

## **Sardar Sarovar Dam – A Fact Sheet**

- **Narmada Valley Development Project**
  - 30 big, 135 medium dams.
  - 3000 small dams: planning incomplete
- **Sardar Sarovar:** full height of the dam : 138.68 metre in Gujarat
  - 214 k.m. long reservoir– 40,000 ha. submergence area (including 13,835 ha. of forest)– till now 30 gates have been erected which have been closed since 16 June 2017.
  - 192 villages and 1 township (Dharampuri, dist. Dhar) in Alirajpur, Badwani, Dhar, Khargone districts of Madhya Pradesh are in submergence zone. Adivasi villages in hilly regions in submergence– around 50, rest more than 140 villages are in Nimar region which are very populous, with fertile land and people engaged in farming and other occupations...
  - 33 villages from Maharashtra and 19 villages from Gujarat are also to be submerged. 100% hilly, adivasi including 7 hilly villages from Maharashtra who are still forest villages
  - entire submergence area– adivasi/scheduled tribe area
  - Adivasi areas where ‘PESA’ is applicable (in the hills of Satapuda and Vindhyas) are dependent on water, forest, land.
  - In the big villages of Nimar project affected communities include, farmers, labourers, fisherfolk, kevat community (boatmen), traders, businessmen, artisans and small enterprises.
- **Historical, Archaeological: Narmada valley is world’s oldest and most ancient human settlement**
  - early human parts were found by archaeologists, in ‘Navada Toli’ which is Sardar Sarovar affected..
  - remains have been found in the entire valley from pre-historic era.
  - the state’s Archaeology Department stopped the work of Archaeological Survey of India midway, dismissed it, and made the report based on desk work and then claims to have relocated the artifacts to another location.
- **Resettlement and Rehabilitation: According to the decision of the Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal**
  - if more than 25% of the land is to be submerged then 2 hectare alternative farm land will be provided.
  - every oustee will get a house plot of 60’x90’ square feet and a cash compensation equivalent to the ‘replacement value’ of the house.

- the rehabilitation site will have all facilities(detailed list is in tribunal award).Apart from that list whatever services or facilities are available in the original village will be paid for by Gujarat.
- Rehabilitation to be completed 6 months prior to submergence, only then house and land to be vacated.
- No submergence of any otehr property without satisfactory R&R.
- **According to Madhya Pradesh Rehabilitation Policy**
  - According to Action Plan – 1993, every landless family, fisherfolk, potter etc to be provided alternative livelihhod, special fund and alternative livelihood through a special agency.
  - The ‘replacement value’ of the house in form of compensation.
  - No rehabilitation benefit to be converted to cash compensation. Before giving cash compensation to any adivasi family in place of land, a letter of proof from district administrator is necessary to establish that the family will not be harmed by it.
  - No schemes or policies which will promote brokers and corruption.
  - The quality of life of every Oustee post rehabilitation to be better than before.

#### **Supreme Court’s Decision :-**

- **18.10.2000 – Order:** Tribunal’s decision, State’s generous rehabilitation policy and action plan, implementation of all three is necessary.
  - The quality of life of every Oustee post rehabilitation to be better than before.
  - Narmada Control Authorityto permit increase of height above 90 mts only after seeking concent from the rehabilitation sub-group, environment sub-group and after consultation with the GRA (Grievance Redressal Authority).
  - The policy mandates that along with the landowner, those whose land will be encroached, or those whose land will become island post submergence, or those whose land have been acquired for rehabilitation; each of these categories is eligible for rehabilitation.
- **15.3.2005:** Together with the owner of the property (land or house)his or her adult sons (on the date of land acquisition, section– 4) or adult unmarried daughters will also get independent benefits (of land and plot).
  - those who are going to face submergence immediatly, will also have to be resettled/rehabilitated before submergence.
  - Land that is appropriate for agriculture and irrigation should only be given.
- **8.2.2017 :** those who didnt get land in return of 5.58 lakhs, as per the special rehabilitation package announced by MP government,they are now eligible for 60 lakhs to be paid by the Madhya Pradesh government. The total cost will be borne by government of Gujarat.

