



Slum Rehabilitation: In Context with Human Welfare and Urban Sustainability in Indore

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Abstract:

Indore, like Mumbai, Delhi, Pune etc. is one of the metropolitan city. It is the economic capital of Madhya Pradesh. Indore is growing day by day at a much faster pace and is the earning centre of many poor migrants from neighbouring rural areas and cities. Indore has more than 500 slums and constitutes 40% of the total population of the city. There are many big and small slum pockets in the city. Slum plays an important role in the urban development of a city, of a country as a whole. In a developing country like India, where 30% of urban population is slum inhabitants, the perception of welfare and sustainability needs to be focused. The research paper attempts to identify the various problems of the slum dwellers of "SLUM AREA, CHHATRIBAGH INDORE" and the reasons for their dwellings and also to re-habitat them in a most livable place for their as well as city's welfare and growth. The research includes the detail analysis of the slum area and the services in process there. Further the study suggests necessary steps to inculcate to manage the issues related to slums.

I. INTRODUCTION

The word slum was originated in the early 19th century. It has been used as a slang word for a "room/back room": of unknown origin. Slums were described as the "dirty back alley of a city" or as a "street of poor or low people". But now in the present scenario the slums have become the most sensitive issue, in the process of development of a city, of a country. Madhya Pradesh (MP) means Central Province, is a state in central India. Its capital is Bhopal and the largest city is Indore. It is called as the "heart of India" due to its geographical location in India, Madhya Pradesh is the second largest state in the country by area. With over 75 million inhabitants, it is the fifth-largest state in India by population. Indore, the economic capital of Madhya Pradesh, is located between 22° 43' 0" N latitude and 75° 50' 50" E longitude. The city has the advantage of being strategically located with easy access to most cities of central, western, and north India. Holkar's rule was there in Indore. In 1818, Holkar's capital was shifted to Indore. Indore has many beautiful, historical, places to visit. The city is also catching up with the pace of Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES). Indore is also known in the map of Asia as one of the largest producer of Pharmaceuticals like basic and bulk drugs formulations, tablets, capsules, etc.

II. DEVELOPMENT HISTORY OF INDORE

THE PRE HOLKAR PERIOD

- History of 300 years. Developed from a small settlement on the bank of river Saraswati, now known as Juni Indore.
- The two rivers Khan and Saraswati played an important role in the development of the city. These rivers had an immense value in medieval times, when the settlement was established as a defense fortification.

THE HOLKAR CAPITAL

- Establishment of Holkar's capital at Indore provided new forces for the development of the city.
- In 1912, Mr.H.V. Lancaster was invited, by the local body to advice in respect of improvement and expansion of the city especially with regard to the better sanitary conditions in the residential areas.
- In 1918, Sir Patrick Geddes was invited by Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar to advice the government and local body for the expansion and improvement of the city. He prepared drainage and water supply schemes, industrial development schemes, suburban development schemes, housing schemes and landscaping schemes etc for the future development of the city.

THE POST INDEPENDENCE PERIOD

- In the year 1920, Indore Improvement trust was constituted to take care of development of the city.
- In the early period Indore Improvement trust has done a lot of projects for road development, plantation and development of townships in Indore.
- In the year 1977, Indore Development Authority (IDA) was constituted and presently carries out the major infrastructural works.

III. DEMOGRAPHICS OF INDORE

Indore is one of the most populous and the largest metropolitan city of Central India. As per the Census 2011 Indore constitutes:

- Population (the area under the municipal corporation and outgrowths): 1,994,397
- Population of the Indore metropolis (urban agglomeration that includes neighbour areas): 2,170,295
- Average annual growth rate of population: 2.85% (as per the statistics of census 2001).
- Average literacy rate: 87.38% (higher than the national average of 74%).
- Male literacy: 91.84%, and Female literacy: 82.55%.

- 12.72% of the population is under 6 years of age.
- Religion-wise: Hindus-80.02% of Indore's total population, Muslims- 7.41%, Jains- 7.02%, and others 2.03%.
- Hindi is the official language of the Indore city, and is spoken by majority of the population (97.6%). A number

of Hindi dialects such as Bundeli, Malawi and Chhattisgarhi are also spoken. Other languages with a substantial number of speakers include Urdu, Marathi, Sindhi, Bhojpuri and Gujarati.

- According to 2012 figures, around 6,000 Pakistani Hindu migrants live in the city (out of a total 10,000 in the state).

