



## A Relational study on Urbanization and Displacement in India

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### ABSTRACT

The process of economic liberalization and associated structural reform would accelerate rural–urban displacement and boost the pace of urbanization. Urbanization is an index of transformation from traditional rural economies to modern industrial. The pace of urbanization is now set to speed up as the country sets to a more rapid growth. However, infrastructure condition (availability of total number of electricity connection) of a city has a positive impact on city-wise rural to urban displacement. Economic conditions also matters higher level of rural to urban displacement. The present study shows a relation between urbanization and displacement. Finally, it proposes that cities require greater infrastructure amenities as well as more job possibilities to drive urbanisation through rural-urban displacement in India in order to achieve higher and more sustainable economic growth. And it is also important seek out creative and sustainable ways to accelerate them in the interest of both common masses and our environment.

Keywords: Urbanization, Displacement, rural to urban displacement, urban economic growth, India.

### INTRODUCTION

In the present time, India is in the vanguard of a wave of urban expansion. Urbanization is considered to be an inevitable part of economic development. It has been viewed as an important factor in the area of economic transformation. It is a long term continuous process.(Kundu, 2011) India is one of the emerging countries in the world, the second-largest country in terms of population and third-largest energy consumer after China and United States. Urbanization and industrialization are one of the common features of economic development. (Bhuvandas, 2014) With the steady growth of the economy, the process of urbanization depends on the shift of surplus population from rural to urban areas along-with the growth of some industrialized urban centers. Urbanization is taking place at a faster rate in India.

### Trends of Urbanization in India

In this section, the growth of total population along with urban population analyzed.

Table 1: Population on the basis of Census of India

Census Years	Total Population in Million	Urban Population in Million	% of Urban population to total population
1911	252.1	25.9	10.27
1921	251.3	28.01	11.18
1931	278.9	33.5	12.01
1941	318.6	44.2	13.87
1951	361.0	62.4	17.29
1961	439.2	78.9	17.96
1971	548.1	109.1	19.91
1981	683.3	159.4	23.33
1991	846.3	217.6	25.71
2001	1027.1	285.4	27.78
2011	1210.19	377.11	37.07



The size of country's urban population has increased from around 11 percent in 1901 to 37.7 percent in 2011. Thus, there is more than tenfold increase in the country's urban population as observed by the researcher. It is visualized from the table that with the passage of time as the total population growth occurs in a subsequent manner, total urban population and the percentage of urban population in the total population also shows increasing trend. (Polprasert, 2015)

#### **Four main component of urban growth**

- Natural Increase:
- Displacement:
- Boundary Change:
- Declassification:

This analysis of urbanization leaves no doubt that Indian society is in a stage of massive urban transition. Natural growths as well as rural-to-urban migration have both contributed to India's urbanisation. Natural growth contributed 41.7 percent to urban growth between 1971 & 1981 and 58.7% between 1981 & 1991, with natural growth accounting for the majority of it. (Tacoli & Mcgranahan, 2015) Almost the similar trend has been found which reflects the role of demographic momentum. Net displacement and changes in municipal boundaries contributed about 39.4% all through 1971-81 & it has reduced to 22% in this decade 1981-91. As a result, we can conclude that urbanisation in India is not merely a displacement-driven phenomenon, but that demographic factors play a significant role in determining the urban population.

#### **Displacement**

Displacement is one of the three basic components of population growth in any location. The other two main components of population increase in each area are fertility and mortality. Both fertility and mortality operate within the biological framework, but displacement does not. It influences size, composition and distribution of the population. (Nagendra et al., 2013) Displacement influences the social, political and economic life of the people at the origin as well as the destination. In today's world, displacement has become a common occurrence. The divide between rural and urban areas widens as a result of industrialization, which includes a transfer in the workforce to industrializing areas. (Dociu, 2012) Industrialization as well as economic progress have been noted in most countries, particularly India, to be accompanied by large-scale migrations of people from rural areas to towns, towns to towns, and nations to nations.

In addition, the displacement initiates a rural-urban circulation which many livelihoods benefit from. The remittances from workers in the city help poverty reduction in rural areas. While officials sometimes view the displacement as a problem, the hard-working labor force that the displacement provides is a main reason for the city's fast development and could be viewed as a resource with great potential. (Li & Ma, 2014) The work ethic and willingness to work collectively in combination with traditional 'family first'-values create pathways for money from the city going back to the countryside – albeit a successful urban-rural circulation is formed with many beneficiaries.

#### **Rural to Urban Displacement**

Rural-to-urban and urban-urban displacement, within or between countries, play an important role in the increased urbanization of the global landscape.



