

## Golden Research Thoughts

### Abstract:-

The acceleration of urban population growth has been experienced since 10-15 years in India as the new states and new districts have been formed in the map of India. The slum population has been multiplied in recent years due to :

Availability of the employment opportunities in the big towns and cities.  
Availability of the means of livelihood in the urban areas against the rural areas.

This implies that the rural poverty gets transferred to the urban areas. The rural people are attracted to the



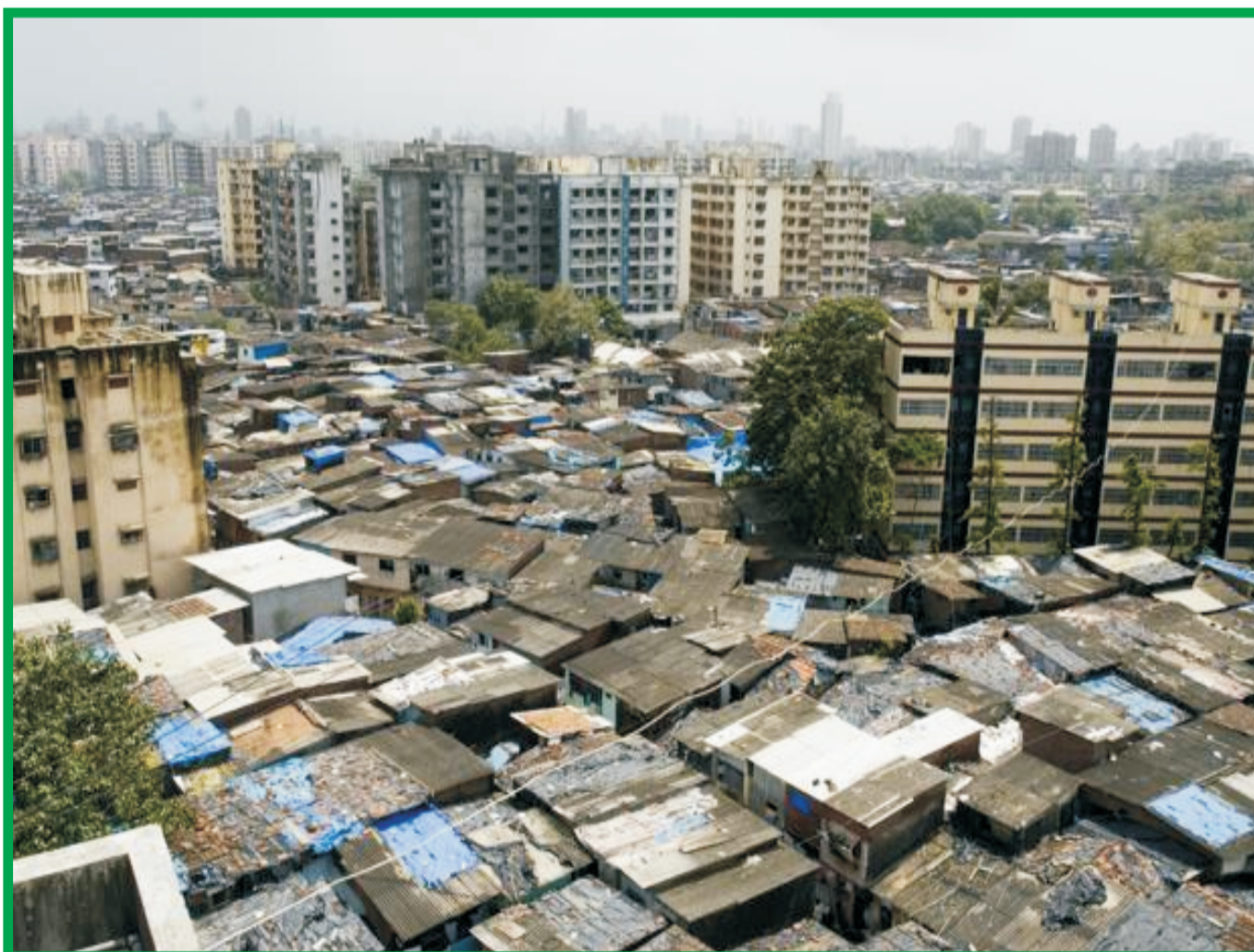
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urban areas for the economic reasons exclusively irrespective of the non-availability of the physical infrastructures. They struggle to find housing facility. They do face the shortage of drinking water supply.

