

CHAPTER-VII

EDUCATION SCENARIO OF SLUM DWELLERS IN SMCA

7.1: INTRODUCTION

Education is an important criterion to determine the standard of living of people. It is an essential ingredient for the all round development of people. In the slum area education is expected to be at a low level which is a main cause for poverty in respect of finances, moral and social life of the slum dwellers. This chapter discusses the education scenario of slum dwellers in Siliguri Municipal Corporation area.

7.2: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY SLUM DWELLERS OF SAMPLE SLUM HOUSEHOLDS OF SMCA

7.2.1: Gender-wise Educational Attainment of Sample Slum Dwellers

Table-7.2.1 (i), Table-7.2.1 (ii) and Table-7.2.1 (iii) present the level of education attained by slum dwellers of both sexes in Inner Slum, Outer Slum and Total (Inner and Outer) Slum area.

Table 7.2.1 (i): Education and Gender of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Inner	Does not arise	17 (68.0) (8.0)	8 (32.0) (3.6)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	63 (40.6) (29.4)	92 (59.4) (41.8)	155 (100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	12 (63.2) (5.6)	7 (36.8) (3.2)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary	70 (55.6)	56 (44.4)	126 (100)

	Education	(32.7)	(25.5)	(29.0)
	Secondary / HS	52 (47.7) (24.3)	57 (52.3) (25.9)	109 (100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Total	214 (49.3) (100)	220 (50.7) (100)	434 (100) (100)
	Literacy rate (%)	68.0	56.6	62.1

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.1 (ii): Education and Gender of Sample Slum Dwellers in Outer Slum

Slum type	Education	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Outer	Does not arise	24 (54.5) (10.1)	20 (45.5) (8.3)	44 (100) (9.2)
	Illiterate	64 (40.3) (27.0)	95 (59.7) (39.6)	159 (100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	18 (64.3) (7.6)	10 (35.7) (4.2)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	110 (52.1) (46.4)	101 (47.9) (42.1)	211 (100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	18 (64.3) (7.6)	10 (35.7) (4.2)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (1.3)	2 (40.0) (0.8)	5 (100) (1.1)

	Others	0 (0) (0)	2 (100.0) (0.8)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	237 (49.7) (100)	240 (50.3) (100)	477 (100) (100)
	Literacy rate (%)	70.0	56.8	63.3

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.1 (iii): Education and Gender of Sample Slum Dwellers in Total (Inner and Outer) Slum Area

Slum type	Education	Sex		Total
		Male	Female	
Total	Does not arise	41 (59.4) (9.1)	28 (40.6) (6.1)	69 (100) (7.6)
	Illiterate	127 (40.4) (28.1)	187 (59.6) (40.7)	314 (100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	30 (63.8) (6.6)	17 (36.2) (3.7)	47 (100) (5.2)
	Primary Education	180 (53.4) (40.0)	157 (46.6) (34.1)	337 (100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	70 (51.1) (15.5)	67 (48.9) (14.6)	137 (100) (15.0)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (0.7)	2 (40.0) (0.4)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	2 (100.0) (0.4)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	451 (49.5) (100)	460 (50.5) (100)	911 (100) (100)

	Literacy rate (%)	69.0	56.7	62.7
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Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

In Table-7.2.1 (iii) it is found that among 911 slum dwellers in the slum area surveyed 7.6 percent slum dwellers are below 6 years of age and hence are not taken into consideration for attainment of formal education and belong to the group ‘Does not arise’. Among 911 slum dwellers 34.5 percent are illiterates; among the 314 illiterate slum dwellers highest proportion (59.6 percent) are female. Among 451 male slum dwellers 28.1 percent are illiterate while among 460 female slum dwellers 40.7 percent are illiterate. Thus it is seen that among the total female slum dwellers the proportion of illiterate female slum dwellers is significantly higher than the proportion of illiterate male slum dwellers. Literacy rate among the slum dwellers is 62.7 percent; (Literacy rate =

$$\frac{\text{Number of Literates (excluding illiterates and persons below 6 years of age)}}{\text{Population aged 6+ years and above}} \times 100).$$

Female literacy rate (56.7 percent) is low compared to male literacy rate (69 percent). It is because marriage of female children is given more importance compared to educational attainment, general negligence of girl child and gender discrimination.

Among 911 slum dwellers highest proportion (37 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV), 5.2 percent slum dwellers are only able to sign his/her name and hence functionally literate, 15 percent slum dwellers are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education, 0.5 percent slum dwellers are graduates and 0.2 percent slum dwellers in the ‘other’ category are post graduates. There is no male post graduate among the male slum dwellers. It is also noticed that proportion of male slum dwellers receiving higher education tends to decline as among 451 male slum dwellers 40 percent male slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level, 15.5 percent are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education, 0.7 percent are graduates and none are post graduates. The reason is that income of most of heads of slum households being low, the other members have to

support the family financially, the burden falls mostly on the male member of the household. So the male members are unable to continue their studies in order to earn for their family. Highest proportion of slum dwellers, (37 percent) among 911 slum dwellers is literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Thus the level of education is low in the slum area surveyed.

The literacy rate in Outer slum (63.3 percent) is higher than the literacy rate in the Inner slum (62.1 percent). The female literacy rate in the Outer slum (56.8 percent) is slightly higher than that in the Inner slum (56.6 percent) and male literacy rate in the Outer slum (70 percent) is also higher than the male literacy rate in the Inner slum (68 percent). In Inner slum among 434 slum dwellers the highest proportion (35.7 percent) slum dwellers are illiterate whereas in Outer slum among 477 slum dwellers the highest proportion (44.2 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). 25.1 percent among 434 slum dwellers in Inner slum and only 5.9 percent slum dwellers among 477 slum dwellers in Outer slum are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education. Among the 477 slum dwellers in the Outer slum there are 1.1 percent graduates and 0.4 percent post graduates while in the Inner slum there are no graduate or post graduate slum dwellers. Though the literacy level is high in Outer slum, the proportion of slum dwellers pursuing higher education is found to be higher in Inner slum as being close to the heart of the city the Inner slum dwellers are influenced by the elite city dwellers to pursue higher education and get good jobs. (Refer to Table-7.2.1 (i) and Table-7.2.1 (ii))

7.2.2: Educational Attainment and Age of Sample Slum Dwellers

Table-7.2.2 (i), Table-7.2.2 (ii) and Table 7.2.2 (iii) present the level of education attained by slum dwellers in Inner Slum, Outer Slum and Total (Inner and Outer) Slum area at various age groups

Table 7.2.2 (i): Education and Age of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Age group				Total
		Up to 30	31-40	41-50	Above 50	
Inner	Does not arise	25 (100.0) (9.6)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	34 (21.9) (13.0)	44 (28.4) (58.7)	37(23.9) (71.2)	40(25.8) (87.0)	155(100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	11 (57.9) (4.2)	5 (26.3) (6.7)	1 (5.3) (1.9)	2 (10.5) (4.3)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary Education	98 (77.8) (37.6)	18 (14.3) (24.0)	8 (6.3) (15.4)	2 (1.6) (4.3)	126(100) (29.0)
	Secondary / HS	93 (85.3) (35.6)	8 (7.3) (10.6)	6 (5.5) (11.5)	2 (1.9) (4.3)	109(100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Total	261 (60.1) (100)	75 (17.3) (100)	52(12.0) (100)	46(10.6) (100)	434(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.2 (ii): Education and Age of Sample Slum Dwellers in Outer Slum

Slum type	Education	Age group				Total
		Up to 30	31-40	41-50	Above 50	
Outer	Does not arise	44 (100.0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	44 (100)

