwelling places like basic amenities of toilets, proper drainage, sewerage system and adequate water supply.

KEYWORDS- Quality of life, urbanization. Development, dwelling.

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INTRODUCTION

Slums are frequently defined as, “buildings and areas that are ecologically and architecturally deficient. The word “slum” is often used to categorize informal settlements within the cities that have insufficient housing and wretched living conditions. They are mostly congested, with many people chock up into very small living spaces. Slum establishes the most important and tenacious problem of urban life. They occur almost in all metropolitan cities of the world. Rapid urbanization, migration of the underprivileged from rural areas to urban centers and acute shortage of housing are the main characteristics, in the formation of slums. Slums dwellers are vulnerable parts of the society. They are facing various types of the problems like health related problems, low level of income, poor housing conditions and lack of social amenities. Unhealthy living conditions of slum dwellers are the result of a lack of basic services, with visible, open drains, lack of pathways, uncontrolled dumping of waste, polluted environments, and disorganized building constructions etc. Prasad & Singh (2009)¹ analyzed the living condition and life style of Mankhurd slum dwellers and found that slum dwellers living in this area face a variety of problems relating to water and sanitation. Around 98 percent slum dwellers had problems concerning to fetching water while around 97 percent had difficulties in toilet use.

The presence of the slum is a global phenomenon. Some social scientist believed that, slum is the by-product of modern era. The development of the city is very important, but the provision for the slums population is needful. There is necessity to develop the plans and policies for the up gradation of the slum dwellers in terms of infrastructural development and basic amenities. Slums are progressively faced with adverse consequences such as polarization of population in large cities, high density, slums and squatter settlements, acute shortage of housing and basic civic amenities, degradation of environment, traffic congestion, pollution, poverty, unemployment, crime and social unrest. According to UN Habitat a slum is considered by lack of durable housing, insufficient living area, and lack of access to clean water, inadequate sanitation and insecure tenure.

Slum is one of the destructive indicators of the development. In India, slums are also known by different names such as “jhuggis” in the northern parts of the country; “ahatas” in Kanpur; “cherries” in Chennai; “bustees” in Kolkata; “zodpatpatties,” “chawls,” or “patrachawls” in Mumbai and Ahmadabad. Census of India (2011)² defines slums as a residential areas where dwellings are unfit for human habitation by reasons of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangements and design of such buildings, narrowness or faulty arrangement of street, lack of ventilation, light, or sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors which are detrimental to the safety and health. Goswami& Manna (2013,) studied Urban Poor Living in Slums: A Case Study

of Raipur City in India and found that the living situations in slums have a direct influence on people's health. Their low socio-economic status, low level of education, high fertility and mortality-health programs. Rapid increase of slums has triggered wide spread of ecological destruction in the urban city. Mageshwari & Geetha (2016)³ analyzed the women quality of life- A comparative study between slum and resettlement colony of Chennai city and found that quality of life in slums emerge as a bearish and awful. He emphasized that the urgent steps are necessary to improve their living conditions. Malaya & Bhagat (2013)⁴ study Urban poverty and health risk factors in Jammu city and found that every house had a single small entrance in the form of small door. Windows and other provisions of ventilation were found to be absent in most of the houses. Congested lanes with garbage made life of the urban poor miserable. The problem of congestion inside was so acute that people of all the three generation were pushed inside the single room which made them vulnerable to contagious diseases as well as hampered their privacy

Indian scenario of slums-As of 2011, there were 4011 statutory town slums spread over 2613 towns (65%) against 3799 town slums spread over 1743 towns that existed in 2001(46%). Roughly 13.7 million households or 17.4 % of total urban Indian households lived in slums in 2011. The share of urban population in the total increased from 27.86 % in 2001 to 31.16 % in 2011. The percentage share of urban population of „slum reported towns“ in total urban population in India was 77.45 % in 2011. Among the agglomerations, the percentage share of slum households in total urban households was highest in Mumbai in 2011. Dharavi is a slum in Maharashtra. It is the second-largest slum in the continent of Asia and the third-largest slum in the world These figures clearly shows that a large proportion of India's urban population live in unhygienic environment without basic facilities such as adequate infrastructure, proper drinking water, and sanitary facilities, etc.

