



DEVELOPMENT INDUCED DISPLACEMENT IN ORISSA AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

BERHAMPUR UNIVERSITY

13TH & 14TH AUGUST, 2008

**A
REPORT**



Organised by :

Women's Studies Research Centre, Berhampur University
Bhanja Bihar, Berhampur – 760 007, Orissa

Sponsored by :

National Commission for Women
4, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi – 110 002.

SEMINAR ON

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From the Convener's Desk

CONCEPT NOTE OF THE SEMINAR

Development induced displacement is a burning topic in today's debate in developing countries. Women's rights and entitlements are undermined in the displaced socio-economic situation. The subject is important as available reports indicate that more than 30 million people at least are internally displaced due to development projects in India. This would mean about 20-25 million of those displaced are women and children.

Development projects have been introduced after independence to empower people. These projects whether mining, construction of dams, cities, wild life sanctuaries or industries have been projected by the state for raising quality of life . Countering the position is the scenario in the country as increasing contradictory views in this connection is that it harms not only people in general but also marginalize especially 'adivasis' and women the most. The situation has been aggravated by the initiation of globalization and liberalization process which is harping at the root of the very issues of fundamental human rights over life and land. We propose to debate more on the complexities of displacement and its impact on women and other marginalized groups. The debate will be concerned on the process of development and the basic gender justice which need to be addressed. We need to locate the mechanism and instruments of movements relating to displacement, local, regional and link it to national and international issues. Discontents and issues around displacement have turned to a struggle and movement between subsistence v/s market economy, profit v/s life, consumption v/s regeneration, global resources v/s local resources, local perspective v/s global perspective, and gender mainstreaming v/s ethnicity. The impact of these on women's lives and livelihood have been extremely ruthless. Whether in the context of dams, forestry, agriculture, power, mining or any other project, the experiences of displacement carries. Different pattern of gender and community exploitation. The enormity of the problem in terms of number of

women directly and indirectly displaced and the gravity of their present situation has either been deliberately ignored or underplayed or even dispensed within the name of 'National Development'. Voices of displaced (specifically women of tribal and dalit community) need to be recognized. In the plea of development, Government is alleged as the annihilator of poor peoples right to residence and life without taking into account the post displacement consequences. The state aggression against its constituents particularly rural and adivasi women is being manifested in the blatant denial of rights over natural resources, services, decision making spaces and even basic human rights. This is further unscrupulously evident in the denial of rights to compensation and rehabilitation or choice of livelihood for women.

The theme will explore the impact of development induced displacement on women under various state sponsored and corporate sector funded projects. The displacement caused by hydro based development projects such as Dams etc. is qualitatively different from displacement of non-Dam projects. Examples are many; it may start from Balco movement upto Kashipur, Vedanta, Kalinganagar and Posco. We need to debate some project specific displacement scenario in Orissa and their issues mostly relating to women's life and property. R&R policies are there in the state in general. Apart from project specific policy, Government of India has recently declared its national R&R Policy in 2007. Significantly these policies are supported by the international forces ranging from the International system set up to protect the MNCs and Bi-lateral donor agencies.

The seminar aims at raising a serious debate on the issue based on both empirical and theoretical aspects. Theories and concepts which have emerged around the issue of displacement are to be refreshed and updated. In a way it will full-fill the task of documenting women's involvement in the related movements in asserting their fundamental human rights over land and Common property resources. Because despite

of the growing displacement of women from their home, life style, livelihood & culture mileus, very little work has been done on the issue.

Environment has been polluted to the extent of non-germination,non-flowering of the plants and animals. Social environment has turned to be insecure and un-comfortable specially for women and girls. Men have started migrating due to economic reasons leaving their women and family members alone at home. Health hazards have increased and women have become victim of serious infection like HIV/AIDS. R/R policy has no space for conservation of culture and protection of health and alternative sources of livelihood for men & women of the native soil. Loss of source of sustaining livelihood and cultural entity have emerged as the non-negotiable issues for displaced women. They have lost their identity,natural & social support system. They have become incognito and live without life which is sans social, cultural and also political limbo. Tribal women are the worst victim of the situation. As they are the locus of powerless being crushed under three important social nexus of class,caste and gender. Violence against women has increased due to displacement; women are trafficked and have adopted the economic and sexual servitude.

