

Spatial Injustice and Socio-Economic Impacts of Forced Displacement: A Case Study of Kannagi Nagar Resettlement Colony, Chennai

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the socio-economic consequences of forced displacement in the Kannagi Nagar resettlement colony in Chennai, India, through the conceptual lens of spatial injustice. Using a mixed-methods approach, primary data were collected from 150 households relocated between 1999 and 2015. The study evaluates the extent to which resettlement practices align with internationally recognized standards, with a focus on livelihood disruption, access to basic services, and quality of life. A Pearson Chi-square test indicates no statistically significant association between income levels and increased commuting distance ($p = 0.567$), suggesting that spatial disadvantages are uniformly experienced across socio-economic groups. Multiple linear regression analysis ($R^2 = 0.257$) identifies environmental and health-related factors specifically ventilation, family health, and the prevalence of water-borne diseases as significant predictors of quality of life, while housing size is not statistically significant. Qualitative findings highlight persistent challenges including inadequate water quality, livelihood displacement, and educational disruption. The study concludes that current resettlement approaches prioritize physical housing provision over socio-economic integration, underscoring the need for a more human-centered and spatially just urban policy framework.

INTRODUCTION

Rapid urbanization in developing countries has significantly transformed land use patterns, often leading to the displacement of marginalized populations residing in informal settlements. In India, urban development initiatives driven by infrastructure expansion, environmental management, and economic growth frequently involve the relocation of slum dwellers from central urban areas to peripheral resettlement colonies. While such interventions are commonly justified as necessary for modernization, they raise critical concerns regarding social equity, livelihood security, and access to urban opportunities (Dupont, 2008; Bhan, 2009).

In metropolitan cities such as Chennai, state-led resettlement programs have been implemented extensively through agencies like the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB).

These programs aim to relocate populations living in environmentally sensitive zones, including riverbanks and coastal stretches, into planned housing colonies. Kannagi Nagar, developed in multiple phases between 1999 and 2015, represents one of the largest resettlement sites in the city, accommodating thousands of displaced households. Despite the provision of formal housing, such resettlement initiatives often fail to adequately address the broader socio-economic dimensions of displacement.

The phenomenon of development-induced displacement presents a paradox wherein policies intended to improve living conditions may inadvertently exacerbate vulnerability among affected populations. Previous studies have highlighted that relocation to peripheral areas disrupts established livelihood systems, weakens social networks, and increases commuting burdens, thereby reducing overall well-being (Cernea, 2000; Patel et al., 2012). Moreover, the shift from informal settlements to formal housing does not necessarily translate into improved quality of life, particularly when access to employment, education, and essential services is compromised. To better understand these outcomes, the concept of spatial injustice provides a useful analytical framework. Spatial injustice refers to the unequal distribution of resources, services, and opportunities across different geographic locations, often shaped by planning decisions and policy interventions (Soja, 2010). In the context of urban resettlement, spatial injustice manifests when displaced communities are relocated to areas that are physically distant from economic centers and socially disconnected from urban networks. This creates a “spatial mismatch” between residential locations and employment opportunities, disproportionately affecting low-income populations (Kain, 1968).

Kannagi Nagar exemplifies this condition of spatial inequality. Although located near emerging economic corridors such as the Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR), residents often face barriers to accessing these opportunities due to limited skills, inadequate transport connectivity, and social stigma. As a result, the benefits of urban growth remain unevenly distributed, reinforcing cycles of marginalization. Additionally, deficiencies in infrastructure, including water supply, sanitation, and healthcare access, further contribute to deteriorating living conditions in resettlement colonies (UN-Habitat, 2014; Srinivasan, 2015).

Despite the growing body of literature on urban displacement and resettlement, there remains a need for empirical studies that integrate quantitative analysis with lived experiences to assess post-relocation outcomes. In particular, limited research has focused on identifying the key determinants of quality of life using statistical methods while simultaneously examining whether spatial disadvantages are uniformly experienced across different socio-economic groups. Against this background, the present study investigates the socio-economic impacts of forced displacement in Kannagi Nagar, Chennai. The study adopts

a mixed-methods approach to examine (i) the relationship between income levels and changes in commuting distance following relocation, (ii) the environmental and health-related factors influencing quality of life, and (iii) the extent to which resettlement practices align with established standards of equitable urban development. By combining statistical analysis with field-based observations, this research aims to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of spatial injustice and to inform policy strategies for more inclusive and sustainable urban planning.

STUDY AREA

Kannagi Nagar is a large-scale resettlement colony located in the southern periphery of Chennai, developed by the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB) as part of its urban rehabilitation and slum resettlement initiatives. The project was implemented in multiple phases between 1999 and 2015 to accommodate populations displaced from informal settlements, particularly those situated along riverbanks, canals, and other environmentally sensitive zones within the city (Coelho, 2016). Geographically, Kannagi Nagar is situated along the Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR), one of Chennai's major information technology corridors. Despite its proximity to rapidly developing economic hubs, the settlement remains physically and functionally segregated from mainstream urban infrastructure and employment opportunities. This spatial separation makes Kannagi Nagar a critical site for examining issues related to urban inequality and post-resettlement outcomes (Coelho & Raman, 2013).

