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7.Report

The study titled “**Socio Economic Impact of Development Induced Displacement with Special Reference Vallarpadam Container Terminal , Kochi.**” is an attempt to examine the socio-economic impact of displacement with reference to Vallarpadam container terminal project in Kochi. Each year, millions of people around the globe are relocated and resettled away from their homes and livelihoods in order to make way for large-scale development projects such as dams, reservoirs, power plants, roads, plantations, urban renewal, and oil, gas, and mining projects. Displacement deprives people from many things some of them fundamental to their lives, including homes, productive assets, culture, livelihoods and environmental conditions suited to their skills and practices, community networks and a sense of belonging. It has uprooted people not only from homes, but homelands to which they may have been tied by ancestral bonds. Forced evictions intensify inequality, social conflict and segregation and invariably affect the poorest, most socially and economically vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society, especially women, children, minorities and indigenous peoples.

In most of the cases, persons affected by specific projects have not been compensated by proper rehabilitation and resettlement measures for their welfare. As displacement, stimulated by the new economic changes, is henceforth going to occur on an even bigger scale than before, it is important that resettlement and rehabilitation packages are so designed that they improve lives, not impoverish the already poor people.

This study makes a comparative analysis of the pre and post-displacement period and reflects the problems associated with displacement. Though infrastructure development is a necessity, it has to be implemented with a humane touch so that the effect of displacement is minimized. If proper compensation is being provided in terms of economic incentives and rehabilitation then both the developmental project and displacement can be justifiable.