		(13.8)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(9.2)
	Illiterate	54 (34.0) (17.0)	36 (22.6) (50.7)	44(27.7) (80.0)	25(15.7) (75.8)	159(100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	18 (64.3) (5.7)	5 (17.9) (7.0)	2 (7.1) (3.6)	3 (10.7) (9.1)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	178 (84.4) (56.0)	22 (10.4) (31.0)	7 (3.3) (12.8)	4 (1.9) (12.1)	211(100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	19 (67.9) (6.0)	6 (21.4) (8.5)	2 (7.1) (3.6)	1 (3.6) (3.0)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (0.9)	2 (40.0) (2.8)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	5 (100) (1.1)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.6)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	318 (66.7) (100)	71 (14.9) (100)	55(11.5) (100)	33 (6.9) (100)	477(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.2 (iii): Education and Age of Sample Slum Dwellers in Total (Inner and Outer) Slum Area

Slum type	Education	Age group				Total
		Up to 30	31-40	41-50	Above 50	
Total	Does not arise	69 (100) (11.9)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	69 (100) (7.6)
	Illiterate	88 (28.0) (15.2)	80 (25.5) (54.8)	81 (25.8) (75.7)	65(20.7) (82.3)	314(100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	29 (61.7)	10 (21.3)	3 (6.4)	5 (10.6)	47 (100)

		(5.0)	(6.8)	(2.8)	(6.3)	(5.2)
	Primary Education	276 (81.9) (47.7)	40 (11.9) (27.4)	15 (4.4) (14.0)	6 (1.8) (7.6)	337(100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	112 (81.8) (19.3)	14 (10.2) (9.6)	8 (5.8) (7.5)	3 (2.2) (3.8)	137(100) (15.0)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (0.5)	2 (40.0) (1.4)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	2 (100) (0.4)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	579 (63.6) (100)	146 (16.0) (100)	107(11.7) (100)	79 (8.7) (100)	911(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.2 (iii) reveals that among 579 slum dwellers up to 30 years of age 11.9 percent slum dwellers is (0 to 6) years of age and hence these slum dwellers are not considered for attainment of education. The highest proportion (47.7 percent) of slum dwellers up to 30 years of age are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 146 slum dwellers within 31 to 40 years of age majority (54.8 percent) are illiterate. Among 107 slum dwellers within 41 to 50 years of age majority (75.7 percent) of slum dwellers are illiterate. Among 79 slum dwellers above 50 years of age majority (82.3 percent) are illiterate. Among the older generation of slum dwellers above 30 years of age the highest proportion are illiterates. There are no graduates in the higher age groups, i.e., within 41 to 50 years of age and above 50 years of age. All post-graduate slum dwellers are up to 30 years of age. There are no older generation slum dwellers who have obtained higher education (i.e., graduation or post- graduation).

It is found that in the Inner slum among 155 illiterate slum dwellers the highest proportion (28.4 percent) of illiterate slum dwellers are within the age of 31 to 40 years and the lowest proportion (21.9 percent) of slum dwellers are in the range of up to 30 years of age while in the Outer slum among 159 illiterate slum dwellers the highest

proportion (34 percent) of illiterate slum dwellers are in the range of up to 30 years of age and the lowest proportion of illiterate slum dwellers (15.7 percent) is above 50 years of age. It is seen that a larger proportion of illiterates are found among the younger generation of slum dwellers in the Outer slum compared to the Inner slum. (Refer to Table-7.2.2 (i) and Table-7.2.2 (ii))

7.2.3: Educational Attainment and Religion of Sample Slum Dwellers

Table-7.2.3 (i), Table-7.2.3 (ii) and Table-7.2.3 (iii) present the level of education attained by slum dwellers of different religious groups.

Table 7.2.3 (i): Education and Religion of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Religion		Total
		Hindu	Muslim	
Inner	Does not arise	20 (80.0) (5.9)	5 (20.0) (5.4)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	128 (82.6) (37.5)	27 (17.4) (29.0)	155 (100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	15 (78.9) (4.4)	4 (21.1) (4.3)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary Education	104 (82.5) (30.5)	22 (17.5) (23.7)	126 (100) (29.0)
	Secondary / HS	74 (67.9) (21.7)	35 (32.1) (37.6)	109 (100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (100) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (100) (0)
	Total	341 (78.6) (100)	93 (21.4) (100)	434 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.3 (ii): Education and Religion of Sample Slum Dwellers in Outer Slum

Slum type	Education	Religion		Total
		Hindu	Muslim	
Outer	Does not arise	34 (77.3) (8.4)	10 (22.7) (13.7)	44 (100) (9.2)
	Illiterate	125 (78.6) (30.9)	34 (21.4) (46.6)	159 (100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	25 (89.3) (6.2)	3 (10.7) (4.1)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	188 (89.1) (46.5)	23 (10.9) (31.5)	211 (100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	26 (92.9) (6.5)	2 (7.1) (2.7)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	4 (80.0) (1.0)	1 (20.0) (1.4)	5 (100) (1.1)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.5)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	404 (84.7) (100)	73 (15.3) (100)	477 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.3 (iii): Education and Religion of Sample Slum Dwellers in Total (Inner and Outer) Slum Area

Slum type	Education	Religion		Total
		Hindu	Muslim	
Total	Does not arise	54 (78.3) (7.2)	15 (21.7) (9.0)	69 (100) (7.6)
	Illiterate	253 (80.6) (34.0)	61 (19.4) (36.8)	314 (100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	40 (85.1) (5.4)	7 (14.9) (4.2)	47 (100) (5.2)
	Primary Education	292 (86.6) (39.2)	45 (13.4) (27.1)	337 (100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	100 (73.0) (13.4)	37 (27.0) (22.3)	137 (100) (15.0)
	Graduate	4 (80.0) (0.5)	1 (20.0) (0.6)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.3)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	745 (81.8) (100)	166 (18.2) (100)	911 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Only Hindu and Muslim religious groups are found in the surveyed slum area. Table-7.2.3 (iii) reveals that among 745 Hindu slum dwellers 7.2 percent are cases where the age of slum dwellers is between 0 to 6 years and hence these slum dwellers are not considered for acquisition of any education level. The highest proportion of Hindu slum dwellers (39.2 percent) are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 166 Muslim slum dwellers 9 percent slum dwellers is between 0 to 6 years and hence not

considered for acquisition of any education level. The highest proportion of Muslim slum dweller (36.8 percent) is illiterate. This suggests that the literacy level is low among the Muslims compared to the Hindus. But the overall situation shows that the education level is low among both the religious groups of slum dwellers as among the Hindus only 0.5 percent is graduates 0.3 percent is post-graduate while among the Muslims 0.6 percent is graduate and none is a post-graduate. The literacy rate in the Total (Inner and Outer) slum area among the Hindu slum dwellers is higher at 63.4 percent compared to the Muslim slum dwellers (59.6 percent).

It is noticed that in the Inner slum among the 341 Hindu slum dwellers the highest proportion (37.5 percent) of them are illiterates. In the Inner slum among the 93 Muslim slum dwellers the highest proportion (37.6 percent) of them are those educated up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education. There are no graduate or post-graduate in the Inner slum among the two religious groups. In the Inner slum it is thus observed that higher proportions of Muslims have attained the secondary or higher secondary level of education, where as, larger proportion of Hindu are illiterate. The literacy rate among the Muslim slum dwellers (69.3 percent) is higher in the Inner slum compared to the Hindu slum dwellers (60.1 percent). In the Outer slum among the 404 Hindu slum dwellers the highest proportion (46.5 percent) of them are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). In the Outer slum among the 73 Muslim slum dwellers the highest proportion (46.6 percent) are illiterate. In case of both Hindu and Muslim in Outer slum the proportion of those obtained higher education is very small though graduate and the post-graduate are found in this slum area. The literacy rate of the Hindu slum dwellers (66.2 percent) is significantly higher than Muslim slum dwellers (46 percent) in Outer slum. The level of literacy of the Muslim slum dwellers in Outer slum is low compared to their Hindu counterpart in the Outer slum and also compared to the Muslim slum dwellers in Inner slum. The Muslim slum dwellers of the Inner slum being more close to the heart of the city are more aware of the importance of education in life and are also more influenced by the elite urbanites in comparison to their counterpart in Outer slum area. (Refer to Table-7.2.3 (i) and Table-7.2.3 (ii))

7.2.4: Educational Attainment and Community of Sample Slum Dwellers

Table-7.2.4 (i), Table-7.2.4 (ii) and Table-7.2.4 (iii) represent the level of education attained by slum dwellers of different communities.

