

International Multidisciplinary
Research Journal

*Indian Streams
Research Journal*

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RNI MAHMUL/2011/38595

ISSN No.2230-7850

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PROBLEMS OF REHABILITATED PEOPLE OF AKKALPADA DAM IN DHULE DISTRICT



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ABSTRACT

The development project offer many benefits to the society in visible form on one hand but create number of problems regarding displaced people on the other hand. While construction of large or medium dams most of the beneficial impacts are recognized but many adverse impact remain unacknowledged. It has been observed that these impacts are neither assessed before the implementation of project nor looked after, the completion of project.

KEYWORDS : *Rehabilitated People , development project , acquisition of land .*



INTRODUCTION :

The people become landless and homeless due to the acquisition of land and houses in the displacement process. They are deprived from their old sources of live hood. It becomes impossible to recognize their social network. Forced displacements have created potential risks- landlessness, joblessness, homelessness, marginalization, increased morbidity and mortality, food insecurity, loss of access to common property and social dis-articulation. (cerena, 1999)

Displaced people are resettled at new places where they face number of problems. The government authority put number of promises before the people at the time of displacement. Many times they are forced to leave are not similar to their original places. The geographical, socio-economic and political environment creates many more problems in the life of rehabilitated people. The displaced persons suffer on various counts especially social, economic, psychological, cultural, spiritual (Sharma, 2005)

AKKALPADA PROJECT:-

Panzara medium project construct over the River Panzara. This is the major left tributary of river Tapi . Panzara medium project is few meter away from the village Akkalpada. This project is constructed for irrigation of the study area. A study area lies in 'Drought Prone Zone' of Maharashtra .This dam is very useful for agricultural as well as industrial development of the study area. It is 32 M high and 1935 M long it has 17 gates. Panzara medium project has right and left bank canal for the

irrigation. It is economically useful for the development but affect on settlements like Vasamar, Tamasvadi and Sayyadnagar.

The settlements like Vasamar, Tamasvadi and Sayyadnagar are fully rehabilitated due to Panzara medium project back water. These settlements disturbed not only his location but it affects on socio-economic structure, site, size, morphology and house types of settlements. Present study focused on problems of the rehabilitated people due to Panzara medium project.

STUDY AREA:-

The selection of Panzara medium project for the present study is not arbitrary. Panzara medium project is the medium project in Dhule district, by which Vasamar, Sayyadnagar, Tamaswadi villages are displaced, (Fig.1) which create many serious problems of rehabilitation. The geographical location of the project is 74° 27' 22" E Longitude and 20° 56' 22" N Latitude.

The lower part of the project has been benefited by the cannel irrigation, but what is the condition of the villages located in the upper part of the project? Keeping this view in mind, in the present study an attempt is made to understand the present condition of project affected villages. It has been observed that out of three project affected villages the work of rehabilitation has been completed in two villages and remaining Sayyadnagar is not still rehabilitated. The formers of this village are deadly reluctant in handling over there agricultural land to the government. This has created more difficulties in the work of rehabilitation.

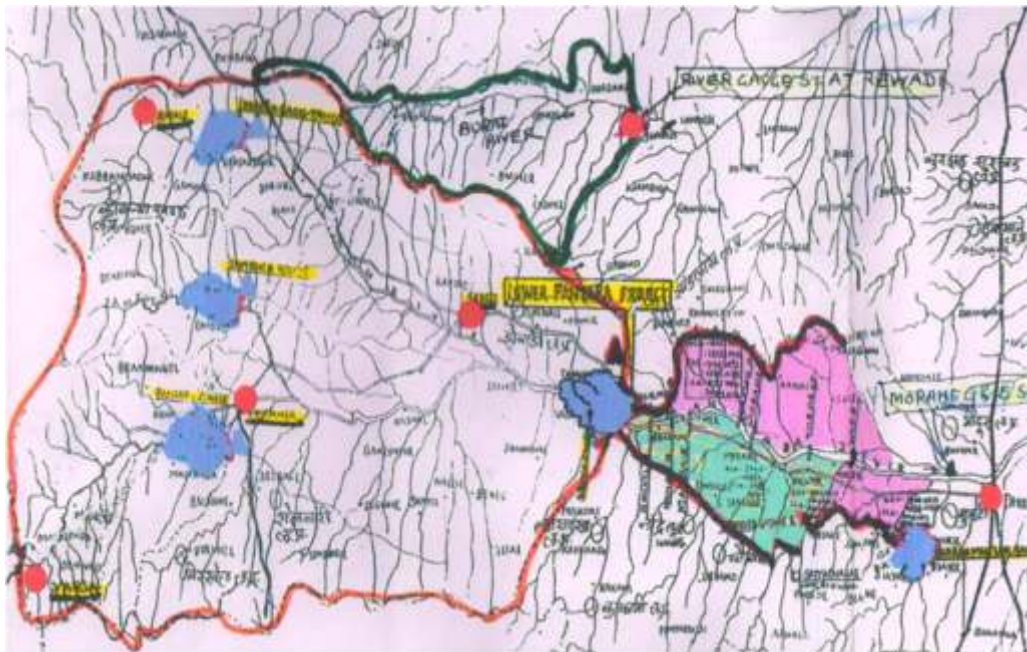


Fig No 1

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:-

Present study related to displaced settlements. The process of rehabilitation of people displaced as a result of the construction of dams and other developmental activities is quite different from the process arising from political and natural calamities. The problem of political and natural calamities is solved mostly by under taking hurried temporary relief work before the steps for permanent rehabilitation are taken. Study is important to know the problems of displaced people. It is

also useful for the policy makers, to consider the problems of displaced people.

