



Increasing of Urban Slum Area: A case study of Rohtak in Haryana *Anubandh*

Abstract: This research paper regarding Increasing of Urban slum area in Haryana. The rapid growth of urbanization has been a worldwide phenomenon in the twentieth century and it is an extremely new phenomenon in human history. The term ‘Urbanization’ what is generally understood, is the increasing proportion of total population, living in urban areas sociologically. However, another meaning is understood, which is the spread of urbanization or urban way of people. In economic terms, it is increasing proportion of people depending on non-agricultural activities on the urban sector of the occupational pattern. Urbanization is a complex process but often regarded as the vehicle of a society towards in industrial and technological enrichment and this is a necessary epitome of a society. Urbanization is one of the major social changes sweeping the globe especially in developing countries, where urban growth rates are the most intense. Majority of the world will be setting home to most of human society.

Introduction: Urbanization has acquired a definite development connotation in the context of economic planning. It is argued that urbanization accelerates the process of development, where implies not only growth of national income but also qualitative changes in the behavior of the people, in their level of living, in their economic pursuits, provision of basic social amenities and emergence of the new value system favorable to entrepreneurship and industrial growth, and modern culture. The process of urbanization results in the release of workforce from the agricultural pursuits makes labourers available to industrial and other non-agricultural sectors of the urban economy. Further, the economic function of an urban centre is not limited to the people living within the boundaries of urban centre but covers the economic life in the surrounding non-urban areas as well. The relationship between urbanization and economic development deserves a close attention through a specific study. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries changes began in conditions of life that would eventually results in urbanization. The process of urbanization seems to be associated with economic growth and sectoral composition of the economy. Economic development is generally associated with the growth of urbanization. The nineteenth century is a century of industrialization, urbanization and market trade expansion. Industrialization and urbanization are twentieth century that will shape the world in the new century. India is predominantly a rural economy there has been a fast trend towards urbanization. The growth of urban population has been very large since 1961 and particularly so since 1971. The trend towards urbanization has been fast indeed with big towns growing more rapidly. It is a natural growth of socio- economic development in general and industrialization in particular. The gradual transfer from its predominant rural make-up to industrialization has much to do with



the global development scenario. It plays a significant and dynamic role in changing the way of life of the people (Modernisation), in terms of increasing level of literacy and education, industrialization, urbanization, socio-economic development and better movement.

Through the world people are moving from rural areas to urban areas for various reasons. In this process of migration in those places where urban planning is defeated by contemporary housing requirements, there comes the concept of slums. These may arise when these are not planned or they may arise against the plan. The Slums have become one of the major social and economic snag in urban planning and a growing challenge for the policy makers in India. This issue is becoming enormous day by day in spite of the fact that we live in more prosperous and well planned cities; planned by highly specialized engineers and policy makers. This issue has become a big problem for cities and towns even when so many housing policies and slum eradication cum clearance programs are already executed. The number of slums in the inner city as well as the suburb is increasing with the expansion of the city. This problem exists in almost all the countries either developed or developing.

There are many reasons why national concern with slums has increased. They are the hub of socio-economic problems at national level and also weaken the image of India at international level. They let the human capacities forbidden for generations which in turn also impact national growth. In developing economy, like India slums fail to produce skilled labour hampering the human resource of the country. On the other hand they capture poor people and seize them in a way of life which can merely be considered as civilized. These colonies exert pressure on urban authorities for services at the cost of urban tax payers leading to deterioration of the city.

In hope of better services such as education, health, transportation, power supply and most significantly employment opportunities, people start moving towards cities and towns. Those who can afford, they settle somewhere in the central city but those who can't afford the cost of land in the main city, they look for some grey area or peripheral less developed area which remains cheaper in comparison to main city area. Generally the grey areas densely packed one or two room houses where the high income group people used to live but now have moved to more developed areas of the city. The grey areas are those transitional areas which surround the central city and are less developed. But other new comers develop their own slums on the vacant government land, accompanying area to railway lines and also on rented vacant land.

Most of the people are familiar about some aspects of slums, but very few are likely to diagnose the complete picture. Or if a person or authority did it once, may have forgotten it by now. Often the authorities after some time develops the attitude, not likely to be reminded that slums still exist in their jurisdiction. Similar was the attitude of the scholars until 1931 when for the first time the word slum was described in Webster Dictionary as a foul back street of a city, especially one with a slovenly (dirty) and often vicious population; a low or



squalid population.

It is a fact that with the beginning of industrialization in Europe, big towns have emerged rapidly in almost all the industrialized areas throughout the world. These towns have created job and business opportunities for all the nearby and far away residing people. Due to which these towns have always remained centre of attraction for all. But it is equally true that these towns have failed to accommodate all those persons who wished to settle in these towns, raising thereby the concept of cheaper, downgraded, unplanned or poorly planned housing for those who were unable to find the proper housing for them in the planned city. This led to rise of slum housing in big towns which now a days have become a common phenomenon even for small towns and cities. Although it is also equally true that no scientific study had proved that the slums are –inevitable. This takes a lot of planning and efforts to prevent them and abolish them when it is unknown how they are produced and how they will be abolished. Therefore in such a situation some one can say: –Slums have always remained with us and they will.

