

Name of the Scholar: Nasruddin
Name of the Supervisor: Prof. M. Ishtiyah
Department: Department of Geography
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ABSTRACT

Statement of the Problem

The last century witnessed the greatest change in population with sixty per cent growth in urban areas particularly in the developing countries. Such an unprecedented increase of urban population especially in the developing countries has witnessed serious problems with regard to shelter, employment, and urban services as most urban economies in the developing countries are unable to meet these challenges (Ali, 2006). Since, the formal sectors of economy of urban centers cannot accommodate such a large number, the informal sector is providing employment to these persons. As the savings of workers engaged in informal sector are not sufficient to live in a healthy environment, they are forced to live in filthy environments that have come to be known as urban slums (Jha, 1995). As per the estimate more than half of the population in many cities and towns of developing countries are currently living and working in slums and informal sectors respectively.

The NCT, Delhi, like other metropolitan cities of the country is considered as an economic hub and attracting millions of migrants every year both skilled and unskilled from its neighbouring areas (Ali & Singh, 1998). As the migrants come from different parts of country and from various strata of the society, they find it difficult to adjust in the urban environment easily. They live away from the planned and approved localities and segregated into slums of unhygienic conditions. Thus the problems like over crowding, high rate of crimes, growth of slums, traffic congestion, sanitation takes place not only in the place of settlement but also in domain of work place (Mitra, 2003). These serious problems, which are faced by Delhiites due to migration has not only changed the physical structure but also altered the demography, economy, socio-cultural and political scenario of the city. The elites consider them as polluting agents to the city atmosphere as they are not adapted to the city norms.

Keeping the above issues in mind, it becomes necessary and the need of the time to study the socio-economic conditions of these migrants to ascertain their involvements in the above problems. They should not remain as polluting agents rather they should contribute to keep the city clean and cooperate in maintaining the urban way of life and become inseparable part of the overall developmental process of the city.

The purpose of the present research is to study the socio-economic conditions of migrant workers living in both rehabilitated (resettled) and non-rehabilitated (non-resettled) slums. The environmental condition of both types of the slums has also been evaluated. The replies of the migrant workers from resettled and non-resettled slums have been analyzed to understand the magnitude of problems they are facing on account of dislocation of their dwellings. The levels of satisfaction/dissatisfaction have also been discussed to plan for taking a future course of action in regard to slum improvement programmes. Based on the field survey, an alternative measure has been proposed to develop slums and improve the quality of life of migrant workers.

It is under the above mentioned background, the present research is to study the magnitude of the problems in a realistic and rational manner and to understand the symbiotic relationship between workers in the informal sector and their need in urban centers in general and the case of South Delhi in particular. In spite of huge expenditure in the name of slum development/improvement programmes, there exist unsatisfactory results. The research is proposing an alternative remedy to the above issue which has an outcome of the detailed investigation carried out during the fieldwork in both non-rehabilitated slums in South Delhi District and rehabilitated colonies in Narela and Bawana (North-West Delhi District) in which the displaced slum dwellers from various parts of Delhi including South Delhi District have been rehabilitated.

Objectives

The purpose of this research is to investigate the socio-economic background of the migrants who have been engaged in informal/unorganized sectors to earn their livelihood and support their family members living either with them in NCT, Delhi or in their native place. Since the migrant workers in the informal sector prefer to live in low cost housing either notified slums or unauthorized one's, it becomes necessary to study their conditions in both settled and resettled colonies. In order to understand the positive and negative aspects of these two localities with regard to their socio-economic conditions the following objectives have been framed:

- i. to study the trend of migrant workers in the NCT, Delhi during the last few decades;
- ii. to find out the pattern of distribution and growth of slums in the NCT, Delhi;
- iii. to highlight the major sites of slum eviction (displacement) and their resettlement (rehabilitation);
- iv. to study the demographic, social and economic characteristics of the migrant workers both in resettled and non-resettled slums; and,

- v. to suggest remedial measures for overall development of the localities of migrant workers.

