

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGING PATTERN BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES IN FRINGE AREA OF LUCKNOW CITY.**Dr. A. N. Singh, Principal (Govt. Degree College Paukhal Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand)**ansingh248@gmail.com**Dr. Sandeep kumar (Assistant Professor, Sociology, Govt. Degree College Paukhal Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand)**Sandeep49@gmail.com

Abstract

Urban sprawl is a natural phenomenon accompanying rapid urban growth. The rapidly growing urban population in the large cities and high rate of migration spills into the rural areas surrounding the city boundaries. The settlement of the urban population into the surrounding areas and location of economic activities like factories, amusement parks, commercial complexes etc. gradually brings about a change in the land use pattern in the rural areas. This gives rise to the problem of rural-urban fringe, which is a transition zone between urban and rural settlement sharing the features of both. This paper has tried to unveil the environmental and health values of the people of the study area through the case study of peripheral locality of Lucknow city. The study is based on the primary data collected from the field survey. Paper mainly gives the changing situation of environmental and health values of the people of the study area and the situation of life style of the community in the modern age.

Keywords: Environmental, health, Fringe, S urbanization, modern, Peri-urban

Introduction

The present article attempts to investigate the environmental changes in the peri-urban region by deeply analyzing the issues such as the level of deforestation and its causes, the change in pollution levels and the various factors behind the change in pollution levels and its consequences on human health etc. It also delves deeply upon the endeavours of forestation and preparedness of health care system to meet challenges in such an environment by analyzing coverage of various health care schemes and access to health care professionals and infrastructure.

Increasing urbanization and its impact on the peri-urban areas is characterizes in terms of changes in land use, new forms of household composition, differential access to urban bandits such as health infrastructure and employment and increased pressure on common natural resources. Urbanization creates new opportunities but it dramatically increases the poverty and environmental degradation in peri-urban zones (UNFPA 2007). Douglas (2006) analyzed the air and water pollution and soil and land contamination in peri-urban areas, and their health and ecosystem impact. Peri-urban ecosystems involve great modifications of natural biogeochemical flows; chemical transformations associated with manufacturing, food processing and urban building lead to the release of heavy metals, plant nutrients and organic compounds to the atmosphere and to soil and water bodies that in excessive may cause harm to living organisms (Douglas, 2006).

Coupled with this, poor sanitation and drainage systems compound these problems due to which peri-urban people cope with high pollution levels. In a study on American cities, Hart (1967) has pointed out that the encroachment of urban into rural areas has brought about uncontrolled urban development which is economically unviable. Urban expansion deprives the nation of prime agricultural land and urban sprawl irreparably damages the environment and ecology. An investigation was carried out by Rawat and Sing (2009) to estimate nitrogen pollutants in the drinking and surface water of Luck now city. It was reported that nitrogenous pollutants were found higher mostly in urban region as compared to the peri -urban and rural region. The peri-urban poor, in particular, are subject to increased prevalence of 'Shocks and stresses' (Allen et al 2006). Mc Granahanetal (2004) observed that peri-urban zone are often far more environmentally unstable that either urban or rural settings. Simon, (2006) described that a peri-urban area is not only a zone of direct impact experiencing the immediate impacts of land demands from urban growth and pollution but is also a wide market related zone of influence that is recognizable in terms of the handling of agricultural and natural resource product.

Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study is to make a comparative study of environmental and health backgrounds of the communities of city of the study area. The specific objectives of the study are as follows;

- i) To examine the environmental values of the universe.
- ii) To study the health issues in the modern age of the study area.

Environmental and Health Aspects

Peri-urban area specially is highly affected because of low cost and availability and migration. Beside these, industries also prefer to establish here so as to remain close to the city also face less stringent establishment norms. A number of other reasons like high cost of living in the cities, considerable peaceful environment etc also applies for greater penetration by people in these areas. Greater penetration means lesser green cover and more area for settlement. Importance of trees and forest is a well known but least acknowledged subject. All of us understand the fact very well that either we can live together or will have to die together. In spite of this simple fact so obvious we continue to neglect it. Lucknow particularly is negligible in its forest cover which is about 4.46%, lesser than the states average.

Deforestation occurs because the area's tree canopy cover is reduced to less than 10% by converted land uses. This conversion can be permanent (e.g. urban expansion) or temporary (e.g. shifting cultivation). This means that we identify deforestation with a radical removal of tree cover (Wunder, 2004).