Dr. Urmimala Das
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From the Director's Desk

This seminar is a modest academic venture to address various issues relating to development induced displacement. But the speciality is the focus on gender and specifically on women. Participants were drawn mostly from academic though few activists and victims of displacement have taken the pains to contribute to the seminar from the plethora of their experiences of actual displacement.

This seminar has deliberated upon gender concern and perspectives to be successfully integrated in policies and programmes of government. This seminar will provide the impetus to develop strategic mechanisms at the national regional and international levels to assess the impact of development policies on women. The theme attempted to impart due recognition to thousands of women protesting against the faulty paradigms of development which adversely affects the rights of human being and more of women as a sect.

The seminar has touched upon the prominent issues related to displacement and has focused on the following :-

- Changes in life style and identities and strengthening of patriarchy, where it barely existed thereby pushing women to invisibility and complete powerlessness.
- Food insecurity and problems relating to sources of livelihood.
- Alienation from decision making as land no longer belongs to them.
- Increased violence and health issues specially trafficking, domestic violence and violence from host community.
- Loss of bio-diversity, food, fodder and fuel which women have always protected and now stands the nation in the virtual edge of a new colonization by multinationals.

- Lack of information further downgrading women's roles and access to relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction become limited.
- Emerging theories and concepts relating to Development induced Displacement and women.
- Legal provision including land rights, alienation and gender bias in R/R policy.
- Specific Displacement issues in mining, dams and industries.
- Protest movement and women's voices.
- Impact of displacement on women.

I am confident that this seminar will be an eye opener for all for all time to come.

Jai Hind.

**Ratna Sahu
Director,
Women's Studies Research Centre
Berhampur University
Bhanja Bihar, Berhampur – 760 007, Orissa**

METHODOLOGY

Procedure adopted for conduct of the Seminar :- The two days seminar on Development induced displacement in Orissa and Women's Rights was conducted adopting following procedures.

- The first day of the seminar was devoted to inauguration and presentation of the theme before the participants and invited guests.
- Inaugural session was followed by Technical Session – I and Technical Session – II and the second day was devoted to technical session – III & IV followed by valedictory session.
- The Technical Sessions were as under :-
 - Political Discourse and Development induced Displacement and Women.
 - Gender perspective in Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy and Role of the State.
 - Protest Movement against Displacement & Voice of Women.
 - Issues of Livelihood, Environment & Displaced Women.
- An expert in the field chaired each technical session with presentation from resource persons comprising academicians, activists, victims, students, researchers, political party representatives etc.
- Interactive and participatory method was adopted in all technical sessions giving scope for remarks, comments and suggestions from participants.
- At the end of each session the outcome is summarized by the chairperson and rapporteurs which subsequently became suggestive for a legitimate conclusion.

