Challenges of Resettlement on Livelihood Development:
with Special Reference to Magampura Harbor Development Project

Saman Handaragama and Amaya Kodikara
Department of Social Sciences - Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka
saman@sab.ac.lk & amaya.ashani@yahoo.com

This paper presents a sociological analysis of the resettlement impact on livelihood development in the Magampura harbor development project. Resettlement programs of the development projects have made big challenges to the livelihood development of the resettled people.

The research problem examined whether the resettlement program of the Magampura harbor development project made an impact on livelihood development of the resettled people. The objectives of the study are to identify the consequences of infrastructure change on resettlement, compare the economic changes of resettled people in resettlement program and analyze the advantages and disadvantages in livelihood development of resettled people.

Using the simple random sampling method, 50 villagers were elected in Swarnamalipura village of Hambanthota Divisional Secretariat Division in Hambanthota District.

People in Swarnamalipura village have to convert their lives again because of the uprooting from the native place. Therefore, the reinvestigation of the livelihood development of these people is a vital factor. Here, the changes of infrastructure are more over discussed. Provision of electricity, water, education and health are substantial among them. The economic changes in comparison with previous life are also analyzed in this study. Lack of land area to cultivation and poor water provision are the major issues that the resettled people face. Also, the problems in adaptation, community management activities and breaking down of the social relationships are central discussion points in the study.

Key words: Resettlement, Livelihood development, Community management, Development Challenges