

INDUSTRIAL DISPLACEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT IN JAGATSINGHPUR AND JAJPUR DISTRICT OF ODISHA

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Abstract:

The industrialization process in India caused strengthens of the economy in one part and displacement in India in another side. Large scale development projects have been taken up like dam/irrigation, mining, industry, urban infrastructure, wildlife sanctuaries, and linear projects such as road, railways and defense related projects etc. In Odisha the POSCO project in Jagatsinghpur and Kalinga Nagar project in Jajpur district were among the major projects being undertaken in the state of Odisha to contribute economy. The objective of this paper is to analyze the rehabilitation process and benefit received by the displaced people. This paper found that rehabilitation process is very poor and people are not satisfied for this package. However, government has been trying to satisfy displaced people. The government should provide best R and R policy for the betterment of the common people and this policy should be very dynamic and implemented as per the local living conditions and environment.

Key Words: Displacement, Resettlement, Industrial Development and Large Scale industries Project.

Introduction: Odisha, locates in eastern India, is a rich state, known for its abundant mineral, forest, hydrologic and other resources. It is attracted large development projects right from the beginning of the planning era in the early 1950s. The POSCO project in Jagatsinghpur and Kalinga Nagar project in Jajpur district were among the major projects being undertaken in this state. The state has since witnessed further rapid development. However, these projects have not benefited the local population, which has a large tribal and non-tribal population segment. On the contrary, development interventions in tribal area have cost these people dearly. People have been displaced from their lands, homes, livelihoods, communities and in some cases displaced repeatedly. Many of these people remain uncompensated even to this day and face an uncertain future.

(A) POSCO Project:

The growing awareness among the communities who face displacement has given rise to a wide range of protest movement all over country. Through struggles in Paradip Odisha for POSCO project, people are asserting the need to both democratize the model as well as to seek alternative to them. In 2005, when POSCO, the world's fourth-largest steelmaker, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Odisha government to set up a 12-million-tonne-capacity steel project in Jagatsinghpur district, it is the biggest foreign direct investment in India, at that point of time, at \$12 billion (Rs 52,000 crores). When the Odisha government signed the memorandum of understanding with POSCO, it made a commitment to the company to offer 4,004 acres of coastal land, even though the Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation did not have a single acre at its disposal. The project ran into trouble from the onset. Villagers opposed the acquisition of their land – on a fertile strip on the coast of the Bay of Bengal near Paradip, famous for its betel vines. The resistance was largely because the betel-based economy sustained 20,000-odd people in eight villages in Dhinkia, Nuagaon and Gadakujanga gram panchayats that would be affected

by the project. And about 3,000 acres of the 4,004 acres of land required for the steel plant was to come from forestland, its sandy landscape dotted with around 5,000 betel vines. The vineyards gave farmers here an assured average income of at least Rs 20,000 per month. The Jagatsinghpur district administration countered the resistance by accusing the villagers of occupying the forestland illegally, though the latter said they had been cultivating betel for generations. The villagers, who came under the banner of the POSCO Pratirodh Sangram Samiti to protest the land acquisition, rejected the state government's offer of an Rs 70-crore rehabilitation package. Finally POSCO company have made its exit, the industries minister has said that the state will hold on to all 2,700 acres of the acquired land for future use.

The protest movement has not only created national awareness of the problem but also has raised question of equity, fairness, justice and equality before law in the matter of distribution of benefits and burdens. Through the process of acquisition of land for setting up mining, irrigation, transportation and other mega projects (mostly in public sector) is not new, the intensity of adverse effects was never comprehended in the past as today (Sharma:2003:907). The problem of displacement and resistance is result of present development pattern followed by Indian states. People feel these patterns which threaten their cultural and social fabric and which seek their 'sacrifice' for a public good that is both disputable and dubious, and fundamentally flawed. Today the project affected people are no longer in a mood to suffer displacement along with its concomitant attributes like occupational degeneration, social disorientation, pauperization, loss in dignity and often getting cheated of the compensation amount, which serve to make the experience a trauma. This has given rise to protest movement, marked by growing militancy. An interesting feature of the growing protest movement has been the creation of a national awareness of the problem. Also protest movement of the displaced have played a major role in displacement becoming a key issue in the debate on development.

(B) Kalinga Nagar Project:

Kalinga Nagar is a planned industrial and modern town in Jajpur district of Odisha. It attracts so many industrialists, to invest in this locality as it has rich mineral resources and other infrastructural facilities. The Kalinga Nagar industrial complex is one of the biggest steel hubs of Asia. It aims at accelerating the pace of economic development and generating employment and widening self-employment opportunities through industrialization. The table shows the household and demographic composition of the area.

