NIGHT SHELTER, DELHI

PEOPLE CASE STUDIES

Helping the homeless with love and support towards independence

Saurabh verma
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HISTORY OF THE NIGHT SHELTER

NIGHT SHELTER:-

If you are homeless and worried about where you will be sleeping tonight, you may be able to find a place to stay.

Find out about emergency accommodation for single homeless people and what to expect when you stay there.
ABOUT THE NIGHT SHELTER:-

Cold weather shelters provide free basic accommodation during the coldest winter months, usually December to March. They are a good option if you aren't entitled to claim benefits. They don't charge you to stay and food is free. Many are run by faith groups but you don't have to belong a particular faith to stay there. To get a place, you can phone or turn up in person at the shelter. You sleep in a communal area of permanent and temporary shelter or day centre on a camp beds or mattress. And basic toiletries are provided. The smallest shelters sleep 10 people each night. Larger shelters may sleep 30 people or more.

Cold weather shelters want you to feel you are in a safe place when you stay. They often have rules that say that don't allow people to stay if they are drunk or abusive. Make sure you arrive on time to be let in the evening. You won't be allowed to stay at the shelter if you arrive too late.

Shelters are supervised during the night, usually by volunteer staffs that are available to provide company and support. The shelter staff may also be able to give you help with finding more permanent accommodation. You have to leave early the next day after breakfast and take your belongings with you.
Context of Homelessness in India

In rapidly urbanising India, urban homelessness is a growing concern. Over 286 million people are now inhabitants of the country’s cities;1 three of them, namely, Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata, are home to 17 percent of the world’s slum dwellers.2 The Census in 2001 enumerated 1.94 million homeless people in India, of who 1.16 million lived in villages, and only 0.77 million lived in cities and towns. These numbers have since likely to have grown in the 2011 census, though the detailed results of the 2011 census on homeless are not yet available, and there have been reports of undercounting on account of the in visibility. Because homeless tend to be highly invisible group, these numbers are likely to be gross under estimates. It is estimated that at least 1 percent of the population of cities is homeless.

The Census of India defines ‘houseless population’ as the persons who are not living in ‘census houses’.

A ‘census house’ is referred to as a ‘structure with roof’. Census enumerators are instructed ‘to take note of the possible places where the houseless population is likely to live such as ‘on the roadside, pavements, in Hume pipes, under staircases or in the open, temples, mandaps, platforms and the like’.3 They are described variously as homeless, houseless, roofless, shelter less people, and pavement dwellers.

Who are the Homeless -Defining Homeless?

Going beyond the Census definition of ‘homeless’ which defines houseless population as persons not living in ‘census houses’, we argue that the benefits of the SC orders shall prevail and be applicable for all categories of people listed below. They are:

Persons who do not have a house, either self-owned or rented, but instead:

I. Live and sleep at pavements, parks, railway stations, bus stations and places of worship, outside shops and factories, at constructions sites, under bridges, in Hume pipes and so on;
   ii. Spend their nights at night shelters, transit homes, short stay homes, beggar’s homes and children’s’ homes;
   iii. Live in temporary structures without full walls and roof, such as under plastic sheets, Tarpaulins or thatch roofs on pavements, parks, nallah beds and other common spaces.

It is to be noted that within this group there are multiple degrees of vulnerability, for instance the multiple vulnerabilities of single women, infirm and old, disabled, and persons who have special needs, and those involved in substance abuse. In addition to their social and economic vulnerability, these are also the groups who often have no kind of shelter whatsoever, and live in open subject of various forms of exploitation and abuse. This group of homeless should be taken special care of and provided care homes accordingly.
Supreme Court Orders on Homelessness

In the winters of 2009-10, there were homeless deaths in the capital city of Delhi that drew much public and media attention. Many who died were young working people: balloon sellers, rag pickers, rickshaw pullers, casual workers, street vendors, and the elderly on the streets. The Government of Delhi, one of the few states that had a programme on homeless, provided shelters to about 3 per cent of the homeless people, but in that winter, even those few shelters were reduced.

