

## CHAPTER 4

### DISCUSSION

In this chapter a discussion on the outstanding findings of the study on the impact of the displacement on kashmiris living in the government camps at Jammu is presented

The mass migration of the kashmiris from the Valley took place in the year 1989-1990. The kashmiris were compelled to leave the land of paradise and move to Jammu, Udhampur, Delhi and to various nearby places. Not only was their paradise lost but also homes and hearths were left behind and lost.

The displacement not only made kashmiris leave behind immovable property but also moveable property. A majority of the displaced kashmiris reported that they had total loss of property. Displacement made them lose their sources of livelihood also. Since the displacement was sudden and abrupt, without any planning, it was likely that they would have faced problems.

#### PROBLEMS OF DISPLACED KASHMIRIS

The investigator found that the displaced kashmiris were facing problems and some of the problems were reported to a greater extent than others

**More problems were reported with greater intensity in the areas of present living conditions, self-respect and recreation compared to other areas.**

Among all the sub-areas under the present living conditions, inadequate space created maximum problems with the displaced kashmiris. Lack of space not only inhibited privacy of young couples but also of the parents

Problem of concentration in children's studies was reported by the displaced kashmiris due to lack of space. The camp school teachers also reported the problem of lack of concentration in studies among kashmiri students.

Kachroo (1999), concluded that a lot of problems were reported by the displaced kashmiris regarding inadequate space. Rosen (1981), while commenting on international migrations reported that housing problems were mainly faced by the camp dwellers due to unfavourable situations, inadequate space, unhealthy dwellings and lack of sanitation

Frequent urine infections, standing in long queues, foul smell surrounding the house, hiring rickshaws at higher rates, bites by poisonous creatures were some of the individual problems under present living conditions reported with high intensity, in the present study.

Kachroo (1999) also reported that foul smell surrounding the houses', bites by poisonous creatures, entering of dirty water into rooms were some of the problems faced due to lack of facilities like sanitation, proper roads, transportation and street lights

**Self-respect was the second problem area where the displaced kashmiris reported problems with greater intensity than other areas.**

The displaced kashmiris reported being addressed as migrants and low status group by the well settled kashmiris and non-kashmiris. A survey report by Singh and others (2001) concluded that kashmiris faced problems due to humiliation by the local people of Jammu and were addressed as low status group

Kachroo (1999) also concluded that the displaced kashmiris were facing problems due to humiliation.

**Recreation was the third area where the displaced kashmiris had more pronounced problems.**

The displaced kashmiris reported that they were not able to enjoy themselves due to emotional attachment to their birthplace.

Another factor contributing to their unhappiness was unavailability of gardens and small parks in camps or they being very far off from the place of residence.

A survey report by the students of Political Science Department, University of Jammu (2002) also concluded that the displaced kashmiris were not able to enjoy themselves due to emotional attachment to their birthplace

Walter (1981), while commenting on international migration, reported of not having recreational facilities in the camp dwellings, leading to physical and mental ill health of the dwellers.

It is not possible to provide the displaced kashmiris with all the facilities To minimise the problems of the displaced kashmiris regarding living conditions especially with inadequate space, the basic structure of one room tenements can be altered and some attachments like small kitchens can be added to outside open portions.

The size of the rooms in future can be increased to provide more space for the families as suggested by the displaced kashmiris as well as by the camp zonal officers.

Rooms can be allotted to the displaced kashmiris taking into consideration the number of the family members. Putting more dustbins, water points, electric points and hand pumps can reduce problems faced due to inadequate facilities

The camp zonal officers also suggested providing facilities like proper and smooth roads, more community toilets and bathrooms and more transport facilities to reduce the problems due to inadequate facilities.

The humiliation felt by the displaced kashmiris will only be removed when they start earning well and regain their positions

They can be given opportunities to work and to put in efforts to enhance their status Initially the local people and well settled kashmiris would have viewed the displaced kashmiris as extra burden So immediate affectionate behaviour cannot be expected from other community members

To lessen this problem, non-kashmiris should be helped to accept the displaced kashmiris as their own community members

This can be done through writing articles in local newspapers and magazines, which can bring awareness among well settled kashmiris and others regarding the problems faced by the displaced kashmiris.

Another way is showing programmes on the local regional channels regarding the problems faced by the displaced kashmiris to well settled kashmiris and non-kashmiris for developing awareness

To enhance unity and brotherhood among the people in the country, paying respect to all racial groups is important. This can be done only when the seed of oneness is sown right from childhood. The families should encourage children to help the needy people, irrespective of their class and creed

The displaced kashmiris should also be counselled to accept their displacement and should be helped to make efforts to join the mainstream.

To lessen the recreational problems, people can be motivated to collect funds to build community centres where people can gather and social, cultural, religious and community based recreational programmes can be organised. Members should be motivated to participate in such programmes, thus creating a sense of normalcy and keeping traditions alive, which will help in building a sense of togetherness and belongingness

Games, crafts and watching television can be some other common activities provided to the displaced kashmiris.

Such recreational activities can serve to occupy free time and provide social interactions.

Participation in such activities can bring various immediate and long lasting effects and benefits. Exercises, yoga and meditation classes provided to displaced kashmiris will promote fitness, relaxation and social interaction. Such programmes can be alternatives for abusive and

antisocial behaviour and will promote overall physical and mental fitness and will help to release tensions

Such programmes will also help the people to increase their self-esteem and encourage them in the decision-making process.

Recreational programmes as well as the facilities to be provided in the camps were also suggested by the camp zonal officers.

**The problems discussed in the three areas were more pronounced with the respondents who had high socio-economic status before displacement, who belonged to nuclear families and who were old.**

Displaced kashmiris having high socio-economic status might have been used to a luxurious living with all facilities

Sudden uprooting might have changed the total life style of such displaced kashmiris. In such situations, financial crisis was quite possible which would have inhibited the displaced kashmiris to socialise with friends, relatives and neighbours and inhibited to enjoy recreational facilities

The major strategy to overcome the problems is to improve on the economic conditions and to help in regaining the previous status of these groups.