DETAILS OF RESOURCE PERSON

- **Sri Manmohan Samal**, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Revenue & Disaster Management, Food Supplies & Consumer Welfare, Govt. of Orissa.
- **Sri Samir Dey**, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Higher Education, Public Grievances and Pension Administration, Govt. of Orissa.
- **Sri Ramesh Chandra Chowpatnaik**, M.L.A., Berhampur
- **Prof. K. S. Padhy**, Vice-Chancellor I/C.
- **Prof. B. C. Choudhury**, Dept. of Political Science, Berhampur University.
- **Sri Kailash Sadangi**, State Committee Member, C.P.I. (M), Orissa.
- **Sri Bhagaban Majhi**, Leader of Kasipur Protest Movement.
- **Rambhamani Sahu**, Displacement Victim, Kasipur, Orissa.
- **Suvarna Jhodia**, Displacement Victim, Kasipur, Orissa.
- **Prof. Gananath Patra**, Social Activist & Leader of Baliapalo Anti-Missile Test Range Movement.
- **Dr. Amrita Mishra Patel**, School of Women's Studies, Utkal University.
- **Mrs. Puspanjali Satapathy**, Social Activist.
- **Sri Bhalachandra Sadangi**, State Convenor, C.P.I. (ML).
- **Dr. Nirupama Barpanda**, Reader, Dr. P. M. I. A. E., Sambalpur.
- **Sri Lingaraj Azad**, Social Activist, Leader of Anti-Vedant Agitation.
- **Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak**, Member, C.P.I., Orissa.
- **Smt. Sandhya**, Convenor, Ekta Parishad.
- **Sri Niranjan Panda**, Advocate, High Court, Orissa
- **Mrs. Ranjita Behera**, Research Scholar, W.S.R.C.
- **Sri Prafulla Samantara**, Environmentalist-cum-Social Activist & State Convenor, Lokasakti Abhijan, Orissa.
- **Sri Narayan Reddy**, M.L.A., Chatrapur, Former Leader Anti-TATA Gopalpur Movement.
- **Ms. Ratna Sahu**, Director, W.S.R.C.
- **Dr. Urmimala Das**, Lecturer, W.S.R.C.

PROCEEDINGS

In this backdrop the State level seminar on “Development induced displacement in Orissa and Women’s Rights” was held on 13th-14th August, 2008 in the Senate Hall, Berhampur University, Bhanjabihar. Nearly 200 participants comprising Cabinet Ministers of Govt. of Orissa, Representative of political parties like Congress-I, Biju Janata Dal, Bharatiya Janata Party, Communist Party of India (CPI), Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPIM), CPIM-L, Social Activists, Teachers, Environmentalists, Researchers, Displaced people including women, Displacement Agitation Leaders, Advocates, Anti Displacement Compaigners etc. attended and deliberated in the Seminar.



Arrival of Guests



Inauguration by Sri Manmohan Samal, Hon'ble Minister of Revenue



*Lighting of Lamp by Sri Samir Dey,
Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education
& The Vice Chancellor*



Anchoring by Prof. B. C. Choudhury

On 13th August, at 11.30 AM Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Revenue & Disaster Management, Food supplies and consumer welfare Govt. of Orissa, **Sri Manmohan Samal** inaugurated the Seminar by lightening the Candle **Prof. K. S. Padhy**, Department

of Political Science, Berhampur University acting as Vice-Chancellor in-charge presided over the inaugural function. Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Higher Education, Public Grievances and Pension Adalat, Govt. of Orissa, **Sri Samir Dey** graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The function started with an opening patriotic song. **Prof. B. C. Choudhury**, Department of Political Science, Berhampur University anchored the event.



Inaugural Session

Miss Ratna Sahoo, Director, Women's Studies Research Centre, Berhampur University gave the Welcome Address and introduced the guests on the dais.

Dr. Urmimala Das, Lecturer, Women's Studies Research Centre, Berhampur University and convenor of the Seminar made the introductory note on theme of the Seminar and called upon the participants to have a meaningful dialogue on the issue to arrive at an implementable action plan on the issue. Besides she requested/called upon both the ministers to interface with the participants as it will lead the deliberation in the desired direction in view of direct association of both the ministries with the topic of discussion.



***Theme introduced by
Dr. Urmimala Das***



***Guest introduced by Ratna Sahu,
Director, W.S.R.C.***

Sj. Manmohan Samal, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Revenue and Disaster Management, Food supplies and consumer welfare Govt. of Orissa :-

Inaugurating the seminar, Hon'ble Minister expressed his happiness over the selection of the topic as it is now the burning issue of the State. He said that "we cannot avoid developmental projects as we have to raise the living standard of our people by setting up of industries and utilising the natural resources of the state. But simultaneously we will have to take care of the displaced people". He also admitted that women suffer most in the event of displacement. The basic needs of life should be protected. He said that the R&R policy of the Orissa is now the best policy available in the country. He refrained from outlining the various parameters of the R. R. Policy of the state in view of introduction of code of conduct for the ensuing the municipal elections. He advised the participants to lead the deliberation in an interface mode and forward a copy of the findings to his ministry for consideration. He emphasized for a well conceived R&R policy for a zero displacement in our development initiatives. He suggested the organizers to have more such deliberations if possible of national level to have a path finding effect on the issue.

