



The Planning Strategy Elements and Policies for Improvement of Retarded Residential Areas (Slums) in Saharanpur City

KEYWORDS

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Introduction:-

Saharanpur city is the twelfth city of Uttar Pradesh state. It extends between latitude 29°55'04" to 29°59'07" north and longitude 77°30'53" to 77°35'10" east and is the districts headquarter. It is 504 Km. west of Lucknow, the state capital and 165 Km. north of Delhi, the capital of India.

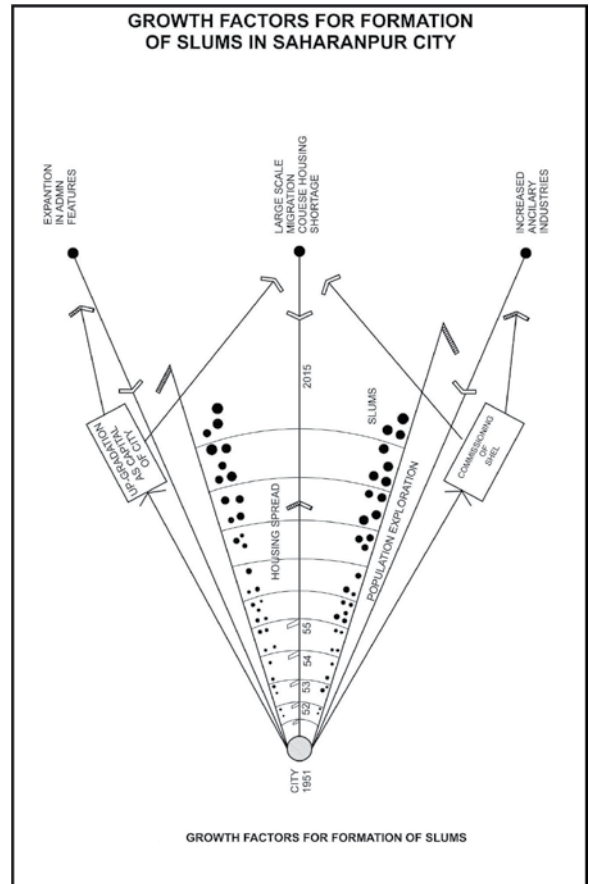
The city is situated in the North West part of U.P. and in Ganga-Yamuna Doab. In spite of these two main rivers 'Dhamola' River divides the city in two parts and 'Paondhoi River a tributary of Dhamola also flows parallel to it.

Saharanpur city is well connected. It has roads nearly for all directions. The main roads radiating from the city are to Behat in the North; to Dehradun (the capital of Uttara-Khand State) in the North-east, to Shamli, and Delhi in the South; to Nakur in the South West to Haridwar in the East, to Meerut in South-east; to Ambala, in the west.

Saharanpur is a global Wood carving destination, offering huge potential for developing a strong and broad-based wood carving tourism-centric economy. Roadblocks to realizing this potential are the city's poor sanitary conditions and unplanned developments that have inhibited the realization of its development prospects. The detail study of Saharanpur city with respect to their various components attains paramount importance in the frame work of Geographical phenomena is rapidly increasing pace of over-population, congestion and unhealthy living. The situation is exacerbated by high concentrations of slum and low-income settlements and lack of concerted-action to improve their environmental conditions on a citywide scale.

While there is a real estate boom on the one hand and there has been a rapid growth in slum conditions on the other hand. There is consensus that there are large numbers of poor people in the city – more than 60 to 70 % population live below the poverty line. The city continues to attract new migrants, many of who end up in informal settlements that would generally be regarded as slums. These areas are spread across the city, so that any action to deal with the related challenges has to be on a citywide scale. It is not a physical pattern that clearly separates better-off areas from others.

With increasing urbanisation, there has been an increasing demand for basic amenities like water and sanitation but the service providers have failed to keep pace with the demand. Inadequate sanitation services leading to open defecation on one hand and poor management of sanitation services on the other are the most critical aspects of urban living, Which lead to environmental and public health complications?



Objective of Study:-

- THE OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH PAPER IS TO STUDY the strategy for policy frame work and factors of action programmes in Saharanpur city.
- The Planning strategy for minimizing the slum and their improvement will be explained.
- The legal and institutional tools for implementing the policy frame work and action program will be explained.
- Another objective of this study is to frame out a future planning strategy for the improvement of life in urban areas and the people of Saharanpur city slum dwellers. In fact handling of problem requires numerous actions in a big way.
- Therefore to achieve the above objective, general information regarding slums would be connected from various agencies and sources like Saharanpur Nagar Nigam, Town and Country Planning Deptt., Saharanpur

Development Authority etc.

Methodology of Study:-

The methodology adopted for fulfilling the objective of the study is as follows:

- a. The Policy data on the slums will be collected from different sources.
- b. The current strategies for the improvement of life in slum under different schemes will be reviewed.
- c. A future strategy for the improvement of life in urban slums and city Saharanpur in particular will be evolved.
- d. Descriptive method to describe and interpret various facts will also be adopted.

Strategy Elements: -

The planning strategy for improvement of life in urban slums must include the following elements.