The colony consists of a mix of housing typologies, including ground-level (G), G+2, and G+3 tenements, designed to accommodate a large population density. At present, Kannagi Nagar houses more than 25,000 families, making it one of the largest resettlement colonies in India. The settlement is characterized by planned layouts; however, the rapid influx of relocated populations has placed significant pressure on infrastructure and basic services. The surrounding environment reflects typical characteristics of urban peripheries, including limited access to public transport, healthcare facilities, and educational institutions. Although basic amenities such as water supply, sanitation, and electricity have been provisioned, their quality and reliability remain inconsistent. Previous studies have highlighted issues such as inadequate water quality, poor drainage systems, and insufficient public service delivery in similar resettlement colonies across Chennai (Srinivasan, 2015).

From a socio-economic perspective, the population of Kannagi Nagar largely comprises low-income households engaged in informal or semi-skilled occupations. Many residents were previously dependent on location-specific livelihoods such as fishing, street vending, and small-scale trade. The relocation to a peripheral location has disrupted these livelihood systems, forcing households to adapt to new economic conditions often characterized by increased

commuting distances and reduced income opportunities (Patel et al., 2012). Climatically, the study area falls under a tropical wet and dry climate, with seasonal monsoon rainfall influencing living conditions, particularly in terms of drainage and waterlogging. Environmental challenges combined with infrastructural limitations, contribute to health risks and affect the overall quality of life of residents

Data Collection

Primary data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered to 150 households in Kannagi Nagar. The survey targeted residents who were relocated between 1999 and 2015, ensuring representation across different phases of resettlement. The questionnaire captured key dimensions such as demographic characteristics, livelihood conditions, access to infrastructure, housing conditions, and health status. Responses were recorded using Likert-scale measures to facilitate quantitative analysis, which is widely used in social science research to measure perceptions and attitudes (Likert, 1932). Secondary data were obtained from government reports, policy documents, and published literature on urban resettlement and displacement. These sources were used to contextualize the findings and support interpretation.

The study employed a non-probability convenience sampling method, considering the practical constraints associated with accessing households in a large and densely populated resettlement colony. Although this method limits generalizability, it is commonly used in exploratory and field-based social research where probabilistic sampling is difficult to implement (Etikan et al., 2016).

Notable Variables and Measurement

Quality of Life (QoL) was considered as dependent variable; Measured using a five-point Likert scale ranging from “Very Poor” (1) to “Excellent” (5), capturing respondents’ overall well-being. The following independent variables were included: Water-borne disease, Ventilation, Family health condition, and Housing size

Statistical Analysis

Pearson Chi-Square Test

The Pearson Chi-Square test was used to examine the association between income level and commuting distance. This non-parametric test is suitable for analyzing relationships between categorical variables and is widely applied in socio-economic studies (Field, 2018).

Multiple Linear Regression Analysis

Multiple linear regression analysis was performed to identify determinants of Quality of Life. This technique enables the assessment of relationships between one dependent variable and multiple independent variables (Montgomery et al., 2012).

$$QoL = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Water-borne\ Diseases) + \beta_2(Ventilation) + \beta_3(Family\ Health) + \beta_4(Housing\ Size) + \epsilon$$

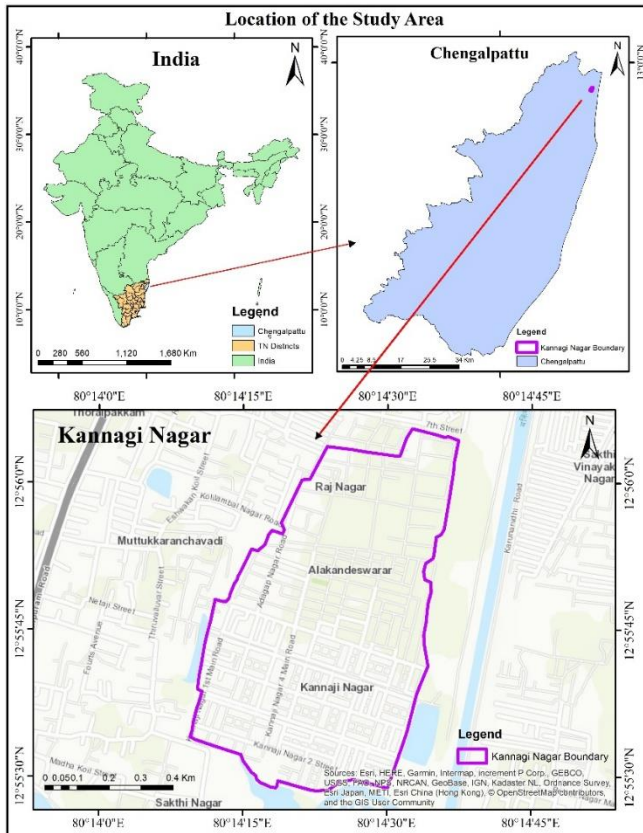


Figure 1: Location Map of the Study Area

DATA AND METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The present study adopts a mixed-methods research design, integrating both quantitative and qualitative approaches to examine the socio-economic impacts of forced displacement in Kannagi Nagar. The quantitative component focuses on statistical analysis of household-level data, while the qualitative component captures lived experiences through field observations and open-ended responses. This integrated approach enables triangulation of findings and enhances the reliability and validity of the results (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017; Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010).

