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Q5(e)

Elucidate the concerns of growing urban displacement dynamics in India

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2019 · Sociology GS 2 · 10 marks · Industrialization and Urbanisation in India

Industrialization and Urbanisation in India: Evolution of modern industry in India; Growth of urban settlements in India; Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization; Informal sector, child labour; Slums and deprivation in urban areas.

Core demand of the question

- Elucidate the concerns of growing urban displacement dynamics in India
- Keep the note to a 10-mark length

Revision summary

Urban displacement is eviction for projects and real estate.

The informal poor lose central work access.

Rehabilitation and title are weak.

Caste and migrant status shape who is moved first.

The **master plan** often ranks bodies while naming the public good.

Introduction

Urban displacement in India is the forced shifting of the poor from inner land to the edge. Growth of cities has made eviction a routine development tool.

Body

Dynamics

- Slum clearance, metro, and waterfront projects treat informal settlers as illegal, even when they are the service class of urbanism.
- Gentrification and real-estate capital recast mill lands and old chawls, a class process A. R. Desai would recognise.
- Disaster and **climate floods** add 'natural' displacement on the same vulnerable map.

Concerns

- Loss of work access when the poor are dumped at the periphery without transport.
- Break of kin and caste support that made city life livable.
- Adivasi and Dalit migrants are first to go, last to get title.
- Legal notice and rehabilitation are thin; the right to the city is not a statute.

Sociological reading

- **Displacement is planned inequality, the disharmonic city:** civic **master plan**, ranked bodies.

Flow diagram

Projects real estate -> Eviction
Eviction -> Periphery job loss
No tenure -> Eviction

Conclusion

Growing urban displacement concerns livelihood, citizenship, and who the city is for. Without secure tenure and **in-situ upgrading**, Indian urbanism will keep exporting its poor.

Facts & figures

In-situ upgrading

Alternative that keeps work access instead of dumping at the edge.

Mill and chawl conversion

Classic inner-city class displacement in Mumbai-type cities.

Climate floods

Add displacement on already informal river and coastal settlements.

Master plan

Legal map that can erase lived occupancy as encroachment.