Table 7.2.4 (i): Education and Community of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Community		Total
		General	SC	
Inner	Does not arise	22 (88.0) (6.2)	3 (12.0) (3.7)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	122 (78.7) (34.7)	33 (21.3) (40.2)	155 (100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	16 (84.2) (4.5)	3 (15.8) (3.7)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary Education	97 (77.0) (27.6)	29 (23.0) (35.3)	126 (100) (29.0)
	Secondary / HS	95 (87.2) (27.0)	14 (12.8) (17.1)	109 (100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Total	352 (74.2) (100)	82 (25.8) (100)	434 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.4 (ii): Education and Community of Sample Slum Dwellers in Outer Slum

Slum type	Education	Community		Total
		General	SC	
Outer	Does not arise	41 (93.2) (9.4)	3 (6.8) (7.5)	44 (100) (9.2)
	Illiterate	144 (90.6) (32.9)	15 (9.4) (37.5)	159 (100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	26 (92.9) (5.9)	2 (7.1) (5.0)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	193 (91.5) (44.2)	18 (8.5) (45.0)	211 (100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	27 (96.4) (6.2)	1 (3.6) (2.5)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	4 (80.0) (0.9)	1 (20.0) (2.5)	5 (100) (1.1)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.5)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	437 (91.6) (100)	40 (8.4) (100)	477 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.4 (iii): Education and Community of Sample Slum Dwellers in Total (Inner and Outer) Slum Area

Slum type	Education	Community		Total
		General	SC	
Total	Does not arise	63 (91.3)	6 (8.7)	69 (100)

		(8.0)	(4.9)	(7.6)
	Illiterate	266 (84.7) (33.7)	48 (15.3) (39.4)	314 (100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	42 (89.4) (5.3)	5 (10.6) (4.1)	47 (100) (5.2)
	Primary Education	290 (86.1) (36.7)	47 (13.9) (38.5)	337 (100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	122 (89.1) (15.5)	15 (10.9) (12.3)	137 (100) (15.0)
	Graduate	4 (80.0) (0.5)	1 (20.0) (0.8)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.3)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	789 (86.6) (100)	122 (13.4) (100)	911 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

There are only two communities in the surveyed slum area; General Caste and Scheduled Caste (S.C.). In Table-7.2.4 (iii) it is noticed that that the proportion of General Caste slum dwellers is highest in all respect of education level compared to the Scheduled Caste (S.C.) slum dwellers; illiterates (84.7 percent), able to sign name (89.4 percent), literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV) (86.1 percent), literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education, (89.1 percent), completion of graduation (80 percent) and completion of post-graduation (100 percent). Among 789 General Caste slum dwellers in the Total (Inner and Outer) slum area 8 percent are cases where the age of slum dwellers is between 0 to 6 years and hence these slum dwellers are not considered for acquisition of any education level, 33.7 percent are illiterates, 5.3 percent are able to sign name, 36.7 percent are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV), 15.5 percent are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary

level of education, 0.5 percent are graduates, 0.3 percent are post-graduates. Among 122 Scheduled Caste (S.C.) slum dwellers in the total (Inner and Outer) slum area 4.9 percent are cases where the age of slum dwellers is between 0 to 6 years and hence these slum dwellers are not considered for acquisition of any education level, 39.4 percent are illiterates, 4.1 percent are able to sign name, 38.5 percent are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV), 12.3 percent are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education, 0.8 percent is graduate, none of the S.C. slum dwellers is post-graduate. It is found that among the 789 slum dwellers belonging to the General Caste community the highest proportion (36.7 percent) are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV) where as among the 122 Scheduled Caste slum dwellers the highest proportion (39.4 percent) are illiterate. This suggests that the literacy level is low among the Scheduled Caste community compared to the General Caste community. But the overall situation shows that the education level is low among both Community of slum dwellers as among the General Caste 0.5 percent are graduates and 0.3 percent are post-graduates while among the Scheduled Caste 0.8 percent are graduates and none post-graduates.

It is noticed in Table-7.2.4 (i) and Table-7.2.4 (ii) that the proportion of General Caste slum dwellers is highest in all respect of education level compared to the Scheduled Caste slum dwellers in both the Inner and Outer slums. In the Inner slum among the 352 General Caste slum dwellers the highest proportion (34.7 percent) of them are illiterates. In the Inner slum among the 82 Scheduled Caste slum dwellers the highest proportion (40.2 percent) of them are illiterate. There are no graduate or post-graduate in the Inner slum among the two communities. In the Inner slum the education level attained by both the community is similar though the level of illiteracy is lower (34.7 percent) among the General Caste compared to the illiteracy level among the Scheduled Caste (40.2 percent). In the Outer slum among the 437 General Caste slum dwellers the highest proportion (44.2 percent) of them are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). In the Outer slum among the 40 Scheduled Caste slum dwellers the highest proportion (45 percent) of them are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV) . In case of both the community in Outer slum the proportion of those obtained higher

education is very small though graduate and the post-graduate are found in this slum area. The education level attained by both the community in the Outer slum is similar but in this slum too illiteracy level is higher among Scheduled Caste (37.5 percent) compared to that among General Caste community (32.9 percent).

7.2.5: Educational Attainment and Mother Tongue of Sample Slum Dwellers

Mother tongue is an important determinant of attainment of education level. Table-7.2.5 (i), Table-7.2.5 (ii) and Table-7.2.5 (iii) represent the level of education attained by slum dwellers of different mother tongues in Inner Slum, Outer Slum and Total (Inner and Outer) slum area.

Table 7.2.5 (i): Education and Mother Tongue of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Mother tongue				Total
		Bengali	Hindi	Nepali	Urdu	
Inner	Does not arise	18 (72.0) (7.0)	2 (8.0) (2.5)	0 (0) (0)	5 (20.0) (5.4)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	97 (62.6) (37.6)	29 (18.7) (36.8)	2 (1.3) (50.0)	27(17.4) (29.0)	155(100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	13 (68.4) (5.0)	2 (10.5) (2.5)	0 (0) (0)	4 (21.1) (4.3)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary Education	79 (62.7) (30.6)	23 (18.2) (29.1)	2 (1.6) (50.0)	22(17.5) (23.7)	126(100) (29.0)
	Secondary / HS	51 (46.8) (19.8)	23 (21.1) (29.1)	0 (0) (0)	35(32.1) (37.6)	109(100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)

	Total	258 (59.5) (100)	79 (18.2) (100)	4 (0.9) (100)	93(21.4) (100)	434(100) (100)
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Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.2.5 (ii): Education and Mother Tongue of Sample Slum Dwellers in Outer Slum

Slum type	Education	Mother tongue				Total
		Bengali	Hindi	Nepali	Urdu	
Outer	Does not arise	18 (40.9) (7.2)	19 (43.2) (9.7)	2 (4.5) (15.4)	5 (11.4) (27.8)	44 (100) (9.2)
	Illiterate	98 (61.6) (39.2)	57 (35.9) (29.1)	1 (0.6) (7.7)	3 (1.9) (16.7)	159(100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	19 (67.9) (7.6)	7 (25.0) (3.6)	0 (0) (0)	2 (7.1) (11.1)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	103 (48.8) (41.2)	94 (44.5) (47.9)	9 (4.3) (69.2)	5 (2.4) (27.8)	211(100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	9 (32.2) (3.6)	16 (57.1) (8.2)	1 (3.6) (7.7)	2 (7.1) (11.1)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	2 (40.0) (0.8)	2 (40.0) (1.0)	0 (0) (0)	1 (20.0) (5.5)	5 (100) (1.1)
	Others	1 (50.0) (0.4)	1 (50.0) (0.5)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	250 (52.4) (100)	196 (41.1) (100)	13 (2.7) (100)	18 (3.8) (100)	477(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

