



GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN SLUMS OF NER WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TRIPURA

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Abstract

Economic development is generally reflected by growth of urbanization. With rapid growth of urbanisation slums are also growing. By definition, Slum dwellers are itself the vulnerable section of society and are the result of different types of discrimination like availing basic facilities of human being, gender, economic power etc. The economic wealth of a country is seriously depleted if about half of the nation's human resource that is, women are neglected. Again As per census-2001, in India 42.6 million are slum people (i.e., it constitutes 4 percent of the total population of the country) and in 2011, the total number of slum households is 137.5 lakh, which is 17.4 percent of the total urban households of all the states and union territories. This paper will trace out the gender discrimination between slum and total population and gender discrimination among the slum dwellers of states of North East Region of India reporting slum with special reference to Tripura, on the basis of demographic profile, availing basic facilities like education; taking part in economic work.

Keywords: Slum, Gender Discrimination, Total population, North-East Region (NER).

Introduction

Economic development is generally reflected by growth of urbanisation. Urbanisation is growing with population increase in urban areas. Growth of slums or squatter settlements

is the inevitable event of growing urbanisation. In most of the Third World Countries, the rapid urban growth occurs through squatter settlements. (Urban Geography: R.B. Mandal, P-461). But the emergence of slum is like a black spot in a white board. This black spot becomes darken with the presence of discrimination. The economic development of a country is seriously depleted if about half of the nation's human resource that is, women are neglected. This paper is mostly concerned with gender discrimination on the basis of demographic profile, availing basic needs of human existence like educational attainment, health care, participating in economic activities etc. By definition, slum dwellers are itself the vulnerable section of society. By United Nations agency UN-HABITAT, a slum is a run-down area of a city characterized by substandard housing and squalor and lacking in tenure security. Generally, "Slums" are highly congested urban areas marked by deteriorated, unsanitary buildings, poverty, and social disorganization.

Methodology

All the eight northeastern states of India viz., Arunachal Pradesh; Assam; Manipur; Meghalaya; Mizoram; Nagaland; Sikkim and Tripura was considered as study area of this paper. Data sources are mainly obtained from Population Census of India- 2011, Slum Census of India-2011 and A Statistical



Compendium- 2013. In 2011, all the states except Manipur have reported towns as slum reported towns. In the census report, Manipur has been declared as 'slum free state'. Total number of cities/towns reporting slums of NER is given in table –1.

TABLE –1
TOTAL NUMBER OF CITIES/TOWNS AND NO. OF
CITIES/TOWNS REPORTING SLUMS OF NER

States	Area in Sq. Km.	Total Cities/towns	No of cities/ towns (20,000 and above population) reporting slum
Arunachal P.	83743	27	05 (18.52)
Assam	78438	214	31 (14.49)
Manipur	22327	51	*
Meghalaya	22429	22	06 (27.27)
Mizoram	22081	23	01 (4.35)
Nagaland	16579	26	07 (26.92)
Sikkim	7096	9	07 (77.78)
Tripura	10486	42	15 (35.71)
Total NER	263179	414	72(17.39)
All India	3287263	7933	2543(32.06)

* Manipur has declared as 'slum free state'.

In the above table-1, only slum reporting states in 2011 census periods are given. The total number of cities/towns in NER is 414 and in all India level, it is 7933. The total number of slum reporting town is 72 in NER and 2543 in all India level.

TABLE-2
SLUM POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN NER

States	Total Pop.	Total Slum Pop.	% of Slum Population To Total Pop. of State
Arunachal P.	1382611	15562	1.13
Assam	31169272	197266	0.63
Manipur	2721756	*	*
Meghalaya	2964007	57418	1.94
Mizoram	1091014	78561	7.20
Nagaland	1980602	82324	4.16
Sikkim	607688	31378	5.16
Tripura	3671032	139780	3.81
NER	45587982	602289	1.32
India	1210193422	65494604	5.41

* Manipur has declared as 'slum free state'.

From the above table-2, it is shown that the percentage of slum population to total population of state in all India level is 5.41 and in NER, the ratio is 1.32. The ratio is highest (7.20) in Mizoram and it is lowest (0.63) in

Assam. The ratio of slum population to total population in Tripura is 3.81.

Findings and Results

1. Gender discrimination

Gender discrimination have been analysed on the basis of demographic profile, educational attainment and economic participation of the slum dwellers and total population. Comparison has been made among slum population and total population of the states of North Eastern Region and among the states of the NER on the basis of gender discrimination.