That can be done when job opportunities are provided to these unfortunate displaced kashmiris belonging to such categories and when they take up any kind of a job without having inhibitions of their previous status

Majority of the respondents reported that their families turned nuclear after displacement.

Nuclear family usually means less number of persons in a family. So sharing of joys and sorrows and division of work among the family members is experienced less by nuclear families than members of joint families

Besides this, members of nuclear families have difficulty in learning communication skills for dealing with members of different age groups

Social interaction of such nuclear families might be less due to more involvement in household work as there is no sharing of work among members

In today's world, the traditional joint family system of the past may not be feasible due to urbanisation and industrialisation

However, inculcating traditional values and norms among the younger ones can solve problems. Another way to solve the problem is to include elders from outside families to share their views and experiences. Children can be encouraged to join programs such as 'adopting a grandparent'.

The third group, which reported more problems, comprised of old age respondents.

The older persons face more health problems like less vision, less hearing ability and limited mobility due to old age. Besides, old persons have less stamina to face problems. Old age persons cannot also change habits at once since they are accustomed to particular things.

They will certainly take time to adapt to other new things. Adaptability and adjustability to new things and other circumstances are quite difficult for old persons. Besides old persons are used to getting respect from young ones, especially in a joint family. They cannot take insults due to less patience and more resistance. Considering all these points, old persons might have reported the problems with higher intensity than young ones.

**Occupation and finance were the areas where the displaced kashmiris reported less problems compared to the previous areas.**

Even when these areas were the less reported problem areas, some of the individual problems reported by the displaced kashmiris showed high intensity. These occupational problems were due to loss of documents and certificates leading to withholding of promotions, mental stagnation due to unwanted unemployment and lack of cooperation in the department while working.

Survey report presented by the students of National Social Services (2002), University of Jammu also concluded that mental stagnation faced by the displaced kashmiris was due to unwanted unemployment.

Survey report on socio-economic status of kashmiri pandit migrants by Tayoz Ali and others of Department of Political Science, University of Jammu (2000) also concluded that discrimination was done to displaced kashmiris while working.

Some of the individual financial problems like inability to get labour-saving devices and inability to provide higher technical education to children were the problems with high intensity reported by the displaced kashmiris

Kachroo (1999), also concluded that majority of the displaced kashmiris faced financial problems and were forced to borrow money from money lenders, relatives, friends and neighbours.

In order to save their lives, the displaced kashmiris had moved suddenly without taking their belongings. Thus, loss of certificates was quite possible and this created occupational problems. The displaced kashmiris who did not adjust immediately to their particular departments, faced a kind of unwanted unemployment Hence they were facing mental stagnation

Report presented by students of Political Science Department, University of Jammu (2001) concluded that displaced kashmiris living in the camps were economically unstable Besides having their jobs not at par with their qualifications, they also faced discrimination from their colleagues as they considered them as extra burden and competitors

The sudden move must have changed the occupational and financial patterns of the displaced kashmiris and this must have been responsible for the problems.

The occupational problems can be minimised by issuing duplicate certificates to the displaced kashmiris To solve problems due to loss of the certificates and documents, other occupational benefits like releasing promotions of displaced kashmiris, age relaxation in employment, speedy

release of pension were some of the recommendations suggested by the displaced kashmiris.

**The two categories of respondents reported more occupational and financial problems. They were displaced kashmiris belonging to high socio-economic status before displacement and the young age group.**

Displaced kashmiris having high socio-economic status must have faced more financial problems as well as occupational problems. The financial and occupational problems can be mitigated only when the economic conditions get stabilized. The displaced kashmiris of such a group can be motivated to start small-scale business by taking small loans from the government, money lenders, well settled kashmiris and non-kashmiris. In turn, well settled kashmiris, non-kashmiris and others can be motivated to provide short-term loans to the unfortunate group.

Raw materials for handicraft work like *papier maché* and embroidery work, can be provided to displaced kashmiris to support families economically and to lessen unemployment problems.

The displaced kashmiris belonging to the young age group must have felt more responsible for uplifting the status of the family. Thus picking up a variety of jobs might have exposed them to a variety of occupational problems.

The older respondents must not have been fully involved in occupations but might be working only on part-time basis, just to keep themselves occupied and hence they must not have reported occupational problems.

**The least reported problem areas were health, socio-cultural changes and interpersonal relationship with family members and others.**

The displaced kashmiris must have managed to take care of their health. The ration and relief and the subsidized medical facilities in the camps must have eased the health problems. The camp doctors might have helped the displaced kashmiris to understand the precautions to be taken for improved health status. Displaced kashmiris must have understood

the importance of being fit as the family conditions can improve only when they have sound health. All these must have helped them to have fewer health problems

**Though the displacement led to many socio-cultural changes, which will be discussed later in this chapter, still it was a fact that this area presented less problems.**

The displaced kashmiris might have accepted the socio-cultural changes. The changes which were inevitable due to displacement were thus adopted by the displaced kashmiris. The changes might have been liked by the displaced kashmiris and might not have been perceived as problems. Trying to keep some of the traditions alive, the displaced kashmiris might also have inculcated the traditional values in their younger ones. Thus many of the traditional values and customs must not have been lost but must have been followed and retained by the displaced kashmiris.

It is seen that when crisis strikes, the family members get even closer to each other to overcome the trauma and problems. During difficult times, the displaced kashmiris only, must have held the hands of their near and dear ones. Though displacement had broken down the joint family system, the bonds among family members and others could be even stronger, thus reporting less interpersonal relationship problems with family members and others.

Even when these were the least reported problem areas, some individual problems with high intensity were reported in all the three areas

Problems like high blood pressure, premature aging, loss of memory and anxiety were some of the physical and mental health problems reported by the displaced kashmiris. The camp doctors also reported that the majority of the displaced kashmiris faced physical problems like premature aging and high blood pressure and mental problems like anxiety and temper tantrums.

