

PROVISION OF SERVICES IN SLUM AREAS OF ISLAMABAD

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ABSTRACT

Islamabad is a capital territory hosting around 8 million inhabitant, out of which 30 percent people have their abodes in slum areas of the city. Slums are defined as populous urban areas crowded by dirty houses with lack of sanitation facilities and social disintegration. Pakistan has 37 % urban population with 3.97% annual growth rate. Total slum population of Pakistan is 47%. People living in such slum areas do not have proper access to water, sanitation, and health and education facilities as envisaged in the Constitution of Pakistan 1973. They are not treated at par with other dwellers of posh areas of Islamabad in terms of basic facilities. People in slum areas are living below standard lives. Availability of basic needs of life is their born right but they are denied due to certain reason and lethargic attitude of the Parliamentarians and ineffective role of Capital Development Authority. The pathetic conditions of slums need proper and prompt response and attention of the people at the helm of affairs so that slum dwellers can lead safe and hygienic life. The object of this study is to deal with the service provision issues and to present solutions for upgrading of slums areas of Islamabad and to provides the information and facilitation to Government agencies and development partners to initiate development scheme.

INTRODUCTION

The capital of Pakistan is Islamabad, having 0.8 million people. It is a tenth largest city of the country. Approximately 30% live in the slums. According to AHK Resource Centre Poverty Alleviation Policy Papers that: a large number of labour was required at the time development of the city. Government and contractors get the labour hired from other rural areas to meet the demand. Resultantly, people came to the capital for employment. But no plan was ever worked out for their dwelling (AHK Monograph 1).

The Capital Development Authority (CDA) is a prime

institution responsible for the development of the whole area of the capital territory. Therefore CDA is not only the executive authority to provide adequate basic facilities in all sectors of Islamabad including the slums situated in the center or premises of the city but the issue of improvements in slums is still unattended.

If we go through Webster dictionary (2009) (www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/slum)—Slums may be described as an area having much population specially urban population marked by crowding, dirty run-down housing, poverty, and social disorganization.

Maiza (2014) has explained that, The United Nations characterizes slums/informal settlements by one or more of the following:

- No proper infrastructure of the area from quality point of view.
- Lack of room space within the houses. (three or more than three share a single room)
- Hence there is lack of secrecy among the members of the family.
- Lack of appropriate management and distribution of water.
- Poor sanitation amenities

Website of Homeless International (www.mustkeyna.or.ke/index.php/slum-fact-file), explains that a large number of masses in Pakistan are settled in slums because of quick and constant slum growth rates which needs prompt response to slow down or repeal the trends. According to United Nations Human Poverty index Pakistan possess 141 positions in the list of 182 countries of the world. And Country has several development challenges that are identified by disparities in per capita income and further access to basic services.

According to Akhter (2012), approximately eleven Katchi Abadis of Islamabad were given the status of regular Katchi Abadis through relocating or up-grading them. After formulation of the Katchi Abadis, policy was on March 23, 1985. During the government period 1997, members of federal cabinet took notes of slum areas of Islamabad and made it bound for CDA to formulate strategies in order look after the issue. Later on they encouraged to provide basic social immunities and services like housing, availability of electricity, sewerage system etc. the people of the selected slum areas were assured for up-gradation of the area.

Very few studies have been conducted on the slums areas of Islamabad. So there is an urgent need to address the issues in order to provide suggestions to government agencies and development departments for providing basic facilities to all slums areas of Islamabad.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Akhter (2013) (www.mustkeyna.or.ke/index.php/slum-fact-file), The National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS) in 1996 conducted a research on slum area of Islamabad it was about household and family planning indicators which is the first study on the subject of these slums. The second was done by Akhtar Hamid Khan Resource Center (AHKR) in 2008, it was related to the legislative and administrative problems which is related to relocation, up-gradation and other form of issues.