### Keywords:

Socio-Economic Condition , physical infrastructures , society/community.

## **THE MISERABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE SLUM POPULATION IN INDIA VIS-À-VIS CHHATTISGARH AND ESPECIALLY IN RAIPUR**



## INTRODUCTION :

The quality of life has suffered due to the continuing influx of migrants, resulting in the widening gap between the demand and supply of the essential services and other infrastructures. The migration creates the housing problems; consequently informal solutions have to be found in terms of mushrooming of slum and squatter settlements.

Now, if at all the Government or the Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) wish to do some developmental activities, it is essential to have the comprehensive information on the slums for formulation of an effective and coordinated policy for their improvement/rehabilitation as they have not received due attention in urban planning and have remained an area of neglect. Some of the developmental efforts and activities certainly have been done in the past for improvement in the lives of the slum-dwellers, but they were not enough. A lot more is required to do to improve the quality of life in the slums.

## CONCEPT, MEANING AND DEFINITIONS:

As per the socio-economic conditions and the social perception of the particular area/society/community, the concept and meaning of slum varies state to state. There are different names for slums in different states of towns. In Delhi, it is known as “Jhuggi Jhopdi”, while in Mumbai it is known as “Jhopdi Patti”, or “Chawls”. It is “Ahatas” in Kanpur, “Bastees” in Kolkata, “Cheris” in Chennai “Keris” in Bangalore and “Gandi Vastees” in Raipur. However, physical characteristics in most of the slums are essentially the same. They are usually a cluster of hutments with dilapidated and infirm structures having common toilet facilities, suffering from lack of basic amenities, inadequate arrangements for drainage and for disposal of solid wastes and garbage. Thus the living conditions become highly sub optimal, unhygienic resulting in the air and water borne diseases for the dwellers.

Under section 3 of the Slum Area Improvement and clearance Act 1956, slums have been defined as “those residential areas, where dwellings are in any respect unfit for human habitation by reasons of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangements and designs of such buildings, narrowness of faulty arrangements of streets, lack of ventilation, light or sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors which are detrimental to safety, health and morals”.

Hence, slums are compact overcrowded residential areas unfit for habitation due to lack of one or more of the basic infrastructures.

## DEFINITION: -

“A compact area of at least 300 populations 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”.

## Demography Distribution of slum population Zone –wise

- ❖ East zone comprises of Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura.
- ❖ West zone comprises of Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- ❖ South zone comprises of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry, Andaman and Nicobar Island.
- ❖ Central zone comprises of M.P., C.G., Jharkand, Bihar, U.P., and Rajasthan.
- ❖ North zone comprises of Delhi, Haryana, Uttaranchal, Chandigarh, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

- It is clear that the distribution of the slum population is concentrated much in the Western zone (30.69%) and Central zone (22.9%) followed by the Southern zone (22.6%).
- It is also inferred that the slum dwellers in these zones are facing acute problems with regard to their housing, food and clothing's, safe drinking water facilities, livelihood, employment etc.
- Especially the whole environment /atmosphere becomes so miserable that one cannot dare to live in. However, these slum-dwellers have been habituated to lead such life.
- There is no clear-cut future for them. They seem to be content and satisfied with the culture and conditions they are living in.
- When one compares the data of slum-dwellers of Chhattisgarh with that of India, one becomes very happy and satisfied with the figures (1.9%) shown.
- A total population of 19.54% out of the total urban population in Chhattisgarh is living in the has arduous condition of the slums, which can be termed as “average slum population” compared to the states like Maharashtra (27.3%), Andhra Pradesh (24.9%) and Haryana (23.2%).
- In terms of no. of slums, it is noted that the Southern zone (30.0 %) and Central zone (29.0%) respectively have the maximum share. State-wise, it is found that A.P.(77) bags the first place, followed by U.P. (69), Tamilnadu (63), Maharashtra (61) and West Bengal (59).
- These states having big and metropolitan cities attract the migrants from rural areas and people from other states; hence the no. of slum-dwellers has increased and is increasing at the increasing rate.
- In short, the slum-dwellers are concentrated the southern, western and central zone. Chhattisgarh comes under the central zone, and a majority of slum-dwellers are found in the Capital city of Raipur