Reproductive problems were least reported by female as well as male respondents. However, problems like irregular monthly periods and

impotency reported by female and male respondents respectively were the problems with slightly higher intensity as compared to other problems. Reproductive problems for females like menopause before 45 years of age, heavy monthly periods; and for males like loss of libido and impotence were also reported by the camp doctors.

Kachroo (1999), concluded that after displacement kashmiris faced many health problems like high blood pressure and diabetes.

The survey report by Choudhary (1996), concluded that stress diabetes, high blood pressure, heart problems were the emerging health problems reported by the displaced kashmiris. Other problems like poor vision and hearing, related to age were also reported.

To improve upon the health area, basic facilities need to be provided to the displaced kashmiris in the camps. Awareness programmes regarding health care should be conducted for the displaced kashmiris as suggested by the camp zonal officers and camp doctors.

Counselling can be done for emotionally weak persons to overcome mental problems.

Other facilities like life saving drugs and x-ray machines can be provided to the camp inmates as suggested by the majority of camp doctors as well as camp zonal officers.

Ambulance and other facilities like stretchers and telephones should be provided to camp inmates as suggested by a high majority of the camp doctors and camp zonal officers.

Identity crisis, rootlessness and communication gap due to cross-cultural marriages were some of the socio-cultural problems. Compulsion to give up age-old rituals and customs by picking up other cultural trends like wearing of *payals* and *bicchus* by girls and wearing of suits instead of *achkans* in marriages by boys was reported by the displaced kashmiris.

Kachroo (1999), concluded that the majority of the displaced kashmiris were unable to continue their traditional norms and customs. This study also concluded that kashmiris were losing their dialect language due to external forces. Changes were also reported for food and dress patterns.

Survey report by National Social Services volunteers (2002), survey report on socio-economic status (2000-2001), survey report on migrant kashmiris by students from Department of Political Science, University of Jammu (2001) and survey report on the impact of migration on socio-economic status of kashmiri pandits (2000), all reported that displaced kashmiris faced major identity crisis.

To preserve cultural values and traditions, management committees can be constituted.

The management committees can conduct awareness programmes regarding traditional values and customs through puppet shows and programmes on local television channels.

Members can motivate well-settled community members to contribute money to construct more community centres where people can gather and talk about their customs and traditional values.

Interpersonal relationship among family members and others was the last area reported among the least reported problem areas. However, intensity was high for some of the problems like grudges against the muslim community and rude behaviour of one or more family members.

To overcome interpersonal relationship problems, basic understanding is important among family members and others. Also, developing patience and attitude of forgiveness will help to solve such kind of problems.

Besides problems reported by respondents belonging to nuclear families, high socio-economic status and old age group, there were two more categories of respondents who reported more problems in many areas with greater intensity than their counterparts.

**Displaced kashmiris who had total loss of property reported more problems than the displaced kashmiris who had partial loss of property**

Total loss of property means loss of immovable property as well as movable property like – kitchen equipment, furniture and clothing. Partial loss means where displaced kashmiris were able to get some movable property like ornaments, cash, clothing, kitchen equipment and furniture.

Total loss of property means a sudden crush in financial situation, which might have enhanced their problems. These problems can be minimised by improving the financial conditions of the displaced kashmiris.

There is a need to uplift the financial status of the displaced kashmiris. They can be motivated to improve on their work efficiency and earn more.

Small-scale business and self-employment programmes can be started by giving loans to displaced kashmiris for improving the status and financial conditions

Displaced kashmiri women can also participate in improving the economic conditions of the family.

Programmes like embroidery, sewing, handicrafts and cooking classes can be held in the camps for the displaced women.

**Displaced kashmiris having low emotional intelligence also reported more problems than the displaced kashmiris having high emotional intelligence.**

Emotional intelligence means the ability to adapt, overcome stress and have a positive attitude. It would mean a person having low emotional intelligence will not have a problem solving attitude, stress tolerance and positive opinion towards life. Earlier the mental capability alone was considered to be important for a person's development. But now emotional intelligence is considered equally important. So emotional intelligence plays an important role. A person having low emotional intelligence cannot prevent and solve many problems.

Displaced kashmiris having less adaptability, low problem-solving attitude, less stress tolerance and less optimism reported more problems with interpersonal relationship, finance and socio-cultural changes

Encouragement should be given to low emotionally intelligent kashmiris to solve problems and help them in making decisions. Wide exposure should be given to such groups, so that they become aware of how to tackle difficult situations. Counselling can be done to change their "scars into stars"

**Level of urbanisation and family size did not influence the level of problems in many areas.**

The displacement uprooted the kashmiris and placed people of different levels of urbanisation and family sizes on the same platform.

The camp conditions were the same for both rural and urban displaced kashmiris. So homogeneity must have occurred between the rural and urban people. Thus the differences among the displaced kashmiris originally belonging to different levels of urbanisations and family sizes must have been removed.

However, financial and interpersonal relationship problems were reported more by the urban displaced kashmiris. Before displacement, urban kashmiris were mostly involved in private office jobs rather than into business, agriculture or government services. After displacement, the urban kashmiris might not have been able to get the right type of jobs or could not have got the jobs at all. The urban displaced kashmiris might have been used to spending more money, which was not possible soon after the displacement. Thus they might have reported more financial problems than the rural displaced kashmiris.

The rural kashmiris were mostly involved in business, agriculture and government services. The rural displaced kashmiris might have been able to sustain themselves and start some kind of occupations at Jammu. Urban kashmiris who were mostly involved in private jobs and tended to have small families were more for themselves. The individualistic kind of behaviour might be the reason that urban displaced kashmiris reported more interpersonal relationship problems. Rural displaced kashmiris usually were involved in business and agriculture. The big families tended to have looked after their profession by their own trusted family members and thus providing ample hands to look after the profession. By having many family members of varying ages, they must have developed strong family bonds. So the interpersonal relationship problems reported might have been less with rural kashmiris than the kashmiris belonging to urban areas.