It is mentioned in Economic Survey of Pakistan (2010-11) that Urbanization is an un ending phenomenon and 37 percent population of Pakistan is urban population and growing at the rate of 3.97 per year. The slums, officially recognized by the government are taken care of by CDA. Slums in Islamabad after getting the status of regularization; many development initiatives were taken in these areas. People have been given plots for the construction of their own houses additionally they have also been given the facility of loans on low interest rate.

The Pakistan's slum population in total was estimated to be 47.0 percent⁴ of its total urban population (58487, 000) in 2007. If we go through the National Katchi Abadi Policy 2001, then we may say that CDA has developed modern urban shelter project, many of the slums of the Islamabad were relocated to Ali Pur Farash given them their rights of own land for the construction of houses for them.

As a part of the Millennium Development Goals, Pakistan has achieved targets as set at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

These targets are included halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to World Summit on Sustainable

⁴ This percentage is estimated by UN by using the HH data of Pakistan using four slum indicators (improved water, improved sanitation, durable housing and sufficient living area).

Development (WSSD). Safe drinking water and basic sanitation by the year of 2015, it shows increasing country-wide drinking water coverage to 93 percent and sanitation coverage to 68 percent by 2015. The Federal Government has allocated in its Medium Term Development Framework (2005–2010) to get these targets.

Pakistan's Health indicators are proved relative enhancement in the terms of South Asia, but remain away from satisfactory. There is a significant reduction in people spending on health nutrition from 0.72% of GDP in 2000-2001 to 0.23% in 2010-2011 (Economic Survey of Pakistan 2010-11).

Pakistan ranks 119 out of 127 countries (Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2011). In Pakistan there is 56% net enrolment rate (girls and boys aged 5-9 years), and rural enrolment rate is 48% girls and 57% boys whereas urban enrolment rate is 67% b and 65% for boys and girls respectively. The transition from primary education to secondary is not satisfactory. Approximately 15% of children are unable to complete basic primary education. There is a need to play an important role in the delivery of education by the private sector. The private education institutions have been increased from 3,300 in 1998 to over 90,000 in 2009. It recently caters for about 40% of total enrolment.

According to Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement Survey 2010-2011, 91% of the people have been given access to clean drinking water, in which 94% are urban and 90% are rural (PSLSMS 2010-11). The Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), In this report it is proved that 28% of the 2010 population achieved access to better drinking water since 1995. 5% of rural populations were still using surface water. The issue of quality of drinking water is not addressed by the surveys which is an area of critical concern.



Adopted from Google, images of Faisal colony G-7 Islamabad, dated 1.1.2015

RESEARCH DESIGN

Problem Statement: People of Slums areas specifically in Faisal colony are living below standard, due to non-allocation of sufficient development funds and carelessness of political representatives.

Research Questions: This research aims to provide information on service provision issues and the study aims at providing answers for such questions which include the following:

1. What are the living standards of Slums areas of Islamabad specifically in Faisal colony?
2. What are the service provision issues of slums areas of Islamabad?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The study aims to address the service provision issues and needs of the residents. Provide solutions for improvements of slums areas of Islamabad. This study provides the information and facilitation to Government agencies and development partners to initiate development scheme.

HYPOTHESIS

If the government allocates sufficient development funds and

pays proper attention to the Slums areas of Islamabad then living standards may improve.

Raise awareness among the local communities to influence the concerned authorities for the provision of better quality services.

Sample

Community members from Slums	75
Notable persons	25
Shopkeepers	25
Households	25
Capital Development Authority	25

Every person will be given questionnaires to be filled out developed respectively

MEASURES & TYPE OF INVESTIGATION

- Hypothesis Testing
- Likart Scale

PROCEDURE

- Questionnaires
- Interviews

SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH STUDY

This research study took into account only of people of Faisal Colony Islamabad. This proposed study tries its level best to unveil the meaningful factors directly related to the issue that needs to be addressed.

SIGNIFICANCE AND BENEFITS OF THE RESEARCH

This research will be helpful in identifying the poor and deserving people of these slums who have the equal rights on the basic necessities as of a person living in posh area of the city. This paper will seek the attention of the government and other development partners to bring some reforms.