### ***Push and Pull Factors***

Displacement to urban areas is influenced by a number of push and pull factors. Many migrants seek the economic opportunities offered by urban areas as a way to escape rural poverty and insecurity. Urban jobs, either in the formal or informal sector, are more numerous and reliable, and often provide higher and more stable incomes than rural jobs, which are often prone to fluctuation due to seasonal changes, environmental stress, or market mechanisms. (Garrett, 2010)

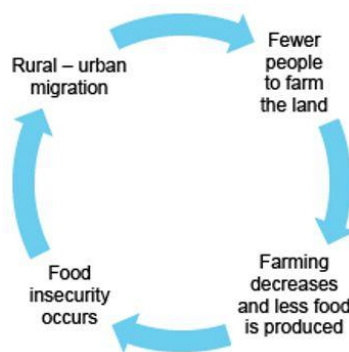


Figure 1: Causes of Urban growth

Displacement can also stem from conflict, political instability, or the abuse of human rights; displacement following climate change or natural disaster; a lack of rural education opportunities; or a lack of resources and basic services.

### **Relation between Urbanization and Displacement**

Displacement and urbanization are direct manifestations of the process of economic development in space, particularly in the contemporary phase of globalization. (Moore et al., 2003) Acknowledging the cause and effects of the former in terms of changes in population and economic activity distribution, as well as the successes and failures of state and other organisation interventions, would be critical for analysing policy options as well as exploring possible areas of strategic intervention.

Stagnation and volatility in agriculture, as well as a lack of sectorial diversification within the agrarian economy, have traditionally been related to displacement and urbanisation in less developed countries, with India being no exception. (Jaysawal & Saha, 2015) Over the last several decades, agricultural output and income growth rates have been recognised to be low, unstable, and uneven among regions, resulting in a dearth of livelihood prospects in rural areas.

Displacement of labours from their homes to urban areas is creating stress in urban regions. It is creating several other problems in urban areas like housing issues, water supply, employment and basic amenities. (Getanda et al., 2015) The problem has become more serious as migrants have become more selective in their destination choices, resulting in regionally imbalanced urbanisation and urban hierarchy distortions.

### **Development as the Need of an Hour**

Development means the development of a society as a whole and includes not only the economic and political system, but also the nature of the social institution, the structure of social relations, the cultural pattern, the nature of the values and the mode of life based on certain principles and ideals of coordination as objectives of human life and society. Economic development is considered essential to the progress and prosperity of a country. Because without development, there can be no



progress or growth. It raises the standard of living for people to feel better than before. (Ferris & Winthrop, 2011) This necessarily includes the creation of basic infrastructure such as railways, dams, roads, shipping, power plants, irrigation and existing industries. These projects are invariably needed to improve people's lives, provide them with work and provide them with better services. The fact is that economic development not only has positive effects, but also has negative consequences in the form of deportation and involuntary resettlement of those affected. (Terminski, 2013)

Over time, India has begun to invest more and more in the development of heavy infrastructure leading to national development and has been considered a symbol of technological progress. (Kedia, 2015) In Independent India, the hydroelectric project was considered by the leader of the first generation as the temple of modern India. Displaced people received only monetary compensation. It is evident that India's economic development strategy is largely financed at the expense of Dalits, with a large proportion of victims belonging to tribal or low-caste groups. Dam projects forcibly evict them from their ancestral lands, their ancestral property, disrupting their social relationships, family structure, and kinship structure. They are far from their ancestral sanctuaries, sacred rivers, mountains, forests and traditional places of worship.

Displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation are a serious problem for all developing countries, including India. Since independence, many hydroelectric projects have been built and more than 50 million people have been displaced in the last 60 years, and only 25% of them have been rehabilitated. It has been demonstrated that a large number of development projects have been poorly constructed and poorly implemented; resulting in negative environmental affects affecting people's quality of life. (Aneesh & Patil, 2015) Development displacements have led to homelessness, unemployment, marginalization, lack of food security, increased morbidity, loss of common property resources and social dislocation.

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

(Venkatesham, 2015) According to the author in several countries of the world, urbanization is still a problem because it has gigantic dimensions which are technical as well as industrial in nature. It refers to the concentration of people in economically developed and industrialized areas, as well as other major cities. Various social and economic problems arise due to urbanization.