Data Processing and Workflow

The collected data were coded and analyzed using SPSS software. Descriptive statistics, cross-tabulations, and regression models were generated for interpretation. Reliability was ensured through consistent questionnaire design, while content validity was maintained by covering key dimensions of displacement. The mixed-methods approach further enhanced validity through triangulation (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017).

RESULTS

Socio-Demographic Characteristics

The socio-demographic profile of respondents provides an essential context for understanding the impacts of displacement. The sample comprises a higher proportion of female respondents compared to males, reflecting their active involvement in household management and accessibility during field surveys.

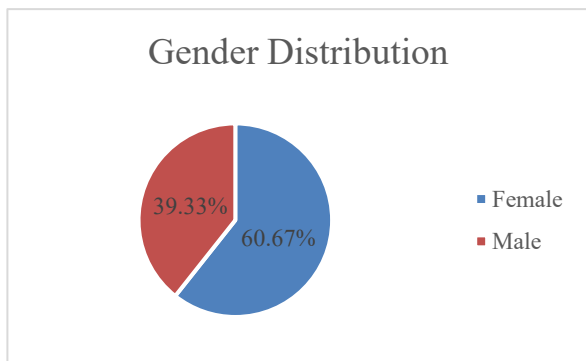


Figure 2: Gender Distribution

The age distribution indicates that the majority of respondents fall within the economically active age group (20–45 years), suggesting that displacement has direct implications on livelihood and workforce participation.

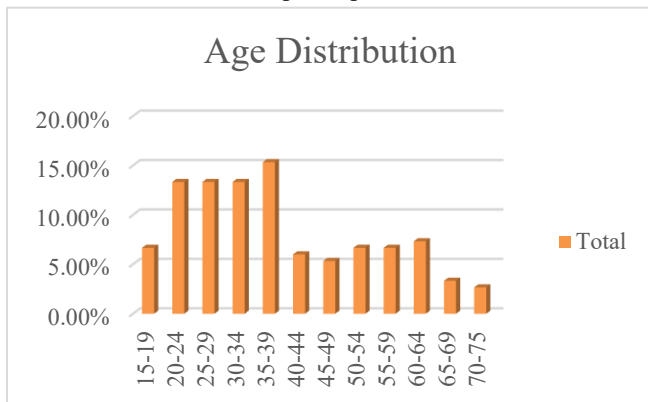


Figure 3: Age Distribution of Respondents

The distribution of respondents based on their previous place of residence reveals that a significant proportion of residents were relocated from central and coastal areas of Chennai. The highest representation comes from Ayanavaram and Santhome (18.84% each), followed by Mylapore (11.59%) and Mandaveli (8.70%). Other areas such as Adyar, Chetpet, K.K. Nagar, and Thuraipakkam contribute smaller shares. This pattern highlights that the resettlement primarily involved the displacement of communities from well-established urban locations to peripheral areas, reinforcing the spatial shift associated with the resettlement process.

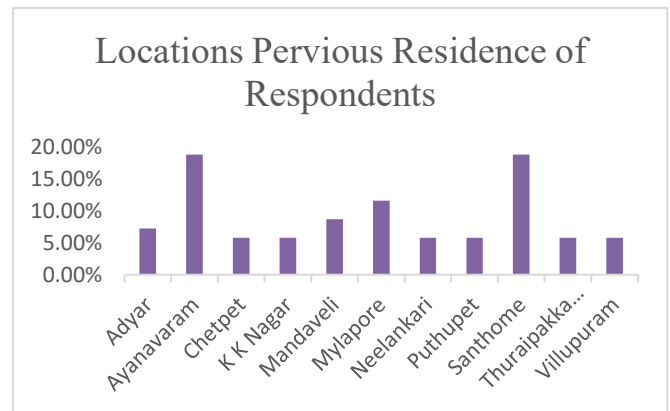


Figure 4: Locations of Previous Residence of Respondents

This pattern reflects the broader trend of urban restructuring, where economically weaker populations are displaced to city outskirts (Dupont, 2008).

Infrastructure and Living Conditions

The assessment of basic infrastructure and services highlights considerable deficiencies in the resettlement colony. A majority of respondents rated essential services such as transport, drainage, market accessibility, and childcare facilities as poor or very poor.