The Slum meaning adopted for J&K(Slum free city action plan,J&K) is an adjoining area with 10-15 households having Slum like characteristics identified as :- Predominant roof material: any material other than concrete . Availability of drinking water source: not within premises of the census house. Availability of latrine: not within the premises of the census house. Drainage facility: no drainage or open drainage.

The urban population of J&K state has observed phenomenal rise of 98.4% against the national average of 64.2%. Among hilly states of India, J&K is the most urbanized state with 81 notified urban areas. Srinagar and Jammu are the focal points of urbanization. This rise in urban population puts increased pressure on urban infrastructure, especially housing sector along with other civic services. (Housing and Urban Development- Census 2011)

In Jammu city the slums are found in the heart of the city as well as urban peripheral areas. There has been an unprecedented spatial expansion of the town associated with growth of population due to urban rural and forced migration from time to time most of the slums are found railway stations, bus stand and places which initially offered work to these poor people. According to the census data 2011 the number of households in the slums of Jammu city is 17,986. The Jammu city comprises of 71 wards, out of 71 wards 33 wards comprises of slum population. In this scenario, the present paper tries to identify the quality of life of slums of Jammu city. In Jammu division, 100% of slums were located on private land. . In Jammu division 60% of Slums were surrounded by residential areas and 40% of slums were surrounded by industrial areas. (NSSO 69 report 2015).

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the quality of life in slums of Jammu city.
2. To suggest the measures to urban planning for improving the quality of life in slums of Jammu city

STUDY AREA

Jammu is the south western district of Jammu and Kashmir state. Jammu city is the largest city in Jammu and winter capital of Jammu And Kashmir State. It is also famously called as 'city of temples'. It is located between $74^{\circ}52'E$ - $74^{\circ}87'E$ longitude and $32^{\circ}44'N$ - $32^{\circ}73'N$ longitude. It is located 584 km to the North-west of Delhi on National highway 1A. Jammu district lies in sub-mountainous region at the foothills of the Himalayas. The Shivalik range rises gradually in the north part of the district and merges with the Indo-Gangetic plains in the south. The climate of Jammu is sub – tropical. Due to its locational advantage, Jammu has assumed importance as a transit place as it is located at the vertex of linkage corridors to Rajouri, Poonch, Kishtwar, Doda and serves as the gateway to Kashmir Valley, Ladakh and pilgrim places of Sh. Mata Vaishno Devi (Katra) and Shri Amaranth shrine (Pahalgam).