TABLE: 3
SEX RATIO AND CHILD SEX RATIO IN SLUMS AND
TOTAL POPULATION

States	Sex Ratio of total Pop.	Child Sex Ratio of total Pop.	Sex Ratio of slum Pop.	Child Sex Ratio of Slum Pop.
Arunachal P.	920	960	938	1020
Assam	954	957	945	954
Manipur	987	934	*	*
Meghalaya	986	970	998	980
Mizoram	975	971	1022	971
Nagaland	931	944	930	996
Sikkim	889	944	935	976
Tripura	961	953	992	992
India	940	914	928	922

* Manipur has declared as 'slum free state'.

Comparing slum dwellers with total population of NER it is seen that most of the states except Assam and Nagaland, the sex ratio of slum dwellers are more than sex ratio of total population. So in most of the states of NER gender discrimination is less for slum dwellers than in total population. In National level, the sex ratio of slum dwellers is less than sex ratio of total population. So, the slum women are more discriminated than total population in national level.

Comparing slum dwellers with total population, except Assam, all the states of NER have more the child sex ratio for slum dwellers than the child sex ratio of total population. Therefore, gender discrimination is not more in slum areas in comparison to total population. In all India



level, also the child sex ratio of slum dwellers is more than the total population.

The sex ratio of slum dwellers is highest (1022) in Mizoram and lowest (930) in Nagaland and it is higher than all India level (928). The sex ratio is 992 in Tripura.

Child Sex Ratio of Slum Dwellers:

The child sex ratio of slum dwellers is highest (1020) in Arunachal Pradesh and lowest (954) in Assam. It is 992 in Tripura. In all India level, the ratio is 922.

Therefore, gender discrimination in respect of sex ratio and child sex ratio of slum dwellers is less in NER than national level.

2. Educational Attainment:

To study the gender discrimination in educational attainment, the female literacy rate and the gender gap in literacy rate are considered. The Female literacy rate and gender gap in literacy rate of slum dwellers and total population is given in table-4.

TABLE 4
FEMALE LITERACY RATE AND GENDER GAP IN LITERACY RATE OF SLUM AND TOTAL POPULATION.

States	Female Literacy Rate of total Pop.	Gender Gap in Literacy Rate of Total Pop.	Female Literacy Rate of slum Dwellers	Gender Gap in Literacy Rate of Slum Dwellers
Arunachal P.	59.57	14.12	43.09	13.81
Assam	67.27	11.54	45.47	9.06
Manipur	73.17	13.32	*	*
Meghalaya	73.78	3.39	48.98	2.03
Mizoram	89.40	4.32	50.60	-1.21
Nagaland	76.69	6.60	46.84	6.33
Sikkim	76.43	10.86	45.81	8.38
Tripura	83.15	9.03	48.40	3.19
India	65.48	16.68	44.14	11.71

*Manipur has declared as 'slum free state'.

From the table 4 it is also seen by comparing the female literacy rate of slum-dwelling people with total population that the female literacy rate of slum dwellers are less than the total population in all the states. In national level female literacy rate of total population is 65.48, which is more than 44.14, the female literacy

rate of slum dwellers. Therefore, it can be said that the gender discrimination is more in slum areas than the total population in general in respect of female literacy rate.

Table-4 shows that the gender gap in literacy rate is less in slum dwellers than the total population of all the states of NER including all India level. It can be mentioned that difference between gender gap in slum dwellers and total population is highest in Tripura. Moreover, Mizoram has negative gender gap. So, it can be said that gender discrimination is less in slums than the total population.

The female literacy rate of slum dwellers is highest (50.60) in Mizoram and lowest (43.09) in Arunachal Pradesh. It is 48.40 in Tripura. The rate is 44.14 in national level, which is less than most of the states of NER.

The gender gap in literacy rate of slum dwellers is lowest in Mizoram and it is -1.21 i.e. the literacy rate female is higher than male is shown in table 4. The gap is highest (13.81) in Arunachal Pradesh and it is higher than all India level. In Tripura, the rate is 3.19. Except Arunachal Pradesh, all the states have lower gender gap in literacy rate of slum dwellers. It is seen that, mostly all the states of NER are with lower gender gap for slum dwellers, than all India level, i.e. gender discrimination in literacy rate is less in NER than all India level.

3. Economic Participation

The status of women can be measured by economic participation of women. The Female work participation shows economic engagement of women. Gender discrimination is measured by the gender gap in work participation rate. The Table 5 shows the Female Work Participation Rate (FWPR) and Gender gap in Work Participation Rate (WPR) of slum dwellers and total population of NER.



