

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary:

1. Population and Household Size:

The survey registered a total population of 5943 persons (56 per cent male and 44 per cent female) in the sample slums of Delhi/New Delhi. This population constitutes into 1250 households. The average size of the household works out as 4.75 persons. Barring the JJ Camp Indra market, RK Puram (which has a higher household size as 6.74), this average ranges from 3.64 to 5.76 persons per household (Table 1). This little variation in the size of households from one slum to another does not create any unfavourable situation to provide a certain level of essential services, viz. water supply and toilets at community level.

A large number of households, inhabiting in the 25 sampled slums are Hindu which make 90 per cent of the total households. The households living in 10 sampled slums, are exclusively, Hindu. Thus, the majority of the households in the sampled slums are Hindu and around 57 per cent households belong to Scheduled Castes (SC) while 11 per cent belong to Scheduled Tribes (ST).

A sizeable number of households (around 89 per cent) were having ration cards, which enabled them to buy rice, sugar, and wheat at a subsidized price. In case of JJ cluster, Okhla Industrial Area and Sonia Gandhi Camp, Paschim Vihar, 50 per cent and 44 per cent households were not having ration cards, respectively.

Out of 1250 sampled slum households, around 96 per cent of the households are migrants. The analysis of migrants according to their stay in the slums, reveals that 91 per cent of the total households migrated more than 5 years ago. Reasons for migration are : (1) better employment opportunity – 78% (2) Friends and Relatives – 14% and (3) Locational reason – 7%. Thus, the analysis reveals that most of the households migrated due to economic reasons.

2. Monthly Income Pattern:

The monthly household income has been computed by aggregating the incomes of the earning members of the household. It was observed that the respondents were hesitant to disclose their households income. On persistent probing, the respondents indicated their household incomes, which is on the lower side. The analysis reveals that about three fourth of the households have monthly incomes in the middle ranges, i.e. Rs. 1500-2900 and Rs. 3000-4999. In view of the average size of household (4.75), the per capita income works out Rs. 7,584/- against \$450 at a national level per annum. The households having such lower incomes may be eligible for receiving benefits from any scheme of things.

The facts reveal that around 47 per cent households heads are unskilled daily wage earners while a little less than one fourth are the skilled daily wage earners. The remaining household heads, involved in petty business, private sectors and government jobs are 10.96 per cent, 7.84 per cent and 6.72 per cent, respectively. Out of 25 sampled slums, 4 slums are having hundred per cent unskilled daily wage earners. In case of JJ cluster Tata Nagar, Gurgaon road 70 per cent household heads are government servants. The aforesaid notable existence of unskilled daily wage earners may be the cause of low wages and low monthly income levels.

3. Housing Profile:

The high costs of associated infrastructure have made the proper housing inaccessible to the slum dwellers. As far as the area is concerned, there is a great variation on the areas occupied by the slum dwellers of the 25 sampled slums. A little over one fifth of the households occupy the area in the range of 6-7.5 square metres. About 12 per cent of the households occupy areas less than 3 square metres. Similarly 12 per cent and 15 per cent of the households occupying areas in the range of 3-4.5 and 4.5-6 square metres, respectively. The small proportion of the households falls in different area ranges.

In case of the sampled slums no. 20, 19 and 3 about 100 per cent, 82 per cent and 78 per cent of the households occupy less than 3 square metres. A sizeable number of the households in sample slums no. 23, 18, 17, 16 and 7 occupy the land areas in the range of 3-7.5 square metres. However, a notable number of the households of sampled slum no. 8, 6 and 5 are living in an area of more than 22.5 square metres.

A little less than two third of the households live in semi-pucca houses. Nearly one fourth of the households live in pucca houses. However, only 12 per cent households are living in kutchha houses. About 85 per cent of the households living in the sampled slums have their own houses as a result the number of households living in pucca and semi pucca houses are more. However, only 15 per cent of the households are living in a rented accommodation. The dwelling units in the 25 sampled slums are substantially used for residential purpose. A little less than 5 per cent of the household stated that they use their dwelling units for residential as well as commercial purposes.

