URBAN TRANSFORMATION: MAGNITUDE OF DEVELOPMENT AND DISPLACEMENT-CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

[1]Prof.B.S.Vasudeva Rao, [2]Dr.B.Govinda Rao

[1]Project Director, IMPRESS-ICSSR Project, New Delhi, [2]Research Assistant, IMPRESS-ICSSR Project, New Delhi

[1]Dept. of Education,

[1]Andhra University, Visakhapatnam-530003, Andhra Pradesh, India

Abstract: There has been a lively debate among urban scholars and practitioners about the potential and mechanisms of 'urban transformation'. However, there is still limited agreement on what exactly sustainable urban transformation looks like in practice and how it can be achieved. The enormous scale of development-induced displacement and resettlement are seen in the world's most densely populated countries like India. The problem confronting most developing countries is addressing urban growth and development. Many developing countries are faced with urbanization issues ranging from decreasing income, spiralling external debts, over-dependence on a single product, corruption and political instability, which has made provision of infrastructure elusive to the growing population. The majority opinion that increased urbanization leads to slums yet, there has been new trend of thinking among the urban dwellers that if the expansion of urban areas is more systematic it may not leads to occurrence of slums. Though urban transformation helps in economic growth of the country and capital development, there is the need to know regarding Development induced Displacement. It is hoped that government will show compassion towards these displaced people.

Key words: Urban Transformation, Development, Displacement, Economic growth

1. Introduction

Transformation is a long arduous process, no matter whether it is socio-economic, political or urban. The complexity of the society is what often hinders and delays the process. According to Bertolini (2017), achieving transformative change in the face of complexity is a difficult and seemingly paradoxical task. Urban transformation is analysing the economical, societal and spatial characteristics of an area. There has been a lively debate among urban scholars and practitioners about the potential and mechanisms of 'urban transformation'. However, there is still limited agreement on what exactly sustainable urban transformation looks like in practice and achieved. While there is widespread, agreement among urban scholars that transformations are needed complex systems and urbanization is not a linear and simple process.

Development in each component of the system shifting from the centralized era of planned development to the decentralized, even localized era of participatory development itself is a major transformative process in India's urbanization. Now, it's also being backed by various design and technological interventions. In developing countries, more problems that are significant are observed in the implementation of economic development. The enormous scale of development-induced displacement and resettlement are seen in the world's most densely populated countries like India and its faces major challenges of liveability in cities. The concept of liveability includes notions of inclusion, resilience and authenticity.

The inclusion implies not only social integration and cohesion, but also enabling the widest range of stakeholders to make the best of the opportunities a city offers, as well as participate actively in decision-making. The ultimate purpose of the urban transformation is to prevent the potential loss of life and property and to transform the old and disordered towns into the healthy, safe and arranged places. Thus, the structures will be strengthened as well as the environment will be rehabilitated. While planning the transformation, the purpose is identified and new plans of the field and the structures are organized within the frame of this purpose. Challenges posed during urban transformation are heritage conservation, regeneration, change of people's life style, development based.

2. Literature

i. Rykwert, (1976), observed that urban formation and urban growth inevitably converged on urban transformation in urbanization processes in which spatial form and organizational system of urbanization are achieved by authoritarian principles through urban design.

ii. Robert Muggah, (2000), explained the consequences of displacement and capacities for resettlement and conflict-induced internally displaced people, as well as the responsibilities of states. However, resettlement has potential to be an opportunity for development.

iii. Quarles van Ufford and A.K. Giri (2003) observed that development projects have the tendency of making some people get the gains while others get the pains.

iv. Datta, P. (2006) has studied urbanization in India. Urbanization is an transformation from traditional rural economic to modern urban one. Socio-economic, politico-administrative and geographical processes are associated to urbanization.

v. Asamin, E., Isa, H.E. and Mahesh J. M. (2007) observed that the unsystematic expansion of cities and lack of urban development poses challenges in the developing countries and an adverse effect on infrastructure, shortage of drinking water, blocking of sewage system and increase in social, economical and cultural heterogeneity and expansion of slums.

vi. Singh, Abha Lakshmi and Siddiqui, Mansoor Alam (2008) have attempted to assess the effect of city expansions on the countryside, especially on loss of agricultural land and conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses.

