# Insights - Relocation: Voluntary or forced legality

## Maloya –

Most say it is forced. People have better facilities, but poor relations between people and lesser work opportunities. People dissatisfied with expensive travel. People prefer to go back to Colony 4 if given a chance - they wish to be allotted some plots or houses. They say this because after relocation, they feel that government allotments were very arbitrary and did not fill into individual requirements of families. In conclusion, while sewage, water and health facilities are prompt, cold personal relations, and the imbalance between housing facility and requirements of forcefully moved people show that this forced relocation comes with its own set of good and bad - good at the level of reality, bad at the level of an intangible, communal understanding between people; as well as in relation to the comfort - or the lack thereof in the intimacy of their homes

## Other stats –

Some people have been living for 4 years, some for 12. Most informants in working age are labourers and do not have a fixed wage. Most have relocated from colony no.4. However, it is important to note that the perception of law-and-order situations is ambivalent - some consider it good, some feel it's fine, and some are really upset with it. Apart from that, people are satisfied with the healthcare facilities nearby.

### On the question of relocation –

People say that they are just OK with living in the peripheries, but will be willing to move back if given a chance

## Sector 49 –

The nature of movement is a mixed bag - both voluntary and forced in equal numbers. Those who say they moved voluntarily don’t really sound like that - some complain that the government has not provided good facilities, services, and sufficiently spaced houses. However, others do mention that despite these issues, they end up buying the house later on - despite the fact that after purchase, complete responsibility for maintenance of the house falls on the owner - no government aid whatsoever. In addition to these findings, those who say they were forced again don’t sound like they are unhappy - they are happy with facilities at S49; enjoy the fact that people have become more educated, are buying more properties, and have become financially better off. At a broader level, both classes of people do say that a certain degree of unity lacks among people

## Other stats

find law and order to be good, with occasional issues of substance abuse. Hygiene is not very good - cleaners have to be asked for repeatedly, and sewage drains do not get cleaned timely (causing issues of mosquitoes). Apart from that, bus facilities are not very convenient and accessible

## Mauli Jagran –

Majority say that their movement was forced. People were asked to move out and their prior residence was demolished (deslumified) Most people say that older houses in maloya were bigger and better; the houses now are more cramped, with fewer amenities. At these houses in Maloya, people received prompt government responses towards common issues in houses - issues with water pipes, bathrooms etc. However, they do say that in Mauli Jagran, government officials do not really show up for help. Apart from that, people feel that law and order is in good condition, and the police are proactive in ensuring safety, well-being of community members. We can say that even though government forced them to move, they have lived up to people's expectations of care - be it the law-and-order situation, or maintaining welfare of households, ensuring amenities and facilities, and paying attention to people's grievances

## Other stats –

Bus is the highest used mode of transport

# Literature review -

## On the Edge shaping the future of Peri-urban East Asia (link at the end)

* Manufacturing enterprises' attracting towards peri-urban regions: forcing of agricultural communities into industrial way of life
* Characteristic of peri urban regions - rapid population growth, mixed use of lands, influx of investment
* Policy objective behind peri-urban development - large scale capital spending with an expectation - of employment growth, increased economic output and competitiveness. This involves delivery of public infrastructure
* Author talks about Manila's experience of peri-urbanization. Here, he says that the national government has not invested significantly in regional infrastructural facilities - under involvement of a senior government. In such a situation, private developers play a significant role in developing peri urban region

### Idea - linking peri-urban relocation's consequence to government policy - how well have they ensured a comfortable relocation (have they? - how good/bad in case of fixed/voluntary movement) and can things be made better (involving the private sector, creating business opportunities)

* A more proactive role by municipal government - technical training, low-income housing provisions and stuff like that
* Author then talks about Chinese examples of peri-urbs: here, the municipality plays a much larger role in developing coastal industrial estate and other such things
* On the basis of all 3 case studies, the author makes an important observation. He says that when local governments lack capacity to cope with the peri-urban process, then the private sector and voluntary households play a very important role in maintaining the viability of these areas. In response to adaptation ,local residents and informal works eventually get comfortable, buy and rent houses, open small grocery stores, or even engaged in transportation activities (could be auto drivers in our case)
* Author goes on to talk about the aspect of conflict among people - between long term residents and newcomers - over things like land rights. Further, he says that preventing corruption in the infant political and social structure of peri-urbs is something that can further alleviate people's concerns after relocation
* Towards the end, the author says that peri-urban development requires suitable financial incentives: encouraging local governments and private agencies to work together. This work should be focussed on ensuring healthcare and education, maintenance of feeder roads, institutional support for allocation of capital and HR development

https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/document?repid=rep1&type=pdf&doi=55e8f06b80e28ac57d7f81cce615558939bbe22e

