

SLUMS: THEIR PROBLEMS & SOLUTION

Dr. Supriya

Assistant Professor

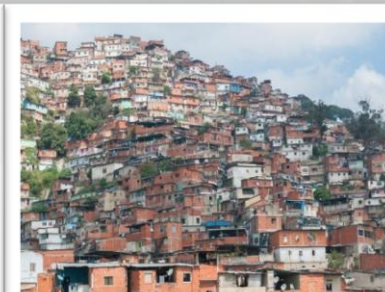
Department of Geography

Patna University, Patna

Mob: 9006640841

Email: supriyavatsa52256@gmail.com

Webpage: <http://bhuvankosh.com>





CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Definitions of Slums
- Types of Slums
- Characteristics of Slums
- Factors of Slum Development
- Distribution and location of Slums
 - Slums in the World
 - Slums in India
- Suggestive Measures for Slums
- Conclusion
- References
- Model Questions

Learning Objectives: The Students able to-

- Understand the Concept of slums with respect of urbanization problems in the World & India;
- Identify the major characteristics and problems of the slums.

Learning Outcomes: After learn the topic students enabled to-

- Understand the scenario of this universal urban problem;
- develop suggestive model to betterment of the slum dwellers and slum in their area.

Introduction



- The word “slum” is often used to describe informal settlement within cities that have inadequate housing and miserable living conditions.
- The Concept of ‘Slum’ is given by R. E. Dickinson – Slum as an area of extreme condition of blight, in which housing is unfit for health and moral of the community.
- In other words, “A slum is an area of poor housing, often characterised by multi occupancy and overcrowding”. Slums are often overcrowded, with many people crammed into very small living spaces.
- Slums are not a new phenomenon. They have been a part of the history of almost all cities, particularly during the age of urbanisation and industrialisation.
- Slums are the generally the only type of settlement affordable and accessible to the poor living in the cities where competition for land and profits is intense. The main reason for slum proliferation is rapid and non intensive pattern of urbanisation catalyzed by increasing rural migration to urban areas, and choices of better of employment, education or living facilities.
- The slums are known by different name in different parts in the world:
 - India: ‘Bastee’ in Kolkatta, ‘Chei’ in Chennai, ‘Jhopadpatti or Chawl’ in Mumbai, ‘Jhuggi- Jhopri’ in Delhi ‘ Favela’ in Brazil, Ghetto in Italy etc.
 - Slums form and grow in different parts of the world for many different reasons. Causes include rapid rural-to-urban migration, economic stagnation and depression, high unemployment, poverty, informal economy, forced or manipulated ghettoization, poor planning, politics, natural disasters, and social conflicts.

Definitions of Slums



- The **UN** operationally defines a slum as “one or a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban areas, lacking in one or more of the following amenities:-
 - 1) Inadequate access to safe water
 - 2) Inadequate access to sanitation and other infrastructure
 - 3) poor structural quality of housing
 - 4) Overcrowding
 - 5) Insecure residential status
- **Hindson and McCarthy,1994;-** Dense settlement comprising communities housed in self-constructed shelters under condition of informal or traditional land tenure.
- **Census of India** defines- Slum as “ A **compact area** of at least **300 in population** or about **60-70 households** of **poorly built, congested tenements** in an **unhygienic environment** casually with **inadequate infrastructure** and **lacking proper sanitary** and **drinking water facilities**.

Definitions of Slums



- **Anderson & Ishwaran** defines -Slum as a residential area in which live the poorest people in the worst housing with the least of such public service as piped water, sewers, paved streets, fire protection ends soon – A slum may be an area of heterogeneous social types, all sorts of poor people mixed together.
- **Sudesh Nangia & S. C. Thorat** – “ Slum is those part of the city which may be considered unfit for human habitation either because structure there in old dilapidated, glossy congested and out of repairs or because it is impossible to preserve sanitation for want of sanitary facilities including ventilation, drainage, water supply etc. because the sites themselves unhealthy.
- **Slum Areas Improvement & Clearance Act (1956)** operationally defines- “ **Slum areas** was defined as places **where buildings are:** any respect **unfit for human environment;** are by reason of **dilapidation; overcrowding; faulty arrangements and design** of such buildings; **narrowness or faulty arrangement of streets;** lack of ventilation; light, sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors which are **detrimental to safety, health and morals.**