vii. UN (2010) our future is not only globally intertwined but also increasingly urban. In the next 20 years, Africa and Asia will see by far the fastest growth in urban settlements. However, the world's medium sized and smaller towns and cities will be responsible for receiving and looking after millions of new urban dwellers.

viii. Marshall (2012) looks at urban evolution as a continuous process that applies as much today as in the past. That is, evolutionary urbanism is not some rudimentary process that is supplanted by modern town planning.

ix. Seabra (2013) sustainable urban mobility indicators favour the expansion of knowledge and expertise existing in the management level, enabling the identification of problems and their operational failures. Thus, sustainable urban mobility can produce adequate responses to social impacts.

x. P. Kesava Rao et.al., (2016) demonstrated that India is among the countries of low level of urbanization. As a result, most urban settlements are characterized by shortfalls in stock housing and water supply, urban encroachments in fringe area, inadequate sewerage, traffic congestion, pollution, poverty and social unrest making urban governance a difficult task to maintain healthy urban environment.

xi. Siddaram HM, (2017) explained the transformation of the economy is quite apparent from the noticeable changes that have occurred in the sectoral composition of output. In order to be people friendly, its rapid growth path is expected to contribute towards poverty eradication.

xii. Geetam Tiwari (2017) Urban sprawl is as a counter measure, some cities make an effort to provide space for low-income and even informal housing near central areas, within walking distance to employment opportunities for people with lower skills.

xiii. Carol Upadhya (2021) discussed about how the unfolding of the Amaravati project in Andhra Pradesh, India was shaped by the region's caste-based agrarian social and political formation. In addition, how caste structures not only access to land, resources and power, but also the agrarian land transition in the context of a 'new city' project. In particular, caste structured the process of land pooling as well as the land market due to the historical embedding of caste in the land governance system.

14. Choithani, Chetan et al. (2021) opined that there is a pressing need for pro-active government policies that stimulate local economic restructuring and livelihood opportunities and, as long as these local economies are insufficiently developed, that facilitate circular labor migration and significantly different impacts of domestic versus international labor migration. The timing and nature of transformation varies to some extent across India as the decline in agricultural employment occurred at different times.

3. Urban Transformation and Economic Development in India

The present question is that whether rapid growth due to economic reforms makes a lasting Impression on the problem of poverty and it is premise that rapid growth generates gainful employment opportunities at progressively higher level of productivity and facilities faster integration of the poor into the mainstream of the development process. Agriculture and non – agricultural (Non - farm) growth has immediate impact on poverty reduction. In fact, the economic development and economic growth have nothing to do with the type of economies. Thus, economic growth is being related to a quantitative sustained increase in the countries per capita output or income accompanied by expansion in its labour force, consumption, capital and volume of trade.

The economic development must be sustainable which means that it should "keep going". The world development report 1999-2000 emphasizes the creation of sustainable improvements in the quality of life for all the people as the principal goal of development policy. According to it, sustainable development has many objectives. The economy can be divided into agricultural and industrial sectors. It is technological progress in these two sectors, which can leads to economic development thereby social transformation. Besides increasing economic growth and meeting basic needs, the aim of lifting living standards includes a number of more specific goals: "better people's health and educational opportunities, giving everyone the chance to participate in the public life, helping to ensure a clean environment, promoting intergenerational equity, and much more" it is very much essential in order to attain sustainable development.

The post-1991 reforms, which greatly accelerated growth and placed the status of a global economic power well within India's grasp, have come to a standstill. With the growth rate having dipped to 6.5 percent in the latest financial year (2011-12) for which we have data from the 8.5 percent level achieved during 2003-04 to 2010-11, it is important that we rebuild the momentum for reforms.

Socio-economic dimension, that lends uniqueness to India's pattern of growth and economic transformation is evident in the relative surge in the growth of industrial and services sectors vis-à-vis primary segment. India seems to have skipped the stage of development that emphasises growth in labour intensive industries with absorption of surplus labour from the agricultural sector. As transformation of industrial as well as services sector has overwhelmingly been based on capital intensive techniques requiring skilled manpower, relative shift in sectoral incomes have been devoid of any commensurate relocation of surplus labour and more than three-fifth of population continued to draw its livelihood from the primary sector.