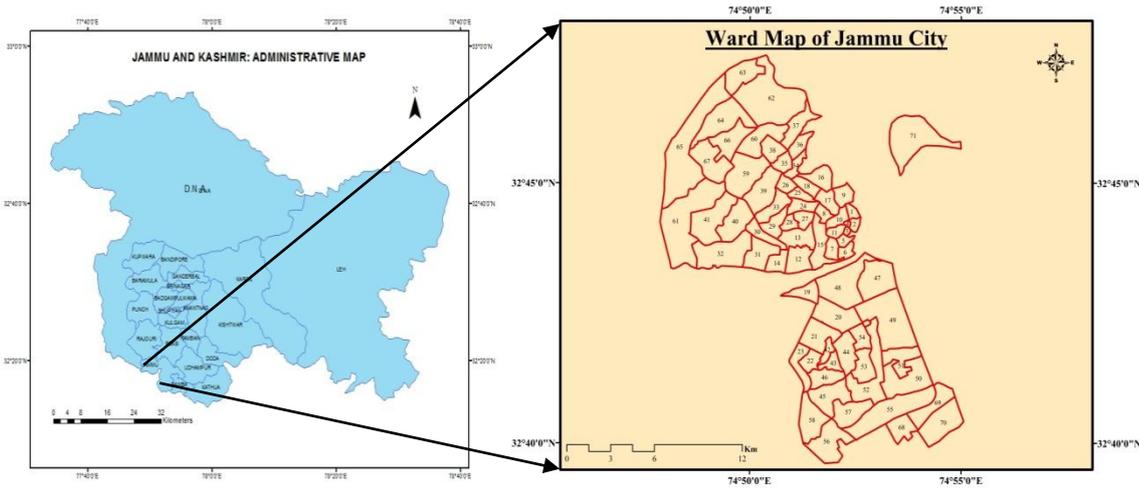


Fig. 1 Location of Study Area

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Methodology is a systematic, theoretical analysis of the methods applied to field study. It comprises the theoretical analysis of the body of methods and principles associated with the branch of knowledge. This study has been carried out with primary survey at the designated areas i.e. the two selected slum pockets in an urban area of Jammu city i.e. slums of Kalka colony of Bahu fort and Quasimnagar of Narwal. The slum area represents a mixed group of people coming from different areas not only from the outskirts of Jammu & Kashmir but also from also parts of India like Bihar, Burma, Chhattisgarh, and Haryana. The samples were selected with simple random sampling, so that different income groups of people get represented in the surveyed area. An equal number of samples i.e. 75 samples were selected to represent each area, with a total of 150 samples and a sampled population of 10 percent in this study. Thus lot of data has been generated by vigorous field work survey by preparing questionnaire and by interviewing people so that it becomes possible to get down the root cause of the problem. The collected samples were tabulated and processed and presented in the form of percentage supplemented by illustrations as and when required.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In the present study of slum dwellers in Jammu city, an attempt has been made to present a sketch on quality of life of these family respondents. The profile of slum dwellers presents a vivid picture of factors such as caste, education, and living environment of the family, size of the family, type of the house, occupation and annual income of the family. A total of 150 people surveyed from the selected study area. These people belongs to different religion and different parts of India in which 67.33 percent were Hindus and 32.66 percent Muslim population. In the slums it is seen that the sampled population are either inter or intra state migrants. In case of interstate migration 27

percent have come from different parts of Jammu and Kashmir. In case of intra-state migration 18.66 percent have migrated from Bihar, 7.33 have come from Burma, 12.66 percent from Chhattisgarh, 10 percent from Haryana and the rest 24 percent of the slum population are originally from other states.

Table no. 1 State-wise population of the respondents-

| STATES | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu & Kashmir | Others |
|------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|-----------------|--------|
| PERCENTAGE | 18.66 | 7.33 | 12.66 | 10 | 27.33 | 24 |

Source- field survey 2018

Basic amenities in the slums- Basic amenities available in the urban slum reveal the miserable living conditions of the slum dwellers. It measured through the availability of toilet, bathroom, drinking water facility, drainage, garbage disposal, electricity, cooking fuel etc. House constitutes the most vital aspect of the basic needs of man. Every individual needs to protect his life from thieves, flood etc. For this purpose proper house is necessary for everyone. On the basis of material used in walls and roofs, we classified all houses in to three categories, Pucca and Kutcha .A pucca house is one, which is constructed with cement and concrete roofing. A kutcha house is made of mud with thatched and or tin sheet roofing.

Household living in Temporary/ kutcha house–Living in kutcha house is generally concerned with poverty. The temporary houses are those which is made up of material like grass, bamboo, thatch, wood that have to be frequently replaces and difficult to molded to build modern housing. Such houses are more prone to damage by nature easily. On the other hand pucca house is permanent .As per the study area is concerned the data reveals the housing conditions of the migrated people coming from Bihar, Burma , Chhattisgarh, Haryana Jammu and from other states .From the table no.1 it clearly reveals that the percentage of households residing in temporary houses are highest in Burma (100percent). In Burma these people are recently migrated from Myanmar and living in slums, these people are not recently self – sufficient in their day to day life that’s why their standard of living is very poor.

