

Chapter-6: Projects completed but Rehabilitation Pending

6.1 Resurfacing of Old Issues:

In course of our study we across across a peculiar phenomenon that the persons belonging to displaced families of projects completed in long past were getting organised and raising their voice around unmet claims. This trend received a boost particularly after the Kalinganagar episode of tribal resistance and retaliatory police firing leading to death of 13 persons took place on 2nd January 2006. The aftermath of this incident witnessed among other things a continuous rise in the number and scale of people's movements, though localised ones, for achieving the promises, which were once dished out by the politicians and Government to the displaced families in the context of various development projects but yet remained unfulfilled.

6.2 Displacees of Rourkela Steel Plant:

In a striking development, thousands of persons from 32 villages in and around Rourkela, mostly belonging to tribal families who were displaced by Rourkela Steel Plant in mid-fifties of the last century, and who got united under the banner of the Local Displaced Association came out en masse on the streets on 10th Jan. 2006, resorted to road and rail blockade disrupting transport services to and from Rourkela. They were carrying their traditional bows and arrows and raised slogans against the government. They had been agitating for the past two years demanding proper rehabilitation of the people affected by land acquisition in 1954 for Rourkela Steel Plant and having received no response from the concerned authorities stepped up their agitation by launching an economic blockade to press for their long-standing demands. The agitators also set afire two dumpers and two trucks at Panposh and Beldi on the outskirts of Rourkela town. The demands of the tribals included employment in the steel plant for those who were yet to get their promised jobs and restoration of surplus land lying with RSP authority to its original owners. According to the tribal leaders they were also upset with the railways for their inability to provide jobs to the displaced. The railways had acquired hundreds of acres of land at Bondamunda in Rourkela's suburbs, but have not compensated the displaced persons. The demonstrators demanded a written undertaking from Rourkela Steel, the railways and the state government for a settlement of their long standing R&R claims. The State Chief Minister in response wrote a letter to Prime Minister saying that Rourkela Steel Plant being a central public sector unit, the Union government had a responsibility in fulfilling the demands of the displaced persons. Further he informed the PM that the state revenue department had brought the issue to the notice of the company several times in the past but there had been no response. The State Revenue Secretary, Tarun Kanti Mishra also discussed the Rourkela situation with visiting Union home secretary V.K. Duggal, who had accompanied the UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and Home Minister Shivraj Patil to Orissa during the time. The Revenue Divisional Commissioner (Western) Ashok Dalwai has reportedly held some discussions with senior officials of Rourkela Steel, tribal leaders as well as railway authorities at the Railway Training Institute in the Steel town. (*News item, 'Trains hit, cloud on steel output- Talks on to end tribal standoff in Rourkela' The Telegraph, Calcutta, Thursday, January 12, 2006, and News item 'Tribals block entry to Rourkela' by Dillip Satapathy in Bhubaneswarin Refiff News, 11, Jan 2006*)

6.3 Displacees of Hirakud Dam:

The displaced families of Orissa's another major project, Hirakud Dam constructed during 1948 to 1956 and commissioned on 13 January 1957 are still vocal about their miserable plight caused by inept handling of the issues around compensation and resettlement and rehabilitation by the successive governments. 249 villages and 1.83 lakh acres of total land including 1.23 lakh acres

of cultivable land of undivided Sambalpur district were submerged, and 26,501 families displaced (*Source: Article 'Forgotten Oustees' by Sri Kishore Kumar Sahu, in premier Oriya daily 'Samaj' dated 9 Dec. 2007*). Due to the continuing protest by the displaced families, the Government was forced to constitute an Assurance Committee in 1989 for disbursement of pending claims i.e. after more than 30 years of the completion of Dam. The Assurance Committee, chaired by Minister Sri Ramachandra Ulaka submitted their report on 13th Sept. 1989, in which it was admitted, "... Compensation for the land as well as for the houses was paid at a very ridiculously low rate of Rs.20/- or Rs.10/- per acre. Rs.400/- was paid as compensation for each house. Higher compensation was not allowed to the residents even after the verdict of the High Court as well as Supreme Court.. The Committee opined that on one hand the Government failed to provide them due compensation for their lands and houses as well as to extend adequate rehabilitation facilities to mitigate their sufferings, and on the other hand was trying to evict them from the annual lease land, which was definitely a wrong step. (*Source: Assurance Committee on Displaced Families of Hirakud Dam, quoted in Samaj dated 9 Dec. 2007*). A new Government led by Janata Dal that came to power in 1990 constituted a High Power Committee under the chairmanship of Development Commissioner to look into the issues around pending compensation for Hirakud oustes. On the recommendation of this Committee, the original rate of compensation was increased by 33 times and an amount of 2,29,32,140 rupees was sanctioned towards the payment of pending compensation, now called ex-gratia. The Govt had then declared 8744 families as eligible for receiving such ex-gratia. But a list of eligible families that the Government finalised in 1992 showed only 3540 families for the purpose. Thus the fate of as many as 5204 families was sealed off following the revised list. Then in 2000 the Government took an important decision declaring that every displaced family would be allotted 10 dec. of land. Again in 2004 the Government declared that the new families created following the division of the original displaced families would also be entitled to 10 dec. plot each. However, no step has been taken so far towards implementation of such official declarations (*Source: Article 'Forgotten Oustees' by Sri Kishore Kumar Sahu in premier Oriya daily 'Samaj' dated 9 Dec. 2007*).

