

Social Conditions of Urban Slum Dwellers in Municipal Corporation Gurugram (MCG)

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ABSTRACT

A slum is “a very poor and crowded area, especially of a city” in which the living conditions are “untidy or dirty” (Cambridge Online Dictionary). In India, like any other countries, the slums are expanding in physical dimension and their situations are not improving owing to several factors. Therefore, slum studies at local scale is one of the important aspects of slums, which in the case of slums of Gurugram are very crucial because of global cyber city importance, highest in revenue collection and location nearby national capital of the country. Study on MCG revealed by comparative indicators of demography such as family size, sex ratio, religion, education, health condition, sanitation and basic amenities. The results focused on the physical environment of the slum dwellers and their basic facilities. The study emphasized that drinking and smoking habit also prevails in slums area more than other section of the city. Survey found that 60% of slum house has Non-motorablekuccha road in front of the houses, and 23.9% of slum house had motorablekuccha in front of road. Thus, present paper investigated various dimension of social structure of slum dwellers in the Gurugram and tried to identify reason leading to slum life improving quality of life in the slum is and development goals for new millennium solution for their problems.

Keywords: slums, social indicator, sanitation and amenities.

1. Introduction

Slums had the history since urbanization and studied since then. The word ‘slum’ has mainly been employed to explain people living under poor conditions and misery. Cities Alliance (2006) explains slums as ‘ignored parts of cities where accommodations and living states are appallingly substandard’. Usually, the terms ‘slum’ and ‘informal settlements’ are used conversely in the literature (UN Habitat, 2012). However, there is a distinct difference between slum and informal settlement (Hurskainen, 2004; Rashid, 2009). Chandrasekhar S (2005), studied the condition slum of India and compared it with different urban and rural area, his study was based on NSSO and Census data. In his study, he found that even the literacy rate of rural India is higher than most of the slum population of India. Even basic amenities like electricity is higher in the rural area and sanitary and drinking water facilities better in non-slum urban areas as well as rural areas.

Thus considering the several studies done so far and lack of research on socio-economic condition of Gurugram slum, the present paper tried to fill the gap. In Haryana state, have 75 slum reporting towns out of 154 towns in the state with 1265 slums which are a home to 3.2% slum population of total slum population of India. It studied that MCG have 10.20 % of slum population of Haryana with a large number of 169549 slum dwellers (Minakshi et al., 2015). For the purpose of the intensive socio-economic survey, total 322 samples have been collected for present study. Gurugram is facing one of the worst problems due to massive migration of rural population moving to city peripherals, illegal encroachment by immigrants occupying several locations, and living in disdainful conditions. The map below shows the location of slums in the city as the data provided by government agencies. Several researchers drawn attention the condition of slums localities and its dwellers (Naik, 2015; Narain and Singh, 2017a, 2017b; Sanjay Yadavi, 2017; Sharma et al., 2014; Singh, H. and Ahuja, 2017; Singh, J., 2017).

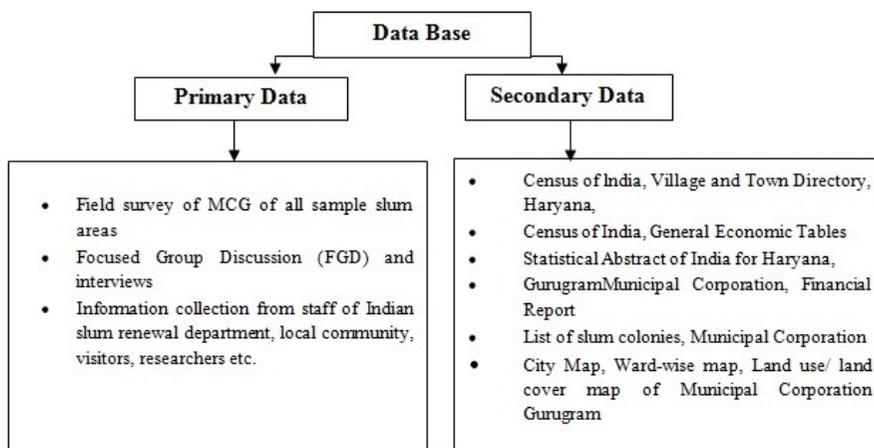
2. Objectives of the study:

The reported rapid growth and uneven distribution of slums and squatter settlements have been contributing to social, economic and environmental problems in the urban areas, particularly in metro cities, in this case, Gurugram City. Hence, keeping that in mind, to find out the increasing problems in Gurugram city, the main objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To assess the social conditions of the slum dwellers
2. To assess the social-health conditions of the slum dwellers