Table -2 Housing infrastructures of the respondents

| | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu | Others |
|-------------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|-------|--------|
| Housing structure | | | | | | |
| Temporary | 96.29 | 100 | 94.73 | 78.57 | 92.68 | 83.33 |
| Pucca | 3.70 | - | 11.11 | 21.42 | 7.31 | 16.66 |
| No of Rooms | | | | | | |
| <2 rooms | 81.48 | 100 | 89.47 | 78.57 | 65.85 | 69.44 |
| >2 rooms | 18.51 | - | 10.52 | 21.42 | 34.41 | 30.55 |
| Ventilation | | | | | | |
| With | 18.51 | - | 0 | 21.42 | 17.07 | 13.88 |
| Without | 81.48 | 100 | 100 | 78.57 | 82.92 | 86.11 |
| Drainage | | | | | | |
| Covered | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Open | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Kitchen | | | | | | |
| Gas | 70.37 | 0 | 10.52 | 50 | 63.41 | 52.77 |
| Chulah/ | 29.6 | 100 | 89.47 | 50 | 36.58 | 47.22 |
| Source of water | | | | | | |
| Tap/well | 66.66 | 27.27 | 73.68 | 57.14 | 85.36 | 80.55 |
| Tank/bucket | 37.03 | 72.72 | 26.31 | 42.85 | 14.63 | 19.44 |
| Toilet | | | | | | |
| Notified | 37.03 | 0 | 10.52 | 50 | 29.26 | 22.22 |
| Unnotified | 62.96 | 100 | 89.47 | 50 | 70.73 | 77.77 |
| Electricity | | | | | | |
| Notified | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Unnotified | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Source- field survey 2018

Household’s size of two or more than two rooms – This indicator depicts the availability of space per households. Crowding of space reflects the scarcity of resources at the disposal of household. Besides the lack of privacy, it negatively impacts on health. Slums are the clear manifest expression of such conditions. Table .2 shows that Burmese people 100 percent of households living in less than two rooms. . Other states are also lacking behind. Bihar (81.48 percent), Chhattisgarh (100percent), Haryana 78.46(percent. Jammu (65.85 percent). As size of households clearly depicts the lack of privacy, frequency of joint family migration, urbanization, and no proper family planning are the major issues.

Households having with/without ventilation– Poor ventilation can have serious concerns. The stale air is usually caused by the cooking smells, people smoking, overall lack of ventilation around the house as well as by a damp atmosphere. All these problems can cause a certain level of discomfort which can be avoided as well as the risk of respiratory illness and general poor health. Table 2 clearly depicts that 100 percent of people of Burma, and 78.57 percent population of Haryana living in rooms having no ventilation. Very few households in slums have windows the percentage of having windows is very less.

Households having open/ closed drainage- Nearly 100 percent of the sample households in slums do not have any arrangement made either by public or private services for garbage collection and disposal. These households resorted to open dumping of garbage in nallahs. No households had access to the Municipal / Corporation dust bin for garbage disposal. Thus risk to human health are compounded in these slums, where garbage collection is nonexistent in most cases and drainage tends to be poor, promoting the growth of insects and other diseases vectors. Table 2 shows the distribution of households on the basis of garbage disposal system

Households using gas/chulah for cooking-The use of chulah for the source of cooking is associated with economic backwardness and poverty. On the other hand LPG is a modern cooking fuel that is time saving, clean and convenient to use. While the distribution of gases has been an important goal of the government much needs to be done. The table 2 clearly depicts that the 100 percent Burmese population using chulah whereas 29.6 percent population of Bihar using chulah which is the lowest finding in the study area. The people of Bihar (70.37 percent) are highest among the usage of LPG.

