



Socio - economical study of slum working women residing in Varanasi city's slums

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Abstract

Slums women are lives worst living condition in the world. Varanasi's slum working women's living in very poor condition. This paper reports a study of the socio economic conditions of slum working women residing in Varanasi slums. . The study consisted of 293 working women from different slum area of Varanasi city. Here the paper endeavors to investigate and analyze the socio economic condition of slum working women in Varanasi slum, in the terms of various indicators of socio economic like religion, caste category, education, types of family, members of family types of family groups, types of house, and place of their work. The paper also explores the problem faced by slum working women in their personal and professional life.

Keywords – socio- economic, condition, worst, working, investigated, explores, professional life.

1- Introduction

The sprouting of slums in the urban areas is the direct outcome of greater economic opportunities available in the cities and towns the demonstration effect of improved standard of living prevailing in the urban area has also attracted not only the population from smaller settlements, but also the rural migrant to almost all the major urban centers resulting in the emergence of slums even in the heart of the cities. As women make of the majority of slum resident it is also their suffering that makes up the highest suffering percapita. One of challenges facing women in slums and poverty are health and especially maternal health. The women residents of slums are in exponentially worse conditions



because of lack of clean and sanitary water. Without a complete health infrastructure overhaul there is little hope of dramatic health improvements socio economic status shows individual's living standard, life style and all over development and progress. The education, occupation are the most important elements in study of socio economic status of population. Besides this elements age cast and decision making power are also taken in to consideration slum is a place of adjustment with nature and compromise with life needs for survives in worst condition.

Poverty is an unseparable of slum dwellers. So the slum population is back word socially and economically poverty effects the health nutrition and education. Due to poverty economic status is lower so education level is low unskilled or low skill, so the economic status of slum dwellers is low. To improve this lower economic condition and try to support family income. Some are house heeded women. But all women are low educated or illiterate. So they have poor knowledge of economic management therefore there is needed to study of the socio economic.

Social economic status shows individual's living standard, life style and all over

development and progress. The education, occupation are the most important elements in study of socio-economic status of population. Besides this element age, caste marital status, types of house and sources of drinking water are also taken into consideration. It is difficult to define slums precisely as slums are the product of socio-economic conditions of socio- economic condition of particular areas and vary from region to region and nation to nation. Scholars have tried to define slums in different way from time to time.

Varanasi city

Varanasi is one of the oldest cities in continuous habitation in the world with a history dating back to more than 300 years. It is major religious cultural and educational center of India. Varanasi is also famous for its handy craft and silk weaving industry. Varanasi has 227 slums spread all over the city. Factors that have contributed to slum development in Varanasi include migration of people in search of jobs. Availability of cheap living alternatives such as outsidetemples. Where they get food from the offering of the pilgrims or tourist. The existing tourism base of the city creates

opportunities for employment generation. Especially of unskilled labor

2- Review of literature

The review of literature revealed that very little study has been done on socio economic condition of working women living slums of Varanasi city. The present study of therefore taken up in order to know the impact of education and place of work on their socio economic condition of women living in slum of Varanasi city.

3- Objective

The basic objectives was to know about the socio economic condition of the working slum women of Varanasi city.

Know about the impact of education in their place of work.

Explore the problem faced by slum working women in their life of Varanasi city.

4- Research methodology

Locale of the study – Present study conducted in Uttar Pradesh state, which was selected purposely.

Sampling plan –

Selection of district – Varanasi district was taken up purposively as for the demand of the topic.

Selection of slums - Varanasi district has 227 slums. 12 slums (5% of 227) were selected with the help of convenience sampling methods.

S.N.	Selected Slum	No.of Household	Number of selected respondents (5% of total household no.)
1	Lahartara boulia	847	43
2	Sunderpur harijan basti	150	8
3	Karoundi	801	40
4	Sigra harijan basti	232	12
5	Lahartara nayibasti kabeermath	307	16
6	Sunderpur	235	12
7	Chhittupur harijan basti	555	28
8	Bhogabeer	382	19
9	Nagwan	987	48
10	Durgakund	354	18
11	Bhadeeni deveriyabeer	527	26
12	Newada Nat basti	465	23



total	12 Slums		293
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Selection of respondents and source of data - The respondents are the main source of data. 5 percent household from the list of each selected slum, were selected with the help of convenience sampling methods. The required information were collected from only working female of the family of selected household as respondent. Finally, total number of respondents for this study was 293 slums working women

Data collection - Data was collected from primary as well as secondary sources. The primary data are those, which all collected a fresh and for the first time and those supposed to be original in character. The primary data pertain to study about socio economic status of working slums women, explore their educational status and know about problem they faced while working according the objectives of the study. Data has been collected from selected respondents by using personal interview technique. At time of primary data collection structured interview schedule was used. Each of the selected respondents was personally interviewed. Questions were asked in the local (Hindi, Bhojpuri) dialect. The critical observation were noted on spot by the investigator. The

secondary data are those which are collected by someone else and which have already passed through the statistical process. The secondary data such as detailed information about district, slums, number of slums, population of slums etc. had been collected from the concern government organization such as Vikash Bhawan, DUDA office.

