



Development Induced Displacement; Special Reference With North East India

Biswajyoti Gogoi Research Scholar Department of Political Science Dibrugarh University
Email: gogoibiswajyoti2@gmail.com

Liza shyam Department of political science Dibrugarh University Email:
lizashyam19@gmail.com

Abstract:

India focuses on various development project as well as industrialization, dam construction after independence. All this kind of project considered as symbol of modern India. But most of the development project leads displacing local people from their own land. Development is regarded as an inevitable step towards economic growth in developing countries. In case of Northeast India development harmly impact on tribal and peasant class people because they closely associated with nature and their survival totally depends upon nature. In the name of development most of the people are affected who belonged to weaker section of the society. India is a developing country and every year government introduced various developing project but because of inadequate planning its often leads various problems like environmental problems, displacement of people, homelessness, poverty, food security etc.

Key words: Displacement, Development, Environment, Rehabilitation, Human life.

Introduction:

Development is an inevitable step towards modernization and economic growth in developing countries. However for those displaced impoverishment such persons are facing required for restoration of their capacity to generate income and protection from the state.

Development paradigm holds two arguments, those who argue for faster economic growth and others stress on the issue of environment protection. The new economic policy (1991), Social economic lows act (2005) such western model of development based on the market economy and the minimal role for the state has led to facing challenges in the land. Development is guided by growth manship but without relating to people and nature it will not succeed. The views over the context varies by the developmentalist, people environmentalist etc.

Northeast India is the homeland of large number of ethnic groups from different direction at different historical times. This group belongs to the different historical clocks. Speak different languages and have varied socio-cultural tradition. According to “people of India” project sponsored by Anthropological survey of India out of 5633 communities living in India 635 are categorized as tribes of while 231 are residing in Northeast India.

Objectives:

The main objectives of this paper are as follows-

1. To understand and evaluate the relation between development and displacement in Northeast India.
2. To analyze the effect of development project on Human lives.

Methodology:

The study has been conducted using secondary data sources, books, journals, magazines, documents and official data have been used in this regards. Moreover this study is descriptive in nature.

Historical background:

The magnitude of problem arising of central displacement of Northeast region is high prominent causes among them are due to the natural disaster, due to the violence, ethnic religion and language conflict, due to the development driven reasons and government policies, due to take over of land by migrating communities etc.

In case of Arunachal Pradesh tension between indigenous tribes of Arunachal Pradesh and Chakma and Hazang tribes has been in the region. The Chakma belong to the tribal group which has for countries inhabited, the Chittaganga Hills Tracts(CHT) of Bangladesh. Despite against the will the region became a part of Pakistan during partition in 1947. They belong to Tibeto Burman family known as Jumma people. The tribe was devartated during partition due to abolition of CHT Regulation 1990, it debarred settlement of plains people in the hills. In 1964 they migrated to Tripura and Assam and Mizoram. The GOI in consultation with the NEFA administration decide to settle the migrants in the populate NEFA region. Government of India take lots of development project in Arunachal Pradesh but on the other hand did not take proper step for the rehabilitation of local people. Construction of 2000M.W Lower Subansiri Hydro-Electric Power Corporation.

Naga uprising and displacement in Manipur. Naga people struggle for independence is one of the world's oldest struggle for self-determination in independent India under the leadership of Phijo. Nagas declared their independence from the British in 1947. Naga

2515 **Biswajyoti Gogoi Development Induced Displacement; Special Reference
With North East India**

National Council led a guerrilla war leading to a breakdown by Indian Security Forces. In 1963 when Nagaland was formed as a separate state within the Indian Union but militant and being dissatisfied they continued their struggle. In 1975 a section of militant leaders came out and signed Shillong Accord without they were asked to accept. But it was denounced by leaders like Isak Muivah, they aligned with Kaplang and formed National Council of Nagaland in 1980. But in 1988 it split into two factions. However the government of India adopted a major policy towards Naga insurgency in 1990's and concluded a ceasefire agreement. But it met with protest in Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

In 1990's Manipur witnessed large scale displacement being inhabited by 29 recognized tribes. There was no major conflict between Kuki and Naga tribes during the reign of the king the British period or the post independent period and both the tribes had been living in perfect harmony since time immemorial. The conflict between the Nagas and Kukis reported to be originated in Chandel district. However an unestablished report published in both national and local newspapers pointed to the theory of ethnic cleansing.

Tripura state surrounded by Bangladesh on the North, South and West. After independence the plains of Tripura went to West Pakistan. Following partition a large number of Hindu Bengalis entered into Tripura resulting in pressure of migratory population or influence demographic change. Government of India enacted the Tripura Land Reform and Restoration Act in 1960 to restore alienated tribal land amended in 1964. This led to formation of Tripura Upajati Juba Samity in 1967.

Meghalaya formed on 21st January 1972. The districts of Khasi, Garo and Jaintia hills became the new state. And also Mizoram formed in 1972 and it became a full fledged state in 1987. Insurgency led by Mizo National Front that started with the infamous famine of 1960s ended with the Mizo Peace Accord of 1986. Autonomy movement of Mizoram has two dimensions. One is the movement of abolition of chieftainship with the objective of acquiring democratic self government and achieve a greater Mizoram. Other is to attain complete independence and to achieve a greater Mizoram.

