ABSTRACT

Life satisfaction as well as social inclusion is a state of mind influenced by several variable factors which are rather difficult to quantify and measure. Especially so with migrant workers in slums who face various problems that can impact their overall state of well-being. Some migrants are able to solve these problems through their efforts, while others find themselves less equipped to cope with such concerns. In the current research an attempt has been made to study the relationships between the factors Life Satisfaction Level (LSL), Social Inclusion Level (SIL) and Socio Economic Status (SES) of the interstate migrants of Dharavi slums in Mumbai. A sample of 987 interstate migrants of Dharavi was considered for the study and their responses to questions on SES, LSL and SIL was converted into appropriate indices SESINDEX, LSINDEX and SIINDEX using Principal Component Analysis Method and Factor Analysis using SPSS. Bivariate and Partial Correlation Analysis was applied using SPSS. The findings reveal that though there is significant relationship between the LSL and SES of a migrant, $R^2$ Value is found to be only 0.018 which implies that only 1.8% of the variations in LSL are due to SES, remaining 98.2% of the variations in LSL are due to other factors. It was also found that there is significant relationship between SIL and SES. But again, $R^2$ value was found to be 0.026, which means that SES explains only 2.6% of the total variability in SIL. The relationship between LSL and SIL was found to be more significant than the previous correlations. This means that the higher the LSL, higher is the SIL. In this case, $R^2$ was found to be 0.324, which means 32.4% of the variations in LSL are explained by SIL and the remaining 67.6% of the variations in LSL are due to other factors. Relationship between LSL and SIL was further tested using Partial Correlation Analysis controlling for the effect of SES which confirmed that the correlation coefficient changed negligibly. Thus it can be safely assumed that SES is not a major determinant of LSL and SIL. Rather SIL is more responsible for a migrant’s LSL. A Linear Regression Model of LSINDEX on SIINDEX, 

$$\text{LSINDEX}_i = 19.455 + 0.7 \times (\text{SIINDEX}_i)$$

was fit.

Using this model we can estimate the LSINDEX of a migrant for a given score of SIINDEX. The statistical significance of this model relationship between LSINDEX and SIINDEX can be applied for various purposes in migration studies, community welfare project assessments, sociological studies, etc.