DATA COLLECTION

This chapter contains primary data that was collected throughout the responses of six stakeholders. The stake holders in this study have been mentioned as below:

* Notable persons	25
* Shopkeepers	25
* Households	25
* Capital Development Authority	25

In this study likert scale has been adopted that allows five options to the respondents.

Initial or primary data was collected through distribution of questionnaire in order to obtain the hypothesized statement.

Several questions and statements have been developed to know the truth about each variable.

The options selected by different stakeholders in order to respond the statement offered in the questionnaire have been presented in lines of this chapter as follows:

A. Response Bar Charts

The bar charts have been developed to present the observation in the forms of start as they are mentioned in the questionnaire filled by the stakeholders.

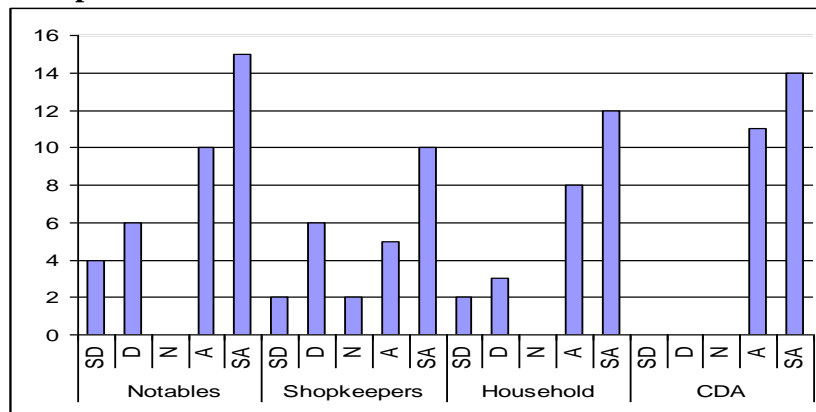
B. Response Interpretation

Interpretation of the observations in accordance to mention in the form of strata's in the bar chart and filled by different stakeholders.

COLLECTED DATA

Statement No. 1 Facilities of safe drinking water, sanitation, Health and Education are provided by the government

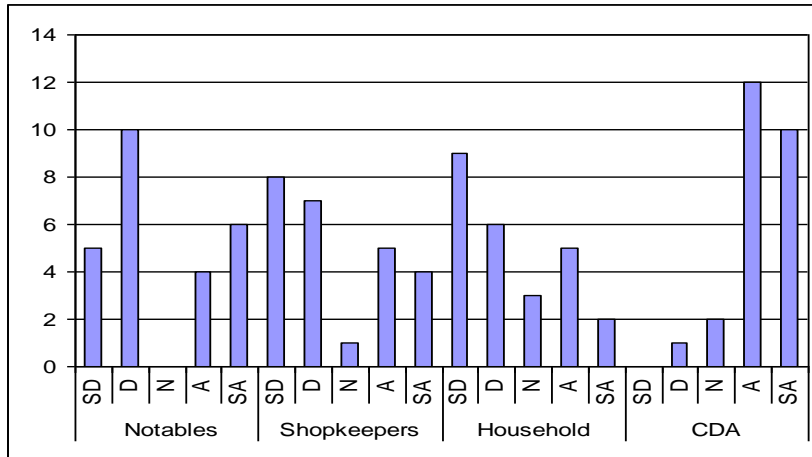
A. Response Bar Charts



RESPONSE INTERPRETATION

Notable Persons:	Strongly Agree
Shopkeepers:	Strongly Agree
Households:	Strongly Agree
Capital Development Authority:	Strongly Agree

Statement No. 02 Facilities provided by the government are proper and adequate.

A. Response Bar Charts**B. Response Interpretation**

Notable Persons:	Mostly Disagree
Shopkeepers:	Strongly Disagree
Households:	Strongly Disagree
Capital Development Authority:	Mostly Agree

Statement No.3 CDA carries out maintenance work of tube wells sewerage pipelines promptly when needed.