**Table 7.2.5 (iii): Education and Mother Tongue of Sample Slum Dwellers in Total
(Inner and Outer) Slum Area**

Slum type	Education	Mother tongue				Total
		Bengali	Hindi	Nepali	Urdu	
Total	Does not arise	36 (52.2) (7.1)	21 (30.4) (7.6)	2 (2.9) (11.8)	10 (14.5) (9.0)	69 (100) (7.6)
	Illiterate	195 (62.1) (38.4)	86 (27.4) (31.3)	3 (0.9) (17.6)	30 (9.6) (27.0)	314(100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	32 (68.1) (6.3)	9 (19.1) (3.3)	0 (0) (0)	6 (12.8) (5.4)	47 (100) (5.2)
	Primary Education	182 (54.0) (35.8)	117 (34.7) (42.5)	11 (3.3) (64.7)	27 (8.0) (24.3)	337(100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	60 (43.8) (11.8)	39 (28.5) (14.2)	1 (0.7) (5.9)	37 (27.0) (33.4)	137(100) (15.0)
	Graduate	2 (40.0) (0.4)	2 (40.0) (0.7)	0 (0) (0)	1 (20.0) (0.9)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	1 (50.0) (0.2)	1 (50.0) (0.4)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	508 (55.8) (100)	275 (30.2) (100)	17 (1.8) (100)	111(12.2) (100)	911(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

In the slum area surveyed four mother tongues are found- Bengali, Hindi, Nepali and Urdu. In Table-7.2.5 (iii) it is observed that among 314 illiterate slum dwellers in the sample total (Inner and Outer) slum area 62.1 percent have Bengali as their mother tongue, 27.4 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue, 0.9 percent have Nepali as their mother tongue and 9.6 percent have Urdu as their mother tongue. Among 47 slum dwellers those who are able to sign name 68.1 percent have Bengali as their mother

tongue, 19.1 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue and 12.8 percent have Urdu as their mother tongue. Among 337 slum dwellers who are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV), 54 percent have Bengali as their mother tongue, 34.7 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue, 3.3 percent have Nepali as their mother tongue and 8 percent have Urdu as their mother tongue. Among 137 slum dwellers who are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education 43.8 percent have Bengali as their mother tongue, 28.5 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue, 0.7 percent have Nepali as their mother tongue and 27 percent have Urdu as their mother tongue. Among 5 graduates 40 percent have Bengali as their mother tongue, 40 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue and 20 percent have Urdu as their mother tongue. Among 2 post graduates 50 percent have Bengali as their mother tongue and 50 percent have Hindi as their mother tongue. It is noticed that the proportion of slum dwellers having Bengali as their mother tongue is highest compared to Hindi, Nepali and Urdu mother tongues in respect of slum dwellers not considered for acquisition of any education which are cases where the age of slum dwellers is between 0 to 6 years (52.2 percent) and also in respect of education levels: illiterates (62.1 percent), able to sign name (68.1 percent), those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV) (54 percent) and those literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education (43.8 percent). The highest proportion of slum dwellers in the cases of graduation, (40 percent) and post-graduation, (50 percent) are having Bengali and Hindi as their mother tongue.

Among 508 slum dwellers in the sample total (Inner and Outer) slum area having Bengali as their mother tongue the highest proportion (38.4 percent) slum dwellers are illiterates. Among 275 slum dwellers having Hindi as their mother tongue highest proportion (42.5 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 17 slum dwellers having Nepali as their mother tongue highest proportion (64.7 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 111 slum dwellers having Urdu as their mother tongue highest proportion (33.4 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education. It is thus revealed that the level of education is low among the slum dwellers

having mother tongue Bengali compared to the slum dwellers having mother tongue Hindi, Nepali and Urdu.

Table-7.2.5 (i) reveals that in the Inner slum area among 258 slum dwellers having mother tongue Bengali, the highest proportion (37.6 percent) are illiterates. Among 79 slum dwellers having mother tongue Hindi, the highest proportion (36.8 percent) are illiterates. Among 4 slum dwellers having mother tongue Nepali, (50 percent) slum dwellers each are illiterates and literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 93 slum dwellers having mother tongue Urdu, the highest proportion (37.6 percent) are literate up to the secondary or higher secondary level of education. It is seen that in the Inner slum area the education level among slum dwellers having mother tongue Urdu is higher compared to their other counterparts.

It is seen in Table-7.2.5 (ii) that in the Outer slum area equal proportion of slum dwellers having mother tongue Bengali and Hindi are graduates and post graduates. In the Outer slum area among 250 slum dwellers having mother tongue Bengali, the highest proportion (41.2 percent) are those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 196 slum dwellers having mother tongue Hindi, the highest proportion (47.9 percent) are those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 13 slum dwellers having mother tongue Nepali, the highest proportion (69.2 percent) are those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 18 slum dwellers having mother tongue Urdu, the highest proportion (27.8 percent) in respect of educational level attained are those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Thus it is evident that among the slum dwellers of all the four mother tongues (Bengali, Hindi, Nepali and Urdu) the highest proportion of slum dwellers in each of these mother tongue- groups comprise of those literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Therefore the education level is almost similar in respect of mother tongue in the Outer slum area.

7.2.6: Educational Attainment and Individual Monthly Income of Sample Slum Dwellers

Table-7.2.6 (i), 7.2.6 (ii) and 7.2.6 (iii) represent the level of education attained by slum dwellers according to Individual Monthly Income

Table 7.2.6 (i): Education and Individual Monthly Income of Sample Slum Dwellers in Inner Slum

Slum type	Education	Individual Monthly Income					Total
		Nil	1- 2000	2001-3000	3001-5000	>5000	
Inner	Does not arise	25 (100) (9.1)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	25 (100) (5.8)
	Illiterate	64 (41.3) (23.3)	26 (16.8) (57.8)	21 (13.5) (63.6)	28 (18.1) (59.6)	16(10.3) (47.1)	155 (100) (35.7)
	Able to Sign	10 (52.6) (3.6)	4 (21.1) (8.9)	2 (10.5) (6.1)	2 (10.5) (4.3)	1 (5.3) (2.9)	19 (100) (4.4)
	Primary Education	92 (73.0) (33.5)	10 (8.0) (22.2)	6 (4.8) (18.2)	9 (7.1) (19.1)	9 (7.1) (26.5)	126 (100) (29.0)
	Secondary / HS	84 (77.1) (30.5)	5 (4.6) (11.1)	4 (3.7) (12.1)	8 (7.3) (17.0)	8 (7.3) (23.5)	109 (100) (25.1)
	Graduate	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Others	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
	Total	275(63.4) (100)	45 (10.4) (100)	33 (7.6) (100)	47 (10.8) (100)	34 (7.8) (100)	434 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

**Table 7.2.6 (ii): Education and Individual Monthly Income of Sample Slum
Dwellers in Outer Slum**

Slum type	Education	Individual Monthly Income					Total
		Nil	1- 2000	2001-3000	3001-5000	>5000	
Outer	Does not arise	44(100.0) (14.6)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	44 (100) (9.2)
	Illiterate	71 (44.7) (23.6)	15 (9.4) (62.5)	17 (10.7) (68.0)	45 (28.3) (56.3)	11 (6.9) (23.4)	159 (100) (33.3)
	Able to Sign	13 (46.5) (4.3)	2 (7.1) (8.3)	1 (3.6) (4.0)	5 (17.8) (6.3)	7 (25.0) (14.9)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Primary Education	150(71.1) (49.8)	7 (3.3) (29.2)	7 (3.3) (28.0)	27 (12.8) (33.7)	20 (9.5) (42.5)	211 (100) (44.2)
	Secondary / HS	18 (64.3) (6.0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	3 (10.7) (3.7)	7 (25) (14.9)	28 (100) (5.9)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (1.0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (40.0) (4.3)	5 (100) (1.1)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.7)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.4)
	Total	301(63.1) (100)	24 (5.0) (100)	25 (5.2) (100)	80 (16.8) (100)	47 (9.9) (100)	477 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

**Table 7.2.6 (iii): Education and Individual Monthly Income of Sample Slum
Dwellers in Total (Inner and Outer) Slum Area**

