

Family pattern, Dwelling Patterns, Path way (Road) positions and Land tenure status in Slums (with special reference to a slum area of Bhopal)

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Abstract

The present paper presents family and dwelling patterns and road and land tenure status in a slum area. This research paper interprets the family type, average family size and averages family member dependent ratio, the dwelling type, dwelling density size, position (status) of road paths and land tenure status in the investigated slum area. This paper is based on primary source of data and the research was conducted in a slum area of Bhopal city namely Vishwakarma Nagar slum area opposite Habibjang railway station along with main road Hoshangabad Bhopal. The area of research has been selected by purpose sampling and the respondent's size was 300 households which have been chosen through lottery sampling method. After the collection of data from face to face technique (primary source of data collection) with the help of interview schedule, the data was coded and analysed with good research techniques. The investigated study revealed that 75% of respondent's families are nuclear followed by joint families with (20.33%) and single parent families with (4.66%). The single parent families were found mother-centered, which occur due to the separation of wives and husbands, broken marriages and widowhood, and these single parent families were also found in nuclear types. The sizes of the dwellings were observed as 10 feet in length and 12 feet in breadth and some 12 in length 15 feet in breadth and 18% of the respondents have two rooms and majority of people in the study area were found living in single rooms which was highly congested and unhealthy. The gathered data from study area point out that 88.32% (3.66+51.66+33) of the respondents have very narrow streets type roads (2 ½) in front of their dwellings and only 11.66% have little bit wide street road in front of their dwellings. The land on which the research area slum is located was currently under the public BHEL (Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited) GOI (Government of India). It is evident that the slum people who live on this place on temporary basis have fear of eviction as the public BHEL GOI can evict them at any time without any warning.

Key words: slum, pattern, dwelling, tenure, status, eviction, separation.

Introduction

Slum: Slum is a densely, overpopulated and overcrowded area as there are lack of space in dwellings and no gap between jhugges (dwellings). The slum areas are looking such a cobweb of streets as in the area there is no possibility for the slum people to foster any pet or any advantageous animals like cow, goat or hens etc., because of lack of space. In slums people remain always busy with their daily routine life, as women remaining busy in different daily home activities like fetching water for drinking from hand pumps or dug wells far away from their dwellings, washing clothes, house cleaning and busy with their young children. Lives of women in the slums were more difficult as compared to men as they do house hold

works in the absence of infrastructure. Women also have to struggle to maintain household hygiene in the context of poor drainage and sanitation. Women in slums are most vulnerable to sexual harassment or assault when using open areas in the absence of toilets and when sometime they go in to bushes and trees to collect wood for cooking purposes. Children are always playing on small street roads as there is no space for playing in slums. The men in slums are seen busy every time in their different types of daily routine works. The education status of the people in slums remains always low. People in slums are not willing to send their to school as they engage them in earning works like for begging, selling tea and other items on roads and railway stations, shoes polish and other works. The majority of people in the slum areas are engaged in irregular employment in informal sectors. The people in the slums living their lives in jhupari type habitats and their dwelling are made up of very cheap material like Bamboo, Traplin, Straw, Soil bricks, Tin sheets, Wood, Polythene envelope and cement. The people of slums living in single room dwellings with no separate kitchen space facilities in their dwellings and they use their living room and open space for cooking and face serious problems during rainy days. The people in slum areas genuinely live under deplorable conditions as irrespective size and the locations the slum areas are not conducive for human survival.