**SLUMS IN INDIA**

- ◆ The total slum population against the Urban population in India is 14.88% as per the census 2001.
- ◆ Out of the total slum population, 14.3% belongs to the age group of 0-6, 17.4% population belongs to the SC and 2.4% comprises of the ST population.
- ◆ There is a total of 62.7% population, who have visited the educational centres, though they are forced to lead and congested, sophisticated and overcrowded life in the slum.
- ◆ The slum population of the main workers comprises of 15.07% against the Urban population of main workers (83818431) in India.
- ◆ Among the main workers, in India, only 0.9% people depend on the cultivation, 2.2% belong to the agricultural laborers, 4.6% are involved in household industries.
- ◆ There is very large percentage (92.3%) of people, who have engaged themselves in self-business activities.
- ◆ The fact is that in the slum area, people do not possess much of the land piece; hence it is clear that they do not interest in the cultivation work, rather than the construction works.
- ◆ Out of the total Urban marginal workers, 39.90% population is living in the slum area.
- ◆ Out of a total of 13,80,964 marginal working population, only one percent (1%) is involved in the cultivation, while 8.7% people are leading their lives as agricultural laborers.
- ◆ A total of 9.5% marginal workers have engaged themselves in the household industrial sectors.
- ◆ The no. of other workers or self-financed business personnel do comprise the majority of them equating to 80.9%.
- ◆ The implication is clearly drawn –
- ◆ People take much interest in the non-formal of co curricular activities than the formal ones.
- ◆ People are satisfied with self-business, where they can get more profits.
- ◆ There us a freedom in such types of work from the Boss of any company or organization. They are the bosses of their own business.
- ◆ It is worth noting that in both the categories (main workers and marginal workers), a majority of people have been involved in “Other workers”. They want to become and destiny.

**SLUMS IN CHHATTISGARH:**

- ❖ With regard to the situation of Chhattisgarh, a total no. of urban population is 4195747 (Survey, 2001) which comprises of 14.66% against Indian urban population.
- ❖ Out of the given total urban population of Chhattisgarh, the slum population is 817908 comprising of 19.54% as a whole. However, when compared to the Indian slum population it reads to just 1.92%. Though the figure looks very tiny but it has a significant contribution to the number of slum-dwellers and the urban population.
- ❖ Similarly the urban population of age-group between 0-6 is 14.2% compared to the total no. of urban population in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ In the slum area of Chhattisgarh, the no.of people of age-group between 0-6, is 15.4% against the total no.of slum-dwellers in Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ With regard to the Scheduled caste population in the Chhattisgarh urban 143533 (17.5%) people are living in the slum areas, against a total no. of 519667 (12.4%) urban scheduled caste population.
- ❖ The Scheduled tribe population in the urban Chhattisgarh comprises of 8.4% having 351761 populations. The slum-dwellers in this category are equal to 64945 (7.9%) of the total slum-dwellers.
- ❖ As regard to the literacy rate of the urban population in Chhattisgarh is 2886538 (70.0%) against the total urban population, while the slum population in Chhattisgarh has the literacy rate 517363 (17.92%) against the urban population and 63.3 against the total slum population.
- ❖ It is inferred that a handful people (17.92%) are literate in the urban areas of C.G. having traditional and out dated mentality.
- ❖ It is noteworthy that a total of 92.1% slum dwellers are carrying out their self-business either in a small or big scale.

**Child Labour:**

Sno	State	Total Child Labors (lacs)
1	Chhattisgarh	3.64
2	Orissa	4.07
3	Jharkand	19
4	Uttar Pradesh	10.6
5	Madhya Pradesh	8.57
6	West Bengal	13.6
7	Rajasthan	12.6
8	Bihar	11
9	Tamil Nadu	4.18

Source: Hindustan Times Dated 24.10.06

**SLUMS IN RAIPUR CITY:**

- ❖ A total no. of 605747(18.417%) population, out of the total population (3289782) of the district is living