Slum type	Education	Individual Monthly Income					Total
		Nil	1- 2000	2001-3000	3001-5000	>5000	
Total	Does not	69 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	69 (100)

	arise	(12.0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(7.6)
	Illiterate	135(43.0) (23.4)	41 (13.0) (59.4)	38 (12.1) (65.5)	73 (23.3) (57.5)	27 (8.6) (33.3)	314 (100) (34.5)
	Able to Sign	23 (48.9) (4.0)	6 (12.8) (8.7)	3(6.4) (5.2)	7 (14.9) (5.5)	8 (17.0) (9.9)	47 (100) (5.2)
	Primary Education	242(71.8) (42.0)	17 (5.1) (24.6)	13 (3.8) (22.4)	36 (10.7) (28.3)	29 (8.6) (35.8)	337 (100) (37.0)
	Secondary / HS	102(74.5) (17.7)	5 (3.7) (7.3)	4 (2.9) (6.9)	11 (8.0) (8.7)	15(10.9) (18.5)	137 (100) (15.0)
	Graduate	3 (60.0) (0.5)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (40.0) (2.5)	5 (100) (0.5)
	Others	2 (100.0) (0.4)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	2 (100) (0.2)
	Total	576(63.2) (100)	69 (7.6) (100)	58 (6.4) (100)	127 (13.9) (100)	81 (8.9) (100)	911 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Table-7.2.6 (iii) shows the relationship between Individual Monthly Income and Education in the total (Inner and Outer) slum area. In the Total (Inner and Outer) slum area among 911 slum dwellers 7.6 percent slum dwellers are below 6 years of age and hence not considered for acquisition of any education level, they do not have any income. Among 576 slum dwellers those who have no income, the highest proportion (42 percent) slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). Among 69 slum dwellers who earn monthly income in the range Rs. 1-2000, the highest proportion (59.4 percent) slum dwellers are illiterate. Among 58 slum dwellers those in the monthly income range Rs.2001-3000, the highest proportion (65.5 percent) are illiterate. Among 127 slum dwellers in the income range of Rs. 3001 – 5000, the highest proportions (57.5 percent) are illiterate. Among 81 slum dwellers earning monthly income above Rs. 5000 the highest proportions (35.8 percent) are literate up to the

primary level (Classes I to IV). No income is earned by 60 percent among the 5 graduate slum dwellers and none among 2 post-graduate slum dwellers. This suggests that there is no definite relationship between individual monthly income earned from paid work and level of education.

From Table-7.2.6 (i) and 7.2.6 (ii) it is found that in both the Inner and Outer slums the situation is similar as it is noticed that in both the slums the highest proportions of slum dwellers in each levels of education are not engaged in any paid work and hence does not earn any monthly income. Also in both the slums no definite relation is found between the individual monthly income and education level of slum dwellers.

7.3: DISTANCE OF THE SAMPLE SLUM HOUSEHOLDS FROM SCHOOL

Distance of school from residence plays an important role in attainment of education by slum children as the slum dwellers are poor and hence most of them cannot afford to send their children to school by bearing cost of transportation. Walking distance of home from school is a necessity for slum children.

Table-7.3.1 represents the Distance of the Sample Slum Households from Primary School (in Kilometres)

Table-7.3.1: Distance of Sample Slum Households from Primary School (in Kilometres)

Slum Type	Distance of Slum from Primary School (in Kilometres)			Total
	Up to 1	1-2	More than 2	
Inner	100 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	100 (100)
Outer	75 (75.0)	0 (0.0)	25 (25.0)	100 (100)
Total	175 (87.5)	0 (0.0)	25 (12.5)	200 (100)

Note: Figures in the parentheses are in percentage

Source: Field Survey

Among 200 sample slum households 87.5 percent households have Primary School within 1 kilometre and 12.5 percent households have Primary School at a distance above 2 kilometres. 100 percent households in Inner slum area have Primary School within 1 kilometre. 25 percent households in Outer slum area have Primary School at a distance above 2 kilometres.

Table-7.3.2 represents the Distance of the Sample Slum Households from High School (in Kilometres)

Table-7.3.2: Distance of Sample Slum Households from High School (in Kilometres)

Slum Type	Distance of Slum Households from High School (in Kilometres)			Total
	Up to 1	1-2	More than 2	
Inner	100 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	100 (100)
Outer	75 (75.0)	0 (0.0)	25 (25.0)	100 (100)
Total	175 (87.5)	0 (0.0)	25 (12.5)	200 (100)

Note: Figures in the parentheses are in percentage

Source: Field Survey

Primary and high schools are located at similar distances from the slum households. Among 200 sample households 87.5 percent households have High School within 1 kilometre and 12.5 percent households have High School at a distance above 2 kilometres. 100 percent households in Inner slum area have High School within 1 kilometre. 25 percent households in Outer slum area have High School at a distance above 2 kilometres.

7.4: EDUCATION OF PARENTS OF SLUM CHILDREN OF SAMPLE SLUM HOUSEHOLDS

Education of parents of children is important as educated parents are expected to give proper education to their children.

Table-7.4.1 represents the education of fathers of children of sample slum households

Table-7.4.1: Education Level of Father of Children of Slum Households

Education level of father	Slum type		Total
	Inner Slum	Outer Slum	
Illiterate	47 (54.0) (58.0)	40 (46.0) (45.5)	87 (100.0) (51.5)
Able to read and write or sign name only	5 (33.3) (6.2)	10 (66.7) (11.4)	15 (100.0) (8.9)
Primary education	19 (40.4) (23.5)	28 (59.6) (31.8)	47 (100.0) (27.8)
Secondary or higher secondary education	9 (52.9) (11.1)	8 (47.1) (9.1)	17 (100.0) (10.1)
Higher education	1 (33.3) (1.2)	2 (66.7) (2.3)	3 (100.0) (1.8)
Technical education	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
Professional education	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
Total	81 (47.9) (100.0)	88 (52.1) (100.0)	169 (100.0) (100.0)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

In Table-7.4.1 it is noticed that among 169 fathers of children of sample slum households majority (51.5 percent) fathers are illiterate followed by 27.8 percent those who have acquired primary education, 10.1 percent of those who have acquired secondary or higher secondary education, 8.9 percent are only able to read and write or

sign name and 1.8 percent are graduates. Among these 169 fathers of slum children 52.1 percent fathers belong to Outer slum and 47.9 percent of them belong to Inner slum. In the Inner slum among 81 fathers of slum children majority (58 percent) of fathers are illiterates followed by 23.5 percent those acquired primary education, 11.1 percent those acquired secondary or higher secondary education, 6.2 percent fathers are only able to read and write or sign name and 1.2 percent are graduates. In the Outer slum among 88 fathers of slum children the highest proportion (45.5 percent) are illiterates followed by 31.8 percent those acquired primary education, 11.4 percent fathers are able to read and write or sign name, 9.1 percent acquired secondary or higher secondary education and 2.3 percent are graduates. It thus suggests that overall the education level of fathers of slum children is low. The literacy level of fathers in Outer slum is better in comparison to Inner slum.