6.4 In the year of Hirakud's Golden Jubilee:

The Government of Orissa wished to celebrate the golden jubilee year of Hirakud Dam in 2007 with great pomp and ceremony. But the people of western Orissa who have been protesting against the government's policy of diverting irrigation water from the dam to industrial purposes simply kept themselves away from the official process of preparation for golden jubilee. The Government of Orissa formed in June 2007 a High Level Technical Committee under the chairmanship of Sri R.Jayseelan, former Chairman of Central Water Commission to study the feasibility of industrial usage of Hirakud water. In course of an interactive workshop organised by the Committee with the farmers' associations on 20th July, the speakers not only protested against the industrial use of dam water but also vehemently criticised the apathy of the Government towards the dam displaced people. Sri Karunakar Supkar, former Engineer-in-Chief, Orissa (Electricity), a speaker on the occasion emphatically observed inter alia , "Suggestions of Assurance Committee (1990) on rehabilitation should be implemented. Golden Jubilee of the project should be celebrated only after settlement of pending rehabilitation issues". (*Source: Annexure-C of Report of HLTC on To Study Various Aspects of Water Usage for Hirakud Reservoir, Dept. of Water Resources, Govt of Orissa, August, 2007*).

Box 6.1 People's protest against diversion of Hirakud water to industries

- *30,000 farmers march to prohibited area of Orissa Hirakud Dam to protest against diversion of irrigation water to industries.*
- *Lathi charge on protesting farmers*
- *Farmers draw Laxman Rekha to prevent drawal of water by industries from Hirakud Dam*

On 6 Nov. 2007 more than 30,000 farmers from 10 neighbouring districts gathered in the afternoon at the dam site of Hirakud, the largest earth dam of Asia, located on River Mahanadi in Sambalpur, Orissa. They protested against the Government's sanction to allocate 478 cusecs of water from the reservoir for the use of various industries.

"The water could have irrigated 50,000 acres of agricultural land lying in the command area of Hirakud Dam", Lingaraj, Convener of Western Orissa Farmers' Coordination Committee said. He further said, as per the government figure 20,000 acres of agricultural land in command area required irrigation and hundreds of farmers were relying on the Hirakud Dam water. Lingaraj said the water scarcity for irrigation was likely to become more acute as Reliance Energy which proposed to put up 12,000 mw-capacity thermal power project in Jharsuguda district required 600 cusecs water from Mahanadi. The industries which would be affected if water supply from Hirakud was denied, include Bhusan Steel, Vedanta Alumina Limited, Mahanadi Coalfield, Posco, a cement manufacturing unit, a paper unit and many small units. "Farmers were ready to take extreme step in the war for water. It was just the beginning," convener of farmers' body said.. Ashok Pradhan, President of Sambalpur Krushak Surakshaya Sangathan also addressed the rally.

Police resorted to lathi charge to disperse the agitating farmers and over 30 farmers were injured as a result. The district administration had deployed 15 platoons of force to control the rally. Several farmer leaders courted arrest after the meeting.

The huge gathering was the fourth phase of an ongoing agitation against diversion of reservoir water. Earlier, farmers had formed human chain around the dam, organised rallies and carried out signature campaign protesting diversion of water for industry from the reservoir.

Bowing to public pressure, the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik in a high level review held the next day announced that not a single drop of water from Hirakud reservoir will be diverted for industrial purpose. The Government also directed an RDC enquiry into Tuesday's lathicharge following which more than 30 farmers were injured.

The meeting decided to increase the capacity of Hirakud reservoir for additional holding of water and renovation of all the canals of Hirakud irrigation system to ensure that water reaches the tail-end. A separate directorate will be created for Command Area Development. Monitoring of water channels in the ayacut areas will be done on a regular basis to ensure even distribution of water and Command Area Development programme will be executed through water users' associations.

