

**Trends in Family and Social Structure  
& their Impact on Health in India:  
A Case Study of the Urban Poor in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**

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**Objectives**

- Policy and program relevant findings that can have an impact on urban poverty reduction and promotion of sustainable community development by improving access to affordable good quality health care for vulnerable sectors of the urban population, especially for families living in urban slum conditions.
- Determination of relevant trends in family structure that affect health and well being.
- Determination of the most appropriate modes of engaging in health promotion activities that are empowering and sensitive to the needs of urban migrant impoverished families.

**Description**

This research will investigate the changing family and social structure in India, using one state as a case study. The aim is to better understand the impact of these changes on, and their policy and program implications for, the health of the most vulnerable population groups in the urban areas of Madhya Pradesh. Researchers will do this jointly from the Centre for Urban and Community Studies (CUCS) and from the Tata Institute of Social Sci-

ences (TISS) in Mumbai. The lead co-investigator in India is Dr. Ashok Yesudian, Head of the Department of Health Services Studies at TISS. Dr. Yesudian will lead the India-based team of researchers.

The project will be carried out in Bhopal, the capital city of Madhya Pradesh (MP) state of India. MP has the highest urban poverty ratio of 48% among all Indian states and ranks among the three worst states in India in terms of overall health status (life expectancy at 54 years).

**Policy relevance**

The research will help policy makers and service providers better understand the household level impacts of global, national, state and local policies by supplementing survey data with further evidence and drawing on international best practices. The research will help strengthen the planning and the delivery systems for urban health care.

*for further information:*

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