Table-7.4.2 represents the education of mothers of children of sample slum households

Table-7.4.2: Education Level of Mother of Children of Slum Households

Education level of mother	Slum type		Total
	Inner Slum	Outer Slum	
Illiterate	62 (51.2) (71.3)	59 (48.8) (64.1)	121 (100.0) (67.6)
Able to read and write or sign name only	1 (33.3) (1.1)	2 (66.7) (2.2)	3 (100.0) (1.7)
Primary education	19 (42.2) (21.8)	26 (57.8) (28.3)	45 (100.0) (25.1)
Secondary or higher secondary education	5 (55.6) (5.7)	4 (44.4) (4.3)	9 (100.0) (5.0)
Higher education	0 (0) (0)	1 (100.0) (1.1)	1 (100.0) (0.6)
Technical education	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

	(0)	(0)	(0)
Professional education	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)	0 (0) (0)
Total	87 (48.6) (100.0)	92 (51.4) (100.0)	179 (100.0) (100.0)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

In Table-7.4.2 it is noticed that there are 179 mothers of slum children in the sample slum households. Among 179 mothers of children of slum dwellers majority (67.6 percent) mothers are illiterates, 25.1 percent have received primary education, 5 percent acquired secondary or higher secondary education, 1.7 percent are only able to read and write or sign name and 0.6 percent is graduate. It thus suggests that the education level of mothers of slum children is low. It is also evident that the education level of mothers of slum children is lower in comparison to the fathers as proportion of illiterate mother 121 (67.6 percent among 179 mothers) is higher than illiterate father 87 (51.5 percent among 169 fathers as found in Table-7.5.1). Among 179 mothers 48.6 percent belong to Inner slum and 51.4 percent belong to Outer slum. In the Inner among 87 mothers of slum children majority (71.3 percent) mothers are illiterates followed by 21.8 percent those acquired primary education, 5.7 percent acquired secondary or higher secondary education, 1.1 percent are able to read and write or sign name and none has acquired higher education. In the Outer slum among 92 mothers of slum children the highest proportion 64.1 percent are illiterates followed by 28.3 percent those acquired primary education, 4.3 percent acquired secondary or higher secondary education 2.2 percent are able to read and write or sign name and 1.1 percent is graduate. It thus suggests that overall the education level of mothers of slum children is low. The literacy level of mothers in Outer slum is better in comparison to Inner slum.

7.5: SITUATION OF DROP OUTS AND NEVER GOING TO SCHOOL SLUM DWELLERS OF THE SAMPLE SLUM HOUSEHOLDS OF SMCA AT PRESENT TIME

This section presents the present situation of drop outs and never going to school slum dwellers of sample slum households who belong to the age of attaining education from school or college or other educational institutions.

7.5.1: Never Going to School Slum Dwellers in Sample Slum Households at Present Time

Table-7.5.1 (a) presents the response regarding the presence of never going to school slum dwellers in sample slum households

Table-7.5.1 (a): Response regarding Presence of Never Going to School Slum Dwellers in Sample Slum Households

Response	Slum type		Total
	Inner Slum	Outer Slum	
Yes	6 (40.0) (6.0)	9 (60.0) (9.0)	15 (100) (7.5)
No	94 (50.8) (94.0)	91 (49.2) (91.0)	185 (100) (92.5)
Total	100 (50.0) (100)	100 (50.0) (100)	200 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Among 200 slum households 92.5 percent households does not have any never going to school slum dwellers at present time and 7.5 percent households have never going to school slum dwellers at present time. Among 15 households those have never going to

school slum dwellers at present time 40 percent households are in Inner slum and 60 percent are in Outer slum.

Table-7.5.1(b) represents the proportion of slum dwellers gender-wise who never went to school at present in the sample slum households

Table-7.5.1 (b): Never Going to School Slum Dwellers in the Sample Slum Households at Present Time

Slum type	Male	Female	Total
Inner	8 (88.9) (61.5)	1 (11.1) (12.5)	9 (100) (42.9)
Outer	5 (41.7) (38.5)	7 (58.3) (87.5)	12 (100) (57.1)
Total	13(61.9) (100)	8 (38.1) (100)	21 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Among 21 slum dwellers those who never went to school at present time 61.9 percent are male and 38.1 percent are female. It is thus noticed that the proportion of male slum dwellers never going to school at present time is highest compared to their female counterpart. Among 21 slum dwellers those who never went to school at present time 42.9 percent are residing in Inner slum and 57.1 percent are inhabitants of the Outer slum. It is therefore noted that the proportion of slum dwellers those who never went to school at present time is higher in Outer slum area surveyed compared to their counterpart in the Inner slum area.

7.5.2: Drop outs at Present Time in Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.2 presents the response regarding the presence of Drop outs in the sample slum households

Table-7.5.2: Response regarding presence of Drop outs in Sample Slum households

Response	Slum type		Total
	Inner Slum	Outer Slum	
Yes	29 (63.0) (29.0)	17 (37.0) (17.0)	46 (100) (23.0)
No	71 (46.1) (71.0)	83 (53.9) (83.0)	154 (100) (77.0)
Total	100 (50.0) (100)	100 (50.0) (100)	200 (100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Among 200 slum households 77 percent households does not have any dropped out children at present time and 23 percent households have dropped out children at present time. Among 46 households that have dropped out children at present time 63 percent households are in Inner slum area and 37 percent households are in Outer slum area. Thus it suggests that proportion of drop out households is higher in Inner slum in comparison to Outer slum area.

7.5.3: Standard of Education and Sex wise Drop out in Government and Private Educational Institutions at Present Time by Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.3 presents the standard of education wise drop out at present time in the sample slum households according to sex in Government (Government aided) school and private school and college

**Table 7.5.3: Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households at Present Dropped out
Standard of Education and Sex wise**

Standard of Education	Sex	Inner	Outer	Total
Primary (Classes I to IV)	Government			
	Male	9 (52.9) (64.3)	8 (47.1) (66.7)	17 (100) (65.4)
	Female	5 (55.6) (35.7)	4 (44.4) (33.3)	9 (100) (34.6)
	Person	14 (53.8) (100)	12 (46.2) (100)	26 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
High (Classes V- XII)	Government			
	Male	24 (66.7) (75.0)	12 (33.3) (92.3)	36 (100) (80.0)
	Female	8 (88.9) (25.0)	1 (11.1) (7.7)	9 (100) (20.0)
	Person	32 (71.1) (100)	13 (28.9) (100)	45 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
College	Government			
	Male	1 (100.0) (50.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	1 (100) (50.0)

	Female	1 (100.0) (50.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	1 (100) (50.0)
	Person	2 (100.0) (100)	0 (0.0) (0)	2 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
Total	Government			
	Male	34 (63.0) (70.8)	20 (37.0) (80.0)	54 (100) (74.0)
	Female	14 (73.7) (29.2)	5 (26.3) (20.0)	19 (100) (26.0)
	Person	48 (65.8) (100)	25 (34.2) (100)	73 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

From Table-7.5.3 it is found that in the sample slum households the total number of slum dwellers who dropped out at present time from educational institutions is 73 of which 74 percent drop outs are male and 26 percent are female. In Inner slum 65.8 percent and in Outer slum 34.2 percent slum dwellers dropped out at present time. Among 48 drop outs in Inner slum 70.8 percent are male and 29.2 percent are female and among 25 drop outs in Outer slum 80 percent are male and 20 percent are female. Drop out has occurred in Government Educational Institutions only. Among 73 slum

dwellers who dropped out of Educational Institutions at present time 26 (35.6 percent) slum dwellers dropped out from the Primary (Classes I – IV) level of education. Among these 26 slum dwellers 65.4 percent are male and 34.6 percent are female. At the High (Classes V – XII) level 45 (61.6 percent) slum dwellers dropped out of which 80 percent are male and 20 percent are female. At the College level (Graduation level) 2 (2.7 percent) slum dwellers have dropped out of which 50 percent are male and 50 percent are female. It is noticed that the proportion of male drop outs is higher at the Primary (Classes I – IV) level (65.4 percent) and also at the High (Classes V – XII) level (80 percent) compared to their female counterpart while the proportion of male and female drop outs are equal at the College level. The highest level of drop outs are found at the High (Classes V – XII) level as the drop outs at this stage acquire the age to provide service to the family. So an opportunity cost between continuing education and earning for family is a possibility. Overall the proportion of drop outs is higher in the Inner slum (65.8 percent) compared to their counterpart in the Outer slum (34.2 percent) and the proportion of drop outs is also higher in Inner slum compared to Outer slum at all levels of education – Drop out in Inner slum: the Primary (Classes I – IV) level (53.8 percent), High (Classes V – XII) level (71.1 percent) and College level (100 percent). The proportion of male drop outs is higher in both the Inner slum - (70.8 percent) as well as in the Outer slum - (80 percent). In Inner slum among 14 female drop outs highest proportion 8 (57.1 percent) of drop out occurred at the High (Classes V – XII) level whereas in Outer slum among 5 female drop outs highest proportion 4 (80 percent) of drop out occurred at the Primary (Classes I – IV) level. In case of male drop outs in both the Inner and Outer slums the highest proportion of drop out occurred at the High (Classes V – XII) level.