Table 1: Perception of Respondents on Basic Infrastructure & Services (No. of Respondents are in percentage)

Service	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Water	22	26.7	16.7	24.7	10
School	4.7	9.3	32	35.3	18.7
Hospital	9.3	13.3	28	34	15.3
Bus	12.7	14	17.3	33.3	22.7
Drainage	24.7	21.3	14.7	30.7	8.7
Market	2	4.7	20.7	36.7	36
Roads	12.7	9.3	22	37.3	18.7
Childcare	3.3	8.7	18.7	30	39.3
Ration	9.3	18.7	28.7	32	11.3

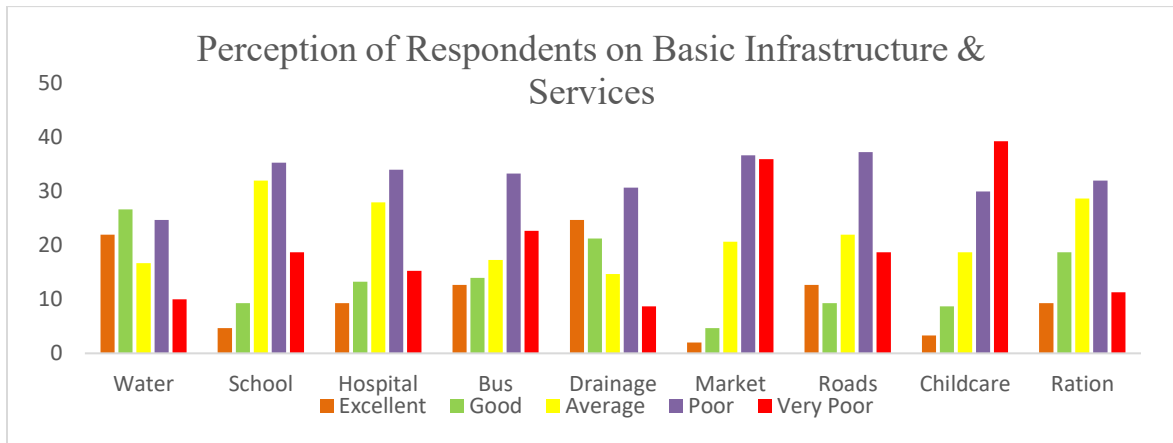


Figure 5: Perception of Respondents on Basic Infrastructure & Services

Particularly, market access and childcare services recorded the highest dissatisfaction levels, indicating gaps in service provision. Such infrastructural inadequacies significantly influence residents' daily life and well-being, as also observed in similar resettlement contexts (Srinivasan, 2015).

Livelihood and Economic Impacts

Work Distance and Accessibility

The analysis of commuting patterns indicates a noticeable shift in work distance following relocation. Approximately 29.3% of respondents reported that their workplace is now much farther, while 28.7% indicated it is farther than before. About 27.3% reported no change, whereas only 12% and 2.7% experienced slightly closer and much closer distances, respectively. These findings clearly demonstrate that a majority of households have experienced increased commuting distances, reflecting spatial disconnection between residential locations and employment centers. This pattern aligns with the concept of spatial mismatch, where relocation to peripheral areas increases travel burden and reduces accessibility to jobs (Kain, 1968).

Employment and Income Characteristics

The impact of relocation on employment is significant, with 49.3% of respondents reporting that their employment has been affected, while 50.7% indicated no major impact.

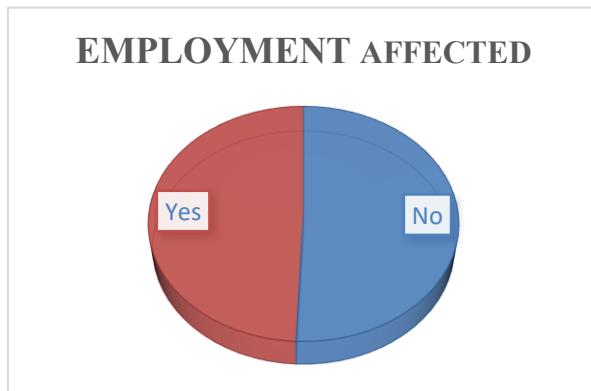


Figure 6: Impact of relocation on employment

Among those affected, 22.7% reported a change in occupation, 20% lost their jobs, 6% experienced increased travel costs, and only 0.7% reported reduced income. About 50.7% indicated no major employment impact.