4 Water Supply:

The slum localities are the worst affected places in the net work of water supply system. The household survey of 1250 households of 25 sampled slums reveals that these households contingent on different sources of water. It is to note that around 48 per cent of total households draw water from public stand posts. A little more than one fourth of the households have their own private connections. Nearly, one fifth of the total household fetch water from hand pumps.

In case of sampled slums no. 4,5,6,8,9 and 17, all the households are having private connections, while all the households in the sampled slums no. 3,7,11,14,19,20,22 and 24 draw water from public stand post. However, the households of sampled slum no. 16,18,23 and 25 fetch water from hand pumps only. It is to be noted that all the households in sampled slum no. 2 (Jagdamba Camp, Malviya Nagar) depend on one tubewell. It is interesting to note that in

case of JJ cluster, Okhla Industrial Area (sample no. 12) 46 per cent of the households get water from tankers or nearby factories' water taps.

Around a little less than half of the households fetch water from a distance of 15-30 metres. Nearly, 40 per cent of the household stated the distance of less than 15 metres. Only 12 per cent of the households mentioned that they get water from a distance exceeding 30 metres.

A little over 15 per cent respondents indicated that the water supply is inadequate. However, 516 respondents households (41 per cent of the total) pointed out that they get adequate water while 411 households (33 per cent of the total households) state that they sometimes get adequate water supply especially during winter months when the water consumption is low in comparison to summer months. Reasons for not getting adequate water are: viz. long queues, short duration of water supply, too far to go and low pressure.

5. Sanitation:

Amongst the sampled households in Delhi slums, only 17 per cent of the households have their own toilets. A little less than half of the households prefer to go to open space and nearly 32 per cent use community toilets.

It is interesting to note that nearly 53 per cent of the total households (excluding 207 households who have their own toilets) were found willing to have private toilets. Regarding bathrooms, the analysis reveals that a little less than one fourth of the total respondent households have their own bathrooms. Around one fourth of the households use community bathrooms and 36 per cent take bath at the public stand posts. The remaining 16 per cent of the households use other modes for bathing purpose. The norm suggests one bathroom for 20-50 persons but the situation is grim in this regard.

6. Garbage Disposal:

It is to be mentioned that out of 25 sampled slums, 13 sampled slums have dustbins/dhalaos in or nearby these slums. The households of the sampled slums are not having dustbins or dhalaos, were asked about the garbage disposal system existing in their settlements. The respondent households in the sampled slum no. 22, 23 and 24 reported that garbage is collected from the dustbins regularly. In the sampled slums no. 7,19,21 and 25 garbage is collected once in a week. The households of the sampled slums no. 8, 9 and 15 stated that garbage is collected once in a month. However, the households of sampled slums no. 4,6 and 17 indicated that there is no system of garbage collection in their slums, the garbage is collected on their repeated requests and some slums do not have this facility at all. The analysis does not give a happy picture of garbage collection in the sampled slums.

7. Health:

Attempts were made to know the health services/facilities available in or around the slum clusters. The survey of the sampled slums reveals that out of 25 sampled slums, only 7 slums have health facilities, viz. government hospitals/dispensary or private hospitals/dispensaries.

8. Electricity

It is worth mentioning that 963 households (77 per cent of the total households) have illegal connections. The legal system of providing the electricity in some of the dwelling unit is very unique. In this system, every household pays the electricity charges on flat rate basis. This drive (contractual system) has been introduced in the recent past. In view of the aforesaid illegal connections, it may be suggested to eliminate such type of connections so that the pilteration of electricity may be checked.

Recommendations:

The whole situational analysis of the sampled slums does not represent the happy picture of the slums of Delhi. There is need to improve the environment of the slums as well as the quality of life by the result oriented implementing schemes/programmes. Evidently the population of Delhi's slums has been increasing very rapidly (Due to huge construction works) for last many years, which leads to the heavy demand for basic amenities. In other words, the rapid increase in the slum population exerts immense pressure on the existing services, which becomes inadequate to the slum dwellers. Moreover, the MCD/NDMC does not review the status of the slums time to time; as a result the condition of the slums becomes worse day by day. Keeping in view the aforesaid problems, the MCD/NDMC will have to take some necessary actions to solve the problems of the slums. However, it is not possible to take up all the problems at one go. Priorities have to be fixed. Accordingly, following recommendations may be submitted for the improvement or up gradation of the slums.