The idea of building the Kalinga Nagar industrial complex was conceived in the early 90s with the advent of liberalization and economic reforms. It is in the last couple of years; the Government of Odisha has signed more than 40 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with various private companies to set up steel plants in the state. At the same time, the last couple of years that Kalinga Nagar has been seen as the steel hub of Odisha. The Industrial Infrastructural Development Corporation of Odisha (IDCO) was entrusted with the task of developing infrastructure facilities for the proposed industrial complex in Kalinga Nagar, so that the investors could be attracted to set up industries in the area.

Kalinga Nagar Integrated Industrial Complex (KNIIC) jurisdiction comprises 30 villages, 11 gram panchayats, 2 blocks, 2 police stations and 2 Tahasils.

(a) Rehabilitation Colonies Of Kalinga Nagar Integrated Industrial Complex (KNIIC)

It is claimed that in comparison with the earlier oustees of development projects in India, the displaced persons of Kalinga Nagar Integrated Industrial Complex were given one of the best R & R package. The displaced families were provided with land-based and job-based rehabilitation in order to sustain their living in the changed socio-economic ambience of the region. The present situation in all the colonies is different which are discussed below.

(i) Gobaraghati Rehabilitation Colony – I

This colony is situated in Gobaraghati Revenue village near Ankurapal hamlet at a distance of 1 km. from Express Highway. This rehabilitation colony is established over Ac. 140.00 on Plot No.35 and 37 of Khata No.75. In total 595 plots have been carved out in the colony out of which 499 have been allotted to various displaced families. Initially 135 displaced persons (DP) of Nilachala Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) were allotted plots during 1996-1998. During this period IDCO had developed all infrastructures like roads, drains and drinking water facility. A Community center for the use of displaced persons of NINL has been constructed by M/s NINL. For all three communities separate burial grounds have been developed by M/s NINL. One Government Primary school (up to Class-VII) is functioning in the colony. The Birshamunda colony also situated within the territory of the Gobaraghati. The TATA steel constructed a transit camp in this colony to rehabilitate the displaced person. The displaced people at the initial stage have stayed in this transit camp till the completion of their house.

From the year 2007, the displaced persons of M/s TATA Steel were gradually settled in the Gobaraghati rehabilitation colony. So far 364 displaced families of villages Gobaraghati, Chandia and Gadapur were shifted by TATA Steel have been allotted plots in the colony. The infrastructure for oustees of TATA Steel have been developed by M/s TATA Steel itself. Black top road access to all the houses, drinking water facility by piped water supply system, provision of street light and high mast light, dispensary facility, pre-school training to children, community center etc. are provided to the displaced persons. Developments of burial ground, excavation of a pond, space for communal and religious functions were long outstanding demands of the displaced persons. In the meantime development of burial ground and renovation of tank are continuing and steps are being taken to fulfill the other two demands.

(ii) Gobaraghati Rehabilitation Colony – II

This colony is the extension of Colony No.-I, which is situated over Plot No.30/561 of Khata No.75, measuring Ac.98.00. So far 236 families have been allotted homestead plots in the colony. Black top roads, street light, high mast light, piped water supply system, playground and drainage facilities are provided in the colony by M/s TATA Steel. Three nos. of Puja Mandaps (small room for worship) especially for the village deity and for cultural and religious purposes have been created in the colony. Two community ponds were excavated in the colony. As per the demands of the habitants, TATA authorities have been requested recently to expand the said ponds.

(iii) Trijanga Rehabilitation Colony – I

This colony is situated near Danagadi in revenue village-Trijanga. This colony was developed by Industrial Corporation of Odisha (IDCO) in 1996 over an area of Ac.68.15 on Plot No.489 & 462. Displaced persons of various industries namely MISL, NINL, JSL, TATA, VISA, BRPL and Apeejay Logistic numbering 385 DPs have been rehabilitated in the colony. IDCO had developed infrastructure in the colony which has been supplemented by the above industries. The following infrastructures are available in the colony like black topped / concrete internal road to all houses, one pond for common use, piped drinking water supply with stand posts, one Nodal school and one High school, one Forest park, one madrasa building, one community center by IDCO and another by M/s JSL, street light, tube wells and worship place for minority community.

This colony was developed by IDCO and habituated by displaced persons (DPs) of all industries. However, due to gradual withdrawal of IDCO from maintaining the colony, road conditions and water supply system is not at its best.

(iv) Trijanga Rehabilitation Colony – II

This colony is the extension of Colony No. I which is situated over Plot No.384 of Khata No.-501, measuring Ac.34.75. So far as 166 families have been allotted homestead plots in the colony. The displaced persons (DPs) of mainly M/s TATA Steel and JSL are resettled in the colony. The following facilities are provided by the project proponents in the colony like concrete road / black top road approached to all houses, dispensary: 1 (One) by M/s TATA Steel, community center, burial ground for displaced persons (DPs) of Colony-I & II, worship place, drinking water supply system by TATA and JSL separately, street lighting facility, three hand pumps, multi activity center and Club and one playground.

