The partition of British India led to the division of British India into two sovereign dominions of India and Pakistan. The partition had severely affected the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. Maharaja Hari Singh, the then ruler of Kashmir, decided not to accede with any of the dominion. Standstill agreement was offered to both India and Pakistan and Pakistan accepted the standstill agreement. Unfortunately, Jammu and Kashmir faced the brunt of partition as the fleeing population had chosen the route to cross the boundary separating the two dominions. The Muslim population faced massacres and the internal revolt in Poonch area that invited the trouble for the state. The tribal invasion led to the accession of Jammu and Kashmir with Indian Union and the occupation of some areas of the state by tribals supported by Pakistan. Thus Jammu and Kashmir was ripped into two parts, one under Indian control and the other under Pakistan control (occupation). The situation that emerged after the partition of British India created havoc for the people of Jammu and Kashmir especially those who were residing in the areas at present under Pakistan occupation (PoK). The scenario that emerged because of tribal invasion and war forced the Hindu population of that particular area to runaway towards the Indian side of Jammu and Kashmir to save their lives. Therefore, these people got uprooted and displaced. Also the turmoil of 1947 resulted in large scale displacement of people of all communities in both eastern and western borders of India. Those who crossed the border into Indian territories, with bitter memories of betrayal and sufferings, were forced to start new lives in new environment and surroundings. They have usually remained social and economic outsiders for some time, until get adapted to the new conditions. The displaced persons who became victims as a result of imperial collapse and war had to start from scratch in the vast majority of cases because of the impossibility of returning to their homes. The mass migration of people significantly altered the demographic profile of the territories affected.

The migratory inflow that took place between India and Pakistan was not of inter-state nature but has to be seen as internal displacement caused not just by partition but communal riots. This flow of people was not of inter-state refugees but of displaced, traumatised, evicted and expelled people whose nationality was changed without their own consent. These internally displaced are excluded from the category of dejure
refugees but they are defacto refugees. So they are not covered and protected by the United Nations 1951 Convention. The 1947 PoK displaced persons had been uprooted from their homes or habitual economic activities by the generalised violence or prevailing conflict in the country. They feared persecution and were helpless without much assistance, but they are outside the purview of international refugee law. During the 1960s, the world has witnessed an increase in population displacements emerging from the developing world, which highlighted the inadequacies of the 1951 Convention on Refugees. This shift is reflected in changes such as the adoption of 1967 protocol and the broader conceptualisation of refugee concerns for the United Nations in Africa which was formalised in 1969 in the OAU Refugee Convention in Africa. The non-ratification of the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol by the Government of India has reduced the status of fleeing humanities to political arbitrariness. The grant of refugees status is at discretion of the political authorities. There is no legal framework under Indian constitution to determine the status of refugees and the Government of India has dealt with the refugees on adhoc basis. Involuntary displacements are almost invariably driven and accompanied by extraordinary events such as wars, partition, ethnic and religious strife. They involve the movement of a large number of people in a very short span of time. The negative consequences of displacement are typically aggravated by the absence of a strategy for redressing their problems that displacement creates absence of resettlement and rehabilitation policy and by inadequate planning and execution.

The treaty of Amritsar marks the commencement of the history of the Jammu and Kashmir state as a political entity. A month after the end of British rule on the subcontinent, Kashmir was invaded by Kashmiri Sudhan tribesmen encouraged by Pakistan. By permitting the frontier tribesmen to pass through its territory, Pakistan became a party to the invasion of Kashmir in 1947. This act of aggression by Pakistan abrogated the standstill agreement. The Muslim companies of Jammu and Kashmir forces in the Poonch-Mirpur sector had deserted with arms and ammunition and joined the raiders. Unable to defend his state, as the situation deteriorated, ruler of Jammu and Kashmir appealed to the Indian government to provide military assistance to save the state garrisons and thousands of displaced persons from being massacred. But it was felt that formal accession of the state must take place before any help could be sent. On October 26, Maharaja Hari Singh for seeking military assistance to save the state from tribal’s raiders signed Instrument of Accession with India to legalise the Indian
Government to send her Army. After the signing and acceptance of Instrument of Accession, Indian armed forces entered Kashmir to repel the raiders. Indian army was able to clear the Kashmir valley of the enemy by November 8, when Baramulla was liberated. The enemy was driven from Uri on November 13 and the threat to Kashmir valley was averted. In spite of difficulties, the relief operations were carried out and the Indian army and air force completed the task of rescuing the Kashmir valley, Nowshera, Jhangar, Rajouri and Poonch from the raiders. The garrison at Mirpur and Bhimber could not be relieved as they were too close to Pakistan’s border. Pakistan army personnel, ostensibly on leave, were fighting with the raiders. Pakistan had been actively helping the raiders since the very beginning with arms, signal and transport equipment and trained officers and men. Pakistan’s regular army also entered into Jammu and Kashmir, while denying loudly of giving any support to the raiders. The motto behind such acts was that Pakistan wanted to grab Jammu and Kashmir through a swift and camouflaged action but that attempt was nullified by the Indian army.