3.1 Conceptual challenges on urban transformation

There is a complexity within the concept of urban transformation, in that planning history encapsulates the issues of urban development, urban change and urban conservation. The definition of the concept of urban transformation in planning theory changes in each period and the approach to urban transformation in planning practice differ from each other with reference to the paradigm shifts in planning history. Therefore, an in-depth reconsideration for urban transformation in urbanization processes is required in order to resolve the change in its conceptual definitions in planning theory, and the difference of approaches that have emerged in planning practice. Paradigm shifts in urban planning both persistently reform the content of theory and practice and reconfigure the context of the concept of urban

transformation. Urban transformation could be reconsidered according to three major categories: heritage conservation, urban regeneration and redevelopment/ renewal through the ages.

i. **Heritage conservation-based Urban Transformation:** Urban areas that have a historical and cultural significance in the city are generally engaged in heritage conservation-based urban transformation in which the protection of heritage is a fundamental concern. Consequently, it focuses on historic preservation and urban conservation as well as urban restoration, restitution, renovation and reuse as methods in the process. It develops plans, programs and policy-based frameworks by public and institutional leadership models for producing international systems in planning theory.

ii. **Regeneration-based Urban Transformation**: Existing urban areas having economic and functional potential, derelict industrial areas and docklands are examined according to regeneration-based urban transformation, which endorses hedonic restructuring as a hallmark. Consequently, it focuses on urban regeneration as well as reconstruction, redevelopment, restructuring and land-use change as methods in the process. It develops policy and strategy-based frameworks by agent-based entrepreneurial models for producing a multi-paradigmatic agenda in planning theory.

iii. **(Re) Development-based Urban Transformation:** It shows that changes in the theories of urban transformation are related with the planning system regulating at the organizational level whereas changes in the practices of urban transformation are related with the urban space epitomizing the spatial level of urban planning and design. Though urban transformation helps in economic growth of the country and capital development, there is the need to know regarding Development induced Displacement.

4. The Concept of Displacement

Generally any organisation to adopt different types of displacement implementation to deliver its services to people and infrastructure development keeping in view the long term (future) happening in environment and socio-economic issues, such as important issues like A. Natural B. Human C. Social D. Infrastructural and E. Financial.

Displacement is, by definition, forced and involuntary and involves some form of de-territorialisation. It is ,commonly described as taking place within the confines of a state or across an internationally recognized border. Growth of economy and expansion of cities influences the need for investments as well as infrastructure expansion. During the last two decades of the previous century, the magnitude of forced population displacements caused by development programmes was approximately 10 million people each year or some 200 million people globally during that period. Thus, by their frequency, size, and dire consequences, development-caused displacements have become a problem of worldwide proportions. To accommodate such development, land redevelopment becomes a necessity. However, much of that land, is already populated which makes displacement and resettlement of the existing population a prominent feature of development projects in the urban setting.

Induced population displacement, is the upheaval of communities to make way for large dams, industrial zones, transportation routes, game parks and commercial forestry, concerns the balance between the benefits of infrastructural development and the costs and pains of being uprooted and consequently resettled, and the risk of impoverishment carried by those forcibly displaced. For example, in the case of Development of new capital "Amaravati" in Andhra Pradesh, the displacement due to urbanisation, those displaced "are supposed to receive compensation of their lost assets, and effective assistance to re-establish themselves productively; yet this does not happen for a large portion of ousted.

