

LAND GRAB

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Land Grab

“ The process of forcing people out of their own lands for the benefit of foreign multinationals and other corporate organizations is one form of land grab which is happening currently in various states across India like West Bengal, Orissa , Tamil Nadu etc.,“

and

“ By giving our own lands to MNC's, India now relies on grabbing lands in other developing countries for even basic necessities such as food(pulses) and fuel(Bio fuel) “

Why Land Grab?

- Feed their own people
- meet consumption needs
- meet domestic needs
- New Global Food Policies
- For Bio Fuel
- Renewable Energy
- For mining
- For construction of Big dams
- Thermal and Nuclear Power plants
- State control over people
- For Information Tech Parks
- Real Estate
- Commercial and Residential real estate
- Shopping Malls

IMPACT OF LAND GRAB

- Land Loss
- Houses Demolished
- Schools Destroyed
- Income-Loss-No Cattle
- No Resources to produce Food
- Loss of Sleep- Noise Pollution
- Lakes, Water Bodies Occupied
- Trees Removed-No Fire Wood
- Temple Demolished
- Burial Ground Occupied
- Closed the Path Ways
- Air Pollution, Water Pollution
- Less Food, No Job
- Child Labour Increased
- No Privacy, No Sanitation, Public Toilet Encroached
- Grazing Lands encroached
- Eviction

WALL - TOILET - SCHOOL



NO PATHWAY



Destroyed Burial ground



No green pastures







COMPANIES NEAR VILLAGES



RENAULT NISSAN



**CHENNAKUPPAM
PUBLIC TOILET**



Children lost their playground



Pathway closed

Impact Cont..

- Loss of self-government
- Sovereignty
- Cultural identity.
- Lost Local seeds
- Biodiversity destroyed
- Loss of local economy Agri, fisheries, salt plans, artisans, handloom, traditional livelihoods.
- Revenue Loss of Rs.160000 Crores

Types of Land grabbed

- **Bhoodan Land**

Given to Dalits through Bhoodan Movement led by Vinoba bhave in 1957. It is a land gift movement. E.g., Oragadam

- **Poromboke Lands** are government controlled and maintained. E.g., Thervai

- **Panjami lands** given by British Government in 1892 to Dalits. E.g., Panapakkam

SEZ'S

IN INDIA



*Denotes SEZs currently in operation or ready for operation

*Denotes SEZ approved and under establishment

SEZ's

- National and Foreign Companies
- Duty free enclaves
- Foreign enclaves
- Exempted from taxes
- Subsidized, uninterrupted electricity, quality water supply
- 100% FDI encouraged
- Skilled Labour
- Skilled Jobs
- Exploits natural resources
- Development Commissions
- No rights to strike
- Revenue Loss

Sompeta: A Case Study

“A new thermal power plant which destroyed livelihood of agricultural and fisher folks”

- Polluting local water bodies with 10,000 tons of ashes everyday
- Destruction of well constructed irrigation system
- Coastal ecology and common property resources lost
- Government altered the fact by changing fertile land documents as waste and unused lands



Sompeta Women



THERMAL PLANT

Acts for Land Grabbing

- LAND ACQUISITION ACT Of 1894
- LAND CEILING ACT 1961
- SEZ ACT 2005 and Rules 2006
- LAND BANKS
- Relief and Rehabilitation Bill 2007
- Tamil Nadu Acquisition of land for Industrial purpose Act-1997
- Tamil Nadu Special Economic Zones ordinance 2005



Land Grab at KVRpuram

E.g. of Land Grab

“Acquisition of Land in the name of
Development”

- Green Belt Airport on Agricultural Land where 4 Village will be evicted (Thirumani Kuppam, Vayalur, Motur, Soorkapuram)
- Navy Extension (Athur)
- Commandos Training Centre
- Navy - INS - Rajali (Silver pettai)
- New International Airport
- Coimbatore Airport Extension.

Compensation:

- Relief And Rehabilitation Policy
- 60 Million Displaced
- Re settlement by House Sites
- Haves Got Compensation
- Have not Got Kicked out

Dr.B.R.Ambedkar said..

- Democracy in every field: Social, Economic and political.
- Social Justice means maximum happiness
- To Maximum number of people
- Upliftment of poor, backward and downtrodden

Bio Fuel:

- US and German companies invests 100 billion rupees(\$2.1 billion) for renewable energy
- 3 companies such as BAYER, Daimler and Midland on 30 million hectares of land have developed have used Jatropa in areas such as Tuticorin and many other villages
- Reliance industries have invested \$500 million for bio diesel refining plant on 200 hectares to cultivate Jatropa
- Indian Companies Land Grab in Ghana
- 27 Thousand hectares of land to BHO AGRO PLC
- Karuturi Lease 300 thousand hectares of land
- BHO AGRO, Ruchi Group cultivate Bio-fuel on 25,000 hectares



JATROPHA



DALIT WOMEN'S PROTEST AGAINST AQUA FARM



FOOD INSECURITY PROTEST



Demanding Food Sovereignty



ASIAN RURAL WOMEN AGAINST SEZ'S



WOMEN'S CARAVAN AGAINST SEZ

Suggestions:

- Good Policy Required
- Systematic approach from the Start of the Project
- Consultative Decision Making
- Adequate Information
- Respect to Grama Sabha
- Rebuild Livelihood
- Allot Land for displaced persons with appropriate compensation
- No Tax exemption

**IS SEZ WORTH? THIS
MUCH TROUBLE...**

FOOD FOR PEOPLE OR BIO FUEL?