It was while the action was going on and Indian army was winning the battle that Jawaharlal Nehru rushed to the United Nations and internationalised the issue. Sardar Patel and army officers pleaded for time so that the Kabailies could be forced back all the way. But Nehru kept his own counsel and appealed to the United Nations. United Nations asked for an immediate ceasefire and a ceasefire agreement was signed between India and Pakistan. By that time the Indian forces had been able to push back the Kabailies till Muzaffarabad and so the ceasefire line, later renamed as line of control, was drawn there. The contour of this line changed slightly after later wars but it has remained more or less the de facto border between India and Pakistan in Kashmir. India lost all territory beyond Muzaffarabad to the so called Kabailies. Thus a third of Jammu and Kashmir remained under Pakistan’s control. The rest became India’s Jammu and Kashmir state. The Kabailies established the so called Azad Kashmir government in the territory that they had retained. However, it is a known fact that this part is not Azad at all. It is a puppet in the hands of Pakistan, therefore, the alternative name - Pakistan Occupied Kashmir is used.

The partition of Indian subcontinent, tribal invasion of Jammu and Kashmir and subsequent displacement and territorial conflicts have affected lives of people in many aspects. Its brunt was not limited to one particular area or group of people but included
and impacted men, women, children, farmers, traders, propertied class etc. Many people were uprooted and faced economic challenges. For many others, there were the problem of rehabilitation and building their lives from the scratch. The partition and its repercussions and ramifications are relevant and still alive in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Unlike the other parts of the sub-continent where partition forms the history; the partition in case of Jammu and Kashmir is not a closed chapter for the simple reason that the very division of the state between the Indian administered Kashmir and Pakistani administered Kashmir is contested both by India and Pakistan. The border on the two sides is not finalised and unlike the international border, there is the Line of Control (LoC) which itself represents the transitory status of the border. The unsettled nature of the border represented by LoC has implications for the people who have been divided by this line and despite being part of the same family are now living in two different political set ups which are divided not only by the physical border but also the two different sovereignties - Indian sovereignty and Pakistani sovereignty. Due to the hostile conditions between the two countries, these people are the major sufferers. Despite sharing the common cultural, linguistic and community bonds, people across the LoC are not allowed to see each other. In many cases families have been divided in such ruthless way that members of the same family have to live across LoC against their wishes.

Refugees leave their homeland and seek admission to another country not from choice or for reasons of personal convenience but out of absolute necessity. The PoK displaced persons had been compelled to leave their respective places of origin in order to find security and protection elsewhere. The 1947 PoK displacement have remained a contentious issue in the state of Jammu and Kashmir along with the issue of West Pakistan refugees. A localised revolt in the predominantly Muslim Poonch area was launched against the administrative neglect of the Maharaja’s rule. It was only after the announcement of decision of partition by British government and the beginning/spread of communal atmosphere that in order to save their lives Hindus and Muslims crossed over territories to put them in safe zones and got displaced.

