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Abstract:-

The present paper is an attempt to study problems and challenge of slum areas in India : a sociological analysis. Slums were common in the United States and Europe before the early 20th century. New York City is believed to have created the world's first slum, named the Five Points in 1825, as it evolved into a large urban settlement. India is one of the fastest developing countries with many metropolitan cities(Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Delhi and Chennai). During last two decades; migration from villages and small towns to metropolitan areas has increased tremendously in India. This leads to the degradation of urban environmental quality and sustainable development especially in the metropolitan cities. The problems faced by the people living in the urban areas of India have become major concerns for the government. Slums are considered to be the major issue within many urban areas particularly problems related to transportation, population, health and safety, housing, employment and environment, compared to those related to society and social life. Many researchers argue that slums are not problems that have to be solved rather they represent a solution of shelter for the poor. Now the challenge for the policy makers is to facilitate the types of movement that are most likely to lead to alleviation of poverty, while protecting the slum dwellers from abuse and exploitation.

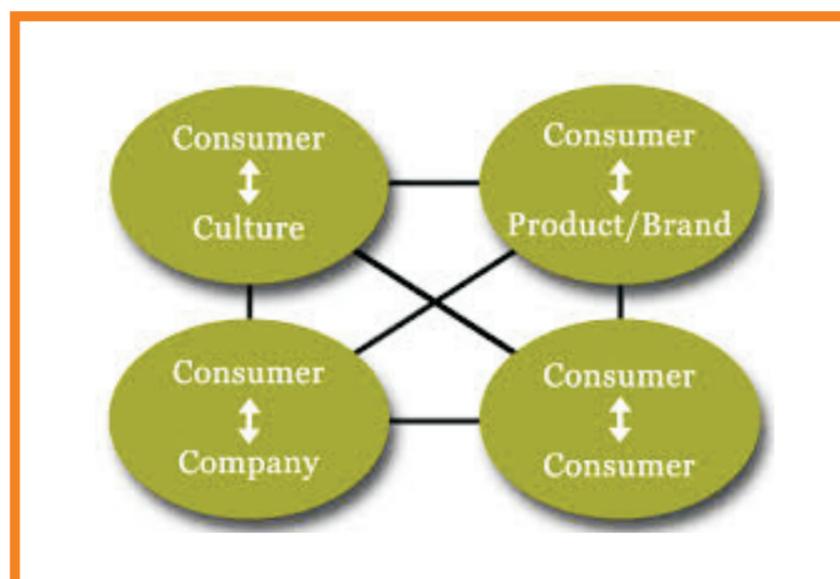
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PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGE OF SLUM AREAS IN INDIA : A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS



INTRODUCTION

Slum is a heavily populated urban informal settlement characterized by substandard housing and squalor. While slums differ in size and other characteristics from country to country, most lack reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, timely law enforcement and other basic services. Slum residences vary from shanty houses to professionally-built dwellings that because of poor-quality design or construction have deteriorated into slums. Slums were common in the 19th and 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 economies. According to UN-HABITAT, around 33% of the urban population in the developing world in 2012, or about 863 million people, lived in slums. The proportion of urban population living in slums was highest in Sub-Saharan Africa (61.7%), followed by South Asia (35%), Southeast Asia (31%), East Asia (28.2%), West Asia (24.6%), Oceania (24.1%), Latin America and the Caribbean (23.5%), and North Africa (13.3%).

