



over **400 million**
are entrepreneurs



1.9 billion are
too young to work
ages (0-15)



430 million are
unemployed



577 million
are older
than 64



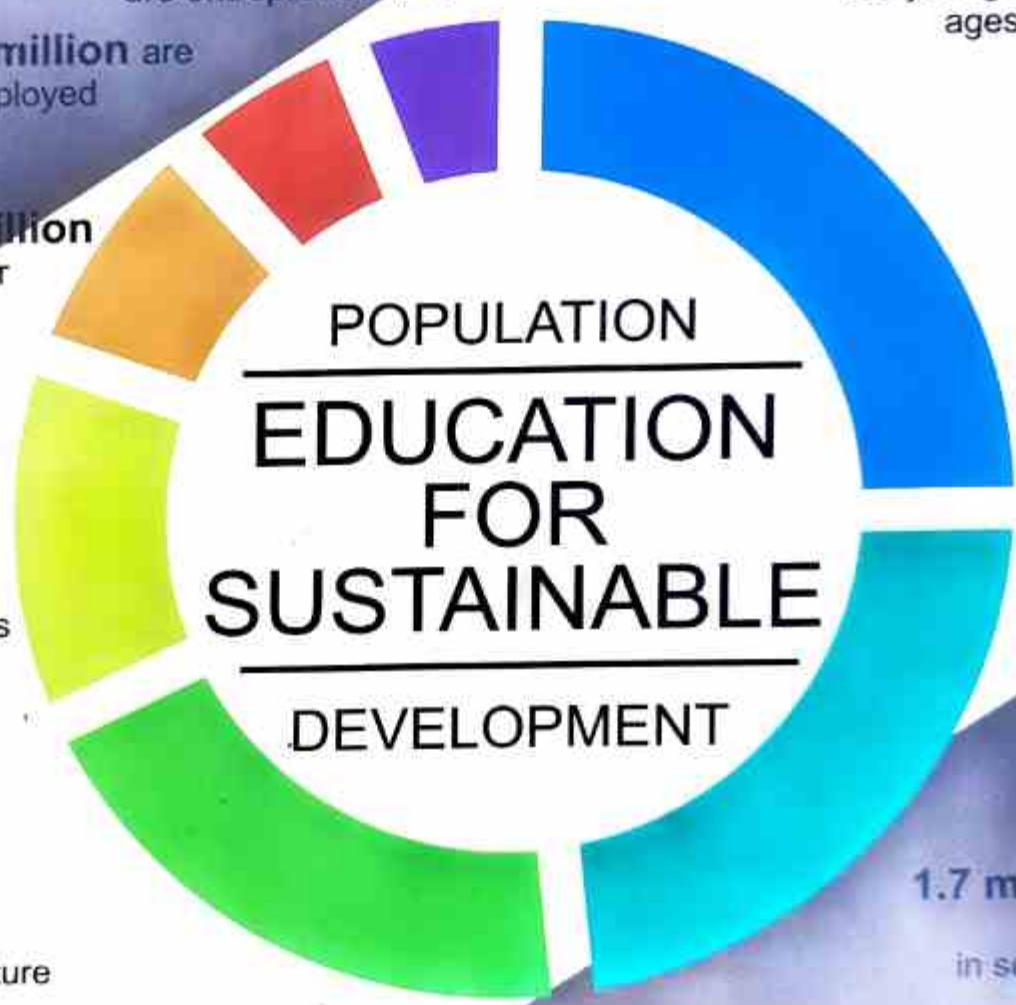
800 million
work industrial jobs



1.4 billion
work in agriculture



1.7 million
work
in services



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Population Education for Sustainable Development

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UGC Sponsered Two days National Seminar on Population Education for Sustainable Development

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URBANIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

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ABSTRACT

The relationship between urbanization and development has been a major concern for Demographers, Sociologists and Environmentalists. The process of development, especially in Bengaluru, has accelerated, which has created issues of housing, infrastructure and governance. When we talk about the issues concerning policy and the public, it can be said that there is little or no coordination between the various stakeholders. Lack of coordination can result in disasters and managing it will be a herculean task, as evidenced recently in Bengaluru.

This paper is based on a study in Puttenahalli, Bengaluru, where a few houses were demolished. This study is of importance to demonstrate how a short-sighted policy or a lack of coordination between the various stakeholders can create problems of irreparable damage causing threat to life and property. This paper is based on primary and secondary data.

Keywords : Stake-holders(the public, policy makers, reality developers); Displacement; Development.

- Stake-holder is a person who has an interest in or investment in something and who is impacted by or cares about how it turns out.
- Displacement: the situation where people are forced to leave the place where they normally live.
- Development: is a far reaching, continuous and positively evaluated process of social, economic and political change which involves the totality of human experience.

INTRODUCTION

Any research is bound to help us to understand a theory. The theoretical significance and facts in relation to the understanding of a certain issue will help us to understand the underlying factors that relate theory and facts.

Some Developmentalists have put forth the theory that urbanization and industrialization are the key roots for development. On the contrary, there are others like E.F.Schumacher, Escobar, Mahatma Gandhi, who argue that development must align with the social fabric of a society, and development from below is more sustainable for a country like India, than coming from above.

