

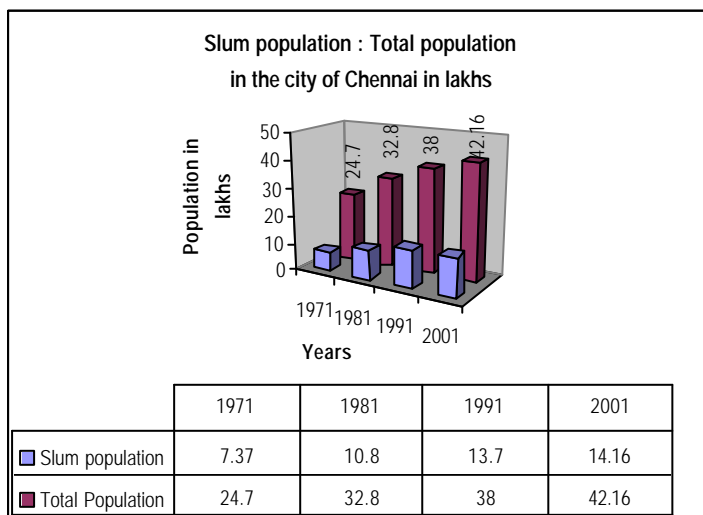
Jothilakshmy, N. and T.K.Prasanna “A Study On Participatory Process In Health & Environmental Issues In Two Resettled Areas O Varying Nature Implemented By Same Authority” in Martin J. Bunch, V. Madha Suresh and T. Vasantha Kumaran, eds., *Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Environment and Health, Chennai, India, 15-17 December, 2003*. Chennai: Department of Geography, University of Madras and Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University. Pages 196 – 204.

A STUDY ON PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN TWO RESETTLED AREAS OF VARYING NATURE IMPLEMENTED BY SAME AUTHORITY

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Slums in Chennai

Tamil Nadu is the second most urbanized state in the country. Among the four Southern states, it is one of the most urbanized state having 36% of its population in urban areas. Chennai being the capital of Tamil Nadu and one of the four metropolis in the country, offers a lot of employment opportunities and hence attracts migrant population. The migrants who came from the rural areas are unskilled/ semiskilled and they get jobs only in the informal sector. Being lowly paid and with longer working hours and unable to afford shelter elsewhere, they squat on any open space available near the workplace which developed into slums.



A comparative analysis on growth of total population & slum population in the last half century.

Rehabilitation programs

Where the land occupied by the slums are required for development projects or are in objectionable areas the slums are rehabilitated into other areas where land is available in low rise

high density tenements with all infrastructural facilities and community facilities – **Slum Resettlement program.**

The kind of facilities provided under this scheme can vary from

- Serviced Land. ie; land which is serviced with access, water supply, sanitary facilities, communication & Community facilities _ **Site & Service Scheme.**
- Providing built tenements on serviced land.
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Other possibilities are :

- Slum upgradation program
- Slum improvement program

Participatory process in Rehabilitation & Resettlement program

Indicators of successful process of participation are-

- Participation as underlying Operational principle
- Participation as a continuous process
- Participatory approach in Organizational setup
- Capacity building of all Stakeholders.
- Transparency and sharing
- Flexibility to accommodate Diversity.
- Participation of all Stakeholders.

Different Stages of the project Cycle can be listed as

- Project appraisal
- Notification for land acquisition
- Negotiation during the Baseline Survey.
- The process of Rehabilitation program itself

A study was conducted on two such rehabilitation & resettlement program wherein a sample survey of 50 no: were done to analyze whether the process has improved the quality of the resettled people.