Among individual countries, the proportion of urban residents living in slum areas in 2009 was highest in the Central African Republic (95.9%). Between 1990 and 2010 the percentage of people living in slums dropped, even as the total urban population increased. The world's largest slum city is in Mexico City. Slums form and grow in many different parts of the world for many different reasons. Some causes include rapid rural-to-urban migration, economic stagnation and depression, high unemployment, poverty, informal economy, poor planning, politics, natural disasters and social conflicts. Strategies tried to reduce and transform slums in different countries, with varying degrees of success, include a combination of slum removal, slum relocation, slum upgrading, urban planning with city wide infrastructure development, and public housing projects. According to (UN-HABITAT) report, April 2007, India is a third world country that suffers from poverty, malnutrition, diseases, unhealthy conditions, and more in Indian slums. India alone is responsible for more deaths of children than any other country in the world. Due to the dramatic rise of slums after India's independence in 1947, its population has tripled. Most of India's population is currently living in slums. Every year, hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children die around the world and India alone is responsible for 25% of the deaths. By 1980, slum-dwellers were half of India's entire population. (SOURCE: CENSUS OF INDIA 2011 - CIRCULAR No. 8) Slum-dwellers constantly deal with issues such as: lack of clean water, constant migration at slums, no sewage or waste disposal facilities, pollution, and unsanitary living conditions. High levels of pollution, lack of basic needs, and room-crowding are some of the basic characteristics of slum housing. The Government of India has not been able to solve the problems that are strangling the entire population of Indian slums.

METHODOLOGY:

This research paper focus on problems and challenge of slum areas in india : a sociological analysis A two-step methodology was followed for this article, comprising literature review, and analysis of secondary data. In order to achieve the research aim and objectives, the article mainly based on secondary data are drawn classified from the Publications of books, monthly journals, article, and magazines.

Migration: Rural-urban migration is one of the causes attributed to the formation and expansion of slums. Since 1950, world population has increased at a far greater rate than the total amount of arable land, even as agriculture contributes a much smaller percentage of the total economy. 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 their lack of skills and the increasingly competitive job markets, which leads to their financial shortage. Many cities, on the other hand, do not provide enough low-cost housing for a large number of rural-urban migrant workers. Some rural-urban migrant workers cannot afford housing in cities and eventually settle down in only affordable slums. According to Ali and Toran, social networks might also explain rural-urban migration and people's ultimate settlement in slums. In addition to migration for jobs, a portion of people migrate to cities because of their connection with relatives or families. Once their family support in urban areas is in slums, those rural migrants intend to live with them in slums.

Urbanization: slums is closely linked to urbanization In 2008, more than 50% of the world's population lived in urban areas. In China, for example, it is estimated that the population living in urban areas will increase by 10% within a decade according to its current rates of urbanization. The UN-Habitat reports that 43% of urban population in developing countries and 78% of those in the least developed countries are slum dwellers. Some scholars suggest that urbanization creates slums because local governments are unable to manage urbanization, and migrant workers without an affordable place to live in, dwell in slums. Rapid urbanization drives economic growth and causes people to seek working and investment opportunities in urban areas. Urbanization might also force some people to live in slums when it influences land use by transforming agricultural land into urban areas and increases land value. During the process of urbanization, some agricultural land is used for additional urban activities. More investment will come into these areas, which increases the land value. Before some land is completely urbanized, there is a period when the land can be used for neither urban activities nor agriculture. The income from the land will decline, which decreases the people's incomes in that area. The gap between people's low income and the

high land price forces some people to look for and construct cheap informal settlements, which are known as slums in urban areas. The transformation of agricultural land also provides surplus labor, as peasants have to seek jobs in urban areas as rural-urban migrant workers.

what are slums: The word slum is used to describe informal settlements within cities that have inadequate housing and squalid, miserable living conditions. They are often overcrowded and are not provided basic municipal services, such as water and sanitation. Slum dwellers are forced to obtain land informally or illegally, and build housing for their families with little or no security of tenure. Many slums have been unserved and unrecognised for long periods, over 20 years in some cities.

why do slums develop: Slums are often the only type of settlement that is affordable and accessible to the poor in cities, where competition for land and profit is intense. There are two main reasons why slums develop:

* **Population growth:** Countries are urbanising rapidly as a result of migration and natural population growth. Today, more than half the world's population resides in cities. Over 90 per cent of urban growth is taking place in the developing world.