Characteristics of Slums



Characteristics of Slums



Types of Slums : Slums are categorised by different country in different manner; but the location, characteristics and problems are approximately same in the every part of the world

- 1. First category includes the settlements ,** which have their origin & growth like slums , such slums are found in outlying areas of large cities. These slums have small size kutchra houses and the dwellers move daily in inner areas of cities for their works
- 2. Second category includes those settlements ,** which can be marked in inner circle or core areas of the cities; these area transform in slums by the development of cities and inner area get congested and blighted because of old dwellings; so the people migrate towards better developed high class residential area and the old houses converted in blights

Location of slums

1. In core area of the city
2. Around and near the industrial establishment
3. In the outlying area of the city
4. The vacant area lying along rail-track
5. Open vast public land

Factors of Slum Development



1. Demographic Factors: Growth of population, Rural urban migration, Urbanization

- **Rapid Population growth:** World faces high rate of population growth especially in rural part, which creates pressure on agricultural land. Limited job opportunity in rural or small town area also play pulling agents, and rural-urban migration population towards cities without any facility helps in development of slums
- **Rural- Urban Migration:** Many people move from rural areas or small towns to urban area or big cities for motive to have better jobs & income opportunities, better education & other facilities and better lifestyle. But due limited and high cost of land, housing and living, resultant slums development in those urban area.
- **Urbanization:** Due to increasing rate of urbanisation in the world almost every 5 residents out of 10 residents of urban area live in slums. The Un habitats reports says that 43 % of total urban population in developing nations and 78 % of least developed nations lives in slums. In America 30 % of Urban population lives in slums. In India 60 % of Urban population lives in slums.

2. Economic Factors: Unemployment, Industrialization, Informal economy, low income and Poverty, poor planning and economic stagnation and depression causes development of slums in the cities.

- **Unemployment** in rural area and **demand of labor** due to **industrialization** and **commercialization** of Urban area, causes emergence of rural-urban migration, consolidation and growth of informal settlements and slums in the cities.
- Many slums grow because of growing informal economy which creates demand for workers. In many cities the informal sector accounts for as much as 60 per cent of employment of the urban population.

Factors of Slum Development



- Low income and poverty encourages the formation and demand for slums. With rapid migration from rural to urban life, poverty migrates to urban areas. The urban poor arrives with hope of better life but has no access to shelter, basic urban services and social amenities due to high cost of land and living standards. Hence they are forced to live and develop slums for their survival.
- 3. Infrastructural Factors:** Poor infrastructure forces the poor to adapt to conditions beyond his or her control. Poor families that cannot afford transportation, or those who simply lack any form of affordable public transportation, generally end up in squat settlements within walking distance or close enough to the place of their formal or informal employment.
- 4. Social Factors:** Social exclusion and economic stagnation force the formation of slums and squatters in the cities; Sometimes social conflicts will also force the development of slums by conflicted groups of people due to the rise of social tension and forced displacement.
 - Like millions of Lebanese people formed slums during the civil war from 1975 to 1990. Similarly, in recent years, numerous slums have sprung around Kabul to accommodate rural Afghans escaping Taliban violence.
- 5. Political Factors:** Many local and national governments have, for their political interests, subverted efforts to remove, reduce or upgrade slums into better housing options for the poor. Political parties relied on votes from slum population and had vested interests in maintaining that voting block.
 - Removal and replacement of slums 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. Similar dynamics are cited in favelas of Brazil, slums of India, and shanty towns of Kenya.
- 6. Natural disasters:** Sometimes natural disasters like earthquake, Cyclones, Tsunami etc. lead to migration of disaster-affected families from areas crippled by the disaster to unaffected areas, the creation of temporary tent cities and slums, or expansion of existing slums. These slums tend to become permanent because the residents do not want to leave. Like slums near Port-au-Prince after the 2010 Haiti earthquake, and slums near Dhaka after 2007 Bangladesh Cyclone Sidr.

