

31. STUDY OF SLUM FORMATION IN THE CITY OF CHANDIGARH

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Abstract

The present era in India focuses on more and more urbanization. But the life of people living in an urban area is challenging, as some section of society do not get space in the city and are forced to live in slums along the periphery of the city. The present paper focuses on the trends of slum population in Chandigarh. The study also tries to focus on the major reason for emergence and expansion of the slums in the city. The study shows that there is increasing trend of urbanization in the Chandigarh from 89.77% in 2001 to 97.25% in 2011 but population living in slums is declining with from 13.2% in 2001 to 9.80% in 2011. Also, various factors such as weak economic base, lack of finance of administration, no formal employment opportunities in the city, political reasons are behind the formation of slums in Chandigarh.

Key-Words : Slum, Urbanization, Development, Migration, Expansion.

Introduction

Urban centre is an area were population is densely clustered, more mobile, heterogeneous and larger people here are engaged in non agriculture activities and large varieties of services are provided to them in that particular area. There is also increase in the administrative, municipal, religious, recreational and educational sectors in that area. The occupational specialization in that area develops a larger economic base which leads to increase in production, trade and transportation activities.

With the passage of time, several emerging issues have started affecting the urban centers. The increased migration towards urban areas puts pressure on urban infrastructure and further raises concern over economic, social and political issues for those people who are living there. Also, the burden of increased population in an urban area raises concern over the issues of increasing level of unemployment, increased informal economy, lack of proper governance, public safety and increased social disparities. Moreover, the problem of traffic congestion, overcrowding, lack of basic amenities to citizens (clean water, sanitation, energy and health conditions) raises concern towards the process of the development. The lack of public space has led to increase in the congestion, pollution and crime. Moreover, the lack of is urban planning has led to increase in the problem of slums and hence worsens quality of life, especially for a certain section of the society as they have to bear high cost of living. Therefore, in order to sustain in that area certain section of people are forced to live in slums.

As per United Nation Development Program (UNDP) currently around 828 million people are estimated to live in slums which raise concern of inequality among certain section

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