The displaced persons (DPs) have been demanding one pond. M/s TATA Steel has been requested to excavate the same in a nearby locality.

(v) Sansailo Rehabilitation Colony

This colony is situated in the revenue village-Sansailo nearby of Duburi-Sukinda Road at a distance of about 5 km. from Duburi square of Jajpur district (Illus:). The colony is established over Ac.19.00 on the Plot No.1111/2922 of Khata No.466. One hundred one displaced families of M/s TATA Steel have been settled in the colony. The following facilities/infrastructures have been provided by the project proponent i.e. TATA Steel Ltd like black top road – 3.6 km inside the colony with approach to all houses, 33 Street lights, Piped water system with four bore wells, Drain – 7.5 kms, one Community center, one welfare office, one dispensary, one Worship place, one Cremation/Burial ground and one Playground.

One pond is being excavated by TATA Steel for the displaced persons (DPs). The Project proponent has been recently requested to develop the playground.

(vi) Kantipur Rehabilitation Colony

This colony is situated in the revenue village of Kantipur which is about 4 km. away from Danagadi. The colony is established over Ac.3.00 on the Plot No.838/928 of Khata No.124. Twenty six displaced families of village-Jakhpura (Khadihatia) village have been settled in the colony. Two Government Primary schools in villages Dhapaniki and Kantipur are situated at a distance of 100 mtrs. and 300 mtrs. from the colony site respectively. The following facilities are provided by the project proponents in the colony like colony surrounded by boundary wall, street light – 10 nos., piped water supply with individual storage system and overhead tank, drainage system worship place, one cremation/Burial ground, concrete road approach to all houses, bridge course education provided by M/s JSL and mobile medical facility.

The project proponent has been requested to construct a Community Center for the use of the displaced persons. In order to accommodate around 60 displaced persons of Khurunti (Malikasahi) leveling of ditches is required in Khata No.126 covering an area of Ac.11.01 of Kantipur village. The table below shows that the number families living either in different resettlement colonies or self-relocated families.

(b) New Land Acquisition Cases:

During the period of 2005 onwards, 21 land acquisition proposals for an area of Ac.1150.14 in 16 villages are under the process of accomplishment. This land is required mostly for development of Kalinga Nagar Integrated Industrial Complex (KNIIC), Township, Ash pond, water pipe line and railway line etc. These acquisition proposals also cover some interspersed land of 1st & 2nd phase acquisition area.

(c). Exgratia Payment:

As a measure of benevolence Government had been pleased to allow the payment of exgratia over and above the compensation to all the land losers of Kalinga Nagar Integrated Industrial Complex (KNIIC) in

difference phases.

(d) The major impediments to land acquisition are:

- (i) Some land owners are reluctant to part their land.
- (ii) The land losers are demanding higher compensation.
- (iii) Demand of employment in companies for each and every land losing family.
- (iv) In some of the cases the land records have been too obsolete for rightful tenant to produce the relevant document even for rightful tenants.

As a first step, IDCO started acquiring land in the year 1992-94. Although IDCO had acquired the land in the early 90s, only a portion of it had been actually transferred to different industries and the remaining land is still in actual possession of people, who have been cultivating it as before. The reason for this is that, although the Government of Odisha had signed MOU, with many industrial houses only a few actually came forward to set up their industries. Plausibly, this lack of interest on the part of investors was due to slump in the international steel market. And now that the prospect for the steel market is favorable again, investors are hurrying up their activities. TATAs are one of the investors who had signed the MOU in 2004 to set up a 6 MMTPA steel plant in Kalinga Nagar, in two phases, with an investment of Rs. 154000 millions. As per the latest report, there are 12 industries at different stages of construction/operation in Kalinga Nagar. Of these, two plants (Nilachal Ispat Nigam Ltd, and MESCO) has started production and another two (Jindal and VISA) are at trial production stage. The other companies who have Plans to set up their plants in Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex are Tatas, Uttam Galva, Orion, Mithal, Rohit, Dinabandhu and others. The total capacity of all these plants is estimated to be 12 million metric tons per annum. The table gives information about plants and land allotted to them in Kalinga Nagar.

The acquisition of land by IDCO for Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex began in early 90s in the different phases. Till now about 13000 acres of land have been acquired by IDCO. Of these, 6900 acres are private land and the remaining area is said to be 'Government land'. However, in reality people are cultivating most of the 'Government land', for generations, over which they do not have patta. The land survey and settlement in the area was not done since 1928. With the enactment of the Odisha Estate Abolition Act in 1951, the Estate of Sukinda King was vested with the government. But tenancy rights were not conferred upon the local people who were in possession of land. Even after the enactment of the Odisha Survey and Settlement Act of 1958 (Rules framed in the year 1962), no settlement has been done in the area. The commitments made by successive governments at different times on land reforms, promising land to the landless, have never been implemented in the area.

