Volume 13 Issue 34
Originally issued as C4



Global Journal of human social science
Sociology & Culture
Volume 13 Issue 4 Version 1.0 Year 2013
Type: Double Blind Peer Reviewed International Research Journal
Publisher: Global Journals Inc. (USA)
Online ISSN: 2249-460X & Print ISSN: 0975-587X

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Keywords : *slum, urbanization, development.*

GJHSS-C Classification : *FOR Code: 160810*



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Urban Poor Living in Slums: A Case Study of Raipur City in India

Dr. Sribas Goswami [α] & Prof. Samita Manna [σ]

Abstract - The appearance of slums may be seen as a byproduct in the process of urbanization in a developing country like India. Cities are a part of the fundamental changes in the society leading to socio-economic development and modernization. The cities, irrespective of their size, provide possibilities of varied occupations and collective services, such as health, education, cultural, technological, commercial or industrial services and thus act as focal points of development opportunities. In spite of Raipur's prominent role in the economy of the region, urban population and especially the urban poor face serious problems due to population pressure, deterioration in the physical environment and quality of life. Eventually, the size and spread of slums in this area not only help us to identify that they are not anomalous and pathological phenomena on the urban setting but also a manifestation of urban poverty that is still predominant in the urban economy in India.

Land and housing being issues of state concern, India's Central Government's role in improving slums is more important by providing financial resources and establishing legal & administrative framework for undertaking various activities that benefit slum dwellers. In addition, Central Government has also played an important role in channelizing funds and technical assistance received from International and bilateral agencies to the State Government and Municipal Corporation. The strategies and priorities for improving slums are evolving over time and new initiatives are adapted based on the experiences gained by implementing many schemes launched over previous plan periods. The study will focus on how Government helps to enable poor urban residents to take advantage of economic opportunities by equipping them with education, skills, and good health. Government is now working on proper urban development plans together with all the major stakeholders. The paper deals with issues like Human capital improvements, particularly requirement of basic infrastructure and services, such as water, sanitation, solid waste management, land registration, educational and vocational training, access to appropriate basic health care (free or subsidized) and financial support. To improve the lives of people who live in slums and informal settlements requires community empowerment, good local governance, dialogue among all stakeholders and political commitment from the State.

Keywords : *slum, urbanization, development.*

I. Introduction

A slum is a compact area of overcrowded populations, poorly built congested dwelling condition, unhygienic environment usually with inadequate infrastructure and lacking in proper sanitary and drinking water facilities. Living conditions in slums have a direct impact on people's health. One of the major challenges that face urban planners globally is the proliferation of slums in urban areas and the host of health hazards that they bring along with their wake. However, the prolific spread of slums has been a rampant problem in urban areas worldwide. The living conditions in slums are usually unhygienic and contrary to all norms of planned urban growth. Human development and improvement in the quality of life is the ultimate objective of all planning programmes leading to higher economic and social development. There exists a very strong linkage between attaining economic prosperity and enriching the quality of life, which is reflected in the social indicators of health, longevity, literacy and environmental sustainability. These indicators serve as valuable inputs for developing suitable policy initiatives. In true sense, environment development with progressive transformation of economy and society with its major objectives lie in the satisfaction of human needs and aspirations. Country like India is vast culturally and geographically in which we have 28 states and 7 union territories. Present study is a humble attempt to explore the environmental scenario of Raipur city- capital of Chhattisgarh (A state of India).

The people in slums live under the most deplorable conditions, with little access to effective social and health care services, potable water, sanitation facilities and are therefore more vulnerable to epidemics and developmental challenges. Their low socio-economic status, low level of education and high fertility and mortality- all indicate that they need special attention in terms of public health, family planning and reproductive health programs. However, unfortunately reverse is the case with such segments of slum population. Rapid slummification has caused wide spread of environmental degradation in the city. The government has conceded that despite imposition of regulatory measures, the magnitude of pollution from industrial sources in the city has not shown any appreciable decrease during the last few years. Increase in pollution levels in slum areas is also fuelled by ever-growing traffic.