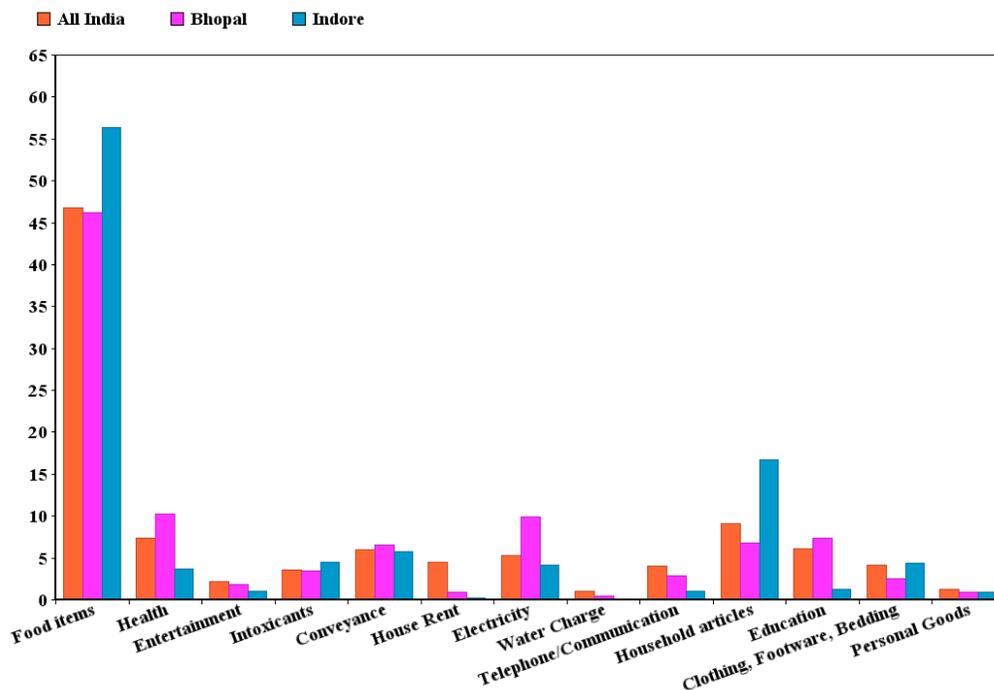
Table.1.SLUM POPULATION IN THE CITY:

YEAR	TOTAL POPULATION OF CITY	% DECADAL CHANGE	SLUM POPULATION OF THE CITY	% INCREASE	PROP. OF SLUM POPULATION TO TOTAL CITY POP
1951	310859	62.60	67,619	23.0	21.7
1961	394,941	27.00	83,174	23.0	21.0
1971	560,936	42.00	112,352	35.10	20.0
1981	829,327	47.80	168,246	49.7	20.30
1991	1,109,056	31.00	346,625	106.0	31.89
2001	1,597,441	44.00	259,577	-25.10	16.25

Indore city, urban slum dwellers earn an average income of Rs 5189 per month out of which they spend Rs 4872 per month.

Only 58% of the households save an average amount of only Rs 317 per month.

Expenditure comparison between slums



Primary Data

The population growth has increased the pressure on the land and infrastructure. High density in some areas reflects a skewed spatial distribution with dense pockets in the central business district area and in the slums coexisting with sparsely populated fringe areas.

IV.MIGRATION IN THE CITY AND GROWTH OF SLUMS

Most of the immigrants come from neighbouring places like Nimar, Dhar regions and neighbouring dry regions of Maharashtra state, where poverty is quite high. In fact slum inhabitants are the migrant workers who come to the city with a motive of being stable in terms of their economic conditions and hence find it difficult to get a dwelling place in the city at low

price and thus either move to an already existing slum or create new slums. A good number of these people are unskilled daily wage labourers, while around 20% of these people are also engaged in semiskilled and skilled labour. Some of the people are also engaged in micro-enterprise activities in the city like vegetable vending, cobblers, potters etc. Most females, from the slums are engaged in domestic help of the rich people or the other class of the society. But in the format of Housing Development, the above vital factors for creating harmonious symbiotic and self-sustainable communities at optimal location are generally ignored and in fact in many cases no provision of habitat is made for such population in the planning of the housing development. This deficiency in the formal planning leads to development of slums and squatter settlements to assimilate such population. The concept of slums and its

definition vary from country to country depending upon the socioeconomic conditions of the society. Slum at its simplest is a heavily populated area characterized by substandard housing and squatter. Since the 1960's, with its industrialization and development of facilities, the city has been attracting migrants from districts of Dhar, Ujjain, Dewas, Khargone, Jhabua, Ratlam and Mandasaur. Migrants from states like U.P., Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat also form sizable population in Indore

slums. As per the Census 2001 the slum population of the Indore city constitutes 16.25% only while the population in the slums notified by Madhya Pradesh Act is more than 3 lakhs. About 60,752 families are living in slums notified by Madhya Pradesh Act. Slums in the city can be classified as roadside slums, construction site slums, industrial area slums, and established slums, slums in city periphery and tenant groups.