Hypotheses

The study proposes to test the following hypotheses:

- i. displacement/evictions caused a great anxiety and disturbed their job and employment opportunity of the slum dwellers;
- ii. rehabilitation in outskirts of NCT, Delhi in a new environment disturbed their social fabric;
- iii. although housing condition has been improved in rehabilitation/resettlement, the environmental condition remains poor;

The above hypothesis have already been analyzed and discussed in respective/successive chapters. Their results have also been presented and verified.

Research Methodology and Database

As has already been stated that the present study deals with socio-economic conditions of migrant workers living in both non-rehabilitated and rehabilitated localities of NCT, Delhi. Most of the resettled colonies are located at the periphery of the NCT, Delhi while the non-rehabilitated slums are found inside the city mostly near the work place. As such there exist locational benefits to the non-rehabilitated settlement while the rehabilitated settlements are having locational disadvantages. These ultimately affect their socio-economic conditions of the migrant workers.

Keeping the above two different locational factors into consideration, the present research has been designed to find out the situation at the grass-root level by conducting door-to-door field survey. A total of 1202 households were selected for conducting the fieldwork and to generate the primary data.

For this purpose, a well structured questionnaire were prepared and tested in the preliminary survey. Then, the final shape was given to the questionnaire which includes questions related to the environment, income, expenditure, perception, awareness, besides the general information. Altogether 102 questions were designed to be included in the scheduled questionnaire. But the efforts were made that the respondents should feel free in responding and do not feel offended or get bored. Altogether six localities have been selected for conducting field survey (Table-1.1).

Table-1.1 Localities of Field Work Conducted

Slums/Colonies	Non-Rehabilitated/Rehabilitated	Districts
JJ Camp (Nehru Nagar)	Non-Rehabilitated	South Delhi
Subash Camp (Dakshinpuri)	Non-Rehabilitated	South Delhi
Madanpur Khadar Extension	Rehabilitated	South Delhi
Gautampuri (Molar bund)	Rehabilitated	South Delhi
Bawana	Rehabilitated	North- West
Narela	Rehabilitated	North- West

Two resettled colonies namely Madanpur Khadar Extension and Gautampuri (Molar bund) have been selected from South Delhi, and another two namely Bawana and Narela from out skirts (Northwest Districts). These four have been selected to study the socio-economic conditions of the slum people rehabilitated nearby in South Delhi and those resettled far away in the outskirts of NCT, Delhi respectively. The level of satisfaction of the people living nearby and far-off has also been analyzed.

Besides, two existing slums namely JJ Camp (Nehru Nagar) and Subash Camp (Dakshinpuri) have also been selected for field survey to know their response with regard to displacement and rehabilitation. Also to compare with the socio-economic conditions of people living in settled and resettled colonies. A detailed data collection scheme of the field survey has been given in the following table.

Table-1.2 Sampled Households

Localities	Total Households (approx.)	Sample (%)	Sampled households
Madanpur Khadar Extension	10140	2.02	205
Gautampuri (Molar bund)	5270	4.07	215
Bawana	11826	1.71	203
Narela	3200	5.59	211
Subash Camp (Dakshinpuri)	1500	13.2	198
JJ Camp (Nehru Nagar)	750	22.7	170
Total			1202

In order to keep the size of sample households between 1000 and 1500 (which are easy to handle during the research), various percentages criteria have been applied. A care was taken that the range between maximum number of households and minimum number of households should not vary much in the sample. As a result the range between them is from 170 in the case of JJ camp (Nehru Nagar) to 215 (in the case of Gautampuri, Molar bund). The idea behind such a homogenous sample was to give almost a kind of uniform representation from each locality. Since the size of slums varies drastically from 750 to 11826, the proportionate representation would make the size of sampled households unbuildy. Thus, to make them almost uniform representation, such a method of various representative percentages has been adopted. Although there exists not much variation in the slum dwellings, efforts have been made to collect the data from diverse group to make the study more balance and rationale.

