

## IMPACT ON SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS OF SLUM HOUSEHOLD WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CHENNAI CITY

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### **Abstract**

The pandemic conditions are very poor all over the world. The Indian economic conditions also affected micro and macro levels. In the recent days, the unemployment issue is being increasing in our country. The urban population in India has been rising rapidly as millions of migrants are moving to urban areas aspiring for higher earnings and better living. The number of the urban poor is also growing and a significant number of these poor find spaces in slums and continue to struggle for better living standards. Improving their conditions appeal to significant efforts from the governments for better policy designs. However, better policy design requires understanding the commonalities and differences across slums within and between cities. This study was conducted impact on socio-demographic aspects of slum household with special reference to Chennai city. To find characteristics, such as large average household size, poor housing quality, the living near places for the sewer, low female labour market participation and high school enrolment rates among children, to be common across. socio-demographic aspects of slum household with special reference to Chennai city. To bring out considerable heterogeneity among different groups within slums of each city concerning living standards, like drainages, sanitation, drinking water, medical, literacy rates and consumption pattern, Overall, to find that slums in Chennai City.

**Key words:** Pandemic, economic conditions, Unemployment

### **INTRODUCTION**

Slum dwellers are person or people residing in the slums. They are present at all over the city of all states. They are living at urban areas and semi urban areas. They are weak and helpless people of major cities. Low Income, illiteracy, less facilities at home, bad health and lifestyle, less exposure, poor social support and security, etc are the major challenges or problems of the slum dwellers. Most of them are not healthy since they are exposed to open sewage or dirty lake or wastages, poor basic amenities of life, unhealthy and unhygienic practices, poor ventilation, impure atmosphere and unorganized housing size. Slums are common at all over the world. Social scientists and researchers found that the slums are

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inevitable part of any city or state or country. The state and central government have to consider their lifestyle challenges and socio economic status of them and find their lifestyle changing solutions. The governments should develop them and eventually the infrastructure of the city. The policy makers of our nation should plan and develop the infrastructure and basic facilities of slum dwellers at all over the nation so that the slum people can have better socio economic and health conditions. The slums are creating and facing challenges in the city like all kind of environmental pollution, traffic jamming, poor quality of life, illiterate, idleness, crime, joblessness, etc.

### **SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS OF SLUM HOUSEHOLD**

Many researchers and research data found that Slum dwellers are not living a normal life like other human beings in the society. Not only are they socially marginalized, but also they have reconciled with social inequities. With a low standard of living, they have come to have an indifferent and apathetic attitude. Slum-dwellers reportedly have health problems. They have limited access to health information and services. Among them, the mortality rate is high. So is the matter with birth rate and population growth rate. Literacy and education are found from which flow all changes and progress. In sharp contrast, the literacy rate among the slum population is woefully low. Slum-dwellers mostly work as daily-wage workers, Construction workers, and industrial workers. Vendor's etc. Most of them are hardly able to raise income sufficient to keep body and soul together. More often than not, several members of household work, and even then, many of their essential needs remain unmet.

### **IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY**

The number of people has affected by lack of socio amenities, hygiene, health resources, and proper education. Few have gone into the extremes and loss of life even. It is all because of our limited lifestyle about safety and security. Conclude that everything depends on the lifestyle of attraction. The slum dwellers among the socio-economic conditions and its impacts lifestyle of slum dwellers are not an exception to this for the balanced development of the nation. It is extremely crucial to observe slum dwellers' society, economy and health conditions of our nation.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Slum dwellers' Social condition and lifestyle are the major concern for the government in our country. Their social status and lifestyle are not good or proper because they are not developing or growing in the society. Their quality of life is low. They are

facing numerous challenges on their life. Education faces an essential role in society, but the level slum dwellers are poor. As their income is unstable and low, they can't send their children for studies in school or college. They are also facing health-related problems like asthma, heart disease, tuberculosis, etc

The research questions related to society are:

- How can the socio - economic status of the Slum people be improved?
- What are factors influences by socioeconomic condition for Slum Dwellers?