TABLE-5
TOTAL WORK PARTICIPATION RATE AND OF SLUMS AND
TOTAL POPULATION

	Female Work Participation Rate of Total Pop.	Gender Gap in WPR of Total Pop.	Female Work Participation Rate of slum Dwellers	Gender Gap in WPR of Slum Dwellers
Arunachal P.	27.15	45.70	20.77	58.47
Assam	19.84	60.32	18.33	63.33
Manipur	40.56	18.87	*	*
Meghalaya	33.12	33.76	32.34	35.32
Mizoram	37.84	24.31	38.59	22.83
Nagaland	32.89	34.21	33.84	32.31
Sikkim	28.25	43.50	29.22	41.57
Tripura	21.47	57.06	21.88	56.23
India	21.06	57.88	22.59	54.81

*Manipur has declared as 'slum free state'.

Comparison between slum dwellers and total population in respect of Gender gap in WPR:

Table -5 also shows that, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya slum dwellers have higher gender gap in WPR than total population. Other four states including Tripura have less gender gap in WPR in slums than the total population. So, maximum states have less gender discrimination in gender gap in work participation rate in slums than total population.

Comparison between slum dwellers and total population in FWPR:

The table-5 shows that Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya have lower FWPR in slums than total population. The other four states including Tripura have slightly higher FWPR in slums than the total population of the states. So the gender discrimination in FWPR of slums is not more than the total population. The female work participation rate of women of slums and total population.

Objective -2.

Female Work Participation Rate (FWPR) of Slum Dwellers:

The FWPR of slum dwellers is highest (38.59) in Mizoram and lowest (18.33) in Assam. In most of the states of NER, Female WPR of

slum dwellers is higher than all India level which is 22.59. Tripura has lower FWPR than all India level.

Gender Gap in WPR of slum dwellers:

The gender gap in WPR is lowest (22.83) in Mizoram and highest (63.33) in Assam. In Tripura, the ratio is 56.23. Arunachal Pradesh and Assam in Tripura has more gender gap in WPR than national level, which is 54.81.

Conclusions

From the above data analysis, it is shown that, gender discrimination has been measured in respect of the variables like sex ratio, child sex ratio, female literacy rate and work participation rate of women for slum dwellers and total population; gender gap in literacy rate and gender gap in work participation rate in slums. The findings are

1. In case of sex ratio, gender discrimination is less in slums than total population of all the states of NER. It is least in Mizoram and most in Nagaland among the other slums of NER. Slums of NER have higher sex ratio i.e. less gender discrimination than slums in national level.

2. For child sex ratio also, slums of all the states of NER are with less gender discrimination than the total population of NER. Arunachal Pradesh is with highest ratio where Assam is in lowest rate. Slums of NER have less gender discrimination than slums in all India level.

3. In case of female literacy rate, slums of all the states of NER have more gender discrimination than the total population. Mizoram is in least discrimination and Arunachal Pradesh is in highest discrimination. However, the gender discrimination in the slums of states of NER is less than the slums of all India level.



4. For gender gap in literacy rate it is seen that slums of NER are in less gender discrimination than total population. Mizoram is in negative gender gap i.e. negative discrimination but Arunachal Pradesh is with highest discrimination. It is also seen that slums of almost all the states of NER including Tripura, have less discrimination than slums of all India level.

5. In case of female work participation rate, the gender discrimination in slums of some states of NER is more than total population but the difference is negligible. In this case also Mizoram is in least gender discrimination and Assam is with highest discrimination. Slums of most of the states have less discrimination than the slums of all India level. Tripura has more FWPR in slums than total population, it is 21.88 and it is lower than all India level.

6. In respect of gender gap in work participation rate, also, slums of some of the states including Tripura are in more gender discrimination than the total population. Mizoram is with least discrimination and Assam is with most. Slums of most of the states have less gender gap than slums of all India level in work participation rate also. Gender gap in WPR in Tripura is more than all India level. Except gender gap in WPR, gender discrimination of slums of Tripura is less than all India level.

Conclusion

From the above discussion, it has been seen that except in female literacy rate, slums of all the states have less gender discrimination than the total population of the states. In respect of every indicator, Mizoram has less gender discrimination, whereas, Arunachal and Assam have more discrimination among the North Eastern States of India. However, in most of

the states of NER, the slum dwellers are in less gender discrimination than slum dwellers of all India level. In case of Female literacy rate and gender gap in WPR, slums of Tripura has more gender discrimination than the total population of the state.

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