The movement of large number of rural migrants to the urban areas has far reaching social implications in transforming the nature and character of

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urbanization in India. The migrants move into the city not only physically but also bring along their culture, style of life, values, etc. The new groups are trying to gain access to the city's socio-economic system, often by forming communities of their own, in competition with the old groups of more educated, skilled and affluent urban dwellers who create dichotomies and tensions. The emerging urbanizing society is increasingly becoming a rural-urban environment, both as a way of life and physical form. It must be understood that the rapidly expanding urban environment is not taking shape as a simple projection of the economic and social structure of the past.

Slum in Raipur city mostly developed surrounding the city center, where more affluent citizens, who have moved to the city, have abandoned property taken over by the poor. Although the immediate environment deteriorates because of the crowding, pollution, wealthy, and middle-class families, including those who have fallen on hard times, hangs on to their properties. "The root cause of urban slumming seems to lie not in urban poverty but in urban wealth" (Verma, 2002).

Raipur city and leading forces of development-

- *City Population and Economic Changes*
  - Urban population is increasing rapidly
  - Urban population soon numerically dominant
  - Urban economic activities driving national economics
  - Havoc changes in communication systems
- *Global Economic Factors*
  - Globalization
  - Market liberalization
  - Rapid technological change
  - Localization
- *Global Political Factors*
  - Decentralization
  - Devolution
  - Rise of Governance- moving beyond government
  - Rise of municipal civic leadership

As aforesaid, slum settlements have been in existence from a long time, in the sense that an individual other than the land owner has built houses with or without the consent of the land owner. But they were not illegal 'slum' settlements as we define and categorize them today. The term 'slum' is in fact a more recent western-initiated development. This delineation of such informal or spontaneous settlements as slum settlements represented a growing change in attitude from outright hostility to that of support and protection. Urbanization poses several socio-economic and environmental problems for cities in India and one among them is the rise of slums. In Raipur the following reasons of growth of slums can broadly be summarized namely-

- Land encroachment
- Locational incompatibility
- Unplanned development
- Unauthorized construction
- Temporary/semi-permanent structures
- Absence / inadequacy of basic amenities.

The key question may be asked here is why do people live in slums? Here there are two reasons for this: one is internal to the slums, and the other is external. Internal reasons include, lack of collateral assets; lack of savings and other financial assets; daily wage or low-income jobs (which in many cases are semi-permanent or temporary). External reasons include high cost of land and other housing services; apathy and antipathy on the part of the government to assist them; high acceptable building standards and rules and regulations; loop sided planning and zoning legislation.

II. Objectives of Study

The present study mainly focuses on the several aspects of slum development in Raipur city. The main thrust of this study is to examine various concerns of slums. The following objectives have been framed for the present study. These are follows:

1. To examine the demographic characteristics of slum dwellers.
2. To examine the nature and extent of slum and factors responsible for growth.
3. To evaluate the people's participation in slum improvement programme.
4. To know the living conditions and infrastructural facilities available in the slum areas.
5. To study the health and nutrition level of slum dwellers.
6. To explore the level of general awareness among the residents of slums.
7. To see the various policy measures and programmes initiated by the government.
8. To review the environmental aspects of the city.
9. To identify the problems and constraints of slum development.

a) Selection of Slums

Raipur city has total 154 slums in which 135 slums are declared formally by the government located in various places within the city boundary. Some of these are situated in the heart of the city. It should be noted that out of 135 slums only few are densely populated whereas others are thinly populated. These slums have 22777 dwelling units with total population 1, 59,120. According to the demographic characteristic a list is prepared on the basis of population size and the list is stratified accordingly with two phases namely East