The violent displacement of 1947 was an extremely traumatic experience, both individually and collectively, for those who became its victims because of the series of disruptions, discontinuities, losses and deep wounds that accompanied it. The degraded
nature of tribals armed invasion and the strategies of Pakistan to control territory of Kashmir has unleashed a climate of terror and set in motion forces that destroyed the solidarity between neighbours, transformed the life of people who were residing in the PoK areas and they have to displaced to look for the safe places. To all this must be added the multiple losses that include the death or disappearance of family, friends or neighbours; the abandonment of land and possessions; and environmental destruction. In other words, all that makes up everyday life and nurtures the construction of individual and collective identity is torn apart. The leaving of areas physically did not alleviate the fear and its effects, pain, disorientation and uncertainty. Therefore, displacement has brought about permanently the uprooting and dismemberment of social, moral and economic webs of life of 1947 PoK displaced persons built over generations.

The displaced persons were housed in temporary camps when they arrived in Jammu. When the camps were set up, the authorities had assured them of their return home. But that promise was never fulfilled as India lost that area to Pakistan. However, the Indian government still regards the PoK as legal and integral part of India and says that Pakistan has kept control over PoK by its illegal occupation. Because of this Indian official position, the 1947 PoK displaced persons have suffered a lot and they are not granted the refugee status and compensation which they deserve. Many Hindu and Sikh displaced persons of 1947 remain uncompensated by the government for the lands and property that they had lost in PoK. In most of the cases, the displaced households have not been paid adequate compensation for their economic as well as non-economic losses. This has created series of negative consequences. Apart from land loss and loss of home, displacement had brought various complex social, cultural, economic and gender problems. Displacement of household from one place to another completely damaged the social fabric and has put enormous implicit cost on the displaced persons by dismantling their social network and bringing in new threats of social exclusion.

The state responded by establishing the refugee relief camps at Palanwala, Jourian, Nagrota, Chatha, Poonch town, company Bagh, Frashkhana at Jammu city to accommodate them in government and private buildings. The Indian government constituted Central Refugee Committee vide Council Order No. J/13/47 on November 19, 1947; established Relief and Rehabilitaion Department (April 14, 1948) under the Ministry of Health and Rehabilitation, constituted Indo-Kashmir Joint Rehabilitation
Board (in 1950) and Rajya Sabha Committee on Petition. On the other hand, the state government appointed Land Allotment Committee, issued Cabinet Order No.- 1476-C in 1950, Cabinet Order No.- 913-C of 1951 and Cabinet Order No.- 578-C of 1954, enacted Rules for allotment of agricultural land and Evacuee Property Act, Displacement Persons Permanent Settlement Act of 1971 etc. The state government also appointed Wazir Committee and Wadhawa Committee to recommend measures regarding the 1947 displacement but their miserable condition continues even today and the recommendations of these committees are not implemented as such.

The temporary relief work was undertaken before the steps for their permanent rehabilitation were taken. While rehabilitating them, the people desired to live among their kinsmen at the new place of rehabilitation. The government, no doubt, had given compensation in terms of land, site for home, plots and bore other expenses. But this economic compensation had not satisfactorily counterbalanced the social and psychological disturbances. They need to be rehabilitated not only economically but socially and psychologically as well. The rehabilitation process, therefore, had posed a problem not only to the government, but it has brought in its wake many stresses and strains to the affected people also. The stresses and strains prior to rehabilitation were arising out of the uncertainty of future, where they are going to settled, how they will survive and many other associated aspects. After rehabilitation, they were linked to the new setup where new relations are to be forged and insecurity of future.

No doubt, majority of the displaced persons are better in comparison to the time of their displacement. Almost 98% of the respondents, even persons belonging to younger generations are aware of their families displacement. It is well known to them. The younger generations have adopted new life styles and they do not differentiate themselves from their local counterparts. But still the displaced persons have different views and they think that displacement has cost them a lot both materially and spiritually. They claim that they were not compensated adequately for their loss. They were resettled but not properly rehabilitated. The fact supports their version. After resettlement, the displaced persons children availed the education in the schools established at respective places. The education not only provided displaced persons better chances of employment but also provided them necessary incentives to enable displaced youth to take roots, make friends amongst the natives of the areas where they
were resettled and learnt many other things which were related to how to survive in the new environment and circumstances placed in front of them because of the displacement.