**Socio-cultural problems were reported more by the respondents having small families than large families.**

A small family means less family members. The displaced kashmiris having small families must not be having any elder members who can enlighten the youngsters with traditional customs and values.

To overcome the problems due to socio-cultural changes, the measures have already been discussed under the problem area of present living conditions in this chapter only.

**GENDERWISE DIFFERENCES IN THE PROBLEMS OF DISPLACED KASHMIRIS**

Genderwise, no significant differences were found in the problems in all the areas except the area of health.

When fundamentally males and females are different, it was supposed that they will face different problems.

Contradictory to this, genderwise problems did not differ. Both displaced males and females were placed in the same critical crisis. Hence similar kind of problems must have been reported. The differences in the gender got removed under the critical situation of displacement.

For the various categories of the majority of the variables namely age, family size, emotional intelligence, socio-economic status and total loss of property, males reported more problems than the females in the area of health. Males belonging to young age, middle age and old age groups, small and large families with high and low emotional intelligence, having high and low socio-economic status as well as total and partial loss of property, all reported more health problems than their counterparts.

The intensity indices also showed that the problems of health were faced more by males than females. Most of the physical problems like high blood pressure, premature aging and mental problems like loss of memory and anxiety were reported more by the males.

Panun kashmir (1995) in its survey reported a finding contradictory to this study as it revealed that women suffered more physically as well as

mentally than males

So there is a need for further investigations to confirm that whether the displaced kashmiri males truly faced more problems than displaced kashmiri females. However the following probable reasons can be attributed for this finding. Displaced kashmiri women might be involved only in household work. They could be taking proper care of their health and might have less physical and mental stress, thus decreasing health problems as compared to males.

In traditional Indian society, males and females do play different roles. Females traditionally involved with household chores and being docile may have less exposure with the outside world, which exposes them to fewer problems. Less exposure only limits their vision to the four walls of the house only and hence displaced kashmiri women might not have been very articulate in expressing their problems.

Involvement of males with the outside world exposes them to a variety of experiences. Thus males may have been more articulate in expressing their problems. So they might have been more expressive in revealing their problems. The males might be working for more hours as they may have considered themselves to be more responsible for the upliftment of the family and thus may have experienced more health problems.

The health status of the displaced kashmiri men can be improved by giving proper attention, medical aids and counselling to reduce mental and physical stress. The other recommendations for improved health status have been discussed under the problem area of health in this chapter only.

**However, females did have higher intensity indices for some problems in areas of finance, inter-personal relationship and socio-cultural changes.**

These are three areas where women are said to play an important role. The women have to tackle household finance, interpersonal relationships and socio-cultural traditions. These are the domains where males are least bothered.

Traditionally, women have to look after the expenses and have to play the role of money manager. Similarly displaced kashmiri women might have made efforts to settle their financial transactions efficiently and fulfill their household needs. But the financial crush might be making it difficult for the women to play their role efficiently and smartly.

Where the financial condition of the family was not sound, it was expected that the displaced kashmiri women would face interpersonal relationship problems. Entertaining friends, relatives and neighbours might not have been possible for women. Social interaction might have totally stopped taking place, leading to more complexities and curtailing intimacy among friends, neighbours and relatives.

All traditional customs and rituals by and large are again supposed to be followed by females. Without secured financial conditions, follow up of any tradition is not possible. So again the socio-cultural changes were reported more by females than males. To overcome the problems of finance, certain recommendations are already suggested under the problem areas of occupation and finance.

To minimise the problems with displaced kashmiri women a lot of exposure to outside world and opportunities to study and work are recommended. Income generating programmes should be started to reduce the economic problems and keep the women busy besides providing a helping hand to the family. Thus women will be independent and occupied.

Classes for cooking, embroidery, handicrafts and sewing could be started in the camp themselves as suggested by the camp zonal officers

Recreational programmes like community-based programmes will enhance social interaction and reduce the recreational problems. Besides keeping traditional customs alive, it will help women in taking decisions and socialising in a healthy manner. Yoga classes can be started so that the physical and mental fitness of the displaced kashmiri women could be improved.

## **POSITIVE IMPACT OF DISPLACEMENT**

The term 'displacement', itself being a negative concept, brings about negative feelings. However, there might have been a concomitant positive impact, which could have helped displaced kashmiris to recover from the adverse effects of the displacement. So besides enquiring from the displaced kashmiris regarding the problems they faced, they were also requested to give their opinions for the positive impact of the displacement

The investigator found that there was some positive impact and it was more in some of the areas compared to others

**The positive impact in the areas of education and occupation was higher compared to the positive impact in other areas.**

Before displacement, majority of the displaced kashmiris were living in the rural areas of kashmir. The kashmiris there might have not been exposed to a variety of educational institutions

It could be that, there were many government schools that had limited facilities, which may not have fulfilled their educational needs. The rural schools mostly had been up to seventh or tenth class only. After displacement coming to Jammu, displaced kashmiris might have got exposed to a variety of good schools with more specialized teaching staff. Even when camp schools did not have standard facilities of providing quality education to students, seeing other excellent schools outside camps and taking tuitions from well qualified teachers, other than the camp school teachers, the displaced kashmiris must have visualized the difference in the quality of education which they had before and after displacement.

Before the displacement, kashmiris were mostly involved in the traditional work of their forefathers. They were mostly in agricultural occupations. As the displaced kashmiris could not have continued their agricultural work after displacement, they were forced to take other occupations at Jammu. By doing so, the displaced kashmiris were exposed to many other jobs and thus they must have come to know about various

occupations. Therefore they must have reported more positive impact of displacement on occupation.

