

DISPLACEMENT & ITS IMPACT

A Study on Displaced People of Rengali Irrigation Project



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(A study on displaced people of Rengali Irrigation Project)

Report submitted to:

H I V O S

Report submitted by:

DEOGARH PRESSURE GROUP (DPG)

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At: Gohira Dam Site, P.O.: Dudhianali, Dist.: Deogarh

FOREWORD

Displacement has become an issue in the context of development and large-scale devastation of land and properties. It has become a serious threat to the Survival of indigenous communities. Population displacement is an undesirable, yet often inevitable, consequence of large-scale infrastructure development programmes. Careful consideration and sympathetic attitude towards the displaced people will also help to remove the bottlenecks and to bring significant change in the socio-economic condition of displaced people.

Since independence, a number of projects have been launched in India which have resulted in large-scale displacement due to the construction of hydro-power projects, irrigation dams, exploration of mining, industry, establishment of sanctuary etc. In Orissa several projects have become bone of contention for the people those who have become affected due to such types of projects. A few of these mega projects are Hirakud Hydroelectric Project, MIG Factory at Sunabeda, NALCO Smelter Plant at Damanjodi and Rengali Hydro Dam Project. These projects have become responsible for the displacement of a sizable number of people. The rehabilitation and resettlement so far made by government, industrial houses and corporate organisations have proved to be wrong due to mushrooming growth of socio-economic problems of the oustees from time to time. As a result, a strong discontentment against the policy of government for rehabilitation and resettlement has been raised at various points of time. A number of anti-project agitations are being organised in the State where the displaced people have raised their voice towards the policy of the government. This report is an attempt to highlight the plight of people displaced under Rengali Hydro Irrigation Power Project of Orissa, which has displaced as many as 10,872 people in 265 villages in undivided Sambalpur and Dhenkanal District.

The report has given a vivid picture about the problem of displaced people and their socio-economic conditions in a broad way. The report contains six chapters. The first one discusses about the magnitude of the problem specifically in Orissa and the details of the research design. The second chapter explains briefly about the Rengali multipurpose hydro irrigation power project, while the third one gives a sketch on the profile of the Deogarh district. The socio-economic profile of the study households have been described in chapter fourth and the impact of

displacement and rehabilitation has been explained in chapter five. The last chapter talks about the areas for future intervention.

I pay sincere thanks to the members of study team those who have provided pains taking efforts for the collection of primary and secondary data. My thanks are due to the staff members of JANA VIKASH, those who have become instrumental for the finalisation of this study report. My thanks must go to the personal institutions those who have executed the responsibility of type and data entry work.

And last but not the least I am paying my sincere thanks to the displaced people and respondents in the affected area who despite of their busy work provided necessary information as per the requirements of this study.

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Abbreviations:

A.N.C.	Anti Natal Care
B.H.E.L.	Bharat Heavy Electric Limited
B.P.L.	Below Poverty Line
C.D.	Community Development
H.Hs	House Holds
M.L.A.	Member of Legislative assembly
M.P.	Member of Parliament
N.G.O.	Non Government Organisation
P.H.C.	Public Health Center
P.N.C.	Post Natal Care
R.C.H.	Reproductive Child Health
S.C.	Scheduled Caste
S.T.	Scheduled Tribe

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The study tried to assess the impact of displacement and rehabilitation programmes carried out for the oustees of Rengali multi-purpose hydro project. It attempted to find out the socio-economic strength of the affected people in their place of origin; analyse the utilisation of compensation package, and identify prospective intervention areas so as to strengthen the present socio-economic s
- The empirical study adopted positive random sampling to finalise the study universe, and to collect various socio-economic primary data from 130 households with the help of both structured schedules and semi-structured checklists. Secondary data were also collected from appropriate sources.
- The report has six chapters, which have tried to provide a composite picture of the impact of displacement and rehabilitation programmes on the affected people.
- Rengali multi-purpose dam project built on the river Brahmin, benefits the districts of Dhenkanal (Old), Cuttack and Keonjhar. The project has displaced 10872 people from 265 number of villages of Deogarh and Anugul districts, among which 15.73 per cent are S.C, 10.55 per cent are S.Ts, and 73.72 per cent are belonging to others caste groups.
- The socio-economic indicators of Deogarh; the study district establishes the fact that gaps are observed between development and backwardness of both people and the region. This has been reflected in the areas of agriculture, education, health services, communication, poverty situation etc.
- The ethnic composition of the sample reflects that S.C households constituted 30.00 per cent, S.T and O.B.C households shared 9.3 per cent and 46.9 per cent respectively, while the general caste groups are represented by 13.8 per cent.
- Around 61.00 per cent of the sample have nuclear family type, which indicates that the D.Ps have been highly influenced by individual approach to social living. Around 38.00 per cent of the total study population are illiterate and 22.00 per cent are just literate. This reflects the educational backwardness of the people.

- 69.80 per cent oustee households were living primarily on agriculture at their villages of submerged areas. This has reduced to the tune of 21.03 per cent. The informal sector along with wage market has expanded to accommodate more and provides sustenance to the people at their destination.
- The quality of agriculture land in their displaced villages were of all types (*Bahal, Berna, Mal and Ata* types), and had minimum assured level of production and irrigation requirements; whereas, now the D.Ps have been provided with lands more or less of *Ata* and *Mal* type which do not assure a minimum level of production.
- The livelihood sources like animal husbandry and forestry are no more suitable to supplement household income, while agriculture at destination have a weak base for many. Non-formal sector, which is accessible to few, has added the income basket of few oustees.
- Around 21.38 per cent households have sold out their low quality agriculture land which were stony, marshy, and laterite type and hardly found for suitable agriculture purposes.
- Almost 56.39 per cent of the D.Ps at their destination had an annual income of Rs. 15,000/-, which is below the cut off point of poverty line of the state (Rs.18,000/-). The income inequality among the D.Ps now has increased compared to their position in submerged villages.
- The monthly average expenditure of the D. P household ranges from Rs.1138/- (52.68% HHs, to Rs. 1445/- (32.47% HHs), and Rs. 4200/- for 14.85 HHs. The consumption pattern has gone down compared to their earlier situation.
- The status of indebtedness of the D. Ps reflect that 67 H.Hs (51.53%) had taken loan from informal sources and 34 H.Hs (26.15%) had taken loan from both sources basically to meet their exigency requirements.
- Around 31.87 per cent of the oustee H.Hs taken loan from informal sources have mortgaged their land.
- In pre-displacement situations the D.P family was acting as an unit of production and was based on '*jajmani* system', but at destination children became the source of cheap labour within and outside the family and the '*jajmani* system' seems to be largely non-functional.

- The higher caste groups more or less enjoying their higher-class status in both the places of origin and destination. They have made use of their compensation to enhance their material status and could able to mobilise to get good patches of land. The artisan caste groups and occupational groups do not find appropriate scope to make use of their skill and knowledge. This has displaced their knowledge system.
 - The social ceremonies and community festive occasions were the areas to minimise the tensions within their villages of origin. Now the internal disharmony based on land holding, income and the opportunities have been manifested due to the loss of holistic characters of the village.
 - The kith and kin networks once acting as social capital no more exist to exchange social support and security among the villagers. The new kinship networks based on wider territory at destination have minimised their social relations resulting in cultural marginalisation of the communities.
 - The breakdown of patron client relation forced the D.P to depend on outside forces to meet their contingent needs in socio-economic frontiers of their life.
 - The ecological harmony with the local flora and fauna maintained by D.P at their origin has changed to an exploitative attitude towards the common property resources. The territorial entity of the D.Ps has been replaced which helped them to develop this type of narrow attitude.
 - The democratic institutions established in the name of Panchayati Raj (PRI) ignored the importance of traditional leadership structure.
 - The displaced strongly feels that a sustainable process can be built up by strengthening livelihood systems, social security networks, promotion of right based interventions and building capabilities of different stakeholders.
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Chapter-1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is divided into two sections. The first section describes about the magnitude of the problem of displacement specifically experienced in the State of Orissa. The second section briefly explains about the research design which includes the objectives of the study, study tools, sampling followed, sources of data collection, data processing and the chapterisation scheme. This chapter gives an overall understanding of the problem of displacement and the status of rehabilitation in the State.

Capitalistic development indeed has widened the informal sector economy and brings a new set of economic and social relationships. One of the important aspects of it is the great expansion of employment. In the process, peasant economy loses command over factors of production. The society becomes weak and gets destabilised since its control over the processes of production is lost due to the impact of many external agencies. Therefore development under this approach is intrinsically authoritarian, displacing and marginalising the poor and powerless mass on the one hand, and pouring the power of control in hands of few who are infact elites of the society. In such situations the internal solidarity among those who have been displaced due to major development projects is no more effective. The holistic character is broken giving rise to major changes in their socio-economic frontiers.