Distribution and location of Slums in World



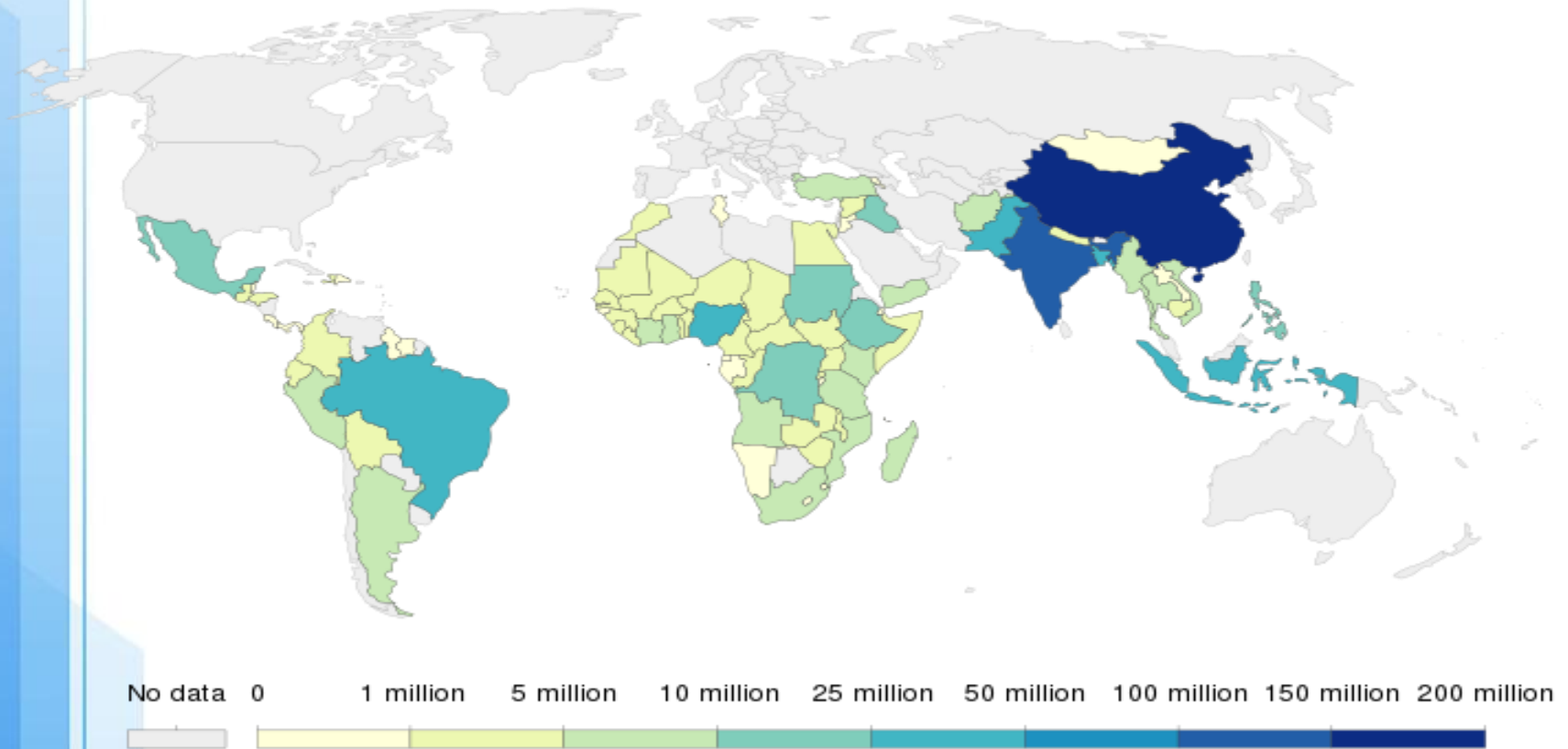
- According to UN-Habitat, around 33% of the urban population in the developing world in 2012, or about 863 million people, lived in slums. The portion of urban population living in slums in 2012 was highest in Sub-Sahara Africa(62%), South-eastern Asia(31%), eastern Asia(25%), Western Asia (25%), Oceania(24%), the Caribbean(24%),and North Africa (13%). Among individual countries, the proportion of urban residents living in slum areas in 2009 was highest in the central Africa Republic(95.9%).(see fig 1)
- An estimates, about 900 million people live in slums. But most experts agree that including different types of informal settlements, the number goes up to 1.6 billion, which represents one fourth of the world's urban population.
- By 2030, it's estimated that it 1 in 4 people on the planet will live in a slum or other informal settlement. While the number of people living the five biggest slums in the world accounts to 5.7 million.
- The world largest slum city is Neza-chalco-Ixtapaluca area, located in Mexico.
- Other largest slums are Khayelitsha in Cape Town (South Africa 4,00,000.
- Kibera in Nairobi (Kenya): 7,00,000.
- Dharavi in Mumbai (India): 10,00,000.
- Neza (Mexico): 12,00,000.
- Orangi Town in Karachi (Pakistan): 24,00,000.