**The next areas of positive impact of displacement namely work efficiency, socio-cultural and emotional changes, tolerance and sympathy and awareness and availability of facilities had somewhat less positive impact than education and occupation.**

As stated before, majority of the displaced kashmiris were from rural areas and their qualifications were either up to secondary school level or up to graduation. Even when the displaced kashmiris reported that they were exposed to a variety of jobs, they might have not been able to get challenging jobs at Jammu. To survive, they might have picked up any kind of jobs, which may not have been of good quality. Such jobs may have been less competitive, so the displaced kashmiris must have lacked motivation to improve upon work efficiency.

The displaced kashmiris were getting ration and monthly relief, so they might have become complacent with what they were getting. Such kind of attitude might have created inhibitions to improve their work efficiency. Even the camp school teachers and camp zonal officers reported that the work efficiency of the displaced kashmiris had not increased, as they sat idle and wasted their time in gossiping and criticising people.

All the camps comprised mostly of displaced kashmiri pandits. That is the only dominant social group residing in the camps. Non-kashmiris in the camps were negligible in number. Thus displaced kashmiris might have not been able to meet people of other socio-cultural groups.

The displaced kashmiris could not participate in other traditions and customs, other than own. So they must have reported less positive impact of displacement regarding socio-cultural changes.

During crisis time, the persons either strongly face the situation or completely break down. Kashmiris staying in the camps were facing similar kind of problems and difficulties. The kashmiris staying in the camps could not have emotionally come out of the trauma they faced and thus may not have been able to provide a healthy atmosphere. Thus

displaced kashmiris reported less positive impact about emotional changes. Other social groups were not present in the camps or were very far off from the camps, which could have helped them to come out of their trauma and stress. Thus displaced kashmiris reported less positive impact regarding emotional changes.

As the displaced kashmiris suffered trauma and hardships, it was expected that the tolerance and sympathy would be developed among them. However, displaced kashmiris reported of not having developed tolerance and sympathy as the conditions might have proved extraordinarily terrible and they might have felt embittered. All the displaced kashmiris staying in camps were facing more or less similar kind of calamity. Under such circumstances, developing tolerance and sympathy towards others might not have been possible.

The least positive impact was about awareness and availability of the facilities.

Displaced kashmiris living in the camps were provided with bare minimum facilities like few general grocery shops and few medical shops. The camps were provided with basic minimum facilities for the sustenance of the displaced kashmiris.

The camps were located at far off places from the city, where there was no scope of having proper shopping complexes, institutions of personality development like schools, colleges, language improvement centres, beauty saloons and boutiques, recreational centres like theatres, fitness centres, gardens and parks, restaurants and technologically advanced hospitals and health centres.

Even if the displaced kashmiris became aware of some of these facilities, they may not have been able to avail these facilities due to lack of resources, mainly finance. Besides, displaced kashmiris might have felt more secure to lead simple lives without any complexities. Thus they might not have been interested to know about the new technologies. Thus displaced kashmiris living in the camps reported less positive

impact of displacement in the areas of awareness and availability of facilities.

**Respondents who were young, having high emotional intelligence, having partial loss of property and having large and joint families reported comparatively more positive impact than their counterparts. It would be worthwhile recollecting that these respondents had also reported fewer problems than their counterparts.**

The young displaced kashmiris reported more positive impact in all the areas compared to older respondents. Young displaced kashmiris might have felt more urgency and responsibility for the family upliftment. The young respondents might be seeking better job opportunities for having better future. Thus young displaced kashmiris must have exposed themselves more to the outside world. Therefore young displaced kashmiris reported more positive impact of the displacement.

The older respondents did not have to think about their future development, so they could have been less ambitious and hence may have exposed themselves less with other exciting experiences. The older respondents thus might have registered themselves less for the educational and occupational fields. The older respondents being less enthusiastic might have also exposed themselves less with new technological facilities.

Having high emotional intelligence means having high stress tolerance, more adaptability, great flexibility and lots of optimism.

Thus displaced kashmiris having high emotional intelligence may have reported more positive impact than the displaced kashmiris having less stress tolerance, less adaptability, less flexibility and no optimism.

Everyone needs to develop maximum possible of emotional intelligence; so right from childhood one should be helped to develop stress tolerance, adaptability, flexibility and optimism. Children and adolescents should be given experiences to live outside their homes. They should get a chance to live with family friends, relatives and in training camps so that they

could get experience of living in different environments. Children and adolescents should be encouraged to make self-decisions and face the realities of life. They should be given more exposure with the outside world so that they can understand what is right and wrong. Children and adolescents should be given training to cope with crisis.

Similarly, displaced Kashmiris should be encouraged to help themselves in overcoming the present crisis situation.

Partial loss of property means where the displaced Kashmiris were able to bring some of the movable property like ornaments, cash, kitchen equipment, furniture and clothing and were able to sell immovable property like house and land and bring cash with them. These displaced Kashmiris having partial loss of property must have been able to sustain themselves and start their lives again.

However, displaced Kashmiris having total loss of property were unable to get movable property like ornaments, cash, kitchen equipment, furniture and clothing and were not able to sell house or land. Thus financial crisis of larger magnitude was faced by the displaced Kashmiris having total loss of property compared to those displaced Kashmiris having partial loss of property.

Thus they must not have been not able to overcome the stress and so must have been unable to explore many opportunities. Therefore displaced Kashmiris having total loss of property reported less positive impact than the displaced Kashmiris having partial loss of property.

The displaced Kashmiris having total loss of property could be given more attention and helped by providing higher amount of loans than the displaced Kashmiris having partial loss of property so that the displaced Kashmiris having total loss could sustain themselves and start their lives again.

The advantages of joint and large families have been discussed before under the discussion regarding problems. The joint and large families mean large number of persons and presence of persons having different age groups.

Experience of sharing of joys and sorrows and division of work among the family members cannot be felt by the members of nuclear and small families. Thus respondents having joint and large families must have reported more positive impact of displacement than the displaced kashmiris having nuclear and small families.