Mega-development projects are the models of economic development recognised across the world. It may be hydro-power project like Sardar Sarovar in Gujarat (the most controversial one in India) and Hirakud Hydro-Power Dam Project constructed in Orissa during 1950s; industrial units like Rourkela Steel Plant of Orissa or Bhilai Steel Plant in Madhya Pradesh or BHEL in Andhra Pradesh; mining projects in Orissa as well as out side which explore ores like dolomite, iron, bauxite by both Private and Public Sector Companies. All these development projects have immense impact on the physical, social, cultural, psychological life way processes of human societies, in

any part of the World, may be in India, Africa or in Argentina; may be in urban or rural areas; may be on tribal people and/or non-tribal people. The extent of damage in both natural and man-made resources depends on the size of the project, rate of investment, duration of the construction phase and output as planned. There was a time when approach to human development through such projects were popularly accepted by many world bodies. It was considered that such mega-projects are the temples of economic development. Nehru the first Prime Minister of India also called them as 'Temples of Modern India'. Perhaps no body could visualize the 'non-economic' threats and effects of such temples, and tried to catch-hold of the religious feelings and emotions of the people. Emphasis was continued to construct more such temples to see them as the only panacea for economic development and growth. However, experts like Cernea (1987) after five decades found that almost 50 per cent of the World Bank funded projects are not sustainable largely because of the non-institutionalization of peoples' participation.

MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM:

Till date everybody realised that it is very difficult to calculate the magnitude of the problem of displacement in one development project even as a case analysis. The problem not merely includes physical displacement or physical losses (which even difficult to calculate), but also includes the loss of social resources like that of social integration, community living, culture etc.. The loss of these social capital or social resources is unaccountable and not properly taken care even by so called various methods of social-cost-benefit analysis. Quite a couple of studies and reports in various context provide some data on the losses at micro level resulted due to displacement, but, the major calculations on the loss of physical resources has been provided by few scholars and activists like Cernea, Fernades, Mathur etc. The figures on human displacement provided by them are both way based on primary as well as secondary estimation of the situation. In Orissan context a few academicians/ NGO activists have provided an overall understanding on the displacement of manpower due to development projects. The project reports prepared by Government Departments only account the figures to whom compensation is paid. The estimations made by the non-Govt. sources are many time criticized by Government due to over estimation, while the non-government agencies and World bodies do not step behind to underestimate the reports prepared by Government authorities, with a plea that Government authorities in such situations always project a lesser extent of loss. The reasons for not presenting a proper estimation

by both the groups are multiple by nature which have been established over time. So the magnitude of the problem always revolves around the paradigm of over estimation and/or under-estimation, one made by Non-Government agencies and another made by Government agency. Whatever the extent may be but it is a fact that people lose their life support system in all such cases.

In most of the displacement, which took place due to the establishment of development projects during last couple of decades in various parts of the World in general, and in India and Orissa in particular, it is commonly observed that these projects are largely confined to tribal dominated backward regions. The State imposes and enjoys the right over land, whereas, customarily the local communities i.e. various tribal communities enjoys the use right over the natural resources for generations together. In order to substantiate the impact of such development projects on the people and the region, quite a couple of studies conducted by social geographer or economist (Sawant 1985) or by NGO and social activists, which have basically talked of the provision of infrastructure development and cost benefit analysis, however, the social activist have come forward with their arguments by challenging the very concept of mega-project for the development of people, particularly for the poor. Such a challenge is basically based on the premise that the affected people of a development project belong to one category i.e. having poor economic base, and due to less or no after care services provided by Government these people suffer a lot in many respect.

The common risk factors culminated out of displacement are landlessness, homelessness, joblessness, marginalisation, food insecurity, loss of access to common property resources, social disruption and loss of various coping mechanisms adopted by the oustees, analysed and discussed by them. Many writings could prove that big dams, mining and other development projects instead of blessing to the people become a boon to the majority of them. In this process no development will be successful and sustainable if it disrupts the social threads of the society, which dismantles social institutions, social cohesion, and social security system.

The recent years in the field of social research have seen hundreds of research studies on the issue of development and displacement. However, the gamut of anthropological, sociological and social science knowledge on Development, Displacement and Rehabilitation nexus is yet to be sufficient (Swain and Panigrahi, 1999). Various studies at different point of time highlighted the involuntary displacement at micro level depending on the scholar's biases in favor of people or

power. It is no doubt that these studies at micro level help scholars to understand various dimensions of the problem, at the same time enriches the gamut of social research, but at different point of time these studies in piecemeal are unable to influence the policy makers to a satisfactory level. This demands an understanding of the problem at macro level so as to influence the policies of the State. In Orissan context a couple of attempts have been made by scholars also to understand the problem of displacement at macro level.

EXTENT OF DISPLACEMENT IN ORISSA:

The adoption of planned development in the form of Five Year Plans since 1952 in India basically aims to minimise the poverty. Most of the mega- projects are located in resourceful regions, which are by and large inaccessible. Due to variations in the socio-cultural bases, the impact of these projects on the people and the area are also differential. At certain level these projects have up-heaveled the age-old harmony between settled population and their environment. A few of such mega-projects so far we have in Orissa when classified reflects that among Multi-Purpose Hydro-Electric Projects which involved in large scale displacement of people and caused disruption of bio-physical and socio-cultural resources are: Machakund (1949), Hirakud (1948), Balimela (1963), Rengali (1973), Upper Kolab (1978), Upper Indravati (1978); while the industrial and Mining Projects which also caused similar impact in Orissa are: Hindustan Aeronautic Limited in Koraput (1962), Bauxite Mining in Koraput (1981) and Sambalpur (1988 in process), Allumina Smelter Plant at Angul (1985), Steel Plant at Gopalpur (in process) (1996), and many more mining projects in the districts of Sundargarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanja operating since 1940. A cursory estimate made by Fernades and ASIF (1995) on the displacement of human population in Orissa due to the establishment of these mega-projects from 1951 to 1995 clearly reflects that Hydro-Electric Multi-Purpose Projects have displaced 3,25,000 people of which only 90,000 people (27.69%) have been rehabilitated. Similarly, due to industrial projects out of 71,794 displaced people in Orissa only 27,300 (38.03%) have been rehabilitated; while mining projects displaced around 1,00,000 people of which almost 60.00 per cent people have been rehabilitated; and due to declaration of sanctuary around 50,000 people have been displaced of which only 15,540 (31.08%) are rehabilitated. In total these mega-projects under the agies of planned development during a period of four and half decades have displaced around 5,46,794 people of which only 35.27 per cent (1,92,840) people have been rehabilitated.

The impact of displacement can be seen in various fronts of human society. Displacement may affect the bio-physical resources, livelihood-resources of both human society as well as animal world, socio-cultural resources of human population at native as well as at destination. While highlighting four major hydro-electric project, industrial and mining projects of Orissa Swain and Panigrahi (1999) in their paper tried to visualize all oozed out problems through five categories. They are viz: loss of property and compensation, process of displacement and people's reaction, resettlement and rehabilitation. Similarly, Panda and Panigrahi (1986) while studying the problems of double displacement once due to the construction of Hirakud Dam project and secondly, due to coal mining operations in Brajrajnagar highlighted the socio-economic and socio-cultural dimensions of displacement. They have highlighted the importance of social institutions, which act as social threads and maintain the social solidarity of the rural people and its losses due to such displacement. Some time such descriptions apparently seem to be a romanticisation of the past. However, a loss is a loss. For the loss of material goods some amount of quantification is possible but for the loss in socio-cultural and psychological frontiers it is not an easy task. The loss incurred can hardly be viewed as something romanticisation.

II

RESEARCH DESIGN:

Studies on displacement by the social scientists, and NGOs vary in terms of their objectives hypotheses and kind of interpretation. Variations are also observed with regards to the adoption of subjective and objective approaches, and quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection and the duration of field investigation.

OBJECTIVES:

General Objectives:

- To assess the impact of displacement and the rehabilitation programmes on the people displaced due to Rengali multi-purpose hydro project.

Specific Objectives:

- To examine the type of livelihood resources available at their displaced villages.

- To find out the extent of displacement and rehabilitation made and the gaps in subsequent periods.
- To know the socio-economic conditions of the displaced people after resettlement.
- To analyse the utilisation of compensation package that have been provided by the government to the displaced.
- To find out the prospective intervention areas to strengthen the existing socio-economic status of the displaced.