Identification of Parameters of study

- Physical – Shelter & Infrastructure
- Social
- Economical
- Environmental

Identification of stake holders at both the sites

Stake holders	Velachery Site and service scheme	Okkium Thoraipakkam. Built Tenement Scheme
Project affected people	The resettled population Early settlers on the same site.	The Resettled Population Thoraipakkam villagers
Project Implementing Authority	TNSCB	TNSCB
Local Self Government	Falls under Velachery village No participation during resettlement process but the	Falls under Thoraipakkam village No participation during resettlement process but the following organizations

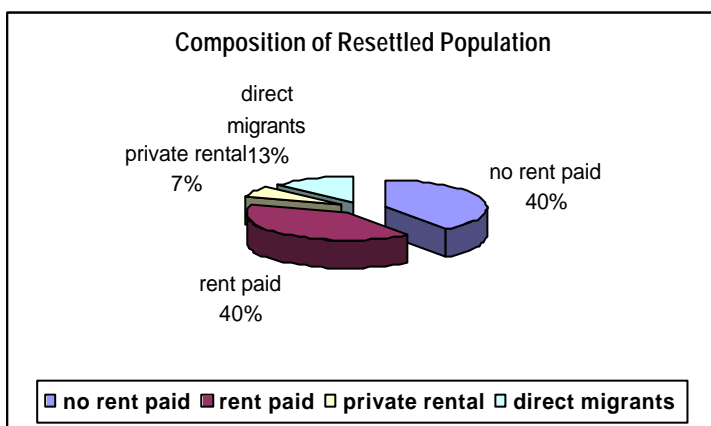
NGO	following organizations are active now - "NEW LIFE SCHOOL" by JAMES FOUNDATION. "WORLD VISION INDIA"	are active now - "NEW LIFE SCHOOL" by JAMES FOUNDATION. "WORLD VISION INDIA"
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A comparison of Schemes at Velachery & Okkium Thuraipakkam:

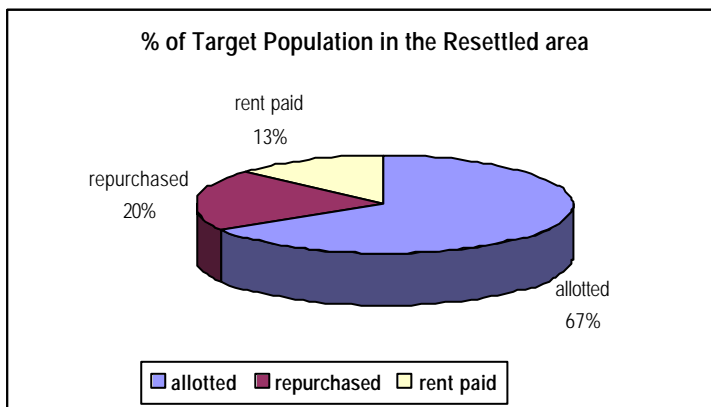
	Velachery	Okkium Thuraipakkam:
Scheme	Site & Services for Pavement Dweller	Built Tenement for resettled people due to MRTS alignment
Status	Completed 2640 completed	On going 9200 units completed 400 units under progress 2100 units on anvil
Ownership	Allotted as per identification	Hire Purchase Scheme after identification.Rs.200/ month for 20 years
No: of Years	8years	3 years
Extent	13.76 hectares	45.61 hectares
Plot size	4.5m X 5.5m	4m X 8m
Dwelling	-	17.7 sq.m.
Water Supply	Public Fountain	Public Fountain
Sewerage	Public Convenience. No sewer line for dwelling units to connect their Toilets.	Shared Facility among two houses. Sewer Lines takes sewage to treatment plant
Solid Waste Disposal	Corporation collects garbage	Corporation collects garbage.
Transportation & Access	Since the adjacent road is a sub arterial road, and scheme layout is linear to the same, the max. distance to bus stop is ½ km.	A planned Bus Terminus is not operating due to poor maintenance of approach road.1 ½ km from bus stop which is operating
Road Network	3.6m, 7.2m, 9m &12m.	4 m, 7.2m, 12m, 16m.
Education Facilities	1 Nursery & 1 primary school function.	3 Nursery Schools & 2 primary school and a vocational training center functions.
Health Facility	Primary Health Centre functions Doctors visit twice a week. NGO's Actively involved	Primary Health Centre functions Doctors visit twice a week. NGO's Actively involved