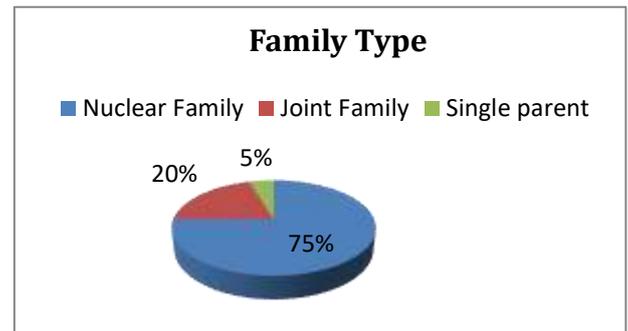
Family Pattern

Family type of the respondents

The family is one of the permanent social institutions which, is one form or the other form, is found in all most all societies of the world. It is one of the means most valued possessions. It is made of individuals and is also a part of the large social network. It is the only the social institution other than religion, which is formally developed in all societies. Almost everyone is born in to a family and establishes one of his own. Three types of families (nuclear, joint and single parent) were found exist among the respondents of this research study. As shown in the table 1.1, that (75%) of respondents families are nuclear families followed by joint family with (20.33%) and single parent families with (4.66%). The single parent families were found mother-cantered, which occur due to the separation of wives and husbands, broken marriages and widowhood, and these single parent families were also found in nuclear types. So in the next two tables namely (respondents average family size/average dependent ratio of family members) i.e. table 1.2 and table 1.3, these single parent nuclear families were add with the nuclear families as in the below table 1.1 there are 225 nuclear families and 14 single parent these become 239 families in the next two tables because of addition of 14 families with 225 families and their percentage would be 89.66%. So a very high proportion 89.66% of respondents has nuclear families.

Table: 1.1**Respondent's family type**

Family type	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Nuclear family	225	75%
Joint family	61	20.33%
Single parents	14	4.66%
Total	300	100%

**Average Family size of the respondents**

The following below table 1.2, discloses that a very high proportion 79.66% of respondents is from nuclear families with 1115 members with family average size of 4.66. These families include parents, their children, and in few cases close relatives, all living together under the same roof. On the other hand a small proportion 20.33% of respondents joint families have on a family average size of 6.70 with 409 members. This poses not only greater overcrowding and absence of privacy in the small residential space but also greater economic hardships. When we combine the average number of members per family of the nuclear family with those of joint families, we arrive at the figure of an average size of (5.08) member per family.

Table: 1.2**Respondent's average family size**

Family Type	Respondents	Average family size	Total Member
Nuclear family	239	4.66	1115
Joint family	61	6.70	409
Total	300	5.08	1524

Average Family member Dependent ratio

By dependent members we mean non earning members who rely on their parents. They constitute children too small or too weak to earn living, unemployable persons, too old, ill and mentally retarded persons. The table 1.3 tells us that the 239 respondents of nuclear families have an average of 3.29 dependent members per family which together add up to 787 members. On the other hand the 61 respondents of joint families have an average of 3.83 dependent members per family which taken together make up an aggregate of 234 members. The total numbers of both types of families come 1221 members, the average of which works out to 3.40 dependent members ratio.

Table: 1.3

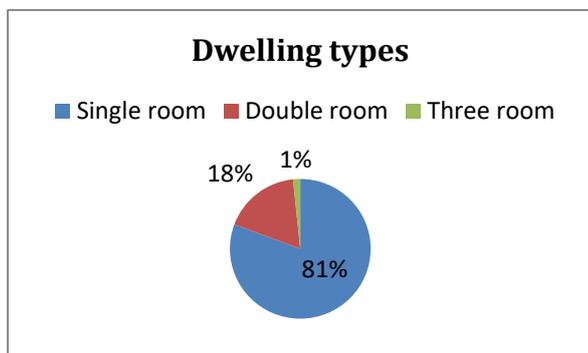
Average dependent ratio of family members

Type	Dependent members	Average income to dependent ratio	Respondents
Nuclear families	787	3.29	239
Joint families	234	3.83	61
Total	1021	3.40	300

Dwelling type

The table 1.4 indicates that 81% of Respondents live in single rooms. The sizes of the dwellings were found during the survey as some dwellings were observed as 10 feet in length and 12 feet in breadth and some 12 in length 15 feet in breadth and 18% of the have two rooms. The chart also reveals that 1% have three rooms. From the below graph/table it appears that majority of people in the area living in single rooms which is highly congested and unhealthy.