- Madhya Pradesh government will also give 15 lakhs to each of those families who have been framed in fake registries scam.
- All facilities should be made available at every rehabilitation site as per the Tribunal Award. After hearing upon the complaints from the Oustees, the GRA order should be implemented by the State government without raising any unnecessary objection and make sure to implement all facilities.
- Those Oustees who are unsatisfied with the order of the GRA can go to court.
- All pending litigations, civil or criminal, based on the Jha Commission findings in other courts and forums are dismissed.
- All the occupants including all the 'project affected families' shall vacate the submergence area upon payment of the compensation and their entitlements, on or before 31.07.2017. If not then it shall be open to the State Government to remove all such individuals forcibly.
- **The Game of the Number of Oustees:-**
  - In 2008 the Madhya Pradesh government, without any reason, reduced 4,374 families from the total of 53,000 ousted families.
  - 2010 –Madhya Pradesh government conspired to reduce the back water level. They neglected the Central Water Commission report and instead used the Technical Sub Committee report, which was rejected by the special committee of the Centre saying it is unscientific. However, even till today, based on that report, and taking consent of the Central Water Commission, thousands of families have been declared as not to be submerged and hence deprived of rehabilitation benefits.
  - After changing back water levels, first 5,500 and then according to the affidavit filed by Madhya Pradesh in Supreme Court in 2015, 15,946 families after having their land acquired and half of the award amount given, they have now been declared as not affected. Their property (houses) are still in the name of N.V.D.A. It is necessary to return these properties legally.
  - Of these 15,964 families, some have faced submergence, and their names are not in the list of PAFs, but then again a number of them also figure in the 'rajpatra' as those who will face submergence and need to be evicted by 31.7.2017. How is this possible?
  - The reality is that even to say more than 40,000 families and lakhs of people in Madhya Pradesh are living in submergence area without complete rehabilitation and any clarity on their status and entitlements.

### **The Status of Rehabilitation :**

- 4,500 Project affected families (PAFs) of Gujarat, 5,500 PAFs of Madhya Pradesh and 770 PAFs of Maharashtra; altogether 11,000 PAFs have been rehabilitated with land in Gujarat till date.

- however, rehabilitation of 4,000 families are still pending in Maharashtra. Their grievances are pending even today, hundreds of hte families have only got 1/2 hectare land, as opposed to 2 heactres.
- In madhya Pradesh only 53 people that too who are petitioners in Supreme Court were given land.Till day they have no occupancy on land, no house plot and their issues in GRA are still pending.
- For the landless alternative livelihood was not given. In supreme court's order of 8.2.2017there is no order regarding them.Only livelihood grant was given whereas according to the action plan present in Supreme Court in 1993, livelihood was to be given.According to Jha Commission, rigging and corruption has taken place in the payment of grants.
- even today more than 6,000 cases / complaints are pending in GRA.Unless these are heard and cleared by the GRA and action is taken by the authorities for implementation of these orders, the complete process of R&R can't said to be complete.
- Even today there has not been complete disbursement of the Supreme Court's new package to all those who are eleigible. Hundreds of beneficiaries of 60 lakhs and15 lakhspackagesare deprived even today. Theirclaim applications are pending in front of GRA, awaiting trial. The Number told in Supreme Court was tentative and even Narmada Valley Development Authority doesn't have the complete list. The final number is being determined and settled by GRAs.
- Even today NVDA is citing number of rehabiliattion sites as 78, as opposed to mandated 88. There is confusion in that too. Worse, none of the rehabilitation sites are ready with all facilities, as per the NWDT Award.
- Against the stated claims of NVDA that there are not many religious sites of historical importance, in a survey done by the NBA in only 3 districts Badwani, Dhar and Khargone; 308 religious sites in original villages have been recorded. Out of this 117 are very ancient, 64 are older than100 years and 22 are older than 50 years.
- New rehabilitation benefits announced on June 5th, 2017 and then as mentioned in the declaration of the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and in the advertisements in various newspapers last week,are inadequate as well as some are also against the law. These announcements to be fully implemented will take more than a year atleast. In such a scenario how can government impose the condition that houses /villages / and their property is to be vacated before 15 July or will be forcibly evicted by July 31st. PAFs have rejected this complely and as a result only 2 % people have signed Vachan Patra, and agreed to move out, even then they have not received all the benefits.
- Arrangements are underway to forcefully shift PAFs - farmers, labourers, landless, shopowners, businessmen, forcefully in to 180 square feet tin sheds / temporary shelters, by police in place of permanent housing.Police force in thousands are getting ready – for a big fight? We are also determined and not ready to give up our fight for justice.

**Ladegne ! Jeetenge !**

**We shall fight ! We shall win !**