He narrated the great sacrifice and dedicative role of women in the making of our society and also expressed his faith on the confidence, patience and constructive role of women. He described the success of SHG in improving the family economy and growing share of girls in the educational institutions. At the last he wished grand success of the seminar.

Sj. Samir Dey, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Higher Education, Public Grievances and Pension Adalat, Govt. of Orissa.

He graced the occasion as Chief Guest. He congratulated the organisers of the Seminar for selecting and conducting the seminar on a issue hunting our country in general and our state in particular. He expressed his happiness and said that Research Centres, Universities should be concerned with practical problems of the society around instead of theoretical jargons. He also thanked the National Commission for Women for extending support to the seminar.

Mr. Dey in his speech outlined the most sordid conditions faced by women in particular in the event of displacement. Citing the example of Jijabai's contribution in making the character of Sivaji, he said that women take the all most all burden of our family and our society. Prosperity of a society entirely depends upon the conditions of women in that society. Displacement cannot be avoided in the developmental projects. But it does not mean we will be blind to the problems of the displaced people. If it happens then our development will be meaningless. In displacement we should take all due care of the displaced people especially the women's right to livelihood so that the family economy will be sustained. He advised for the implementation of women empowerment programmes like SHG formation, skill upgradation, credit linkage marketing of products and social security programmes like 24 hrs helpline. Besides he stressed on awareness on displacement in the grass root level and called upon for framing suitable curriculum so that we can meet the challenges of displacement in a better way by evolving new means of solution by way of discussion and deliberations in the grass root level. He suggested the participants to lead the deliberation on how to make the displaced people more particularly women protected for their right to livelihood in a sustainable way through an implementable action plan. He advised organizers to conduct more such seminars/workshops on burning issues around us and wished the success of the seminar.



Address by Hon'ble Minister of Revenue



Address by Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education

Prof. K. S. Padhy, Professor Political Science and Vice-Chancellor In-Charge :- Prof. Padhy in his presidential address outlined on various basic rights of the displaced people and its violation by Govt. He narrated land acquisition Act of colonial rule which is still now in vogue. He invited the attention of the Hon'ble Ministers towards the flaws in such acts which has overshadowed the various individual rights and suggested to have due regards for the protection of basic human rights of the individual. Besides he expressed his concern over the R&R policies for its improvement as the displaced people are not only suffering from the material loss but also a socio-psychological vaccum for generation to come.



*Address by R. Ch. Chowpatnaik,
M.L.A., Berhampur*



View of the Inaugural dais

SUMMARY OF THE DELIBERATIONS

Technical Session – I

Political Discourse and Development induced Displacement and Women

This session was chaired by *Prof. Bijay Kumar Bohidar*, Political Science, Binayak Acharya College, Berhampur, Orissa and *Dr. Sadananda Nayak*, Reader, Department of Oriya, Berhampur University was the rapporteur. There were five presenters :-

Sri Kailash Sarangi, Member of CPIM, Orissa, *Sri Bhagaban Majhi*, Leader of Kashipur movement *Rambhamani Sahu*, *Subarna Jhodia* of Kasipur and *Prof. Gananath Patra*, Social Activist and Leader of Baliapala Anti-Missile Test Range Centre.

Sri Kailash Sarangi, spoke that development and displacement are both sides of the same coin. Development will cause displacement but we cannot stop development in the present day society. On the contrary we have to see the displaced people are properly rehabilitated and resettled. He critically examined the R&R policy of Govt. and questioned the lack of vision of our political masters in taking up of developmental projects.

Sri Bhagaban Majhi narrated the blatant violation of human rights, harassment of people particularly the tribals in Kasipur, terrorising the tribal women, implicating in false cases as because they protested against the displacement in Kasipur. He questioned the purpose of development when the innocent tribals of the area are pushed away from the main stream of society. No development can take place over the dead bodies of the common natives. He also questioned limitation of R&R policy as it does not serve the basic needs of displaced people.

