

CHAPTER – VII
CONCLUSIONS AND
SUGGESTIONS

7.1 Conclusions

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7.1 CONCLUSIONS

In the foregoing pages, I have tried to throw light on various aspects of slum life with special reference to the three slums in Solapur city and their problems.

The slums under study are the consequences of unplanned industrialization and urbanization. It is a disorganized area, occupied socially and economically backward and down-trodden people. It is characterised by over crowding, absence of sanitary facilities, unhygienic environment, lack of essential facilities like drinking water, light etc. In this area personal, familial and social disorganizations are abundant but they have interrelated factors. The migration of rural people to urban centres in search of better living and employment; find absence of adequate housing facilities, poor wages which has resulted in poverty, unemployment, population explosion and the vested interests of certain urban elements.

The most important problem which a migrant faces after getting the employment is that of housing. Without a permanent job and space for his family he cannot really be said to have established his roots in the city. The resource persons play a significant role in getting a job as well as shelter for a migrant. It has been already noted that migrant's socio-economic status determines his choice of locality. The senior member with comparatively longer duration of stay in the city acts as resource person to the new comers.

and some important suggestions are proposed to solve them. The major findings are as follows :

1. Growth of Slums :

The number of slums and their population in the Solapur City have doubled within 25 years (during 1976-2001, the number from 119 rose to 220 slums with 1.19 to 2.20 lakhs of population respectively.

2. Social Life and Problems of Slums :

The social life of slums consists of low standard of life with misery and quarrel some moments as part and parcel of their life. They exhibit their own culture of resistance, absorption and stagnancy.

3. From the data of slum dweller's households it was found that in the sex ratio males are more than females.

4. Majority of the slum-dwellers are illiterate. A few have taken primary and secondary education and only 06 are graduates and there are 02 post-graduate males also in these slums.

5. Most of the families in slums are of bigger size, problem of population explosion. More than 55% of the slum families are having 7 to 16 members are living in single rooms

6. 80% of the families are migrated from rural area for seeking employment and in search of house and settled in these slums. Some families have also been locally migrated and settled in slum area because of break of joint family. Due to their poor economic conditions they have settled in slum areas.

14. Most of the people know more than one language, e.g.. Kannada, Marathi and Telugu languages. Slums represent bi-lingual/multi-lingual feature.

15. Socio-Economic Conditions, Habits and Politics :

Most of the slum dwellers are daily wage labourers and Mill workers. Majority of the slum people are economically backward. There is a wide gap between income and expenditure.

16. More than one fourth of the slum dwellers are indebted due to their survival need.

17. Majority of the slum people are habituals in pan-tobacco chewing, bidi-cigarette smoking, and shindi-wine drinking. It is noticeable that some females are also shindi and wine drinkers.

18. Card playing, Songatya playing, Bhajan singing, Matka playing, and Kabaddi playing, cricket and gossiping are leisure time activities of the slum-dwellers. Some of these are obviously affecting their financial position. Playing cards, songatya playing and matka playing have ruined the slum-dwellers whereas playing kabbadi and singing Bhajan songs have contributed in keeping the slum-dwellers away from financial crises, and deepening misery.

19. As regards political party, majority of slum dwellers are in favour of Congress (I) and Dalit Panthers. However, at the time of elections caste-consciousness becomes dominant in mobilizing the support.

20. The most conspicuous dominant problems found in these slum areas are the unemployment, indebtedness, crime and juvenile delinquency, alcoholism. The basic problem, however, is that of poverty. Due to the negative the impact of industrialization and

with proper construction of plate-form and again in these areas adequate electricity supply should be made. Water facilities for latrines also must be adequate.

- 2)
 - i] To accommodate the existing dehoued occupants cheap but permanent houses be constructed with a minimum standard of sanitary arrangements.
 - ii] Those whose income exceed beyond a certain limit, may be encouraged to have their own houses constructed by providing land, plots, for co-operative housing at a reasonable price and loans at low rate of interests, to be repaid in 15 to 25 years' time.
 - iii] It is often suggested that howsoever bad the slum may be, a great deal can be done to improve it by repairs and reconstruction. It is said that reconditioning is the cure for slum problem.
- 3)
 - i] Multipurpose schools may be established in various slums. Schooling is not only for education in the class room, but along with that they will learn many other things in their life, i.e., cleanliness, inculcation of good habits, vocational training etc. for proper socialization. The schools are most appropriate agency in case of slum-dwellers who are mostly labourers.
 - ii] Voluntary agencies can help the slum dwellers in several ways such as adult education, health education, mother-craft, handicraft, cottage industries etc., in which slum-women in particular can be engaged. Recreational activities like group plays, free news-papers or reading rooms can also be helpful.

- 10) Cash compensation in terms of present land value and present cost of housing materials should be given to the displaced people. Otherwise the displaced people will create a new slum area in some other places.
- 11) The slum dwellers can be inspired for “ Self-Help ” system by the social workers and number of service organizations.
- 12) A provision of a community centre where slum people can satisfy their mental fatigue can also be made.

In short, in slum we find so many problems like crime, juvenile delinquency, alcoholism etc. To reduce and eradicate these problems, economic and social standard should be raised and the Government should give special attention to these people in respect of employment. If economic standard is raised, automatically living standard will be raised. Thus, there should be an integrated approach accepting certain basic values such as human equality, social justice and freedom.