Distribution and location of Slums in the World



Urban population living in slums, 2014

Total number of people in urban populations living in slum households. A slum household is defined as a group of individuals living under the same roof lacking one or more of the following conditions: access to improved water, access to improved sanitation, sufficient living area, and durability of housing.



Source: OWID based on World Bank, World Development Indicators

Distribution and location of Slums India



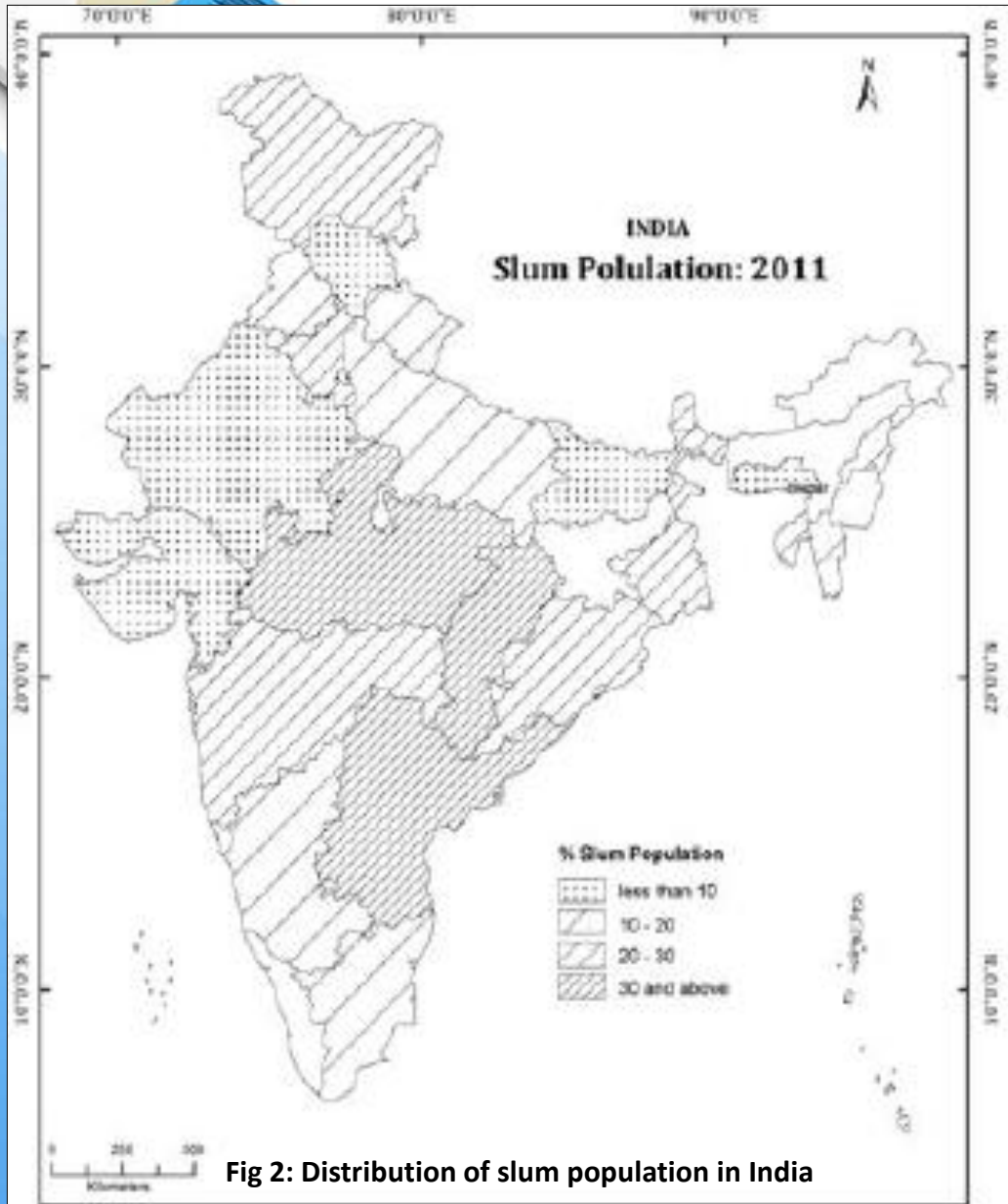
- In India, Census have been earmarked Slums in all the statutory towns irrespective of their population size based on the same definition as in 2001.
- Three types of slums have been defined in Census, namely, Notified, Recognized and Identified;
 - (i) All notified areas in a town or city notified as 'Slum' by State, Union territories Administration or Local Government under any Act including a 'Slum Act' may be considered as Notified slums;
 - (ii) All areas recognized as 'Slum' by State, Union territories Administration or Local Government, Housing and Slum Boards, which may have not been formally notified as slum under any act may be considered as Recognized slums;
 - (iii) A compact area of at least 300 population or about 60-70 households of poorly built congested tenements, in unhygienic environment usually with inadequate infrastructure and lacking in proper sanitary and drinking water facilities.
- In India, slums are known by different name in different cities. They are called 'Bustees' in Kolkata; 'Jhuggi-Jhoparies' in Delhi; 'Jhopar-pattis' or 'Chawl' in Mumbai and 'Cheri' in Chennai, 'Ahata' in Kanpur