Community Facility	-	A community hall is constructed
Open space & Parks	Adequate space has been reserved	Adequate space has been reserved

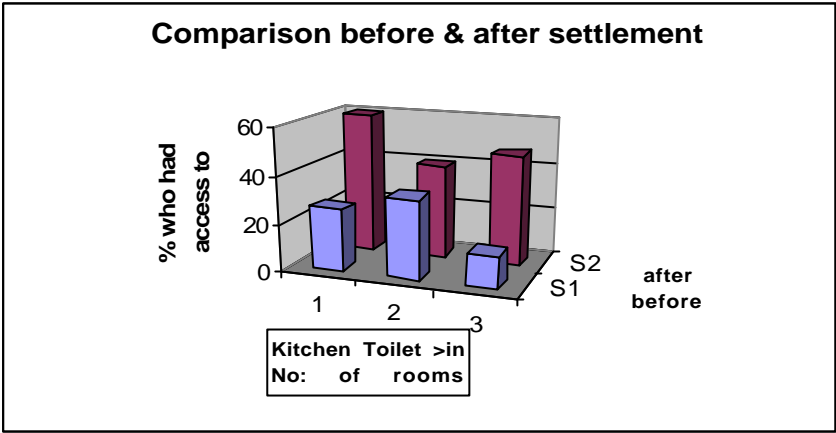
**Survey findings :
Velachery**



Ownership pattern of Resettled people.