The secondary data have been collected from the Census of India Publications, Delhi Development Authority, Eicher map and also from the NGO's working in this area. The study also includes the informations available in Internet, Survey Reports, Books, Journals, unpublished theses, etc. The data collected through both primary and secondary sources have been arranged and compiled in tabular form. Their percentages have been calculated and have been classified into various grades for the purpose of interpretation. Mapping has been done in the GIS environment using cartographic techniques such as Pie Diagrams and Bar diagrams.

Summary of Conclusions and Suggestions

Migration is a universal phenomenon and taking place with various magnitudes depending upon the intensity of pull and push factors. Majority of the migrants belong to lower economic strata and bulk of them are from rural who are pushed out to urban areas. As the urban area is considered as the land of opportunities, the migrants from its surroundings move there to avail those. Migrants who are pushed out from the rural economy as there exists very limited employment opportunities, the urban centers provides employment to such people in its informal sector. As such the pull forces become more powerful in those urban centers where the growth of informal sector is higher. Studies also indicate that poor socio-economic regions send more workers to urban areas as compared to those having higher HDI values (Chakrabarti, 2001). The data on individual migrant from micro survey shows a significant clustering of migrants in the 16-40 years of age groups. There exists a high preponderance of illiterates among the seasonal migrants (Conell et al. 1976). More than half of the migrants are agricultural

workers who did not own any land. Almost 17% to 19% are marginal farmers and 16% to 18% skilled and semi-skilled workers (Chakrabarti, 2001).

According to the Census of India 2001, the NCT, Delhi had 15.72% slum population while the Delhi Government in 2002 declared 52% including unauthorized colonies. The research conducted by the School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi indicated that there were 4, 80, 000 slum households in 1994. They are spread over all around the city especially near factories and posh residential colonies. Altogether 6 types of slums have been identified: Legally notified slum area, Jhuugi-Jhonpari cluster, unauthorized colonies, urban villages, resettlement colonies, pavement dwellers and Harijan bastees (Ali & Singh, 1998).

In spite of many serious efforts, no legal and regulatory authority could stop the migration process because of the economic reality for cheapest labour, goods and services provided by poor migrants working in the informal sector. But time to time the slums are displaced for want of government and public use and they are rehabilitated mainly on the outskirts of the city.

Although the displacement and rehabilitation programme is taking place since 1912 in the city and the process still continues despite moratorium by the court. Altogether there were 45 clusters displaced from different localities of South Delhi and have been rehabilitated mostly in Rohini, Narela, Bhalswa, Madanpur Khadar, Molarband, Bakarwala, Samaipur Badli, and Bawana. Most of the evicted squatters of South Delhi Districts were from Hauz Khas, Nizamuddin, Okhla, Badarpur, Jangpura, Sarojini Nagar, R.K. Puram, Kasturba Nagar etc. Altogether there were about 27,985 households evicted from the above mentioned localities of South Delhi.

The present study is undertaken to examine the socio-economic and environmental conditions of the migrant workers in both rehabilitated and non-rehabilitated squatter settlements of the NCT, Delhi. Further a comparative analysis has also been done to assess the quality of habitability in both types of the localities.

The study reveals that maximum number of immigrants belong to either low caste or schedule castes often poor and deprived. These people are socially and economically backward. The main reason for immigration to the city as cite by the respondents is economic and lack of job opportunity in their villages. Almost 79% respondents from the study area confirmed to this reason. . It is followed by marriage (9.48%), family moved (8.49%) and education (3.08%). The study found that a big share of migrants is from UP (39.10%) followed by Bihar (19.80%), Rajasthan (12.90%). These three states together have contributed about 70% of the total migrants. The remaining migrants belong to West Bengal (7.32%), Haryana (4.41%), Madhya Pradesh (1.75%), Maharashtra (1.25%), Uttrakhand (1%),

etc. It was noticed that most of the migration took place between 1960 and 2000. Altogether about 90% of migration took place between this period in the study area.

