

Transitional aggrandizing programme for homeless

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ABSTRACT

In the Era of Pandemic and outbreak of deadly virus, the world is looking for vaccine or the solution, yet no one is talking about one of the deadliest virus which has been eating mankind and killing almost 12000 people per day. This virus is hunger. One might have come across beggars, street urchins and elderly homeless people on a daily basis asking for food or money. One tries to reach his/her pocket and hands over two rupees and moves on, but somewhere expects a better life for them. Being homeless and asking for food are sides of the same coin: "poverty".

To remove poverty various schemes are made but there is no proper way that is being implemented and added corruption in these programs. Solutions are provided for homeless people by different governments but none of the solutions provide permanent solution. There are certain categories to homeless people which include kids, women, families, elderly people, mentally unstable people but no certain organization is taking care of the same. The paper suggests a transitional aggrandizing program for uplifting the homeless people on the basis of different categories with the mission of having zero homeless people in the country.

Keywords

Homeless, Poverty, Hunger, Program for homeless, social exclusion

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Introduction

1.1 What is homeless in India?

Being Homeless is defined as the ones who don't have regular residence owing to inadequacy of availability, safety or housing facilities by *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Housing is defined as a place where one has service access, one has tenure security, the place should be having adequacy of culture and most importantly it should be affordable. The housing capacity should also act as a defense from displacement, migration, poverty and banishing or expulsion from the designated area. Being homeless in India is defined slightly differently, it states that "homeless" are the people who live in the houses which are not census houses. It adds that the homeless people are those who reside on roads, pavements, open spaces, slums, pipelines, temples, stair case and railway platform.

According to census, there are around 1.77 mln people who are homeless, which is around 0.18 percent of the population. Census data suggests that the homeless population consists of women, disabled, elderly and mentally challenged people. Said that, these figures are challenged by many organizations that the figures are being tampered and the original number of homeless people is far more than that. In 2012, the IGSS society counted around 88410 homeless people whereas Census suggests there are only 46.724 individuals in the city of Delhi who are homeless. Further, when this number was tried to cross verify, it turned out to be 0.15 mln people in the city which constitutes urchins as well as mentally disables people. Research study also tells us that here are 18,000,000 homeless children out of which 11,000,000 reside in urban regions. This number is the highest in the world. The City of Delhi itself has 30 lakh homeless men and women.

According to census data (2012), the increase in houses was 78.48 mln from 52.06 mln but still there is a shortage of 18.78 mln houses in India. Even the poverty stats for India are overwhelming. Around 91 million people earn less as equal to \$1 in India per day which is leading to poverty in India.

1.2 Effects of covid-19 on homeless

Since the outbreak of Corona virus from Wuhan, China; it seems like the whole world is under lockdown. WHO has suggested strategy to control this outbreak. The Strategy suggested is threefold which is social distancing and maintaining hand and face hygiene. Many countries around the world have gone into complete lockdown for flattening the curve of cases. Governments have advised to stay in home for their own protection from this deadly virus but what about the homeless individuals who have no homes. The campaign known as "stay at home" is not applicable to these 1.77 mln people. As informed by WHO, the virus spreads when someone gets into physical proximity. Adding to this homeless people are more vulnerable to this virus since they have less immunity to catch infectious diseases due to the living standards. The population consists of migrant laborers, urchins and daily wage workers. Due to announcement of this complete lockdown thousands of homeless where abandoned on streets and no plans for their food or shelter. The homeless people used to feed themselves by begging but even this was not possible due to the lock down. Also, information was not provided to this group of people for their safety neither were any actions taken by the government. An article published in newspaper *The New Indian Express*, elucidates the story of a daily waste worker, Sita who happens to be a homeless woman having infant son. Sita has been harshly affected by this

pandemic. She used to feed herself by begging and selling balloons. She said that she is scared to but was what else can you do they were just confined in a small place with no help.

Objective

Homeless people have always been overlooked because the policy makers would never go to the ground level to find in how much difficulties this people have been leaving. The objective of the paper is to provide a solid plan to remove the poverty and uplifting the homeless people by providing them with permanent accommodations, source of income and more respected life.

