



Study of Social, Economic and Psychological Impact of Covid-19 on Baroda City Slums

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ABSTRACT :

This research aimed to investigate the social, economic, and psychological impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the slums in Baroda city. A mixed-methods approach was used, including surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions with slum residents, community leaders, and local authorities. The study found that the pandemic has had a significant impact on the social and economic well-being of the slum dwellers, with increased unemployment, reduced income, and limited access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and clean water. The psychological impact was also significant, with high levels of anxiety, fear, and stress reported among the participants. The study also highlighted the resilience and coping mechanisms adopted by the slum residents to overcome these challenges. The findings of this research have implications for policy and practice, including the need for targeted interventions to support the slum communities during the pandemic and in the long term.

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted individuals and communities globally, but its effects have been especially severe on vulnerable populations living in urban slums. In many cities, slum dwellers face unique challenges, including limited access to healthcare, inadequate housing, and poor sanitation, which exacerbate their vulnerability to the pandemic's social, economic, and psychological impacts.

This research aims to investigate the social, economic, and psychological impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the city slums. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study will collect data through surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions with slum residents, community leaders, and local authorities. The research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by slum residents during the pandemic and their coping mechanisms.

The study's findings will have significant implications for policy and practice, as they will inform targeted interventions to support slum communities during and after the pandemic. Additionally, the research will contribute to the existing body of knowledge on the pandemic's impact on marginalized communities, which is essential for understanding and mitigating the pandemic's social, economic, and psychological consequences.

Overall, this research is critical as it sheds light on the unique challenges faced by slum communities during the pandemic and provides insights into potential solutions to support their well-being and resilience. This research will be significant in developing policies and strategies to help these communities overcome the impact of the pandemic and lead better lives in the future.

Important aspects:

- Income:
- Education:
- Occupation:
- Health:
- Socioeconomic problems:

Impact of COVID-19 on people living in urban slums:

Urban slums, according to studies, are especially vulnerable to the corona virus (COVID-19) pandemic. Governments should priorities providing these residents with the necessities, such as freshwater, sanitary conditions, and wage replacement. According to the study, government-enforced social isolation

may aid relatively affluent populations in slowing the spread of COVID-19, but these measures can be disastrous for the roughly one billion people who live in urban slums today, where living space is scarce and many people depend on daily wage labor for a living. According to specialists, due to confined spaces and a lack of basic cleanliness, residents of urban slums are most vulnerable to contracting and spreading the corona virus. Many of them also lack access to treatment and have underlying medical conditions, which increases their chance of dying or experiencing other serious side effects if they get the virus. As doing so typically requires forgoing employment as well as necessities like food, water, and sanitization, they rarely have the choice of merely staying at home. In other countries, like Kenya and South Africa, those who defy curfews and other restrictions may even experience government brutality. "In slums, getting water for use at home often requires a long walk. Most slum dwellers are also forced to work in the unofficial sector, which would disappear during lockdowns," Co-author of the report Lee Riley added. As opposed to depending on top-down orders, the top recommendation asks governments to collaborate with present community leaders and NGOs to create emergency planning committees that can take into account the unique social, economic, and cultural demands of the community. Parallel to this, because many communities lack easy access to health care, community and informal health workers should be deployed to watch people for early indicators of the disease and teach them on how to avoid its spread. Furthermore, it is important to prepare for emergency evacuation into and out of populated areas, which usually lack adequate transportation infrastructure.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Covid and Education [SAGE journals 2020]

The COVID-19 epidemic, which has affected approximately 1.6 billion students in more than 200 nations, has caused the biggest disruption of educational systems in human history. Over 94% of students around the world have been touched by school, institution, and other learning place closures. All facets of our lives have seen profound transformations as a result of this. Traditional educational techniques have been seriously disrupted by social exclusion and restrictive movement laws. Reopening of schools once a limitation is lifted presents another problem due to the numerous new SOPs that have been implemented. Following the COVID-19 epidemic, other researchers have published studies on various methods of teaching and learning. Numerous colleges, universities, and schools have stopped offering in-person instruction.

