The Making of IDPs: Policy, Politics and Urban Renewal

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Key Arguments

1. The Relocated vs. The Displaced: Academic theoretical binary

Studies around both internal displacement and planning violations often treat the subjects affected as categorically distinct: the internally displaced persons (IDPs) and relocated ‘slum-dwellers’. This creates a conceptual distance between the two intersecting phenomenon and takes the focus away from displaced residents of informal housing.

2. Forceful Slum Relocation as Displacement

Slum dwellers relocated as part of urban slum redevelopment are put in an increased vulnerable position. The distance from their original place of employment, fractured social networks, risks to ecological disasters, get coupled with often-times poor relocation units to create this category of urban displaced people.

3. Urban Renewal: AMRUT, PMAY, SBM

The present central government has put an unprecedented focus on urban renewal programs in the recent years. Informal settlements have been some of the prime sites of this intervention.
Cases

*Based on primary observation and secondary literature. The research draws partial learnings from a study conducted as a collaboration between Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore and Yuva, Mumbai.*

1. Chennai, Indore, Delhi
Three states of displacement: already happened (Chennai), under threat (Indore with Notice), future threats (Delhi Mayur Vihar, without Notice).

2. State urban renewal linked slum redevelopment schemes.
CHENNAI
Perumbakkam resettlement colony
Already Displaced people

Housing for people or people for housing?
INDORE

Nipania Kankar

Under threat of displacement
Kankar: Land between two crop fields which got settled.
According to officials, there were complaints from nearby including像 Tulsi Nagar, Omaxe City, Choitram School, Nipania Kankad etc that a large number of pigs are seen roaming in the area. "Complaints were also received that the person used to buy food waste from hotels and dump it on open to feed the pigs," officials said.

Civic body has already prepared a list of all the big players in the business and their locations recently. They have decided to raze illegally constructed residential premises of the rearers having more than one animal. The civic body had earlier issued warning notices to these pig rearers to shift their animals from city limits. "The corporation has set a limit of one animal per rearer within city limits. Rearers having pigs more than the prescribed limit will face action," said IMC removal wing incharge MS Chauhan.

Source: Times of India, Indore, 10/11/2017
DELHI
Indira Camp
Future threat and uncertainty
Making of IDPs
Conclusion

1. **State an active agent in producing IDPs.**
   State machinery exerts power and violence through urban policy and programmes packaged as agents of change and sustainable growth.

2. **Urban renewal a tool in pushing ‘undesirables’ to peripheries.**
   The new imagined world-class city is exclusionary, with the new grammar of the urban finding place for the poor only in the margins, both literally and figuratively.

3. **Reimagination at the policy-level needed.**
   Policy makers have to cognizant about the varying degrees of vulnerability and come up with policies that find the balance between land-market realities and socio-economic truths.
Thank you
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