Development of Slums in India



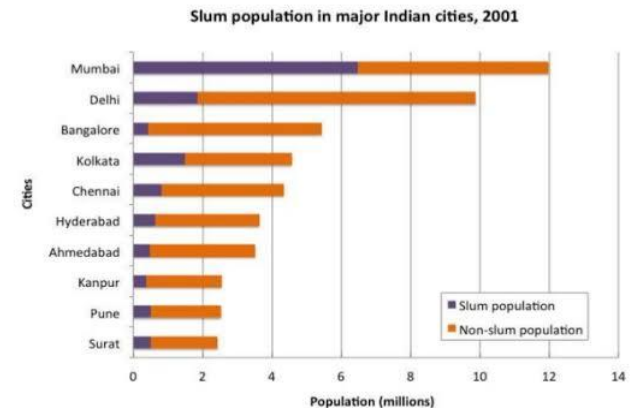
- After Independence, the rapid and continuous growth of population has crushed the economy of the country. It is fact to startle that the population of India was 36 crore in 1951, and it reached to 102 crore in 2001, and is estimated to reach 120 crore in 2010. there is actually no increase in our resource for this population. Our land is limited in extent. Our agriculture land is also limited .
- The people are migrating from village to town and metropolitan cities and from town to big cities, in search of better jobs. They keep engaged there in any type work for their livelihood. They leave a heavy pressure on civic amenities.
- Urbanization, industrialization and higher productivity in the secondary/tertiary sector against primary sector makes cities and towns centers of economic growth and jobs.
- Cities act as beacons for the rural population as they represent a higher standard of living and offer opportunities to people not available in rural areas. This results in large scale migration from rural to urban areas.
- Negative consequences of urban pull results in upcoming of slums characterized by housing shortage and critical inadequacies in public utilities, overcrowding, unhygienic conditions, etc.
- The main problem arises of shortage of houses especially according to their status of work. Our cities do not find in a position to fulfil their requirements. During last four decades, the problem of houses and civic amenities is becoming worst and horrible.