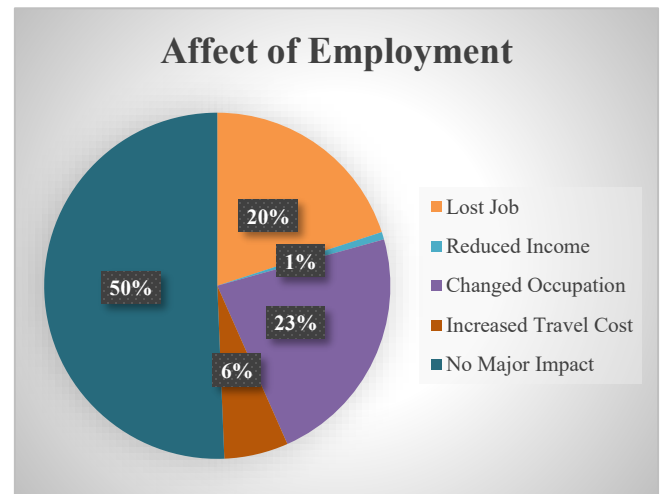


Figure 7: Employment Impact Categories

Income distribution further reveals that 54.7% of households fall within the ₹10,000–20,000 range, while 40% earn below ₹10,000. Only 4.7% fall within the ₹20,000–30,000 category, and a negligible 0.7% earn above ₹30,000.

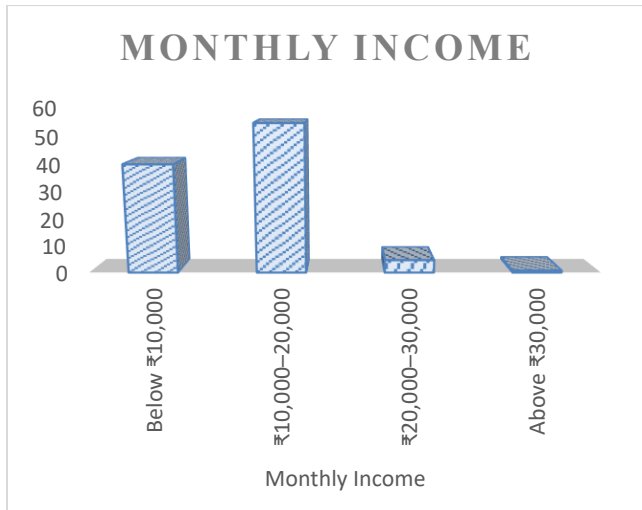


Figure 8: Income Levels

Transportation burden has also increased, with 20.7% of respondents reporting moderate burden, 16.7% high burden, and 4% very high burden. However, 42.7% reported low burden and 16% very low burden

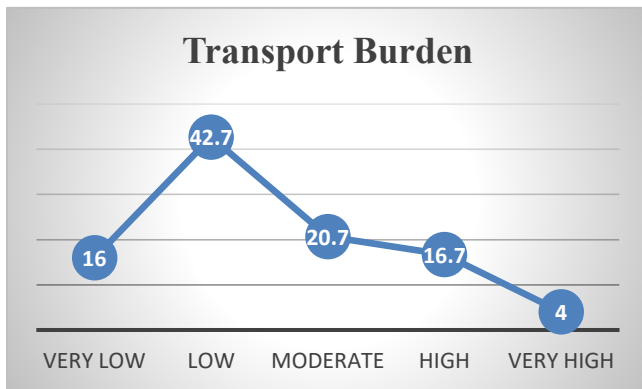


Figure 9: Intensity of Transportation Burden After Relocation

These findings indicate that displacement has led to livelihood disruption, occupational shifts, and increased economic stress, consistent with earlier studies on development-induced displacement (Cernea, 2000; Patel et al., 2012).

Housing and Environmental Conditions

The assessment of housing conditions reveals that a majority of respondents perceive their housing space as inadequate. Approximately 69.3% reported their housing as highly inadequate, while 18.7% rated it as inadequate. Only 7.3% considered their housing adequate, and none reported it as fully adequate.

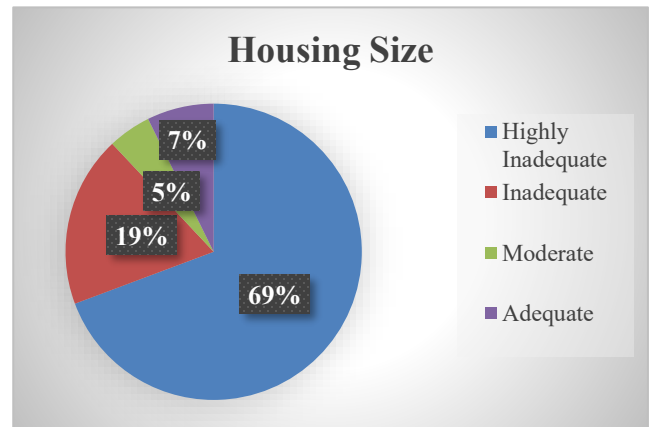


Figure 10: Perception of Housing Space Among Residents

Structural issues were reported by a smaller proportion of households, with 14% experiencing wall cracks and 16.7% reporting roof leakage. Ventilation conditions appear relatively better, with 55.3% reporting adequate ventilation, 32% moderate, and 12.7% poor ventilation.

However, sanitation and waste management remain critical concerns. A significant 43.3% of respondents rated waste management as very poor, and 29.3% rated it as poor. Only 10% rated it as good or excellent.