STUDY AREA:

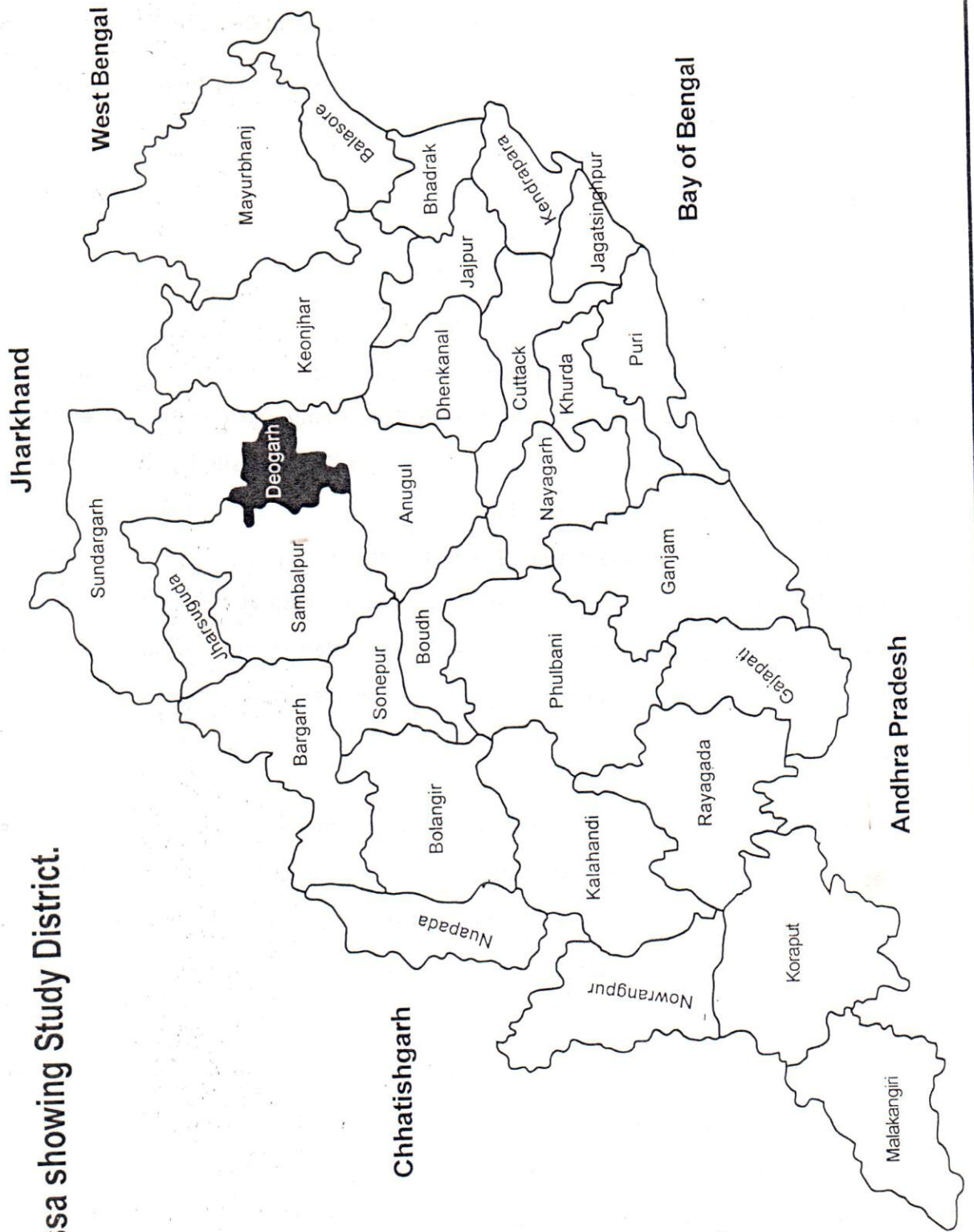
The study was carried out in Deogarh district of Orissa where the Displaced villagers have been resettled due to the construction of Rengali Dam. Firstly, Out of eight (8) resettled colonies four (4) were selected keeping in eye certain indicators like accessibility, size of the colony, and caste composition. Secondly, the selection of households were done purposively on the basis of caste and occupational representation. The justifications for selecting four settlement colonies seem to be sound because the resettlement process varies both at the level of community access and in delivery of services by different agencies to the settlers. Again the justifications of selecting different caste groups and occupational groups lies on the similar premise.

DATA SOURCE :

The study had adopted both primary and secondary sources for data collection. While staying in resettlement colonies during data collection period, the study tried to encompass household survey, accounting village resources, qualitative changes in the life way processes. The respondents were normally head of the households. However, women were also encouraged to clarify certain data centering to women issues.

The study also adopted secondary sources for the collection of certain data. The offices contacted for the purpose of secondary data were Revenue Department, Panchayati Samiti Office, and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Division of the Project Office of Rengali Multipurpose Irrigation Project. In addition to, certain reports, recommendations of different committees and study reports were also reviewed during data collection.

Map of Orissa showing Study District.



The study team spent on an average of 15 days in the field. The study had adopted both primary and secondary sources for data collection. While staying in the colonies the study encompassed household survey for unraveling various aspects of their socio-economic life way processes. Special care was taken to get data on various aspects of the problem. Special case histories were also documented on various issues so as to understand different mechanisms and processes adhered to the tribal communities. That apart, issue-based discussions were also carried out with the displaced people more particularly among the displaced tribal women.

TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION:

Keeping in view the objectives of the study two different structured interview schedules were prepared to document primary data from each household. In addition to, few checklists and guidelines were also specially prepared to document different aspects of displacement and rehabilitation and subsequent changes in the life and livelihood of the oustees.

The village Schedule contains data on village social demography, livelihood sources like land, forest, water and agriculture resources, and infrastructure facilities available in the village. A couple of participatory techniques were also used to get the changing status of natural resources etc.

The household schedule tried to find out the compensation aspects, present livelihood of sources, access to general amenities, socio-cultural and socio-economic impact of the resettlement, more specifically in the areas of education, health services, drinking water, access to market, diversification of livelihood etc. A couple of checklists and interview guidelines were also prepared so as to use during focus group discussions, taking case histories of the affected people particularly the women groups.

FIELD WORK PLANNING:

The study tools were designed and experimented through a pilot study. Necessary modifications were made in them according to the feedback collected through pilot study. The primary data were collected taking into the help of four Research Assistants having experience in social works. Two of them are having Masters in Social Work. The team members were sufficiently trained on the methodological aspects and on the focus of the study. In addition to, on spot

guidance were also provided to them so as to explore in depth data. The teams of two Research Assistants in two groups were staying in the study rehabilitation colonies during primary data collection.

DATA ANALYSIS:

The primary data were entered in master sheet and sub-sheet and were prepared through manual tabulation process. Percentage distribution of data were made so as to make the findings more universal. Attempts were made to analyse the data as per ethnic categories.

CHAPTERISATION :

The report has six chapters.

The **first chapter** briefly explains a scenario of displacement and rehabilitation and in the State of Orissa. It also describes the research design largely adopted during the study.

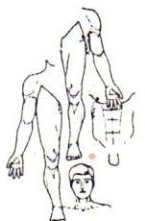
The **second chapter** gives a overview of Rengali Multipurpose Hydro-Irrigation project with special reference to Deogarh the study Tahasil.

The **third chapter** explains certain development and backward features of Deogarh district, its people, their life and living.

The **fourth chapter** elaborates a socio-economic profile of the study universe.

The **fifth chapter** tried to assess the impact of displacement and rehabilitation on the life and livelihood of the displaced people. It tried to link their place of origin with the place of destination.

The **last chapter** find certain major issues which have affected the displaced and few broad possible intervention areas touching various walks of life.



Chapter-2

**RENGALI MULTIPURPOSE
HYDRO-IRRIGATION PROJECT**

Rengali Dam is built in the second largest river Brahmin of the state. The basic aim of this dam is to control flood, to generate electricity and to provide irrigation facility to agriculture lands in the districts of Dhenkanal, Cuttack and Keonjhar. The river floods an area of 2,600 sq. Km in its delta in coastal Orissa affecting a population of 10.8 lakhs before its fall into Bay of Bengal at Dhamara of Bhadrak district. As a part of the flood control measures many committees and commissions since 1928 have suggested to built few dams on the major rivers of Orissa. Rengali dam on river Brahmin is one of such strategies long suggested by experts.

The dam is situated around 2 kms. upstream of Rengali village in Koniha Block of Talcher Sub-division in undivided Dhenkanal district (presently in Angul district) of Orissa. It is 128 kms away from the district head quarters of Dhenkanal in the north-west and 230 kms from the state capital. The original estimated cost of the project in 1972 was Rs. 41.92 Crore which raised to Rs. 297.94 Crore (Govt. of Orissa, 1991).

The resistance movement against the establishment of Rengali project was measured through three stages of development (Nath, 1984). In initial stage many Samities and Committces were formed at local level against the formation of the dam. At second stage the agitation could link with the local political processes involving the MLAs, MPs and political parties. Different stakeholders in favour of and against this dam spread reactions and rumors. At last Government of Orissa issued press note outlining the facilities to be given to the oustees due to the Rengali dam project. They are viz:

- Planning a proper rehabilitation before the submerge.
- Provision of compensation both in cash and kind i.e land both for agriculture and homestead.

- Development of village infrastructure at rehabilitation sites.
- Compensation to the mango trees.
- Surcharge payment at the rate of 15 percent.