Response Bar Charts**B. Response Interpretation**

Notable Persons:

Mostly Disagree

Shopkeepers:

Strongly Disagree

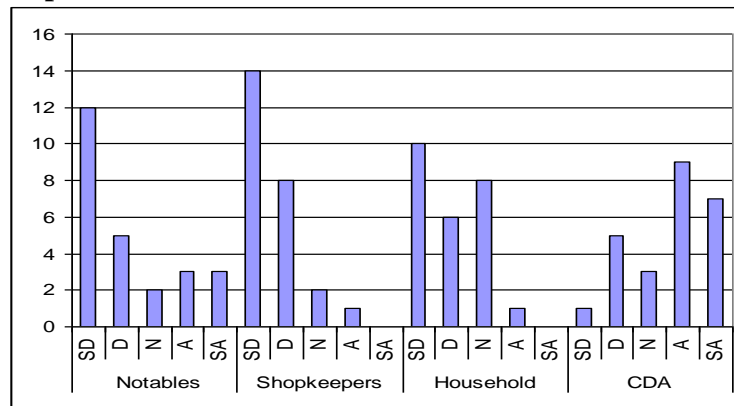
Households:

Mostly Disagree

Capital Development Authority:

Strongly Agree

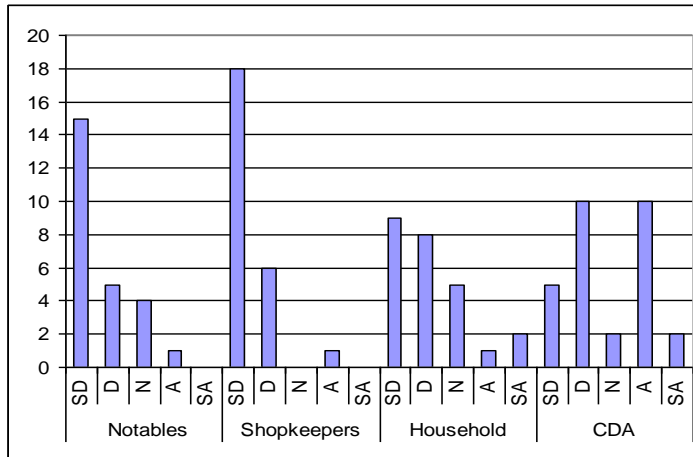
Statement No.4 CDA officials inspect the area regularly to monitor the sanitation.

A. Response Bar Chart

B. Response Interpretation

Notable Persons:	Strongly Disagree
Shopkeepers:	Strongly Disagree
Households:	Strongly Disagree
Capital Development Authority:	Mostly Agree

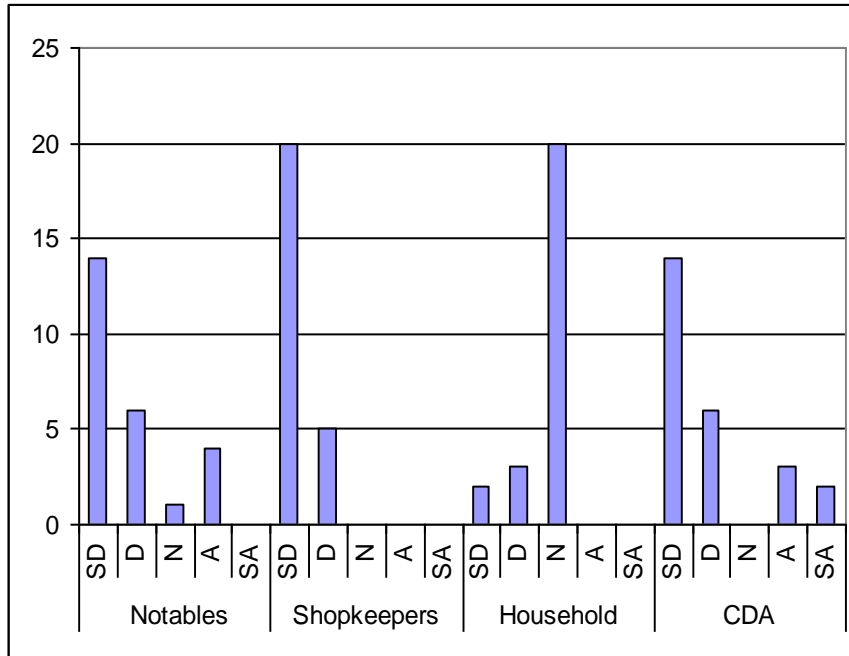
Statement No.5 Political representatives visit the slums regularly to resolve the issues of public.