- a. Recognizing the problem in wider context and establishing the realistic goals and objectives.
- b. Securing political commitments at every level.
- c. Making financial resources available.
- d. Taking care of necessary institutional measures.
- e. Handling technological and structural problems.
- f. Selecting and developing appropriate techniques.

Policies For Minimizing The Potential Slums: - These are

- a. Policy of cities planned urbanization and land allocation for shelter less migrants near work centers.
- b. Policy regional spatial plans should be envisaged to check policy regional spatial plans should be envisaged to check the unmanageable rush towards the cities.
- c. Policy of min. public subsidy: as our public funds and recourses are limited, this policy is essential to required help maximum number of slum dwellers.
- d. Policy of creating and developing low cost settlements: the low cost settlements must be planned and developed with new concepts, innovative techniques and community participation.
- e. Policy of enacting appropriate land ceiling act: This policy is essential to control mass holdings of land by individuals and also to check speculations on land transfers.
- f. Policy of and providing liberal loans to migrants: Suitable actions are required, as slum dwellers are unable to improve their life from their resources alone. Their improvement of life should be considered as a larger concern of city dwellers.
- g. Policy of accepting slum dwellers as essential component of urban functions: as slum dwellers work for most of the city functions at very low cost, their living should be considered as a part of city development process.
- h. Policy of encouraging research and development activities: The incentives must be given for research and development activity for developing low cost settlements with low cost shelters and infra structure.
- i. Policy of adopting housing as an input to economic development as housing activities generate employment, investment in the housing must be considered as important input to economic development. Hence suitable actions should be evolving to expand the housing activities in general and for slum dwellers in particular.
- j. Policy of making housing agencies strong and sound for effective implementation of policy programmes

and estate management: under this policy the housing agencies should be given sufficient legal powers and finances to implement all policies and programmes effectively

Policies For Improving The Existing Slums: - These Policies are

- a. Policy of affordability: Policy of improving shelters and shelter infrastructure should be carried out under minimum need programme in stages with priority of slum dwellers to those items which they can economically afford in the framework of their life style.
- b. Policy of identifying the slum settlement for improvement: to utilize funds and resources optimally under the policy priority should be given to those settlements for selections where living condition are worst. Once slums are selected for improvement time bound action programmes should be initiated.
- c. Policy for providing technical knowhow to slum dwellers: Under this policy provisions should be made for improvement of their shelter and infrastructure with minimum cost and maximum efficiency.
- d. Policy of introducing low cost technology with community participation: Under this policy provisions should be made for self help and invective technologies for improving shelter and shelter infra structure of slum dwellers.
- e. Policy of adopting of diagnostic survey and conservative surgery: Especially for in complicated slums policy should direct through surveys identification of such shelters and shelter infra structure which can be removed and on lands so vacated the new shelters and infra structures can be built for their rehabilitation.
- f. Policy for improving shelters and shelter, infrastructure: Under this policy priorities of slum dwellers should be considered at the top rather than the priorities of Municipal Corporation.
- g. Policy of the optimum use of land, shelter and infra structure in combination with access to work: Under this policy stress should be given on education and social facilities for overall improvement of life of the slum dwellers. A computer based system approach for use of available lands, shelters and shelter infra structure having integrated road network can play a vital role.
- h. Policy of socio-economic upliftment of slum dwellers: Under this policy all slum dwellers should be considered for continuation of housing security.
- i. Policy of improving slums in rural-urban environment: as most of the slum dwellers are from rural areas, programmes for improving their life must have rural - urban orientation.
- j. Policy of providing training to slum dwellers for urban living: Under this policy for socio-economic upliftment of slum dwellers at community level, awareness for pollution free environment is essential. Hence programme under this policy need training of slum dwellers for better urban living for environmental improvement.
- k. Policy of subsidy: Under this policy rate of interest should minimum and for longer return period.
- l. Policy of separating slum improvement schemes from general public housing schemes: Under this policy separate funds and resources should be allocated.
- m. Policy of interest free loans to employees from employers: Under this policy employees should be entitled for having interest free loans to improve their shel-

ters and shelter infra structure.

- n. Policy for setting up material and tool bank: This policy will assist slum dwellers to improve their living conditions in slum settlements.
- o. Policy of evolving standards for slum improvement: This policy will reduce the burden on public funds and resources and help the slum dwellers for their intimate involvement in their shelter construction improvement.
- p. Policy for encouraging research and development activities: Necessarily of this policy is felt for improving the shelter and shelter infra structure with minimum cost.
- q. Policy for planning and development of areas: This policy will also help the slum dwellers in improving their shelters and shelter infra structure by using local and scrape materials.

Implementation Of Policy Frame Work And Action Programmes:- These are two type. First is legal and physical tool and second is Institutional tool.

A. LEGAL AND PHYSICAL TOOL: - Legal And Physical tools are mainly required to motivate the savings of slum dwellers and channelize the improvement programmes for their shelter and shelter infra structure. The tools may also motivate the following.