The trends of migration show that most of the people have migrated alone to the city and after acquiring a job and shelter, they brought their family members later on. Once they got a job they became confident enough to keep their family with them and they brought their family from their native place. The present study reveals that about 60% respondents migrated single to the city and remaining respondents migrated along with their family.

The people who have migrated to the city were very closely connected with their home town or village. Although they were mostly homeless and landless. Nothing was left there when they migrated to the city with their entire family. One thing was again very striking that bulk of the people belong to scheduled castes, oppressed and deprived section of society. There are incidences of caste/communal wars and other type of discrimination in traditional class and caste based society. In urban area, the slum dwellers are economically better to their rural counterpart. They are enjoying freedom and self confidence. Almost 100% respondent reported that they don't want to go back to their native village and would stay here for both economic and social reasons.

Ration card has a lot of importance in accessing to get necessary provisions. Leaving aside 8.82% of households in which no ration card has been issued, the remaining 91.18% possess ration card. It helps in procuring food items and fuel on subsidized rate. Besides, it is an identity card and proof of address for official and non-official purposes.

As the slums are dominated by males, the sex ratio is comparatively low. The sex ratio is 837 females for 1000 males in the study area. People from the heterogeneous religious groups are present here. Hindus with 81.86% form dominant religious group followed by Muslims 14.98% and Sikhs 3.16%. The proportion of Muslims is relatively more (28.28%) in Dakshinpuri. Around 38% of people are found below 15 years of age and 6% belong to above 55 years of age in the study area. About 42.41% are of young age groups.

The education of the population in the study area has been categories in 5 groups, i.e. Illiterate, Primary School, Middle School, Secondary School, Senior Secondary School and above Senior Secondary School. The levels of education among these slum dwellers are low. Among the literates 23.88% have reported that they received primary school education only while 16.73% respondents reported be educated up to middle school; 9.42% have pursued education up to secondary school; 3.16% were educated up to Senior Secondary and only 1.37% received education above Senior Secondary school.

As most of people are illiterate or have received primary/middle education, they are engaged in the informal sector which did not require any formal training. Out of the total surveyed population only 14.14% had received a formal training for the jobs they are engaged in. A section of them are semi-skilled and engaged in the private jobs. On the other hand, majority of population (85.86%) are without any formal training and were engaged as daily wagers.

The earlier studies show that most of the migrants are coming to the NCT Delhi through some contacts may be a relative, friend or agencies to get employed in low-paid jobs. Contrary to the above notion, it was found that almost 84% of the migrants in the study area came to the city on their own and managed job for them. Only about 16% of them have managed their employment through their friends and relatives.

As far as the family type in the study area is concerned, it was found that 60.48% families were nucleated while 39.52% households had joint family structure. It simply indicates either the head of the migrants families was unable to support his dependence such as grandparents/parents/brothers/sisters. Such people seldom visit their hometown or to their parents.

The occupational pattern is very much diversified and complex. With the lower educational level and skill they are employed in menial and unskilled jobs. The occupations in which most of them are engaged include casual work in construction, factory and shops. Besides, they are also working as gardener, watchman, vendors, tailors, rickshaw pullers, maid savants, etc. The study area reported of having about 44% unskilled workers. As most of them are illiterate, they did not have access to get employment in any formal sector. As such they work as daily wagers and many a times they do not get work throughout the year due to unavailability of jobs or their inability to do such work throughout the year. Among the remaining about 34% are semi-skilled workers who generally used to do the private jobs like helpers or the similar kind of job in factories as daily wagers; about 12.06% of them earn their livelihood through running small shops; about 10% workers are skilled and only 2.41% of respondents were in the government low-paid jobs especially in 'D' group services like peons, sweeper, chaukidars, etc.

All the family members in the slums contribute economically. Children are considered as assets. Most of them normally don't go to school and often engaged in variety of temporary works. The condition is not different in the study area. It is surprising to note that about 85% population in the surveyed households started earnings before 20 years of age. Even more than one-third population of these households started earning before 15 years of age. Meaning thereby abundance of child labour in

the study area. Only a small section (1.91%) population has got jobs at their mature stage (more than 25 years of age).