According to a survey conducted in India, a homeless family of four members can lead to over 5 more homeless generations. Many of the homeless people on their money by working as a daily wage work, selling stationeries on roads. This shows their willingness to work but older people can't do the same due to their age. Old people and children should we offered more care while the younger homeless people can work which does not involve literacy. These individuals can be trained and given some skills for some household businesses which can be carried out at the camps of the project. The traditional aggrandizing project involves creating homes for each of these downtrodden individuals. May them be elder people, women, children are mentally disabled people.

Methodology

3.1 Identification of Project Layout

The project involves the complete cycle from streets to the camp. The project involves four layers where, the person will be provided with a coupon or the address of a local government center. Secondly the center will take care of the logistics and the Traveling of the homeless to the camp. The third layer would be sorting the people that have reached the camp. The fourth layer would be assigning them according to their will to work in case of physically fit youths and for children and old people separate cancel your mind. The problem of reach of news to the homeless can be taken care by and NGOs or any passerby.

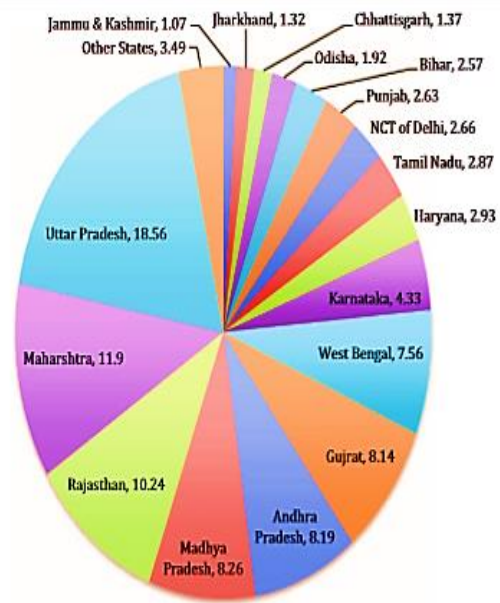
3.2 Identification of capital Generating Strategy

Many schemes have been started under five year plan of government but they have stopped due to insufficient capital with state governments. Show the money for making camps by either two ways: Through donations and self-sufficient in house businesses. Every camp would require land which can be fulfilled by using government arenas. Donations can be made through advertisements in newspaper, television and also through various corporations. Many businesses can see donating to these organizations as their CSR activities. This will be in turn helpful for construction of camps across country. Program similar to the program carried out during coronavirus outbreak in India in 2020 where money transfer PM fund.

3.3 Project location Identification

The following pie chart shows the distribution of homeless people across the country according to States. Rigorous research can be conducted for finding the number of homeless people in the state by private agencies since it can be seen in many scenarios that the data collected by census

India was not accurate. Then the location can be selected according to the population distribution considering the logistics cost to be carried.



The funds that are transferred to the account should be transparent to civilians including the usage of the funds

3.4 Cost Analysis

The cost can be calculated according to the area and locality of the camp. Camp consists of the main camp, the skill development area, hospital area, accounts department, day Care facility for children, the in-house mini scale factories.

Causes

- Urbanization**
 Urbanization is a process where people from rural area come to city for jobs. One more people live in cities there is scarcity of space which leads to more price of shelter. The people who have migrated cannot afford this and end up living on streets and thus homeless.
- Relocations**
 Relocation can be caused by various reasons which include land loss, shortage of drinkable water, employment needs and the reasons can be as big as government projects which can lead to complete Town or village displacement and property loss. It's hard for homeless after getting to new cities where they have to create their own Shelters out of plastic or in some cases wood or cardboard. Results in creating of slums also lakh in reach to health Care and education.
- Disability**
 Disability constitutes a major part of homeless people which can be physical for mental and in some cases it's both. These people can't do the job which seem too easy by the rest of the population. There is no such proper organization or any government add or a scheme to look after such people. Moreover even if there is quota for disability, many of them are not financially strong enough to even apply for such posts. For once, people with physical disability can apply but the ones with mental disability are left in street to die. And this people somehow survive on the mercy of the bypasses.

• Poverty

Poverty and homelessness are the sides of same coin. There are many reasons for poverty in India which include inflation, unemployment, scarcity of jobs, overpopulation, the shortage of investment or capital for entrepreneurship, in some cases gender discrimination. There even are some political factors, social factors to poverty. Though India has been independent for more than 74 years still casteism can be observed in many places across India. Research says that, people who are in higher class in society don't want the lower strata to grow and occupy the similar status in society.

