



# REHABILITATION: ITS POLICY AND CONSEQUENCES IN CURRENT SCENARIO

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## ABSTRACT

*During the phase of independence and particularly after independence several development projects were undertaken. Development does not only refer to the infrastructure but also refers to social justice and economic stability. In assessing the progress by development, how much GDP is increased is not the only factor, development and upliftment of the poor people is also accountable standard of living in all aspects has to be increased and every individual should get equal opportunity for one's own development as well as the nation's development. All social aspects must be considered apart from economic factors for development in true, sense in a country's progress common man is the principle, factor economic progress cannot be achieved only by industrialization or by adopting new technology far the time being it may look like economic progress but it would not yield long term benefits for the society.*

## INTRODUCTION

During the phase of independence and particularly after independence several development projects were undertaken. Development does not only refer to the infrastructure but also refers to social justice and economic stability. In assessing the progress by development, how much GDP is increased is not the only factor, development and upliftment of the poor people is also accountable standard of living in all aspects has to be increased and every individual should get equal opportunity for one's own development as well as the nation's development. All social aspects must be considered apart from economic factors for development in true, sense in a country's progress common man is the principle, factor economic progress cannot be achieved only by industrialization or by adopting new technology far the time being it may look like economic progress but it would not yield long term benefits for the society.

In India, for development, several states have established industrial zones and started huge projects. Agriculture, being the main, primary occupation in India it has always been a priority to develop this field. For the development of the agricultural many irrigation projects were started. Building, construction of dams required a huge area by land so the communities residing by the river banks had to be shifted or in better terms 'rehabilitated'.

In 1941 the Tugabhatra Irrigation project was responsible for the rehabilitation by 63 villages, nearly 1000 families and lakhs of people. Similarly, in west Bengal due to the Damodar Khore Project, 32 villages, 4500 families, and 93000 peoples had to be rehabilitated. For beginning all these developmental activities in those areas, several villages lands were required and thus those villages were vacated the place, they were required to go to reside at other place by vacating their original homes. These people were rehabilitated but during this process several problems existed and several new problems were coming into the picture.

## Concept:

Rehabilitation is a major and serious problem faced by all developing countries. In process by development when big area by land is required several people residing in different villages are asked to vacate their houses and their agricultural fields. The local residents tribal people suffer very adversely due to such development activities as they are required to learn houses, property, agricultural fields and go to different place, such people are required to be rehabilitated but rehabilitation is not done properly. This question of rehabilitation is having various facts like economical, social, cultural, mental etc. several problems by environment have also been crippled in.

**Definition by Rehabilitation:**

Samuel Bloom has stated the meaning of rehabilitation as- "Rehabilitation is such an elastic term, which depending upon its context has come to mean everything from resorting to farmer capacity or condition to making in an improved form. Rehabilitation means transfer of population from one area to another area on a planned basis.

**According to Alexander, Prasond and Jahagirdar-**

Rehabilitation is a concept which is related to education, physical work, mental development, social justice, business opportunity.

**Strauss Robert-**

Rehabilitation should be done by people planning. Just giving there people financial compensation is not enough they should be provided facilitate far meeting their basic needs, social needs educational, medical needs. They should also be provided a job to earn their livelihood.

**Causes**

There are many reasons due to which rehabilitation takes place following are causes of rehabilitation.

Till now, more than 19, 781, 109 people have been affected in India from rehabilitation.

Important and common causes of Rehabilitation

**Dam building-**

Dam building is one of most important causes for development related rehabilitation. According to report, during last fifty years, some 3300 dams have been constructed in India. The situation of the tribal people is of special, concern as they constitute 40 to 50% of the displaced population.

The beneficiaries of dam are meant to be for large land owners, but tribal people are paying less price.

A total 7590; 113 people have been displaced due to dam building in India.

**Mining-**

In the global era, mining has become another very important source by investment and profit for private sector.

Len information on MIDR (Mining induced displacement & settlement) indicates a very high displacement in past and even increasing trend in future

due to rich mineral deposits which are found in areas with relatively high density of politically powerless populations.

Coal mines have expanded from an average of 150 acres of land as open cast mines in 1960 to 800 acres in 1980s.

Industries and mines give a job each to families they displace but ever since the mechanization process starts, the scope of absorbing people begins shrinking.

**Industries:**

- Heavy industrialization in the core of India's planned development and hence large areas had to be acquired.
- The landowners get compensation by the state but the landless people do not either get opportunity to work on land as agriculture labours not get any compensation.

**Displacement due to SEZs :**

With a view to get largest foreign investment in India, special economic zones (SEZs) policy was announced in April 2000. This accelerated economic growth supported by quality infrastructure. SEZs acquire thousand of hectors of land with little regard to land ceiling provisions the displacement and disruption by livelihood to be caused by SEZs are emerging.

For example MIHAN SEZ in Nagpur – The multimodal International cargo Hub and Airport (MIHA) at Nagpur has a very strategic location easily accessible by road, rail and air. This is the only multiproduct SEZ which in adjacent to an existing international airport MIHAN SEZ has already become operational and is spread over an area of more than 1382 Ha.