- in the URBAN Raipur. Moreover, out of the total urban population (605747), a total no. of 226151 i.e. 37.33% people are leading their lives in the unhygienic and overcrowded slum.
- ❖ Similarly, the population between the age group of 0-6, constitutes 2.55% (83943) of the urban population against the population of the district of Raipur, and the slum population in Raipur (age group 0-6) constitutes 42.61% (35770) against the total urban Raipur population (83943).
  - ❖ Almost half of the children in between the age group of 0-6 are forced to live in the dirty atmosphere, unhealthy environment of the ventilation less slums. It seems their childhood is being faded away. There is no future as such.
  - ❖ The Scheduled caste people in the slum area constitute a total of 43932, having (58.35%) against the total urban scheduled caste population in the urban Raipur. It is quite a big figure when the urban scheduled caste population is taken into account in Raipur.
  - ❖ Similarly among the scheduled tribe population (23580) in the urban Raipur, a total no. of slum-dwellers is 9937, constituting 42.14%.
  - ❖ However, when compared with the total population of Raipur district, (3289782), the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population living in slums, constitutes 1.33% and 0.302% respectively.
  - ❖ Again when it is compared with the total slum population (368956) in Raipur city, the scheduled cast and scheduled tribe population living in slum constitutes 11.9% and 2.69% respectively.
  - ❖ As regards the literacy rate, there are 426909 people, comprising of 7.4% against the total urban population is considered to be literate, while 62.5% slum-dwellers out of the total slum-dwellers are found literate.
  - ❖ However, compared to the total population of Raipur district (3289782), the literacy rate in the urban area is 12.97% and slum area is 4.29%.

The distribution of these slums, zone-wise is as follows: -

**SLUM POPULATION DISTRIBUTION (ZONE –WISE) in Raipur**

SN	ZONE	% OF SLUMS
1.	South zone	30%
2.	West zone	16%
3.	Central zone	29%
4.	North zone	12%
5.	East zone	13%

- ❖ It is clear that there are 68 slums, having 5-10 average members in family, followed by 55 slums, where we find the average family members equal to 10-15 similarly there are 31 slums with 15-20 average family size.
- ❖ It is amazing to find that there are 27 slums having more than 20 and less than 50 average family members i.e. 20>50 family size.
- ❖ Again there are 8 such slums, which are having more than 50 family sizes. So much so, the slum named Sunder Nagar Chhetra in Sunderlal Sharma Ward is having 142-family sizes. It is unrealistic impact and unbelievable. Either the data produced is not reliable, or there is a printing mistake.
- ❖ Similarly, Sweeper colony of payarela ward is having 82 as average family size, and Damipara slum under Laxmi narayan Das, with 67 average family sizes, while Jorapeera in Jawaharlal Nehru ward is having 56 average family sizes.
- ❖ The figures on average family size have been shown, are unrealistic, irrelevant in the practical human life. These data seems to be irrelevant and doubtful.
- ❖ The lowest average family size (04) has been identified in Arjun Nagar of Swami Atmanand ward and Gudyari of Kanhaiyalal Banjari ward. These slums are having an ideal family size.

**Implications.**

- The assessment team considers 0 to 10 average family sizes as nuclear family, numbering 70.
- Again the average family size of 10 to 20 is considered to be the joint family, while 20 to 55+ is taken as the extended ones.
- The members in the nuclear family size seem to be satisfied with their living pattern in terms of income earning. They also have something to save for the future. They do have some assets like motorcycles, cycles, T.V., radio, watches etc. however they are forced to live in the hazardous conditions. They lack the safe drinking water facilities.
- The men fool and take the drinks a kind of habit of every evening.
- In such families, the children (around 90%) have enrolled themselves. The parents also are aware of the importance of education. They have been motivated to send their children to the schools.
- This section of the society (slums) is quite aware of the health facilities and medicines. Hence, they are able to get benefit out of these facilities. Especially, the health programmes like pulse-polio other

- vaccinations for the children are regularly taken up.
- The mentalities of these people are certainly positive towards the quality of life and continuous development of it. However, there are some, who still find themselves unemployed. Hence, they want to have regular earning sources.
- The joint families comprising of 10-20 family sizes, also been satisfied with their life-style in terms of income and expenditure. However, in this case, most of the family members do not earn, hence there is hardly savings.
- A few people have the motorbikes, cycles, T.V., radio etc. as assets.
- Surrounding as such is very sticky and smelly it is unhealthy. People do not bother about the cleanliness. There is no "SULABH SHOCHLAYA", consequently; the streets and drainages are always dirty, affecting health on the people negatively.
- When people do not get enough the clothing's and education of the children. Here, the same situation is found people, though are aware of the education and health but they don't practice due to the lack of income.
- In the time of some feasts and on special occasions, people spend more. For this they approach the moneylenders or some business people and take loans on high interest rate. They make their own lives miserable. They depend on "hand to mouth" system.
- This section of the people do have the drinking habits, without which, they cannot live. After having too much of intoxication, at times they quarrel with their wives and other slum-dwellers. Thus they spread the nuisance in the slums.
- Though they see the other people living in the big buildings and having white collar jobs, but there is no sign of change in their living habits and standards. They do not have high ambitions. They so not bother about the future what they will eat and drink. They live just in the present.