4.1 Effects of Development induced Displacement

i. Landlessness: Expropriation of land disturbs the main foundation upon which people's productive systems, commercial activities, and livelihoods are dependant. This is the principal form of de-capitalization and pauperization of displaced people, as they lose both natural and human-made capital.

ii. Homelessness: Loss of shelter tends to be only temporary for many re-settlers; but, for some, homelessness or worsening in their housing standards remains in a lingering condition. In a broader cultural sense, loss of a family's individual home and the loss of a group's cultural space tend to result in alienation and status deprivation.

iii. Joblessness: The risk of losing wage employment is very high both in urban and rural displacements for those employed in enterprises, services, or agriculture. Yet, creating new jobs is difficult and requires substantial investment. Unemployment or underemployment among re-settlers often endures long after physical relocation is completed.

iv. Marginalization: Marginalization occurs when families lose economic power and spiral on a "downward mobility" path. Many individuals cannot use their earlier acquired skills at the new location; human capital is lost or rendered inactive or obsolete. Economic marginalization, often accompanied by social and psychological marginalization, expressed in a drop in social status, in re-settler's loss of confidence in society and in them, a feeling of injustice, and deepened vulnerability.

v. Food Insecurity: Forced uprooting increases the risk that people will fall into temporary or chronic under-nourishment, defined as calorie-protein intake levels below the minimum necessary for normal growth and work.

vi. Increased Morbidity and Mortality: Massive population displacement threatens to cause serious decline in health levels. Displacement-induced social stress and psychological trauma are sometimes accompanied by the outbreak of relocation related illnesses, particularly parasitic and vector-borne diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis. Unsafe water supply and improvised sewage systems increase vulnerability to epidemics and chronic diarrhea, dysentery, and so on. The weakest segments of the demographic spectrum-infants, children, and the elderly-are affected most strongly.

vii. Loss of Access to Common Property: For poor people, loss of access to the common property assets that belonged to relocated communities (pastures, forestlands, water bodies, burial grounds, quarries, and so on) result in significant deterioration in income and livelihood levels.

viii. Social Disintegration: The fundamental feature of forced displacement is that it causes a profound unravelling of existing patterns of social organization. Long-established residential communities and settlements are disorganized, while kinship groups and family systems are often scattered. Life-sustaining informal social networks that provide mutual help are rendered non-functional. Trade linkages between producers and their customer base are interrupted, and local labour markets are disrupted. Formal and informal associations, and self-organized services, are wiped out by the sudden scattering of their membership. The cumulative effect is that the social fabric is torned apart.

ix. Loss of Access to Community Services: This could include anything from Primary health Centres (PHCs) to educational facilities, but especially costly both in the short and long-term are lost or delayed opportunities for the education of children.

x. Violation of Human Rights: Displacement from one's habitual residence and the loss of property without fair compensation can, in itself, constitute a violation of human rights. In addition to violating economic and social rights, listed above, arbitrary displacement can also lead to violations of civil and political rights, including arbitrary arrest, degrading treatment or punishment, temporary or permanent disenfranchisement and the loss of one's political voice. Finally, displacement carries not only the risk of human rights violations in the hands of state authorities and security forces but also the risk of communal violence when new settlers move in amongst existing populations.

4.2 Relevance of Development induced Displacement

In general, people will expect the following facilities for any displacement, forced migration in the sifted place. Those are: No disturbance of present living condition, storm water, power, gas/firewood, water supply, transportation, health and children education facility, homeostasis, housing, compensation for loss of property, land holdings, protected environment, religious harmony, better occupation facility and no drastic change present living condition then only people will accept for displacement.

Some of the observations derived from focus group discussions, participatory observations and research studies, the displaced people express that 1. Urbanisation leads to increased slum formation but the formed in the urban areas for more systematic, if may not lead to occurrence of slums. 2. People are quite away of their role and responsibilities in process of development. 3. The displacement policy due to formation of new places are still consider as political decision than necessity of better government. 4. The transformation of lives from rural to urban does face certain hardship and adjustment with new situation. 5. Coping mechanism with change of occupation is not feeling comfortable. 6. People in general are aware of social transformation that are thinking place in displacement/migration, yet it is the responsibility of governance institutions to lead the trends of the social transformation and make requisite facilitating process in practice. Otherwise, it may lead to several social problems. 7. Some of the findings of the external evaluations of literacy campaigns revealed that folk are in a position to explain and demand social needs to the authorities, awareness about welfare/Development programmes and increased participation in area development activities after attending literacy classes.

