

A Sociological Study on Social Exclusion and Vulnerability of Rural People in Ashraff Nagar

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Abstract

Relocation which is defined as the process of moving from a fixed location and settling in a different environment causes both the positive and negative effects among the relocated people. People in Ashraff Nagar village have never been wealthy. Aftermaths of Tsunami disaster and construction of Olivil harbour, many families have been relocated in Ashraff Nagar. The people in this village are facing numerous problems socially and economically. This study was conducted among migrant people in Ashraff Nagar, Addalaichenai Divisional Secretariat of Ampara district in Sri Lanka to exemplify the situation of poverty, social exclusion and other vulnerabilities of rural people even though, the government implemented many development programs in various parts of Ampara district. Purposive sample method is used for this study and the sample size is 30 men and 30 women who engaged in rural social and economic activities. Interviews, focus group discussions and observation were the primary data collection methods while statistical reports, records, journals, articles and electronic materials were the secondary data sources used for this study. Collected data were analyzed by using qualitative and quantitative methods and it is presented in a descriptive way. Finally, the study found that poverty is the major cause which led economic deprivation and social exclusion of the people. Further, the lack of access to the proper irrigation facilities also creates seasonal poverty among poor, due to these impacts the lack of health, sanitation facilities and educational problems are still experienced by the people in the study area.

Keywords: Poverty; Social exclusion; Vulnerability; Poor Irrigation, human-elephant conflict