He called upon to assess the environmental and social utility of the area in consultation with the people before launching any project. Govt. has no right to trample down on the rights of its own citizens. He vehemently protested any such development which does not suit the welfare and prosperity of the people living in that area. He detailed the clause of R&R policy and also condemned bureaucrat, police and company nexus in throttling the common man's voice. He also expressed people's distrust on Govt. *He narrated the callousness of Govt. in setting up of a hospital in Kasipur but eagerness in establishing a police station to protect the interest of the company.*

Rambha Mani Sahoo of Kasipur described police and administrative harassment on them and Mainkanch firing how innocent tribals were killed for nothing. Her narration of administration, company and police terrorism on tribals, tribal women for land acquisition was heart rendering.

Subarna Jhodia is the widow of one of the police firing victim of Maikanch Firing. The tribals were protesting against forcible land acquisition in Kasipur area for L&T buxite project. She spoke the pathos and agony of her personal life after death of her husband and her determination to fight against forcible land acquisition.

Prof. Gananath Patra analysing the present trend of development said that it is an imperialistic hidden agenda to exploit our country. To him the present day development is bringing more and more people under destitute by way of exploiting natural resources, polluting atmosphere, shrinking employment opportunity reducing public space for voice raising, encouraging intra group conflict and encroaching sovereignty of the state. In his language the present day development is an way of looting public wealth and displacement make people helpless and voiceless. He stressed on defining development in people's perspective not in company's interest. Otherwise people will not be merely displaced, they will be dispelled. Now our country has been semi colonized and if this process is not halted, we will live in the colony of MNCs. This development is creating looting industry instead of creating a labour intensive industry. Besides he cautioned on the use of natural resources and advised for economy in its use.

This was followed by question hour session.



Technical Session – I

Technical Session II – Gender perspective in Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy and role of state.

This session was also chaired by Prof. Bijay Kumar Bohidar, Prof. of Political Science, Binayak Acharya College, Berhampur, Orissa and Dr. Sadananda Nayak, Reader, Department of Oriya, Berhampur University was the rapporteur.

Dr. Amrita Mishra Patel of School of Women's studies, Utkal University and Smt. Puspanjali Satapathy, Social Activist, Basundhara, Orissa were the presenters.

Dr. Amrita Mishra Patel, School of Women's studies Utkal University :- She spoke oral history documentation of Hirakud displaced people, critically analysed the R&R policy of Govt. As on date R&R policy has not been implemented. The companies are implementing their own R&R policy. During her critical examination of R&R policy she highlighted the absence of gender prospective in the policy, invisibility of women, no provision of special resettlement of women, Sense of distrust, shrinking space, individual identity of women, enumerational flaws and for a future gender perspective in the policy and enforceability of the policy in the absence of legal safeguard. Above all she also highlighted the bureaucratic mindset of callousness on the pangs of displacement which has become more deterrent in bringing a well defined R&R policy.

Mr. Puspanjali Satapathy – Social Activist described drawbacks in R&R policy in respect of Hirakud in Sambalpur District and Derjang in Angul District. She narrated in detail of the loss of identity of the displaced people of Tangiri Sahi, Julue, Badamula Villages where Govt. has been callous in implementing it's R&R policy even after a gap of 48 years and its consequent effect in their socio-economic life afterward. Her narration was full of data and figures. She stressed on a policy of sustainable livelihood programme with implementable action plan for the displaced people.

This was followed by question hour session.



Technical Session – II

Technical Session – III

Protest movement against Displacement & voice of women

This session was chaired by Prof. Bishnu Charan Choudhury, Department of Political Science, Berhampur University and Dr. Mrs Amita Kumari Choudhury, Reader in Economics – Berhampur University. Dr. Mrs Gitanjali Mishra, Reader in Zoology Berhampur University were the rapporteurs.

Sri Bhala Chandra Sarangi, CPI (ML), Dr. (Smt.) Nirupama Badapanda, Reader in education, DR PM Institute of Advance in Education, Sambalpur and Sri Lingaraj Azad Social Activist and Leader of Vedant Agitation, Lanjigarh were the presenters.