Figure 11: Evaluation of Solid Waste Management Services

Health conditions show mixed outcomes, with 49.3% reporting no change in family health after relocation, 38.7% reporting improvement, and only 2.7% indicating worsening conditions. The frequency of water-borne and sanitation-related diseases remains notable, with 24.7% reporting moderate occurrence, 12% frequent occurrence, and 2.7% very frequent occurrence.

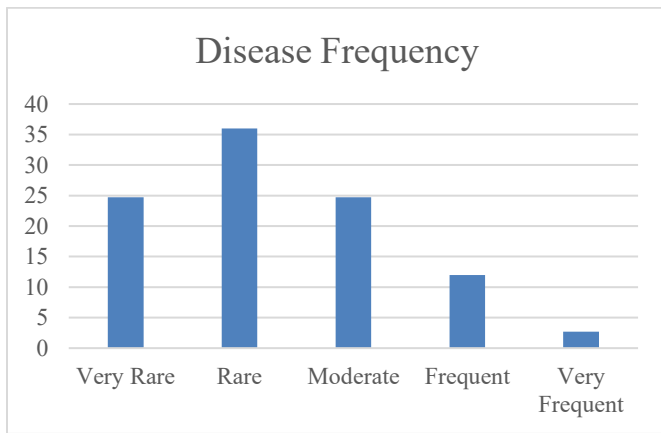


Figure 12: Occurrence of Problems Affecting Daily Life

These results highlight that environmental and infrastructural deficiencies continue to influence living conditions, as also observed in similar resettlement contexts (Srinivasan, 2015).

Quality of Life Assessment

The perception of overall living conditions indicates varied responses among residents. Approximately 31.3% reported that their living conditions have improved, while 30% stated that conditions are much better. However, 22% reported worse conditions and 4.7% much worse, indicating uneven outcomes.

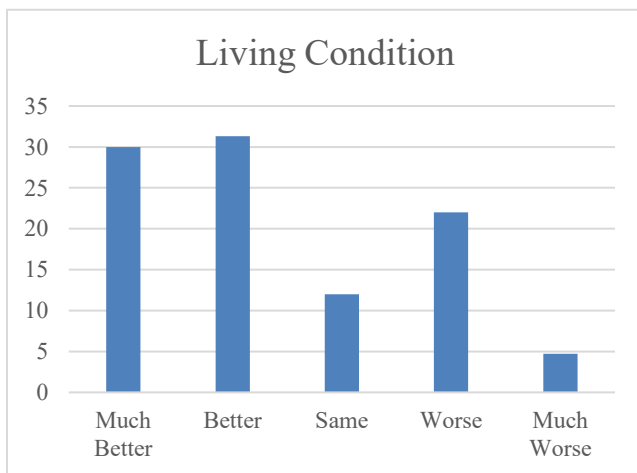


Figure 13: Perception of overall Satisfaction with Living Conditions

Similarly, quality of life assessment shows that 30% of respondents rated their condition as average, 22.7% as good and 22% as excellent. However, 21.3% reported poor quality of life and 4% very poor

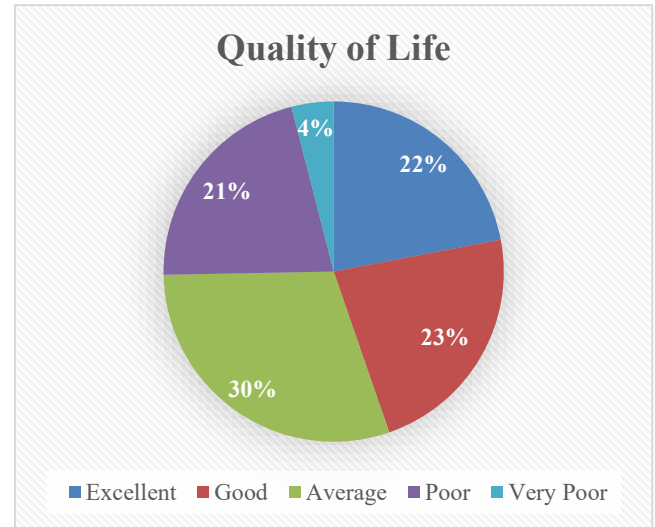


Figure 14: Ratings on Quality of Life

These findings suggest that while some improvement is perceived, a significant proportion of residents continue to experience challenges in achieving satisfactory living standards. The mixed responses indicate that the benefits of resettlement are not uniformly distributed and are influenced by environmental, economic, and social factors.

Statistical Analysis

Chi-Square Analysis

A Pearson Chi-Square test was conducted to examine the relationship between income level and changes in commuting distance from the survey of 150 households in Kannagi Nagar.