1. In order to improve or upgrade the slums the local body should review the condition of the slums periodically. The norms and standards should be revised at a fixed interval of time, as the efforts were underway to revise the percapita allocation from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1000/- during the 9 the Five Year Plan but no change has been made in this regard even in the beginning of the 10th five Year Plan.
2. To evaluate the implementation and impact of the programme, a review committee may be constituted having the representation of Chief Town Planner, Mayors and Commissioners of the civic authorities concerned and officials from other service departments viz. education health etc. This review committee may meet at least once in three months and try to suggest/coordinate corrective actions in case of lapses in the implementation of the scheme.

3. As the data base/information available in the municipal corporations is poor, there is a need for developing an information system, i.e. constituting a cell within each civic authority which should deal exclusively with slums.
4. In some of the slums, basic minimum services are absent or inadequate; moreover, the services provided under any scheme are not maintained properly. It may be suggested that the services should be maintained on regular basis. If the maintenance of the services is contracted out to a private sector, the local body should strictly monitor the maintenance part.
5. The cleaning of garbage from the dumping sites, provision adequate drainage and pavement of path may be taken up on top priority. As the analysis revealed that around half of the households go to open space for defecation, the provision of the community latrines would of great help especially for the women. It may also be suggested that instead of putting up all the community latrines at one site, these may be scattered in different points of the slum. A group of households, using a particular latrine may be made responsible for its proper maintenance.
6. Inadequate supply of water is one of major problems in the slums of Delhi. It may be suggested that the public stand posts should be provided as per norms and maintained properly. The efforts should be to increase the duration of the supply of water. If it is not possible to increase the supply of water, the tankers may supply the water regularly. In some of the slums of Delhi, viz. J J Cluster, near Okhla fruits and vegetable market, Jagdamba colony, near khirki village J J cluster Okhla industrial area etc., water is being supplied by the tankers once in a week or fortnightly after repeated request. The supply of water by tanker should be at least twice a week in the summer months.
7. As the medical facilities are lacking in many of the sampled slums and slum dwellers have to go to dispensaries/hospitals or doctors located far from the slums, it is felt that the medical check up of the slum dwellers, especially children and women, is essential before starting any health scheme for them. This is the task of the local body or state government to check the patient and

give them treatment at the site. the more serious patient could be referred to government hospitals. For this purpose, opening of dispensaries in the slums or sending of the mobile dispensary vans in the slums is advisable.

8. A large number of the households (around 89 per cent) are having ration cards but in some sampled slums half or less than half of the households do not have ration cards. As a part of any nutrition programme, the issue of rations cards to the entire slum dwellers should be taken on priority basis so that they can get essential items at subsidized rates.
9. In order to improve the quality of life of the slum dwellers some up gradation activities may be started in the slums by formulating financing and monitoring schemes. An improvement in the household income of the slum dwellers is an important task for their overall welfare. It is, therefore, suggested to introduce the income generation schemes especially for women. Such a step will contribute to the economy of the household, thereby upgrading their nutritional and housing standards and other things (quality of life). The women may engage themselves at least in the primary sector activities, viz. rearing of cattle, running poultry, pot making etc, if the financial support is provided. Besides these, women could be trained in stitching of clothes, weaving of Dhotis, sarees , knitting of sweaters. The women could also be trained for recycling of waste material and making of paper bags etc.
10. There is a need to increase the level of literacy by introducing various educational programmes. It may also create the awareness among the slum dwellers about the EIUS schemes. Attempts were made to know the condition of the slums, before and after the introduction of the EIUS scheme, but the slum dwellers were not aware about the scheme due to lack education.
11. As mentioned in the analysis that an overwhelming number of households are willing to give their contribution either in physical or monetary terms, it may be suggested to involve the slum dwellers/ their leaders in planning process and in implementation of the EIUS components.