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and West phase. Two slums from each phase are taken as sample covered with all the components are selected for in-depth survey. During the process of selection of these slums, following factors are taken into consideration: (a) large population with diversified characteristics: (b) they should have been covered with socio-economic programmes. It is found that large slums are mostly situated in the East and the West part of the city. So samples are taken from the highest populated slums from Eastern and Western phase of the city as these four slums have greater opportunity to represent the slum community of Raipur as a whole. In the east Gandhinagar and Moulipara both are big slums in terms of population and size and have 5782 and 4830 population respectively. Both slums have 957 and 878 numbers of families in each. From west part Kushalpur and Kota Basti are highest populated slums which have 6021 and 1037 population respectively. The number of families are 1003 and 166 in each. The data have been collected from secondary and primary sources. The study was conducted in 2012.

b) General Information of Respondents Residing in Slums

According to the information collected from three hundred respondents about their age, four persons belong to 14 years group, 290 persons belong to 15 - 59 years age category and six persons are found to lay the category of 60 years and above.

The sex composition of the respondents is almost same in which male is 52.33% and female is 47.66%.

The caste as a social stratification plays predominant role in our social life specially in India; it helps us to understand the social fabric. In the present study 41.33% people belong to general caste where as 34% belong to SC (Schedule Caste) and 11.66% ST (Schedule Tribe) and 13% belong to OBC (Other Backward Class). Most of the ST people are dwelling here for a long time. Another important aspect of our social life is religion. It has been observed that 63.33% people belong to Hindu religion. 18.66% are the followers of Muslim religion and 8% respondents are Christian. During the field work it is noticed that 8% people have been converted to Christianity from other religion. Rest 10% people belong to other religion such as Sikhism, Jainism etc.

All respondents can speak Hindi fluently and at the same time they know their mother tongue also. 68.33% respondents' mother tongue is Hindi, and 21.66% speak Oriya at home. While communicating within their own community 3.33% respondents speak Telegu. Remaining persons speak other languages like Bengali, Marathi, and Tamil etc (regional languages). Here one remarkable phenomenon is noted that maximum people other than Hindi speaking are residing in these slums from 2nd or 3rd generations. It is very encouraging that 92% people are literate. They can read and write. In the present study it has been observed that 98% respondents are married and 2% respondents are widow. Present study also shows that 65.66% respondents are working or acting as money earner. But 34.34% respondents are not working because their family member earns. 1.66% respondents' monthly income is up to Rs.1000. But 28% respondents earn money in between Rs.1001-Rs. 2000, 17.33% respondents monthly income lie in between Rs.2001-Rs. 5000, where as 19.66% earn more than Rs. 5000.

III. Findings from the Study: Some Facts

a) Environmental Aspects of Slums

Environmental changes may be driven by many factors including economic growth, population growth, urbanization, intensification of agriculture, rising energy use and transportation. Poverty still remains a problem at the root of several environmental problems. Poverty is responsible to be both cause and effect of environmental degradation. The circular link between poverty and environment is an extremely complex phenomenon. Inequality may foster unsustainability because the poor, who depend on natural resources more than the rich, deplete natural resources faster as they have no real prospects of gaining access to other types of resources. Moreover, degraded environment can accelerate the process of impoverishment as the poor depend directly on natural assets.

Protection of the environment has to be a central part of any sustainable inclusive growth strategy. This aspect of development is vital and especially focused on Eleventh Plan (Prepared by Government of India) when consciousness of the dangers of environmental degradation has shown significantly. More recently, the issue draws special importance because of the accumulation of evidence of global warming and the associated atmospheric change that environmental degradation is likely to bring. The phenomenon of rapid urbanization in conjunction with industrialization has resulted in the growth of slums. The growing up of slums occur due to many factors, such as the shortage of developed land for housing, the high prices of land beyond the reach of urban poor, and a large influx of rural migrants to the cities in search of jobs etc. The existence of 'urban slums' is one of the major problems faced by almost all the metropolitan cities throughout the world and Indian cities are no exception. Environmental degradation is a result of the dynamic interplay of socio-economic, institutional and technological activities.