Table 2 Contingency Table Distribution of Income Level and Change in Work Distance

Income Level	Much Farther	Farther	Same	Closer	Much Closer	Total
Low Income	18	17	17	7	1	60
Lower-Middle	25	21	23	11	2	82
Upper-Middle	1	4	1	0	1	7
High Income	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	44	43	41	18	4	150

Table 3 Crosstabulation of Income Level and Work Distance
(Percentage Distribution)

Income Level	Much Farther	Farther	Same	Closer	Much Closer	Total
Low Income	(30.0%)	(28.3%)	(28.3%)	(11.7%)	(1.7%)	(100%)
Lower-Middle	(30.5%)	(25.6%)	(28.0%)	(13.4%)	(2.4%)	(100%)
Upper-Middle	(14.3%)	(57.1%)	(14.3%)	(0.0%)	(14.3%)	(100%)
High Income	(0.0%)	(100.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(100%)
Total	(29.3%)	(28.7%)	(27.3%)	(12.0%)	(2.7%)	(100%)

Table 4: Chi-Square Test Results

Statistic	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	10.565 ^a	12	.567
Likelihood Ratio	9.414	12	.667
Linear-by-Linear Association	.082	1	.775
N of Valid Cases	150		

- $\chi^2(12) = 10.565$
- $p = 0.567$

Since the p-value exceeds the significance threshold of 0.05, indicating that there is no statistically significant association between income level and changes in commuting distance. In other words, the spatial burden imposed by relocation affects households across all income categories in a similar manner.

Multiple Linear Regression Analysis

To identify the key factors influencing residents' well-being, a multiple linear regression analysis was conducted with Quality of Life (QoL) as the dependent variable.

Table 4: Model Summary for Multiple Linear Regression

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.507	.257	.237	1.015

The model explains approximately 23.7% of the variance in Quality of Life, indicating a moderate level of explanatory power.

Table 5: Regression Coefficients for Quality-of-Life Model

Variable	Unstandardized B	Std. Error	Beta (β)	t	Sig. (p)	Interpretation
(Constant)	1.134	.331	—	3.421	.001	—
Water-Borne Diseases	.277	.091	.265	3.033	.003	Sig
Ventilation	.383	.137	.225	2.788	.006	Sig
Family Health	.301	.132	.188	2.285	.024	Sig
Housing Size	-.054	.094	-.046	-.581	.562	Not Sig

The regression analysis identified the following relationships:

- Water-borne Diseases ($\beta = 0.265$, $p = 0.003$) → Significant
- Ventilation ($\beta = 0.225$, $p = 0.006$) → Significant
- Family Health Condition ($\beta = 0.188$, $p = 0.024$) → Significant
- Housing Size ($\beta = -0.046$, $p = 0.562$) → Not Significant

The results indicate that environmental and health-related factors play a crucial role in determining Quality of Life in the resettlement colony.

- Water-borne Diseases emerged as the most influential predictor, suggesting that poor sanitation and unsafe water conditions significantly reduce well-being.
- Ventilation within housing units has a positive effect on living conditions, highlighting the importance of indoor environmental quality.
- Family Health Condition is also a significant determinant, reinforcing the link between health and overall life satisfaction.

In contrast, housing size does not have a statistically significant impact, indicating that the physical dimensions of housing are less important than environmental and health conditions. The distribution of standardized residuals was examined to assess the normality assumption of the regression model.

The residuals approximated a normal distribution, indicating that the model satisfies key statistical assumptions and that the results are reliable (Field, 2018).

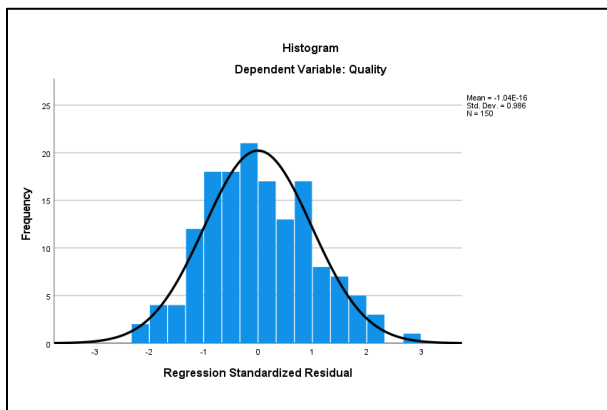


Figure 15: Histogram of Standardized Residuals

DISCUSSIONS

Spatial Injustice and the Limits of Housing-Centric Development

The findings of this study provide strong evidence that resettlement policies in Chennai reproduce forms of spatial injustice, rather than mitigating urban inequality. Although Kannagi Nagar offers formal housing, the results indicate that relocation to peripheral areas has created structural barriers that limit access to employment, services, and opportunities. The absence of a statistically significant relationship between income level and increased commuting distance suggests that spatial disadvantage is uniformly experienced across socio-economic groups. This indicates that the challenges are systemic rather than income-specific. Such outcomes align with the theoretical framework of spatial justice, which emphasizes how planning decisions can embed inequality within urban spatial structures (Soja, 2010). Furthermore, the observed increase in commuting distance reflects the phenomenon of spatial mismatch, where residential locations are geographically disconnected from employment centers (Kain, 1968). Even though Kannagi Nagar is located near the Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) IT corridor, residents remain excluded from these opportunities due to structural constraints such as limited skills, inadequate connectivity, and social marginalization. Similar patterns have been reported in other Indian cities, where relocation to urban peripheries reduces accessibility to economic opportunities (Raman, 2011).