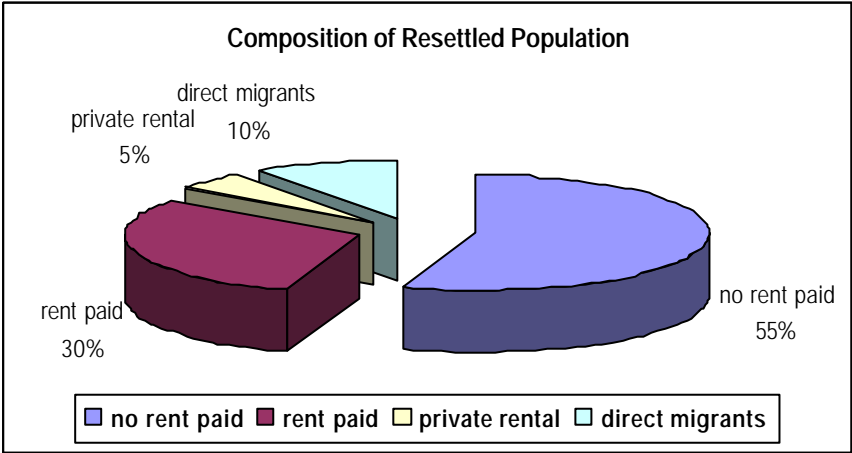


One third of resettled people do not stay in the resettled area

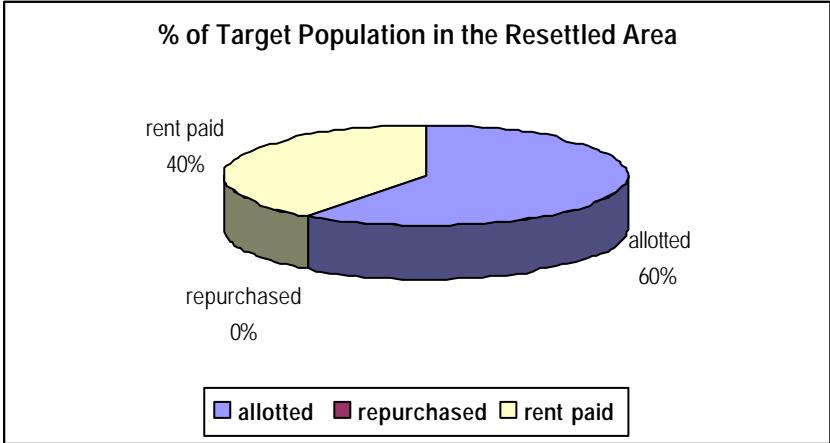


An analysis on dwelling unit

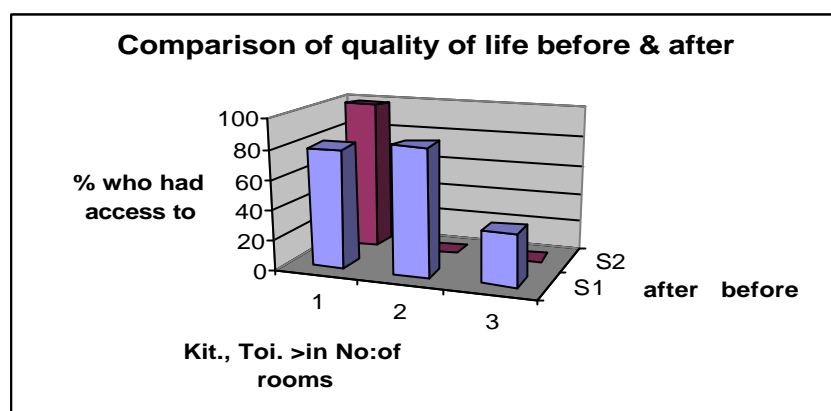
Okkium Thoraipakkam



Ownership pattern of Resettled people.



One third of resettled people do not stay in the resettled area.



An analysis on dwelling unit

Findings & Comparison with National & International Standards

The displaced people undergo the following difficulties - Majority of the displaced people undergo a process of dispossession and disempowerment. Displacement has the potential to dismantle and destroy socio economic and cultural structures of the inhabitants. When people are forcibly removed from their habitat, the following situations are likely to occur –

- Production systems get dismantled
- Productive assets and income sources get lost.
- People get relocated to environments where their productive skills may be less applicable and the competition for resources greater.
- Long established residential groups get disorganized.
- Kinship groups get scattered
- Informal Social Network and safety nets are broken.

Involuntary displacement is a disruptive and painful process which creates high risks of chronic types of impoverishment among the displaced people. Broadly categorizing them

- **Dispossession in the Social, Cultural, Political and Psychological Spheres.**
- **Dispossession in the economic sphere**
- **Dispossession in the Environmental and Health Spheres.**

Dispossession in the Social, Cultural, Political and Psychological Spheres.

	Velachery Site and service scheme
Social disorganization	The resettlement has happened from 8 different locations as far as 15 km away – Porur, Purasawakkam. Social networks to some extent is maintained as resettlement of entire slum from one location happened at the same time they grouped in a similar pattern in the resettled area. The Pattern of

<p>Loss of political institutions</p> <p>Loss of self esteem and identity</p> <p>Social Evils</p>	<p>social interaction from the survey also reflects the same.</p> <p>Each phase of development has a local leader. Otherwise no hierarchy in leadership can be seen in the scheme.</p> <p>Since there was no consultation before resettlement there is lot of resentment among the resettled people.</p> <p>Women complain that alcoholism has increased after resettlement</p>
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<p>Okkium Thoraipakkam. Built Tenement Scheme</p>	
<p>The resettlement has happened from 10 different locations as far as 15 km away – Parrys, Mandaveli, Chooliemedu etc.</p> <p>Social networks to some extent is maintained as resettlement of entire slum from one location happened at the same time they grouped in a similar pattern in the resettled area. The Pattern of social interaction from the survey also reflects the same.</p> <p>Due to the number of people who resettled ran into thousands, there is a lot of apprehension about other group which has led to friction amongst the resettled people, even when the scheme is an ongoing one.</p> <p>Even with the large population there is no hierarchy in leadership.</p> <p>Most of the resettled people were living for a very long period, 25 years, in some areas and had established a relationship with the rest of the locality which is now severed. They were also in much less numbers and their settlement had a much more human scale in comparison to where they have been resettled.</p> <p>Since there was no consultation before resettlement there is lot of resentment among the resettled people.</p>	