**Big family size of Extended families**

- ◆ As per the data given by the Municipal Corporation Raipur, it has been identified that there are 35 slums, where 20 or more members up to 142 are living in a family. One can well imagine the way they must be living together. These slums are over-crowded. The living conditions are not conducive at all.
- ◆ The mentality of people is that of "self worry". Since there are many children/people in a family, the parents and grand parents do not worry about them. Sometimes it is noted that they the parents do not know as to how many children are there in a family.
- ◆ The earning is less, hence life has become miserable. They tend to have the nature of theft. There are other anti-social elements among these people.
- ◆ Politically, they are not aware of the political situations. They do not interest in political matters. Wherever, there is an election, they follow those leaders who pay most for their drinks. The people do not have their stable mind in the political matters.
- ◆ Since the earning is less, the people are not able to give enough facilities in terms of education, health, civic amenities etc. they do not have much savings. They are also living in the "hand to mouth" situation.
- ◆ The people over these slums tend to lead a life of individuals. They do not take interest in the social activities. They come together, when there is a common problem with regard to the drinking water electricity etc.
- ◆ People go to the moneylenders, big business men for the loans in some festivals and special occasions. Eventually they become helpless to pay back. The following saying fits with their lives-
- ◆ "The slum-dwellers are born in debts, live in debts and die in debts".
- ◆ These people are indifference towards their lives and other people around them. There is a lack of community life among them.
- ◆ All together, it can be inferred that the life in the slums, is miserable, congested, over crowded unhealthy (physically, mentally, morally) and unhygienic. The people have also become the victims of HIV/AIDS, which is having disastrous economic consequences as well as there moral, physical and mental statuses are getting deteriorated. There is no value of so-called human dignity and human-respect. People are huts living like crowded animals. Only difference is that these people are called as social animals.

**Child Labour:**

Sno	City	Total No of Child Labors (Thousands)
1	Raipur	66000
2	Bilaspur	58.800
3	Raigarh	21200
4	Jagdalpur	18400

Source: Hindustan Times 24.10.06

Raipur city holds the higher number of child labourers in the state.

After analyzing the secondary data did some primary data collection randomly in various slums. It was done in the form of focused group discussions in the community. The Cross Cutting Issues are as follows:

It was found that there was an absence of any cottage industries or household industries in the communities. From the total number of slums, it was found that the women are involved as domestic

servants; even the slums had girls working as domestic servants. In all the slums, there was presence of daily wage laborers, mostly the men, it can also be said that in some of the communities there was found to be child laborers as boys and girls are involved in daily wage labourers. In most of the slums there is the presence of rickshaw pullers, who are men only, even in some of the slums there are boys involved in this profession. As for the disguised labourers, these are those who are not paid as per the Minimum Wages Act and those who are working just for three meals a day, at times two also. These types of labourers are very high in all the slums, they are underpaid and from the findings this can be figured out that in most of the slums, under-aged boys and girls are engaged as labourers.

It was also found out that the women and the girls have done most of the reproductive/domestic work, only the fuels for lighting and cooking are collected and ignited by the men and the boys. The men do the community work.

The women folk and girls mostly do the reproductive/domestic works. When the men and women go for work, it's the boys and the girls who look after the younger siblings, and the household work. Due to the reservation for the women by the Govt., the women have access over the political powers but the control is in the hands of their husbands and the male members, they are puppets in their hands. The husbands of the elected members into the local bodies are respected and honoured as the elected members; they are the decision makers for their wives.

Slno.	Problem category	Outcome
1.	Attitudes	Jealousy Ego, violent or aggressive personality
2.	Behaviours	Fighting, wife battering, petty to serious daily quarrels
3.	Culture	High discrimination between castes and gender, denial of rights and liberties, insecurity.