Globally, there is now a shift in thinking regarding the provision of services by government to people. From welfare or needs based approach that focused on beneficiaries who need a certain type of response which is decided by administrators. Now there is a move towards adopting a rights based approach where the individuals are not regarded as mere beneficiaries who are at the receiving end of doles, but as bearers of rights who are entitled to these services as a matter of right - the rights that are spelled out in constitutions, laws and related international conventions to which India is a party. The commission believes that such a rights-based approach alone can enhance the quality of the services delivered by authorities. As we have seen before, the range of rights can be thematic or substantive rights such as the right to livelihood and right to shelter but it can also include procedural rights that cut across the whole spectrum of displacement. A world in which nations ignore the plight of the unfortunate can be neither prosperous nor safe for anyone.

Findings of the Research:

1. **Causes of Displacement:** 1947 Indo-Pak war (27%), partition and religious communal riots (73%, brutalities of Muslims) were the factors that caused their displacement as argued by the respondents. No doubt the war and communal riots are the reasons advanced by the displaced persons for their displacement but 100% of the respondents said, “Muslims were responsible for their plight that forcibly displaced the non-Muslims by their acts and brutalities”. The partition and war took the shape of violent communalism and Hindu people were left with no option other than to escape from the area and in the process they got displaced.

2. **Relief and Assistance at Camps:** The displaced persons were provided temporary settlement by means of arrangement in camp established at Nagrota. Later on when camp were closed, these displaced persons were allotted land by government in different parts or districts of the Jammu and Kashmir (rural areas of Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Jammu and Udhampur) for the purpose of their rehabilitation and resettlement. Once they were shifted
and allotted land, government did not give any kind of aid and assistance and left them with/on their destiny/fate ignoring problems of displaced. Amount of rupees one thousand was sanctioned as assistance to displaced. They were provided meager cash, very less than sanctioned money, of rupees 500 (some mentioned Rupees 750) ration, food, shelter, tents and medical aid. The conditions in the camps were not good and the material things available were insufficient, inadequate and existed unhygienic conditions.

3. **Problems faced by Displaced Persons at that Particular time**

The displaced persons had faced a number of problems not only at the time of displacement but afterwards as well. They had moved on foot for hundreds of kilometer in search of safe shelter. There was shortage of food and the people had to remain hungry for many days. They had to suffer because of lack of medical aid; from residential problem; from poverty due to weak economic position. Besides this, the women of those places were under great threat. Women faced the problem of indignities and suffered a lot for saving their lives. There were the clouds of unemployment because of absence of government jobs and other avenues for earnings. At the places of their resettlement, they were provided with land which was uncultivable and unproductive. This further added to their misery and sufferance. One said, “We were just like a seed which has to grow on barren land. The same was our situation in those areas where land was allotted to us.” The sites, which were allotted to the displacee was barren at that time. When the displaced person reached the place of allotted land, the area was full of snakes, scorpions, lizards and other poisonous insects. The victim found it hard to build their houses in the adverse conditions. So resettlement was not the end of trauma in the life of the victims rather it started a new phase of agony, anguishes and frustration.

4. **Registration and Resettlement**: Registration was, however, completed subsequently only in respect of those families who joined the refugee camps. As per the official records available, 31619 displaced families of 1947 stand registered and no claim stand unregistered. Out of this, 26,319 families are residing in the state while 5300 families have gone outside the state. However, there are still families which are unregistered. ‘26, 319’ 1947 PoK displaced families were resettled under the resettlement and rehabilitation
programme. Out of this 3600 family’s preferred to settle in urban areas, known as urban displaced persons while 22,719 families were rehabilitated in rural areas, known as rural displaced persons.

5. **Inter-community Relationship at settlement places**: When displaced persons reached on the safe side in camps, they were welcomed with open hands and arms. In some areas, this affinity was so strong that the local population shared everything with the displaced persons, until such time as relief could be brought and distributed to them. But in the places where displaced persons were resettled, there was a mix response towards them. 57% respondents pointed out that the hard hearted individuals looked up with eye of hate and suspicion. However, there were not any tensions between local and displaced population. The relationship between the displaced persons and the local people has been very good throughout in the earlier years of their settlement. However, later a sense of competition developed. The displaced persons have also been friendly and cooperative. The interrelationship has undergone transformation over the years.

