

A Study on Influence of Displacement (on the Basis of Comparative Analysis of Pre and Post Resettlement) on Economic and Social Status of Slum Dwellers in Indore City

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Abstract

This study is an effort to measure the impacts of central and state government plans launched as resettlement and rehabilitation projects in Indore city by the observation of life style of slum dwellers before and after the implementation of the projects. The process of analysis is based upon the indicators of impoverishment risks and resettlement of the people from the slum areas. The findings indicates the presence of the following forms of impoverishment which government proposed for the resettled persons from their previous places. The main thing as a result came out after conducting the research is that the resettled slum dwellers are feeling inconvenience to live there because new place where they have been allotted flats are so far from their previous place in the forest and due to this they have to cover a long journey to come at their job places. They have to spent most of their earning as travel expenses. The time for journey is too long so most of the people have lost their previous jobs and now they

are in search of a new kind of job which is most inconvenient for them at this new place. Moving to this they have increased health risks now with total detachment with the social relationships. All of which have compounded and responsible for their vulnerability and poverty. The paper argues the comparative analysis of pre and post resettlement and relocation economic condition of the slum dwellers in Indore city. The paper concludes with recommendations for slum resettlement policies of local government so that impoverishment risks can be reasonably averted.

Keywords:

Relocation, rehabilitation, slums, impoverishment risk, resettlement, vulnerability and poverty.

Introduction:

Slum is a heavily populated urban informal settlement characterized by substandard housing and squalor. Slums are differ in size and other characteristics, with lack of

reliable sanitation services, supply of clean water, reliable electricity, law enforcement and other basic services. Slum residences vary from shanty houses to professionally built dwellings that because of poor-quality construction or provision of services have deteriorated into. Slum improvement has increasingly become a priority for state and local governments in India. Several number of projects have been undertaken to upgrade slums economic and social status. The slums are being forced to relocation and rehabilitation. Emerging from the new thoughts providing a house to the displaced slum dwellers. Whether the slum policies are inefficient in addressing overall wellbeing of the displaced slum dwellers.

This research is an attempt to assess the risks raised due to displacement and resettlement programmes launched under the Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) which focuses both on performance-linked infrastructure investment in Urban Local Bodies (ULB) through its Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) programme. The provision of providing shelter and basic services through the (BSUP) programmed for rapid economic growth through infrastructure development projects and economic growth of the urban poor.

So new houses constructed and allocated to the slum dwellers at the different places have pushed them in situation to face some other kinds of crisis and this paper is an

attempt to bring into light of such problems before the relevant authority. In case of resettlement, only few are attaining better living conditions whereas the majority are made worse off due to additional financial responsibilities, insecure and poor community interaction which cannot be ignored.

Methodology :

This research is based on primary and secondary data collected through structured questionnaire circulated among the resettled slum dwellers and direct conversation with them in Indore city. Fieldwork for this research was conducted. Consequently the research has focused only on the negative consequences for improvement in future planning of resettlement of slum dwellers. The comparison between the lives of displaced before and after resettlement in the new dwelling unit was placed in the questionnaire such as distance, income, travelling expenses, social interaction, security etc from thirty households (10% of 300 households) in Panchsheel Nagar Indore

Objective of the research:

The objective of the research was to discover new information about the issues related to change in life of slum dwellers after relocation and to set a comparative analysis of a household before and after resettlement.

Main Findings of the research:

This research presents the influence of displacement on economic and social status of slum dwellers on the following parameters.

i) distance from work place increased: Mostly all the respondent replied that distance from work place near to 8 kilometers has been increased. Instead of this the school of children and hospital from the relocated place also has been extended which is most inconvenient.

ii) Travelling Expenses: The respondents are suffering from imposition of additional expenditure of daily travelling expenses due to relocation from the city to the Panchsheel Nagar and at Nariño village. They have to pay not only for going on to their job place but when they have to go to their children leave at school, hospital and market.

iii) Loss of income: Loss of income is a major problem resulting from displacement. The findings show that additional financial burden due to higher expenditures on health, transport etc. has affected the condition of the displaces .A large percentage of the income has now consumed in paying the transportation costs which increase in expenditure and reduction in savings, that will further push the displaces into a cycle of poverty again.

iv) Marginalization: The social process of becoming or being made marginal (especially as a group within the larger

society) threatens displaced individuals with entire community as they pushed into a comparatively lower socio-economic status. Research has shown that such marginalization is associated with loss of self-esteem, when the displaced become outsiders in the host communities. The study found that in the relocated site households from different slum sites were brought in, which promotes a sense of alienation among the slum dwellers. Rehabilitated people were not happy with the different communities staying in the new site and there was a feeling of distrust among them

v) Health risks on new resettlement: Due to various factors such as poor access to safe drinking water, attack by mosquitoes, wandering of pigs and dogs spreading the dirtiness where and there, poor sanitation facilities, inadequate solid waste management, stress and anxiety as the problems stated by the relocated and resettled in the flats in Panchsheel Nagar and village Naianod led to poor hygiene and increased incidences of related diseases.

Conclusion:

There are clear advantages for the urban poor of being resettled on new place in the puce houses constructed by the government authority. There is no doubt it will change the life style of slum dwellers in future and protect them in the permanent shelter and roof over their heads but this study has clearly shown the negative result, as an impact of dislocation of slum dwellers

under government policies on the displaced urban poor in Indore city, keeping this thing in the mind that in future when government will prepare new plan for their resettlement, the above negative points also should be kept in the mind so that this kind of problems might be evicted from the resettlement plans.

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