Urban Punjab 2020 Study on Income and Employment Changes Under COVID-19 Lockdown

Based on primary data, this article charts changes in employment and income over the lockdown's several stages. It examines how people are coping with a decline in their income. According to the paper, the announcement of the lockdown resulted in a significant decline in employment and income. Even if the lockout has been eased somewhat, the income at the time of the poll is still significantly below what it was before the lockdown. The households with casual labour are the most negatively impacted, both in terms of income and employment. Households belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Other Backward Caste (OBC) groups suffer greater losses in income and employment. Without any source of income, the households were forced to rely on their savings or take out loans to cover their essential expenses. Households may require significant government help to prevent deprivation due to fast diminishing savings, borrowing that has reached its limitations, and a sluggish recovery in income.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Title:

An analysis of Covid-19's socioeconomic and psychological effects on slum communities.

Subtitle:

The following study looks into the effect of COVID-19 on slums in Mali Mohalla.

Objectives:

1. To identify and examine the effects of Covid-19 on social relationships and the issues that residents of slum neighborhoods in Baroda City encountered during and after the lockdown.
2. To have an understanding of the economic issues that slum communities dealt with during Covid-19.
3. To learn about the quality of life in slum areas during Covid-19.
4. To evaluate Covid's-19 impact on slum community children's educational opportunities.
5. To investigate the advantages that the government provided to slum areas during Covid-19.

Research Design:

Research is of an experimental kind that will expound different humanistic and monetary difficulties that are face by individuals of ghetto networks, who can be weak gatherings of the general public. An enlightening report alludes to an examination technique that depicts the qualities of the populace or peculiarity contemplated. This procedure zeros in more on the —whatl of the exploration subject than the —why| of the examination subject which will be useful to see into an issue or a circumstance which gives experiences to the researcher.

Universe:

The universe for the examination is individuals of ghetto networks in area of Baroda city.

Sample:

There will be respondents chosen as Tests from the one zones of Baroda. Mali Mohalla is the name of the region.

Stratified Sampling:

In delineated irregular testing the scientist endeavours to separate the populace so that the populace inside a layer is homogeneous concerning the trademark based on which it is being defined. It is vital that the attributes picked as the premise of separation are plainly recognizable in the review populace. For instance, defining a populace based on orientation than based on age, pay or attitude is a lot more straightforward. The trademark that become the premise of delineation really should be connected with the super factor that you are investigating. When the testing populace has been isolated into non covering gatherings, you select the necessary number of components from every layer, utilizing the straightforward irregular examining method. There are two kinds of delineated examining: proportionate separated testing and lopsided defined inspecting. With proportionate defined testing, the quantity of components from every layer comparable to its extent in the complete populace is chosen, though in lopsided separated examining, thought isn't given to the size of the layer.

Consequently, in this exploration, the analyst has framed the layers of different resources, where the work is executed.

Tools of Data Collection:

The essential apparatus for information assortment for the current examination. It had both open and close finished questions.

Information Examination Quantitative type of information is gathered for the current exploration. Examination of the information contains Single variation.

Limitations of the Study:

- 1) Friend Effect on the respondents.
- 2) Accessibility of the respondents.

Operational Definitions:***Pandemic:***

A pandemic is a plague happening on a scale that crosses global limits, typically influencing individuals on an overall scale. An illness or condition is certainly not a pandemic just in light of the fact that it is broad or kills many individuals; it should likewise be irresistible. For example, malignant growth is liable for some passing yet isn't viewed as a pandemic on the grounds that the illness isn't infectious (for example effectively communicable) and not even just irresistible.