Livelihood Disruption and Economic Vulnerability dependent

The study highlights significant disruptions in livelihood systems following displacement. Nearly half of the respondents reported employment-related impacts, including job loss, occupational shifts, and increased commuting costs.

This reflects a transition from location-livelihoods to more precarious forms of employment. Such findings are consistent with Cernea's Impoverishment Risks and Reconstruction (IRR) model, which identifies joblessness and loss of income sources as key risks associated with displacement (Cernea, 2000). In the present case, many respondents were previously engaged in informal sector activities such as fishing, vending, and small-scale trade, which became unviable after relocation. The dominance of low-income categories among respondents further underscores economic vulnerability. This aligns with previous studies indicating that resettlement often leads to downward occupational mobility and income instability (Patel et al., 2012). The increased transportation burden observed in the study also contributes to financial stress, reducing disposable income and affecting overall well-being.

Environmental Conditions and Quality of Life

The regression analysis demonstrates that environmental and health-related factors are the most significant determinants of Quality of Life in the study area. Variables such as water-borne diseases, ventilation, and family health condition show statistically significant relationships with well-being, while housing size is not significant. These findings challenge conventional housing-centric development approaches, which prioritize the provision of physical structures over environmental quality. Similar conclusions have been drawn in previous studies, which emphasize that access to safe water, sanitation, and healthy living conditions plays a more critical role in determining quality of life than housing dimensions alone (UN-Habitat, 2014; Srinivasan, 2015).

The high prevalence of poor waste management and sanitation conditions observed in this study further reinforces the importance of environmental infrastructure. Inadequate service delivery not only affects physical health but also contributes to psychological stress and reduced life satisfaction.

Social Marginalization and Stigma

Beyond economic and environmental challenges, the study highlights the role of social stigma in shaping the experiences of resettled communities. Residents of Kannagi Nagar are often perceived as socially and economically disadvantaged, which can limit their access to employment and public services. This form of marginalization reflects the broader socio-spatial dynamics of urban inequality, where certain areas become stigmatized due to their association with poverty and displacement. Previous research has shown that such stigma can reinforce exclusion and reduce opportunities for social mobility (Arabindoo, 2011). The interaction between spatial isolation and social stigma creates a compounded disadvantage, where residents are not only physically distant from opportunities but also socially excluded from mainstream urban systems.

Policy Implications and Urban Planning Perspectives

The findings of this study have important implications for urban planning and resettlement policies. First, the results demonstrate that housing provision alone is insufficient to ensure improved quality of life. Instead, resettlement strategies must adopt a more holistic approach that integrates livelihood opportunities, infrastructure development, and social inclusion.

Second, the uniform increase in commuting distance highlights the need to consider proximity to employment centers as a key factor in site selection. Without such considerations, relocation policies risk reinforcing spatial inequality rather than reducing it.

Third, the significant influence of environmental and health factors suggests that investments in basic infrastructure, including water supply, sanitation, and housing design, are essential for improving living conditions. These findings support the growing consensus that sustainable urban development requires integrated planning approaches that address both physical and socio-economic dimensions of displacement.

Synthesis of Finding

The study demonstrates that the impacts of forced displacement extend beyond physical relocation, influencing multiple dimensions of residents' lives. The combination of increased commuting distance, livelihood disruption, environmental challenges, and social stigma reflects a broader pattern of structural inequality embedded within urban planning processes.

By linking empirical findings with established theoretical frameworks, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of spatial injustice in the context of urban resettlement. It underscores the need for policy interventions that move beyond infrastructure provision to address the underlying socio-economic drivers of inequality.

CONCLUSION

This study examined the socio-economic impacts of forced displacement in Kannagi Nagar, Chennai, through the lens of spatial injustice. By integrating quantitative analysis with qualitative insights, the research provides a comprehensive understanding of how relocation influences livelihoods, environmental conditions, and overall quality of life. The findings reveal that displacement to peripheral resettlement colonies imposes a uniform spatial burden on residents, as evidenced by the absence of a significant relationship between income levels and commuting distance. This indicates that spatial

disadvantage is systemic and embedded within urban planning processes.

The study further demonstrates that environmental and health-related factors, particularly water quality, ventilation, and family health, are the most significant determinants of quality of life, whereas housing size has no meaningful influence. This challenges conventional housing-centric approaches to resettlement and highlights the need for more integrated planning frameworks. The results underscore that providing physical housing alone is insufficient to ensure improved living conditions. Instead, effective resettlement requires a holistic approach that incorporates livelihood support, infrastructure development, and social inclusion.

The study contributes to the growing discourse on urban displacement by emphasizing the importance of human-centered and spatially just planning approaches. It highlights the need for policies that address not only the physical dimensions of resettlement but also the socio-economic realities of displaced communities.

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