



IMPACT OF INDUSTRIALIZATION : A CASE STUDY OF HAJIRA PROJECT IN GUJARAT

Dr. L. P. Parmar

Asst. Professor , Economics Department , Navjivan Arts and Commerce College, Dahod.

ABSTRACT:

The present study was carried out in the Hajira project, which is a part of the Hajira Area Development Authority (HADA) area where larger scale industrialization took place causing displacement of hundreds of families. the study covers households from various socio-economic strata mainly landowning farmers, small farmers, farm laborers, self-employed, etc. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection were used for the study. The present paper is divided into four major sections. The first section gives to Introduction of the study, the second section gives major finding of the study, whereas the third section describe major lacks found in the present policy and the fourth and last section gives the concluding and review based on the study. References used in the study are given at the end of the paper.

KEYWORDS: *Industrialization, Rehabilitation and Resettlement.*

INTRODUCTION

Globalization is a “process of trans-nationalization of production and capital, and standardization of consumer tastes and their legitimization with the help of international institution like World Bank, IMF and WTO. Obviously the process is a move towards a borderless regime of free trade and transactions based on competition”. It intends to integrate the Indian economy with the world economy. Globalization is defined as free movements of goods, services, capital (FDI), people and information technology across national boundaries. It creates and, is driven by an integrated global economy, which influences both, economic as well as social relations within and across countries.

Present time countries aim to develop economy through promoting industrialization. However, there are oppositions for industrialization; Protests are going on against the industrialization for various reasons, irrespective of political structure in the country. The opening up of an economy increases competition internally as well as externally, leads to structural changes in the economy,

The present study was carried out in the hajira project. The project located at choriyasi taluka of surat, Gujarat, which is a part of the Hajira Area Development Authority (HADA) area where larger scale industrialization took place causing displacement of hundreds of families belonging to semi-backward caste. These families were dependent on the traditional resources like cultivation, labor, fishing etc. the study covers households from various socio-economic strata mainly landowning farmers, small farmers, farm laborers, self-employed, etc. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection were used for the study.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study the impact of the installation of mega industries on different socio-economic groups the Hajira project. who lost their sources of livelihood and income, directly and indirectly.



The study focused on the following objective in context of the above.

1. To study the socio-economic characterizes of the Hajira project.
2. To study the impact on economic activities, land holding pattern, employment, pollution and people health loss of access of common property.
3. To study the industries and to suggest policy to minimize the risk or the gaps in the present policy for the effective implementation of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

METHOD OF THE STUDY :

Method used of the study is based on both; primary as well as secondary data sources. In order to understand the issue of displacement and its impact on various of the people of Hajira project. For collection secondary data reports of various agencies like Government and Panchayat sources were studied. Also, both published and unpublished reports, books, journals, news paper were also studied.

SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE :

The study for drawing sample families a quick house to house listing was carried out first through the census schedule. In all total 430 house holders were enumerated of Hajira project. The studies only ten percentage families of the Hajira project were categorized based on the land lost in the industries. Out of the total 430 for the 43 families of Hajira project, total 22 owned the land and 21 did not own the land. Those HoHs did not own lands were engaged as agricultural labor, fishermen, jobs in industries etc. Then sample was chosen at the specific intervals of the list that we prepared for each stratum. In the case of those SFs who were not available for the interview in such case it was replaced them with the immediate respondents in the sequences.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY :

The study indicated that the impact of large scale industrialization in hajira project had created a impact on the socio-economic background of their families. Their rights had been seriously violated, they were not involved in the decision making process. The vulnerable groups were left out in the process. Let us, recapitulate some of these important changes, both positive and negative that the study was able to capture, in wake of industrialization in Hajira Project.

(A) Positive conversions :

(1) Occupational Structure :

The sources of earning of the affected people have changed a lot. After the arrival of the industries in the Project, The traditional occupations such as agricultural, animal husbandry, agricultural labor, and fishing activities have almost become a matter of past. Industrial contracts, jobs in industries, scrap collection work, availability of work as a maid-servant in the township, income through renting the house, have emerged. The other non-farm based employment opportunities such as driver, house keeper, security men, gardener, vegetable hawker, petty shopkeepers etc. they became more pronounced in the absence of the support from the state and the local industries.

(2) Increasing of Education :

The level of education has changed; it was observed by many local people that if they educated their children, particularly with technical education, the chances of absorption in the industries would increase. So, local people started sending their children to the technical college or courses with a hope that they would be absorbed in the industries. The industrialization the demand in the industries has increased and the remuneration was also reasonably good and hence the village people started sending their students in the technical education.

(3) Change of Infrastructure :

The people satisfied with the change of infrastructure and civic amenities, transport, roads and health, village platform, drainage and education. The people are happy with the industries as they are

allowed to use the amenities that are given in the township, where the employees of company are residing.