Distribution and location of Slums



- Major Slums in Top Ten Cities of India
- Dharavi Slum in Mumbai.
- Bhalswa Slum in Delhi.
- Nochikuppam Slum in Chennai.
- Basanti Slum in Kolkata.
- Rajendra Nagar Slum in Bangalore.
- Indiramma Nagar in Hyderabad.
- Saroj Nagar Slum in Nagpur.
- Mehbullahpur Slum in Lucknow

Slum population has increased from 75M in 2001 to 93M in 2011.



Distribution of Slums in India



Table 1: Statistics of Indian slum population, 2011.

State/Ut	Towns		Total population		Slum percent
	Statutory	Slum reported	Urban	Slum	
Maharashtra	256	189	50818259	11,848,423	23.3
Andhra Pradesh	125	125	28219075	10,186,934	36.1
West Bengal	129	122	29093002	6,418,594	22.1
Uttar Pradesh*	648	293	44495063	6,239,965	14
Tamil Nadu	721	507	34917440	5,798,459	16.6
Madhya Pradesh	364	303	20069405	5,688,993	28.3
Karnataka	220	206	23625962	3,291,434	13.9
Rajasthan	185	107	17048085	2,068,000	12.1
Chhattisgarh	168	94	5937237	1,898,931	32
Gujarat	195	103	25745083	1,680,095	6.5
Haryana	80	75	8842103	1,662,305	18.8
Odisha	107	76	7003656	1,560,303	22.3
Punjab	143	73	10399146	1,460,518	14
Bihar	139	88	11758016	1,237,682	10.5
Jammu & Kashmir	86	40	3433242	662,062	19.3
Uttarakhand	74	31	3049338	487,741	16
Jharkhand	40	31	7933061	372,999	4.7
Kerala	59	19	15934926	202,048	1.3
Assam	88	31	4398542	197,266	4.5
Pondicherry	6	6	852753	144,573	17
Tripura	16	15	961453	139,780	14.5
Nagaland	19	11	570966	82,324	14.4
Mizoram	23	1	571771	78,561	13.7
Himachal Pradesh	56	22	688552	61,312	8.9
Meghalaya	10	6	595450	57,418	9.6
Sikkim	8	7	153578	31,378	20.4
Goa	14	3	906814	26,247	2.9
Arunachal Pradesh	26	5	317369		4.9
Union Territories					
NCT Delhi*	3	22	16368899	1,785,390	10.9
Chandigarh	1	1	1026459	95,135	9.3
Andaman & Nicobar Is.	1	1	143488	14,172	9.9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	160595	0	0
Daman & Diu	2	0	182851	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	50332	0	0
Manipur	28	0	834154	0	0
INDIA	4041	2613	377106125	65494604	17.4

➤ Slum demography had been presented on the basis of census 2011. The slum population was reported from 29 states & 7 union territories in India.

➤ In 2001, 42.6 million populations were lived in slums in India which increased to 65.5 million by 2011. This constituted 17.4% of the urban population of the state & uts in 2011.

➤ 'Dharavi' Mumbai is the largest slum of India with population of approx 10,00,000 (Census 2011)

- Four states/union territories namely, Manipur, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep did not report any slum population in their cities/towns. 2613 towns reported slum population out of 4041 statutory towns.
- The distribution of slum towns across the states and union territories was not uniform in India :
- Ten larger states enumerated more than 100 slums towns including Tamil Nadu (507), Madhya Pradesh (303), Uttar Pradesh (293), Karnataka (206), Maharashtra (189), Andhra Pradesh (125), West Bengal (122), Rajasthan (107) and Gujarat (103). These larger nine states include 1955 slum towns which accommodate more than 81% of the total slum population.
- On the other hand 9 small states and union territories include Nagaland, Sikkim, Pondicherry, Meghalaya Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Andaman and Nicobar had reported only 47 slum towns which share only 0.6% of the total slum population.
- In absolute terms, Maharashtra accounted for 11.8 million slum population which is 18.1% of the total slum population of the country. It was followed by Andhra Pradesh (10.2 million), West Bengal (6.4 million) and Uttar Pradesh (6.2 million).
- Nine states namely; Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal, Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana had shown high percentage of slum population than the national average (See Table 1 & fig 1).
- Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa Sikkim and West Bengal have recorded high slum concentration than urban concentration high incidence of slums in comparison to level of urbanization where remaining states have reverse situation (See Table 1).
- A common perception that the larger cities are marked by higher incident of slum than the smaller one is not validated by census data. The proportion of slums was reported 27.2% in the case of small towns in comparison to 24.3% percent in medium towns.