Pie chart: 1.4



Dwelling type of respondents

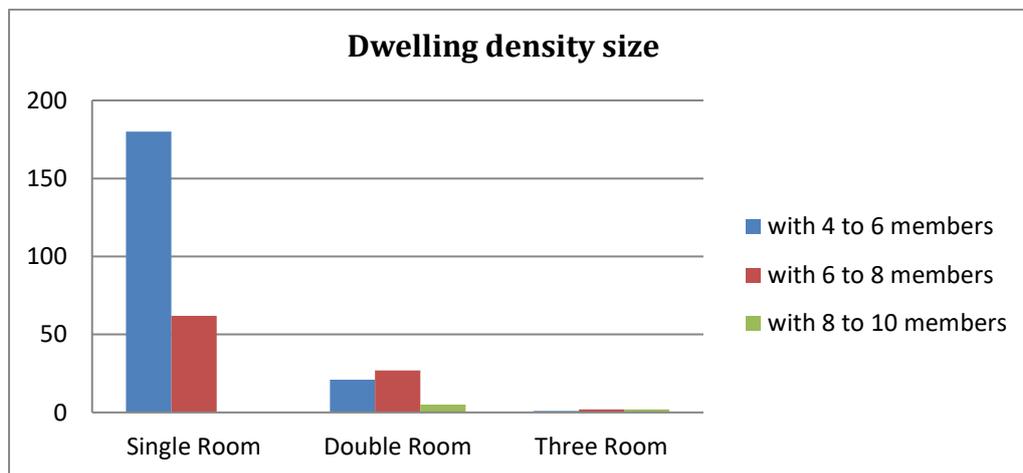
Dwelling type	Percentage
Single room	81%
Double room	18%
Three room	1%

Dwellings density size

The following table represents the dwelling density size of the surveyed households as the table 1.5, indicates that 80.66% of respondents families live in single room dwellings with 4 to 6(180) and 6 to 8(62) members, 17.66% have two dwelling rooms with 4 to 6(21) 6 to 8(27) and 8 to 10(5) members and 1.66% have three room dwellings with 4 to 6 (1), 6 to 8 (2) and 8 to 10 (2) members. The overall impression from the data is that the majority of urban dwellers reside in single rooms with minimum of 4 and maximum of 8 members. The data can be understood clearly through graph which is below mentioned along with below table.

Table: 1.5**Size of dwellings density**

Dwellings	Density size		
	With 4 to 6	With 6 to 8 members	With 8 to 10 members
Single room	180	62	-
Double room	21	27	5
Three room	1	2	2
Total	202	91	7

**Status of road in front of slum dwellings**

The table 1.6 represents the status of street roads inside the study slum area, as the table reveals that 51.66% of people have non motor able pucca roads (street type) of 2 ½ ft narrow in front of their dwellings, and 33% have non motor able katcha 2 ½ ft narrow street type roads ,11.66% having motor able pucca of 3 to 4 feet wide road in front of their dwellings which passes through the slum area and divide it in two parts and 3.66% having non motor able pucca roads of 2 ½ feet street type in front of their dwellings. The overall impression of the data is that 88.32 % (3.66+51.66+33) of the respondents have very narrow streets type roads (2 ½) in front of their dwellings and only 11.66% have little bit wide street road in front of their dwellings.

Table: 1.6**Status of roads inside slum area**

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Motor able pucca	35	11.66%
Motor able katcha	11	3.66%
Non Motor able pucca	155	51.66%
Non Motor able katcha	99	33%
Total	300	100%

Land tenure status

The land on which the research study area slum is located is currently under the public BHEL GOI. It is evident that the people of live on this place on a temporary basis and have fear of eviction as the public BHEL GOI can evict them at any time without any warning. So these poor people are generally vulnerable as they can't protect themselves from being evicted, and once they are evicted from their dwellings they become homeless. The below table 1.7, indicates that 98% of the respondents encroached public BHEL GOI land and 2% are paying rent of 1000 to those who come first and encroached land in some large size and made two or three rooms, as these people give their one of room on rent to boost their economy and themselves live an adjustable life.

Table: 1.7**Respondents land tenure status**

Land tenure status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
BHEL land encroached	294	98%
Rented	6	2%
Total	300	100%

Conclusion

The present paper discloses the family and dwelling pattern, road and land tenure status in a slum area of Bhopal city. The study indicated that slums are the areas which are not conducive for human survival and the people who are living in slums living their lives in miserable and vulnerable conditions. According to the present study the people of slums are illiterate and they are earning in irregular employment in informal sectors. The study also highlighted that slum poor people are living in bad conditions either it's about of their family conditions or dwelling conditions or any other factor. Slums are also an important part of our social structure apart from their poverty they are the essential part of our social structure. It's the responsibility of all of us to think about slum sustainability life, in this regard government, aid agencies and NGOs can play best roles in the sustainability of slum life.

References

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