(B) Negative conversions :

The impoverishment was found to be manifested mainly in terms of increasing of unemployment, landless, homeless, social-economic disarticulation, health, malnutrition, environmental degradation, loss of common property resources, loss of social-economic esteem, and specific impact on the vulnerable groups such as halpatis, woman, fishermen, etc. Following are the few observations in this regards.

(1) Unemployment :

While almost all families who were economically dependent on agriculture, labor and fishing activity have lost their livelihoods, the onset of industrialization had in fact worsened the employees situation of the unskilled and farm-linked employs at the local level such as cultivation, animal husbandry, agricultural labor and fishing. All these activities were labor intensive in which many of the family members used to be engaged either part time or full time. They have become either semi-unemployed or fully unemployed.

(2) Landless :

It was believed in that the affected people will purchase land of their choice from out of the compensation money given to them. The study found that the extent of ownership of land gone down due to the land acquisition for the industries in Hajira project. In a majority of the instances, the money given in the form of compensation based on the valuation of the market value and the productivity is not matching with the present situation. The handing of the case had also caused difficulties especially for those groups who were not habituated with this. As mentioned in the text, though the housing conditions of the affected people have improved, the sources of earning have drastically shrunk. It is observed that, many who were small or medium landowning farmers earlier have been rendered landless.

(3) Homeless :

The problem of homeless did affect of the residents of Gundardi Hamlet of Hajira project. As the industries in and around project did not acquire the residential area of Hajira project, But as narrated in the text, the people of Village are living under constant apprehension that they have to vacate the place one or the day. At present many families of Gundardi were displaced from their habitat and resettled.

(4) Decrease of Health Status :

The incidences of chronic diseases like cancer, heart attack, weakness in the body have increased after the coming of industrialization in Hajira project. Of course, we do not have scientific explanation to establish the co-relation between this two but people relates on the basis of their self experiences and observation. Water born and breathing problems have increased due to the water and air pollution. Some of the people have vacated the area and migrated to cities as a result of the environmental pollution. The common causes for declining health appeared to be absence of clean drinking water, lack of proper drainage system in the area resulting in water-logging and increased mosquitoes especially during the rainy season.

(5) Loss of Natural Resources :

People living in rural areas are dependent for livelihood on several natural resources besides land. They keep cattle for milk and dung. Dung has multiple uses, such as manure for farm land and fuel for cooking. Various trees are grown by families in their farmland and house plot as sources for providing fruits, wood, herbal medicines and shade. The fisher folk used the river and the sea not just for their livelihood but it has many other meanings for their way of life.

MAJOR DEFECTS FOUND IN THE PRESENT POLICY :

The following lacks have been identified based on the finding of the study. They can be considered for incorporating them in the policy of the people displaced through the industries.

(1) Inadequate compensation for loss of land :

In fact the policy of cash for the land has failed in the reality as evident from the study. It is to be noted that industries have failed to give permanent employs, as promised, to at least one of the member of family. In such a situation, people have become much more anxious about the future of their next generation. A policy should be adopted to give permanent employs to at least one member of the affected family.

(2) The project affected person :

Those families who were affected indirectly by the project were not treated as the affected families. It has considered affected families as only those who were directly losing their land. For instance the agricultural laborers, share croppers, animal rears, artisans etc. there were also other categories of vulnerable persons in village Hajira such as the disabled, destitute, orphans, widows, unmarried girls, neglected woman, or the elderly, who did not have alternative livelihoods, and who are not otherwise covered as part of a family.

(3) Defect of resettlement :

The lost of residential areas were offered a house-plot. Along with the cash compensation of land the other assets like house, trees and wells were also given lump-sum amount. In addition, the industries have certain civic infrastructural facilities on each government site, including roads, electricity, public wells, drainage system, primary school etc. In new colonies the site was offered by the industry, but it did not have most of the basic amenities required for sustenance.

(4) Defect of baseline study :

The pre and post industrialization period, the in depth socio-economic survey of project area were not undertaken by the industries in Hajira village. Therefore, there was no comparable data to understand the changes in the status of the affected people. This calls for a numbers of pre-post, monitoring and evaluation exercise during the course of displacement and resettlement process to ensure sustainable livelihood of the stakeholders.

CONCLUSION :

As India, in its ongoing phase of industrial investment, is likely to witness an even greater surge in projects like Singur, Nandigram, Kaligram etc. as the livelihood of the affected people are at stake. In order that these people are not further marginalized and pushed to limits of hopelessness, it is imperative for the industrial corporations who are displacing people for their projects to establish a robust policy. The rural landless, small farmers, urban slum areas people are the most affected of these initiatives. Therefore, such a policy, like the rural employment guarantee scheme, should be seen as an integral part of a comprehensive social-economic security system. The economic policies that re-channel investments should be redesigned so as to make deprived people explicitly participate in the new economic activities and reap the fruits of growth and simultaneously reduce distress migration and preserve the eco-systems.

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Dr. L. P. Parmar

**Asst. Professor , Economics Department , Navjivan Arts and Commerce College,
Dahod.**