This initiated the involvement of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court (WR 196/2001) in the matter, and in a letter dated January 13th, 2010 they brought to the notice of the Hon’ble Supreme Court, the appalling conditions of the people living on the streets in Delhi, especially in extreme cold weather conditions. They explained that these deaths could have been avoided had there been proper implementation of directions of the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India (in CWP 196/2001) with regard to the food schemes on the food including the ICDS, MDMS, PDS, NREGA, Antodaya Yojana, NOAPS, NFBS and NMBS in the state of Delhi. It was further explained that people are dying in the streets of Delhi not only because they are hungry but also because they are homeless. People require more food to remain healthy, as the temperature decreases. This makes homeless people who already have low levels of access to nutritional food and high malnutrition rates, very vulnerable to cold weather.

A series of important Supreme Court orders followed.

The third letter written by the Commissioners to the Supreme Court dated January 25th, 2010, the Commissioners therefore sought a direction to all state governments/UTs in India, ‘to build and run 24 hour shelters for urban homeless people, with adequate and appropriate facilities. The shelters must be in sufficient numbers to meet the need, in the ratio of at least one per lakh of population, in every major urban centre. (This is the ratio prescribed by the Delhi Master Plan). As explained, all shelters for homeless people should be functional all through the year and not as a seasonal facility only during the winters’. They added that whereas over time these services need to be provided in all urban areas, in the first phase it ‘should be mandatory for cities with population above one million, and other cities and towns identified by the Government of India to be of special social, historical, tourist or political importance. A total of 62 such cities have been identified under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). Central and state governments are directed, as a minimum, to provide permanent 24 hour homeless shelters in these 62 cities in the first phase within a period of one year from the order, in a minimum ratio of one shelter of capacity 100 persons for every one lakh of urban population. These should be operational latest by March 31st, 2011.'
IN DELHI:-

There is a plan Scheme of “Construction, Maintenance and Management of Night Shelters”

- Action plan for winter season for Homeless 2011-12 was proposed and submitted to the learned Chief Secretary, GNCT of Delhi which has been approved.
- In order to manage and control the Night Shelters (permanent /temporary), all the permanent Night Shelters have been allotted to the N.G.Os. By the DUSIB.
- Total 65 Permanent Shelters have been opened and 84 temporary shelters are functioning presently.

The night shelters are vitally important role during the winter season. In Delhi some of people not having home and night shelters are helping those people not having home or not staying place in night as shown in below picture.
CASE STUDY:-

Case study is a why people need of night shelters, and purpose of live in these night shelters. I am Saurabh verma work as a student volunteer (ID- 12714) for homeless people in different night shelter.

Over a 15 day’s period, the experience was really good and helping those people who require the night shelter. I visited so many night shelters during the period 16Jan2015-30Jan 2015. Some of them are (CD-NS: 224, CD-NS: 534, CD-NS: 75, CD-NS: 531, CD-NS-90, CD-NS: 112, CD-NS: 43, CD-NS: 543, and CD-NS: 230.where I experienced ,how the help night shelters people of those not having home and not staying place. Issues or problems encountered in management of these night shelters. From, the first day of my visit, I felt that night shelters providing some relief shelters people who stay that. For example some case study below there. Many people live in night shelters but few people are below there,
1. NAME: - RAM VILLAS
He is a beggar and very old age person. He has also having son but not helping them at this age and son live in Bihar. He lives as a homeless people. He has not staying place in night. At this condition night shelters people are help them for staying in night.

2. NAME: - SACHIN
   Age: - 20
He is a labour and he has no education background but he is still want to study any one not help them after death his parents and run away from Lucknow. He has work as labour. He has not staying place in Delhi and could not able to stay in night.so night shelter help that person for stay in night.
NAME: - KAMLESH PRASAD

He has work as sewing in any garments shop. He has a family (mother, father, and his wife also have son and daughter). In past days of his life, he was a farmer for earning money he came to Delhi. He has also not having staying place in Delhi Night shelter help to stay that person. He is doing a job in a day and whole night stay in night shelters.

These are few examples how to help night shelters of those people who are homeless and not staying place in night.

CONCLUSION: -

According to DUSIB (Delhi government) providing many night shelters for homeless poor people who are not having staying place for the whole night and night shelters provided all facilities as like a home to stay for the night who are sleep in whole night on the side of road, street light of road, parking of cars in winter season those people helped by the night shelters. According to government “Helping the homeless with love support towards independence”. My thought I advised there should be a good counsellor which taught him how beautiful life and how to enjoy the life .some colourful event also be done.