Problems of Slums



- 1. Substandard housing:** Dominance of old, dilapidated houses, which do not fit for living; houses are also vulnerable to natural disaster, due to being made of mud, straw, broken bricks, cardboards & covered with corrugated sheets, bamboo mats, tins, reeds, polythynes, gunny bags etc. One room dwelling, generally used by whole family member with no toilet, Bathroom or kitchen and windows
- 2. Illiteracy:** Dominance of illiterate population and poor education facilities are the general phenomena in the slums.
- 3. Low income & poverty:** Most of residents engaged in informal sector or laborers class tends to low income and poverty; 74 % of Mumbai chawls residents are laborers.
- 4. Poor sanitation, drainage & water Facilities:** Poor sewerage made up with impoverished lavatories; Piped water facility create unhealthy environment.
- 5. Poor ventilation & lighting:** Slum dwellers have one room dwelling with low roof and no windows; door is the only source of light & ventilation, which is also low in height create darkness and dampness in the dwellings.
- 6. Poor Infrastructure:** Inadequate infrastructure and lacking of proper educational, health, social and other municipal services are the major problem in almost every slum.
- 7. Narrowed Road and Streets:** Narrowed roads & streets where hard to enter a three or four wheeler; and above the road there complex net of electric wires because there are no such proper electric connections in the dwellings.
- 8. High mortality & birth-rate:** Due to poverty, unhealthy environment, lack of health facilities, high Birth rate and death rate is common in the slums. Child malnutrition and prevalence to diseases are also high in the slums.
- 9. Crime, drugs & adultery:** Increase rate of Crime, drugs, alcoholism, adultery, malpractice in the slums.
- 10. No Rights on land:** Slums develop on the vacant land, near factories or commercial place or other vacant Public land illegally, which finally leads no rights on their land or houses create insecurities and social or political tension.
- 11. Unhealthy environment:** Poorly managed urban growth can thus lead to deteriorating health and environmental conditions, with serious implications for national government stability and international security.
- 12. Inadequate open space:** There is no such a open space found in slums which creates congestion and suffocation in the Slums area

Suggestive Measures for Slums



➤ **Slum removal and relocation**

Slum relocation strategies rely on removing the slums and relocating the slum poor to free semi-rural peripheries of cities, sometimes in free housing. This strategy for dealing with slums is rooted in the fact that slums typically start illegally on someone else's land property, and they are not recognized by the state. As the slum started by violating another's property rights, the residents have no legal claim to the land. This strategy ignores several dimensions of a slum life.

➤ **Slum Upgrading**

Slum upgrading strategy includes up gradation of settled slums by providing basic infrastructure and housing facilities in them. In Mexico City, the government attempted to upgrade and urbanize settled slums in the periphery during the 1970s and 1980s by providing basic amenities such as concrete roads, parks, illumination and sewage. Currently, most slums in Mexico City face basic characteristics of traditional slums, characterized to some extent in housing, population density, crime and poverty, however, the vast majority of its inhabitants have access to basic amenities and most areas are connected to major roads and completely urbanized.

Suggestive Measures for Slums



➤ **Urban infrastructure development and public housing**

Substandard housing is the main problem in almost every slums in the world. Slums arises shortage of houses especially according to their status of work. Urban infrastructure such as reliable high speed transport system and public housing projects are significance countermeasures taken by different governmental agencies will helpful for the disappearance of slums in the world.

The US, UK, Mexico and European governments provided different schemes of affordable houses to slum dwellers and other housing facilities, such as a roads, electric supply, drinking water supply and other public amenities.

In Brazil, in 2014, the government built about 2 million houses around the country for lower income families.