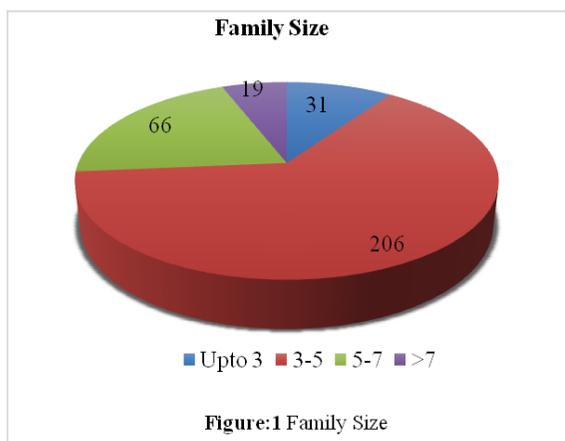
3. Materials and Methods:

3.1 Data base: Present study focused on the social and health conditions of slum dwellers of MCG Gurugram. The related datasets collected through primary and secondary data sources.



3.2 Methodology

- Six slums selected by stratified random sampling and divided in two parts
 - Notified
 - Non-notified
- The composite index, mean, standard deviation and coefficient of variation used to examine the degree of disparity
- To analyze the social condition, health conditions and basic infrastructure facilities different parameters i.e. social (household size, dependency ratio, age composition, types of family, level of education, literacy rate, sources of drinking water etc were taken
- Primary and secondary data processed data and analysed with the help of maps and diagrams to achieve the goal.



4.0 Findings from the Study:

4.1 Family Size:

Family size betaken the burden of family member on the head of the household, though there can be many earning members in the family, in the low-income condition of slum large family size is more massive responsibility. Households are classified into four groups in all the three zones, as given in table-1 and fig. - 1 Majority (63.98 %) of the households are found to have 3-5 members in their household. Households with 5-7 members constitute 20.5 % and more than 7 members constitute 5.9 %. The lower family size, that is less than 3 member households constitute 9.63% of the total sample.

4.2 Sex - Ratio:

The slum area in the study region shows reverse trend. As seen in table- 1, 46.1% of the slum populations in the sample household were male members, while the remaining around 53.9% accounts for female

members in the total sample households. Hence, female outnumbered the male population in the Gurugram slum.

Table:1 Sex distribution in the study area.

Sex Ratio in Family		
Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	763	46.10
Female	892	53.90
Total	1655	100.00

4.3 Head of the family:

From table – 2, it is evident that in majority of family (88.82%) are headed by the male member and less than 10% of family has head as female, which shows the male dominant social structure of slum dwellers and under-dominance of female in slum dwellers.

Table: 2Head of the family

Head of Family		
Category	Number	Percentage
Male	286	88.82%
Female	25	7.76%
No Response	11	3.42%
Total	322	100%

4.4 Religion

It was found that the slum is mostly dominated by Muslim population with 50% of families as shown in table 3, Hindu is approx. 41.41% of the family whereas Christian, Jain and Buddhist cover very few family with 1.24, 0.31 and 0.31% respectively.

Table: 3Religion composition of Gurugram slum area.

Religion		
Religion	Number	Percentage (%)
Hindu	143	44.41
Muslim	161	50.00
Christian	4	1.24
Sikh	0	0.00
Jain	1	0.31
Buddhist	1	0.31
Not Stated	9	2.80
Others	3	0.93
Total	322	100

4.5 Caste

Among the Hindu households, scheduled caste and schedule tribes both constitute more than 20% per cent and more than 60% of other backward caste respectively as shown in **fig. 2** and **fig.3**. People belonging to SC, ST and OBC castes, generally, are most deprived. Therefore, large proportion of Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribes and other backward caste in the slum area indicates the severity of socio-economic backwardness of slum dwellers. The survey data suggest that more than 70% of population amongst Hindu households comes under minority population.