• Education level (Cost of Education)

There was time in India when even a person who has matriculation used to get decent job. But today even graduates are jobless. These students have to achieve higher education for better quality of life and incomes. A person who is already living in streets cannot afford basic education so going for higher education is long lost dream for them. So the cost of the revision can be decreased for or higher education as well. Schemes like "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" are doing a great job and more schemes should be brought up by government.

Challenges Faced by Homeless

There are three basic needs of human i.e. food, clothing and shelter. The causes of homeless have been discussed till now which include migration and urbanization which lead to inaccessibility to food and shelter. Due to high cost of living in cities, the migrants cannot afford hotels to stay so the end of living on street.

These people live in horrible conditions in any way a to cover themselves with cardboard for tin houses. The main challenge faced in this case is mobility cause they can anytime be removed location. The homeless people remove from the current location as they can be encroaching the spaces.

When these people live on streets it usually gets crowded where there is very poor sanitation which is open welcomed by diseases. Moreover these people are in constant fear of theft and even drugs addict people can take shelter for refuge in their locality taking their life at risk.

As far as food is concerned, these people can always take help from government by using ration card where they can get food grains at minimal costs. But a survey in year 2010 by united Nation development program (UNDP) observed that, a mere of 3% of homeless people have ration card.

5.1 Attempts to aid

• Governmental offerings

India since its independence come up with 5 year plans for finance and economic growth. But there were no plans started for homeless till year 1992. It government came up with different schemes like NSS where funds of rupees 2 crore and 27 lakh were allotted for a span of 2 years. The next land included orders for non-government organizations to construct homes. Near to 2007 having Shelters was declared as a fundamental right.

Policies were made to provide Rs. 20000 are year to these Shelters of which half the cost was beared by the government while the rest was to be taken from HUDCO. However, engineer 2005 all the states discontinued due to insufficient capital.

There are centers in some urban areas but they provide a temporary solution only. The shelter must have drinkable water, proper lighting, toilets, fire safety, first aid, counseling and Medical Services but this is not possible at many of the Shelter.

One of the aid by government is Public Distribution system for people leaving below poverty line but even this system is not successful since it requires lots of documentation and only 3% of the homeless population can successfully avail it.

• Non-governmental offerings

There are various non-government in India which work for the same cause and the number is increasing year by year. The main reason for it is due to lack of financial investment in government organizations.

These non-government organizations offer clothing, food, shelter and education two children for free so that the children can spend their childhood which is ought to be.

Though there are many non-governments but drop in these centers can be seen due to various reasons such as their habit of freedom on streets. When these children are bought to these centers they are expected to follow certain discipline and have good morals which include usage of drugs and hygiene. Many of children are already addicted to drugs on street and they cannot adapt to this new life.

More or less these camps or centers are successful. Some NGOs trying techniques of self-help where they work for incomes to overcome the lack of capital. NGOs can use marketing to spread awareness regarding the issue of homelessness and try to get funds from people by advertisements.

Demographics

The Census of India has categories the households in three types which are institutional, normal and houseless. The people living in these households are called as the institutional population, normal population and houseless population. The house less population are those who you don't live in census houses. This population lives in in pipes, staircase, footpaths, pavements or railway station.

The following table shows the categorization of the total household to the houseless household in the year 2011 and compares them to the year 2001.

Table I. Temporal changes (2001-2011) in homeless households in India.

| | All Households | | Houseless Households | | | |
|-------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|----------|------------|------|
| | | | Absolute | | Percentage | |
| | 2001 | 2011 | 2001 | 2011 | 2001 | 2011 |
| Total | 19,35,79,954 | 24,94,54,252 | 4,47,552 | 4,49,761 | 0.23 | 0.18 |
| Rural | 13,77,73,323 | 16,85,65,486 | 2,59,742 | 1,92,865 | 0.19 | 0.11 |
| Urban | 5,58,06,631 | 8,08,88,766 | 1,87,810 | 2,56,896 | 0.34 | 0.32 |

Source: Primary Census Abstract for Total Population and Houseless Population, 2011, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.

Further, the data can be analyzed to see the growth rate between these years which is around 17.7%.