Sri Bhala Chandra Sarangi critically evaluated the various developmental projects in Orissa starting from Hirakud and described how these projects have infact become anti poor, anti tribal and anti women. These disadvantageous group have suffered the most and the concept of development has a negative meaning to the people of the state. He has titled his paper “Development chariot in the Destructive Bulldozer. He also talked about SEZ, how it will create foreign land inside our country. He squarely blamed the govt. and it’s planning for exploiting common man.

Smt. Nirupama Badapanda on her paper has very lucidly described the psycho-social problems of women as well as health and security caused by displacement in Hirakud dam project. She highlighted the lack of social security, lack of basic needs of life like fuel, water, sanitation and health care for women in the displaced area which has become a grave concern for them. She also narrated the environmental degradation with facts and figures. Her paper questions the objective of our present day development as it has belied hopes of the common man.

Sri Lingaraj Azad in his presentation talked of the ill effects of the development project. It suits the imperialist agencies and MNCs and not the woes of the displaced. The liberalization, and globalization have aggravated the situation worst and the common man is deprived of basic needs of life. Shri Azad's deliberation with facts and figures on state's role in violating the fundamental rights of common man was not only heart rendering but also agitated the audience. He also accepted that the protest and agitation of the common man and especially the women will be successful in safe guarding the sovereignty of this country. He also expressed his concern over Basti demolition in the cities for which govt. has no R&R policy.

This was followed by a question answer session.



Technical Session – III

Technical Session – IV Issues of livelihood, environment and displaced women

This session was chaired by Prof. Nirmal Chandra Sahu, Department of Economics, Berhampur University and Dr. (Mrs.) Usharani Acharya, Reader, Zoology, Berhampur University was the rapporteur.

Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak, CPI, Smt. Sandhya, Convenor Ekata Parichad, Orissa, Sri Prafulla Samantaray, Convenor, Loksakti Abhiyan, Orissa Mrs Ranjita Behera, Research Scholar WSRC, Berhampur University were the presenters.

Sri Prafulla Samantara narrated the protest movement of Tribal women for securing their livelihood and the exploitation faced by them. He highlighted emphatically the heroic fight of women folk and their demand for the basic rights of livelihood.

Sri Samantaray in his address cautioned about the environmental degradation caused by various industrial projects in Orissa. He opined the present development is going against the interest of the people. For example, Keonjhar District of Orissa rich with minerals contribute 27% of the states income where as 62% of the population in the District are living below poverty line. He narrated his association in the struggle of women in the displaced areas for water and fuel. In this areas the livelihood and health has become a serious concern where the women are worst victims.

Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak called upon the teachers and students for a deeper analysis of this issue as it has rocked the present society. He highlighted the basic faults of land Acquisition Act. Because at that time in Sambalpur the cultivators had no right to sale, to mortgage even to lease their land. The Act has no provision for compensation for share croppers and agricultural labourers. Hirakud dam was completed in the year 1956. But many have not yet received the compensation till date and the amount is still lying with Collector, Sambalpur. After a lapse of 33 years in the year, 1989 around 3,000 people out of 8,656 were given the balance 50% of their compensation availed at that time. The compensation itself was meagre in Government's own admission. The most important observation of Prof. Nayak was the absence of evaluation of village common property which is the life source of community for compensation. Prof. Nayak described various components of displacement and added one more recent dimension to it i.e., multiple displacement. He also explained how the Government has failed in defining the compensation, resettlement and rehabilitation concepts. The concept of ex-gratia payment in the compensation package is nothing but an humiliation on the part human dignity of an individual. This violates basic human rights of an individual.

He suggested to analyse the R&R policy of our state in the back drop of recent development in the act enacted by Maharashtra and West Bengal and recast it to safe guard the basic human rights and right to livelihood otherwise the history of displacement will remain as the history of betrayal to citizens of this country.

Mrs. Ranjita Behera, Research Scholar of WSRC described violation of human rights, police atrocities on women agitators of Tata Project in Gopalpur from her own field visit. She narrated the low quality resettlement colony provided by Tata.