Thus, the construction of Rengali dam displaced 265 villages of Deogarh and Angul districts, of which 116 are reported as fully submerged and the rest 149 are partially submerged. Of these affected villages, 194 are coming under Deogarh sub-division of the undivided Sambalpur district (presently in Deogarh), 71 are from the Pallahara sub-division (presently Angul district). Thus, the dam has made an involuntary displacement of 10,872 who have been rehabilitated either on their own or in settlement colonies and in clusters set up for the purpose.

The ethnic composition of the displaced families reveals that out of 10,872 families, 1,710 (15.73%) belonged to S.Cs, 1,147 (10.55%) were S.Ts, and the rest 8015 (73.72%) belonged to general Hindu families and rest belonged to minority communities (Dalua, 1993).

The entire affected region is a part of the central table land region and having by and large one homogeneous eco-cultural region, where people speak same dialect of Oriya language, maintain same kinship network and territory, follow similar subsistence level of living and nature based livelihood sources.

The pre-displaced land use pattern and amenities position of sub merged villages of the Rengali Dam in Deogarh Tahasil

Total land area (in hectares)	-	174130.44
% of forest land	-	40.18
% of cultivated land	-	25.45
% of pasture land	-	11.69
No of villages having		
Educational facility	343	50.44%
Medical facility	18	2.65%
Approach of pacca road	98	14.41%
Power supply	21	3.09%

Source:

- 1) Census of India (1981), Directorate of Census operations, Bhubaneswar Series 16-part-XIII(A)
- 2) Govt. of Orissa(1995) Economic Survey 1994-95, Planning & co-ordination Dept, Bhubaneswar.

The Pre-Displaced Demographic and Socio-Economic features of the Submerged areas of the Rengali Dam in Deogarh Tahasil

Total areas (sq-km)	-	2781.7
Total population	-	1,97,671
Density of population (per sq km)	-	71
Sex Ratio (per 1000)	-	969
% of SC Population	-	13.9
% of ST Population	-	32.6
% of Literacy	-	32.35
% of main workers	-	37.8
% of cultivators	-	52.44
% of Agriculture Laborers	-	29.11
% of HH Workers	-	2.97
% of Other Workers	-	15.48

Source:

- 1) Census of India (1981). District Census Hand Book Dhenkanal, and Sambalpur, Series-16, Orissa, part-XIII(B). Directorate of Census operations, Bhubaneswar.

VILLAGE POWER STRUCTURE:

The power structure in those tribal village includes the administrative head, religious head and the messenger. People performing these specific functional roles are known in different names in different tribal and caste communities. Since tribal villages are integrated territorial units so these people enjoy region specific roles. It is believed that these traditional leaders are also enjoying supernatural blessings for their action and decisions.

For generations together these villages are run/managed by a system of traditional authority structure. Such a structure exercises various powers with respect to the economy of the villages: by distributing shifting land patches, controlling the in-out-migration, and maintaining an harmonic relation within the village; socio-cultural lives of the villagers: by deciding the punishment for social deviants, giving justice through village panchayats, maintaining social disciplines by

enjoying control over the people etc. It is reported that in earlier situations the village conflicts were resolved within the village. The internal differentiations were not very much sharp. There was almost no conflicting groups, might be due to the dominance of *Gountias* and *Naiks*. The village heads that remained as landlords of the village with respect to *royats* and to the representatives of the Government for collection of revenue and in the management of village affairs was assigned with village administration.

VILLAGE ECONOMY:

Forest produces contribute a lot to their economy. The people more particularly tribals were collecting leafy vegetables, fruits and roots, which supports their livelihood sustenance. Occasionally the tribal people also get forest games mostly consumed by them and the fortunate used to collect honey, which were consumed and occasionally sold in the market. Apart from supplying food, fodder, and fuel, the forest at their native also supplies medicines to the inhabitants. In a sense prior to displacement forest was a major source of living for these people. In this way the villages mostly dominated by castes and tribal people in these backward regions were self sufficient with their land and forest resources.,

With the technical knowledge and the available natural resources, in earlier pre-displacement situations at native villages each family was acting as an unit of production. Since the field of their work was around the house, the housewives along with their all-household works were also able to share the workload of their male folks. The villages were functioning either on the basis of '*Jajmani* system' or '*panchas*' in caste and tribal dominated villages respectively. Each family was running with certain rights and duties in relation to its caste families and village structure. Even though child labour was not recognised in the village till the parents honoured casual labour of the children in the family. So the members of the family honored each other's contribution.

The simple living standard and the fulfillment of minimum needs coupled with prescribed status were almost creating no internal conflicting groups within the village. The village ceremonies and festivities were the areas to minimise the tensions if such cases appear among them. However, it varies from a tribal village to multi-caste village. The holistic character of the villages were reflected in their customs and traditions through community rituals, and group sharing of liquor, community dance, village fare, and festivals. These were providing them a sense of fraternal feeling.

Besides this, in multi-caste villages the '*Bhagabat Tungi*' was playing an important role for the maintenance of village solidarity. It was a place where members of different caste sit together and listen to the *abdhan* or the village heads. The adherence of these social rules and practice of traditional songs, riddles, folk dances and fear of village rumor were important events to maintain social distance and social control among the boys and the girls of married and unmarried groups. In multi-ethnic villages even though the caste people were economically well off and were of numerically stronger, the representation of the minority groups in village decision in process was never ignored. Similarly, in tribal dominated villages the caste people were accommodated for socio-economic protections. So, people of different origins were not only sharing the pleasure but also taking interest in renovating and cleaning ponds, decorating dance arena, purifying shrines etc. One can say that the homogeneity and homogeneous feeling within the heterogeneity coupled with mutual honour of their religion and traditions were the major causes for their dynamic social solidarity.

VILLAGE FAMILY LIFE:

Family as an institution plays a vital role in the life way processes of the people. The control over the processes of production from agriculture, forestry and manual skill such as blacksmithy, carpentry, pottery, cow herding, washing clothes practised at native have been ceased at destination. So this abrogation of household crafts which were based on traditional knowledge and the resulted technological gap forced the housewives to remain inside the house. Even the children who were contributing their labour as desired by family could not get scope to enhance the traditional skill and knowledge. More especially this was the case with fisherman, cobbler, and jhara caste families and with many tribal communities in the displaced regions of the State. So, the displacement of housewives and children from the productive process forced them to depend on the household head, which some time led to more male super ordination within the family. In this process the family turned from an unit of independent productive center to a dependant group on male casual labourer. Later, due to economic compulsion the wives and children started working outside as casual labourer. This gave way to the breakage of earlier family bond, which in subsequent periods encouraged liquor habit, prostitution and juvenile delinquency among the oustees.

Along with other customary elements, the liquor has a significant role in the social life of the tribal people. To meet the cultural necessities it was prepared by them through various

indigenous methods. But now the availability of liquor from shops and depose tempted them, and many of them have started purchasing from the vendor. For the vendors to dupe them in this process became an easy task. The illiterate displaced tribal people mostly did not know the use value of money. Taking the advantage of their cultural necessities the liquor vendors exploited them through various means. The group sharing of liquor in festive occasions and also during evening hours where normally they used to ventilate their pains and share pleasure was used as an asset. The inter-personal relationship, was once, based on kinship and lineage/clan. The village elders normally who were related each other through their kin bond or other wise were getting ample scope to maintain harmony in the village. The community festivals, were very important for building their social organisations and for maintaining social cohesion. Among tribal people the inter-ethnic marriages were unthinkable in earlier days. The kith and kin were exchanging their daughters in marriages among themselves.



Chapter-3

DEOGARH DISTRICT: A PROFILE**Location:**

Deogarh is one of the districts of Orissa. It was a part of Sambalpur district up till 2002. The present geographical area of the district accounts to 2940 sq.kms. It has only one sub-division, one Tahasil and three C.D. Blocks. The district has 867 villages distributed over 60 Gram Panchayats. Being one of the smallest districts of the State, it carries 1.79 per cent of the State land area. The decennial growth rate of the district (1991-2001) is 17.02 per cent. The details of some of the demographic features of the district is given in the following table. It indicates that in many respect the district is backward when compared with few other districts of the State.

The land utilisation pattern of the district reflected in hectare shows that the district has a total forest area of 72420, permanent pasture land of 4518, culturable waste of 4518, land put to non-agricultural uses is of 12763, barren cultivable land is of 2768, and the current fallow land is of 8722. The net area sown in the district is 53658 hectares of which during the Kharif season 9116 hecets are irrigated by major and medium irrigation projects, 2857 hecets irrigated under minor irrigation projects and only 758 hecets irrigated under lift irrigation projects (2000-2001). Similarly, during Rabi season around 5700 hecets irrigated under major/medium projects, 120 hecets covered under minor irrigation project, while 800 hecets covered under lift irrigation project (1998-1999). The status of the workers reflect that out of the 127000 workers, main workers are 70,000; marginal workers are 57,000; cultivators are 44,000 and the agriculture labourers are 56,000. The average size of operational holding is 1.48 (2001, Census of India).