The IDCO has purchased land from people at the rate of Rs.15000/- to Rs. 30,000/- per acre in the initial phase of acquisition. Over the years, as a 'measure of benevolence', an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 25000/- per acre has been awarded, in different phases, probably in response to people's demand for increased compensation from time to time.

The compensation for land was given to only those who have 'patta' (legal entitlement) on the land. This left a huge section of people uncompensated, as they had no 'patta' (legal entitlement) over the land they possessed. Another section of people, who cultivated land as sharecroppers, didn't receive any compensation. After acquiring land from people, IDCO has been selling the land to different industries at a much higher price.

According to official data (ADMO, Kalinga Nagar), 814 families have been displaced, so far, in Kalinga Nagar. The number of families, likely to be displaced / affected in the near future is said to be about 5,000. Of the 814 displaced families, 639 families have been displaced by NINL, of these; only 182 families have been directly employed in the same industries.

(e) Rehabilitation And Resettlement As On 31.07.2014:

Most of the acquisition of land in KNIIC area was done before the enactment of Orissa Resettlement & Rehabilitation policy, 2006. All such Rehabilitation and Resettlement in Kalinga Nagar is done as per 2005 Guidelines of Revenue & Disaster Management Department. As per the guideline, all adult male members and unmarried daughters above the age of 30, who have lost their homestead land have been declared as displaced persons. They have been provided with 1/10th of an acre in rehabilitation colonies for resettlement. House building assistance, Temporary shed assistance and Transportation allowance are being given to all the displaced persons. They are also entitled to get a permanent job in the industry by which they are displaced.

After displacement 'Patta' is distributed to the affected people, in order to permanently settle in the rehabilitation colonies. The local Tahasildar has taken all responsibilities to distribute the pattas to the people. The company officials after developing all types of infrastructural facilities in the colonies have handed over the same to the displaced families. The table below provides information about the distribution of patta to the displaced persons.

The companies are displacing the people with the assurance of providing jobs to the local inhabitants. The provision is each displaced families would get a job after the companies started its work. But the fact is that most of them are deprived of the opportunities. Due to lack of educational or technical qualifications, the tribal people are unable to compete with the other aspirants. As per the rehabilitation guidelines of the government for Kalinga Nagar, the company would provide monetary compensation if it fails to provide jobs to at least one member of the displaced families. A notice issued by the ADM Kalinga Nagar (dates, 5.12.05) shows that the remaining 457 family, not provided with jobs, are yet to receive monetary compensation in lieu of jobs. These families were displaced in 1997. Many of these families have already migrated to other districts in search of a livelihood.

(C) TATA Steel Project:

TATA steel is the major investor in the Kalinga Nagar industrial complex. It gets the lion's share in the allotment of the land. The capacity of the proposed steel plant will be 6 MTPA (Million Tonnes Per Annum) and will be set up at an estimated investment cost of Rs. 15,400 crores and was supposed to be operational by 2010. But, due to continued local resistance to the project, the proposed investment cost has exceeded Rs. 40, 000 crores and the delayed project was rescheduled to be operationalised by 2012. For the purpose of setting up of the plant, IDCO allotted a total of 3471.808 acres of land to TATA Steel located in six revenue villages (Ota:2010: 41).

Given below are some facts and figures about the land allotted to TATA Steel for the proposed plant

- 82% of the allotted plant site land belongs to private owners and the rest 18% is Government land.
- The entire private land was acquired through Land Acquisition Act in the year 1992 and the payment for the same was disbursed during 1992-95.
- Almost 60% of the Government land is encroached by the scheduled tribe (ST)/Scheduled caste (SC) population.

- Almost 25% of the total area encompassing the Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex has been allotted to TATA Steel.
- The entire land allotted to TATA Steel falls within six revenue villages in the form of Gobaraghati, Chandia, Nuagaon, Gadapur, Khurunti, and Baragadia.

Out of the total 3471.808 acres of land allotted to TATA Steel, 2400 acres have already been allotted to it by IDCO and the possession of the rest area covering about 1071 acres will be transferred by IDCO to TATA Steel Shortly.

Conclusion: The paper reveals that, all of the families are not displaced in the locality. Most of them are disinterested to leave the place. Still now the displacement process is going on in the Kalinga Nagar industrial complex. The increasing number of industries causes massive displacement of women in this locality. It is proved that, the large scale of industrial establishment causes large scale displacement of tribal women in that locality. The government as well as company authorities are trying their best in order to satisfy the displaced people. In most of cases, there are so many protest raised by Vistapan Virodhi Jan Manch (VVJM) against displacement. But, land acquisition by IDCO still now continuing. The government should provide best R and R policy for the betterment of the common people and this policy should be very dynamic and implemented as per the local living conditions and environment.

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