ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Geography

IMPACT OF GLOBALISATIONON SLUMS: A CASE STUDY OF TIRUPATI

T. Janardhan	Department of Geography, S.V.University, TIRUPATI - 517 502, AP
N. Nagabhushanam	Prof, Department of Geography, S.V.University, TIRUPATI - 517 502, AP

ABSTRACT

The slum is not only a manifestation of mismanaged urban planning in the countries of the South. The existence of slums worldwide is also a sign that the slum is a crucial element of contemporary urbanisation. This article will attempt to define this phenomenon and understand its causes. Adequate policy responses are then suggested. Without finding appropriate solutions to the housing problems of a majority of urban dwellers, public and private decision makers will not be able to meet the challenges of sustainable development. Tirupati has the population of 3.81 lakhs, 118990 are living notified, non-notified slums and poor areas. Majority of them are leading their life as daily wage labourers, under employed labourers, seasonal labourers etc. At present there are 69 poor settlements in the town, out of which 42 are notified and 27 non notified slums.

INTRODUCTION

Many urban areas in India are drowning in their own waste, threatening both the environment and public health. Innovative solutions and better citizen involvement are direly needed to overcome this dangerous trend. Over-population, slum conditions, and poverty are not always prime issues created simply by lack of resources or capital. The urban environment is highly complex. In the past, public policies have aimed at eradicating slums, without taking into account the potential of their inhabitants to resolve the very problems which slums reputedly generate. Especially in the contemporary era of globalisation, it is important to stress the resources that slums can offer the 'chaotic' city. This requires a reassessment of views on urbanisation. Sustainable urban development will only be possible if concentrate on solving the problems of the majority of urban population in ways that make use of their own creativity and involve them in decision-making. According to a whole range of material, natural and socio-economic indicators on developing countries, spatial and demographic urban growth is characterised by the deterioration of physical, economic and social living conditions for a large and increasing part of the urban population.

SLUMS AND URBANISATION

The slum is characterised by the precarious nature of its habitat. But it is much more than that: it can genuinely be seen as a 'hothouse' of cultural creativity, economic invention and social innovation. Classic urban planning principles are based on comprehensive planning regarding land allocation, infrastructural organisation, and decisions on technical services and networks. In the slums, however, this technocratic approach is undermined by the social practices of individuals, families and social groups, particularly the poorer ones. These actors resort to their own emergency solutions to urban integration problems, and they do so at the micro-level at which these problems are posed – generally the plot of land, the house, and then the district. In most cases the result is an individual or family construction on a plot of land which is occupied either illegally or by informal agreement, without being connected to the customary utilities.

This discrepancy may lead to two opposing tendencies: the denial of the 'social fact' by urban planners and the corresponding implementation of a repressive policy aiming to destroy whatever infrastructure or housing has been created outside official regulations and standards, and; the establishment of alternative policies aiming to reorganise and rehabilitate slum areas on the basis of what the resident communities have undertaken themselves. The question of land ownership is one of the fundamental issues regarding slums in developing countries like India. In many poor areas of the city most people do not own the land on which they have built their house[1]. In certain cases customary forms of land occupancy still exist, and the plot is allotted to a family by the local community. On rare occasions, this solution is legally recognised by the state. Generally though, land occupancy is willfully ignored in favour of existing administrative, financial and regulatory procedures, often based on Western legislation imposed during the colonial era. They will depend on the political will of the authorities, the lobbying and negotiating capacities of the affected population and on the innovative measures implemented to regulate land ownership. This perhaps lies at the crux of the problem as the vast majority of the urban poor suffer precarious forms of territorial integration, leaving much scope for conflicts between urban investors and the social needs of local inhabitants[2].