7.5.4: Age and Sex wise Drop out in Government and Private Educational Institutions at Present Time by Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.4 presents the age group and gender- wise dropout at present time in the slum area in Government and private schools and colleges

**Table-7.5.4: Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households at Present Dropped out
Age Group and Sex wise**

Age group	Sex	Inner	Outer	Total
5-9	Government			
	Male	0 (0.0) (0.0)	3 (100.0) (75.0)	3 (100) (50.0)
	Female	2 (66.7) (100.0)	1 (33.3) (25.0)	3 (100) (50.0)
	Person	2 (33.3) (100)	4 (66.7) (100)	6 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
10-16	Government			
	Male	23 (69.7) (74.2)	10 (30.3) (76.9)	33 (100) (75.0)
	Female	8(72.7) (25.8)	3 (27.3) (23.1)	11(100) (25.0)
	Person	31(70.5) (100)	13 (29.5) (100)	44 (100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
17 and above	Government			
	Male	11(61.1) (73.3)	7(38.9) (87.5)	18 (100) (78.3)
	Female	4 (80.0)	1 (20.0)	5 (100)

		(26.7)	(12.5)	(21.7)
	Person	15 (65.2)	8(34.8)	23(100)
		(100)	(100)	(100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
Total	Government			
	Male	34 (63.0)	20 (37.0)	54 (100)
		(70.8)	(80.0)	(74.0)
	Female	14 (73.7)	5 (26.3)	19 (100)
		(29.2)	(20.0)	(26.0)
	Person	48 (65.8)	25 (34.2)	73 (100)
		(100)	(100)	(100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
Female	0	0	0	
Person	0	0	0	

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

From Table-7.5.4 it is found that out of 73 dropped out slum dwellers 6 (8.2 percent) are within 5-9 years of age, 44 (60.3 percent) are within 10-16 years of age and 23 (31.5 percent) are above 17 years of age. It can be inferred that the major proportion of drop outs are above 9 years of age and the highest proportion of drop outs are within 10-16 years of age. Among 6 drop outs within 5-9 years of age 50 percent are male and 50 percent are female. Among 44 slum dwellers those dropped out within 10-16 years of age 75 percent are male and 25 percent are female. Among 23 slum dwellers those dropped out above 17 years of age 78.3 percent are male and 21.7 percent are female.

The proportion of male drop outs is overall higher compared to the female drop outs and the proportion of male drop outs increases above 9 years of age. The proportion of drop outs in the Inner slum is higher than their counterpart in the Outer slum in the age group 10 – 16 years (Inner slum: 70.5 percent; Outer slum: 29.5 percent) and above 17 years of age (Inner slum: 65.2 percent and Outer slum: 34.8) while the proportion of drop out is higher in the Outer slum only in the age group 5-9 years (Inner slum: 33.3 percent; Outer slum: 66.7 percent).

7.5.5: Medium of Instruction and Sex wise Drop out in Government and Private Educational Institutions at Present Time by Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.5 presents the medium of instruction and sex wise drop out at present time in the slum area according to gender in government and private schools

Table-7.5.5: Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households at Present Dropped out Medium of Instruction and Sex wise

Medium of instruction	Sex	Inner	Outer	Total
Bengali	Government			
	Male	21(63.6) (77.8)	12(36.4) (75.0)	33(100) (76.7)
	Female	6(60.0) (22.2)	4(40.0) (25.0)	10(100) (23.3)
	Person	27(62.8) (100)	16(37.2) (100)	43(100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0

Hindi	Government			
	Male	5(38.5) (50.0)	8(61.5) (88.9)	13(100) (68.4)
	Female	5(83.3) (50.0)	1(16.7) (11.1)	6(100) (31.6)
	Person	10(52.6) (100)	9(47.4) (100)	19(100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
	Nepali	Government		
Male		0	0	0
Female		0	0	0
Person		0	0	0
Private				
Male		0	0	0
Female		0	0	0
Person		0	0	0
Urdu		Government		
	Male	8(100.0) (72.7)	0(0.0) (0.0)	8(100) (72.7)
	Female	3(100.0) (27.3)	0(0.0) (0.0)	3(100) (27.3)
	Person	11(100.0) (100)	0(0.0) (0)	11(100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0

	Person	0	0	0
Total	Government			
	Male	34(63.0) (70.8)	20(37.0) (80.0)	54(100) (74.0)
	Female	14(73.7) (29.2)	5(26.3) (20.0)	19(100) (26.0)
	Person	48(65.8) (100)	25(34.2) (100)	73(100) (100)
	Private			
	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

Among 73 slum dwellers those dropped out at present time from educational institutions 43 (58.9 percent) slum dwellers dropped out from Bengali medium Institutions, 19 (26 percent) dropped out from Hindi medium Institutions and 11 (15.1 percent) dropped out from Urdu medium Institutions. There are no drop outs at present time from Nepali medium Institutions in the surveyed area. The highest proportion of drop outs had Bengali as their medium of instruction in school. Among 43 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Bengali medium schools 76.7 percent are male and 23.3 percent are female. Among 19 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Hindi medium schools 68.4 percent are male and 31.6 percent are female. Among 11 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Urdu medium schools 72.7 percent are male and 27.3 percent are female. It is noticed that in all the mediums of instruction the proportion of male slum dwellers those who dropped out at present time is highest compared to their female counterpart. Among 43 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Bengali medium schools 62.8 percent are Inner slum dwellers and 37.2 percent belong to Outer slum area. Among 19 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Hindi medium schools 52.6

percent are Inner slum dwellers and 47.4 percent are slum dwellers of Outer slum area. Among 11 slum dwellers those who dropped out from Urdu medium schools 100 percent are slum dwellers of Inner slum area. Thus it is observed that the proportion of drop outs in Inner slum is highest compared to Outer slum and also the proportion of drop outs having Bengali as their medium of instruction in school is highest compared to the proportion of drop outs in schools having medium of instruction other than Bengali.

7.5.6: Relationship between Monthly Household Income and Number of Drop out at Present Time in Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.6 presents the relationship between monthly household income and number of drop outs at present time in the slum households in the slum area

Table-7.5.6: Monthly Household Income and Number of Drop outs in Sample Slum Households

Slum Type	Number of drop outs	Monthly Household Income (in Rupees)			Total
		Up to 5000	5001-10000	Above 10000	
Inner	1	12 (70.6) (66.7)	5(29.4) (45.5)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	17(100.0) (58.6)
	2	4 (57.1) (22.2)	3 (42.9) (27.3)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	7 (100.0) (24.1)
	3	1 (33.3) (5.6)	2 (66.7) (18.2)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	3 (100.0) (10.3)
	4	1 (50.0) (5.6)	1 (50.0) (9.1)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	2 (100.0) (6.9)
	Total	18 (62.1) (100.0)	11 (37.9) (100.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	29(100.0) (100.0)

Outer	1	5 (50.0) (55.6)	5 (50.0) (62.5)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	10(100.0) (58.8)
	2	4 (66.7) (44.4)	2 (33.3) (25.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	6 (100.0) (35.3)
	3	0 (0.0) (0.0)	1 (100.0) (12.5)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	1 (100.0) (5.9)
	4	0 (0.0) (0.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)
	Total	9 (52.9) (100.0)	8 (47.1) (100.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	17(100.0) (100.0)
Total	1	17 (63.0) (63.0)	10 (37.0) (52.6)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	27(100.0) (58.7)
	2	8 (61.5) (29.6)	5 (38.5) (26.3)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	13(100.0) (28.3)
	3	1 (25.0) (3.7)	3 (75.0) (15.8)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	4 (100.0) (8.7)
	4	1 (50.0) (3.7)	1 (50.0) (5.3)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	2 (100.0) (4.3)
	Total	27 (58.7) (100.0)	19 (41.3) (100.0)	0 (0.0) (0.0)	46(100.0) (100.0)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