In order to experience the presence of more members and persons of different age groups, it is imperative to have more social interactions with relatives, friends and neighbours. Get-togethers of extended family members and community members at different occasions help to share joys and sorrows, experiences and views. Such kind of experiences help youngsters also to know more about their own culture, traditions and customs.

**The least influential variables for bringing about the positive impact were level of urbanisation and socio-economic status before displacement. The two variables made differences in the areas of education and awareness and availability of the facilities only.**

The displacement uprooted both urban and rural displaced kashmiris and placed them on the same platform and on the same uncertainty level. However, displaced kashmiris belonging to rural areas reported more positive impact in the areas of education. As stated earlier, majority of the respondents were from rural areas and were not exposed to a variety of good schools. After displacement, the rural kashmiris got exposed to a variety of good schools. Thus rural displaced kashmiris might have reported more positive impact than the urban displaced kashmiris who were already exposed to excellent schools. However displaced kashmiris having high socio-economic status might have been already exposed to various good schools and new technological facilities. The low status displaced kashmiris living in the camps might have seen even the little changes as positive. Thus displaced kashmiris having low socio-economic status before displacement reported more positive impact of displacement than displaced kashmiris having high socio-economic status before displacement

## **GENDERWISE DIFFERENCES IN THE OPINIONS REGARDING POSITIVE IMPACT OF DISPLACEMENT**

Genderwise the significant differences were seen in the positive impact of displacement in many areas. Wherever the significant differences were observed, males reported more positive impact than the females. As discussed before, being exposed to the outside world, males seem to be more expressive and articulate. As males take up gainful employment outside, they communicate with different kinds of people at different levels and thus tend to express themselves more precisely than females. Since they have to go out for employment, they may tend to be more observant and farsighted than females. Thus it helps them to make better comparisons and to relate things easily with new situations and people compared to females. Thus males might have reported more positive impact of displacement than the females

Males belonging to rural areas, having high socio-economic status and total loss of property reported more positive impact of displacement than females belonging to the same categories.

Males from rural areas reported more positive impact of displacement as they might have seen better opportunities than what they had at the Valley before displacement.

In a traditional society, socio-economic status and property dealings are usually associated with males. Thus males might have been more concerned to regain their original socio-economic status and lost property. Hence males belonging to these categories might have sought better and more opportunities to improve their financial conditions.

To overcome the displacement problems, there was a need to see the opportunities and reap the benefits. Therefore the males must have sought better opportunities and hence reported more positive impact of displacement than the females.

Genderwise, more positive impact was seen in the areas of education, socio-cultural and emotional changes and work efficiency. Before displacement the Kashmiris must have been exposed to limited

number of educational institutions which had limited facilities. The schools might have been either upto seventh or tenth class only. Seeing other excellent schools other than camp schools, the displaced Kashmiris especially men could have differentiated between the quality of education which they had at Kashmir and were later having at Jammu.

Most of the time women, stick to old age rituals and customs and usually feel secure in performing the same traditional customs.

However, due to gainful employment, males must have had more interactions with outside world and different people.

To get acceptance from other social groups, males might have tried to accept and adopt other socio-cultural traditions and might have tried to be in the mainstream and prove the proverb, "Be Roman in Rome". Trying to overcome the problems, displaced Kashmiri men might have picked up different kinds of jobs. To compete with other people and get better quality of jobs, displaced Kashmiri men might have improved upon their work efficiency and thus reported more positive impact of displacement on work efficiency.

Involvement with household work must have restricted the interaction of displaced Kashmiri women to lesser fractions, which must have included just family members, neighbours and relatives. Therefore it becomes important to provide better educational and occupational opportunities as well as exposure to outside world to displaced Kashmiri women so that there can be personality development among displaced Kashmiri women. That will also help them to be more eloquent, expressive and individualistic and thus enhance their decision-making. Consequently, such kind of exposure is a must for all females belonging to middle and lower class strata, encouraging them to be more open-minded to raise their voices. That will obviously provide ground to women to deal with their needs.

## **OPINION OF CAMP SCHOOL TEACHERS, CAMP DOCTORS AND CAMP ZONAL OFFICERS REGARDING DISPLACED KASHMIRIS**

Besides displaced kashmiris, even camp school teachers, camp doctors and camp zonal officers were requested to give their opinions regarding the problems, inadequate facilities and alternatives adopted by the displaced kashmiris and recommendations for improving the lives of displaced kashmiris.

The camp school teachers, camp doctors and camp zonal officers were closely connected with the displaced kashmiris and their life in the camps. Therefore the investigator was interested to get the relevant information about the displaced kashmiris from them also.

The teachers were requested to discuss the problems faced due to inadequate educational facilities and alternatives used to overcome these problems. Besides these, they were also asked to report the learning, behaviour and social problems of the displaced kashmiri students.

The teachers reported that many problems were faced due to inadequate infrastructural facilities. They were, namely, restricted classrooms, students having to sit on ground and write, lack of practical knowledge and eve teasing.

The inadequate alternatives, which were adopted by the teachers, created even more problems.

Overall, due to inadequate infrastructural facilities, the teachers opined that the displaced kashmiri students suffered not only in studies but also in the development of overall personality.

It is obvious that camp schools would be having inadequate facilities, as it is difficult to provide all the camp schools with all the provisions. However, the schools lacked even the basic educational amenities.

During crisis, the immediate needs like food, clothing and housing seem to be important but for long-term benefits, education is one of the important pre-requisites for progress.

Eventually the government must concentrate on providing better infra-structural facilities to camp schools to promote all-round personality of the students. The conditions of the camp schools could be improved, if instead of having many camp schools, there could be only few camp schools with satisfactory resources. The schools could run in shifts and camp school teachers could be adjusted in these shifts, so that all the teachers would be accommodated.

Inadequate facilities must have created learning, behavioural and social problems. Lack of concentration and low interest in education were some of the problems caused due to deficient facilities, leading to demotivation of students. Even the teachers could have been demotivated to give satisfactory education to students. The absence of competitive spirit in the students reported by the teachers could have been due to inadequate resources.