Study duration – the study was conducted from November 2013 to October 2017

Statistical analysis – the data were processed to undergo statistical analysis using SPSS windows program. Microsoft word and Microsoft excel were used to represent the tabular and chart icon.

5-Results

The study presented that 30.4% slums working women between were between 36-45 years age group while 79.9% females belong to Hindu community and 39.3% were belongs to O.B.C. caste category. Among them 59.0% were illiterate while 70.3% were married. Most of them 53.6% belong to nuclear family among them most 60.4% of the females belong to 4- 6 members of family. (Table.1)

Table 1 socio demographics characteristics of respondents (N=293)

Age group	Frequencies	Percentage
16-25 Yrs.	80	27.3
26-35 Yrs.	77	26.3
36-45 Yrs.	89	30.4
46-55 Yrs.	15	1.5
Caste category		
General	15	1.5
O.B.C	115	39.3
S.C.	80	27.3
S.T	83	26.3
Religion		
Hindu	234	79.9
Muslim	36	12.3
Christian	23	7.8
Marital status		
Unmarried	42	14.3
Married	206	70.3
Widow	26	8.9
Divorcee	19	6.5
Education		
Illiterate	173	59.0
Literate	60	20.5
Up to 10 th	50	17.1
Up to 12 th	10	3.4
Types of family		
Joint family	136	46.4
Nuclear family	157	53.6
Members of family		
4-6 members	177	60.4
7-8 members	57	19.5
9-10 members	57	19.5
More than 10	2	0.7

Among the respondents 47.4% were working as a domestic worker while 37.2% females were working because of financial problems, 37.9% respondents lived in kuchha houses and 67.6% respondents belong to lower

socioeconomic family. Among the respondents only 44.3% respondents were had toilet facilities while 51.5% respondents were got pipe line water facilities. (Table 2)

Table 2 socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents (N=393)

Place of work	Frequencies	Percentage
Domestic worker	139	47.4
NGOs	42	14.3
Self-employee	23	7.8
Vender	25	8.5
In shop	12	4.1
Other	52	17.7
Reasons of work *1		
Financial problems	109	37.2
For better life	94	32.1
By force/ forcefully	22	7.5
Non-working husband	12	5.1
Multiple reasons	53	18.
Housing patterns		
Kuccha	111	37.9
pucca	39	13.3
Semi pucca	71	24.2
Mud/etc.	72	24.6
Economic condition of family*2		
Lower	200	67.6
Lower middle	93	31.4
Toilet facilities		
Yes	130	44.3
Common	89	30.4
No habits to use toilet	74	25.3
Water sources such as		
Bore well	10	3.4
Pipe line	151	51.5
Others	132	45.1

*1 multiple responses.

*2 economic condition of the family is calculated by precipitate income of the family and members in the family and categorized by according to *G.B. Prasad socio economic scale 2016*.

There is no positive or strongly significant between educational status and their field of work. Most of the respondents work as domestic worker, their educational qualification does not affect them much more. (Table 3)

Table 3 distribution of the respondent's place of work according to their education

Place of work	Education of the females									
	Illiterate		Literate		Up to 10 th		Up to 12 th		Total	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Domestic worker	82	47.4	28	46.7	27	54.0	2	20.0	139	47.4
NGOs	28	16.2	9	15.2	5	10.0	0	0.0	42	14.3
Self-employee	8	4.6	7	11.7	6	12.0	2	20.0	23	7.8
Vendor	15	8.7	7	11.7	2	4.0	1	10.0	25	8.5
In shop	8	4.7	2	3.3	2	4.0	0	0.0	12	4.1
Others	32	18.5	7	11.7	8	16.0	5	50.0	52	17.7
Total	173	100	60	100	50	100	10	100	293	100

Among the respondents 29% respondents were having house related problems and 56.9% females faced family related problems while working. 39.2% faced health related

problems and 30.3% respondents faced employment related problem while working. (Table 4)

Table 4 distribution of the respondents according to problem they faced in their slum and while working (N=293)*

Multiple problem	Frequencies	Percentage
Drinking water	59	20.1
Electricity	7	2.3
Road	35	11.9
Housing	85	29.0
Health services	68	23.2
Fuel	42	14.3
Problems faced while working		
Family related problems	167	56.9
Health related problems	115	39.2
Employment related problems	89	30.3

*multiple responses.

Here family related problems means all problem the faced while working related to family such as help in family work, problem regarding children, problem regarding in-laws etc. and employment related problems such as transportation problems, securities, late on work place etc.

6- Discussion

Result founded that in the slum of Varanasi city most of female workers were between 36-45 years age group while most of them belongs to Hindu community. Among them most of the working women were married and half of them population were illiterate and belong to the nuclear family again half of them belongs to those family who have 4-6

family members. Considerable numbers of women works as domestic workers and their main reasons of work was the financial problems. More than half of the population belongs to the lower class of family while among them considerable number of population were having toilet facilities. Education does not affect much more them. Health problems are not severe issue here. May be they are not able to diagnose it well. Family related problem is issue of concern here.

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