Sources of Solid Waste

IV. Municipal Solid Wastes

The "Municipal Solid Waste" includes commercial and residential wastes generated in

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municipal or notified areas in either solid or semi-solid form excluding industrial hazardous wastes but including treated bio-medical wastes.

a) Domestic Waste

Daily waste comes from 1,14,819 (2001 Census) houses in Raipur city consisting of household waste, kitchen, house cleaning, old papers, packing, bottles, crockery wares, furnishing materials, garden trimmings, etc.

b) Trade & Commercial Waste

In Raipur city daily it comes from 12,624 units of business premises, shops, offices, markets, departmental stores (paper, packing material, spoiled-/discarded goods), organic, inorganic, chemically reactive and hazardous waste.

c) Institutional Waste

Schools, colleges, hospitals, large hotels and restaurants, markets selling vegetables, fruits, meat, fish, wastes from slaughter houses, food packaging industries, cold storage units, community halls, religious places, etc are the major source of industrial waste. The city is having 400 educational institutions (schools, colleges, etc.) and 420 hotels (restaurants, lodge and guest houses) and 500 hospitals (poly clinics, dispensaries, general hospitals, etc.).

d) Street Sweeping

The city is having 970 km of road length. The main sources of this waste are unconcerned throwing, garbage by walker and vehicular traffic, stray animals, roadside tree leaves, waste from drain cleansing, debris, etc.

e) Debris or Construction Rejects

Frequent digging of roads by various utilities comprising earth, brickbats, stones, wooden logs etc, generates from contemn activities.

Table 1 : Basic Infrastructures in City Slums

Service	Units	Corporation	Other areas
Roads	Km	826	352
Sewer lines Drains	Km	0	0
Storm Water	Km	386	138
Community Latrines	Seat	80	20
Street lights	No	1520	355
Drinking Water Supply Piped Supply	Km	75	112
Drinking Water Supply public stand post	No	110	50

Source, City Development Plan, Raipur City

It must be noted that Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation / Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has launched a scheme namely Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS).

- The scheme envisages conversion of dry latrines into low cost twin pit sanitary latrines and construction of new individual toilets where none exists.
- The scheme has been taken up on a `whole town basis' meaning thereby all sections of population of the town (HIG, MIG, LIG & EWS) are presently covered by the ILCS guidelines.
- The scheme is being operated through the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) by providing a mix of subsidy from the Central Government and loan from the HUDCO.

f) Health Conditions: Food and Nutrition Level in Slums

Health is a major economic issue for slum residents. The unhealthy physical environment leads to sickness, demanding for continuing medical treatment, which means reduction of workdays and economic loss. Economic loss leads to inability to invest in clean environment. The vicious cycle continues. Treatment at government hospitals is apparently cheaper, but is inconvenient to the slum residents (because of time loss in waiting for the treatment and often, indifferent attitude of the medical staff) instead; they prefer more expensive private treatment.

The growth of slum areas and concentration of the poor people in the slums is a rather depressing aspect of urbanization. Majority of the slum dwellers who live there, belong to lower socio-economic class and have migrated to the city with the hope of better means of livelihood. Having basically low education, skill and work experience, they have no choice in the competitive job market and pick up lowly paid jobs such as construction labourer, domestic servants, casual factory workers and petty trading business. With their meagre income, they are forced to live in slum areas in the most unsanitary and unhygienic conditions, and are carrying out their existence with the barest necessities of life. Even if people have some money, they do not invest it in house improvement, because of its temporary status or illegal occupation of the public lands and constant threat of eviction. Therefore, the housing of the slum dwellers is of lower quality. Poor housing