Dispossession in the economic sphere

	<p>Velachery Site and service scheme</p>
<p>Homelessness & Landlessness</p>	<p>The fear of eviction is no longer there. But the quality of dwelling has not improved as in most of the plots core units were not built at the time of resettlement and later. Most of the core units were demolished later when the inhabitants built or improved the structures.</p>
<p>Loss of livelihood and impoverishment</p>	<p>Many of the ladies who were engaged in some economic activity ranging from Domestic work to Construction work have stopped working due to longer travel time.</p>
<p>Joblessness and occupational shifts</p>	<p>Most of them work in the same location as they used to before relocation. This is true for economic activities as varied as Vegetable vendor, Auto driver, Domestic help etc.</p>

Okkium Thuraipakkam

Built Tenement Scheme

The fear of eviction is no longer there. Even though fear of fire which is a part of every slum is overcome, quality of dwelling is not found satisfactory.

Many of the ladies who were engaged in economic activities like Domestic work, vegetable vendor, Construction work etc. have stopped working due to longer travel time.

Most of them work in the same location as they used to before relocation. This is true for economic activities as varied as Vegetable vendor, Auto driver, Domestic help etc.

Public Fountains which provide them with water supplies water on alternate days. In comparison most of the resettled people had better service earlier.

% of population who had access to their own toilets are using shared Toilet among two tenements, which has a combined bath & WC. Toilets are serviced by underground sewer lines.

Solid waste collection is done by Corporation & is found to be inadequate.

Dispossession in the Environmental and Health Spheres.

Environmental impact:	
Water Supply	Public Fountains which provide them with water supplies water once in 6 days. In comparison most of the resettled people had better service earlier.
Sanitation	% of population who had access to their own toilets are using public convenience. The dwellings which have their own toilets drain sewage to septic tanks due to lack of underground sewer lines.
Solid Waste Disposal.	Solid waste collection is done by a private agency and the users avail the facility on a paid basis, as the service given by Corporation was found to be inadequate.

	Velachery Site and service scheme	Okkium Thoraipakkam. Built Tenement Scheme
Dwelling	Resettled people have built their own units and take care of its maintenance on their own.	Since tenements were provided and resettled people had no role to play in the same, they expect maintenance to happen the same way.
Open Space around the Dwellings	Can see some interest in landscaping, kitchen garden etc	Not much participation
Services Water supply	Provided - No participation in Operation or Maintenance. Dwellings with Toilet have their own	Provided - No participation in Operation or Maintenance.

Sanitation	septic tank- Participation to that extent Servicing when required is done by authorities.	Provided - No participation in Operation or Maintenance.
Solid Waste Management	3 phases take care of this on their own on a paid service basis – Developing participatory approach.	Provided - No participation in Operation or Maintenance.
Amenities: Open spaces in the cluster	Not much effort to improve but maintained neatly	Littered and badly maintained.

As the implementation stage in both the projects are over the solution for ensuring satisfaction among the resettled people will be to allow them to participate in maintenance- in both the projects of Velachery & Okkium Thoraipakkam.

Only with a successful community based management can these settlements succeed as a part of urban fabric.

Citizen Alliance group gives the following standard of services to be provided for any kind of settlement. The need is to be upgrade the services at least to the basic level so that the resettled people are able to function with no danger of being exposed to Environmental & Health problems.

New SITE AND SERVICES AREAS

COMPONENTS	Basic Servicing	Normal Servicing
Water supply	Standpipes at 1 per 4 plots	Individual connections
Sewerage	Pit latrine provided by occupant outside of project	Individual waterborne connection
Roads*	Graveled 4 meter wide internal road; direct access to all plots, bitumenized 6m access roads	
Drainage	Open ditches	
Security Lighting	Single lamp standard at 2 per Hectare	
Garbage Removal	Periodic collection	

Survey was done as a part of a project work done for the Indira Gandhi National Open University for a course in Post Graduate Certificate in Management Resettlement & Rehabilitation Program by author T.K.Prasanna who is a faculty in in Department of Architecture, Sathyabama Institute of Science of Science & Technology (A Deemed to be University). She is also a Research Scholar with Centre for Environmental Science, Anna University.

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