Ms. Sandhya Devi, Convenor of Ekta Parishad very forcefully explained the definition of development given by Daisingh Majhi, 80 years old tribal to the District Collector. Sri Saswat Mishra who was visiting the tribal Village to convince the tribals to leave their land, hearth and village in favour of Vedanta Project in Lanjigarh. The present development process accompanying displacement is killing the age old sustainable livelihood and causing the greater damage to cultural heritage of a larger indigenous community throwing them as destitute.



Technical Session – IV

VALEDICTORY SESSION

The valedictory session was chaired by Miss Ratna Sahu, Director, WSRC. Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak was Chief Speaker, Sri Narayan Reddy, M.L.A., Chatrapur was the Chief Guest and Mr. Prafulla Samantara, Convenor, Loksakti Abhijan, Orissa was the Guest of Honour.

The rapporteurs presented their observations. Dr. Sadananda Nayak, Reader, Dept. of Oriya, Berhampur University presented the report of inaugural session, technical session on Political Discourse and Development induced displacement and women and also the Technical session on Gender perspective in Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy and Role of State. DR. (Mrs) Amita Kumari Choudhury, Reader, Dept. of Economics,

Berhampur University and DR. (Mrs) Gitanjali Mishra, Reader, Dept. of Zoology, Berhampur University presented the report of Technical Session – III, Protest Movement against Displacement and Voice of Women. DR. (Mrs) Usharani Acharya, Reader, Dept. of Zoology, Berhampur University presented the report on Technical Session – IV, Issues of livelihood, Environment and Displacement of Women.

Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak in this session, spoke on social cost benefit analysis of developmental projects before launching, enlarging the various dimension of displacement including multiple displacement. Compensation should include the cost of shifting. Similarly Rehabilitation and Resettlement be redefined on a sustainable basis. He emphasised on recasting of R&R policy being oriented towards livelihood protection of the displaced.

Sri Narayana Reddy, M. L. A., Chatrapur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Sri Reddy described the peoples struggled and their suffering in the Gopalpur movement. He highlighted the fighting spirit shown by of the women in the area and how two women were martyred in police firing while fighting for their hearth and home. People are sovereign. Govt. cannot take away their home and land without their consent. Even if they consent, Government has to ensure their sustainable livelihood in the event of displacement. No compromise is acceptable. In his address he highlighted the critical evaluation of R&R policy and urged for predevelopment assessment in consultation with the local people before launching any project to minimize the unrest.

Sri Prafulla Samantara addressed the gathering as Guest of Honour and summed up the deliberations. He described in detail the people's movement and agitation of social activist in drawing attention of the public in general and the Govt. in particular to have a rethinking on development induced displacements for due redress. He regretted the state repression and state patronage of private companies in spreading the reign of terror in the displaced areas. He reiterated his faith on peoples power and urged the intellectuals to give a new direction on thinking of the developmental policy and programmes of the govt.

Vote of Thanks :-

At the end, DR. Urmimal Das, Lecturer, WSRC, Berhampur University and Convenor of the Seminar thanked one and all for their presence, active participation, support and co-operation for making the seminar a grand success. She also thanked National Commission for Women, New Delhi for sponsoring this seminar.



Valedictory Session



Sri Narayana Reddy, addressing valedictory session

OBSERVATION/SUMMING UP

Development induced displacement has become a grave concern for the state as well as the displaced people. The displaced are not properly taken care in Rehabilitation and Resettlement. The policy of R&R is neither all comprehensive nor gender neutral. The worst victim of displacement are the women. The repression of the state has become alarming and leading to chaos and unrest. It has now started questioning the concept of 'development' and its perspective. Development has not reached the displaced rather they have been marginalized. The present day developmental projects have worst socio-economic and environmental hazards not only for the displaced but also for the neighboring areas. The globalization and liberalization has made development more anti-people as it is not labour intensive rather more capital intensive. Sufferings of the displaced have out numbered the success of the development. The environmental hazard is new dimension added to seek an alternative for industrial development.