6. **Compensation and Satisfaction level**: Resettlement is considered synonymous with compensation paid in cash or allotment of land for construction of houses. This scarcely helped in resettlement in true sense of the term. A majority of the people remained uncompensated. Secondly, the quantum of compensation has been determined arbitrarily and certainly insufficient for families to reestablish themselves in new places. Their total assets were not taken into consideration and generalised compensation in cash was fixed for all. Thirdly, the long time taken to make payment, of even this niggardly amount, caused enormous suffering to the displaced persons even at a time when they had lost their belongings. Such delays were also a source of widespread discontent among the displaced. The delay in compensation award also devalued the compensation award. The displaced were compensated. But the compensation was hardly proportionate with the total loss. There had been cases of inadequate compensation and corruption in payments. They have not been compensated for their properties which they left behind in PoK.

Nodoubt the displaced persons are not much satisfied with the amount of compensation granted to them in the form of land and cash, but it is fact that
actually government has made them to start life afresh after their escape from dreadful and turmoil situation. Majority of the old age displaced persons who were rehabilitated in the district Rajouri were satisfied with what they got from the government at that time as they were hopeless and it seemed to them that their life will end up with starvation and sufferings. However, this satisfaction level turns to be just 19% if all the respondents (including younger generations) are included. They demand that compensation in cash and land should be given to them along with other basic amenities.

7. **Poor Quality of Land:** The land allotted to the displaced persons was poor in quality with no irrigation facility. It was mainly unirrigated, infertile and non-agricultural barren land and mostly in forest (jungle) areas. They had to work hard and even had to pay wages to the hired labourers to convert their land for agricultural purposes. A large number of displaced families were not allotted land as per the prescribed scale. The displaced persons demanded that if the government could not provide land on the pretext of non-availability of land, then they be given cash compensation as per the prevailing market rate so that they can purchase land for themselves elsewhere.

8. **Status of Displaced Persons:** The 1947 PoK displaced persons are treated as permanent residents of the state. The official position of New Delhi on Kashmir is a total commitment to parliament’s resolution on Kashmir which says that the undivided state of Jammu and Kashmir, including the PoK and the Northern areas, was an inalienable part of India. Therefore, PoK displaced persons are not accorded official refugee status. But all the locals and authorities in the administration address or call them by the name of refugees.

As per the international norms and the position of India on PoK (PoK as part of India or status quo), 1947 PoK displaced persons deserve to be accorded either IDPs or Refugee status.

9. **Their memories of ancestral homelands and childhood remain confined to the heart and are unforgettable.** Although lives were rebuilt, much of the displaced families are under the influence of memories of home and transit. They remain fully captives of their past. The old age persons reflect the special attachment and love for those places. Their land has disappeared,
yet they wish to go back and see how it looks now. Another person added that those lanes and neighbours, relatives and the days spent during his childhood days loom in memories and he remember all those oldie memories. Most of these uprooted people did not have any idea at the time of their departure that they would never be able to return to their desh. They expected to be back in their ancestral place in the near future. In fact, it took several years for them to realise that they could never return to their own land, to their desh. This failure to reconcile with the permanent loss of homeland becomes clear in the narratives of the victims, who were either personally victimised or witnessed the catastrophe from a close proximity. However, the situation has now got transformed, they does not want to return to their ancestor places even if any settlement is made with Pakistan.

10. **Undergone Resocialisation**: Displaced persons have to undergo an entire process of resocialisation and adjustment in an unfamiliar environment. Traditional social relations and community networks got break down as a result leading to physical and psychological stress. It also has lead to economic disruption.

11. **Kinship groups and family systems have undergone transformation**:  
   - PoK displaced persons have faced difficulty to maintain kinship ties as they were **not settled in contiguous areas** and also they could not move to distant places to meet their relatives because of **lack of transportation facilities** and their **pathetic economic conditions**.  
   - **The family system has undergone structural change** as well as in **values, beliefs and customs**;  
   - There is shift towards Nuclear families (27% → 64%);  
     The Joint families are now being replaced by the Nuclear families;  
     the number of nuclear families of PoK displaced persons in Nowshera Constituency has risen from 27% in the pre-displacement period to 64% (at present). Thus there is 37% rise in the nuclear families after displacement.  
   - **Changes in Marriage Patterns**: customs and practices of marriage are now got influenced by the custom dogra culture and inter-community marriages are solemnised and practiced now.
12. **Positive Impact of Displacement**: The displaced persons were mostly illiterate; their displacement has impacted positively especially in the education sector among the newer generations. Many availed the opportunities available to make their children educated. As a result, literacy rates among displaced persons have improved and they are able to get the services in government sector. Still, most of them are engaged in agricultural activities. It has been observed that if seen in comparison of the household land holding before and after displacement, in 63% cases large land holders became marginal land holders after displacement and in 23% cases displaced persons got the land more than what they were actually having before displacement.