In Table-7.5.6 it is noticed that among 46 slum households having drop outs 58.7 percent households have 1 drop out, 28.3 percent households have 2 drop outs, 8.7 percent households have 3 drop outs and 4.3 percent households have 4 dropouts. It suggests that majority of slum households have only 1 drop out and as the number of drop outs increases the proportion of households having drop outs decreases. Thus an inverse relationship is observed between number of dropouts and number of

households. There are no households in Outer slum having 4 drop outs in households. Among 27 sample households earning monthly household income up to Rs.5000 in 63 percent households number of drop out is 1, 29.6 percent households have 2 drop outs, 3.7 households have 3 drop outs and also 3.7 percent households have 4 drop outs. Among 19 sample households earning monthly household income in the range Rs. 5001-10000, 52.6 percent households have 1 drop out, 26.3 percent households have 2 drop outs, 15.8 percent households have 3 drop outs and 5.3 percent households have 4 drop outs. Among 46 households having drop outs 58.7 percent households earn monthly household income up to Rs.5000 followed by 41.3 percent households earn monthly household income in the range Rs.5001- Rs.10000; there are no drop outs in household that earn monthly household income above Rs.10000. It is therefore revealed that as monthly household income increases the presence of drop outs in the household decreases. This relationship between monthly household income and presence of drop outs in the household is found in both the Inner and Outer slums. Among 29 households having drop outs in Inner slum 62.1 percent households earn monthly household income up to Rs. 5000 and 37.9 percent households earn monthly household income in the range Rs.5001- Rs.10000. Among 17 households having drop outs in Outer slum 52.9 percent households earn up to Rs. 5000 and 47.1 percent households earn monthly household income in the range Rs.5001- Rs.10000.

7.5.7: Reasons for Never Going to School or Drop out at Present Time of Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households

Table-7.5.7 presents the reasons for never going to school or drop out at present time of slum dwellers of the sample slum households according to gender

Table-7.5.7: Reasons for Never Going to School or Drop out at Present Time of Slum Dwellers of Sample Slum Households

Reasons	Sex	Inner	Outer	Total
Not performing well in	Male	7(50.0)	7(50.0)	14(100)

studies		(77.8)	(87.5)	(82.4)
	Female	2(66.7) (22.2)	1(33.3) (12.5)	3(100) (17.6)
	Person	9(52.9) (100)	8(47.1) (100)	17(100) (100)
No interest in studies	Male	12(50.0) (85.7)	12(50.0) (70.6)	24(100) (77.4)
	Female	2(28.6) (14.3)	5(71.4) (29.4)	7(100) (22.6)
	Person	14(45.2) (100)	17(54.8) (100)	31(100) (100)
Far away from school/college	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
Unable to meet expenditure	Male	18(81.8) (72.0)	4(18.2) (80.0)	22(100) (73.3)
	Female	7(87.5) (28.0)	1(12.5) (20.0)	8(100) (26.7)
	Person	25(83.3) (100)	5(16.7) (100)	30(100) (100)
To take care of household chores	Male	0	0	0
	Female	4(50.0) (100.0)	4(50.0) (100.0)	8(100) (100)
	Person	4(50.0) (100)	4(50.0) (100)	8(100) (100)
To increase household income	Male	5(71.4) (100.0)	2(28.6) (100.0)	7(100) (100.0)
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	5(71.4)	2(28.6)	7(100)

		(100)	(100)	(100)
Ill health	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0	0	0
	Person	0	0	0
Others	Male	0	0	0
	Female	0(0.0) (0)	1(100.0) (100.0)	1(100) (100.0)
	Person	0(0.0) (0)	1(100.0) (100)	1(100) (100)
Total	Male	42(62.7) (73.7)	25(37.3) (67.6)	67(100) (71.3)
	Female	15(55.6) (26.3)	12(44.4) (32.4)	27(100) (28.7)
	Person	57(60.6) (100)	37(39.4) (100)	94(100) (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses below the absolute figures indicate column percentages and figures beside the absolute figures indicate row percentages

Source: Field Survey

From Table-7.5.7 it is found that among 94 never going to school and dropped out slum dwellers at present time 17 (18.1 percent) dropped out for not performing well in studies, for 31 (33.0 percent) the reason is lack of interest in studies, in case of 30 (31.9 percent) slum dwellers the reason is inability to meet the expenditure on studies, in case of 8 (8.5 percent) slum dwellers the reason is the need to take care of household chores and this responsibility is solely seen in respect of female slum dwellers, in case of 7 (7.4 percent) slum dwellers the reason is the need to increase household income and the burden is noticed to fall solely on the male slum dwellers and there is only a single case 1 (1.1 percent) where a female slum dweller never went to school as she is deaf and dumb. The reason for highest proportion of drop outs and never going to school at present time is lack of interest in studies followed by the reason, inability to meet the

expenditure on studies. Among 17 those dropped out for not performing well in studies 82.4 percent are male and 17.6 percent are female. Among 31 slum dwellers those dropped out because of lack of interest in studies 77.4 percent are male and 22.6 percent are female. Among 30 slum dwellers those dropped out for inability to meet the expenditure on studies 73.3 percent are male and 26.7 percent are female.

The difference between Inner and Outer slum regarding reason for dropped out or never going to school is highest in respect of inability to meet expenditure for studies as among 30 slum dwellers those dropped out or never going to school for this reason the proportion in Inner slum is 83.3 percent where as in Outer slum it is 16.7 percent. It is found that among 7 slum dwellers those dropped out or never going to school at present time in order to increase household income 71.4 percent belong to Inner slum and 28.6 percent are inhabitants of Outer slum. The higher proportion drop outs or never going to school children in Inner slum compared to Outer slum are found due to inability to meet expenditure for studies and to increase household income which thus suggests that the condition of households of Inner slum is poorer compared to Outer slum. In Outer slum the highest proportion 17 (45.9 percent) slum dwellers among 37 slum dwellers those have dropped out or are never going to school at present time is because of no interest in studies.

7.6: SUMMARY

The education level attained by the slum dwellers is low and highest proportion (37 percent) of slum dwellers has acquired the primary education. The literacy level of the female slum dwellers is low compared to the male and the literacy level of Outer slum dwellers is higher compared to their counterpart in the Inner slum. The highest proportion of illiterates are found in the older generation (above 30 years of age) slum dwellers. The highest proportion of slum dwellers are up to 30 years of age and the highest proportion (47.7 percent) of these slum dwellers are literate up to the primary level (Classes I to IV). The level of education attained by slum dwellers of both the religious groups (Hindus and Muslims) is low. The level of literacy of the Muslim slum

dwellers is low in Outer slum compared to Inner slum. Illiteracy is high among the Scheduled Caste (S.C.) community (39.4 percent) compared to illiteracy among the General Caste community (33.7 percent) in the total (Inner and Outer) slum area. Also illiteracy is high among S.C. compared to General Caste in Inner slum as well as in Outer slum. The illiteracy level among the Bengali slum dwellers (38.4 percent) is high compared to the slum dwellers having other mother tongues (Hindi, Nepali or Urdu). No definite relationship between individual monthly income and level of education among slum dwellers is found in the slum area. The post graduates in the slum area too are unemployed.

All the Government aided or sponsored primary and high schools are situated up to 1 kilometre in the Inner slum and the highest proportion of such schools in Outer slum is situated at this distance. Majority of parents of the slum children are illiterate but higher proportion of mothers compared to fathers are illiterate.

Proportion of never going to school slum dwellers and drop out slum dwellers at present time is not very high. Higher proportion of drop outs are found in Inner slum compared to Outer slum. Drop outs are found in Government (Government aided) schools only and there are no drop outs in private schools. Proportion of male drop outs (65.8 percent) is higher compared to female drop outs (34.2 percent). The highest proportion (61.6 percent) of drop outs have occurred at the High (Classes V – XII) level. The highest proportion of drop outs have occurred at the age of 10-16 years and the highest proportion of drop outs have Bengali as the medium of instruction in schools. It is found that number of drop outs in slum households decreases as monthly household income increases. The reasons for dropout are mainly the lack of interest in studies and inability to meet expenditure.