Slums as Global Phenomenon: Globally it is believed that a person who wishes to own a house in future has to save the five times of total income he earns in a year to have a standard house. This makes it unaffordable for many people to own a standard house which leads to growth of slums in various corners of towns and cities. A charity organization named Habitat for Humanity says that in world's five biggest slums approximately 5.7 million people live. It is hard to believe that one in five person throughout the world live in slum like situation which not only have health implications but also forms the vicious cycle of poverty. This badly affects their personality development, educational prospects and the livelihood opportunity also. World's five biggest slums include Orangi Town in Karachi (Pakistan): 2,400,000 at first rank, Neza (Mexico): 1,200,000 at second rank, Dharavi in Mumbai (India): 1,000,000 at third rank, Kibera in Nairobi (Kenya): 700,000 at fourth rank and Khayelitsha in Cape Town (South Africa): 400,000 at fifth rank. Approximately 900 million people on earth don't have proper housing and due to poverty and many other reasons they live in slums. On other side some experts say that if different type of informal settlements are included than this count increases to 1600 million person, which means that 25 percent population on the earth lives in slums or slum like settlements (Habitat for Humanity, 2017). The UN-HABITAT 2016 report says that the number of people living in slums in developing countries have increased from 689 million in 1990 to 880 million in 2014 (World Cities report 2016).

Slums in India: Like the various other countries India too have ever multiplying problem of slums. These are no more issues attached only with the metropolitan cities but they have become a common reality of almost all the towns and cities. These have mushroomed so much that now the time has passed when the people felt strange after looking on slums. Now these have become part of routine pictures in urban life. They can be seen easily in vacant lands/plots, outskirts of city, public land, near



railway lines and near highways. These have become a huge problem and a dent on process of urbanization. The problem is so much serious that many earlier governments have started various programmes to get rid of slums but they have all remained less effective in sorting out this problem. The present government has also started a program named Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) for housing to poor in India under which it is projected that in India by 2022 on the occasion of 75 years of independence all people will have pucca houses. Under this scheme 60 lakh houses has been made till date. In india there are two nodal agencies responsible for collection of data and its compiling, these are Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India (RGI) and National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). In a first ofits kind RGI published the slum estimates data in 2001 which contained the information about slums in those towns and cities which have population more than 20000. In this 2001 population Census 2613 towns have reported slums. On the other hand NSSO conducts socio-economic survey, till 2015 NSSO has done five socio economic surveys in slums which gives information about number of households, conditions, amenities in slums. These surveys were conducted in the year 1977(Conditions of Slum Area in Cities), 1993(Slums in India), 2002(Conditions of Urban Slums), 2008-09 (Some Characteristics of Urban Slums) and the latest survey was done in2012 (Urban Slums in India). It is important to mention here that since 2002 only those slums, which are in urban areas, are considered for surveys. Table 1.2 shows the urban Population in India from 1990 to 2018.

Table
Population and Slum Population Profiles of
India -2011

Area	Population (in Figures)	In Percentage		
		Total Population	Total Urban Population	Slum Reporting City (2613) Population
All India /Total Population	1210569573			
Rural Population	833463448	68.85		
Urban Population	377106125	31.15		
Total Population of 2613 Towns and cities	291,838,124			



Slum Population of 2613 Towns and Cities	65,494,604	5.41	17.37	22.4
Total Non Slum Population	311,611,521		82.63	
Non Slum Cities and Towns	226,343,520			77.6

Source: Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India, 2011

Government Efforts and Public Policy: The main reasons for the growth of slums seems to be rapid rate of urbanization, inefficient urban planning, high property rates, less affordable houses, lack of foresightedness by urban local bodies, unemployment and poverty. Growth in urban population simultaneously increases the slum population therefore there always need the coherent urban planning and housing policies by the government and local bodies also. Where planned urban growth can be a booster for socio economic transformation, inefficient planning may also lead to shortage of basic infrastructure and services like standard housing, drinking water, hygiene, educational services, health services, etc. These all factors have led to implementation of various schemes from time to time. Three major schemes which government have implemented so far for improving the slum areas and to reduce further progress of slum areas are firstly Jwaharlal Nehru National Urban Renovation Mission (JNNURM), secondly Rajiv Awas Yojna (RAY), thirdly Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U). Such projects are very necessary for the welfare of urban poor and the marginalized people so that the cities can have sustainable and inclusive development.

National Slum Development Program (NSDP): NSDP program was launched in 1996. Under this program about Rs. 400 crores are spent annually in various slum improvement projects. The objective of the NSDP program is to develop the slums through the provision of basic physical amenities, health care, social amenities and community infrastructure. Under NSDP program 10 percent of the budget can be utilized for housing construction/upgradation. The funds are annually allocated by the planning commission in proportion to the slum population in each State or Union Territories (UT). Thereafter the Ministry of Finance GOI releases the funds to the States or the UT according to their shares of slum population. Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation (MoUD&PA) remains the Nodal Ministry responsible for supervising the whole program and for the implementation of guidelines. Neighborhood Committees and Community Development Societies at local level execute the NSDP where seems beneficial. Many slum Development Committees, including elected members from NGO's, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and community-based organizations, also watch over the whole process. The program has both subsidy and loan components. For the larger States which have more revenue resources, loans constitute 70 percent and subsidies 30 percent of total allocated funds under this program. For the smaller States which have fewer resources, the loan component is 10 percent whereas the subsidy constitutes 90 percent. All construction is undertaken by contractors through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. But



now other programs have started and this program has ended.

