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## A Study on Socio-economic Status of Slum Dwellers in Jammu City, Jammu and Kashmir

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### Abstract

With the augmentation of urban population, slums have shaped an alarm for cities expansion. Slums are the subsidiary areas of cities where the service amenities are meager, people are uneducated, and drinking water supply is wretchedly on the lowest ebb. Slums are the establishment of domestic turmoil and lacking existing in urban set ups. They are the harsh realities of our environment and ought to have serious concentration in view of the monetary and social challenges they pose to urban growth and planning in particular and environmental in general. The study of slums is significant for the environmental adaptation and ameliorating the problems of urban areas for providing more amenities to the a lot. In this paper, an attempt has been made to study the social, demographic and economic profile of the immigrants in the slums of Jammu City and their living environment.

**Keywords:** Slum Dwellers, Economic conditions, Panic, Urban development, Amenities, Monthly Income, Monthly Expenditure, Occupation, Education

### Introduction

The word “Slum” is thought to be derived from “slumber” meaning “unknown” as is said to describe the people living in black streets on alleys. Of course, these people are erroneously acknowledged to be “sleeping and quiet”. However this appears the etymological clarification of the word “slum”. In 1953, it was described as thickly populated street or alley marked by squalor in wretched living conditions. Some of the social scientists have substituted the word slum by “blited areas” while others have preferred “deteriorated neighborhood”, “grey area”, “lower class neighborhood”, “low income area” etc. However David R Hunter has rejected all these applications because he is of the opinion that “slum is good old fashioned word that carries its own real meaning.” The phenomenon of slum is worldwide, almost every city has slums. There are number of terms by which slums are known in different countries. In India, they are known as “Juggi-Jhopadpatti (in Delhi), Chawls (in Bombay), Ahtas (in Kanpur), Bustee (in Calcutta),



Cheris (in Madras), Pettas (in Andhra Pradesh), and Zopadpatti (in Maharashtra). In Jammu City, slum settlements are found in the heart of the city as well as in the urban peripheral area.

The sprouting of slums in urban areas is the direct outcome of better economic opportunities available in cities and towns. The phenomenon of rapid urbanization coupled with industrialization has brought with it an even more rapid increase in the growth of urban slums. The existence of slum is essentially a manifestation of poverty. Along with economic growth and with industrial development slums will continue to exist over a period of time. Slums have emerged even in the heart of cities which is due to various factors, namely, the shortage of developed land for housing, the price of land beyond the reach of urban poor, large influx of rural migrants to the cities in search of jobs and inadequate provision of basic services and infrastructural facilities in the urban areas. Therefore, there is an urgent need to look into these problems in a more precise manner. The problems of slum dwellers have been attracting the attention of the government since the second Five Year Plan.

The socio economic condition of the slum occupants is mostly poor because of the absence of basic social amenities; well-designed skills, proper education, source of the income, hygiene and health resources. However, slum dwellers directly or indirectly play an important role in nation building. With this point of view the study of slum dwellers becomes important. This paper attempts to analyse the socio-economic conditions of slum dwellers of Jammu City of Jammu and Kashmir. Data was collected from 560 respondents by using questionnaire where respondents were selected by statistical simple random sampling method.

## Review of Literature

**1. A. Sree bhagyalakshmi and Sherly Thomas (2018)** in her journal titled “Quality of Life in Slums of Coimbatore City: A comparative Study. This study carried out to analyze the present situation of the slum dwellers and their social exclusion. The study finds that poor and very poor quality of life exists in the slums of Coimbatore city. Finally the paper concludes that the future of humanity depends on how we deal problems and challenges of



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urbanization and unequal development .Finally the attitude of people towards better living should be developed through proper intervention and educational programmes.

**2. Nisanth M Pillai , Jayagovind R L (2017)** in his journal titled “Socio Economic Status of the Slum dwellers in Trivandrum”. This study was carried out to analyze the socio economic status of slum dwellers in Trivandrum city with the objectives to understand the education and employment conditions. The findings of the study conclude that Most of the slum dwellers are staying in the settlements because of low income and unemployment.

**3. Mahmuda Binte Latif, Anjuman Irin and Jannatul Ferdous (2016)** in his journal titled “Socio-Economic and Health Status of Slum Dwellers of the Kalyanpur Slum in Dhaka City” The study was carried out to examine the socio-economic and health condition of slum dwellers of Kalyanpur slum area. The study was both qualitative and quantitative type. From this study it is observed that every family live in a slum in unhygienic environment in poor condition. Findings of the study concludes that the, lower level of income, inadequate sanitation services, substandard housing and the cramped environment in the slums might have impacted on the environment that led to higher morbidity among the slum dwellers.

**4. Dr. M.D Khalilur Rahman, MD. Muhibbullah and Mohammad Samiul Islam (2015)** in his journal titled “Socio- economic status of slum dwellers: A case study of Uttara Pripheary, Dhaka”. The present study was attempted to access the living status of slum dwellers at Uttara, Pheriphery, in Dhaka. It was observed that the peoples are living in unhygienic surrounds and they were engaged in day labourer, small job services, rickshaw pulling and little business. Finally it concludes that the rural people migrate to urban areas for some causes like economic stagnation, high unemployment, natural disaster and social conflicts.

**5. Kala Seetharam Sridhar and A. Venugopala Reddy (2014)** in his journal titled “Contribution of the Urban Poor: Evidence from Chennai, India “.In this paper the researcher found that gender, education level and the salary status of the urban poor have a significant impact on their income.. Finally the paper concludes that the slums which contains 19% of the city population contributes 14% of the city’s economy, finally the researcher given starling findings in that paper there may be a cause for the Ministry of

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Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India to replicate this effort in other cities of India in order not only formulate sustainable policies to support urban poverty reduction, but also to appreciate their contribution to the city at national economies as a whole.