The camp zonal officers and displaced kashmiris reported that kashmiri students lacked competitive spirit due to sympathetic reservation policy. The reservation policy for displaced kashmiri students originally must have aimed at helping out displaced kashmiri students in their struggle to get the education.

However, at the same time, care has to be taken that any kind of reservation policy kept for the displaced kashmiris, should not make them mentally stagnant and totally dependent on the government for their upliftment. For achieving goals, even the displaced kashmiris need to put in efforts to solve their problems once they get stabilized. The aids provided to displaced kashmiris, should be gradually stopped, so that they themselves are encouraged to work and grow economically. As the displaced kashmiris get stabilized more and more, the aids could be only given at later stages to totally downtrodden kashmiris.

Inadequate living space and poor surroundings both at home as well as at camp schools might have created problems and might have led to discouragement among kashmiri students to study.

For improving overall personality among displaced kashmiri students, personality development courses might help them to grow

Besides this, the living conditions need to be improved so that a favourable environment could be provided to help them to attain their goals and enrich themselves

It was consoling to note that the camp school teachers as well as displaced kashmiris reported less social problems among students.

The doctors were invited to report the health problems of the displaced kashmiris. Besides the health problems, opinion was taken about the problems faced due to inadequate medical facilities and the alternatives adopted by the displaced kashmiris.

Problems like high blood pressure, stress diabetes, premature aging, anxiety and temper tantrums were the physical and mental problems faced by the displaced kashmiris. The doctors confirmed that these problems were faced by the displaced kashmiris to a higher degree

The problems might have been faced by the displaced kashmiris due to lot of stress and strain. The displaced kashmiris might have struggled and worked for many hours to earn sufficient amounts. The longer duration of work and more mental stress might have caused the above problems.

Even though, overall health was the least reported problem area, some of the above problems can be tackled by giving proper attention to health status of such kashmiris. The displaced kashmiris need to be aware of good health and ways to maintain it.

Doctors reported that due to inadequate alternatives adopted by the displaced kashmiris, more problems were created

The basic medical facilities were considered adequate; however high technological medical facilities could be provided in the camp dispensaries.

The camp dispensaries, if possible, could work in coordination with local hospitals, private clinics and government hospitals with minimum charges from the displaced kashmiris living in the camps

Before the study was conducted, it was assumed that displaced kashmiris might be facing reproductive health problems. However, it was reassuring that the displaced kashmiris as well as doctors reported less reproductive health problems compared to physical and mental health problems.

The camp zonal officers were contacted to know if they had any problems while supplying ration and relief.

The teachers and doctors were responsible for producing good results with regard to education and health status respectively, while the camp zonal officers were only responsible for supplying rations and relief provided by the government to the displaced kashmiris. The camp zonal officers were not responsible for any kind of further results as their responsibility got finished once the distribution work was over. So the camp zonal officers must have reported fewer problems

The camp zonal officers opined that displaced kashmiris lacked motivation to uplift their lives. There was no motivation left with displaced kashmiris to reach a higher status than what they presently had in camps. Sudden loss of property like land, house, furniture, clothing and other household items and emotional attachment of displaced kashmiris to their birth place, friends, neighbours and relations must have left displaced kashmiris demotivated to improve upon their present conditions. Thus they were losing interest in doing any kind of work. As discussed before, even the camp school teachers opined that the displaced kashmiris as well as students lacked competitive spirit. Thus the displaced kashmiris must have wasted time in gossiping, smoking, gambling and kept criticizing other people.

Displaced kashmiris need to be helped to overcome the stress and trauma due to their incredible loss. Get-togethers, recreational activities and better opportunities could help them to remain occupied and divert their minds from the miseries.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REHABILITATIVE MEASURES FOR THE DISPLACED KASHMIRIS**

The displaced kashmiris need to come out of their pigeon holes where they have been staying for the past many years. The hardships and the problems need to be mitigated through improved living conditions, employment opportunities, sound finance, better health services and variety of recreational facilities.

Displaced kashmiris need to be provided with more space, alterations like separate kitchens, improved living conditions and adequate living space. They need to be provided with employment opportunities and encouraged to pick up different occupations, having less inhibition for the kind of jobs, to improve their financial conditions.

The improved financial conditions would, in turn, help them to regain their original status, which would further help them to have their own identity and self-respect.

They need to have advanced technological health facilities with many health centres to have better physical and mental health.

They need to have nearby gardens, community centres, outdoor and indoor game facilities and theatres for relaxation of their stress and strain while solving their day-to-day problems. Apart from these, the displaced kashmiris need to develop maximum emotional intelligence, build healthy interpersonal relationships and need to preserve their socio-cultural traditions, without creating harmful class divisions and wasteful expenditure.

The problems of the displaced kashmiris have to be solved; otherwise the pain of hardships will be seen in their actions and behaviour. The feelings of depression and maladjustment have to be taken care of. Counselling centres could help to handle such kind of problems.

Psychotherapy and reassurance given by the counsellors could help the displaced kashmiris to develop stress tolerance and help them in adapting to new situations easily.

Displaced Kashmiris need to be given the understanding of healthy interpersonal relationships. For this, they need to be helped to develop patience and a forgiving and forgetful kind of attitude to live amicable lives with family members, relatives, neighbours and co-workers.

Kashmiris, especially youngsters need to be helped to tackle their needs and overcome their worries through sharing their experiences and views. The utmost thing for the displaced Kashmiris is to preserve their socio-cultural traditions. For this, the youngsters need to have awareness about their traditional customs and values. The preservation of traditional customs and values more or less depends upon one's family.

Displaced Kashmiris necessarily need to make youngsters aware of their own socio-cultural traditions, encouraging them to speak their mother tongue and stopping further socio-cultural ruins in spite of cross-cultural marriages.