**Protection:**

Sl. No.	Category	Prevalence in slums
1.	Presence of abusers	Yes
	o Physical abuse	Yes
	o Sexual abuse	Yes
	o Emotional abuse	Yes
2.	Presence of protection committees	Nil
3.	Address to child related issues	Nil
4.	Address to women related issues	State Mahila(women) commission

The protection mechanism present in the slums is very slim. In all the slums, the children and the women complained of the abuse being taking place, either in the work place or family, even in the neighborhood. There is absence of any protection committees and the community has never addressed to child related issues, they consider it to be the responsibility of the individual families and not the whole community. In the state capital, there is the presence of the Mahila commission, which looks after the complaints registered, but the sorry state is that it can operate with the registered cases only, but as observed most of the issues remain un-registered.

**Differentially abled: Source: Internet**

Raipur : Disabled Population			
	Person	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	71510	38561	32949
Rural	56052 (78.38%)	29883(77.49%)	26169 (79.42%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>15458 (21.61%)</b>	<b>8678 (22.50%)</b>	<b>6780 (20.57%)</b>
<b>In seeing (Total)</b>	31372	15852	15520
Rural	25217 (80.38%)	12678 (79.97%)	12539 (80.79%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>6155 (19.62%)</b>	<b>3174 (20.02%)</b>	<b>2981 (19.20%)</b>
<b>In speech</b>	4512	2521	1991
Rural	3387 (75.06%)	1865 (73.97%)	1522 (76.44%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>1125 (24.93%)</b>	<b>656 (26.02%)</b>	<b>469 (23.55%)</b>
<b>In hearing</b>	5751	2949	2802
Rural	4947 (86.01%)	2547 (86.36%)	2400 (85.65%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>804 (13.98%)</b>	<b>402 (13.63%)</b>	<b>402 (14.34%)</b>
<b>In movement</b>	22981	13428	9553
Rural	17666 (76.87%)	10155 (75.62%)	7511 (78.62%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>5315 (23.12%)</b>	<b>3273 (24.37%)</b>	<b>2042 (21.37%)</b>
<b>Mental</b>	6894	3811	3083
Rural	4835 (70.13%)	2638 (69.22%)	2197 (71.26%)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>2059 (29.86%)</b>	<b>1173 (30.77%)</b>	<b>886 (28.73%)</b>

All the disabilities are congenital in nature, which could have been avoided if immunization would have had taken place. This can be addressed by considering the following preventive measures of the activities-

- ❖ Ensuring nutritious food during the pregnancy period.
- ❖ Ensure first breast feeding after newly born child.
- ❖ Overlook of primary doses of vaccination or rigid mindset to avoid vaccination
- ❖ Proper health care at the time of pregnancy.
- ❖ Awareness about Avoiding premature and early marriage
- ❖ Support to livelihood through small-scale business and related activities.

#### Environment

- Improved sanitation facility to community
- Proper construction and management of drainage, sewage systems etc.
- Avoiding water logging near the water sources like hand pumps, wells, ponds etc
- Proper management of solid and liquid waste through kitchen garden, NADEP and compost pits etc.
- Promotion of safe storage & handling of water and personal hygiene.
- Create awareness for construction and use of toilets by the community.
- Awareness campaign about cleanliness and its impact.

#### FINDINGS

**Child Labour** The presence of street children is quite high in Raipur; this is a common scenario to find ill clad children moving on the streets, surviving with their parents in the pavements of the city. Child labour is high at Raipur, most of the elite houses have children from poor families as domestic helps, and middlemen bring these. The boys and girls are prone to child labour they are engaged in hotels, restaurants, mechanic shops, welding works, selling Newspapers, Hardware shops, bidi making, rag picking and others. Most of the children are seen as helpers in the auto rickshaws. The National Child Labour Project (NCLP) has set up schools and are running schools through the NGO's.

**Literacy** Level of education infrastructure is fairly adequate across the slums as they have either Anganwadis, Primary school and secondary school or a combination of them. The literacy rate of slum population in Raipur Urban agglomeration as per census 2001 was about 71 percent and the female literacy in slum was about 63 percent. Despite increased literacy rates, there is high dropout of students from school. Most of these dropouts are being drawn into the labour market. This is an area of concern.