### **SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

It is clear that society of slum people is not good. The slum dwellers are living at a small hut or thatched house with inadequate basic amenities of life such as ventilation, water, toilet, lighting, electricity, waste disposal, bathroom, kitchen utilities, etc this research work supports the policy makers of government to understand the challenges or constraints of slum people and make schemes or policies to improve slum dwellers' quality of life. Government should build better housing and other infrastructure facilities to them. So the research study is made the great insights on slum dwellers of Chennai slums.

### **OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH STUDY**

1. To find out slum dwellers' socio economic condition of slums in Chennai.
2. To find and scrutinise various factors influencing the socio economic status for slum dwellers

### **HYPOTHESIS OF THE RESEARCH STUDY**

Following hypothesis are considered at this research study:

1.  $H_0$  = There is no significant association between slum dwellers' socio economic conditions and slum dwellers' life style.
2.  $H_1$  = There is significant association between slum dwellers' socio economic conditions and slum dwellers' life style
3.  $H_0$  = There is no significant association between slum dwellers' socio economic conditions based factors and Slum dwellers' life style.
4.  $H_1$  = There is a significant association between slum dwellers' socio economic conditions based factors and Slum dwellers' life style.

### **LOCATION OR PLACE OF RESEARCH STUDY**

Simple random sampling method is applied on this research study. Slum dwellers of Chennai slums are respondents of this research work. Selected respondents are at 20 years to

65 years of age. They are from various strata of Chennai slums like students, housewife, daily workers, rickshaw drivers, sweepers, and non-registered workers.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research study is explaining slum dwellers' socio economic position, demographic factors and health status of Chennai slums analytically as well as descriptive. This chapter explains the research design, sampling methods, data collection, research methodology or tools, questionnaire tools, population size, method of data collection, ethical considerations on data, and analysis of research data collected.

## **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

The review of literature has unearthed slum dwellers' socio economic position, demographic factors and health status of Chennai slums. The research gaps are there in the literature about slum people's basic amenities or needs and other socio economic variables.

## **RESEARCH DESIGN**

According to Saltz, Deutsch, and Cook (1962:50), 'Research design is setting up of conditions and research data are collected and analyzed based on conditions for knowing or understanding the purpose or aim of research. Another definition is the researcher's system of getting responses for the research questions and testing research hypothesis in order to attain research objectives and research findings. To find out whether the existing theory explains the observed facts and happenings, exploratory research design is used. This study follows an Exploratory and Descriptive design. Our research attempts to explore the lifestyle, society, economy, demography, health condition and fundamental amenities of slum dwellers of Chennai slums.

## **SCOPE OF THIS RESEARCH STUDY**

Ultimate Goal of research work is to identify and ascertain factors that determining the socio economic status in the Slum of Chennai City empirically and also in a descriptive manner. For this, the respondents could be the person or the people living at the various slums of Chennai city. The purpose of selecting the Chennai City is that Chennai city has more number of slums and slum population. So the researcher made it an opportunity to select the Chennai city slum dwellers as the respondents. The researcher had an objective of understanding the factors that supporting the socio and economic status of the slum dwellers. Hence those slum dwellers of Chennai City were taken up for consideration for this research based on the title and the objective.

## **COLLECTION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DATA**

Chennai slums' people are main respondents of this study. Their lifestyle, society, economy and health related information is primary data of research work. The primary data are related to demography, society and economy of slum dwellers. The primary and secondary date were collected, organised, analyzed and interpreted. While distributing and collecting of data, the research objectives were described to slum respondents so that they could able to give their real information. As already discussed, correct respondents are finalised using simple random sampling method. This is one among probability sampling methods which will not have any bias and the respondents were selected through randomizer software of the system based on the numerical value of the respondents. To have a better understanding, questionnaire was framed in English and in the regional language so that customers can acquire clear information about its content. For the illiterate respondents, the concept and the information was explained in person along with other person in that Slum so as to free from the bias.