It is reported that almost 91 per cent of villages of the district are electrified up till 1998-99 against the state average of 76 per cent. The district does not have railway network, which indicates that it is fully depending on road transport (2001). Consumption of fertiliser at one

level partially indicates the agriculture development and utilisation of irrigation expansion. The consumption of fertiliser is only 28 kg per hect which is less than Gajapati (39kgs per hect), Mayurbhaj (33 kgs per hect), Nawarangapur (47 kgs per hect), a few backward district of the State. More specially the N+P+K consumption is 2.8000 M.T.. The agriculture credit co-operative societies of the district are 29, while there is only one regional and specialised commodity marketing co-operative society, two branches of central Co-operative Banks. The poor livestock situation reflects from the low level of artificial inseminations (A1) (1433 nos) done during the year 2000-2001 and the third lowest milk production (9.98000 M.T.) of the state.

The telephone exchange networks up till December 2001 was the lowest of the state. It has an exchange capacity of 4035, but the working connections were 2405, is the lowest compared to all the districts of the State. As regards the medical services are concerned the district has one district head quarter hospital, one other hospital, one Community Health Centers, 9 PHC, 7 PHC (New) and 35 Sub Centers (2000-01) under allopathic treatment (District Profile of Orissa, PFI, 2004).

The Key RCH indicators from District Rapid Household Survey (RHS-RCH) 1998, indicate that around 33.3 per cent of girls are marrying below the age of 18 years; 44.5 per cent of birth are of order 3 and above, 30.7 per cent uses modern methods, 79.9 per cent pregnant women have access for partial ANC, while 39.4 per cent have full ANC, only 19.3 per cent deliveries are insituational by nature, 26.5 per cent have access to safe delivery; 53.2 per cent children have completed immunization and 5.7 per cent children do not have any immunization. The infant mortality rate of the district is 112, while the Crude Birth Rate is 29.2 per cent (1991).

As per 1993-94, around 23.2 per cent rural households are below the poverty line. The nutritional status of 1 to 5 year children by Gomez grades (wt/age %) for boys shows that 4.4 per cent are severe, 35.4 per cent are moderate and 48.7 per cent suffers from midum rate; while for the girls it is 4.9, 39.3 and 47.5 per cent respectively. A calculation of the RCH-Composite Index of the district is ranked 311 among the 590 districts of India.

A look into the implementation of various anti poverty programmes of the district and more specifically in reference to Swarnajayanti Grama Swarozgar Yojana, it is observed that 243 persons have been given for irrigation development, 39 for the development of livestock particularly for

cows, 210 for other primary trades; while under secondary sector 8 persons have been given individual loans and under tertiary sector 3 persons have been provided with individual loans and 19 for business purposes. The ethnic categorization of these beneficiaries reflect that out of 532 beneficiaqries, 106 are SC, 213 are ST and the rest 213 are general categories. In total share of women beneficiaries is only 57 i.e. around 10.00 per cent (DRDA, Deogarh, 2000-2001). This indicates that the assistance under anti-poverty programmes for the people are very scanty in compared to many other districts of the State.

The above facts on various socio-economic dimensions also indicate the development and backward scenario of the district. It is a fact that the district is yet to get the benefits of development support provided by the State. Certain livelihood sectors like agriculture, forestry needs a lot of modernisation and value addition. Women involvement in the development sector is not very attractive, as a result, the rural characteristics are more prominent in the life and livelihood of the people. The oustees of Rengali dam project are no exception to this dynamics of development impact.

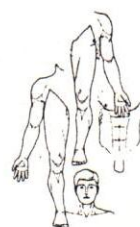
Distribution of certain socio-economic indicators of Deogarh district.

Indicators	Extent
Total land area(sq. km)	2940
No of Sub-Divisions	1
No of Tahasils	1
No of CD Blocks	3
No of G.PS	60
No of inhabited villages	867
% of Urban Population	7.33
Population Total (2001)	274,095
Male	138,425
Females	135,670
Total S.C Population (1991)	34,000
Total S.T Population (1991)	78000
Growth Rate (1991-2001)	17.02%

Child Population (0-6 years)	15.14%
Growth Rate of Child Population (0-6 years)	0.34%
Total (%)	15.14
Male (%)	15.28
Female (%)	15.00
Density of Population	93
Sex Ratio (per 1000 Males)	980
Sex Ratio of Child Population	962
Total Literacy Rate (%)	60.78
Male Literacy Rate (%)	73.79
Female Literacy Rate (%)	47.56
Urban Population of the District (%)	7.33

Source:

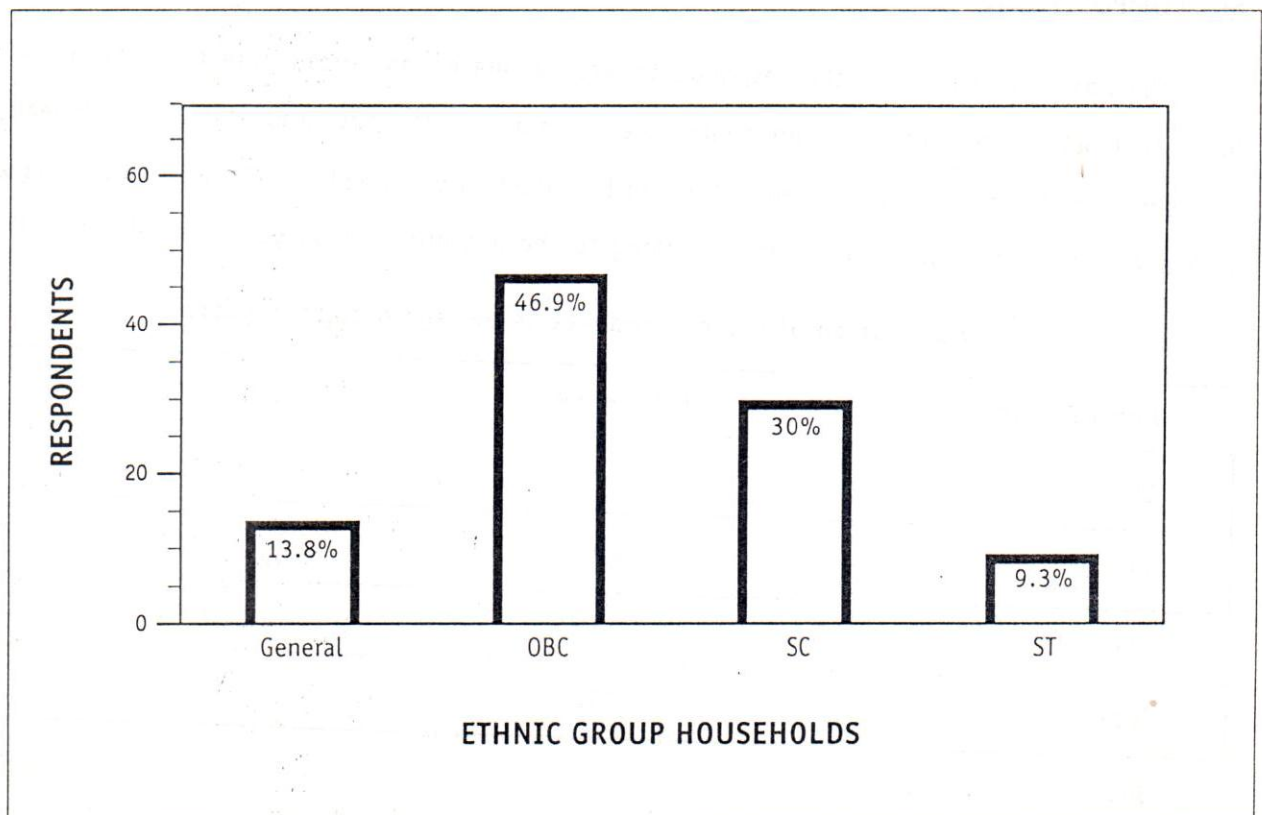
Census of India, 2001, Orissa, Series-22 paper-2 of 2001. Directorate of census operations, Orissa.

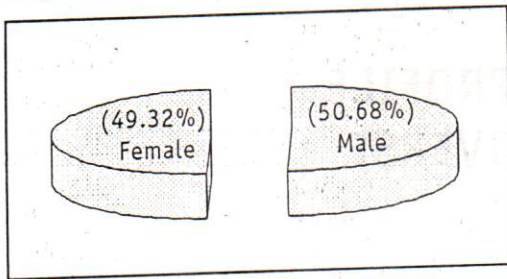


Chapter-4

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE
OF THE STUDY UNIVERSE**

This chapter gives an outline of the study universe and more particularly the socio-economic features of the studied people. The study has covered a total of 130 households who are belonging to different ethnic categories. The details of ethnic groups in order of numerical domination reflects that there are 61 households belonging to OBC category, while 39 HHs belong to Schedule Caste category, 18 HHs belong to General Caste categories, while only 12 HHs belong to Scheduled Tribe category. The following graphical presentation reflects the ethnic representation of the study universe.