Defining the Slum: As per the Pronab Sen Committee Report, a slum is defined, –as a compact settlement of at least 20 households with a collection of poorly built tenements, mostly of temporary nature, crowded together usually with inadequate sanitary and drinking water facilities in unhygienic conditions. From the ancient times three basic requirements of human are recognized i.e. food, cloth and housing. Housing not just mean the building structure but it should also have basic amenities, hygiene, ventilation, lighting, water supply, power source, proper spacing, etc. Slums housing is of two types; firstly those which have become not livable in the course of time but which were livable earlier, secondly those structures or houses which were never appropriate for human dwellings. In Indian scenario the second type is most prevalent which are formed by the poor migrants from nearby areas and they are built with cheap materials such as polythene, tin sheds, etc. with very less ventilation, light, spacing, hygiene and mud flooring.

Slums do not provide decent housing and prohibits its residents from exploring the possible dimensions of human life due to its socio-economic and cultural backward nature. The social environment in the slums prohibit the personal development of its residents as most of the people there accept that their lives are meant only for these miserable conditions of slums and there is no possible solution to come out of these conditions. This way accepting their fortunes they engage in petty jobs such as collecting garbage, house laborers, daily wage labour, etc.

Other than this they are not even safe for the inhabitants. Most of the slums are made of combustible material and kaccha building material which are even not repaired for long time. The polythene sheets and clothes tied on wooden logs are very much easy target of fire and heat. The electricity connections are even temporary connected by laymen so the chances of electric shock and short circuits are very high. In the rainy season the water gets logged in the open areas along with slums which cause problems like dengue, malaria and unhygienic surrounding. The danger of stray animals, insects and reptiles is also safety hazard for the slum dwellers.

Formation of Slums: Urban slums indeed are the results of rural as well as urban poverty and both progress with each other. Slums are considered to be the center of urban poverty and it is seen that both go side by side. Slums are the representation of poverty and poverty, in turn, leads to growth of slums. But it does not mean that all the people in slums are poor, in contrast to this it also does not mean that the people living outside are rich. Rural to Urban migration is considered as main factor behind the growth of slums. It is often contented that the people migrate to towns and cities in search of better livelihood options with their friends, relatives and other contacts. In the starting phase they get settled in slums which seems affordable to them. Though it is true that many slums are formed in past by the migrated people, such as Dharavi slum in initial phase became the preferred choice of workers from the nearby villages who had to come to factories in routine, so they formed temporary shelters as slums for their convenience, which later became one of the largest slum by the adding up of new migrants and natural growth of slums families. This type of growth can't be considered as general principal of growth of slums. There may be many other factors which cause



the formation of slums such as shortage of affordable housing, lack of urban planning, poverty, proximity to work place, etc. Many researches has shown that with the starting of industrialization in India the poor people started dreaming better future in towns and cities. Everyone at that time was influenced by the services and facilities available in towns so many families from rural areas started moving towards cities and towns, but finding the high rents these people being unable to afford high rents, got settled in slums. This way the negligible development in rural areas as compared to urban areas promoted the migration of people from rural areas to big towns and cities which became big reason for formulation of slums. Along with migration, poverty also promotes formulation of slums. the urban poor settles in low rent areas or unused land near the industries in which they work, with passage of time many other people joins them in these slums and the big slums are formed.

Characteristics of the Slum: The characteristics of the slums show disrespect to human rights and also a taboo on urban city. All these characteristics are representatives of various problems which the authorities have to deal with and which are unwontedly attached with the dreams of slum dwellers. Policy makers have to focus on each of these characteristics cum problems with problem specific solutions. But the present scenario shows that not only the solutions have failed, also the efforts done are very less as the number of slums are increasing with the expansion of the cities.

The Urban Villagers: In his book Gans (1963) _The Urban villagers‘ Herbert Gans, a famous sociologist of his time studied the Italian settlements in Boston. According to Gains there are two types of settlements having low profile, one is of the socially out casted people who have admitted their fate as degraded and second one is, of those who have migrated from some other areas and are in state of poverty. These new comers are not habitual of urban culture of the main city so they settle in outskirts. They try to adapt themselves in the urban culture and bring change in their traditional value culture. Both these settlements are almost similar in nature and their distinction is very difficult.

Conclusion: After the study we can say that the slum area is increasing because of urbanization and industrialization. Urbanization show that the economic growth of India increasing due to industrialization. Many academicians and sociologist have expressed their views on slums in different ways, but their ideas commonly rotate on similar axis i.e. most of them have associated slums with dirty streets, shrieking children, paupers, filthy odours.

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