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conditions, overcrowded environment, poor sanitation, occupational hazards, group rivalries and clashes, stressful conditions together with lack of open space for children's recreation etc. are detrimental to the health of people in the slums. An overview of women's and children's health status presents a sobering picture. Deaths and illnesses are highest among poor women in the world wide and among women in developing countries particularly (Davis, 1962). In addition to the suffering of women, yet another cause of concern is their almost apathetic attitude towards their own health and its management during illness. Women are found to seek treatment only when their health problem caused great physical discomfort or when it affects their work performance. The situation with respect to women's and children's health in the urban slums is not different; rather their health is neglected the most. Insecurity related to regular income, food, shelter, access to health care and other essential services, along with poverty and difficult physical and social environments, such as exploitation and abuse in the treatment of women, have an adverse impact on the health of the urban poor women.

V. Types and Frequency of Consumption of Food

Quality of food is major concerned for the slum dwellers. Taking nutritious foods and frequency of consumption of foods is important determinate of good health. Poor water and sanitary conditions lead to adverse health outcomes in the households living in the slums. Specially the women and children in the slums are most vulnerable section. So here the study will reveal the actual health scenario by providing fowling data. Protein energy intake is widely low in urban slums. According to experts, protein is one of the key components of proper diet and more than half of Raipur populations suffer from malnutrition. Protein deficiency hinders physical growth of children and their brain development. As milk is expensive, 20 amino acids can be obtained in eggs and 10 of them are important for children. Poultry and eggs are first class sources of protein. A large amount of vegetable protein can be found in some food items like peas, beans, pulses, but 20 amino acids are not available in them (Zannat, 2008). This study shows that the most frequently consumed food items are generally the potatoes, fresh vegetables, sweets and eggs. Most of these items are both relatively cheap and typical of the slum diet. In contrast, butter, soft drinks, milk and ghee are the least frequently consumed items. These are also relatively expensive and are not considered essential to the diet, particularly among persons with low income. The consumption of fruits, snacks and sweets is very highly significant. All these items are relatively inexpensive and are regularly eaten not only at home but also on every special and auspicious occasion. Moreover, the practice of offering these items to guests or as gifts is prevalent among Chhattisgarhi's regardless of socio-economic status. They are also routinely offered to various Hindu deities and then consumed by the devotees on every religious occasion. Rationing system in slums is not effective.

a) Several aspects of human development in slums

For a very long time, economists have measured well being of societies, economies and people by the yardstick of income. Growth was measured on the basis of economic indicators like per capita income, production and productivity of the economy, and the status of employment. In effect, an economy that produced more goods and services than another was deemed to be better off. Growth was consequently measured by the increase of aggregate income in an economy. In the last few decades, however, this approach has been challenged by a growing perception that 'the objective of human development is not simply to produce more goods and services for material enrichment, but to increase the capabilities of all people to lead full, productive and satisfying lives.' (HDR, Chhattisgarh 2003).

Human Development Reports have asserted that human development is the process of enlargement of people's choices. They have highlighted that there are three essential elements of human development – to enable people to lead long and healthy lives, to access knowledge and education and to possess the resources needed for a reasonable standard of living. Consequently, three areas have been identified as being of primary social concern – health, education and material well-being. The dimensions of development have not been studied systematically for Chhattisgarh so far. The Human Development Report provides the basis for an assessment of its development. Equity (in income, in access to education, in health and gender equity), good governance and sustainable development are a few areas that require urgent attention in the State. The notion of human wellbeing itself is more broadly conceived to include, not only consumption of goods and services but also the accessibility of all sections of the population, especially the deprived and those who are living below the normative minimal poverty line, to the basic necessities of a productive and socially meaningful life. Such a conceptualization of welfare encompasses individual attainments in areas of education and knowledge; health and longevity; as well as in the quality of overall social and physical environment of people. A specific focus on these aspects of development is necessary, as experience shows that economic prosperity measured in terms of per capita income. It does not always ensure enrichment in quality of life reflected in broader dimensions of well-being like in indicators on longevity, literacy or, for that matter, environmental sustainability. Attainments in