Table 2. Temporal changes (2001–2011) in homeless population in India.

| | All Population | | Growth Rate (2001-2011) | Homeless Population | | | | |
|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------|------|----------------------------|
| | 2001 | 2011 | | Absolute | | Percentage | | Growth Rate (2001-2011) |
| | | | | 2001 | 2011 | 2001 | 2011 | |
| Total | 1,02,86,10,328 | 1,21,05,69,573 | 17.7 | 19,43,476 | 17,72,889 | 0.19 | 0.15 | -8.8 |
| Rural | 74,23,02,537 | 83,34,63,448 | 12.3 | 11,64,877 | 8,34,541 | 0.16 | 0.10 | -28.4 |
| Urban | 28,63,07,791 | 37,71,06,125 | 31.7 | 7,78,599 | 9,38,348 | 0.27 | 0.25 | 20.5 |

Source: Primary Census Abstract for Total Population and Houseless Population, 2011, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.

The following table shows the distribution of rate of work participation and workers in year 2011.

Table 3. Distribution of workers and work participation rate of homeless population, 2011.

| Workers and WPR (All) | Workers (in numbers) | | Work Participation Rate | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------|
| | 2001 | 2011 | 2001 | 2011 |
| Total Population | | | | |
| Total | 40,22,34,724 | 48,17,43,311 | 39.1 | 39.8 |
| Rural | 30,98,35,681 | 34,85,97,535 | 41.7 | 41.8 |
| Urban | 9,23,99,043 | 13,31,45,776 | 32.3 | 35.3 |
| Homeless Population | | | | |
| Total | 10,80,470 | 9,19,506 | 55.6 | 51.9 |
| Rural | 6,65,922 | 4,24,398 | 57.2 | 50.9 |
| Urban | 4,14,548 | 4,95,108 | 53.2 | 52.8 |
| Workers and WPR (Males) | | | | |
| Total Population | | | | |
| Total | 27,50,14,476 | 33,18,65,930 | 51.7 | 53.3 |
| Rural | 19,87,99,870 | 22,67,63,068 | 52.1 | 53.0 |
| Urban | 7,62,14,606 | 10,51,02,862 | 50.6 | 53.8 |
| Homeless Population | | | | |
| Total | 7,15,211 | 6,41,880 | 62.9 | 61.3 |
| Rural | 3,93,211 | 2,55,741 | 62 | 57.6 |
| Urban | 3,22,000 | 3,86,139 | 64.1 | 64.1 |
| Workers and WPR (Females) | | | | |
| Total Population | | | | |
| Total | 12,72,20,248 | 14,98,77,381 | 25.6 | 25.5 |
| Rural | 11,10,35,811 | 12,18,34,467 | 30.8 | 30.0 |
| Urban | 1,61,84,437 | 2,80,42,914 | 11.9 | 15.4 |
| Homeless Population | | | | |
| Total | 3,65,259 | 2,77,626 | 45.3 | 38.2 |
| Rural | 2,72,711 | 1,68,657 | 51.4 | 43.2 |
| Urban | 92,548 | 1,08,969 | 33.5 | 32.4 |

Source: Primary Census Abstract for Total Population and Houseless Population, 2011, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.

Proposed Plan for Ngos and Government

8.1 Journey from street to camp

Keeping this in a scenario; A homeless person is observed on road where information is given to him with the card from one of the government centers for verbal information is provided to him about the camps. Take this card and text to the government Store where he is given the route to the destination with all the reservations made for him with the logistics taken care of. This is how the homeless person will reach to the camp where they can be sorted according to the age/ gender or or if it would be a family.

8.2 Camp features

The camp will consist of the profit generating divisions(in house factories), centralized dining hall with wheelchair accessibility, management locality, hospital, skill development teacher localities, account department

consisting of factory income department and donations department, day Care facility, main camp consisting of old people and orphaned kids which will be given a permanent solution.

The camp will also consist of screening Test hall where people will be trained according to their wish of temporary or permanent solution. This would include singles, families, kids, women with children, old people. The people working in the in-house facilities will be paid with salaries from the donations made by people in the country. Screening will also be done according to to the families with kids and without kids so that they can avail Day Care facility.

Conclusion

With the given scheme, we can come up with a better plan for homeless people so that all strata can be taken care of without extra investment of the government by getting donations from all over India which will be completely transparent to each individual. This will help in upliftment of the homeless and also helped them to open their own smaller enterprises if they wish. For old people they can be taken care of buy the young fellows in the camp. Various camps like this all over the country can eventually solve the problem of homelessness in the country and eventually increasing the standard of living of this people and low poverty rate in India.

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