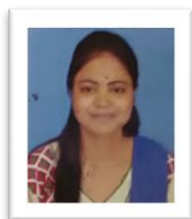


# Displacement & Rehabilitation Vs Social Development in India



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## Abstract

Development-induced displacement is not free from dysfunctional consequences, despite state's desire to fulfil the interests of larger population. Displacement impact can be disastrous if development induced displacement happens in the midst of conflict and issues related to abuse of human rights as well as if state intentionally and arbitrarily impose disproportionate share of development cost on few people who are at the same time denied to get the justified benefits of the development project for which they made involuntary shift. However, development is inevitable and necessary for the society to grow but undoubtedly it carries threat to human life, rights and livelihood which is a paradox to its name. Displacement due to development was mostly undertaken in the less developed areas or say rural areas affecting tribal, backward and poor people in general. Occupational displacement directly impacts socio-economic life of the affected persons. This type of resettlement seems to be more challenging for both displaced people and government as the area in which shopkeepers must be relocated should be in the well established market wherein they can earn their livelihood. Rehabilitation and resettlement policies are insensitive to the gender issues which lead to a fundamentally disenfranchising experience for women. Due to the transition the women face further hardships when community support structures disintegrate and family and kinship networks break down. Women are compelled into adjusting and assimilating an unfamiliar culture as well as restrictions crated due to relocation in their social space have refrained them from recreating their day to day practices in a new scenario.

The paper is an insight into the trends of social development in various fields, and discusses the issues of displacement and rehabilitation in particular covering various causes and effects of social development, displacement and rehabilitation. The paper has certain valuable suggestions as well for the effective rehabilitation of the replaced who face several unknown breaking problems as a result of the so-called social development.

**Keywords:** Development, Displacement, Rehabilitation, Inevitable, Social Transformation, Victims Modernization, Weaker Section.

## Introduction

Human Development is people centric, focuses on strengthening their choices to live fully as well as it provides an opportunity to live with freedom and respect. The standards for human development are healthy life, better education, good living standard and relishing political and civil rights to participate in the life of one's own community network. Development in its real context should mean, utilizing the productive means of the society for the betterment of its citizens. But in reality all the development in the society does not benefit its people equally. The alarming concern is that the influential people in the name of modernization and country's economic development are snatching the life supporting means from the poor and weaker section thereby sliding them to the lower levels of impoverishment by depriving them from their land/homes/productive assets. The prerequisite for human development is to expand the capabilities of people for living lives with dignity and polishing their opportunities by empowering them economically, socially and politically.

The ongoing trends of social development and social transformation are drastic as they bring several unknown problems to the people who are displaced by the Government overnight just by a simple order making a reference to some existing legal provision. It is true that compensation is assured to the victims and sufferers in terms of money, but the compensation fails to reach all, and it remains confined only to those who succeed in producing the papers of the land. Those who fail to

produce any documentary proof of the land owned by them go homeless and occupationless overnight. Social development at the risk of the loss of peace and prosperity is not fair. For an effective and judicious social development the existing legal norms need amendment. The social development can be appreciated by all only when the compensation is granted to all who lose their land and occupation in a way that the amount received as compensation to the loss of land helps successfully in rehabilitation. Displacement throws the people in a state of confusion and hopelessness. There are evidences of people's committing suicide or their going mad or getting deviated when there is displacement. Such a social development has no meaning. It can be meaningful when the Government helps them rehabilitate. No doubt, there are rehabilitation policies, but they are all inappropriate. They need to be amended and changed in the interest of the common man.

#### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To be familiar with the ongoing trends in the society at large
2. To make a focus on the trends of development in the Indian society
3. To make an analysis of the positive aspects of the Indian social development
4. To spot out the negative aspects of the social development in India
5. To find out the causes of the Indian social development
6. To explore the positive and the negative effects of the social development
7. To be familiar with the process of social development
8. To learn about the approach of the Government to the social development
9. To have an idea about the approach of the common man about the social development
10. To study displacement as an important part of social development
11. To study the various causes of displacement
12. To study the varied effects of displacement
13. To study the need of rehabilitation of the displaced
14. To study the various causes of rehabilitation of the displaced
15. To observe the current rehabilitation scenario
16. To study the problems in the path of rehabilitation
17. To give suggestions for an effective rehabilitation
18. To make an interpretation of the various causes and effects of rehabilitation

#### **Review of Literature**

Negi & Ganguly (2010)<sup>5</sup> in their study on Maldhari Families of Gir Forest documented the process of displacement, rehabilitation and post rehabilitation phase, with a special focus on the quality of life of the displaced families which had improved or deteriorated after their rehabilitation. The study finds that majority of women felt bitter about the changes in economic activities which resulted in gradual impoverishment and which burdened them to search for alternative sources.