India is a developing country and every year a large number of development projects are being undertaken. India focused on various development projects as well as dam construction after independence. But these mega projects also resulted in displacing millions of people from their ancestral land. Inadequate planning and implementation of various developmental projects often leads to various environmental problems which in turn result in displacement the lives of millions of people. Development induced displacement has become very controversial because millions of people have been displaced or deprived of their livelihood all over the India in the name of greater goods and national development. It is also becoming an issue in the Northeast because various national organizations are

2516 **Biswajyoti Gogoi** **Development Induced Displacement; Special Reference With North East India**

planning to come to the region in a big way to harness its massive power potential. Therefore, the development projects become a major threat to the traditional livelihood of the people of Northeast affected by them. Mostly tribal peoples of Northeast India have suffered disproportionately from the effects of construction of dams on their land but the potential benefits hardly reach them.

Development induced displacement:

Development regards the development of a society as a whole and includes not only economic and political system but also the nature of social institutions, the structure of social relationship, pattern of culture, nature of values and way of life based on certain co-ordinal principles and ideals as the goal of human life and the society. Without development there can be no progress and growth. Economic development regarded as very important for the progress and prosperity of any country. It rise the living standards of people and it necessarily involves basic infrastructure like railways, dams, roads, shipping, power station, irrigation facilities and established industries. Such projects are required for the improvement of the lives of people.

Development induced displacement become one of the major issue across the globe. Developmental projects such as dams, industries, mines, railways and roads displacing peoples livelihoods in different ways. Some of the displace peoples away from the native land and some others lose most of their home and other sustenance to them, which are not physically displaced but called as project affected persons. Displacement is disruption in social life which results in landlessness, homelessness, joblessness, marginalization, poverty and food scarcity, increased morbidity and loss of access of common property resources and social disarticulation. Most displaced and projects affected persons belong to the marginalized and powerless classes and small marginal farmers with no assets. Displacement has made the lives of displaced people very worst of deteriorating their standard of living to the lowest.

Effect on human life:

Development leads destroy common natural resources and community relationships. In case of Northeast India development harmly impact on tribal and peasant class people because they closely associated with nature. Because their survival depends upon nature. The colonial state of India was failed to shape a people and environment oriented development agenda. But they went for a modern capitalist agenda which led to the destruction of ecological balance. In this regard we take the example of Lower Subansiri Project initiated by the government of India along the main river and also to some extent. Many of the family lost their land after completion of the project. The shifting agriculture is a dominant

traditional land use in the hills of Northeast and plays a critical role in the livelihoods of people lost their cultivation. Common property like grazing vegetables timber which the communities lost after being displaced.

Whenever development induced displacement became dangerous for local culture. Indigenous group losing their ethnic culture and traditions after being displacement.

Because of displacement people become jobless. The main source of income of local people are small enterprisers, traditional artisans and wage labour. Tribal people are generally depend on forest or natural produce collection. When government build industries along with plain land people lost their right over nature as a result unemployment emerge as a major problem within various community. It also led insecurity. Displacement also impact on the functioning of the school child's access to education. Children from displaced families never returned to school and most of the time they became child labour. Because of poverty and deprivation parents did not allow their children to school.

Indigenous people generally develop their culture with nature. The life of tribal and local people are poor and hard, but they are more conscious about their identity and dignity. But when displacement occurred on the name of development project villagers were displaced from their environment it destroyed their culture as well as also their traditional life styles. Politically they also exploited. The channels of communication and expression for them remain very weak and poor. Whenever they rehabilitate in other places local people of particular places treated as a outsiders. Hence, the community do not get opportunity to participate in decision making process. On the other hand problems of displacement and rehabilitation do not became the major agenda in the election.

Some elite section also take the advantage and tried to exploit by giving money with higher interest. As a result they became bonded labor. Displacement of the community has led to the complete destruction of the economy and living condition. Most of the time government and project authority often ignores such social dimension. Such kind of problem faced by displace people in their new social space.

Conclusion:

Tribal people have suffered more from the effects of establishment of large industry and various dams on their land. Because resettlement and rehabilitation process of government very bad in he past. Government only gives important on short term issues rather than long term issues. Although Northeastern people witnessing various movement against such kind of development policy. But due to the lack of importance of state government and central government it is never success. To meet the needs of the corporate sector Indian government take various development project in the tribal areas of central India and Northeast India.

2518 **Biswajyoti Gogoi** **Development Induced Displacement; Special Reference**
With North East India

Therefore this area became internal colonies. The dam building in the Northeast is creating a further wave of discontent among the people as this part of the country has been neglected and isolated for a long time.

At last we can say that we need development, we need industrialization because economic upliftment is important for overall development of the country. But development should be done in way which is sustainable and people centric. In brief development should analogous to environment. It should also give importance to the problems faced by the people affected. Therefore government should linking the local problem and nation building in positive way.

References:

- Vanclay Frank, Project induced displacement and resettlement: from impoverishment risks to an opportunity for development, online published 10 Feb, 2017.
- Fernands Walter, Development induced displacement and sustainable development, Sage journal, March 1, 2001.
- Singh , Sekhar, Social and environmental impact of large dams in India, in The Ecologist, vol-11.P P 61-71.
- Hussain Monirul, Interrogating development, state development and popular resistance in North east India, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
- Fernandes Walter, Internally displaced persons and Northeast India, Sage journal, 24Oct 2017.
- Kumar Sudesh, Mishra. J. Anindya, Development induced displacement in India: An indigenous perspective, Journal of management & public policy, vol.10 No 1 Page no 25-36, December 2018.