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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### ANALYSIS OF QUALITY OF LIFE OF SLUM DWELLERS OF LUCKNOW CITY

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#### ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to analyze the condition of slum dwellers in Lucknow city based on five indicators. Rapid urbanization, accompanied by sustained population growth due to large-scale migration from rural to urban centers, leads to mushrooming slum settlements in all cities and towns in India. The urban population in India has grown from 78.9 million in 1961 to 377 million in 2011 and is estimated to be doubled in the next 25 years. There will inevitably be more people living in cities. They are increasingly facing the negative consequences of rapid urbanization, such as polarization of population in large cities, unemployment, acute shortages of housing and basic civic amenities, crime, degradation of the environment, traffic congestion, slum and squatter settlements, pollution, poverty, and social unrest. This paper examines the quality of life (QOL) of different slums in Lucknow city. The study is based on primary as well as secondary data. Primary data are collected through an interview schedule and a field survey of 180 households of randomly selected slums. This paper reveals that 95.90% of families live in thatched houses; more than 99.50% of people are still illiterate, less than 48% of the population accesses government medical facilities, more than 56% of people go for open defecation, only 34% of households use tap water and 84% of areas have very poor sewage disposal facilities. This evaluation shows a wretched picture of slums and requires better policies from the government.

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## INTRODUCTION

Rampant construction and uncontrolled rural to urban migration have led immense pressure on land area in the urban cities. Also, Cities and towns are centers of agglomeration economies, investment, technology, innovation, economic growth, and tertiary jobs. They are also the hopes of millions of migrants from rural hinterlands and smaller settlements. (Sen et al., 2010) There will inevitably be more people living in cities due to the expansion of the service industry and the information economy. The negative effects of fast urbanization are becoming more and more apparent to them, including the polarization of large city populations, high population density, slums and squatter settlements, a severe lack of housing and basic civic amenities, traffic congestion, pollution, environmental degradation, poverty, crime, social unrest and unemployment. According to UN HABITAT, a slum is defined as a group of adjacent settlements where people live in substandard housing and lack access to essential amenities. The public authorities frequently fail to acknowledge and treat slums as essential components of the metropolis. Presently, Indian Population is 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the world population slightly more than 28 percent of the country's population is urbanized, but unfortunately 21.68 percent (61.8 million) of the urban population live in slum area. NBO report suggest that total housing shortage was 19.4 million units.

In urban area the shortage is 6.6 million unit and 90% of this shortage largely affects poor and low-income group people (NBO, 2011). Over 800 million people in developing nations are estimated to reside in slum and squatter settlements, the majority of which are filthy, dangerous places that pose health and security risks (World Bank and UN Habitat). (World Bank, 2003). The World Health Organization (WHO, 2003) defined quality of life as "a person's perceptions of their position in life in relation to their goals, expectations, standards, and concerns, as well as the culture and value systems in which they live" in. It is a broad-ranging concept incorporating in a complex way the person's physical health, level of independence, psychological state, social relationships, personal beliefs, and their relationships to salient features of the environment. Lucknow being the capital of the state offers better living condition, safety. It is filled with various work opportunities which attracts large number of migrants from the corners of the state. One of the research paper assessed the housing condition, in four slums of Lucknow and found that majority (77.1%) were situated in congested locality about 69.5% of the houses were constructed with back to back and continuous type of house setup (Shukla et al., 2016). Such a crowded area results in worsening air circulation, elevated ambient temperature, and less natural lighting, all of which have an impact on the health and well-being state, but they can also lead to health issues such as difficulties

breathing, heat discomfort, and asphyxia in eyesight, particularly when there is no electricity.

**Study Area:** The city of Lucknow is situated on the banks of river Gomti which passes through the middle of the city. The city lies on 26°30' N and 27°10' N Latitude and 80°30' E and 81°13' E Longitude. Lucknow is the capital city of Uttar Pradesh state and one of the most prominent cities in India in terms of commerce, education, historical, architecture, culture, Urdu literature etc. The city is the 11th largest metropolitan city in the country and after Delhi, it is the 2nd largest city in Northern part of India.

### Objectives

- To examine the Quality of Life (QOL) of different slums of Lucknow city.
- To suggest remedial measures to improve the QOL in slums dwellers.

## METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on primary and secondary data. The secondary data has been collected from Rajiv Awas Yojana, slum free action Plan, ministry of housing and urban affairs, Census of India, NSSO and Lucknow Nagar Nigam etc. Primary data has been collected through interview schedule from selected slums (Sugamau, Vikas Nagar, Nishatganj, khurram Nagar, Vibhuthikhand and Daliganj) of Lucknow city, for this purpose, 180 sample household (30 household from each slum) has been taken into consideration. This paper highlights the appalling QOL of slum dwellers of Lucknow City. For determining the quality of life in slums various parameter has been chosen. Altogether, 10 parameters (X1 to X10) have been preferred to determine the existing QOL.

**Slums of Lucknow City:** Lucknow city is having a total of 609 slums in its municipal jurisdiction area. Out of which 502 are notified slums and 107 are non-notified slums (NBO, 2011) The total slum population in the city is 7,72, 807 which constitutes about 27% of city population. The total number of slum households in the city is 1,48, 117 which constitutes about 31% of total city households. This increasing number of slums population is putting lots of pressure on the maintenance of sanitation and hygiene which is further putting pressure on governments Swachh Bharat mission.

**Table 1. Physical & Demographic profile of Lucknow city**

PARAMETER	UNIT	
Area (Lucknow Nagar Nigam)	Ha.	35053
Population (2011 census)	No.	28,15,601
Slum Settlements	No.	609
Slum area	Ha	501.64
Percentage of slum area to total area	%	1.5
Slum Population	No.	7,72,807
Percentage of slum population to total population	%	27
Slum Households	No.	1,48,117

**Parameters of quality of life:** In the present study 5 Measures and their parameters have been chosen to analyze the existing quality of life in slums of Lucknow city.

- Housing and Infrastructure
- Education
- Poverty and Livelihood
- Basic Services
- Health and Sanitation

### Housing & Infrastructure

**Housing Condition:** One of the fundamental requirements that the government guarantees everyone will have access to is housing. The problem is becoming worse as the population grows, particularly in

emerging nations. The current report emphasizes how poorly the people living in slums are doing. It shows 86% of people live in Thatched or semi Kaccha house and merely 14% live in Semi Pucca house. Whereas no one has Pucca house in selected slums of Lucknow. The present study shows that 95.9 % of people of Khurram Nagar and 95.5 % people of slums don't have pucca house they live in kaccha house.

### Education

**Literacy:** Due to widespread poverty in the slum areas, illiteracy prevails, and it can even be said that poverty exists because illiteracy exists (Tripathi, 2010). Though literacy is very poor in slums of Lucknow city, comparatively Vibhuti Khand and Daliganj slums have instances of literacy than other slums.

**Female Literacy:** Female literacy is not only indicator of education but also status of women in society. The sample area had very poor female literacy. The sample survey shows very poor female literacy which indicates bad condition of women in slums of Lucknow city. In Vikas Nagar slums only 5% of female are literate. In selected very rare women knows how to write their name.

**Poverty and Livelihood:** Livelihood refers to the means of gaining a living, including livelihood capabilities, tangible assets and intangible assets (Chambers, 1995). Employment can provide a livelihood, but most livelihoods of the poor are based on multiple activities and sources of food, income and security. Poverty refers to lack of physical necessities, assets and income. It includes, but is more than, being income-poor. Poverty can be distinguished from other dimensions of deprivation such as physical weakness, isolation, vulnerability and powerlessness with which it interacts. Chambers, Robert (1983), Rural Development: Putting the Last First, Longman, Harlow, pages 108-139.)

**Source of Income -** The slum dwellers are generally the unskilled laborers engaged in odd jobs involving heavy manual labor occupations. Labors are the highest as construction workers and unskilled office workers like peon. (Yadav & Bilas, 2017). Table 1.3 below shows that majority of slum dwellers are daily wage labour. 90% of slum dwellers of Sugamau labour workers whereas 89.50% of slum dwellers of Daliganj are Scrap Dealers. They have migrated from different parts of state and country in search of job.

**Ration Card -** A Ration card enables eligible households to buy food grains at subsidized rates under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). Table below shows 89.70% of people of Nishatganj and 95.60% people of Vibhuthikhand slums are living without ard and struggling daily for one time food. The reason being and misconception of offering bribe to concerned government officials.