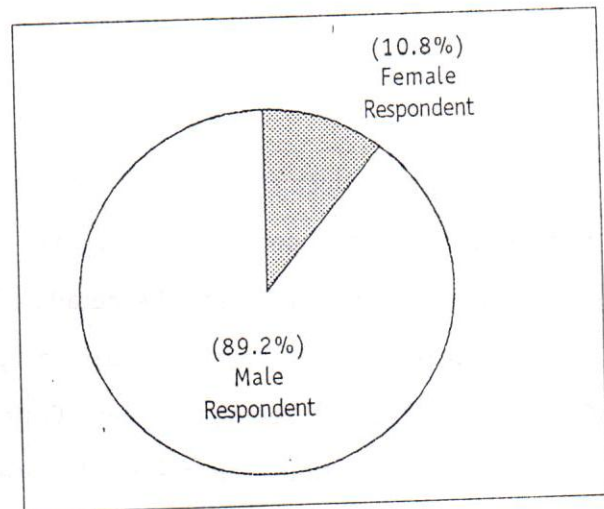




The total population of the studied 130 HHs accounts to the tune of 665. This includes 337 (50.68%) males and 328 (49.32%) females.

SEX COMPOSITION:

The study has covered 130 respondents who are more or less household head and spend their time to provide necessary data. In few cases where the male members of the family were absent, the adult female members were taken into account to explore data. Of the total respondents' male respondents' accounts 89.2 per cent while the female respondents account only 10.8 per cent.



AGE COMPOSITION:

The age composition of the respondents was calculated on certain age brackets. It was found that 6.1 per cent of the respondents were belonging to the age groups of 15 to 30 years, 79.3 per cent of the respondents were belonging to the age group of 31 to 60 years, while around 14.6 per cent of the respondents were belonging to the age group of 60 years and above.

Distribution of the respondents as per age groups in years.

Age category	Frequency	Per cent
15-30	8	6.1
31-60	103	79.3
Above 60	19	14.6
Total	130	100.00

Source: Village Study.

Distribution of population as per age classification shows that 39 people found in the age group of 0-6 years, 140 between 7 to 15 years, 305 found between the age of 16 to 45, and 181 persons were belonging to above 45 years.

MARTIAL STATUS:

Martial status is one of the healthy indicators of demographic structure of the society. All the studied respondents were classified according to their marital status, which have been categorised as married, unmarried, widow and widowers. While 17.9 per cent were unmarried, 74.4 per cent were married while 7.7 per cent accounts both widow and widower. Among the total population 494 were found married, 119 reported as unmarried and 52 were reported as widow and widower.

FAMILY STRUCTURE:

Around 39 per cent of the households have joint family system and the rest 61 per cent have adopted nuclear form of family. This at one level indicates that displacement has encouraged nuclear form of family and individually approach to social living. This has highly influenced their community values and group ownership over community resources.

EDUCATIONAL LEVEL:

The educational achievements of the respondents have been classified according to standard educational classification. It is reported that 38.0 per cent of respondents were illiterate, 22 per cent just literate, 21.0 per cent were up to primary level, 12 per cent achieved up to high school level, where as only 7.0% had gone beyond that educational status. This at one level indicates the educational backwardness of the community.

OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE:

Displacement has led to distinct changes in the occupational patterns and sources of livelihood of the oustee families. Before displacement 69.8 per cent of HHs were engaged in agriculture as their primery source of living. The forest was the second major source of livelihood for 52.4 percent of households, whereas, animal husbandry was also supplanting quite a sizeable

households (49.1%). The opportunities for other allied sources of livelihood were very much limited.

In the place of destination the dependency on the agriculture, has reduced for 21.3 per cent households while the opportunities in informal sector, like business and wage employment has increased. The agriculture labour market also expanded to give, engagement. Around 11.8 per cent of the respondents are in Government jobs. Now the subsidiary occupations like diary activities, agriculture wage earning, small business, weaving, basket making, carpentry, and menial services and the like are more prominent.

LAND HOLDING SIZE:

Submerged villages were agriculturally dominated. The data reflect that each of the oustee household on an average holds 3.21 acres, whereas, it was 3.54 acres in case of cluster villages. The average land holding of the oustee household was ranging from 2 to 5 acres. The size class analysis of the household reveals that 19.86 per cent HHs had cultivable land of less than two acres; 42.46 per cent HHs had land in the range of 2-5 acres; 12.20 per cent had land in the range of 5 to 8 acres and 6.43 per cent had land in the range of 8 to 10 acres, 12.19 per cent had land above 10 acres, whereas, 6.86 per cent HHs do not have any land and they had sold their land to meet the needs of special expenses like their children marriages, and to meet the expenses of other social ceremonies. The agricultural land at their displaced villages were of all categories like *Bahal*, *Berna*, *Mal* and *Ata*, which had minimum level of assured return and assured irrigation, but now the land given to them are more or less *Ata* and *Mal* varieties which do not give a minimum level of assured return. This has enough indication to support the deterioration of their socio-economic life and livelihood.

STATUS OF ASSETS AND INCOME:

All the HHs were given 3 acres of irrigated land or 6 acres of unirrigated land and 0.5 acre of homestead land as a part of their compensation package. They were also paid cash compensation for the loss of houses, trees, ponds, wells, cultivable land etc as per the price fixed by the Government. Because of the low valuation of the agricultural land in displaced villages and due to the rehabilitation of the displaced in semi urban situations the asset position created at destination with the compensation amount was low. This has widened the socio-economic gaps in

the society. The well-to-do households of the displaced villages comparatively are in better position at the destination and have better access into the service delivery system.

Although all displaced were given land at their site of rehabilitation and to earn their livelihood, but in practice 36.84 per cent depend on wage work, and low paid tertiary sector employment of informal nature. Again the low quality land allotted to the oustees could not give much scope to generate even minimum required level of living. Around 21.38 per cent HHs had sold out their low variety agriculture land which were received during the displacement. Many land allotted to them are found to be stony, marshy and laterite type which are hardly suitable for agriculture purposes. This has enough impact on the livelihood of the displaced.

The income data when analysed indicates that almost 56.39 per cent of households had an average annual income little less than Rs- 15,000/- when the BPL level (Below the Poverty Line) of the Government of Orissa is Rs.18,000/- as the cut off point for the households of the State. This indicates that quite a sizeable households are below the average level of income. Majority of the dam-affected families belongs to cultivator (*Chasa* community) who mainly follow the traditional caste occupation. With a poor agriculture base many of these households have become asset less and living in hand to mouth.

The income inequality among the sample households is very high both in resettlement colonies and cluster villages. During the field study it was observed that those households having employment in formal sector found to be very well-to-do families. In additions, 9.36 per cent houses doing business in urban centers have a very good asset position. More or less the economic condition of majority of the displaced households depending exclusively on agriculture and allied occupations had deteriorated to a remarkable conditions.

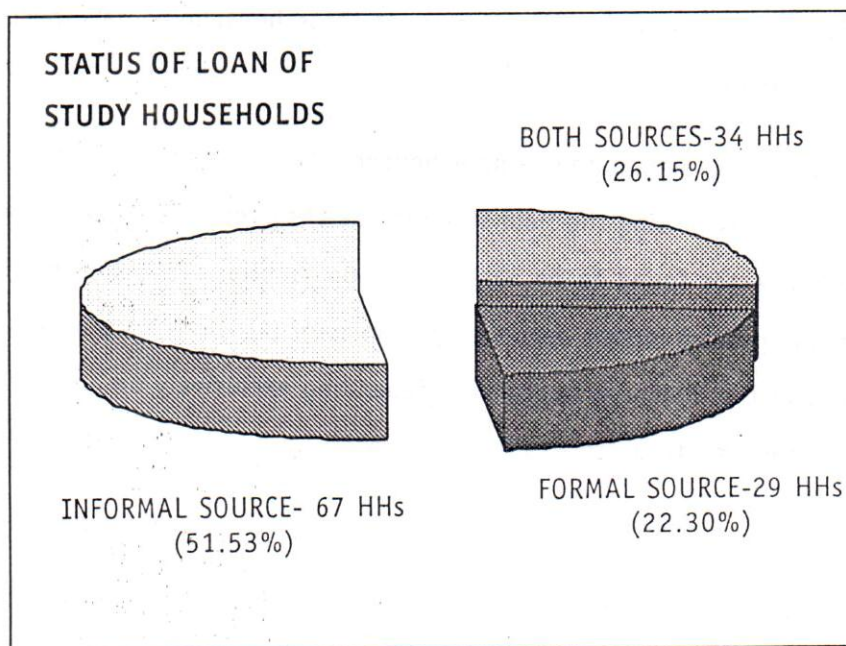
EXPENDITURE:

Households living in the urban areas are engaged in formal employment and also in good agriculture. But the majority of displaced families are suffering from hardship. This is indicated from their monthly expenditure pattern. The monthly average expenditure ranges from Rs. 1138/- (52.68% HHs) to Rs. 1445/- (32.47% HHs) and Rs. 4200/- (14.85%) per household. The variations in the income and expenditure of the sample households further tells that while only few of the

households make regular saving after meeting their expenditure, the majority lives in a cyclical poverty. Many of them go for regular debt.