Households having toilet with/within in the house –Lack of access to toilet in the house is an indicator of poor living condition. Open defecation is common in slums, besides its negative consequences on health and hygiene. From the above table it clearly depicts that Burma (100 percent people do open defecation), Chhattisgarh (89.74 percent population) do not have toilet facility. On the other hand Haryana people 50 percent people do not have toilet facilities. The literacy and education are the major factors.

Households having source of water outside the house-Having the source of water outside the house implies the hardships of collecting and storing water. These wants are more for women due to their socially defined roles. Also time and effort involved but the quality of water obtained is not ascertained. In slums the location of source of water (tap, tank) outside the house clearly indicates the poverty conditions. From the table shows that Out of the households 100 percent households have source of water outside home only 27.7 percent Burma population having the common tap facility whereas 85.56 percent migrated people of Jammu province have common tap facility. These people fill their buckets/tank from the common tap and store water for their day to day purposes. The majority of people still depends on open source for water for bathing, drinking and washing purposes.

Households having electricity with in the house-Electricity has a close link with quality of life. It is an efficient and clean source of energy. In slums of Jammu city there is only one indicator i.e. electricity covers all the households.

Education and occupational structure of the slum dwellers- Education plays an important role in the development of the society. General educational level of the slum dwellers is poor. They do not send their children to school. Due to the low level of income they do not spend money on education. Low educational levels are barriers in the field of the working and earning money. Due to lack of educational facility they are working as informal labourers and gain less amount of money. Poverty, or low incomes, adversely affect the quality of life and education.

TABLE No. 3 Educational profile of the respondent

| | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu | Others |
|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Primary | 18.51 | 27.28 | 42.10 | 28.58 | 21.95 | 33.34 |
| Middle | 25.92 | 27.28 | 26.31 | 21.43 | 21.95 | 16.66 |
| Secondary | 18.53 | 18.18 | 10.53 | 14.28 | 29.26 | 16.66 |
| Illiterate | 37.04 | 36.36 | 21.06 | 35.71 | 26.84 | 33.34 |

Source- Primary survey 2018

Table 3 clearly shows that most of the people from Bihar have illiterate having 37.04 percent which is highest among all the households of the study area where as majority of the people of the other states have attained education till secondary level in which people of Jammu and Kashmir having 29.26 percent is highest in attaining secondary education. On the other hand people from Chhattisgarh having 10.53 percent is lowest among all the states.

Occupational and income status of the respondent in slums- Slum dwellers are generally illiterates. So they are engaged in the low levels of the economic activities. They earn less amount of the money. Generally, due to less income levels they do not consume the nutritive food. Slum children are affected with malnutrition. Economic conditions play major role in the development of the people. Without good income no one can live healthy life. Income improves the good health, better educational facility and living of standard of the slum dwellers. Slum dwellers have been contributing significantly to the economy of any city by providing affordable labour for formal as well informal sectors of the economy. With the help of the skills enhancement programs we can bust-up the working capacity of the slum dwellers. They can also contribute in the economic growth of the county. Income and quality of life are co-related. If levels of the income increase then standard of living also increases.

Table no. 4 Occupational status of the respondents

| Category | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu | Others |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Daily wager | 55.55 | 45.45 | 10.52 | 57.14 | 41.46 | 52.78 |
| Sweeper | 7.41 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4.87 | 0 |
| Self-employed | 11.11 | 18.19 | 36.84 | 21.42 | 19.51 | 11.12 |
| Housing Labour | 22.21 | 27.28 | 42.10 | 14.28 | 31.70 | 33.33 |
| Un employed | 3.72 | 9.08 | 10.54 | 7.16 | 2.43 | 2.77 |

Source- primary survey 2018

Table no. 5 Income status of the respondents

| Category | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu | Others |
|-------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|-------|--------|
| 1000-5000 | 29.62 | 36.36 | 36.84 | 28.57 | 43.90 | 52.77 |
| 5000-10000 | 59.25 | 36.36 | 42.10 | 42.85 | 29.26 | 36.11 |
| Above 10000 | 7.40 | 27.27 | 21.05 | 21.42 | 24.39 | 8.33 |