SLUMS AS A MEASURE OF URBAN GROWTH

The slum question is not marginal to urban development – it is at its very heart. Urban growth takes place primarily in developing countries in which population moves from rural to urban regions at a very fast pace. Around 32 per cent of the world's total urban population lives in slums and 43 per cent of the urban population of all developing regions combined lives in slums. Moreover, 78 per cent of the urban population in the least developed countries lives in slums and 6 percent of the urban population in developed regions lives in slum-like conditions. The total number of slum dwellers in the world increased by about 36 per cent during the 1990s and in the next 30 years the global number of slum dwellers will increase to about two billion if no concerted action to address the challenge of slums is taken. The scale of the urban-rule shift is more perceivable if looked at in historical perspective. Globally, this proportion is likely to reach 60 per cent by 2030, due primarily to urbanisation in the developing world[3]. This trend goes hand in hand with an explosion of metropolitan centres of over one million inhabitants. Worldwide, there were 12 such cities in 1900, 83 in 1950, and 411 in 2000. Nevertheless, in 2003 the United Nations Population Division confirmed that a majority of the current three billion city dwellers – who will become five billion by 2030 – still live in small or medium-sized urban agglomerations. In the developing countries, 16 per cent of the population lives in a megalopolis of over five million inhabitants, 24 per cent in a metropolis of one to five million, 9.4 per cent in an agglomeration of 500,000 to one million inhabitants and 50.5 per cent in cities of less than 500,000 inhabitants[4].

LIVING CONDITIONS

The precarious conditions in the developing countries should not blind us to the fact that poverty, environmental deterioration and social segregation are by no means only to be found in the poorest countries on our planet. Such a view would overlook major aspects of urban history, and socio-spatial disparities that even today cause Western cities to tolerate poverty zones. Using household waste as an example, it reminded us that between the 12th and the 19th centuries unsanitary[5]. Most slum-dwellers live in the urban agglomerations of developing countries, it is estimated that six per

cent of urban dwellers in the rich countries live under extremely precarious conditions, while public expenditure for subsidised housing and urban rehabilitation is spiralling downward. Further shortages and even more precarious living conditions may be feared as a result[6].

SLUMS AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE AGE OF GLOBALISATION

The urbanisation of the world is not a new phenomenon; in fact it is a long-term process that has transformed our societies over the centuries. People congregated in towns and cities, took up increasingly diverse economic activities, and there was a shift from agriculture and husbandry to crafts, trades and industry. The city – and its current mutant forms such as urban agglomerations, metropolization and metapolization was and is at the heart of the restructuring of human societies. The role of urban centres changes throughout history – and also varies according to the continent – but their central position remains. The conditions for their sustainable development cannot be determined uniquely by internal contingencies. Cities and their inhabitants depend heavily on external resources – energy, natural resources, food, and labour. On the other hand, the economic and social activities of their residents generate impacts that go well beyond their spatial and demographic boundaries. Only by analysing the interaction between the cities, regional, national and international development will it be possible to design a 'sustainable coherent development strategy'[7].

Existing economic and political relations between the North and the South are characterised by the fact that the use of existing resources, access to services and infrastructures, and consumption of these goods is increasingly inequitable. On all continents, another socio-spatial division that is becoming increasingly apparent is the primacy of urban centres over rural regions, and – in the urban network – the rising supremacy of very large agglomerations over secondary and intermediate cities. This metropolisation process is evident in the most industrialised countries and is gathering speed in the developing regions. Limits on financial and human capacities give an unquestionable advantage to metropolitan centres and large agglomerations 'connected' to major national and international networks. This in turn influences political and economic decisions as to public and private investment in planning, collective goods and economic infrastructure [8].

The combined dynamics of demographic growth, urbanisation, trade, globalisation and the spread of advanced technologies, deregulation and increasingly precarious social conditions all combine to create the impression that in developing countries urban areas will continue to grow in a dual discriminatory fashion: territorial fragmentation, with increasingly limited areas of prosperity and well-being surrounded by areas of social exclusion. This process will be marked by increasingly informal relationships, particularly in the economic sphere, giving rise to individual and social insecurity. Against such a backdrop, the slogan launched by the UN in its Human Settlements Program of 'cities without slums' appears to be based more on an act of faith than on analysis[9].

TIRUPATHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Tirupathi Municipal Corporation is the 1st largest ULB in the Chittoor district of A.P. it is spread over an area of 27.44 Sq. Kms. with a population of 374260 (2011 census). It is known for/famous for its Spiritual City foot hill Town of Tirumala Hills and abode of Lord Venkateswara. Tirupati Municipal Corporation is the civic body that governs the city of Tirupati in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.[10] It is one of the three corporations in the state, alongside Kakinada and Visakhapatnam to feature in *Smart City* project.[11] The Tirupati Municipality was formed on 1 April 1886. The municipality saw many gradations over the years and formed as Municipal Corporation on 2 March 2007. The following table shows the timeline of the municipality[12]The area of Tirupati Municipal Corporation was 16.59 km^2 (6.41 sq mi), when it was formed as a corporation. The present area after expansion is 24 km^2 (9.3 sq mi).[13] The corporation population as per the 2011

census was 287,035. It is located 550 Kms. from Capital city and 71 Kms. from District Headquarters. It was established as 3rd grade Municipality in the year 1-4-1886 and upgraded as Municipal Corporation with w.e.f. 2-3-2007. There are no zones/and 50 election wards in this municipality.

Urban Poor

Out of the population of 3.81 lakhs population of the town, 118990 are living notified, non-notified slums and poor areas. Majority of them are leading their life as daily wage labourers, under employed labourers, seasonal labourers etc. At present there are 69 poor settlements in the town, out of which 42 are notified and 27 non-notified slums. The condition of living environment like roads, drainage facilities, housing, electricity , basic education, health are not bad but definitely needs improvement. Their participation in Government programmes like Janmma Bhoomi Programme, Clean & Green, Family Planning, Adult Education etc is immensely good in fact they are the back bones to any kind of programme of the Government.

CONCLUSION

A wealth of examples proves that public policies fostering sustainable and socially equitable cities are possible, both locally and nationally. Numerous studies conducted in all the regions of the world and define several requirements for sustainable change: a regulatory framework effective enough to control the environmental impact of urban development; enhanced organisational capacities of municipal administrations, the reinforcement of community-based organisations; mutual respect for the legitimate interests of other urban stakeholders, and the sharing of the benefits from cooperative efforts. The three major players – communities, non-profit organisations and state institutions – must seek synergies to defend and promote the common good in the urban sphere.

REFERENCES
1. Durand-Lasserve, Alain and Poyston, Lauren (Eds.) (2002) 'Holding their Ground. Secure Land Tenure for the Urban Poor in Developing Countries', London: Earthscan.
2. Farvacque-Vitkovic, Catherine and McAuslan, Patrick (1993), Politiques foncie`res des villes en de´veloppement, Paris: Adef.
3. UN-HABITAT (United Nations Human Settlements Programme) (2003), The Challenge of Slums. Global Report on Human Settlements 2003, London: Earthscan.
4. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division 2003, World Urbanization Prospects, The 2003 Revision, New York: UNO.
5. Lieberherr, Franc¸oise (1998), Waste, Waste Nothing but Waste. From 12th-19th Century Paris to 20th Century Developing Countries, Bern: SDC.
6. Ruffin, Franc¸ois(2003), 'Dans les ghettos de la pauvrete´ urbaine. Le logement social, entre pe´nurie et se´gre´gation', Le Monde, Diplomatique, November 2003, p.4.
7. Ascher, Franc¸ois, 2000, Ces e´ve´nements nous de´passent, feignons d'en e^tre les organisateurs. Essai sur la socie´te´ contemporaine, Paris: e´d. l'Aube.
8. UNCHS (2003) Urban Poverty in Africa. Selected Countries' Experiences. Africa Forum on Urban Poverty, Nairobi: UNCHS.
9. "Tirupati Municipal Corporation". *Tirupati Municipal Corporation. Archived from the original on 8 February 2015,* Retrieved on 10th November 2015.
10. Rangarajan, A.D. (28 October 2015). "A local touch to 'smart city' project", *The Hindu*, Retrieved on 10 November 2015.
11. "Basic Information of Municipality". *Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.* Retrieved on 10th November 2015.
12. "About Tirupati", *Tirupati Municipal Corporation. Archived from the original on 7 July 2015,* Retrieved on 10th November 2015.
13. "Tirupati civic body aims to touch Rs.100 cr. revenue". *The Hindu. Tirupati, 25 June 2015,* Retrieved on 21st July 2015.