A. Response Bar Charts**B. Response Interpretation**

Notable Persons:	Strongly Disagree
Shopkeepers:	Strongly Disagree
Households:	Strongly Disagree
Capital Development Authority:	Mostly Disagree

Statement No.6 Government allocates special funds to improve infrastructure of slums.

A. Response Bar Charts



B. Response Interpretation

Notable Persons:	Strongly Disagree
Shopkeepers:	Strongly Disagree
Households:	Mostly Neutral
Capital Development Authority:	Strongly Disagree

DATA ANALYSIS

Living Standards of Slums Areas of Islamabad Specifically in Faisal Colony: The living standard of the people of Faisal colony is not up to mark and is not at par with other settled colonies/areas. The data collected through survey informs that all the basic facilities like drinking water, sanitation, schools and hospitals are available to them but quantity is either inadequate or improper to cater their needs. The role CDA, being responsible for provision of services seems to be the symbolic. Political representatives are reluctant to visit the areas to bring drastic reforms in living standard of the slums in Islamabad. Government is also not taking pains to allocate special funds to raise the living standard of the areas.

During the interviews with the stakeholders, it transpired that

CDA does not bother to take measures for maintenance of tube wells and sanitary pipes. Most of streets overflow with sewerage water that spread stink in the vicinity. Substandard/ poor living style causes health problems to them. Elected Representatives don't visit the areas, but whenever they meet them, they make heap of promises to resolve their issues but all the issues are still unattended/an unfulfilled dream.

Service Provision Issues of Slums Areas of Islamabad: The data gathered through the survey pinpoints the fact that there is lack of effective policies and coordination. Scarcity of resources is the main hurdle for the development of the slums. Government is either ignorant of their issues or turning deaf ear towards their needs. CDA is the sole institution to resolve their miseries but it seems to be helpless.

Through interaction with stakeholders it transpired that no special budget is allocated for bringing reforms in slums. No infrastructure is constructed to improve their living standard. CDA officials told that slums are unauthorized dwellers and illegal encroachers therefore they don't have any budget for them.

CONCLUSION

According to the collected data, different facilities are provided in their homes by the government. However there is a need to improve the facilities in slum areas of Faisal colony Islamabad. Government should pay proper attention by providing proper funds.

Conclusion to the Hypothesis Testing: Study refers to the conclusion of the hypothesis testing that indeed the allocation of sufficient development funds and proper attention by the government for the slums areas of Islamabad may improve the living standards of slum area of Faisal Colony, Thus the hypothesis stands proved.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In the findings, conclusion and results of the proposed study the researcher have brought out few recommendations that could be effective in taking the interests of notable persons, , households, CDA, and shopkeepers in view of provision of services in slum areas of Islamabad;

- Proper needs analysis of slum areas of Faisal Colony should be made in order to provide the provision of resources that assure adequateness.

- Frequent inspection of sanitation system of these areas can eliminate the blockages and overflow of sewerage outside property/in the street. Provision of proper sanitation system is the responsibility of CDA that can be assured by proper monitoring and evaluation of such facilities.
- Proper monitoring and evaluation system shall be placed in order to assure the minimum service delivery standard
- Special funds be allocated to raise the living standard of the areas.
- Elected Representatives should play their role for improvement in slums.

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