## Literature review: Social Capital and community ties in rebuilding livelihoods of displaced households in peri-urban area of Ho Chi Minh City

### Introduction

* This paper has a good intro to it. We can maybe draw inspiration from that
* Here, the author hypothesizes that people's social capital influences their integration process and livelihoods. Here he makes an important observation - he says that when relocation is forced, people tend to gravitate towards others from the same ethnic and geographic origin. On the other side, this social capital can lead to exclusionist tendencies among people, and restriction on individual freedoms is a possibility that cannot be denied
* Author talks about two types of resettlement - government-supported and household self-resettlement. The first one operates where government policies cause relocation to acquire land for development projects
* On page 20 - author gives a good way in which we can talk about our variables and other analytical concepts. Further, it gives a good set of questions and possible things that can be asked to informants. Since we are done with our field work, we might not be able to gather fresh data. However, we can try to use the existing data and extrapolate it to answer some of the things mentioned between page 21 and 25
* Again, this paper provides a good example about the "research setting and study areas" section of our paper. He also explains his methodology in detail

Here, author places transcription tables in a condensed manner - right before starting his analysis on themes

### Paper 1 - Forms of social capital, employment, income and household resettlement

Author says that after relocation, people with stronger social capital and ties - with close family members, friends and memberships: allowing for higher frequency in interaction and more emotional involvement as well as intimacy - have better life - personal and professional

For Ho Chi Minh city, the author says that rapid population growth and urban development has intensified planned and unplanned peri-urbanization. Subsequently, people are displaced because of slum upgrading and city renewal plans. This happens because of government acquisition programs - which forcibly displaced persons and create traumatic experiences

Author talks about forced relocation. This increases travel costs and distance from the workplace; causes economic hardship - government paid compensation for relocation is more often than not inadequate. More importantly, the impact is on social and cultural disruptions - loss of mutual help arrangements, labour exchange relations, childcare and employment related information sharing

The author talks about two forms of social capital - homogeneous and heterogeneous. While homogenous allows for strong social memberships and safety nets during tough times, heterogeneous forms of social capital allow for people to become part of categorically ethnic groups (maybe we can something like this happen - depending on where people have moved from: are they interacting and residing more with people like them, or something like this?)

Author talks about 2 types of relocations. Firstly, he mentions government supported resettlement - one that occurs due to implementation of planned development projects. This category works in our case - in light of the policy Prabhav shared on the group: it talks about moving residents from slums to areas where basic infra (roads, schools, healthcare and houses) are present, all part of the deslumification program

Author uses maps and graphs vividly - to show things that really matter, like distribution of interviewees. From page 58 to 60-62, he talks about the technical aspects of using the data. I could not gather much of it. Therefore, I suggest that you go through that for appreciating the author’s method and probably drawing something out from it if need be.

Author talks about public policy implications, where he says that governments should develop sustainable programs for 2 things: dealing with issues of labour force and employment at the macro level; and the issues of administrative obstacles (health care, housing and schooling) at a micro level

### Paper 2

Author’s aims to show the economic shocks of forced displacement, and other negative economic changes. Here, he says that impact on

[The role of social capital and community ties in rebuilding livelihoods of displaced households in peri-urban areas of Ho Chi Minh City (core.ac.uk)](https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/38938175.pdf)

## Literature Review: Everyday speculation in the remaking of peri-urban livelihoods and landscapes

Author looks into market-induced and policy-led relocations of kampung residents in Jakarta. In that, he looks into connectivities across peri-urban spaces, land transactions, rentier ship, inequalities, etc

In this text, author relies on interviews and interactions with displacees to make his inferences - about their movement and experiences

Author says that in a market induced displacement - peri-urban residents are approached and pressured to sell/vacate properties. This triggers relocation - that may be neither forced nor voluntary. Once that happens, residents face financial and socio-cultural speculation - about their social networks, common practices, mutual aid and other things. These speculations and uncertainties reflect their marginal social positionality in peri-urban transformations

In his field research, the author comes across observations similar to Chandigarh - where people find new homes to be better equipped. However, in this transition, peri urban residents fear one thing - the uncertainty about maintaining and re-creating cherished social and cultural values. They try to imitate their past experiences in their relocated position. However, this becomes a hindrance - their socio-spatial positionality (class, wealth, gender and location) become obstacles in their potential to realize their aspirations for a better life

### Idea - If relocation is voluntary, what idea does the pre-urban resident have in mind - about the possibility of new avenues of work, resident, better lifestyle - when they make that choice of movement. If relocation is forced, then how does the transition between resident's pre-movement and post movement socio-spatial positionality affect the quality of their life in this situation. Also, to what government policy alleviates or worsen the anxieties and uncertainties of displaced classes?