Schumacher said that the gran objective of the Sarvodaya Movement as conceived by Gandhi and pursued by his followers was the total reconstruction of society. This meant that village would become the basic unit of politics, economy and society. In such a unit, agriculture would remain the basic industry but other small scale village industries using the most modern technology, where it did not conflict with human needs would be developed. Schumacher regretted that the Government of India in the post-independence period did not pay much heed to the Gandhian dream and sought to develop India as a modern, industrialised nation state. Despite the fact that almost 80% of the Indian people lived in the villages, no proper attention was given to improving the quality of life and creating employment opportunities in rural areas. As a result, there was a large migration of people in search of employment from rural areas to cities. Big city-based industries and mass production methods destroyed the productive capacity of the rural inhabitants and robbed them of their means of livelihood. Schumacher said, "once the paddy grown in the village was hand pounded in the village itself and consumed by the villagers, the surplus being sent to the nearest town or area where there was a shortage. Now, all the paddy grown is taken by improved means of transport to the rice mills in a large city where it is pounded and sent back to the villages infected with all kinds of diseases. The village workers have lost their jobs and the net result remains the same, if not worse. What ought to have been done is to introduce improved paddy threshing equipment in the village itself. Unless we put all the able-bodied young men and women to productive use in the villages, it would not be possible to pull India out of the massive poverty in which it finds itself." Gandhi had once said, "if we tap all our resources, I am quite sure, we can again be rich, which we were I suppose at one time. We can repeat the phenomenon if we profanely occupy the idle hours of the millions".

Recent studies by Sociologists and Developmentalists have emphasized on the fact that development will have no meaning if we do not take cognizance of the various socio-economic factors into consideration for development, particularly the stake-holders namely the public, policy-makers and reality developers.

Bengaluru was woken up by a demolition drive as the Bruhat Bengaluru MahanagaraPalike(BBMP) realized that many structures or settlements in urban Bengaluru were sitting on the water bodies, raajakaaluves, and this created many problems like congestion, drainage issues and traffic issues. The demolition occurred in several areas of Bengaluru like Rajarajeshwarinagar, Vidyaranya pura, Banaswadi, Puttenahalli, etc..

The pace at which urban Bengaluru was developing, gave a hand to the reality developers. Urbanization, industrialization and economic opportunities brought a large number of migrants that attracted the reality developers to provide housing facilities. The Bruhat Bengaluru MahanagaraPalike(BBPMP) also joined hands by giving sanction for the houses. The public also, to some extent, were rewarded by developing new areas but, it also submerged the water bodies, creating a mess.

Once this issue was taken up by the media on water clogging due to rain, the question or issue of concern was to solve the problem. The answer or solution that was given was the demolition of houses. As a result, some of the areas, particularly the lower middle class and poor people had to face the brunt of demolition.

Now, the study based on factual data shows that there was no coordination between the stake-holders, resulting in threat to life and property. This can be summarized by analyzing the responses of the major stake-holders namely the public.

Objectives :

- 1) To understand the problems faced by the residents,
- 2) To know their socio-economic background ,
- 3) To know how they responded to the demolition.

Methodology :

This paper is based on both primary and secondary data. Secondary data is used to highlight and analyse the issues raised by the stake-holders. Primary data was collected to support the fundamental issues that were raised in the secondary data.

I had used case-study research strategy and had employed interview method in order to obtain responses. In the month of November,2016, I had been to Puttenahalli, where a number of houses were demolished. I studied 5 such families.

Major findings :

- Most of the respondents said that they are basically from rural areas.
- All the respondents had received a notice and they had to vacate the place in just 2-5 days.
- Soon after the demolition, most of them lived in the outhouse(i.e, the house behind the main/front house) and some of them moved to their relatives' house.
- After sometime, reconstruction was done, where they are currently staying.
- Majority of them reported that they have been facing financial problems.

- The major impact or effect of the demolition is that the respondents shocked and mentally affected.
- They also said that they never received any support or help from the Bruhat Benagluru Mahanagara Palike.
- Most of the respondents belong to lower middle class and poor families.

Conclusion :

This shows that any developmental program for sustainability, must look into various issues, particularly the concerns of the stake-holders for sustainable development and urban planning. The rich people are less likely to be affected by demolition drives because most of them have the required money, power and influence that helps them escape from it. The poor people will usually face the ill effects of demolition. We need to understand that development does not always mean increase in the number of shopping malls, buildings, houses, etc.,. Before giving much emphasis on such things, it is necessary to look into problems related to basic needs such as unavailability of food for all, lack of drinking water facilities, lack of proper roads, poor electricity supply etc.,. People from urban areas migrate to rural areas with the hope of leading a better life. But, due to lack of proper knowledge and information regarding the sites allotted to them, they become victims of such incidents and they become homeless for a long duration. This in turn leads to high economic burden, psychological pressure, stress, etc.,.

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**Population Education for
Sustainable Development**

Editor
Dr Krishna Gowda



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