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## 2. Growth of Slums with Special Reference to the Core Zone in Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Darjiling District, West Bengal

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### Abstract

Slums and economic growth of the city are two sides of same coin. Slums are not only unavoidable; they are a mark of success of a city. The formation of slums is an essential part of the process of growth and development of a city. An attempt has been made in this paper to determine the factors those are responsible for emergence and growth of the slum in the city. The factors can vary from slum to slum or city to city, according to their surrounding infrastructures, land uses, social or economic condition of the city. Firstly primary survey has been done then SPSS is used as a tool to analyse the factors for selected slums. This method is very efficient to analyse the slum growth prediction on the identified land of the city.

**Keywords:** Economic Development, Emergence, Factors, Growth, Infrastructure, Land use, Slum, Urban Area

### Introduction

Siliguri is one of the fast growing urban center of West Bengal. Due to rapid growth of population, transport & communication, industrial activities & job opportunities there is inflow of labour from the surrounding areas & neighbouring states, as a result of this inflow there is growth of unauthorized settlements which effect the existing land use pattern of the city. These unauthorized settlements or slums are not confined to existing residential areas but are developed in areas which are not suitable for habitation like by the side of railway track, river beds, swampy lands etc. This growth of unauthorized settlements have negative impacts on the environment.

### 3. Matangini Colony-II

This slum is situated in ward no -28 . The slum is surrounded by west , Prankrishna colony B slum and Tikia Para main Road in the south , Mazdor colony in the east and Raiway track in the North . This slum has developed along the railway line. The slum age is 39 years. The slum status is residential . The slum has been notified in the year 1991. The Railways have the ownership of the land .This slum is dominated by Bihari people . There is also Nepali, Bengali and few muslim people living in this slum for a long time .

**Growth of population :-** The total slum population of this slum in 1991 was 2100 increased to 2276 in 2001. In 2011 the slum population was 2511 . The decadal population growth rate during the period 1991-2001 was 8.38% and it increased to 10.33% during the period 2001-2011.

**Growth of household :-** The total number of household in this slum was 324 in 1991 increased to 403 in 2001. In 2011 the total number of households was 501. The decadal household growth rate during the period 1991-2001 was 24.31%.

**Growth of Area :-** The total land area of the slum was 1.03 acre in 1991 . It increased to 1.51 acre in 2001 and in 2011 the total acre was 1.97 . The decadal areal growth rate during 1991-2001 was 46.6% and it decreased to 30.91% during the period 2001-2011 .

#### Conclusion

The following factors which have been identified for the growth of the selected slum. Firstly, vacant lands, according to city development plan; slums of SMC are settled on Government land and private owner's land. Secondly, the transport linkages to the city, slums grow only on that vacant land which is easily connected to the main city or they have transport linkages, availability of water was the main reasons for selecting the settlements hence more than half of the slums in the city are along the rivers. One common feature of slums that has been observed in primary survey is, in SMC almost all the slums are settled around or near the river and railway tract. Banerji, (2009) explained that water body is one of the important factors of land where slum grows. Finally it is concluded that, this types of survey and analysis of slum is very important part of City Planning. If one can find out the main factors that are responsible for the growth of slums in the city and also its strength of attraction of slum people, then only probability of slum growth on identified land can be predicted.

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