But not moved by the assurance by the Chief Minister the farmers on 11th instant erected a 'Lakshman rekha', a 15-ft long and five-ft high brick wall, also called 'Chashi Rekha' near Jamadarpali airstrip located close to Hirakud to prevent industries from drawing water from the reservoir.

*Sources: EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE 8 November 2007, The Hindu, 7 Nov. 2007 and
www.news.oneindia.in dated 12 Nov.07*

6.5 Upper Indravati Project:

People's discontent continued to surface around another mega project of the State, Upper Indravati Multipurpose Project which was started in 1978 and completed in early 90s. For this project 11,691 ha. of private land, 960.5 ha. of forest land & 4612 ha. of Govt land were acquired in undivided district of Koraput. While more than 1 lakh people lost land for the project in varying degrees, as high as 5534 families (about 18000 people) were physically displaced from their home and hearth. It is worth noting that this project was initially funded by the World Bank, but after a couple of years of funding, World Bank withdrew its funding from the project on the grounds of poor rehabilitation activities. After 7 years of the commissioning of the project Sri Akhil B. Ota had undertaken a study to examine & assess the status of rehabilitation of the project displaced people and specifically to note whether they were restored to their pre-displacement living standards at the minimum. According to Sri Ota, "... the Displaced Families of Upper Indravati Project have failed to restore & reconstruct their former standards of living; rather they have further become impoverished & slipped below the threshold of poverty in the

post displacement stage”. (Source: Akhil B. Ota, *Reconstructing Livelihood of the Displaced Families in Development Projects, Causes of Failure and Room for Reconstruction*, published by AnthroBase Home, 2001).

6.6 Displacees of Rengali Dam:

The large-scale displacement by Rengali Dam and Gohira Dam in undivided district of Dhenkanal in 80s has left a long trail of woes and suffering for the displaced families which are yet to be addressed and around which discontent and protest have manifested in various forms ever since. Though the Rengali dam, the construction of which started in 1973 got completed in 1985, the grievances of the displaced families around compensation and R&R issues lingered on and exist unresolved to this day. The Deogarh Pressure Group, a platform of civil society organisations of the district has been working for the proper compensation and rehabilitation of the displaced families of Rengali and Gohira dams since 1997. Most of the displaced families of these two dams are now scattered across Deogarh district. The DPG conducted a fresh survey of the status of their compensation and rehabilitation and brought out a booklet on it entitled ‘Completed Project vis-à-vis unsolved problems’ on 25th Feb. 2005. As per DPG survey, a total of 263 villages were affected by Rengali Dam, out of which 116 were fully submerged, 123 partially submerged and 24 hard core villages. Following the district reorganisation, Angul district has now 39 fully submerged and 33 partially submerged villages, whereas Deogarh district has 77 fully submerged and 114 partially submerged villages. A total area of 99,717.77 Acres was acquired for Rengali dam, out of which 34,335.67 Ac was (rayati) private land and 65,382.10 Ac govt. and forest land. Since no settlement was undertaken in Bamanda or Deogarh area after 1941-45, a large acreage of private land, which was already created out of the govt. land couldn’t be assessed for compensation. The Government pursued a policy of repression to evacuate the villagers. On one occasion in 1978, the police had mercilessly lathi-charged and fired upon an assembly of more than 30,000 Satyagrahis who had assembled to protest against displacement. As per the official estimate, 28 crore and 25 lakh rupees of compensation has already been paid (by Feb. 2005) while more than a crore of rupees remained pending for payment. But the reality is more pathetic. Out of a total of 3057 objection petitions submitted by the land-holders, the Govt had forwarded only 1536 petitions to the concerned civil court for disposal, while 1421 ones remained stuck up in the Zonal Office of the project. The court has settled only some cases, but the civil court’s decision in a group of cases has already been challenged in High Court. In the matter of Section 28-A (Re-determination of the amount of compensation based upon the court order), a total of 3036 cases were registered. But out of this huge number, only 317 cases were disposed of; but except the one case in which higher compensation was awarded, all were rejected. Thus a huge backlog of 2719 cases are still pending for settlement. The payment of ex-gratia is also pending in most of the cases. Meanwhile, the counting of displaced families is still continuing. Now the number of displaced families has reached 11,289, out of which SCs are 2100, STs 1328 and others 7861. As per the official claim, 11,107 families were awarded compensation, out of whom 5064 families got land while 3830 families received monetary compensation in lieu of land, and 2213 families received a mix of land and money. The Officials say, only 182 nos. of families are pending to receive their land-based compensation.