INDEBTEDNESS:

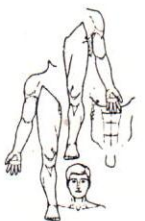
The status of debt and for indebtedness is not negative provided it is invested for productive purposes. The study found out that provision of loan for the displaced are available from local banks under various schemes. In addition to the formal sources, the oustees have been borrowing from informal sources at high interest of 60 to 120 per cent per annum depending upon the securities kept by them with the money lenders. The loans from informal sources are basically meant to meet the expenses to perform social ceremonies like marriage, and death rituals of the family. Illness of family members is also a major cause of taking informal loans. All these loans are basically due to low income of the family. Even 36.29 per cent of the loan taken from formal banks have been used to repay back the loans taken from informal sources. Of the total 130 HHs, 67 HHs (51.53%) had reported taking loan from informal sources and 29 HHs (22.30%) (had taken loan from formal sources, while 34 HHs (26.15%) of them have taken loan both from formal



and non-formal sources. The average loan taken from non-formal sources ranges from Rs.1800/- to Rs.3750/- while it varies in case of loan taken from formal sources. However, it ranges from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.25000/-. In case of 9 HHs the higher amount of loans from banks are reported, while the poor have more access to village money lenders and informal market.

The study also observed that quite a sizeable households (31.87%) have mortgaged their land with the moneylenders in lieu of taking loan to meet exigencies. This at one level reflects the functional position of moneylenders within the society and the poverty of the displaced.

This chapter justifies that in resettlement colonies the socio-economic disparities among the oustees has increased when it is compared with their displaced villages with the new environment only a few well-to-do households could able to cope with the new situations and appropriated the new opportunities. The traditional livelihood sources like animal husbandry, forestry are no more suitable to supplement to the household income, while agriculture at the rehabilitation sites have a weak base for many. Appropriation of non-formal sources, which is accessible to few, have added colour to few fortunate oustees.



Chapter-5

**DISPLACEMENT AND
REHABILITATION IMPACT**

Both the displacement and rehabilitation has multiple effects on various ways of human life. While the impacts are disastrous in case of involuntary displacement, but it is distinct and significant in case of voluntary displacement and resettlement. Such displacement and resettlement has profound economic and cultural disruption on the people. The social fabric of the communities of the area also gets affected. Different sections of the population are affected differently and differentially. The vulnerable communities like women, children, old, lower caste groups, low land holding groups are more affected compared to other groups. All the effects of the displacement and rehabilitation can be categorised under the following heads:

- Economic Impact
- Socio-Cultural impact

This chapter is based on the findings gathered during focus group discussion with different stakeholders. The qualitative process and qualitative impact are taken over the quantitative assessment of such effects. The study has made a moderate attempt to focus on all such effects of displacement by way of using various qualitative methods for data exploration.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

- In their displaced villages forest produces contribute a lot to the tribal economy. The tribal people were collecting leafy vegetables, fruits and roots, which support their livelihood sustenance. Occasionally the tribal people also get forest games mostly consumed by them and the fortunate used to collect honey, which are consumed and sold in the market. Apart from supplying food, fodder, and fuel, the forest at their native also supplies medicines to the inhabitants. In a sense prior to displacement forest was a major source of living for these people. In this way the villages mostly dominated by tribal people in these backward

regions were self sufficient with their land and forest resources. However, at destination forest as a source of living is no more.

- With their available knowledge system and the natural resources, in pre-displacement situations (at native villages) each family was acting as an unit of production. Since the field of their work was around the house, the housewives along with their all-household works were also able to share the workload of their male folks. The villages were functioning either on the basis of 'Jajmani system' or 'panchas' in caste and tribal dominated villages respectively. Each family was running with certain rights and duties in relation to its caste families and village structure. Even though child labour was not recognised in the village, still the parents honoured casual labour of the children in the family. So the members of the family honored each other's contribution. In resettlement colonies this has changed. Here the children become a source of chief labour within and outside the family. The socialization process and attitude towards engaging the children has changed to generate surplus.
- In multi-ethnic villages even though the caste people were economically well off and were of numerically stronger, the representation of the minority groups in village decision in process was never ignored. Similarly, in tribal dominated villages the caste people were accommodated for socio-economic protections. So, people of different origins were not only sharing the pleasure, but also taking interest in renovating and cleaning ponds, decorating dance arena, purifying shrines etc. In rehabilitation colonies the right-based approaches has dominated the village decision-making in favour of the haves. The minority and deprived sections in such situations much time ignored.
- The poverty of large number of households have increased and have deteriorated when compared with their living at displaced villages. The income and expenditure index has established in the conclusion. Again the use of price index when compared with the annual income of the displaced of that time we finds a distinct fall. This is conformed when income is compared between the pre-and-post displacement stages.
- In sociological analysis it is said that the higher caste status corroborates with the higher class status. This has also observed in case of Rengali displacement. Compared to the Scheduled Castes groups like *Dhoba, Keuta, Jhora, Pana, Gouda, Doma* and the OBC like *Teli,*

Tanti, Bhulia, Gouda, Gudia, Mali, Bhandri, Khadara; and Scheduled Tribe groups, the higher Caste groups *loke Chasa, Khandayat, Paika, Bania*, had higher land holding and after displacement some of them have also better up their economic status by making use of their compensation money and mobilised to get good land patches.

- Possession of agricultural implements and livestock has an marked charge. In their native villages almost 88.24 per cent of the households were having agriculture implements even in 2 to 3 sets. This was linked to their livestock holding, land holding and agriculture status. At the place of destination this has highly reduced. The number of agriculture implements possessed by households has reduced to 58 per cent. At destination agriculture is not a source of livelihood for many households. Similarly, the livestock holding has also reduced by 50 per cent. This has resulted into a fall of income and asset holding of the displaced persons.
- Payment of compensation was calculated on the basis of registration values of the land in the Government. In addition to, 15 per cent more value was also paid to the oustees. Since the registration values in the government were normally under estimated so as to avoid stamp duty, so consideration of registered value was below the present value of the market. The compensation money was too low to revive their status quo at their destination. Even the poor spent almost 70 per cent of their compensation in constructing houses at rehabilitation sites. However, the compensation package was more beneficial to the well-to-do households. For them displacement was a blessing to dispose their settled properties and to migrate to urban centers for all time to come. Al most all households have used their cash in building assets and none of them have unnecessary spend and made wasteful expenses of their compensation.
- The consumption expenses have been gone down. This has direct effects on the nutritional status of the population. In displaced villages the people were cultivating rice, pulses, oil seeds, vegetables which were largely used for home consumption. The cropping pattern at destination has changed to the dominant paddy varities. This has subsequently affected the nutrition intake of the villagers by and large. The seasonal fruits like barries, black barries, custard apples, mahua flowers, bamboo shoots and other forest produces are no more available at destination, has definite impact on the people. Consumption of small livestock like goat, sheep and poultry birds were giving nutritional support at the place of origin.

- The traditional fishermen caste groups like *Jharas Keutas* lost their traditional occupation of fishing. The river Brahmani is no more for them and now they are settled on a long distance from the river. This has forced them to enter into the wage market, which is unpredictable and irregular. This has affected their livelihood and has resulted in food shortage. A few have their temporary houses on the bank of river Baitarani for fishing by selling out their assets in rehabilitation colonies. This has resulted in the occupational displacement. The *Gaudas* who were collecting timber from forest and living from sale of timber, in displaced villages have now entered into insecure wage market. The traditional cattle traders have dismantled from their traditional occupation.

On an average it can be said that in economic frontiers of life the displaced people have suffered a lot. They have been deprived of their age old harmonious sustained minimum level of food supply and level of living.

SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT:

The simple living standard and the fulfillment of minimum needs coupled with prescribed status were almost creating no internal conflicting groups within the village. The village ceremonies and festivities were the areas to minimise the tensions if such cases appear among them. However, it varies from a tribal village to multi caste village. At the destination the internal harmony has changed to internal disharmony based on land holding, income and exploring the opportunities. Conflicting groups have been reformulated on the basis of politico-economic foundations. Lack of community festive occasions and ceremonies have encouraged this diversification in the settlement colonies.

- The holistic character of the villages were reflected in their customs and traditions through community rituals, and group sharing of liquor, communal dance, village fare, and festivals. These were providing them a sense of fraternal feeling. Besides this, in multi-caste villages the '*Bhagabat Tungi*' was playing an important role for the maintenance of village solidarity. It was a place where members of different caste sit together and listen to the *abdhan* or the village heads. The adherence of these social rules and practice of traditional songs, riddles, folk dances and fear of village rumor were important events to maintain social distance and social control among the boys and the girls of married and unmarried groups. This has also

changed due to the unfolding of social mechanisms. Club houses and political party offices have replaced the *Bhagwat Tungi*. The village *abadhan* (village teacher) is no more rather replaced by paid teachers who visit the colony schools as and when felt. The teacher has not replaced the personal relation of the *abadhan* with the villagers.

