



Changes in social aspects of life of poor people's after resettling from slum to colony

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Abstract

It is highly important to take up the issue of quality of life of peoples living in slums and resettlement colonies, to bring out their poor life even after various development schemes. The data from the 100 individuals were collected and presented as below. The enrolled individuals were relocated from the slum area to colony. There social factors were evaluated and presented as below.

Usually the quality of life of lower economic group of people is very low and this mostly has an impact on women and children than the men. Slum is the place of poor with no proper infrastructure and basic facilities. As a solution to eradicate poverty in slums and to improve their life, government evacuated the slums and resettlement them in various places. But various studies shows that the living condition in most resettlement regions are no less than the life of slums. This study also proves that the quality of life is mostly comparable between slum and resettlement colony.

Keywords: quality of life, slums, resettlement colony, etc.

Introduction

Resettlement is the process of identification and transfer of a group, large or small, from their local habitat/ native place to a host place, which may or may not have agreed to admit them. It may happen voluntarily, when people or communities migrate from one place to another on will.

Local governments see resettlement as one solution to dealing with the issue of slums and affordable housing for the poor, lack of which is responsible for the formation of slums. Under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) sub mission on Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BSUP), large numbers of houses have been built in cities to resettle slum dwellers from inner city areas. Most housing for the poor under BSUP has been developed on the city fringes where the land is cheaper. However, this has meant that slum families, who usually live in settlements close to their places of work in the inner city areas, get moved far away from their work sites, schools, social institutions and networks. This results in both economic and social hardship for the people pushing them into poverty. Families take several years to recover from the economic shock of relocation. Usually, relocation is not accompanied by support for resettlement.

Resettlement also impacts the city's growth by increasing stress on transportation services, increased investment demands for extending basic infrastructure to new areas and increasing the cost of services provided by these informal workers in their neighbourhoods and to the city^[1].

India is one of the fast growing urban regions in Asia with average rate of 31 per cent. Even though the rate of urbanization in India is among the lowest in the world, the nation has more than 250 million city-dwellers. Experts predict that this number will rise even further, and by 2020, about 50 per cent of India's population will be living in cities. This modernization and urbanization have resulted in the radical socio-economic changes and gave rise to new conflicts and

tensions leading to the consequent increase of the news trata of population named "urban poor". India ranks third to the world's poor where 17 per cent of urban Indian households lived in a slum (census 2011). Slums are the symbol of urban poverty and poor which represents a micro-habitat unit with in a large frame work of urban built up space. It is of physically poor quality sub-standard housing which pose danger of health and life. Perpetual in flow of rural population to the most modern urban centres for searching jobs is one of the main factors, which have hindered elimination of the menace of slums. Now there is a global concern about the increasing number of people living in urban slums in conditions of extreme poverty and overcrowding. Also, it is seen that along with the development of urban area, slums get uprooted and relocated on the margins of the cities, as a strategy of national urban poverty reduction. This strategy causes a greater hardship to up rooted slums as they are just relocated without much concern about the livelihood. People living in the uprooted slums face the problem to get connected to their work spots and the required social amenities in their new locations. Their social capital is quite poor, and so they fail to organize their connectivity of social and environmental betterment in the new locations quickly. The ultimate result has been that both slum and resettlement colony faces the most of similar problems, even though after development plans.

Quality of life is defined as individual's perceptions of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns (WHOQOL Group, 1995)^[2]. It is also defined in terms of satisfaction, happiness, psychological well-being, and subjective evaluation of the degree of fulfilment of individuals' most important goal, wishes and needs (Govindaraju, 2012)^[3].

The Resettlement Plan has to be collaborative effort of

government officials and the community. It is necessary that the plan preparation should allow active and meaningful participation from the people. The suggestions and views of people must reflect in to the plan/ strategy. A development strategy shall be prepared under this plan which revolves around resettling the affected people, the compensation packages and restoring their habitat in a new environment that is conducive to their growth not the other way round. The strategy must clearly be aimed at minimising the hardships of the people.

Hence from the above factors in it is highly important to take up the issue of quality of life of peoples living in slums and resettlement colonies, to bring out their poor life even after various development schemes.

Methodology

The study is conducted in the slum area of the city from Bihar. The 100 individuals were evaluated who were relocated to the colony from the slum area. All the individuals are informed consents. The approval of the institutional ethical committee is taken for the planned study.

Results & Discussion

The data from the 100 individuals were collected and presented as below. The enrolled individuals were relocated from the slum area to colony. There social factors were evaluated and presented as below.

Table 1: Improvement in the social requirements

		Good	No change	Poor
Water supply	At previous slum	62	15	23
	At current awas	50	21	29
Garbage collection	At previous slum	67	24	9
	At current awas	65	15	20
Health	At previous slum	4	90	6
	At current awas	5	85	10
Relationship with neighbour	At previous slum	32	55	13
	At current awas	25	49	26
Celebration of festivals	At previous slum	77	21	2
	At current awas	81	15	4
Physical security	At previous slum	75	12	13
	At current awas	55	25	20
Security of assets	At previous slum	86	5	9
	At current awas	42	40	18
Security of children	At previous slum	76	21	23
	At current awas	56	18	26
Security of women	At previous slum	79	20	1
	At current awas	63	17	20
Satisfaction regarding living condition	At previous slum	73	15	12
	At current awas	82	8	10

A large number of occupants reported good relationship between the neighbours in relation to medical and financial needs. Thirty to forty five per cent had relationship in matters related to childcare and food sharing. In context of searching the job neighbourhood relationship hardly work adhere. Residents of this AWAS consider unemployment especially among youth and alcohol abuse as major social problems at AWAS. In the resettled community Women complain that alcoholism has increased after resettlement [4]. Twenty percent of the people do not consider unemployment as an issue here and around half of the respondents do not think that alcohol use is a problem here. Little less than half of the respondents believed that conflict between different groups of occupants was is a minor drawback here.

As most of the study population was living in their original hutments for more than twenty years, they had established a very good interpersonal relationship within the community. In slums they shared same pool of culture, religion, language and had a sense of unity and social security. Because of use of lottery system for allotment of new awas, old neighbours or community groups were separated which negatively affected their relationship with new neighbours or community in apartment and also their enthusiasm in celebration of various

festivals. Tamanna Kabir in her study found that since the resettled community came from different places just one or two years ago, that much intimate relationship was not developed among there silences yet. Self-dependant individual life was very common in that lifestyle [5].

Conclusion

Usually the quality of life of lower economic group of people is very low and this mostly has an impact on women and children than the men. Slum is the place of poor with no proper infrastructure and basic facilities. As a solution to eradicate poverty in slums and to improve the airline, government evacuated the slums and resettlement them in various places. But various studies shows that the living condition in most resettlement regions are no less than the life of slums. This study also proves that the quality of life is mostly comparable between slum and resettlement colony.

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