The nature of job is very fragile among these slum dwellers. Out of the total, almost 64.89% workers are daily wage earners and are totally unskilled workers without having any job security. They do not get all 30 days job in a month. Only 19.97% have got the regular work but there is no security of their jobs. About 15.14% people are permanent employees and they are semi-skilled and skilled workers. These workers are employed in government offices as low paid workers. With low paid jobs, their per capita income is low. It is to be noticed that about 86% households have below Rs. 1000/- monthly per capita income. People hardly earn to sustain their lives.

The informal sector in which most of the migrants work is not much lucrative in terms of payments. Consequently, the workers cannot save much from their meagre income and send money to home for the dependents. The study reveals that about 82.11% population could not save much from their salary. Whatever they earned, they spend the entire amount on day-to-day expenditure like food, traveling, etc. Only a few of them (17.89%) could manage to save from their earnings and send to their dependents at the native place.

The situation regarding basic and civic amenities is not satisfactory either. The water supply is inadequate. It is to be noticed that about 85.27% household do not have MCD water supply. Toilet facilities are inadequate. As such 31% people defecate outside in open space. Quality of houses in the study area is not upto the satisfactory level. Almost 84.78% houses are constructed with tin/asbestos sheets. Only 38.69% have got LPG connections. A significant number of people (41%) in Bawana and Narela are using cow dung cake and wood for cooking. The sanitation problem is severe. The government has failed to address these problems in the squatter settlements.

The study reveals that the socio-economic conditions of non-rehabilitated squatters (i.e. Dakshinpuri and Nehru Nagar) though not much satisfactory but they are better than that of rehabilitated settlements of Narela and Bawana. About 72.01% wanted to stay back and did not want rehabilitation at far off places like Bawana and Narela in the North West Delhi. Despite the fact, that the conditions of slums are not conducive for living even in South Delhi, they prefer to live here only because most of the people are in job in their surrounding factories/markets and residential colonies. The fact behind staying here is that they do not want to be detached from the present job.

The plight of people can be attributed to the improper rehabilitation policy. The people were forced to migrate without prior arrangements of adequate civic and basic amenities. About 15-20% respondents had to leave their job due to long distance (hypothesis 1 is proved). Careless rehabilitation

adversely affected the education of children. Thus, the children rendered schoolless. Almost 100% respondents in rehabilitated colonies said that the education of their children was disturbed due to rehabilitation. A significant number of people have come back to their evicted sites and got settled in nearby slums in order to retain their jobs. As a result, many of them have sold their piece of land which they had been allotted by the authorities.

Although the rehabilitated slums show certain level of satisfaction, the environmental and hygienic conditions are far below the expectations (hypothesis 3 is proved). About 75.54% respondents are not satisfied with the rehabilitation due to great suffering from the inadequate public transport system to commute to their work sites and other basic necessary needs like road, sanitation, supply of drinking water, etc

The field survey also reveals that most of the slum dwellers of the rehabilitated colonies were not satisfied with their relocation. About 36% respondents from nearby rehabilitated colonies and 44% respondents from the far off colonies were of the opinion that their earlier slums were better in many respects especially social and cultural understanding. In resettled colonies they suffer from both socially and economically (hypothesis 2 is proved). In the name of facilities, they have got only a piece of land. As far as the basic amenities are concerned, they hardly could see any of them functional. Electric poles are there but no proper power supply, water pipes have been laid down but hardly they get water supply, common latrines are constructed but no *safai karamchari* does cleaning, dustbins are there but the disposal van does not turn up. In such a situation, the relocated colonies become dangerous and unhygienic for human living (referred to hypothesis 3).

As far as the option for rehabilitation is concerned, 100% respondents replied that they would like to be rehabilitated nearby to their work place and to their present site of settlements. Infrastructural facilities should be made available in the new site before they are asked to evict their slums. At the same time they wanted their jobs remain intact.