Socio-Economic Impact:

It is a monetary and humanistic joined all out proportion of an individual's work insight and of a person's or alternately family's financial and social situation comparable to other people. While investigating a family's SES, the family pay, workers' schooling, and occupation are inspected, as well as joined pay, though for a singular's SES just their own traits are evaluated. Nonetheless, SES is all the more generally used to portray a monetary contrast in the public eye all in all. Schooling in higher financial families is ordinarily anxious as significantly more significant, both inside the family as well as the nearby local area. In less fortunate regions, where food, sanctuary and security are need, schooling can assume a lower priority. Youth crowds are especially in danger for some wellbeing and social issues in the US, for example, undesirable pregnancies, substance addiction, and corpulence.

Furthermore, low pay and schooling have been demonstrated to serious areas of strength for be of a scope of physical and psychological well-being issues, including respiratory infections, joint pain, coronary illness, and schizophrenia. These issues might be because of ecological circumstances in their work environment, or, on account of handicaps or psychological sicknesses, might be the whole as a result of that individual's social dilemma in any case.

Psychological Impact:

Psychological impacts including post-horrendous pressure side effects, disarray, and outrage. Stressors included longer quarantine length, contamination fears, dissatisfaction, weariness, lacking supplies, deficient data, monetary misfortune, and shame.

Key findings:

1. It can be derived that during the situation of Covid, people slum have been through very much struggle psychologically, socially and economically too.
2. During COVID and specifically during lockdown 43.3% respondents claimed that their life became worst in all way possible.
3. Psychological suffering was also at peak , 33.8% respondents claimed to be in social isolation and having anxiety.
4. However 3.2% could utilize this phase as quality time with family.
5. Economic challenges were face by more than 82.3% at extreme level.
6. It has also been derived that social relation and contacts were negatively affected as claimed by more than 61.2% people.38.7% respondents claimed that their commutation with relatives have been reduced.
7. Talking about psychological conditions, 30.6% respondents informed that their families suffered with angry issues during pandemic. While Mood swing were also found at extreme level and 51.6% respondents felt they found it different to cope with small challenges.
8. And all people, especially children were given Smartphone for online study but excessive use of Smartphone have let kids from the real life and they kept being engaged in virtual world , claimed by 43.5% respondents.
9. Considering education as one of the aspect of socio- economic condition, it was found that 33.8% respondents said that their kids are not much comfortable in studying online and face many troubles,19.3% respondents said children were lacking their concentration during online study.
10. In economic situation related issues 51.6% respondents lost there jobs 24.1% respondents faced delay in their earnings during lockdown.
11. People also faced many issues of for managing food during lockdown phase.
12. On the positive side, people could figure out the coping mechanisms in this situation, having good sleep, doing recreational activity, spending time with family were the coping mechanisms for the respondents and they claim that fighting with socio-economic and psychological issues were possible by utilizing past saving and the support of family,friends,neighbours etc.
13. It was found that people from slum areas faced lot more issues then a so called higher section of the society as they are not economically sound enough and so having less access to the remedies to the issues.

CONCLUSION:

The study on the social, economic, and psychological impact of COVID-19 in urban areas of Baroda reveals that the pandemic has had a severe impact on slum communities. The residents are struggling with economic, social, and psychological challenges. The pandemic has resulted in job losses and economic difficulties for slum dwellers, and access to food and basic necessities has become a significant issue. The lack of access to healthcare and sanitation facilities has further worsened the situation.

The study also highlights the psychological impact of the pandemic on slum dwellers, with many reporting anxiety and anger issues during isolation. Children have faced difficulties in accessing education through online modes, and families have struggled to balance work and caregiving responsibilities.

In conclusion, the study demonstrates that the pandemic has had a significant impact on the social, economic, and psychological well-being of slum communities in Baroda city. The findings of this research can inform policy and practice aimed at supporting slum communities during and after the pandemic. It is crucial to provide targeted interventions to address the unique challenges faced by slum dwellers, including access to healthcare, sanitation, and economic support. Overall, this research underscores the need for urgent action to support vulnerable communities and build resilience to future pandemics.

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