The people, mostly from poorer sections, residing in the remote area have been deprived from their livelihood. They lose their sources of economic, social, cultural and psychological life. They are thrown to the unknown locations in the command area where the geographical and Socio-Cultural situation is different. They face number of problems at new locations because the government authority neglects the responsibility of rehabilitation.

OBJECTIVES:-

The main object of the present paper is to find out the problems of Panzara medium project on rehabilitated settlements.

METHODOLOGY:-

The present work would be carried out by using following methodology.

- A. Literature survey.
- B. Field work.
- C. Data Collection

A. Literature survey:-

It is important to take an overview of literature available on this topic. Therefore various libraries are referred. The required Literature is also collected from different journals, magazines, newspapers, books and websites.

B. FIELDWORK:-

Intensive field work is carried out in number of visits to complete this work. Settlements were also visited to study the socio- economic changes, problems of rehabilitated people.

C. DATA COLLECTION:-

Data is collected from both primary and secondary sources.

- A) Primary Sources:- Questionnaires field for socio – economic review and discussion with the people of rehabilitated villages.
- B) Secondary Sources:- For detailed study of various aspects of the problem

Problems of rehabilitated settlements –

The villages enjoy self sufficient, peaceful and well developed socio-cultural system. But project authority acquire their self sufficient food grain providing agricultural land, spacious pollution free dwelling, sources of livelihood and access of common property resources etc. Therefore, displacement torn their socio-cultural framework and destroys the stable life. They are thrown in scattered nature at the resettlements after rehabilitation period.

The people of submerged villages of Akkalpada dam were living with social unity and harmony developed through several years. But construction of Akkalpada dam destroyed their social life. After 10 year of rehabilitation these people are facing some social problem.

Family Disputes:

Such disputes are within the family or among families. These disputable facts are more related to matters of rehabilitations and these are among brother, cousins or neighbours. The following table

shows the responses regarding disputes at family level among rehabilitation people.

Table 7.1 Family disputes

Responses	No.of Families	% of Families
Family disputes	19	19
No Family disputes	68	68
Can's Say	13	13
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 7.1 indicates that out of 100 families surveyed, (19%) have admitted that they are having some kind of family disputes. This figure may be less because the people are very much attached to the family values and prestige that they don't want to open their family secrets.

Breakdown of family structure:

The earlier joint families had single kitchen. In the rehabilitation period due to various reasons of conflicts the joint families separated into nuclear families. The period before displacement, the share of joint families was 82 percent which reduced to 38 percent in the rehabilitation. Agricultural occupation had strengthened the binding of joint family together for carrying agricultural practices and work distribution.

But after rehabilitation due to the breakdown of family structure, the share of nuclear families reached up to 38 percent from 82 percent. Breakdown of family structure and the development of nuclear families is most common thing after displacement and rehabilitation.

Conflict with Host Population:-

The conflicts between rehabilitated and host people is common thing in the resettlement area. It is realized that the rehabilitated people have been harassed, beaten up, insulted by host population. The hostility of the host villagers has created a feeling of fear and insecurity . Therefore, conflict with host population is the major problem of rehabilitated people.

Displaced people of Akkalpada Dam have been resettled on the land of host population. Therefore jealousy, hate has been created among host population about the resettled people resulting the occurrence of conflicts between them. Many conflicts and fighting have been occurred between them due to various reason.

Economic problem or loss of such displaced people can be measured but it is very difficult to measure social, cultural and psychological problems. Most of social impacts do not lend themselves to quantification. It is, for example, difficult to measure trauma, alienation, fear and insecurity. The displaced people cannot freely talk about the problems .

CONCLUSION –

It is found that there is urgent need to understand the gravity of problems of rehabilitated people by the government. The efforts may be made to minimize the intensity of these problems. The facilities and the benefits which have been given in the rehabilitation act declared by the government should be properly provided or executed for the affected people and resettlement.

Displaced people sacrifice their total life in the making of the projects. They sacrifice it for the purpose of regional and national development. But it has been observed that the loss of displaced

population and their problems have not been considered as prime important in the rehabilitation process. Economic problem or loss of such displaced people can be measured but it is very difficult to measure social, cultural and psychological problems. Most of social impacts do not lend themselves to quantification. It is, for example, difficult to measure trauma, alienation, fear and insecurity .

On this background the author is very keen to observe and study the problems of Akkalpada dam affected people in Sakri tehsil. The resettlements of these affected started in 1989, but still today, after 10 years of gap the problems of rehabilitated people have not been solved as rehabilitation act. Such problems have intensified the social, cultural, psychological problems of rehabilitated people. An attempt, therefore, has been made in this chapter to study the various problems of the resettlements and rehabilitated people.

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