HISTORY OF THE “SLUM AREA, CHHATTRIBAGH”, INDORE



The slum area is located in the North- Western corner of the city. It is the habitat of the urban poor since 1950's. It is situated in amidst of Mhow Naka, Lal Bagh Palace and Chhattribagh, the most renowned places of Indore. Annapurna Thana is also near the slum area. There used to be a bridge on the Saraswati river which had a way to Lal Bagh. It got demolished in the year 2005. The slum area is very big in terms of area and number of households. It consists of more than 1500 households with population more than 5000 persons. A part of the slum area is located on the other side of Saraswati River adjacent to Katju Colony. This part of the slum area is facing lot of problems as the other part of the slum area has been developed by the Britishers and a part has been rehabilitated as the jhuggies were burnt around the year 1985-1990, during Indira Gandhi Act. These people of jhuggies were rehabilitated to a building

constructed by IDA (Indore Development Authority) on the same existing land.

The study of the other part of the slum area, adjacent to Katju colony has been done, as it is the most sensitive area of the slum as a whole.



The slum area is divided into many sectors like Jamuna nagar, Jawahar nagar etc. located on the outskirts of the Saraswati river. The people living in the slum area are of the same caste. They live together and have unity amongst them. In case of any disputes, there is a “panchayat” system. The head of the panchayat solves each and every dispute of the slum people. People of all age groups live in the slum.

TABLE.2.BACKGROUND STUDY OF THE SLUM AREA, CHHATTRIBAGH, INDORE

Age of the slum	≤40 years
Number of households/jhopaddies	~260
Social groups	Schedule castes and schedule tribes
Origin of the residing population	Nimar; M.P., Maharashtra, locals.
Occupation of male	Daily wagers, construction workers, cobblers, carpenters, shopkeepers, rag pickers (raddi).
Occupation of female	Domestic maid
Children	Garbage collection, some go to schools
Land tenure	No legal papers, “patta” not given
Water source	Water comes Alternate days, 3-4 common taps
Toilets	No public toilet, vacant plots have become the place for human excreta, separate plots for men and women.
Roads	No roads. Only narrow muddy unpaved paths in the slum
Government facilities inside the slum	None



Nearby places from the slum:

Hospitals- Shreepad hospital and surgical centre, Cloth Market hospital

Schools- Lokmanya Vidya Niketan, Shri Vaishnav Bal Mandir Girls H.S School, Shaskiya Malav Kanya High school

Other places- Lalbagh Palace, Collectorate, Chhatribagh etc.

Some temples like Amba Mataji Mandir, Mari Mata, Shivji temple, are in and near the slum area.

Health Conditions, of the slum dwellers is very poor. The drainage system in the slum is not proper. Unhygienic conditions are prevailing and hence it affects the health of the slum people. Mosquitoes are the main threat to the slum people regarding their health. Many other diseases are also affecting the slum people. No health measures are taken by the government for these people. In fact, many programmes by the government have been incorporated but at present no program is executed, "programmes on paper; not in practical". Except rashan cards no other government facility is being provided among the slum people. There is no change in the poor condition of the people.

Also many people are facing the problems regarding their electricity bills. They have to pay a huge amount of electricity bill even when the electricity is not used at higher pace. The people complains that "Even when they are out of the house almost all the day, for work, and no electricity is being used, then how come their bills are so high", said by a slum dweller.

Out of 260 jhuggies only 200 of them has a BPL card. The condition of the rest of the dwellers is very sensitive in terms of their financial stability. Many other problems like insecurity of tenure, etc are there. "Pattas" are not allotted to the slum dwellers. Most of the slum dwellers belong to "Mochi class" i.e. cobblers, Indore's 75% cobblers belongs to this slum area. The conditions of the children are also very poor. They are not able to live their childhood happily. They are not allowed to play in the area adjacent to their household as it is the area of the "high class" people, and therefore the children of these people doesn't allow the slum children to play there. Some of the slum children are involved in rag picking, and other works.

People's voice- want a better living but nobody is listening.

MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND WELFARE OF THE SLUM IN URBAN AREAS, IN INDORE

For the development of the urban cities and the country, improvement of the slum condition should become the serious topic. If some measures are taken by the government for their upliftment then those measures is not implemented, only sayings are their but no implementations. Hence there should be transparency between slum people and government. All the policies and schemes need to be properly implemented for better

results. Many programs or social bodies are working for this issue but the result still is zero, as all are working individually. Government should also take some measures so that all the social groups and programs work together on the most sensitive issue of the present era. Many policies have evolved in responses to slum. Slum upgrading and relocation used to be the norm, but because of the absence of affordable housing and awareness, these people built informal settlements on various vacant lands. Therefore recognizing the failures of the government strategies of upgrading and relocation, government should implement some other strict measures for the upliftment, welfare of the slum dwellers and the city.

Some steps recommended are:

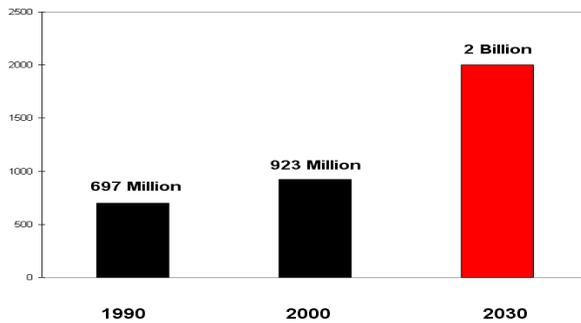
- Firstly, awareness and belief should be built in the slum dwellers that by improving their condition, the condition of the city or a country is getting improved.
- Not only sayings should be there but also practical approach is required.
- Providing better living environment. Pucca houses should be build, considering the sustainable approach.
- Providing stability in terms of economic condition, which will stop the migration.
- Unemployment is also the major issue. Providing better and stable employment will help in the improvement of the condition.
- Illiteracy should not be present. Children's education is must.
- Basic services like water supply, drainage system, toilets and baths, electricity, should be strictly incorporated.
- People should live in better hygienic conditions, for their better health and prosperity.

Some strategies can also be applied for improving the condition of the slum people. Expanding the land tenure: The biggest fear of the slum dwellers is the insecurity of the land tenure. Therefore secure land tenure becomes the important aspect for the better living environment. Practical approaches should be made regarding the land policies for availability of the land: Land banking can be factor to accomplish the need for the availability of the land. Rental housing can be promoted by public and private sectors: Programmes and schemes regarding the rental housing should be incorporated for slum dwellers, keeping in mind their capacity to pay. Measures for sustainable development should be focused: Low-cost housing should be the criteria, and many other factors which will help in the affordable living conditions of the people. Not only affordable but better liveable environment should be there. Large scale City plans are required for the recognizing of the slum areas for better

provision of the urban infrastructure: Many small and big slums are there, but only some of them get recognition from the government. Therefore city maps, plans must be present for their recognition. Basic Government facilities: provision of basic government facilities should be the main factor, analyzing the condition of the people. Regional settlement system needs to be promoted: to minimize the regional imbalances in many sectors like income, quality of life, there is a need to promote some regional policies. Involvement of slum dwellers in the city government process: there is a need to promote the awareness among the slum dwellers for their involvement in the city government process. This will help in the sustainable city development in the long run. Reservation of slum dwellers in government programmes: a part of the reservation process should be incorporated for the slum people. Slum people should not be considered separate from the rest of the city. Instead approaches should be made for their involvement in each and every process of the city development. Eothout their involvement sustainable development would not be achieved

V. CONCLUSION

The rapid growth of the urbanization has somehow deteriorated the quality of life. In a developing country, like India, where more than 30% of the population is slum population the concept of sustainable urbanization and people's welfare needs to be focused. Alarming growth of Slums in India



Rapidly growing city of Indore has become the earning center of many poor immigrants from the rural areas. Indore has more than 500 slum pockets and constitutes the 40% of the population of the city. Slum area of Chhatribagh is one of the biggest slum of the city. The socio economic condition of these slum dwellers are poorer as they lack basic services like water, sanitation, houses, education, public health, and so on. Basic survey analysis has shown that, government is doing no work in favour of the slum dwellers. Lack of proper leadership; lack of transparency; dishonesty of political leaders etc. has made the condition of the slum dwellers worst. Hence there is a need of better governance which will improve the condition of the slum people and the city as a whole. Also with improved government policies, there is a need for sustainability. Sustainable methods must be incorporated. Therefore slum rehabilitation is always a preferable way to tackle the issue of slums, keeping in mind the concept of sustainability and human welfare. SOME LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH ARE: The study is restricted to a particular slum of a city (Indore).

VI. REFERENCES

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