**Basic Services:** It is well known fact that every human has certain basic needs for survival without availability of those basic needs it is difficult to survive. Those basic needs have been further classified into three subdivision those are –

**Source of Light:** Major source of light on earth is sun but when there is no sun there is still need of light to do house hold chores, for kids to study. The table below shows that in Sugamau and Vikasnagar slums there is availability of electricity which is accessible to 78.80% and 72.0% of people in these slums whereas, in Khurram Nagar, Nishatganj, Vibhuthikhand and Daliganj slums people rely on Battery Charging for source of light. There is no or meagre supply of electricity in these slums.

**Fuel used for cooking:** Food is another basic need of every human to survive. with the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana to provide LPG Cylinders to women Below Poverty line, the present situation shows there is still lots of needed to improve the availability of LPG Cylinders in slums. According to the below table people of Vibhuti Khand and Daliganj slums have 0.00% availability of LPG Cylinders.

Table 1.1: Housing condition of Selected Slums of Lucknow City

Variables	Parameters	Indicators	Sugamau (% of HH)	Vikas Nagar (% of HH)	Khurram Nagar (% of HH)	Nishatganj (% of HH)	Vibhuti khand (% of HH)	Daliganj (% of HH)
X1	Housing Condition	Thatched or semi Kaccha	82.00	54.90	95.90	95.50	92.60	94.40
		Semi Pucca	18.00	45.10	4.10	4.50	4.80	5.60
		Pucca	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.60	0.00

Source – Based on personal Survey, 2023

Table 1.2 Literacy and female Literacy of selected slums of Lucknow City

Variables	Parameters	Indicators	Sugamau (% of HH)	Vikas Nagar (% of HH)	Khurram Nagar (% of HH)	Nishatganj (% of HH)	Vibhuti khand (% of HH)	Daliganj (% of HH)
X2	Literacy	Illiterate	78.00	88.20	75.50	87.00	92.00	96.00
		Literate	22.00	11.80	24.50	13.00	8.00	4.00
X3	Female Literacy	Illiterate	98.00	95.00	97.00	97.00	98.00	99.50
		Literate	2.00	5.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	0.50

Source – Based on personal Survey, 2023

Table 1.3: Status of Poverty and Livelihood in selected slums of Lucknow City

Variables	Parameters	Indicators	Sugamau (% of HH)	Vikas Nagar (% of HH)	Khurram Nagar (% of HH)	Nishatganj (% of HH)	Vibhuti khand (% of HH)	Daliganj (% of HH)
X4.	Source of Income	Labour wok	90.00	66.70	87.20	6.80	6.10	2.00
		Scrap Dealer	0.00	27.50	3.10	9.20	10.20	89.50
		Guard	4.50	0.00	0.00	64.00	70.45	0.00
		Paan Wala	4.50	4.70	5.40	12.00	5.05	6.00
		Toilet Cleaner	1.00	1.10	4.30	8.00	8.20	2.50
X5.	Ration card	Without Card	56.00	66.70	49.00	89.70	95.60	64.00
		Red (BPL)	0.00	5.90	8.20	10.30	4.40	36.00
		Yellow (APL)	44.00	27.50	49.90	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Based on personal Survey, 2023

Table 1.4: Basic Services facilities available in selected slums of Lucknow City

Variables	Parameters	Indicators	Sugamau (% of HH)	Vikas Nagar (% of HH)	Khurram Nagar (% of HH)	Nishatganj (% of HH)	Vibhuti khand (% of HH)	Daliganj (% of HH)
X6	Source of Light	Kerosene	2.00	0.00	0.00	8.60	10.80	7.50
		Battery Charging	26.00	21.60	71.40	91.40	86.30	92.50
		Electricity	72.00	78.80	28.60	0.00	2.90	0.00
X7	Fuel Used for Cooking	Cow dug cake	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.20
		coal/wood	42.00	29.40	51.00	66.00	89.70	91.20
		Kerosene	22.00	20.60	0.00	0.00	10.90	5.60
		LPG	36.00	50.00	49.00	34.00	0.00	0.00
X8	Source of Drinking Water	Handpump	100.00	100.00	100.00	96.80	97.20	95.00
		Municipal Water Supply	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.20	2.80	5.00