(Narain et al., 2014) discussed that areas or regions at the periphery of the cities are defined as Periurban areas. These periurban areas provide water resources and land resources for the urban expansion but on the other hand they are receiving urban wastes. The periurban areas which are described in the present study are: Guwahati, Chandigarh, Patna, Ahmedabad and Chennai. Under real estate growth, infrastructural development and neo-liberal policies, these five cities have already expanded under the current situation. Moreover, these periurban areas have also absorbed so much migrant population which has shifted to urban areas in the search of employment. Cities, on the other hand, have grown past their carrying capacity, causing their ecological footprint to spread to the outskirts. While traditional approaches to "urban planning and rural development" establish a divide between rural and urban areas, the idea of Periurban highlights concerns about urban expansion's feasibility and equality, as well as issues of urban politics.

(Siriwardhana & Stewart, 2013) examined Forced internal displacement has been rising steadily, mainly due to conflict. Many internally displaced people (IDP) experience prolonged displacement.



Metal disorder can be developed in IDP as they are higher risk according to the Global research evidence and this metal disorder is adding burden on global burden of diseases. Additionally, “individual as well as community resilience” are considered as protective factors. For some IDP public, the other option is return displacement however return displacement is also linked with worse mental conditions. The effects of resettlement or return displacement follows lengthy forced internal displacement on mental health are little understood. In addition, the role of coping strategies in instances of extended displacement is yet unclear. The impacts of internal displacement are still not understood by people or researchers. It is important for the researchers to look beyond the medical models and study on the basis of social and cultural aspects. A clearly defined multidisciplinary strategy is advised, and the resilience element should be included and researched extensively in mental health research among IDP.

(Siddiqui, 2012) analyzed human population displacement from natural environments has a variety of socioeconomic consequences. This research will look at how the modernization processes have affected farmers as well as tribal people in India, particularly with the adoption of neoliberal economic policies. The migration of rural people is distressing from both a livelihood as well as a cultural standpoint. The purpose of this study is to look into the challenges of displacement in villages that have been largely isolated from the rest of the world. The effects of “development-induced displacement” on rural populations is significant, as evidenced by land alienation and protests by the impacted populations. Researcher can't locate a single study that illustrates how these policies affect the rural poor in terms of socioeconomics and the environment. The reasons for these shifts can be traced in a variety of ways. The most significant among these are rural community displacement, loss of traditional livelihoods, and environmental degradation.

(Cohen & Bradley, 2010) The human rights as well as different dimensions of disaster induced displacement are discussed in the study conducted by researcher which also observes the major issues for protecting the disaster victims. This study also provides the ways and suggestions to overcome the challenges. Although most ecologically displaced individuals are encouraged to return to their home countries, the authors suggest that there is still a question concerning the status as well as protection needs of all those displaced by degradation of the environment as well as other "gradual" disasters as compared to those displaced by "sudden-onset" disasters. On the other hand, the major issue arises for the people who are at cross borders. Under the 1951 Refugee Convention, these individuals do not qualify as refugees and there are no frameworks to fulfill their demands and vulnerabilities. Moreover, the states are also not willing to do more for their temporary protection on the basis of ad hoc. Need is now critical for new approaches to be developed for the environmentally displaced, including expanded normative and institutional frameworks, comprehensive national policies, national and international monitoring, rights training, and more effective ways of dealing with governments that fail to protect their populations.

(Bhagat, 2001) observed Urbanization is a form of social transformation from traditional rural societies to modern urban communities. It is long term continuous process. Using data out from Census of India from 1901 to 2001, NSSO, the goal of this article is to determine the size, trajectory, and pattern of urbanisation in India, as well as the implications in the socioeconomic environment. Natural growths as well as rural-to-urban migration have both contributed to India's urbanisation. Natural growth contributed the most, accounting for 41.7 percent between 1971 and 1981 and 58.7



percent between 1981 and 1991. During 1971-81, net displacement and boundary modifications accounted for 39.4 percent of the total, but this fell to 22 percent in 1981-91. In India, urbanisation is not solely driven by displacement; demographic factors also play a significant role in determining the urban population. According to the findings of the study, the value of Z was around 0.74 in 1991 and 0.69 in 2001, indicating that the distribution of people in urban areas has been more even over time.

## CONCLUSION

With the country's growing population concentrating on less and less land and linking together more and more tightly in an expanding network of large cities, the well-established geographical concepts of inhibited area, state population and population density are gradually becoming less meaningful and pertinent. In India policies towards urbanization have traditionally been negative and since independence no government has ever made any sincere effort to implement a uniform and coherent urban reform policy for better management of this concurrent issue. This must be changed so that the process of urbanization is regarded as a positive force in the development of the country.

The urbanization and displacement are always supportive forces for economic and social development and they should be welcomed, indeed we must seek out creative and sustainable ways to accelerate them in the interest of both common masses and our environment.

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