Communities Slum population in Raipur urban agglomeration is heterogeneous in character-with

Hindus, Muslims and Christians having migrated from different neighboring states like from Orissa, Bihar, Andra Pradesh and from near by villages and Districts in search of better employment opportunities in business, industry and other informal sector activities are employed as daily labourers, rickshaw pullers and work as labourers in market. The language predominantly spoken in slums is Hindi and Oriya.

**Land Status** As per existing information 65% slums are regularized, however, tenure security rests with few households in the regularized settlements. Slums in Raipur urban Agglomeration, as elsewhere in the state, are located on state and central government, municipal, private and other unclaimed lands, Slums are classified as objectionable and unobjectionable based on location and land use – location on riverbeds. Low lying areas, drains, road margins, etc. some of the very objectionable slums in RMC area were relocated and the communities

**Environmental Conditions and Health Status** The environmental infrastructure in the slums is very poor and most slums lack basic civic amenities like proper roads, drainage, protected water supply, streetlights and toilet facilities. The conditions of public toilets constructed under different schemes are in poor state, as there is lack of maintenance by the assigned staff and as a result they are not used. The other main problem is lack of covered drains and sewer facility. Since most of the slums are located in marginal areas encroaching on drains, the physical environment in most of them is of poor quality.

In addition to these access to community facilities and health centers in these settlements is limited and not adequate. Across all the slums, the health centers are not adequately equipped with medicines and the households have to procure medicines from open market. These health centers are also not equipped to provide antenatal and postnatal care. Studies reveals that the most common diseases prevalent in slums include gastro-enteritis, malaria, Diarrhea, cholera, Typhoid, Malnutrition, ringworm etc. To overcome these health problems the corporation runs 3 maternity hospitals, 1 Government hospital and several health centers. The RMC has also started reproductive and Child Health project and it is being implemented through non-governmental organizations. With their participation, many urban health centers were established to provide better health services to the women and children, particularly in slums and hill areas. There are also government dispensaries, which are visited by the poor. The poor from the peri-urban areas and the villages have to come to Raipur to meet the health needs. There is need to strengthen health infrastructure.

**Basic Infrastructure** Access of slum population to basic services is a key indicator of the quality of life of people in slum is particular and those in the city in general. The access to basic infrastructure in the slums leaves lot of scope for improvement. With the exception, all other slum settlements lack access to adequate drinking water facility, individual toilets and public toilets, drainage, and garbage disposal. For example, the study shows that a very small fraction of households have direct water supply connection and rely on 2-3 taps in addition to some hand pumps, most of which are not functional. Exceptions are slums where most of the households have direct water connection. However, in many slums the drinking water is not potable. The other problem is related to duration of water supply (30-45 minutes) and frequency of supply (48 to 72 hours). In terms of access to toilet facility, while many households have constructed individual toilets, due to large households size, open defecation is a common practice. The conditions of public toilets constructed under different schemes are in poor state, as there is lack of maintenance and as a result they are not used. In terms of road infrastructure, most of the slums have roads, but majority of bye-lanes are not metalled and street lighting is inadequate. Street lighting are mostly on the main access roads and inner roads are dark, which most of the women amongst the population expressed as concerns for their security. However, one of the main problems, which exist across all the slums, is the lack of knowledge about government programmes and limited reach of social security safety nets. For example, the public distribution system for distribution of subsidies foods and kerosene oil is often inadequate and there is diversion of essential commodities. Lack of access to these safety nets and limited information about government schemes increases their vulnerability and pushes them further into poverty traps. With regard to the Electricity, these slums are deprived of the legal connection; rather they are illegally connecting the electricity and are trying to have this facility.

**Alcohol consumption** The habit of consuming alcohol among the slum-dwellers is the main problem as it is identified. Though people are living in “Hand to mouth” situation, a budget is kept aside for this purpose. Because of this the social life of the community is disturbed. There is no habit of saving the money rather they spend money.

**Livelihood** The slum dwellers do not have much income which is another cause for child labour. In fact people lack awareness with regard to the development in terms of education, health, civic facilities, safe drinking water, child health care, income generating activities, Government schemes etc. They expect that the Government will come and do everything for them.

