



Case Study

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From Displacement to Employment: Social innovation for creating livelihoods in resettlement colonies

Priya Nair Rajeev ¹

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Please contact the corresponding author, if you would like to access the full case study.

¹Associate Professor, Organizational Behaviour and Human Resources Area & Head - Centre of Excellence for Social Innovation (CESI), Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, IIMK Campus PO, Kunnamangalam, Kozhikode, Kerala 673 570, India; Email - priya@iimk.ac.in, Phone Number - 0495-2809439

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Abstract:

The Tamil Nadu government's initiative to give the city a facelift and improve the life of slum dwellers undertook a massive resettlement operation that moved over a million people to the city's outskirts. The mass relocation created many challenges for the affected individuals, disrupting their livelihood and pushing them deeper into unemployment and poverty. Recognizing this situation as an opportunity for positive change, Bharath Thirugnanam, cofounder of the NGO Apogee Research Forum, conceives a community-centric social enterprise model that focuses on the socio-economic empowerment of the residents, particularly women, by establishing a food processing unit. Though undaunted by the enormity of the challenge, Bharath is faced with the dilemma of whether a social enterprise would be the right solution or whether he should consider other alternative pathways to financially and socially better the women's lives.

Research Office Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode IIMK Campus P. O., Kozhikode, Kerala, India, PIN - 673 570

Phone: +91-495-2809237/ 238

Email: research@iimk.ac.in