Sakarama and Talwar (2011)<sup>7</sup> observe that in India land has become battleground over which the ensuing tension between contested notions of what is common good on the one hand and argument of individual rights on the other hand, is played out. Although development projects are supposed to eliminate poverty but the involuntary resettlement often creates new pocket of poverty.

Vandana (2012)<sup>1</sup> in her study on Tehri Dam Project in Uttarakhand which reveals that development-induced displacement brings significant socio-economic and cultural changes to the displaced communities, finds that though involuntary shift affects both males and females, female needs more adjustment if the residential property is relocated.

Ghatak et al. (2012)<sup>3</sup> explained the factors behind the refusal of many landowners to accept the offered compensation, the impact of compensation and acquisition on income, consumption and assets on landowners, tenants and workers in Singur in West Bengal. The Government acquired 997 acres of prime agricultural land in year 2006 for Tata Nano car factory. The landowners were under compensated owing to misclassification of the land types in official land records and other sources of plot heterogeneity. Those with under compensated types of land those whose livelihoods were dependent on cultivation and absentee landlords were more inclined to reject the compensation amount and land acquisition process. The land acquisition in Singur imposed economic hardship on affected owners, tenants and workers.

Rao (2012)<sup>6</sup> studies the socio economic and demographic characteristics of project affected people and impact of displacement on their environment, family, health, and life style, with a special focus on important aspects like struggle faced by people in getting good compensation from Government, discovered reason for low satisfaction in the whole process, condition post acquisition period, discrepancy in promised and provided amenities etc. In the study it was found that the percentage of men and women who were working on their own land was quite high before acquisition but it decreased significantly after acquisition.

Bhattachary et.al (2013)<sup>3</sup> aim to reflect an insight of the dilemma of development-induced displacement and to distinguish between the 'mainstream development' and the 'human development'.

Kapoor (2014)<sup>4</sup> has attempted to conceptualize certain aspects of development, displacement, compensation resettlement and rehabilitation. The study also discusses the different causes of displacement, focusing on how planned development induced displacement has disturbed the existing symbolic relationship between human habitat and environment.

Terminski (2015)<sup>8</sup> The term "development-related displacement and resettlement" first appeared in scientific publications in mid and late eighties. At present, causes of forced displacement attract the interest of scientific community. With this internal displacement are classified and categorised as conflict-induced displacement, environmentally-

induced displacement, disaster-induced displacement and development-induced displacement. Further development induced displacement can be classified and studied under the sub titles such as dam-induced displacement, mining-induced displacement, conservation-induced displacement, and oil- induced displacement which generates the interest of social researches and scientists.

#### **Hypothesis**

1. Social change is apparent in all the directions
2. Social development in India is apparent in the varied fields
3. Linking up with the process of globalization and with the mainstream of development is the main cause of the social development in India
4. The scenario of Indian social development is both enthusiastic and embarrassing
5. The social development leads a society to establish constantly new dimensions
6. Social development is essential in the interest of society
7. Social development brings blisses to the people
8. Social development causes unexpected problems to certain people
9. Displacement is an integral part of the process of social development
10. Displacement of certain people is made by the Government under provisions
11. Displacement occurs as a bolt from the blue to the people
12. Displace brings several unknown problems to the people
13. Rehabilitation of the replaced is the only solution to the problems of the replaced
14. Ongoing trends of rehabilitation are not satisfactory
15. Rehabilitation should ensure security to the displaced
16. Rehabilitation policy needs to be revised in the interest of the sufferers

#### **Research Questions**

1. Why is social development essential?
2. What are the fields that are targeted for social development?
3. What are the emerging trends of social development in India?
4. Is the social development fruitful to all?
5. If yes, to which sections and people is it fruitful?
6. If no, to which sections of the society and to which people is it not fruitful?
7. What are the varied positive effects of social development on the society?
8. What are the negative effects of social development?
9. What is displacement?
10. Why is displacement of the innocent made during the process of social development?
11. What unknown problems are faced by the displaced?
12. How can the problems of the displaced be solved?
13. What is the solution to the problems of the displaced?
14. What is the current scenario of rehabilitation?