**Problems:**

Rehabilitation is a major a serious problems faced by all developing countries. In the process of development when large areas of land are required several people residing in different several people residing in different villages are asked to locate their houses and leave their agricultural fields. When these people are rehabilitated, they face a number of problems. Some of the problems are very crucial. People have to leave their village and settle somewhere else. For settling, they must be given free for house, which is not given. If at all land is provides, they are not given constructed houses, Annual cost of construction of the house is high.



Rehabilitation has psychological effects on the rehabilitated people. People are not given compensation on time. This leads to their financial instability and insecurity. They are not given land for agriculture, due to which their income is affected. The people are not given financial aid in proper time, with low or no interest on loans. Civil facilities like hospitals, schools, playgrounds sources of entertainment are not provided.

Their business, jobs are affected severely. For example the milkman who had his regular customers, will not be able to deliver them milk due to distance in his/her new home and his/her customers home. This will reduce the number by customers and will affect the milkman's income.

### PLANS/SOLUTIONS

In this modern age, even though we have advance technologies a lot of problems of rehabilitation. Many laws framed to protect the rights and save the problems of rehabilitated people. First, there is selection of deputy collection in government for starting any project for rehabilitated people one hand the work of new project is started and on the other hand tries to solve the problem of rehabilitated people one hand the work of new project is started collector figures out and tries to solve the problem of rehabilitated people. Problems like corruption, lack of skills and lack of emotional attachment are also faced due to government thus, the next plans to solve these problems are important to be considered.

Following are the solutions that can solve the problems of rehabilitated people.

**Free land for house-** The biggest problem that can solve and arises due to starting of new development project. Affected people have to leave their village and settle somewhere else.

The people whose houses are taken the development project should be given land for free of cost.

#### To provide housing:

- It is not enough to provide only land for the rehabilitated people.
- It is necessary to provide houses for them on that land.
- For the rehabilitated people, it is not possible to live if there are no houses built for them.
- If the cost of building the house is too high and cannot taken up by government then it should be should from people on.

- Human is not a non-living thing that can be picked up from one place and kept somewhere else, Humans have feelings.
- The people should be told the reason and the effects that the development project will have on their life.
- Only after knowing the causes and development reasons, the people can be ready to leave their house and settle somewhere else.

#### On time pay compensation:

- The people undergoing rehabilitation have to give their lands for the projects.
- The common people have to then become rehabilitation and face a lot of problems.
- Thus, it is necessary to pay appropriate compensation on time to people.
- Before taking their lands they should be given housing facilities. Even though the law exists, that the people should be given compensation it is found that it is not obeyed in reality.
- Many times, even after 8-10 years of rehabilitation, the people don't get the compensation payments due to which they are at extreme loss and face lot of difficulties.
- This increase dissatisfaction among people, due to which they do 'Andolans' for justice.

#### Give land for agriculture:

Government has agreed to give land for rehabilitated people, should be ensured they get it. The people who are rehabilitated cannot start their business at new place and the main occupation of most of the rehabilitants.

Thus it is not enough to give only house and land they should also be given good agricultural land for farming.

#### Give finance without interest:

Rehabilitated people include not only farmers but also labours, fishermen and boatmen. They don't own any land as their occupation is water dependent.

It is difficult to decide compensation for such people and they also face poverty problems. They should be given loan without any interest for starting new business.

#### To give civil facilities:

It is important all type of civil facilities to rehabilitant people. Building roads, well for water, hospitals,



electricity, schools, playground, entertainment etc. should be provided. Without such a facilities people cannot live at a new place.

#### **To assume village is unit in rehabilitation:**

During rehabilitation, a person or family should not be considered a unit but the whole village should be considered as a unit.

After considering whole village as unit, rehabilitation should be done according.

#### **Other facilities:**

Job facilities should be given to rehabilitated people. The children should get educational facilities. Special plots and areas should be given to get up shops & new business. These should be establishment of social law and order, medical facilities and various social protections.

#### **Steps taken by government:**

To address various issues related to land accusation and rehabilitation and resettlement the department of land resources has formulated a national rehabilitation and resettlement policy 2007.

To give backing to the policy the cabinet also decided to bring legislation on the lines of resettlement and rehabilitation policy and suitably amend the land acquisition act 1894.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In recent years, rehabilitation and resettlement of project affected families has turned out to be the most vital and sensitive issue for development projects. Different development projects are being opposed by the inhabitant of these areas and being delayed because of the opposition from the project affected families. This has been primary due to bitter experience of the affected families.

In the post Independence period, the development projects deemed to be temples of progress, ultimately turned out to be graveyards for millions of these project affected families.

Although the development projects did bring development but the cost was enormous. There is no denial to the fact that the quality of life of people is to be improved, development projects are a must but there is general consensus now that development should not be at the cost of people & their environment.

Many laws have been made to ensure good quality of life of the rehabilitated people but these laws

are not implemented so the government should ensure proper implementation of these laws.

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