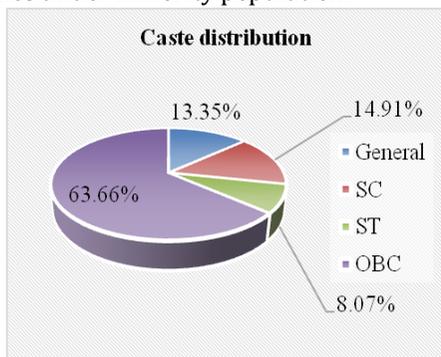


Figure 2:Caste Distribution

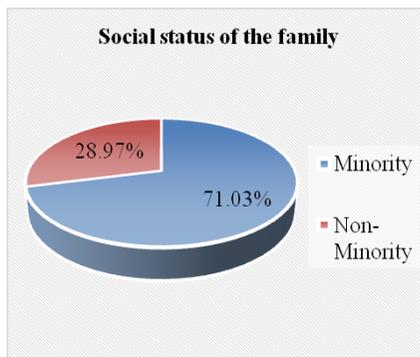


Figure 3: Social Status of Family

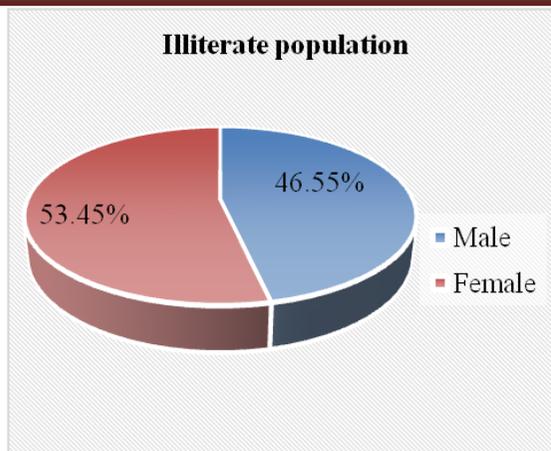


Figure 4: Educational Status

4.6 Educational Status of Slum dwellers

Education is one of the most important aspect which defines social condition of family as well as its future prospects. In Gurgaon slum area sex wise distribution of illiteracy as shown in fig.4, it indicates that more than 50% female illiteracy, whereas, illiteracy in male were lesser than female in slum area.

4.7 Fuel for Cooking

But inequality in energy access most seems to be affecting slum people having lower returns on socio-economic capital. As mentioned in table 4, the types of cooking fuel used by slum dwellers, the data suggests nearly 30% slum dwellers are using LPG gas which is good improvement over the past few years due to government subsidies to lower income groups but still it needs a lot improvement as nearly 70% of families depends on firewood and agricultural waste in combination of coal and 1.55% of families depends on charcoal for cooking.

Table: 4Types of cooking fuel used by MCG slum dwellers.

Fuel Types	No. of family	Percentage (%)
Gas	94	29.19
Electricity	0	0
Kerosene	0	0.00
Charcoal	5	1.55
Firewood	223	69.25
Other	0	0.00
Total	322	100

4.8 Drinking Water

Pressure of population and burden of cities is bear by the slum people with a shortage of basic amenities even such as life essentials water. The finding of present survey about drinking water sources, duration of supply piped water supply and distance of water sources from slum houses has been shown in table 5. It evidenced that overall majority of slum families nearly 31% depends on Tube-well and hand-pump as water sources next to that most the slum families depend on public tab outside the their premises i.e. 29.81% and Tap water within the premises i.e. 18.94%, thanks to government initiative to provide tap water supply even to lower strata of society but still the number of beneficiary families are very less due to overcrowding of slums and distance from their houses and duration of tap water supply. Nearly 7.76% of slum population depends on supply by water tanker with a long que of bucket every now and then for water.

Table: 5Drinking water sources and families dependence on different water sources.

		Source of drinking water		
		Source	No. of Family	Percentage (%)
Within Premises	Tap		72	18.94
	Tube-well/hand pumps		103	31.98
	Open well		5	2.17

Outside Premises	Public tap	92	29.81
	Tube well/Bore well/Hand pump	18	6.83
	Open well	4	1.24
	Tank/pond	0	0
	River/Canal/Lake/Spring	0	0
	Water tanker	24	7.76
	Other	4	1.24
	Total	72	100

4.9 Social representation

Social representation is one of the most important way of stating problems to the nation in a democratic country like India and seeking solution. The population above age 18 in slum of Gurugram having Voter-Id card and it was found that 78.34% has Voter-Id card and rest 25.16% has no Voter-ID card. The population who doesn't have Voter-Id card might be due to a huge slum population of temporary migration. Out all population with Voter-ID card more than 54% take part in election whereas huge numbers with 34.85% have not voted in last election.

5. Conclusions

It was concluded that family size is small to medium and sex ratio is also in very good condition. This large no of female population is resultant of the migrated labors, house maid and daily worker's population. But male dominant social structure and 89% male are head of the family. In case of education, female population is in very good condition with 53% in comparison to 46.55%. Slum dwellers of MCG used firewood for cooking fuel with comparison to LPG gas. It indicate that the deteriorate health condition of slum population. Thus, present research investigated various dimension of social structure of slum dwellers in the Gurugram and tried to identify reason leading to slum life and solution for their problems.

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