15. Is the scenario of rehabilitation satisfactory?
16. How can the scenario of rehabilitation be improved?
17. What are the suggestions to improve the rehabilitation programmes?

#### **Methodology**

Designed on the secondary data made available through various traditional and modern sources of the secondary data, the study is a theoretical with the practical approach of the author. Observation of the author is in the centre of the study. The scholar's sense of observation developed by the trends of social development in the country forms the basis of the present study. The steps undertaken for the study include- a thorough study of some of the selected studies on social development, focusing on the displacement and rehabilitation policies and their impact on the sufferers, categorization of the collected literature on the issue, analysis of the contents, and arriving at fruitful findings making an interpretation of the causes and effects of the social development, displacement of the people on various grounds and under various laws, rehabilitation of the displaced. The study falls in the category of the qualitative research.

#### **Findings**

1. Social change is inevitable which is often reflected through social development in various fields and sectors
2. Much of social development is taking place all over the Indian society targeting the development in all the fields
3. The fields of social development in India include- construction, education, basic facilities, industrial sector, employment, human resource etc.
4. The emerging trends of social development in India reveal that efforts are being made to develop equally all the sectors and fields so as to link the Indian society to the globalizing world
5. Social development is the need of the day, but it is not fruitful to all because as a result of social development in any sector or field, at least some of the people suffer
6. Social development facilitates the human life, brings prosperity and creates job opportunities, and links the society concerned with the mainstream
7. Social development brings several unknown and unexpected problems to certain people disturbing their family and occupational life
8. Displacement refers to the displacement of the people from their land to be acquired by government for construction work etc.
9. When the government needs land for any construction, the land for the required construction is taken from the people
10. The process of the grant and sanction of compensation is too long
11. All the displaced fail to get the benefits of the rehabilitation schemes
12. Being homeless, jobless, migration to unknown places, living with strangers, insecurity etc. are some of the problems caused by displacement

13. Sufficient compensation and admirable rehabilitation is the only solution to the problem
14. The people should be rehabilitated in a way that they have a sense of security at the places where they migrate; they have proper accommodation facility; they have enough money to manage their families, and they have all the other facilities required for a happy living

#### **Conclusion**

Social development has always been a need. In the context of India, social development is very essential. The reason is that despite being rich in natural resources, India still falls into the category of the developing nations. The scene is changing fast. Global society is the demand of time. For it all the societies are trying their best. The Indian society is not an exception as well. At present development in India is taking place in all the fields. Under the five year plans, millions and billions of rupees are allotted to the development of the various fields. Efforts are being made to develop both the urban and the rural society of India.

However, the social development is not welcomed by all as at least a few certain sections of the society are adversely affected by it. The negative aspect of the social development is apparent through displacement of the people from their land overnight in the name of developmental construction work. The rehabilitation schemes and policies are there, but they do not seem to be appropriate because their benefits are not accessible to all. Particularly those who fail to produce the documentary proof of their land fail to be benefited. Such people are bound to be homeless wanderers taking shelters in tents and camps living at the mercy of others. The life of urban people of different strata is affected as a result the process of development, and the people are forced to face several problems while migrating into different localities of same city leaving back their settled and established life.

The balanced view about the social development is that it is mandatory in order to join the mainstream of development, but those who are displaced with loss of life, homes, shops, industrial units or occupational units, must be provided with sufficient funds and security so that after their

displacement they can lead a normal life. The social development at the cost of making the people homeless or jobless cannot be said to be a true and genuine social development. India can acclaim itself to be a developed nation in the real sense of term only in that case when public life, public health, environment and public interests are protected, and when nobody in the society is feels disturbance of peace, disturbance in family life and occupational instability as a result of social development. The author hopes that the contents of the paper will help the policy makers give a good and positive dimension to the ongoing social development in the Indian society.

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