* **Governance:** Governments often contribute to slum growth by failing to provide for the needs of the poor and incorporate them into urban planning. Some governments simply cannot respond to rapid urbanisation quickly enough or lack the tools to deal with the situation. Others take a hostile approach to urbanisation, believing that providing services to the poor will attract more people and cause slums to grow.

Top Ten slum cities of india: In these clean and green city of India, Due to rising population, the number of slum dwellers rising in Indian cities. Slums area always lack by some basic necessities of Life clean water, electricity and sanitation. The inhabitants are mostly rickshaw puller,sex workers, seasonal small vendors, house maid servants with a family income ranging from a meager Rs.1500 to Rs.3000. After a hard and low-earning working day, most of the men spend their daily earnings on homemade illicit liquor. Status of woman's in slum is not respectful, they used to do prostitution to full fill their basic needs to survive. The slum population is constantly increasing: it has doubled in the past two decades. The current population living in slums in the country is more than the population of Britain.

LIST OF TOP INDIAN CITIES LIVING IN SLUMS:

1. Dharavi Slum Mumbai: Mumbai "The Dream city" hold the biggest slum area in India known as Dharavi. Asia's largest slum, Dharavi, is spread over an area of 1.75 km along the Mahim river in central Mumbai. Dharavi is just one of many slum areas in city of Mumbai.

2. Bhalswa Slum Delhi: In "The Heart of India" the Slum population was considered as 20% of the total population of Delhi, It also has largest child labours. These slum tend to bank of river Yamuna. Slum dwellers from various parts of Delhi have been resettled to Bhalswa. Delhi Government is thinking to launch a survey to prepare a data base of slum dwellers in the city to help them. Delhi has become one of the most unsafe Indian city for women, due to the large population and crimes.

3. Nochikuppam Slum Chennai: "The city of flyovers" has Nochikuppam slum with 1,300 huts where around 5 thousand people live below poverty level and they don't have enough money for two meals a day.

4. Basanti Slum Kolkata: "The City of Joy" Kolkata has slum area known as Basanti slum, it is one of the major slum areas in Kolkata. One third of Kolkata's population, lived in 2011 registered and 3500 unregistered slums.

5. Rajendra Nagar Slum Bangalore: "The garden city" Bangalore alone hold 570 slums form total of around 2000 slums in State. It is estimated that about 20% of Bangalore population reside in slums. The families living in the slum are not ready to move into the temporary shelters, saying it is unjust and risky to live under a flyover. As per the latest comments from people of Bangalore, Rajendra Nagar Slum does not exit now, all the slum dwellers has been rehabilitated.

6. Indiramma Nagar Hyderabad: "The City of Nizam" Around 624689 peoples live in slums area of Hyderabad. There is very little land available for all the people's live in 104 identified and 24 unidentified slums in Hyderabad.

7. Saroj Nagar Slum Nagpur: "The Orange city" Nagpur has 424 legal slum area's, Sarojnagar is just one of the 424 slums in the city. In Nagpur, approximately 40 % of the population live in slums. These slums are home to over 1,42,000 people and cover about 1,600 hectares of prime land. Due to struggle for land in Maharashtra, it was making second largest slum area in Nagpur after Dharavi Mumbai.

8. Mehabullahpur Slum Lucknow: “The City of Nawabs” Lucknow’s population includes large numbers of poor people, many of who live in slums. 20000 persons living in 22 of the 460 slums in Lucknow city. Many people are migrated Lucknow from the different part of the nearest district for daily wages.

9. Satnami Nagar Slum Bhopal: “The City of Lakes” Bhopal has many slums area, Satnami Nagar is one of the oldest slums in Bhopal. Ruhai Nagar and Shanti Nagar are first two slums area in Bhopal to be declared open-defecation. Peoples of Bhopal live on streets and these slum provide them shelter and other facility to survive.