### **Objectives of the study**

1. To study the demographic and economic conditions of the slums in the study area.
2. To study the education and occupational pattern of the respondents in the study area.
3. To know the relation between the monthly income with the expenditure, occupation education, status of the residence and the type of house of the sample respondents.

### **Hypotheses of the study**

1. H<sub>0</sub> –There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the occupation of the respondents.
2. H<sub>0</sub> –There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the education of the respondents.
3. H<sub>0</sub> – There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the type of house of the respondents.

### **Sampling Design**

The study has used both the primary data and secondary data. Field survey method was employed to collect primary data from 560 respondents framed questionnaire is used for data collection. Secondary data were collected through various journals, booklets magazines, reports and newspapers.

### **Socio Economic Conditions of Slum Dwellers in Jammu City**

Slum is the product of industrial civilization, capitalist mode of production, growing urbanization, modern mechanism of urban settlement, high prices and rentals on urban lands and housing, and to add to these, increasing rural-urban migration in the hope of good living and opportunity in the city. Slum dots every city on the globe. Slums are areas lacking basic services or access to clean water, where houses are poorly built and overcrowded. They represent the worst urban poverty and inequality. A high incidence of

slums is concomitant of rural to urban population. The ‘culture of poverty’ has to be seen in the slums. People with ‘culture of poverty’ produce very little return. In this sense, slum is an area consisting of people considered as earning low wages, suffering chronic unemployment and underemployment and incapable of saving, reducing the possibility of effective participation in the growing economic system.

Occupation, Monthly income, status of the residence, type of house is playing an important role in socio-economic status of slum dwellers. It affects other elements like living standard of population, socio-economic status of population and development and progress. The socio-economic status depends upon the living standard of individuals. Living standard also depends upon the income of family. It is a helpful for improvement of good life.

Therefore, the researcher in this article analyses whether there is any relationship exists between the Occupation hold by them, Monthly income in which they earned Monthly Expenditure they spent , status of the residence and type of house they live. In order to know the relationship the following hypotheses were framed.

**Hypothesis-1.**

H0 – There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the occupation of the respondents.

**Table-1.**  
**Comparison between the Monthly income and Occupation of the Respondents**

		Average Monthly Income	Nature of Occupation
Average Monthly Income	Pearson Correlation	1	-.324**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	560	560
Nature of Occupation	Pearson Correlation	-.324**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	560	560

Source: Computed from primary data

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

Table-1 shows the comparison between the monthly income and occupation of the respondents. The results reveal that r value is -0.324, and it can be seen that the monthly income is negatively correlated with the nature of occupation and the results is significant at the level of 0.001. Hence, it could be concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and there is significant relationship between the monthly income and the occupation of the respondents

**Hypothesis-2.**

H0 –There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the education of the respondents.

**Table-2.**  
**Comparison between the monthly income and the education**

		Monthly Income	Education Level of Beneficiary
<b>Average Monthly Income</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	.551**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	560	560
<b>Education Level of Beneficiary</b>	Pearson Correlation	.551**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	560	560

Source: Computed from primary data

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

Table-2 shows the relationship between the monthly income and educational level of the respondents. The results reveal that the r value is 0.551, and it can be seen that the monthly income is positively correlated with the educational status of the respondents. Hence the statistics is significant at the level of 0.001 and it could be concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternate hypothesis is accepted and there is a significant relationship between the monthly income and the education of the respondents.

**Hypothesis-3.**

**H0** –There is no significant relationship between the monthly income and the status of the residence of respondents.

**Table-3**  
**Comparison between the monthly income and status of residence**

		Monthly Income	Status of Residence
<b>Average Monthly Income</b>	Pearson Correlation	1	.154**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	560	560
<b>Status of Residence</b>	Pearson Correlation	.154**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	560	560

Source: Computed from primary data

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

Table-3 shows the comparison between the monthly income and status of residence of the respondents. The results show that the r value is -0.154, and it can be seen that the monthly income is negatively correlated with the status of the residence of respondents and the statistics is significant at the level of 0.001. Hence, it can be concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and the analysis concluded that there is relationship between the monthly income and the status of the residence of respondents.

**Findings**

1. It was found that the income earning capacity of the respondents is negatively correlated with their occupation. Hence it has been found that there is no change in the occupational status of the respondents with the increase in income.
2. It was revealed that the relationship between the income and education of the respondents. The results of this table reveal that improvement in their educational level is having a positive impact with their income.
3. It was revealed from the table that the relationship between the income and the type of residence. The results show that there is a positive correlation among these variables.



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Hence it can be understood that the variables are moving on the same direction and it shows that any change in their income will have an impact on the type of the residence.

### **Conclusion**

Social inequality is a primary characteristic of the structure of society. Rich or poor, advantaged or disadvantaged, privileged or underprivileged, each dissimilarity speaks to differences among people that are significant for the lives they lead. Whether in describing patterns of inequality or examining the cost of inequality, the results depend upon how inequality is conceptualized and deliberate. Socioeconomic status is among the most well-known concepts in inequality study. The finding of the study indicates that the income level of the respondents is highly correlated with their pattern of expenditure, education, occupation, and type of residents and the status of residence. This study identifies most of the slum people are engaged as semi-skilled labourers to maintain their lifestyle as well as they are working very hard for their livelihood, but they are not getting paid as per their occupation. Likewise, income of the respondents has not been changed based on their status of the residents as a result this will pave the way for the social inequality within the society in which they live. Hence, the respective authorities have to take necessary steps to eliminate this kind of social discrimination in the society.

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