The rehabilitative measures can be taken by groups of people and many organisations and institutions. Experienced displaced Kashmiris, parents, counsellors, camp school teachers, camp doctors, camp zonal officers and governmental, private and industrial organisations could help in mitigating the problems of the displaced Kashmiris.

Keeping in mind the present study, her Master's dissertation work and internship experience with a non-governmental organisation 'Young India' supported by UNICEF (United Nations International Child Emergency Fund) and informal discussion with displaced Kashmiris, camp school teachers, camp doctors and camp zonal officers, the investigator would like to put forward the following recommendations.

#### A. Improvement with present living conditions

- Increase in the size of the room
- Kitchen separated from the living area
- More community toilets and bathrooms
- Fencing to separate homes from outside areas
- Proper and smooth roads
- Chlorination of water to prevent water borne diseases
- Shopping complexes with new technological items

#### B. Educational benefits

- Provide proper infra-structural facilities:
  - Adequate classrooms with classroom necessities like black boards, chalks, dusters
  - Furniture like tables and chairs
  - Sanitation facilities like toilets
  - Well equipped laboratories
  - Libraries
- Guards provided to all camp schools
- Supply of textbooks and other school supplies to poor students
- Compulsory attendance of displaced kashmiri students in camp schools and colleges
- Scholarships to meritorious students of camp schools and colleges
- Personality development courses for students and teachers of camp schools and colleges
- Diploma courses to be made available to students who lack higher technical education
- Free or subsidized computer courses for students and teachers of camp schools and colleges

- Percentage relaxation for admission of displaced kashmiri students to technical education in various institutions.

#### C. Occupational benefits

- Releasing promotions of displaced kashmiri employees which had been frozen for the past twelve years
- Age relaxation in jobs
- Speedy release of pension
- Provision of loans to start small-scale business
- Income generating schemes
- Self employment programmes
- Entrepreneurship courses
- Increased job opportunities for the unemployed
- Special job opportunities for displaced kashmiri women.

#### D. Financial benefits

- Provision of sufficient monthly allowances
- Increase in rations
- Payment of compensation for the loss of property whether movable or immovable
- Financial assistance for better sustenance especially for displaced business families
- Provision of insurance policy

#### E. Medical benefits

- Communication facilities like telephones provided at health centres during emergency
- Counsellors to handle emotionally weak persons
- Home visits by health personnel to make people aware of health and sanitation
- Free camps for general medical checkups

- Free or subsidized medical aids like spectacles, dentures, and wheel chairs to needy persons
- Exercise, yoga and meditation centres

#### F. Recreational benefits

- Common television sets in the community centres
- Facilities for indoor and outdoor games
- More parks within camps
- Picnics for teachers and students of camp schools and camp colleges

#### G Preservation of socio-cultural norms

- Organizing religious functions like *Navreh*, *Shivratri*, *Zaramasatam* in community centres
- Organizing social functions in community centres
- Organizing cultural programmes emphasizing traditional dress and costumes such as fashion shows

Even after so many centuries, women still lag behind men. Women become more vulnerable during crisis time, like displacement. Therefore displaced Kashmiri women need to be given special benefits during the present crisis time to lessen their problems and sufferings.

- More allowance like life insurance policies and other general insurance policies
- Loans at reduced interest rate to encourage self-employment
- Job reservation in central government and other public sectors
- Exposure to more occupational skills
- Short-term income generating diploma courses

## **CONCLUSION**

When thrown out of their birthplace, the displaced kashmiris were unable to withstand the blistering heat of Jammu. Not only climatic problems, but sudden and abrupt uprooting made them face great loss of property and a financial crunch. Break-up in the family links was caused due to inadequate space, inhuman living conditions and insufficient money created many other problems. Besides the displaced kashmiris, even the camp school teachers, camp doctors and camp zonal officers opined that problems of displaced kashmiris can be minimised through better infrastructural facilities and increased ration and relief.

Surprisingly, some positive impact was also associated with displacement, which helped displaced kashmiris to get exposure in the fields of education and occupation, to have positive socio-cultural and emotional changes and development of tolerance and sympathy.

Since males reported both more problems and more positive impact of displacement than the females, the women need to be given wider exposure and opportunities to be expressive and to relate to many situations besides the household matters.

Special attention needs to be paid to those kashmiris who had high socio-economic status, who came from nuclear families, who had total loss of property, who had low emotional intelligence and who were old

A multistrategy approach needs to be adopted to help these groups, as the causes of their problems must have differed greatly. While more educational and job opportunities would help those who had high socio-economic status and total loss of property, more counselling and health centres would ease the problem of the displaced kashmiris who were old, who had less emotional intelligence and those who belonged to nuclear families

However it is not recommended to provide them with many reservation benefits. Reservation policy will make them dependent and will not help them to overcome their trauma of displacement and to strive for a better standard of living

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

- 1) A comparative study between displaced kashmiris living in the government camps at Jammu with
  - Displaced kashmiris staying in the camps at Delhi
  - Displaced kashmiris staying outside the camps
  - Non-kashmiris staying outside the camps
- 2) A study of each of the following age groups of displaced kashmiris living in the government camps at Jammu:
  - Children
  - Youth
  - Middle-aged
  - Old persons
- 3) A study on monitoring, evaluation and implementation of the rehabilitative measures for displaced kashmiris living in the government camps at Jammu
- 4) A comparative study of the benefits and ill effects of reservation policy used for the displaced kashmiris living at government camps at Jammu.
- 5) A study on variables other than those taken in the present study.
- 6) A comparative study on the role of government, non-government and industrial organisations in providing rehabilitative measures to the displaced kashmiris living in the government camps at Jammu.
- 7) An in-depth study of each of the problem areas studied in the present study.
- 8) A similar kind of study on a larger sample size
- 9) A study of problems of the displaced kashmiris living in the government camps with different methodological approaches such as observation, actual health, occupational and financial records and case studies instead of only surveys