Women have hardly any property right in our society. So they are not entitled to compensation as per the present legislation and patriarchal norm, women have not been treated as equal beneficiaries in R & R package for jobs and other entitlements. Above all women's proximity and easy access to source of water, livelihood, food, fodder and firewood is never addressed in R/R policy. The concept of 'Settlement' in holistic sense is absent in the present R/R scheme of Orissa.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of the discussion in the seminar, following recommendations are made to address the displacement issue from gender perspective.

- The State Government should earmark 1% of annual profit each for State and for displaced people. Before signing MoU with any company this may be considered as the first criteria before allowing any project partner on the land.
- As far as possible displaced able men and women should be given jobs in the project. Dependent women, men and children need to be given allowances or support services.
- In democracy people are sovereign. State has to honour people's voice and abandon any sort of repression against movement of displaced people and resort to reconciliatory approach.
- The concerned people should be consulted, consented and taken into confidence before displacement. The R/R aspect should be an integral part of the development in which both women and men should be equal partners. Thus, women's participation in the entire processes of resettlement planning and implementation should be ensured.
- Social cost benefit analysis should be made an integral part of the developmental agenda of the state before launching any project.
- R&R policy be suitably recast to take care of landless, wage earners, share croppers, artisans, beggars and dependant including girls and women.
- Right to all types of resources including right to property be incorporated in the R&R policy. Equal treatment to women in the eligibility for R/R benefits, the women should be treated at par with their male counterparts. The major daughter and major son should receive equal treatment. Women headed households should be recognized as that of men headed household in R&R policy. Widowed women, divorcees staying

with male headed households and having no legal rights over land should be considered as separate units under R&R beneficiaries.

- Women should be treated as an individual and a person. Her service, labour be evaluated in the compensation package as that of her male counterpart.
- House or land in joint name :

At the time of resettlement of land for land; Plans must ensure the ownership of both spouses. Joint name of the female and male heads of the family and in her absence, the oldest female member of the family be regarded as the female head of the family. Likewise home or homestead land must be allotted in joint name in resettlement colonies. Option and consent for compensation in terms of cash/ kind must be ensured from the women head of the family. All payments of cash compensation, including the replacement value of houses, must be paid into a bank account in the joint names of the female and male heads of households.

- Special packages for provision of healthcare, sanitation, fuel, water and recreation be incorporated in the R&R policy.
 - Campaign and sensitisation be made a part of R&R policy.
 - Compensation for common property resource be made mandatory. The R&R authorities should take the responsibility of creation of community resources of fuel, fodder and water. These have special importance for women. After creation of such resources, those may be handed over to the resettlers for their management. Similar amount of forest and agricultural land are to be nurtured.
 - creation of livelihood opportunities.
- Women should be equally treated with their male counterparts in the allocation of jobs for the displaced people. In case of women lacking the requisite skill, the project authorities or rehabilitation authorities should take necessary steps to provide them the required skill training before absorbing them in the jobs. Where the projects do not have job opportunities those should take steps to ensure livelihood opportunities for the women who lost their vocations after relocation. In such cases, livelihood options should be in conformity with their choice and local needs. SHG mode may be an option for livelihood.

- Displaced women should be assisted with requisite skill training and provision of capital for undertaking income generating activities. Group based micro finance may be one of the options for the purpose.
- The displaced women should be integrated with poverty alleviation programmes of the Central Government to benefit from its various income generating schemes.
- The project authorities and the respective departments should keep in mind to develop or keep scope for developing.
- Sanitation facility may be provided in the resettlement colonies.
- National R/R policies are to be translated into laws and acts.
- Colonial Land Acquisition Act must be amended to help address various issues of displacement.
- Women Officers, at least 33% should represent the R/R authorities.
- Educational facilities in resettlement colonies.

The R&R authorities should provide educational facilities in the resettlement colonies to benefit the children in general and girl children in particular for their educational attainment.

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Arrival of Guests



Address by Prof. Gananath Patra



Lighting of the Lamp



Address by Prof. Durga Prasad Nayak



Address by Hon'ble Minister of Revenue



Address by Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education