### LIMITATIONS - RESEARCH STUDY

This research study is limited to slum dwellers of Chennai slums. So this study cannot be applied or related to general slum dwellers of state or nation. Their quality of life may be improved or not. Illiterate respondents are the major limitations to this research study.

**Table -1**  
**Demographic related factors - respondents**

	Demographic	No. of Respondents	%
Age	Less than 20 years	136	22.7
	21 - 35 years	301	50.1
	36 - 50 years	139	23.2
	More than 50 Years	24	4.0
	Total	600	100
Gender	Male	282	47.0
	Female	318	53.0
	Transgender	0	0
	Total	600	100
Marital Status	Married	339	56.5
	Unmarried	235	39.2
	Total	600	100
Educational	Illiterate	154	25.7
	SSLC	176	29.3

	HSC	127	21.2
	Under Graduate	91	15.2
	Post Graduate	49	8.1
	Others	3	0.5
	Total	600	100
Monthly Income	Less than Rs. 10,000	67	11.2
	Rs.10,001 to Rs. 20,000	241	40.2
	Rs. 20,001 to Rs.30000	177	29.5
	More than Rs. 30000	115	19.2
	Total	600	100
Residential Area	Urban	294	49.0
	Rural	158	26.3
	Semi Urban	148	24.0
	Total	600	100

From the above table, it is noticed that 136 respondents to the tune of 22.7 % of respondents are below 20 years of age and 301 respondents with 50.1 % are at age group of 21 - 35 years of age, 23.2 % of respondents are at 36-50 years of age and only 24 respondents to the tune of 4 per cent were found under the group of above 50 years. Hence it is concluded that maximum respondents in the slum of Chennai city are at 21 - 35 years of age. 282 people were found to be male with 47 per cent and 318 respondents were found to be female with 53 per cent. Hence the maximum respondents were found to be Female only. It is seen from the above result, 339 respondents with 56.5 per cent were found to be married and 235 respondents with 39.2 per cent were found to be unmarried. Hence the maximum respondents were found to be married only. From the above result, it is seen that 154 respondents with 25.7 per cent were found uneducated and 176 respondents with 29.3 per cent were having SSLC qualification. Next to this 127 respondents to the tune of 21.2 per cent were having HSC or 12<sup>th</sup> Qualification. 91 respondents with 15.2 per cent were having undergraduate degree and 49 respondents with 8.1 per cent were having post graduate degree. Only 3 respondents of this study were having other qualification like Diploma and Certificate course to the tune of 0.5 per cent which is a very low percentage. Hence maximum respondents were having SSLC qualification. Based on slum population's monthly income, it is noticed that 67 respondents with 11.2 % of people earning less than Rs. 10000 as their monthly income and 241 respondents with 40.2 % of people earning Rs.10,001 to Rs. 20,000 as their monthly income. Next to this, 177 respondents with 29.5 % of people are earning Rs. 20,001 to Rs. 30,000 as their monthly income and only 115 respondents with 19.2 % of people

earning above Rs. 30000 as their monthly income. Hence the maximum respondents were having the salary to the tune of Rs.10, 001 to Rs.20, 000 while analysing the status of the Residential Area of the respondents, it is noticed that 294 respondents with 49 percent were residing in the urban area of the Slum and 158 respondents with 26.3 percent were in Rural Area. Only 148 respondents with 24 percent were living in the Semi urban area

**Table -2**  
**Association of factors that determining the socio economic status and the personal satisfaction among the residents of Slum in Chennai City**

Correlations						
	Safety	Basic Amenities	Threats	Economic Status	Social Status	Personal Satisfaction
Safety	1	0.953**	0.192*	0.103*	0.900***	0.050
Basic Amenities		1	0.297**	0.253**	0.848**	.0.219*
Threats			1	0.945***	0.065	-0.055
Economic Status				1	0.078	-0.022
Social Status					1	0.039*
Personal Satisfaction						1

