

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3557
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2009
REHABILITATION POLICY FOR DISPLACED PERSONS
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of people displaced and affected by the hydro and thermal power projects are still fighting for rehabilitation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate a new policy for the rehabilitation of people affected by the power projects;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any scheme to provide employment and other facilities to the people affected by the power projects is under consideration of the Government; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b): All Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) issues pertaining to Project Affected Persons (PAPs) in respect of Hydro and Thermal Power Projects are proactively addressed during land acquisition and project construction stage itself. A Rehabilitation Action Plan (RAP) is formulated through extensive consultations process involving PAPs, Head of Panchayats of the affected villages, people representatives and the District Administration etc. The RAP, thus prepared on a consensual basis is then approved for implementation. The duration of RAP implementation varies from the project to project basis and this normally is completed by the time project implementation is completed. However, despite the best efforts, if some R&R issues are left or they crop up after the completion of the project, they are properly addressed in due course of time.

The information regarding R&R issues pertaining to various Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) & Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) are as under:

Hydro Projects:

i) NHPC: No R&R issue is pending in respect of NHPC Projects.

ii) SJVNL: No R&R issue is pending in respect of SJVNL Projects.

iii) NEEPCO: No R&R issue is pending in respect of NEEPCO Projects.

iv) THDC: All entitled project affected families (PAFs) of Tehri Dam Project, Uttarakhand have been resettled at various Rehabilitation sites where all infrastructures facilities have been created at project cost. All due compensations have been paid to each Project Affected Family (PAF) as per their entitlement and as per approved Rehabilitation Policy formulated for Tehri Dam Project. In addition, arrangements for resettlement of 90 families due to demarcation of new survey line have also been appropriately taken up.

v) BBMB: The Pong Dam oustees have been rehabilitated in Rajasthan. Till date, 10584 no. of Pong Dam oustees have been allotted land in Rajasthan and about five thousand Pong Dam oustees are yet to be rehabilitated. Negotiation with Rajasthan Government through Ministerial Level and Secretarial Level meetings are done to resettle the remaining Pong Dam oustees.

vi) NHDC: The details regarding project affected families in respect of Indira Sagar and Omkareshwar Hydro projects are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of project	Project Affected families	Shifted Families	Remaining Families
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1. Indira Sagar Project 44083 41946 2137

2. Omkareshwar Project 5960 3227 2737

Remaining Families are residing in their houses because of Hon`ble High Court's direction in Omkareshwar Project Case.

Thermal Projects:

NTPC: As on date, there is no case of pending conflicts/disputes with respect to R&R at any of NTPC projects implemented since the formulation of their own R&R policy in 1993.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has notified `The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy-2007 (NRRP, 2007)` on 31-10-2007. The main objectives of the NRRP, 2007 are as under:

to ensure adequate rehabilitation package and expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of the affected families;

to ensure that special care is taken for protecting the rights of the weaker sections of society, especially members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and to create obligations on the State for their treatment with concern and sensitivity;

to provide a better standard of living, making concerted efforts for providing sustainable income to the affected families;

to integrate rehabilitation concerns into the development planning and implementation process; and

where displacement is on account of land acquisition, to facilitate harmonious relationship between the requiring body and affected families through mutual cooperation.

The policy also includes the following:

- a) Appointment of Administrator and Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement and their powers and functions.
- b) Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plan.
- c) Rehabilitation and Resettlement Benefits for the Affected Families.
- d) Grievance Redressal Mechanism.
- e) Monitoring Mechanism.

(e) & (f): In regard to employment and other facilities to the affected people, the National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy stipulates preference to affected family (at least one person per nuclear family) in providing employment in the project, subject to the availability of the vacancies and suitability of affected person for the employment. The policy stipulates arranging training of the affected persons, to offer scholarships and other skill development opportunities to the eligible persons for the affected families. The policy also stipulates giving preference to willing landless labourers and un-employed affected persons while engaging labour in the project during the construction phase. This Policy has been adopted by all CPSUs. As per the New Hydro Policy 2008, an additional 1% free power (in addition to 12% free power) from the project would be provided and earmarked for Local Area Development Fund, aimed at providing a regular stream of revenue for income generation and welfare schemes, creation of additional infrastructure and common facilities etc. on a sustained and continued basis over the life of the project. In addition, 100 units of electricity per month would be provided by the project developer to each project affected family for a period of 10 years from the date of commissioning of the project.