10. Parivartan Slum Ahmadabad: Approximately 440000 people live in slums within the city. Ahmadabad is home to a large population of poor peoples living on the river banks. River side slums in Ahmadabad are about 40 yr old.

Problems and Challenges: Slums are often placed amongs the places vulnerable to natural disasters such as landslides[In cities located over a mountainous terrain, slums begin on slopes difficult to reach or start at the bottom of flood prone valleys, often hidden from plain view of city center but close to some natural water source. In cities located near lagoons, marshlands and rivers, they start at banks or on stilts above water or the dry river bed; in flat terrain, slums begin on lands unsuitable for agriculture, near city trash dumps, next to railway tracks,[and other shunned, undesirable locations. Slum dwellers usually experience a high rate of disease. Diseases that have been reported in slums include cholera, HIV/AIDS, measles, malaria, dengue, typhoid, drug resistant tuberculosis, and other epidemics. Studies focus on children’s health in slums address that cholera and diarrhea are especially common among young children. Besides children’s vulnerability to diseases, many scholars also focus on high HIV/AIDS prevalence in slums among women. In some slums, gender inequality increases women’s risk of HIV/AIDS. Mutual monogamy or using condoms are two main ways to prevent HIV/AIDS, but some women might not be able to modify their behaviors due to masculine authority or violence. Furthermore, diseases can sometimes lead to high mortality in slums. According to a study in Nairobi’s slums, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis attributed to about 50% of the mortality burden. High population densities, poor living conditions, low vaccination rates, insufficient health-related data and inadequate health service engender a higher rate of disease transmission in slums than that in non-slum areas. Overcrowding leads to faster and wider spread of diseases due to the limited space in slum housing. Poor living conditions also make slum dwellers more vulnerable to certain diseases. Poor water quality, a manifest example, is a cause of many major illnesses including malaria, diarrhea and trachoma. As Sur et al. suggest, improving living conditions such as introduction of better sanitation and access to basic facilities can ameliorate the effects of diseases. In addition to poor living conditions, low vaccination rates cause excess cases of disease in slums as well. Slum children are less likely to be vaccinated mainly because some slum dwellers refuse vaccinations without understanding its importance or no one at home is able to take the child to health sectors for vaccinations. Lack of reliable data also has a negative impact on slum dwellers’ health. A number of slum families do not report cases or seek professional medical care, which results in insufficient data. This might prevent appropriate allocation of health care resources in slum areas since many countries base their health care plans on data from clinic, hospital, or national mortality registry. Moreover, health service does not exist in most of the world’s slums. Emergency ambulance service and urgent care is typically unavailable in slums. Health service providers avoid servicing slums.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

Slums are known to exist in almost every nation on earth, About one-third of the world’s population lives in slums. Unhealthy environment, unhygienic living conditions, structurally inadequate housing, lack of civic facilities, hazardous working conditions and low level of socio-economic conditions are the key features of slum pockets, which further lead to a substantial number of problems related to health, housing, unemployment and social life. However, many researchers argue that slums are not problems that have to be solved - but are indeed results of lopsided and vested urban policies covering land ownership, infrastructure provision and maintenance, and other socio- economic issues. And for the poor, they represent a solution. Countries need to recognize that the urban poor are active agents and not just beneficiaries of development. Developing cities requires local solutions. Local authorities need to be empowered with financial and human resources to deliver services and infrastructure to the urban poor. Cities should draw up local long-term strategies for improving the lives of slum dwellers. Local governments should develop strategies to prevent the formation of new slums. These should include access to affordable land, reasonably priced materials, employment opportunities, and basic infrastructure and social services. Public investments must focus on providing access to basic services and infrastructure. Working with the urban poor, cities need to invest in housing, water, sanitation, energy, and urban services, such as garbage disposal. These services and infrastructure must reach the poor living in informal settlements. The transportation needs and safety concerns of a city’s poorest residents should be a high priority in planning urban transportation systems, which can expand the choices people have regarding where to live and work.

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