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Q6(c)

Write a note on Basic Services to Urban Poet (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slum Development (IHSD) programme provided for the urban poor.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2018 · Sociology GS 2 · 15 marks · Rural and Agrarian transformation in India

Rural and Agrarian transformation in India: Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes; Green revolution and social change; Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture; Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

Core demand of the question

- Write a note on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (**BSUP**) and the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (**IHSDP**) provided for the urban poor
- Keep to a 15-mark length

Revision summary

BSUP served the urban poor in large **JNNURM** cities with housing and basic services.

IHSDP did similar work in smaller urban centres.

The aim was shelter, water, and sanitation, not cultural branding.

Relocation and weak livelihoods limited gains.

The urban poor need in-place services plus work, not only distant units.

Introduction

BSUP and **IHSDP** were **JNNURM**-era housing and services schemes for the urban poor. **BSUP** targeted cities; **IHSDP** targeted smaller urban centres. They were not a programme for an 'urban poet'. They were a state attempt to put water, toilets, and shelter on the slum map.

Body

What the two programmes were

- Basic Services to the Urban Poor (**BSUP**) funded integrated housing and civic services in large mission cities.
- Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (**IHSDP**) extended a similar housing-plus-services idea to smaller towns.
- The package typically meant dwelling units, water, sanitation, and some community infrastructure.

Sociological promise

- **Ambedkar**'s city as exit needs a roof, not only a wage. Tenure and toilets are caste and gender issues in the slum.
- Women's reproductive and public-domain safety improve when toilets are not a night field.

What went wrong in practice

- Relocation to peri-urban edges broke jobs, a socio-spatial harm like heritage beautification evictions.
- Eligibility lists missed tenants and recent migrants.
- Quality and maintenance lagged; a house without a livelihood is not inclusion.
- **A. R. Desai's class eye:** without cheap well-located land, the poor remain a residual of metropolitan growth.

Note's verdict

- The schemes named the urban poor as citizens of infrastructure.
- Delivery often produced peripheral colonies rather than upgraded livelihoods in place.

Flow diagram

BSUP large cities large cities -> Housing water toilets
IHSDP smaller towns smaller towns -> Housing water toilets
Relocation lists jobs -> Delivery gap
Housing water toilets -> Urban poor citizenship

Conclusion

BSUP and **IHSDP** were mission programmes to house and service the urban poor in big and small towns. They mattered as a rights vocabulary of water and shelter. They fell short where relocation, lists, and jobs were ignored. Call them urban-poor housing missions, never a poet's scheme.

Facts & figures

BSUP

Basic Services to the Urban Poor: JNNURM component for slum housing and civic services in large cities.

IHSDP

Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme for smaller cities and towns.

JNNURM

Urban mission frame that housed both schemes.

Relocation risk

Shifting slum households to edges that break the informal wage.