\*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).  
 \* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Factors like Safety, Basic Amenities, Threats, Economic Status, Socio Status and the personal Satisfaction were inter correlated so that we can know degree of association or relationship among various variable or factor. Results are given on Table 4.46. Every factors are associated or correlated with each other in accordance to correlation results with 1% and

5% significance levels. Every factors are positively associated or correlated as per correlations except no association or correlation among factors such as 1) Threats and Social Status and Personal Satisfaction 2) Economic Status with Social Status and the personal satisfaction. Highest correlation was noticed between the factors Safety and the Basic Amenities ( $r=0.953$ ) and next to this with Threats and Economic Status ( $r=0.945$ ). Next to this, it is noticed that Safety with the Social Status ( $r=0.900$ ) and Basic Amenities with the Social Status ( $r=0.848$ ). For the factor of Economic Status and the Threats, no correlation was noticed and also not statistically significant because value 'r' is statistically insignificant with 1% and 5% significant levels but it has the negative value of correlation. The lowest correlation was found between the Social Status and the personal Satisfaction ( $r=0.039$ ) at 5% level of significance.

**Table 3**

**Multiple Regression analysis linking factors that determining socio economic status and the personal satisfaction among the residents of Slum in Chennai City**

Dependent factor or variable	Independent factor or Variable	Value of Regression Co efficient (Beta)	Standard Error	Value of 't' Value
Personal Satisfaction	(Constant)	9.403	0.496	18.969
	Safety	0.181	0.170	1.064
	Basic Amenities	-0.117	0.155	-0.755
	Threats	-0.223	0.190	-1.173
	Economic Status	0.089	0.068	1.312*
	Social Status	-0.041	0.082	-0.498
	Value of R	0.323		
	Value of R <sup>2</sup>	0.227		
	Value of F	1.833		
	No. of Samples	600		
	Durbin Watson Test Value	2.009		

\* Significant at five percent level

Regarding the antecedent of personal satisfaction among respondents of the slum of Chennai City, the F- ratio was found to be 1.833 which shows the regression model's result is significant statistically since value of 'p' is less than 1 % significance level ( $P=0.01$ ). Also

Beta Coefficient is measured for understanding significances of factors or variables influencing slum dwellers; socio economic status. Value of R<sup>2</sup> coefficient of determinant is measured as 0.227. It shows the changes of 22.77% on personal satisfaction among the respondents who are residing in the slum of Chennai City. Only one Factor "Economic Status" is the major predictor and has great effect over Personal Satisfaction of respondents since value of 'p' is significant statistically with 5% significance level. Factors like "Basic Amenities" and "Threats" were found to negative value but not highlighted as they are statistically insignificant with 1% and 5% significant levels. Durbin Watson value was found to be 2.009 which are found within the limit and hence it is confirmed that there were no multicollinearity existed between the factors.

**Table 4**  
**Association between Demographic Variables & factors that determining socio economic status and the personal satisfaction among the residents of Slum in Chennai City**

Factors	Safety	Basic Amenities	Threats	Economic Status	Social Status	Personal Satisfaction
ONE WAY ANOVA- "F" Test						
Age	0.805	1.511	2.654	2.171	2.198	0.239
Gender	8.233**	13.464**	12.843**	11.466**	10.754**	0.866
Educational Qualification	13.130**	15.062**	5.999**	5.467**	8.910**	3.183**
Monthly Income	4.842**	9.833**	11.580**	9.537**	2.929*	4.813**
Status of the Residential Area	4.717**	7.790**	2.848*	1.768	4.723**	6.606**
Religion	4.021**	7.198**	2.989*	2.052	3.546**	6.400**
Total Number of Earning Members	29.953**	27.488**	1.601	1.134	27.107**	3.370*
Languages Known	1.453	1.147	0.792	0.730	1.488	0.296
Years of living in Slum	1.820	2.487	0.139	0.288	1.116	3.176*
Hours spending for revenue earning	9.760**	14.414**	4.847*	3.340	20.214**	0.241
PAIRED SAMPLE "t" TEST						
Marital Status	43.129**	56.752**	61.096**	67.826**	38.712**	57.995**
Type of Family	41.742**	55.766**	61.099**	67.621**	37.067**	55.949**
Type of House	42.059**	56.126**	62.337**	68.201**	37.480**	55.788**
Native of Chennai	42.367**	56.530**	62.788**	68.377**	37.730**	56.632**