Among several schemes launched by the government to deal with the development of squatter settlements and improvement of socio-economic condition of the migrant workers, in-situ approach has been found more suitable and viable way out which provides a holistic solution to address multi-dimensional problems. In this approach economic linkages and attachment with surroundings have been given importance and priorities.

Even after many efforts undertaken by Delhi Government, the condition of slums and associated problems could not change much. Perhaps it is because of the fact that there is no clear cut policy to address the issues of displacement of squatters. Because of the vote banks the slums eviction

and rehabilitation processes are dealt with ad hoc plan and resolutions. In spite of many efforts, the government of Delhi could not provide proper housing to almost half of its population.

Now the matter of concern is the proper planning and management of slum dwellers. Of course, these people can't be forced to evacuate and leave the city. The democratic principle suggests rehabilitating properly and integrating them in urban mainstream enabling them to uplift their status. Keeping the above positive views and inclusive development of all sections of the society including the migrants workers, the following paragraph presents a list of few important suggestions which may be useful in dealing with the issues of the migrant workers.

Suggestions

Migration has both positive and negative effects. As far positive aspects are concerned, it provides employment to jobless especially to rural poors and secondly it provides the cheap labour force to carry out the developmental works in urban centres. On its negative side, the problems are ranging from environment degradation to social and cultural disturbances. Keeping the above points in mind one has to be very careful while formulating policy and programmes for the migrants. Any anti-migration policy would be harmful not only to the rural poors but also to the developmental work taking place in the urban centres. Keeping both positive and negative sides in mind, a careful policy encompassing the various facts of rural-urban migration should be formulated. Some of the broad components of such a policy may be as follows:

1. The state should take effective steps in reducing imbalance in the employment opportunities between the rural and urban areas. Deliberate steps may be taken to reduce the gap between the rural and urban wages also.
2. All efforts should be made to encourage the programmes of rural development. The Integrated Rural Development Programmes like *Jawahar Rojgar Yojana* and similar poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, NAREGA, etc should be strengthened.
3. There is the need to encourage small scale/cottage industries in rural and small towns. Such policy may check the high flow of migration upto a large extent.
4. There is the need to develop the social infrastructure such as health and education facilities in the rural areas and surrounding small urban centres. This will naturally check the migration for the reasons of attaining education and medical treatment.

Suggestions for those who have already migrated and settled in urban areas have been listed below:

1. Construction of multi-storeyed housing units (may be implemented in phase wise) by selecting smaller squatter settlements in the first phase.
2. The larger slums may be compartmentalised into small units may be called pockets for the convenience of construction in the later phases.
3. A standard and strict rule and regulations must be adopted for the allotment of the flats and also transferring the ownership to them.
4. The involvement of slums dwellers should be given importance and may be taken them into confidence before starting such projects.
5. The developers like HUDCO, Ansal, DLF, etc should be approached to participate in such philanthropic activity.
6. It should be made mandatory on the part of the concerned authorities to prepare annual report with all details regarding the socio-economic conditions of the slum dwellers for the purpose of further research and administration to find out the solutions of these people.
7. There should be a direct recruitment of the labourers and workers through some Government Organization or Non Government Organizations instead of through middlemen who exploit them. They should be registered properly and get their wages through proper channel if possible through cheques.
8. Schools, Vocational training centres, health centres, community centres and upgradation of infrastructural facilities should adequately be developed, so that both the rehabilitated and non-rehabilitated colonies may conform to minimum social and environmental standards.

The above suggestions may be effective in controlling the migration stream in the NCT, Delhi. However, it should be kept in mind that it would not be desirable to initiate anti-migration policies and giving the heavy unemployed population pressure in the countryside. The best way to control the rural-urban migration is to make the rural areas more attractive through development programmes. At the same time, proper development policies should be devised for the migrants in the urban centres which can lead to the formalization of the migrants in the informal sectors and they may be extended the basic needs of life.