Suggestive Measures for Slums in India



- **Slum Clearance:-** The first scheme under the name of 'Slum Clearance' was announced in the **Second Five Year Plan** of the GOI and consequently all the state governments were required to set up the necessary organizations and enact legislations for the same. **The Fourth Five Year Plan** emphasized on urban planning and decongestion of cities. A Scheme for Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums was undertaken in the Central Sector from 1972-73 with a view to provide a minimum level of services, like, water supply, sewerage, drainage, street pavements in 11 cities with a population of 8 lakh and above. The scheme was later extended to 9 more cities. **Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme** was launched in 1980-81 to provide proper sanitation in the slums. The scheme is being operated through Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) by providing subsidy through the central government and loans by HUDCO .
- **National Slum Development Programme:-** NSDP was launched in 1996 for improving the living conditions of the slum dwellers in the cities/towns. Under the programmed funds in the form of Additional Central Assistance were released by the Planning Commission to the states/union territories on an annual basis according to the slum population.
- **Rajiv Awaas Yojana (RAY):-** The GOI announced Rajiv Awaas Yojana (RAY) under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation(MHUPA) in the budget of 2009-10 aimed at promoting a slum-free India within five years and with a focus to accord property rights to slum dwellers. The scheme provides for the states to come out with slum free city plans within the ambit of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and the state departments. The RAY clearly outlines the modalities for slum rehabilitation, reconstruction and funding for the same.

Slum Development and Programmes India



Some schemes of slums redevelopment and clearance programmes like -

- ✓ **Environmental improvement of urban slums (1972)**
- ✓ **Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP)**
- ✓ **Integrated Low Cost Sanitation- ILCS (1980-81)**
- ✓ **Slum Upgradation Programme- (1985)**
- ✓ **Urban Basic Services Programme- (1986)**
- ✓ **The Pune Sanitation Project (Sanitation Programme)**
- ✓ **The National level Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan**
- ✓ **Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana - SJSRY (1997)**
- ✓ **Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana- VAMBAY (2001)**
- ✓ **Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission - JNNURM (2005)**
- ✓ **Sustainable Urban Transport Project –SPUR(2010)**
- ✓ **Rajiv Awas Yojana (2011)**
- ✓ **Affordable Housing in Partnership- AHP (2013)**
- ✓ **National Urban Livelihood Mission- NULM (2013)**
- ✓ **The Smart City Programme (2015)**
- ✓ **Housing for All by 2022(2015)**
- ✓ **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation- AMRUT(2015)**

Conclusion



- Slums and urban poverty are not problems unique to India alone. They exist in many other parts of the world and are likely to increase at a rapid rate in future as urbanization is increasing at a very fast pace not only in India but all over the world.
- Migration from rural to urban areas is increasing at a very fast pace, especially, now that agriculture in India is no longer a lucrative proposition. This will lead to urbanization of poverty and the policy makers in India are coming out with solutions but the implementation of the same needs a lot to be desired.
- Slums are seen as vote banks for the political parties and, due to their vested interests, are allowed to thrive with impunity. According to a study conducted at National Institute of Urban Affairs , “there is evidence of countries successfully reducing slum growth in the last 15 years by making considerable investments in improving slums. Some low or middle- income countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa and Sri Lanka, have managed to prevent slum formation by anticipating and planning for growing urban populations-by expanding economic and employment opportunities for the urban poor, by investing in low-cost, affordable housing for the most vulnerable groups and by instituting pro-poor reforms and policies that have had a positive impact on low-income people’s access to services. Thus, it is possible to prevent slum formation with the right policies and practices.”

References



- Urban Geography, S.C. Bansal
- Regional Planning in India: ed. R.P.Mishra et. all
- Geography of India, Majid Hussain;
- UN Habitat Reports (2003, 2007, 2015)
- Census of India (2011) Primary census abstract for slum. Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slum>
- <http://mohua.gov.in/cms/schemes-or-programmes.php>

Model Questions



- Q1. What is slums? Discuss the major characteristics and problems of slums with special reference to urbanization.
- Q2. Examine the Statement “ God made Country, Man made town, whereas devil made slums.” in the present scenario of problems of slums and slum development in India or World.
- Q3. Write short notes on:
- Characteristics of slums
 - Factors of slum development
 - Problems of slums
 - Slum development schemes in India