Methodology**1. Research Design**

This study is descriptive in nature. The major goal of a descriptive research is to describe the events, phenomena and situations. Since description is made on the basis of scientific observation, it is expected to be more accurate and precise than casual (Ahuja, 2013:131). Descriptive research is a fact-finding operation searching for adequate information. It is a survey study, which is generally conducted to assess the opinion, behaviours or characteristics of a given population to describe the situation and events occurring at present. Descriptive research is a process of accumulating facts (Wolf and Pant, 2003:81).

2. Universe of the Study

The universe of the study is urban areas of Lucknow city. The immediate ring of urban areas surrounding Lucknow city are Chinhat, Bakshi Ka Talab, Mohana, Nigonha, Malihabad, Sarojni Nagar, Banthara, Ismailganj, Utratia, Mohanlal Ganj, and Gosainganj.

3. Respondents of the Study**Sampling Plan**

Lucknow city has been selected, To derive homogenous information, four blocks are selected from all the four corners of Lucknow city, namely Mohanlalganj, Kakori, Bakshi-ka-Talab and Chinhat. Further, two villages each are selected from all the four blocks i.e. eight villages in total are selected for sampling purpose.

The quantitative and qualitative socio-structural data has been collected from the field work based on the interaction with the people of peri-urban areas. For 125 each respondent has been studied from the four blocks under study on the basis of Stratified Random Sampling. That means, total 500 respondents have been interviewed for collection of primary data with the use of Interview Schedule.

Findings

Table 5.1 gives the loss of tree cover as experienced by the residents in the vicinity of peri-urban Lucknow. The data states around 29.80% people experience very large scale degradation of green cover which is a matter of worry and require attention of general mass towards planting trees in their area. Another 18% stated large scale degradation putting together approximately 50% voted for large scale destruction of green cover. Those who say less degradation comes to 16.80% and very less accounts for 21.80%. Only 9% stated no change in the green cover which is very low as compared to those who confirmed reducing trees in the area. About 4.60% answer was that they don't have any idea about it.

Table: 5.1
Whether Number of Trees/Gardens are Decreasing in Village

	No. of Persons	Percentage (%)
Very much	149	29.80
Much	90	18.00
Less	84	16.80
Very Less	109	21.80
No	45	9.00
Don't Know	23	4.60
Total	500	100.00

Source: Field Survey.**Table: 5.2**
Reasons for Decrease in Trees/Gardens

Reasons	No. of Persons	Percentage (%)
Not Applicable	68	13.60
House construction	39	7.80
Plotting by colonizer	40	8.00
Land acquisition by the government	3	0.60
To fulfill human need	71	14.20
For wood selling	44	8.80
House construction/ To fulfill human need/ For Wood	205	41.00
All the Reasons	4	0.80
Plotting by colonizer/ Land acquisition by the government	26	5.20
Total	500	100.00

Source: Field Survey.

Table 5.2 shows that, 39 people feel that house construction is responsible for loss of green cover. Around 56 people mention that plotting by colonizers as the reason. 13 people confirm acquisition by government for development work. 44 People collect wood from these lands and sell it off in urban markets. Maximum loss has occurred due to agriculture. About 4 people feel that all the above reasons are responsible for degradation of land. This suggests that along with urban expansion and increased commercial activities, the increased population and selling of wood for income generation are the major reasons for the deforestation in the peri-urban Lucknow. The main reasons for decreasing trees/gardens are shown in Table 5.2. Demand for land for house construction, wood and plotting for colonizers are the main reasons for decreasing area under trees/gardens.

According to table 5.3, about people 29% say that air pollution has increased from past and 13.40% confirm for increase but less in percentage. There are 41.60% people who don't think air pollution has increased from past and votes for similar living status. However, there are 16% people who find themselves unable to comment about.

This suggests that people in the peri-urban Lucknow area are recognizing the increasing levels of air pollution due to urban sprawl and are increasingly becoming aware of the hazards resulting from this rise in air pollution.

Table: 5.3
Whether Air Pollution has Increased

Has Air Pollution Increased?	No. of Persons	Percentage (%)
Yes	145	29.00
No	208	41.60
Less	67	13.40
No Response	80	16.00
Total	500	100.00

Source: Field Survey.

Air pollution has a major impact on the productivity and efficiency of man and nature and poses a serious health hazard. The most talked about impact is the health impact of air pollution leading to higher levels of morbidity, premature mortality and cases of chronic bronchitis and other respiratory infections (Mukherjee, 2002). In order to understand the prevalence of these diseases caused by polluted air, an effort has been made in our study.

In the light of above field survey study table we can conclude very safely that in the modern age the changing factor is acting on in typical Indian society day by day and all the environmental and health values is going on changing in progressive.

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