While analysing the result of the one way ANOVA, it is noticed that In respect of the demographic variable “AGE” and the languages known, insignificant relationship exists between slum people’s Age & languages known and factors that determining slum dwellers’ socio economic and health conditions of Chennai slums. On the basis of Gender, Every factor is found significant statistically with 1% significant level except with the personal satisfaction. Every factor is found statistically significant. In respect of the Status of the Residential Area and the Religion, Every factor is found significant statistically with 1% and 5% significant levels except factor “Economic Status” Regarding the total number of earning members, every factor is found significant statistically with 1% and 5% significant levels except factors Threats and the Economic Status. Regarding the association between the years of living in the slum and the factors of socio economic status, it is clear that there is insignificant relationship found except personal satisfaction with 5% significant level. In respect of the hours spending for earning and the factors of socio economic status, it is clear that every factor is found significant statistically with 1% and 5% significant levels except factors Economic status and the personal satisfaction. Regarding the relationship between marital status, Type of Family, residing house type and nativity, paired sample “t” test is done and got the results. It is found that all factors are significantly associated with all the factors at 1% level of Significance.

## FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

As everybody is aware that the Slum is the heavily populated area of the City where people were found in the lower income level and this lower income may lead to the with ailing the life. They may not good source of income. Chennai slum houses don’t have necessary amenities like electricity, water, sanitation and even proper way to go from their residence. They may be facing water stagnation during the rainy season which will lead to the health issues and also they do not have proper hospital facilities in their area. They have to go to a long distance for getting most of the benefits even education. And one of the significant difficulties is that they don’t have the ownership on their residing house in Chennai. As poverty is the main companion for their livelihood, they have to engage their children too in various works for earning and hence their education will also be in question. Hence the researcher of the study has taken up the research work over factors or variables determining the slum dwellers’ societal, economical & health conditions in Chennai slums. The research findings are explained below.

## CONCLUSION

There are many illiterate slum dwellers in Chennai slums. Children of slum people are not going to schools regularly. Their knowledge, behaviour and exposure are not good. Government should make more awareness about education on these slum areas to make them literate. The hygienic and health status of slum people are very poor. Slum dwellers are exposed to open sewage or dirty lake or wastages, poor basic amenities of life, unhealthy and unhygienic practices, poor ventilation, impure atmosphere and unorganized housing size. So they are affected by the numerous diseases on their life regularly. They are living a challenging life day by day. Government should create health care policies for them. Primary Health centres and hospitals should create awareness programmes on slum areas to make healthy and hygienic slum dwellers. It is found that there are many migrants who are living more on slum areas. They are belonging to lower socio economic group. Most of the slum dwellers are living at the core or central part of the city so that they can easily move to their workplaces of city. They are crucial contributor to economic activities of the Chennai city. Hence, active and progressive participation is essential to solve the challenges or problems of slum people. Government should frame better housing policies or schemes to them. Therefore they can get house with better basic amenities. Slum dwellers' life quality will be uplifted. They are illiterate. Their children are not accessing to better education on their life. Their skills and knowledge are less. Government, NGOs, NPOs and other associations should make many educational awareness programmes on slum areas to enhance their knowledge and skills level. Once they are skilled, they can be employed at decent jobs. They can earn decent income. Eventually, slum people's life quality will be improved. Also state and central governments should make necessary arrangements on slum areas for betterment over society, economy, demography and health conditions of slum dwellers.

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