13. PoK displaced persons have been **victims twice of communal fundamentalism** - first, they were uprooted from their homes and second, they were treated most shabbily by the state government with regard to rehabilitation because they were non-Muslims. The Jammu and Kashmir government created an authority titled Custodian of Evacuee Property to safeguard the property of Muslims who migrated to Pakistan in 1947 and were settled there permanently as citizens of Pakistan. Instead, the government should have created an authority to assess the properties in PoK. In 1982, the Jammu and Kashmir government passed an Act in the assembly titled Resettlement Act 1982 by virtue of which Muslims who had migrated to Pakistan, and settled there as permanent citizens, could come back and claim their properties. This was yet another blow to the process of resettlement of PoK displaced persons.

14. **Indifferent attitude of government**: The relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons of 1965 and later of Kashmiri pandits sidelined the grievances of 1947 displaced persons. They are not being treated similarly in providing relief and grants and have been kept aloof from the similar benefits that the government is providing to the Kashmiri pandits such as
   a) A constituency in exile is provided to Kashmiri pandits i.e. an Assembly segment of Habbakadal for which they can cast their vote from anywhere in India.
b) Relief measures such as monthly cash relief, ration, money, reservation in professional colleges, rehabilitation grants, loans, compensation for human losses, reservation in jobs etc.

c) Special employment package and recruitment drive was conducted for Kashmiri pandits.

The PoK displaced persons feel discriminated and marginalised in comparison to the Kashmiri pandits as their situation is even worse than Kashmiri pandits. They too have been victims of displacement and have suffered more trauma and violence. They have been displaced illegally and forcibly from the occupied areas of the state by Pakistan which is beyond their reach. The case of final rehabilitation of PoK displaced persons of 1947 is yet not settled. The difference in their case and that of Kashmiri pandits is that the former have hardly any hope to return to the place of their origin not even as visitors.

The feeling of being neglected on the part of the displaced persons is seen growing more and more. On the other hand, the government is taking every possible step to rehabilitate and fulfill the demands of the Kashmiri pandits. West Pakistan refugees and 1947 PoK displaced persons were ignored by the state but Kashmiri pandits, on the other side, found themselves on the receiving end of policies. The state remained completely indifferent towards their problem of resettlement and rehabilitation. All this is due to absence of holding of bureaucratic positions in the government machinery and absence of political connections. There is no political representation for the PoK displaced persons and therefore, they lack the leadership that represent their case.

15. The 1947 PoK displaced persons are unsatisfied with the policies of both state and Indian government. They have taken displaced persons for granted and just watching and fulfilling the wishes of Kashmiris. The Indian government only listens to demands of anti-national elements. The displaced persons are of the opinion that the both state and central governments had not played satisfactory role till now since the displacement has occurred. The government had taken only piecemeal or half-heartily measures for their rehabilitation.

No doubt, majority of the displaced persons are better in comparison to the time of their displacement. Still the displaced persons have different views.
and they think that displacement has cost them a lot both materially and spiritually. They claim that they were not compensated adequately for their loss. They were resettled but not properly rehabilitated. The indicative data highlights the severity of the apathy and indifference of official agencies and the government to take responsibility for those who were forced to forgo their ancestral habitats and have experienced social and cultural disruption in the past six and a half decades.

16. Political participation of the displaced persons of 1947, 1965 and 1971 is the most significant measure for redressing their grievances. In a democratic set up, it is the responsibility of the state to have special care of the expectations and expressions of each socio-political group. The state government is in position to settle the issue of displaced persons permanently once for all if it desires, yet no healthy measures has grown up politically so far. Political sincerity is must to address the problem. The proverb “Hopes sustain life” is governing the lives of displaced persons.