- a. To concentrate, the city authorities on positive programmes of improvement in a specified time.
- b. To compel the public and statutory bodies and also Lange private concerns for investment. Part of their profits in providing shelter and shelter infra structure to slum dwellers.
- c. To boast the moral of slum dwellers for improving their life.
- d. To increase the allocation of public funds for the cause of slum dwellers.

B. Institutional Tool: - These tools are required to reduce the future growth of slum settlements through effective management and prevent slummy conditions in existing slums. Following conditions are required to be created by this tool:

- a. Control and regulation of migrants to existing slums by providing them temporary shelters and jobs in planned way.
- b. Arrangements of financial help and Building materials to needy households for improving their shelter and shelter infra structure.
- c. Development of research activities for local/ scrap building materials and construction techniques.
- d. Improvement shelters and shelter infrastructure in a area as a model for slum areas.
- e. Training of the slum dwellers and also of new migrants for urban living with communicable, social & cultural change.
- f. Supply of technical information and promotion of self help & community participation for construction and improvement of shelter and shelter infrastructure.

Planning Strategy Recommendation:- The planning strategy or physical development of the slum areas will be explained. Recommendation for environmental development will be made. The socio-economic development and its recommendation will be suggested. Recommendation will also be made for government city development authorities.

Techno-Physical Strategy Recommendations:- Only those households should be shifted from their Jhuggies who

voluntary decide to shift and the space available of such Jhuggies should be used for providing shelter infra structure.

- a. As sizeable proportion of urban population live in slums, the strategy should be to improve all slums rather than clearing and relocating them.
- b. For improving the slums provisions must be made for basic infra structure such as water supply sanitation, drainage, street lighting and paved pathways at shelter and settlement level based on the priorities and affordability of the dwellers.
- c. Appropriate technology should be evolved which may involve intimate participation of slum dwellers and allow the use of local and scrap material in building shelter and shelter infra structure.
- d. Some model houses should be built within the slum settlement demonstrating the use of local and scrap materials for improvement in Jhuggi spaces and their structural condition.
- e. Slums for improvement should be selected on 'priority basis'. The method to be adopted for selection of slums should be based on Kanpur Urban Development Project I Shelter component and slum up gradation component.

Socio-Economic Strategy Recommendations: - An institutional frame work should be developed for providing easy access to slum dwellers to get finances for improvement their shelter and shelter services.

- a. To increase the economy of slum dwellers they should be encouraged to run cottage industries/ service industries like wooden box making, pickle making, cloth sewing, basket making, fabricating brooms, cigarettes making, envelop making, thread making, grinding masala etc. on cooperative basis.
- b. The frame work should also be developed to give liberal loans to slum dwellers for setting up service industries like carpentry, puncher repair shop, inexpensive recycled constructional materials for immediate use, shoe making etc.
- c. Since slum dwellers keep the wheels of city economy moving at very low cost, more funds should be made available by the government for the improvement of their shelter and shelter services. Govt. should have separate allocation of funds for slum improvement programmes.
- d. Action programmes for improvement and maintenance of slums must include the active self help and community approach of slum dwellers.
- e. Tenure rights should be conferred to all existing slum dwellers especially on land which are shown for residential purposes in the development plans.
- f. As women are considered more sincere in maintaining their Jhuggi, all the legal and financial assistance must be extended to women to build, develop and maintain their Jhuggies.

Environmental Strategy Recommendations: - As slums are the breeding places of dresses stress should be move on improving environmental qualities than shelter improvement.

- a. The morphology and ecology of the settlement should be maintained. There should be absolute minimum is location of Jhuggies to convert their organic growth into planned growth.
- b. Recycling of cow dung, human excreta and garbage may be planned to provide bio gas.
- c. Rural urban environment should be created by involv-

ing slum dwellers so that their life style may not be drastically danged.

Legal Strategy Recommendations:- These legal strategy recommendations are

- a. All those households, who have illegal electric connections, their connections may be made authorized by the government at very nominal rate, say Rs. 10/- a month. The money so collected can further be used for improvement programmes.
- b. Provisions should be made so that private employers may provide interest free loans to their employees for improving their shelter and shelter infra structure.
- c. Strict regulations with constant vigilance should be enforced to stop sale of Jhuggies to higher income groups.
- d. Provisions should also be made to cut short the procedure of taking loans for improving the shelter and shelter infrastructure.

Conclusions: - Slums are invariable in the context of urban development which is essential for the overall socio economic development of the City. Hence the concept of removing the slums, especially when funds and resources are limited, should go away. We should have now the concept of improving slums only.

The experience of policies and action programmes, so far implemented, indicate that if they are successful at one place need not necessarily be successful at other places. It means that there is no universal strategy of policy framework and action programmes which can be applied even where to solve the problem of slum dwellers. The problem rather requires deep studies at local level and strategy treatment accordingly.

City need to recognize that the urban poor are active agents and not just beneficiaries of development. Developing cities requires local solutions. Local authorities need to be empowered with financial and human resources to deliver services and infrastructure to the urban poor. Cities should draw up local long-term strategies for improving the lives of slum dwellers. Local governments should develop strategies to prevent the formation of new slums. These should include access to affordable land, reasonably priced materials, employment opportunities, and basic infrastructure and social services.

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