- The *chasas* (agriculture caste group) the landed gentries expressed their dissatisfaction on the payment of standard compensation package. In their native villages being rich they were holding a high social system, but since they were treated equally and compensated in equal terms, so their social status in resettlement colonies are no more.
- The kith and kin networks, which were a social capital now no more exist due to distributive residential colonies. The social support and security which were exchanged among the members no more feasible. The consanguine kins (daughters, brothers, uncles etc) who were within a workable distance now have been settled 60 kms away from their camps. These widened kinship territorial networks have minimised their social relation. The caste based pollution and purity boundaries and occasions are not observed among the kin groups.
- The breakdown of patron-client relation is no more a source of informal borrowing and lending among friends and neighbors to meet contingent needs during the time of accident, seekness, food shortage, marriage, birth, death ritual expenses. The entry of formal banking institutions neither able to provide the loans as and when required by them, nor could replaced the non-formal sources of money-lending, rather, it has now added few non-Oriya feathers as sources of borrowing.
- After displacement it has become difficult for the oustees to find suitable brides and grooms for their children, as the close caste kin members of the old villages no more play effective roles in the arrangement processes of matrimonial alliances. The information flow through kin members is highly affected due to geographical distribution of their residences and individualistic responses towards life.
- In and around the rehabilitation colonies few small habitations have come up. The spread up of settlement colonies with an aim to provide adequate land even cut beyond the cultural zones. Even many oustees do not celebrate the popular local festivals like '*nuakhai*' '*pausa purnima*', '*bhai jiuntia*'. As a result, the host population treats these new settlers culturally

as outsiders. This creates a sense of cultural marginalisation and cultural suppression by the dominant cultural groups. This has enough impact on the selection of matrimonial and subsequent socio-cultural adjustment. Now they have been branded as the '*budi anchalar lok*' i.e. the people of the submerged area, who have lost their all sources of livelihood and socio-cultural roots. So marriage alliances with the families of this region may not be a safer source of livelihood for the daughters.

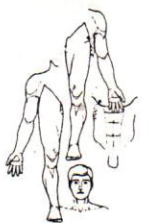
- The physical displacement of certain caste groups who were more attached to temples, shrines, and grooves felt alienated from their core of living. Physical evacuation could be partly compensated whereas the socio-cultural alienation can not be filled in. This has enough impact on the women group of the displaced. The age-old social harmony and security mechanisms at their origin no more exists in resettlement colonies. Now many women have entered in manual wage market which many time have questioned their social roles and responsibilities.
- The old villages at origin were maintaining ecological harmony with the local flora and fauna. The displacement and rehabilitation in another geographical location has created an exploitative attitude in their mind basically due to the mass deforestation made by government to establish colonies. The common property resources like ponds, streams, grooves, wells, temples, shrines, etc at their old villages no more exists both in terms of spirit and physical shapes. These as the sources of maintaining social identity and we feeling are no more.
- Family as an institution plays a vital role in the life way processes of the people. The control over the processes of production from agriculture, forestry and manual skill such as blacksmithy, carpentry, pottery, cow herding, washing clothes practised at native have been ceased at destination. So this abrogation of household crafts based on traditional knowledge and the resulted technological gap forced the housewives to remain inside the house. Even the children who were contributing their labour as desired by family could not get scope to enhance the traditional skill and knowledge. More especially this was the case with fisherman, cobbler, and jhara caste families and with many tribal communities in the displaced regions of the State. So the displacement of housewives and children from the productive process forced them to depend on the household head, which some time led to more male super

ordination within the family. In this process the family turned from an unit of independent productive center to a dependant group on male casual labourer. Later, due to economic compulsions the wives and children started working outside as casual labourer.

- The liquor has a significant role in the social life of the tribal people. To meet the cultural necessities it was prepared by them through various indigenous methods. But now the availability of liquor from shops and depose tempted them, and many of them have started purchasing from the vendor. For the vendors to dupe them in this process became an easy task. The illiterate displaced people and particularly the tribals could not know the use value of money. Taking the advantage of their cultural necessities the liquor vendors exploited them through various means. The group sharing of liquor in festive occasions and also during evening hours where normally they used to ventilate their pains and share pleasure no more exist. The ready availability of liquor made the evening gossip groups casual, and changed the contents.
- The inter-personal relationship, which was once, based on kinship and lineage/clan is destroyed and become unimportant. The village elders normally who were related to each other through their kin bond or other wise could get no scope to maintain harmony. Due to the displacement, members of lineage/clan dispersed in search of employment, as a result, social groups are formed having no mutuality and cultural base. Thus, it made their attitude indifferent towards each other in their social behavior and reflected the sudden abrogation of community life. The existing infrastructure does not accommodate them as per their cultural needs, and exposed them to an alien culture. So the large scale eviction, the loss of their lands, destruction of their places of worship and burial grounds disoriented them culturally and weakened their collective solidarity, made them vulnerable to the blandishment of the government in terms of cash compensation.
- The impact of movies, T.V, obscene picture, cinema songs, modern dresses are another arenas which have generated empathy towards their traditional songs, dances, and ornaments. The youth dormitories, village *kothaghar* named differently among different communities no more remained as a source of renewing their moral and religious sanctions. The impersonal social gatherings are observed at liquor depose or at the tea stall. Gambling and cinema replaced the traditional forms of recreation. This took them far away from their own traditions

and customs. The community festivals, which were earlier very important for building their social organisations and for maintaining for social cohesion, have been broken down. The social distance maintained by boys and girls, married and unmarried has undergone changes.

- Among the tribal people the inter-ethnic marriages were unthinkable in earlier days. However, now cases of inter-ethnic marriages have been reported. The term '*budi anchalar lok*' and/or homeless have been affecting them as a social stigma in their matrimonial relations. The kith and kin that have exchanging their daughters in marriages among themselves were ceased to continue. The primary reasons for not giving daughters in marriage to the people of these households is that they will have no security, because there exists no lineage and clan, no land, and no forest for these groups. Perhaps this is the reason for which the elopement is frequent among the displaced. Even due to the social dis-organisation the daughters of the poor displaced families have to share beds of the haves for their livelihood (observed in adjacent urban areas). This has also given way to the poor girls to get into prostitution. Displacement not only put them in problems in social, economic, cultural and psychological spheres, but also brought about ecological hazards due to mining projects and industrial development (Panda and Panigrahi, 1987).
- In case of displacement situations the tribal villages as territorial entity lost their control over people and disgracefully dismantled resulting out migration. In case of resettlement colonies there arised a new type of leadership which is encouraged by both Government functionaries as well as political parties. As a result, the traditional authority structures in new situations are unable to cope with the emerging agents both within and outside.
- The introduction of Panchayati Raj system in newly established rehabilitation colonies, the Government functionaries did not tried to cope with the old leadership pattern on the premise that the new democratic principles do not believe on the importance of traditional leadership structure. The new democratic institutions could not visualize and understood the importance of traditional political structures, which has played a dynamic role in the internal administration of displaced rural societies.



Chapter-6

AREAS FOR INTERVENTION**THE OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE:**

- To improve the living standard of the displaced through adoption of development programmes relating to irrigation, fishery, animal husbandry, and other vocational trades.
- To help in building the capacity of the community to raise their income levels where both men and women will be imparted training in agriculture, and related activities.
- To provide special attention to the marginal farmers, landless households, artisan communities and other vulnerable groups for their economic development through income generating programmes.

The action programmes should adopt in sensitizing agencies, and mobilizing resources from various sources; minimizing the gaps and establishing the networks between the displaced and government departments, funding agencies and financial institutions; rebuilding the lost infrastructure base and restoring the lost civic amenities; reintegrating the displaced with new institutions by reviving livelihood sources, community resources and upgrading their skill base through training.

KEY FOCUS AREA:

- **Livelihood Security:**

Including micro finance and enterprise development, land development should be carried out in a watershed approach. Value addition of surplus agriculture produces and minor

forest produces and dairy products should be given priority. Attempt should be made to develop non formal sectors for living by encouraging small entrepreneurs.

- **Strengthening strong social security:**

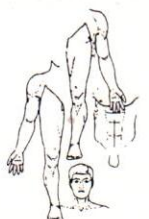
Promotion of strong community based organisations capable of addressing their own development issues and of exercising their rights support for involvement within local self-governance institutions should be made.

- **Promotion of Human Rights:**

It should seek to enhance awareness and capacity of people to exercise their rights, with a special focus on women's rights, Dalit and Adivasi rights and labour rights over their natural resources, life and livelihood.

- **Capacity Building of Partners:**

Development of skill through various training, establishing strong monitoring and evaluation systems, making strategic planning, enterprise development, gender sensitivity and mainstreaming, strengthening federations, organisational systems and on-going micro-micro economies.



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