



Slums in Haryana: a Geographical Study

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ABSTRACT

The word 'slum' is often used to describe informal settlement within cities that have inadequate housing and miserable living conditions. Slums are not a new phenomenon. They have been a part of the history of almost all cities. The main reasons for slum proliferation to rapid and non inclusive pattern of urbanization catalyzed by increasing rural migration to urban areas. Thus the urban centres and big cities which are industrially developed have been the epicenter for slums origin and further expansion. Slums play malfunctioning as well as functional role in the economy and social sphere of any area city or town that is why it is of utmost importance to study all aspects of slums. Hence slums have their spatial dimensions so they get particular attention from geography discipline. Haryana is an economically and industrially developed state of India. Haryana has 75 slum reporting towns out of 154 towns in the state with 1265 slums which are a home to 3.2% slum population of total slum population of India.

The current study is mainly focused on the geographical distribution of slums in Haryana. For the purpose of the study Slum data released by Census of India was used this data was analyzed with suitable methods and maps were prepared as per the requirement. The results reveal that the major concentration of slums are found with three cities towns namely Faridabad, Panipat and Rohtak and slums are located surrounding the industrial and residential area mainly.

Introduction:

A slum is a heavily populated urban informal settlement characterized by substandard housing and squalor. While slums differ in size and other characteristics from country to country, most lack reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, timely law enforcement and other basic services. Slum residences vary from shanty houses to professionally-built dwellings that because of poor-quality design or construction have deteriorated into slums. Slums are those residential areas where dwellings are in any respect unfit for human habitation by reasons of dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangements and designs of such buildings, narrowness or faulty arrangement of streets, lack of ventilation, light, sanitation facilities or any combination of these factors which are detrimental to safety, health and morals.

Slum Population in India :

Slum Population simply refers to people living in slum areas below the poverty line. As India is still on the path of development, there is large number of people living below the poverty line. These people usually live in slum areas connected to the city. According to Government

sources, the Slum Population of India have exceeds the population of Britain. It has doubled in last two decades. According to last census in 2001, the slum-dwelling population of India had risen from 27.9 million in 1981 to 61.8 million in 2001. Indian economy has achieved a significant growth of 8 percent annually in last four years, but there is still large number of people nearly 1.1 billion still survives on less than 1 \$ (around 46 INR) in a day.

Increase in Indian Population over a period of time has also resulted in **slum population growth**. Despite of Government efforts to build new houses and other basic infrastructure, most of the people living in slum areas do not have electricity, water supply and cooking gas.

STATE SHARE OF SLUM POPULATION TO TOTAL SLUM POPULATION OF INDIA 2001

Maharashtra,	22.9	Andhra Pradesh,	12.0
Uttar Pradesh,	11.0	West Bengal,	8.9
Tamil Nadu,	8.1	Madhya Pradesh,	7.2
Karnataka,	4.5	NCT of Delhi #,	3.9
Gujarat,	3.8	Haryana,	3.2
Rajasthan,	3.0	Punjab,	2.8
Odisha,	2.1	Chhattisgarh,	2.1
Bihar,	1.6	Other State/UTs,	3.1
Maharashtra,	18.1	Andhra Pradesh,	15.6
West Bengal,	9.8	Uttar Pradesh,	9.5
Tamil Nadu,	8.9	Madhya Pradesh,	8.7
Karnataka,	5.0	Rajasthan,	3.2
Chhattisgarh,	2.9	NCT of Delhi #,	2.7
Gujarat,	2.6	Haryana,	2.5
Odisha,	2.4	Punjab,	2.2
Bihar,	1.9	Other State/UTs,	3.8

Parameters Used for Defining Slums

In 2001, Census of India divided Slum areas in the following manner:

- All specified areas in a town or city notified as 'Slum' by State/ Local Government and U.T. Administration under any Act including a 'Slum Act'.
- All areas recognized as 'Slum' by State/Local Government and UT Administration, Housing and Slum Boards, which may have not been formally notified as slum under any act.
- A compact area of at least 300 populations or about 60-70 households of poorly built congested tenements, in unhygienic environment usually with inadequate infrastructure and lacking in proper sanitary and drinking water facilities.

Table 1: Number of Statutory and Slum Reported Towns with Type Wise Slum Population

Name of State/Union Territory	Towns		Type wise Slum Population			
	Statutory Towns	Slum Reported Towns	Total Population	Notified Slums	Recognised Slums	Identified Slums
Haryana	80	75	16,62,305	14,912	0	16,47,393

Source: Primary Census Abstract for Slum, [2011]

Study Area:

The Present study covered Haryana state, a region in Northern India and is the nation's seventeenth most populous. The state borders with Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to the north and Rajasthan to the west and south. The river Yamuna defines its eastern border with Uttarakhnad and Uttar Pradesh. Haryana also surrounds Delhi on three sides, forming the northern, western and southern borders of Delhi. Consequently, a large area of Haryana is included in the National Capital Region. The name of Haryana is derived from Hari (the Hindu god Vishnu) and *aryana* (home), means "The Abode of God". The total geographical area of Haryana is 44,212 square kilometre. Haryana is a small State with 2.53 Lakh (Census of India 2011) Population. For administrative purposes, the State has been divided into 21 Districts.

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