5. Conclusion

Successive urban plans in India largely look like an immediate response to the emerging urban needs of the day. They no doubt succeeded in solving the problems to an extent. Transformation is a long arduous process, no matter whether it is socio-economic, political or urban. The complexity of the society is what often hinders and delays the process. Urban transformation in India is also experiencing teething problems. However, shifting from the centralized era of planned development to the decentralized, even localized era of participatory development itself is a major transformative process in India's urbanization. The fact that government of Andhra Pradesh through its various development programmes and policies is trying to transforms the lives of its citizens for rapid urban transformation. While it has engaged in some bigger projects hailed by the people, some have seen as elitists programs directly targeted at the rich and other non-populist programmes aimed at impoverishing the urban poor. It is hoped, that government will show compassion towards these displaced people. The need to provide employment to these displaced people who handed over/gave their assets for development must be taken as the responsibility of the government. The weakest segments of the demographic spectrum-infants, children, and the elderly-are affected most strongly with health issues by displacement. Therefore, there is the need to monitor their health status by the government. Hence, there is an urgent need that the official can be organise more number of programmes for building awareness on facilities provided by the government before initiating displacement programmes.

"Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or to through freely chosen representatives...The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government".

--- Article 21 of the universal declaration of Human Rights

References:

1. Rykwert. J, *The Idea of A Town: The Anthropology of Urban Form in Rome, Italy and The Ancient World*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey,1976.

2. Robert Muggah, *Through the Developmentalist's Looking Glass: Conflict-Induced Displacement and Involuntary Resettlement in Colombia1*, Journal of Refugee Studies 13(2), 2000.

3. Quarles van Ufford et al., A *Moral Critique of Development*, Taylor and Francis, London, 2003.

4. Datta, Pranati, *Urbanisation in India*, paper offered at European Population Conference, The University of Liverpool, U.K., 2006.

5. Vasudeva Rao. B.S, *Rural Development Strategies & Role of Institutions (ed.vol.)*, The Associated Publishers, New Delhi, 2007.

6. Asamin. E, et al., *Urbanization, Immigration and its Impact: A Case Study of Zahedan City (Iran)*, Indian Journal of Regional Science, 39(2), 110-116, 2007.

7. Singh, Abha Lakshmi, et al., *Effective city Expansion on the Countryside: A Case Study,* Punjab Geographer: A Journal of the Association of Punjab Geographers, India, Vol.4, 2008.

8. https://population.un.org/wup/publications/files/wup2014-highlights.pdf

9. Sudha Rani. K, People's *Participation in Development (Ed),* Discovery Publications, New Delhi, 2011.

10. K.C.Sivaramkrishnan, *Re-visioning Indian Cities: The Urban Renewal Mission*, SAGE Publications, 201.

11. Peter Penz, at al., *Displacement by Development: Ethics, Rights and Responsibilities*, Cambridge University Press, 2011.

12. Marshall, *Sustainable urbanization in Evolution- In Trigram Has (Ed.), Sustainable Urbanism and Beyond,* PP 59, New York: Rizzoli-International Publication, 2012.

13. Seabra, *Foundations for the construction of an index for strategic management of sustainable urban mobility (Igemus).* Thesis (Doctorate in Transport) - Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Brasília, Brasília, 2013.

14. P. Kesava Rao et.al., *Identification of Urban Sprawl – A Case Study of Vijayawada City, Andhra Pradesh, India*, Lowland Technology International 2016; 18 (1): 59-64 International Association of Lowland Technology (IALT): ISSN 1344-9656, 2016.

15. Siddaram. HM, *Rural - Urban Transformation and Economic Development in India*, International Journal of Research in Social Sciences, Vol. 7 Issue 3, Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities, U.S.A, 2017.

16. Geetam Tiwari , *Perspectives for integrating housing location considerations and transport planning as a means to face social exclusion in Indian cities*, International Transport Forum Discussion Paper, No. 2016-17, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Transport Forum, Paris, 2017.

17. Bertolini Luca. *Planning the Mobile Metropolis– Transport for People, Places and the Planet*, Palgrave Publication, London, 2017.

18. Carol Upadhya, *Recasting Land: Agrarian Urbanism in Amaravati*, Urbanisation, Vol.6(1), pp 82-103, SAGE Publications, India, 2021.

19. Choithani et al., *Changing livelihoods at India's rural–urban transition*, vol. 146(C), World Development, Elsevier, 2021.