



Dec.-09—Jan.-2010

LABOURS IN INDUSTRIAL SLUMS AREA – A RESEARCH STUDY



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Introduction

The problem of housing is unquestionably one of the most important problems in India. Habitation comes only next to food and clothing. Lack of proper shelter breeds diseases and discontent amongst the people, brutalises human beings and kills finer instincts of men. The problem of housing is becoming very acute day by day and the present position and condition as regards housing are highly unsatisfactory. In urban Industrial areas, the problem of housing is very much acute. The process of Urbanisation and Industrialisation are definitely essential for the growth and developments of the country. But in India due to these two processes and Increase in population created a lot of problems in the country and Housing problem is one of them.

Housing Problem indicated that the Housing is a Universal problem and the entire world is confronted with this problem. Housing situation is alarming not only in poor and developing countries like India, but also in affluent and advanced countries of Europe and America. As per an estimate of the United Nations, about **1400 million** new dwelling must be constructed by the year 2001 AD to house the world's growing population and in India Housing shortage is estimated to have increased from 9 million dwelling units in 1951 to 23.4 millions in 1981, to **31.0 millions** in 1991 and is estimated to cross **45.0 millions** by year 2008.

Review of literature

The study of **Dr. R. K. Mukherjee** observed that the housing condition of Industrial centres are so horrible that manhood is unquestionably brutalised,

womanhood dishonoured and childhood poisoned at its very source. Hence until the housing conditions are improved and the Industrial worker is placed in a healthier and more wholesome environment we cannot expect him to improve his efficiency or be satisfied with his conditions.

The **Royal Commission** (Whitley Commission) observed that the urban Industrial areas, cramped sites, the high value of land and the necessity for the workers to live in the vicinity of his work have all tended to intensify congestion and over crowding. In the busiest centres, the houses are built close together, touching each other and frequently back to back in order to use all the available space. Neglect of sanitation is often evidenced by heaps of rotting garbage and pools of sewage around the locality. More over, the absence of latrines enhances the general pollution of air and soil. In such dwellings human beings are born, sleep, eat, live and die. In study done by **V. Agnihotri**, he observed that in Kanpur the average size of Room was found to be 10.2 ft.x8.4 ft. and the average accommodation was approximately one room per family, about 19% one room tenements accommodating 5 and more 5 persons per room with an average area of 28 sq. ft. Per Person.

Research Methodology: The basic data of this research work have been provided by an empirical study of Dewas city. The unit of analysis and observation is the Industrial workers. Dewas City has a big Industrial Area. Only a selected Industrial area of it is taken for the study where the housing condition is not satisfactory and the workers are living in the slums.

For this **Industrial Area Sector No. 1** is taken for study purpose. In this Industrial Area No. 1, there are mainly Three Industrial workers residential colonies present, **Shantinagar, Amona and Sarvodaya Nagar** where nearly 75% people are workers of nearby industries. For study purpose 90 samples from shantinagar, 195 samples from Amona locality and 15 samples from the Sarvodaya Nagar are taken for the study by the random sampling method. Firstly the list of the Industries working in that area is prepared and by random sampling 45 Industries has been selected in which the sample household is working.

Major finding of the Research :

(1) Majority of Industrial Labours **39.0% (117 Samples)** are living in the kaccha houses, 24.66% (74 Samples) in the Pucca houses and 36.33% (109 Samples) in the semi pucca houses. (2) The analysis of the data shows that Majority of the Industrial Labours **93.17%** are living in the Kuccha Houses constructed with cow dung mixed with soil and 3.41% have said that Bamboo material is used for construction, 0.85% said that Polythene is used, and 2.56% said that Tin and gunny bags are used. Due to the use of such materials water of the ground easily enters in the walls with capillary action and labours feel dampness. (3) The analysis of the data shows that **73.0% (219 Samples)** Industrial Labours are having darkness and moisture in their house. (4) The study also observed that **62.66%** labours do not have the facility of out let of dirty water in their houses or in the locality. (5) The analysis of the data shows that Majority of the industrial labours **75.34% (226 Samples)** agreed that due to bad housing conditions many kinds of diseases such as Asthama, T.B., Cough and Cold, Chest and Skin diseases, Jaundice and cholera are increasing in the society. (6) Majority of Industrial Labours **91.33% (274 Samples)** said that environmental pollution is taking place in their locality which is badly affecting

the health of the industrial labours and causing many diseases. (7) The study also observed that about **70.33%** Industrial Labours feel that due to bad housing conditions the tensions in the family are increasing while 23.33 percent do not agree with the statement. (8) About **74.33%** Industrial Labours also feel that due to bad housing conditions family disintegration is taking place in the society. (9) The study also observed that about **77.33%** Industrial Labours feel that due to bad housing conditions moral degradation is taking place in the society.

Suggestions :

The magnitude and dimensions of the problem clearly indicates that the housing condition of the industrial labours in India, cannot be completely solved in short run. Effective solution to the problem calls for a long term habitat strategy with the needed sub strategies and short term strategies incorporated to it. With the aim to get success in this direction some steps must be taken. 1. New factories and industries should be established out side the city areas and the industrialist should shoulder the responsibility of the housing for the labours working in these factories or industries. Government should also help the industrialist in this respect. 2 Government should make such types of rules and regulations under which industrialist and other governmental and non governmental societies can get sufficient land on low cost for labours housing. 3 Municipal Corporations and local authorities should make the hard and fast rules for construction of houses which may be enforced to the house owners to provide good houses with all basic facilities in the residential areas of the labours. 4 Such rules must also cover those slums areas where the process of slums improvements and clearance is going on. 5 Multi-storied chawls in the industrial areas should be constructed on the basis of Co-operative societies pattern and where space is available two-three storied buildings should be encouraged.

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