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these dimensions of welfare are desirable in themselves; hence, they are socially valued. They are also desirable because of their instrumental value in sustaining the development process and enlarging available opportunities and choices for people. While equality in development outcomes may not be a feasible goal of equity and social justice, such an approach to human wellbeing emphasizes equality in opportunities for all in the process of development. This study demonstrates that socio-economic development, emancipative cultural change and democratization constitute a coherent syndrome of social progress – a syndrome whose common focus has not been properly specified by classical modernization theory. Here this syndrome is specified as 'human development', arguing that its three components have a common focus on broadening human choice. Socio-economic development gives people the objective means of choice by increasing individual resources; rising emancipative values strengthen people's subjective orientation towards choice; and democratization provides legal guarantees of choice by institutionalizing freedom rights. Analysis of data from the World Values Surveys demonstrates that the linkage between individual resources, emancipative values and freedom rights is universal in its presence across nations, regions and cultural zones.

Poor societies, whose citizens suffer from inadequate resources most obviously in India, tend to be dominated by conformity values that reflect constraints on human autonomy. These societies are usually governed by authoritarian regimes. Even if they have a democratic constitution, such formal democracies seldom operate effectively because highly corrupt elites deprive people of their rights (Heller 2000). This chapter covers social security, occupational mobility, provision for weaker section, participation in decision making process, social justice and cultural development of slum dwellers.

Although, India is experiencing significant economic growth, the gap between the rich and the poor is still widening. No obvious benefit can be observed for the poor and under privileged. One of the reasons identified is that the large population of the underprivileged youth residing in urban slums completely lack or have negligible vocational skills, which prevents them from taking advantage of the vast employment opportunities in the cities of India. There is a mismatch between the skilled manpower required and skilled manpower available. Every year, thousands of graduates are churned out but they do not have the specific skill sets that are required by the market. If this trend persists, it will impact the economic growth of the city in the long run.

b) Social security for urban poor

Social Security refers to social programmes that provide set of benefits available from the government or civil society. These meet social needs of the individual against socially recognized conditions like infirmity, unemployment, old age and poverty. These programmes may be contributory or non-contributory in nature. Urban poor are group of individuals who have constraints to opportunities and who are living in absolute or relative poverty in urban areas. Generally the unorganized marginalized groups are socially discriminated from organized counterparts which increase the gap of social security. These marginalized get low wages; their wages are inadequate to meet their families physiological, social and security needs if they are self-employed. Slum dwellers get entangled in the vicious cycle of low education, low skills, high exploitation web and they never get an opportunity to upgrade their skills to secure better jobs in formal sector. They also move from one improvised area to urban slum with no consolidation of their working status and virtually no increment in spite of long association with their employer. This further degrades their standard of living and makes them susceptible to immoral and illegal practices.

Although, Government organizations have passed some acts on social security benefits like 'Minimum Wages Act', 'Maternity Benefit Act', 'Equal Remuneration Act', 'Building and Other Construction Workers Act', 'Workmen's Compensation Act', and 'Contract Labour Act', but they are partially implemented in totality because of ill-informed workers and lack of awareness. The government has passed the 'Unorganized Workers Social Security Bill' which ensures security of the informal sector too, wherein it covers ten social security schemes like pension, maternity insurance, general insurance, welfare scheme for artisans and weavers and health insurance. There is an eager need for unemployment insurance too, which should also include retirement and old age pension and some other fringe benefits. Trade Unions in India have primarily represented the workers of organized sector which comprise a merely eight percent of workforce. The rest of them has labor regulations and are totally unprotected with no social security. In Raipur several urban poverty alleviation programmes are under implementation.

Some Central Government sponsored Programmes are mentioned here.

- Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozggar Yojna
- National Slum Development Programme
- Balika Samrudhi Yojna
- Special Nutrition Programme
- Individual Latrines- Low Cost Sanitation Programme
- VAMBAY
- Some State Government sponsored Programmes as follows:
- Rajiv Nagar Bata Programme
- Urban Programme for Advancement of Household Income

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- Rajiv Yuva Sakthi
- Welfare Programme Sponsored by Women, SC, ST Minorities and Other
- Corporations

Some Raipur Municipal Corporation sponsored Programmes are mentioned here.

- Indira Sahara Yojna
- Samajik Pension Yojna
- Briddha Pension Yojna
- Goswara

c) Amenities Stated for Urban Poor in 11th Five Year Plan (Government of India).

The Eleventh Plan recognizes slum dwellers, most of who are employed in the informal sector, as important contributors to cities' economy. Even though relocation of slums may sometimes be inevitable, appropriate measures need to be taken to ensure that the slum dwellers, especially women, do not lose access to livelihood opportunities and basic amenities. Today, almost 30–40% of India's urban population lives in slums. Over 62% of this population does not have access to sanitation services and 25% does not have access to water. Since it is generally women who fetch water, they spend much of their time and energy at water pumps, in water queues, or walking to other colonies. The Asian Development Bank (2007) estimates that India's housing shortage is as high as 40 million units, suggesting that more than 200 million people are living in chronically poor housing conditions or on the pavements. In the absence of toilets, poor women are forced to defecate in public places such as railway tracks, parks, open spaces, or even public pavements. Not only do they feel ashamed by this, but it is a serious health and security hazard as they can only use these public spaces in the dark. Thus provision of clean drinking water, toilets, and sanitation in urban slums will be an important challenge for ensuring gender justice in the Eleventh Plan. Women need to participate in public office because they have particular experiences of, and relationships to, the urban environment, and they have proved themselves to be effective agents of change at the city or local level on a range of issues (Beall, 1995).

VI. Conclusion

The rapid growth of urban population poses serious challenges in terms of provision of basic minimum services. Slums are an outcome of an imbalance in urban growth resulting from over-concentration of economic resources in Raipur. The experience of Raipur, Integrated Slum Development Programme (ISD) offers in a way, a vision for slum areas, in which the slums may be considered an integral part of the city and planning. ISD is basically a process of integrating slums into the mainstream of the city. This process itself can connect the natural creative abilities of all city residents and institutions to provide opportunities and viable solutions. It is a process of planning with the slum dwellers themselves.

Slum problems are widespread and multidimensional in nature; therefore they can be solved by comprehensive programmes. Infrastructural development and civic amenities are required adequately. After bifurcation, Raipur's formation as capital has brought qualitative and quantitative changes among the slum dwellers. Environmental degradation is general phenomenon in slum. Therefore, a system has to be evolved whereby the garbage from slums can be collected from each household and placed in the nearest big garbage collection depots or transaction stations, and after that it can be cleaned by municipal services. Improved hygienic conditions with increased awareness on preventive social medicine can reduce the health hazards in slum residents. It is noted that a bulk number slum dwellers don't believe in *casteism, untouchablity*, and *pardah* (superstitions) system. A very few number of residents feel inferiority complex as they reside in substandard living condition compared with the mainstream society. Raipur slum dwellers are still far from standard quality of life. With the growing urbanization and growth in the number of slums and slum population, there is a need for more and more community managed programmes than administration managed programme to improve slum areas. The study has clearly brought out the institutional gap at the community level as also lag in organization and leadership. If the objectives of the government is to make provision for basic human needs, there is need to emphasis and strengthen institutions at the community level in the form of neighborhood committees and to support nongovernmental efforts – either individual or institutional or else. In conclusion, while the problems of urban poverty in poor are enormous, it is perhaps relevant to note that some of the solutions are relatively clear. This is particularly the case in terms of the provision of physical infrastructure and in the area of human capital. The task is to implement; the problem is to overcome the political and economic constraints.

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