* The author places snips of interviews in the middle of his text - maybe we can do that too
* Author concludes his text by saying that peri-urban studies remains incomplete without looking into significant every urban practices

In the conclusion, the author says that displacees make constant efforts to reproduce and experience the sociality and mutual aid characterizations of their previous places of residence. He believes this to be something missing. This is something our studies says as well - where majority of the informants say that they feel a loss of personal touch after relocation

https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10352761

## Analysis of Chandigarh's 2006 policy (Lawyer me kicking in:))

Under Section 5, sub-section (c), para (ii) and (iii), the act clearly says that every resident of a notified colony (jhuggis - previous settlements in our study) is bound to vacate during the time and dates specified by the competent authority (the Estate officer under the Capital of Punjab Act, or any other officer appointed by Chandigarh admin for this purpose). Further, the act also requires these residents to remove their belongings, superstructure at their own expense within the time period prescribed for vacating the colony. Moreover, it says that if one does not vacate, they will be liable to be removed in accordance with the process of law.

2 things are very clear here. Firstly, the relocation looks forced on paper - even though some people, on the ground, may say that this was a voluntary displacement. Secondly, the act is not really people-centric on 2 counts - it does not recompense the residents for incurring relocation expenses; and it also creates a chilling effect by creating the threat of penalization - by saying that if people do not vacate, act will allow authorities to forcefully remove them

Under Section 6 (A) (ii) and (iii) and S 6(b), the act says that no matter the size of a family; and no matter how many habitations one had in their previous accommodation - they will only be entitled to one room flat in a multistorey building if they are eligible under the scheme. This creates a very adverse impact on larger households, or people with a greater number of children and larger families. This will happen because families, who were living in two, three accommodations previously, will now be forced into one room houses. This will make their residence congested, and create an uncomfortable space to live in. Further, this room can be allotted on any floor in the multistorey. If we assume that the multistorey does not have an escalator, people with old-age infirmities and disabilities will find it very difficult to move in and out of their places.

Apart from this concern, S6(b) places a 'monthly license fee' obligation on the allottee. On top of that, S 9 (a) and (b) lay down strict conditions - saying that if the licensee defaults on water and electricity payments, his license may be revoked. There are multiple issues involved here that have one common effect - they make the forced relocation of residents even more painful. Firstly, this policy relocates them forcefully from their previous accommodation. Taking this in light of the fact, that most households are not even provided sufficiently spaced accommodation after movement, the government should have no right to ask for a consideration against the allotted house. Even if they do, my second concern comes into play - the license agreement is extremely disadvantageous to the licensee. Let's assume that you are a resettled resident in a peri-urban region. First, you are forced to relocate at your own expense, then you are forced to make do with a small, inadequate accommodation for your family, and then you are threatened about revocation of your license - particularly if you default on water and electricity bills. Here, the government is not making you the owner, or even a tenant at this new location - as you were in your previous settlement. Instead, they are making you a licensee - technically leaving your interest over your house completely at their mercy. As this is a license, you cannot claim your rights over this property. But not just that, if you default on your electricity and water bills - something which can happen to anyone, irrespective of their class and residential status - you can be asked to leave. My point about this being a license agreement is supported by S13 of the Act. This section says that a licensee is not allowed to sublet his property or assign by way of GPA, or otherwise alienate his property. That simply means that the allottee does not have a transferable interest in the property - he cannot sell it, lease it out, alienate it or even enjoy it without limits - in our case, he is bound by the license fee, and the threat of losing license in case of default, I may be getting too enthusiastic with the law here, but there are some legal cases which can prove this is a license, and that our peri-urban residents are very vulnerable to the control and decisions of the government. All these conditions place a very unreasonable burden on a poor peri-urban displacee - one who simultaneously suffering the losses of social capital because of his forced relocation