17. Don’t want to return to PoK: The PoK displaced persons do not wish to think of returning to live in original houses or place of residence if some agreement is reached between India and Pakistan or the two parts of Jammu and Kashmir are reunited. Majority (90 per cent) of 1947 PoK displaced persons resettled in district Rajouri argued that they would not prefer to return to their ancestor homes in PoK even if Indian government settles any plan with Pakistan which is a hypothetical condition. The displaced persons are of the opinion that they do not want to be displaced again. They say that after decades of staying here, now they are able to compete and feeling satisfied. If they are again uprooted from this place, their fate will be of mental agony and they will lost everything which they have gained in the last sixty five years.

Very few said that they can go back only if the government vacates areas of PoK and provide special package. In addition, the government must compensate all the losses they had suffered since 1947 as well as make available all rights on their ancestors land. Few of them lamented, in PoK their names does not exist on revenue records. While 27% respondents said that they only want to visit those places and not to live. They desire to pay homage to their original lands.
Suggestions

When the problems of refugees and those forcibly displaced are similar everywhere, why should there not be a uniform law applicable everywhere, especially when we talk about the world as a global village? Unfortunately, people are not even conscious of the extent or magnitude of the problems of displaced persons. Many more people are refugees than those included by the United Nations Convention and Protocol include in their definition. The excluded fall into three groups: first, the internally displaced who are persecuted and unprotected within their own nation; second, victims of internal military operations and civil conflict; and third, individuals and groups systematically excluded from economic resources and political rights in their country. It is desirable for individuals and groups to have formal recognition as refugees so that they may claim international asylum and that the world community might develop means of protection for these other refugees.

What are the lessons to be learnt after six and half decades experience in dealing with the problem of 1947 PoK Displaced persons? The displaced persons who left behind all their property and other valuables in PoK and also left behind their loving members of family who were massacred by Pakistani Army and Kabalies were not given proper care by government of Jammu and Kashmir and Indian government. The first thing is that enough attention has not always been paid to the problem of displaced persons especially in the sphere of their proper rehabilitation and associated components. These displaced persons have not been provided any special package either by state or central government for their absorption in government service or for entering into any private venture to earn their livelihood. Only marginal assistance has been provided to some of the families, while majority of them are being neglected and their care is not taken off. They have to sustain themselves by their own efforts. They are in a particularly unfavourable situation as compared with the other displaced persons in the state, as they are not of particular interest for the governments in power. Some indicative data highlights the severity of the apathy and indifference of official agencies and the government to take responsibility for those who were forced to forgo their ancestral habitats and have experienced social and cultural disruption in the past six and a half decades. How long they have to wait; only God knows.
After resettlement, the displaced people should be properly rehabilitated by providing job or self-employment opportunities and other social services and amenities in the resettlement colonies. The displaced population must be resettled immediately with proper rehabilitation measures and timely payment of adequate compensation. There has also been felt the need of identifying and simplifying the administrative and legal processes for speedy resettlement claims of displaced persons. If analysis is limited to the interim situation/solution of the displaced, without regard to long term prospects of returning home, the government is taking an obvious step with only short-term and limited prospects. Considering the adamant position of Pakistan and the international community as well as the resolutions of the United Nations, it must be imperative for government of India to act wisely and grant all the relief measures to the PoK displaced persons. The government should not leave them in limbo and act on their demands. The talks are on transforming the defacto border along the Line of Control into International Border, which India was even ready to accept. Then why the Indian government and the state government are hesitant to take decision to permanently resolve the issue of 1947 PoK displaced persons and decide the fate of displaced persons in positive way.

The grievances of the displaced persons from PoK have not been properly addressed by the government and they are suffering since the last six and half decades and the successive governments in the state did not deem it necessary to mitigate sufferings and redress their grievances. They were provided only with nominal interim relief. The claims that were due to them for their settlement have not yet been given and they have constantly been pleading their case to the governments that were formed at state and central levels. The lop-sided government response has compelled the displaced persons to organise themselves to get their grievances heard and respond affirmatively. As per the international politics, no state is ready to lose its territory to another country or give control of its territory. The government must keep it in consideration and settle the issue of displaced persons permanently or allot refugee status to them. Presently, they are at best the persons in “refugee like situations”. It is suggested that the government should act to address the grievances and meet the demands of the displaced people.