Source-primary survey 2018

From the table 4 clearly reveals that Maximum i.e. 57.41 percent of the sampled population are engaged as daily wage labourers followed by the category of other workers of other states. By other workers, the samples are engaged in part time occupation or are temporary. A majority 36.84 percent population of Haryana are highest in self-employed whereas in housing labour the highest percent of population is engaged from Chhattisgarh i.e. 42.10%. Mostly in unemployed scenario the women’s comes in majority in which the people from Chhattisgarh comes in majority of the surveyed household’s i.e. 10.54 percent. As such the income classification shows that majority i.e. 43.90 percent population of the migrants of the Jammu and Kashmir comes from the monthly income group of Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 5000/- followed by the second income group 59.25 percent population from Bihar earning between Rs5000– 10000/- a month. So in other words here’s a mixed sampled population comprising different communities with different cultures as well as different economic status.

Recreational activities-Every stratum of society in urban community is—desire for different types of recreational pursuits. It is an important to engage in recreational activities that relieves a day to day tension and also relaxing the mind and body. It is the universal need of man.It is also effective in bringing about life style changes in the society.

Table No. 6 Recreational status of the respondents-

| Category | Bihar | Burma | Chhattisgarh | Haryana | Jammu | Others |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|--------------|---------|-------|--------|
| Television | 88.88 | 9.09 | 73.68 | 100 | 97.56 | 86.11 |
| Mobile | 96.29 | 72.72 | 94.73 | 100 | 97.56 | 94.44 |
| Movie | 88.88 | 9.09 | 73.68 | 100 | 92.68 | 86.11 |
| Walking/Playground/games | 74.07 | 0 | 73.68 | 100 | 85.36 | 83.33 |

Source-Primary survey- 2018

From the above table it clearly shows the recreational activities of the people of slums is good, Watching Television and using mobile is the most important recreational activity followed by watching movies and playing games, walking. People from Haryana enjoy 100 percent which is highest among all the categories of the states. On the other hand, Burma people lack behind. People of the slums have plenty of time at their disposal outside work. So, recreation has become an important activity for the slum dwellers.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above data we can say that, the qualities of life in the slum dwellers are very poor. The housing conditions in the slum present a grim scenario of all the peoples coming from the state as well as other parts of the India. About more than 85 percent of houses are temporary and only 15 percent were pucca houses in the notified area. Most of the household have only one room. The most crowded household had seven person to a room. As regard other amenities, it has been observed that more than 80 percent household have no latrines. Thus the slum dwellers are tremendous deprivation of sanitation, roomspace, cooking, bathing, defecating and washing space. Regarding the electrification of the slum households, it has been observed that majority of the household had an electricity.

The educational profile is also lacking behind. The monthly per capita income is also very less which is also a major hurdle for their development. .These households are no doubt, extremely poor. Regarding the occupation of the households, skilled workers mostly engage in daily wager and housing labor. It was observed that TV sets and mobile phones were commonly found in slum household. The above fact indicates a bleak picture of the quality of life of slum dwellers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Most of places where slum dwellers live are unhygienic the lives. The absenteeism of citizen participation is still a problematic in the slum upgrading developments. So there is requirement of active participation to resolve the difficulties of slum dwellers
2. Slum residents can contribute the economic activity of the urban areas .It plays a key role for the development of country. There is a need to do better provisions for the optimistic changes amongst the slum dweller.
3. The open drains along with the road would either be provided with removable covers or suitable provisions must be prepared for their regular cleaning so as to avoid accumulation of sewage.
4. Local government should provide more facility of public latrines for prevention of water and contagious water borne diseases.
5. Local government should undertake measures to improve the physical environment of the dwelling places, proper drainage, sewerage system and adequate water supply.

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