During the interaction with the people it was also confirmed that till date, no NGO has visited these slums, hence there was no initiatives taken on the part of NGO. Therefore, World Vision India will be the first NGO, who will intervene in these areas for the development of the people/community as a whole. To start with, the organization has to acquainted with the problem and needs of these slums, which are put forth here under-

## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



PROBLEM		NEEDS			
SN	PROBLEM	COMMUNITY	WOMEN	CHILDREN	YOUTH
1.	Lack of quality civic facilities- Electricity schools, health centers, hand pumps, roads/street, drainage, shelter	Legal connection of Electricity, Access to Schools and Health centers, Working hand pumps, Construction of road/streets and drainages, Proper shelter.	-	-	-
2.	Lack of employment	-	Home employment like Spice grinding, Papad making, Pickle making and packing broom making candle tailoring, chatai making, opening shops sale and purchase of item	-	Opening and operating STD, PCO, Tent house, steel furniture's 'Dhabas, T.V. radio repairing, motor rewinding, auto garage, saloon, cycle repairing, tailoring, opening shops, pan-gumti, vending poultry ,driving.
3.	Lack of awareness about the importance of education and health.	Awareness camps to be arranged on different topics Motivation course to be imparted.	-	School and immunization must be the priority area for children.	-
4.	Lack of Anganwadi (Pre School) in the slums	-	-	Anganwadi (Pre School) must be in the slums	-
5.	Lack of safe Drinking water facilities.	Slum-dwellers must be provided with the safe drinking facilities.	-	-	-
6.	Lack of proper housing, unhygienic, over crowded.	Stationed place could be sought out. The houses need to be repaired esp. for the ventilation.	-	-	-
7.	Too much of liquor consumption.	Special awareness and training programmes to be arranged and the negative sides of the liquor consumption should be highlighted.	Women could be made aware of the harmfulness of drinking and be brought to unity to take a strong step against drinking.	-	A separate training input could be given to youth so that they realise the harmful effect of drinking and other intoxicated things.
8.	Lack of awareness about the Government schemes-	Awareness cum training should be arranged for the whole community. Information Centres could be set up. If it is available then people may be motivated to visit the centre regularly and would get information. The centre could be updated every day/week/month.	-	-	Youth must be motivated to acquire more knowledge about the Government Schemes. Youth should take up the maintenance part of the Information centres.
9.	Lack of unity/community spirit and the social life.	People should be given awareness programme on these topic/aspects.	Women should be motivated to make Self-Help Group (SHGs) and for this a continuous effort on the part of staff and volunteers be put up. Training programmes must take place regularly in this regard.	-	Youth must be also motivated towards the SHGs and for common IGPs, so that a fellow feeling, community spirit may be cultivated among them.
10.	Lack of Knowledge about their basic rights and duties.	Again the community has to be given awareness and the training programmes with regard to this subject. After having Knowledge they should prepare strategy to fight for it.	Women should take part in the awareness programmes.	Children are not aware of their rights	-
11.	Malpractices in the public Distribution system	People should get what is due to them with justice awareness building is a must.	-	-	-
12.	Lack of land legal documents in the slum area	An effort should be put in to help the people get their land documents	-	-	-

**CONCLUSION:**

The purpose of this study has certainly not been to keep this report in the shelves, but to use it to

understand the situation of the slum people in India, Chhattisgarh and Raipur, the Capital City of Chhattisgarh, and to respond to the various needs, opportunities and challenges that it has presented before us. Clearly, there are quite a few path-breaking initiatives made by the development agencies Government and Non-Government in Chhattisgarh for the socio-economic and cultural development of the slum-dwellers therein. However, there are also some rugged and old practices of community development, which have not only lost their edge and purpose, but also have become liabilities in terms of sustaining the approach and the infrastructure. This study, therefore, invites the development agencies to make appropriate recommendations of strategies for the overall development of the slum-dwelling people in the city of Raipur, Chhattisgarh State and in India as a whole in terms of their livelihood, health and very specially their education. The invitation goes to the Government and Non-Governmental Organisations to take initiatives for the betterment of the slum-dwellers.

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#### WEBSITES

1. Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India [www.censusindia.net](http://www.censusindia.net) Contains published data from censuses, population projections, and vital statistics from the national sample registration system.
2. Population Foundation of India [www.popfound.org](http://www.popfound.org) Leading organization in New Delhi that conducts population research and advocacy activities throughout India.