Source: Based on personal Survey, 2023

Table 1.5. Health and Sanitation Facilities in selected slums of Lucknow city

Variables	Parameters	Indicators	Sugamau (% of HH)	Vikas Nagar (% of HH)	Khurram Nagar (% of HH)	Nishatganj (% of HH)	Vibhuti khand (% of HH)	Daliganj (% of HH)
X9	Medical Facilities	Traditional Practitioner	66.00	76.50	44.90	10.00	6.00	15.00
		Private Clinic	28.00	19.60	46.90	44.00	54.00	20.00
		Govt. Hospitals	6.00	3.90	8.20	46.00	40.00	65.00
X10	Sewage Disposal Facilities	Very Poor	95.00	98.00	94.00	96.80	95.40	94.80
		Poor	5.00	2.00	6.00	3.20	4.60	5.20
		Average	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Based on personal Survey, 2023

The residents of the selected slum mainly still rely on wood collected by ladies of household every evening. The major source of Fuel for cooking is collected wood branches.

**Source of Drinking water:** Water is the liquid that makes life on Earth possible. All living things, from tiny cyanobacteria to giant blue whales, need water to survive. Without water, life as we know it would not exist. And life exists wherever there is water.) as women in slums are vulnerable. This study analyses the source of drinking water in the selected slums. The table below shows that almost all slums have hand pump supply of water. During Field survey it was found that total dissolve solid (TDS) in water in ranges from 400 – 500 ppm in different slums of Lucknow city. however, the permissible limit for potable water is 300 ppm (Who,)

### Health and Sanitation

**Medical Facilities:** The medical facility is another indicator which indicates wellbeing of slum population. More than half the urban population in developing countries is suffering from one or more of the diseases associated with inadequate provision of water and sanitation (DFID, 2001). The medical facility is somewhat better in Vibhuti Khand and, Daliganj Slums But the situation is worse in Sugamau, Vikas Nagar and Khurram Nagar Slums. Overall, only 28% of slums have access to Government hospitals.

**Sewage disposal facility (X10):** Hygiene and Sanitation is important everywhere for healthy life, it also ensures healthy growth of human. Most sample households had poor sewage disposal facilities. The sanitation condition of all selected slums of Lucknow is worst where almost 96% of sample household had poor sewage facility.

### Way Forward towards improve the QOL in slums dwellers

- Steps can be taken to have controlled rural to urban migration. In the era of technology in every hand, government can focus on generating jobs in the rural areas. Also encouraging women to participate.
- To provide Universal access to an adequate level of housing and health care without financial burden to the Lucknow city slum dwellers.
- Special attention to vulnerable groups such as women, children, the disabled, and the aged.

- Local authorities need to be empowered with financial and human resources to deliver services and infrastructure to the slum dwellers in Lucknow city.
- State government has to develop strategies to prevent the formation of new slums. These should include access to affordable land, reasonably priced material, employment opportunities, and basic infrastructure.
- Public investment must focus on providing access to basic services and infrastructure to Lucknow city dwellers.
- The transportation need and safety concerns of a city's poorest residents should be a high priority in planning city transportation systems.
- Slum population should be made educated and trained to enable them to get work in both formal and non-formal economic activities.
- Government should also ensure adequate educational and health facilities in common with electricity and cooking fuel like LPG gas in the slum-dwelling areas.
- Regular health camps may be arranged by the local governments for improving the health conditions and quality of life of the slum dwellers of Lucknow city.
- The condition of slum is somewhat same in duration of ten years also, the reason behind no betterment in the condition being the attitude of slumdwellers of always looking for financial help.

## CONCLUSION

As the current pace of urbanization is bound to accelerate due to the factors of rural-urban migration and in situ population growth, we need to put our minds together to find meaningful solution to these problems. The prime objective of this paper is to examine the Quality of Life (QOL) of different slums of Lucknow city and suggest remedial measures to improve the QOL in slums dwellers. This paper is based on primary as well as secondary data. This paper exposes that 92% of families live in thatched houses; more than 56% people are still illiterate, less than 48% population access government medical facilities, more than 56% people go for open defecation, only 34% household use tap water and 84% areas have very poor sewage disposal facilities. This evaluation shows a wretched picture of slums and require better policies from government.

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