6.7 Displacees of Gohira Dam:

The Gohira dam was conceived as an irrigation project for the benefit of Rengali displaced families. Its construction was started in 1974 and declared to be completed by 1983. Out of a total 56 affected villages, 5 were fully submerged, 49 partially submerged and 2 hard-core. A total of 5,661.11 Ac was acquired. Compensation amounting to 1 crore 21 lakh rupees has been paid covering 37 villages, while an amount of 28 lakh rupees covering 19 villages remains to be paid. Gohira dam has displaced a total of 182 families, out of whom 143 have been resettled on

land, while the Government is searching for land for 5 families; and the Govt hasn't arrived yet at any decision about the need for resettlement of 34 families of Baraghat village. Besides no survey of submerged families of Sunamunda village has started yet.

6.8 Whither the case of Rengali & Gohira displacees:

Following the protest by the displaced families, a High level Committee on Rengali Displaced Families was set up in 1991 under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister. But as irony would have it, the Committee instead of addressing to the pending R&R issues of the displaced families, ordered the closure of 7 Zonal Offices, which were dealing with these matters. All the records kept in the zonal offices were shifted and dumped to Samal Office of the project. Thus the fate of the uncompensated and un-resettled families of Rengali and Gohira dams was left hanging in a state of uncertainty for good.

6.9 Struggle of Rengali and Gohira displacees continues:

But the displaced families after passing through a period of indecision and anxiety got united under a forum named 'Rengali Bandh Basachyut Surakshya Samiti' (Committee for Protection of Rengali Dam Displaced Persons) in 1997 and took the first step of their protest in the new phase by addressing a 22-point Memorandum to Chief Minister through Deogarh Collector on 12.6.1997. Since then the Samiti has been pursuing its demands with the Government through various democratic means including sit-ins, rallies, public meetings and road-blockade etc., and Government in turn has been responding to them by its usual method i.e. repeating the assurances to solve the problems, not backed by any definite commitment or specific deadline for meeting any of them. (*Source: A booklet 'Completed Project vis-à-vis unsolved problems', published by Deogarh Pressure Group, Deogarh, 25th Feb. 2005*)

6.9 Displacees of NALCO projects:

Another important source of continuing popular discontent around displacement and eco-degradation is the NALCO's alumina mining and refinery plants in Koraput and Angul districts. Two scholars *Sanjay Khatua and William Stanley in their joint study 'Ecological Debt: A Case Study from Orissa, India' (2005)* observed, "While no exact data exists, it is estimated that NALCO's overall operations since its establishment in Koraput district in 1981 have displaced some 353 villages comprised of 19,658 households or 83,586 people. Dam and power projects related to the mining and aluminium complex, namely the Upper Kolab Dam and the Talcher Super Thermal Power Project, displaced 13,095 and 1,300 families, respectively, or some 52,271 persons, more than 50 percent of them belonged to scheduled tribes or castes. The construction of NALCO's refinery in Damanjodi and smelter in Angul directly affected 81 villages: 4,323 families (or around 21,625 people) were displaced. Finally, the company's coalmines resulted in the dislocation of around 53 villages – a total of 1,940 families or 9,700 people.

"NALCO initially promised one job per displaced family..... Some 352 families were offered one job each, especially in low paid positions (e.g. drivers, diggers). Of these, 35 were Dalits; 149, Adivasis; and 168, other castes. Only eight of the employees were women. Many of these employees eventually lost their jobs in NALCO in a couple of years due to lack of training.

"The absence of sanitation and hygiene facilities in resettlement areas also caused problems mainly for women, who, to begin with require greater privacy, than men.

"Not only have displaced people lost their lands and homes, neither have they received just compensation in terms of decent jobs, adequate shelter, facilities and human resource development measures from NALCO.

“Needless to say, during the entire displacement and rehabilitation process, NALCO did not consult the affected people and communities; much less involve them in decision-making processes.

“Even as displaced people, primarily Adivasis, were not justly compensated for the loss of their lands, including community property resources for which no recompense was paid at all, the forest, upon which people fell back for non-wood forest produce that sustained them especially during lean months, has dwindled. Although NALCO has an environmental regeneration scheme involving the planting of thousands of trees (particularly of commercial species), these were no longer made accessible to the people: fences were built around them. In the traditional village society, castes, which did not own land were also an integral part of the rural socio-economic system, providing a variety of services to the community, and relying on community property resources for their subsistence needs. These factors were not taken into consideration by NALCO in calculating compensation. Impoverishment of displaced people was an obvious consequence.

“To make matters worse, according to the local communities in Orissa that were visited as part of the study, the pollution generated by NALCO’s refineries and smelters had the following negative consequences on agriculture, the major source of livelihood, as follows:

- Drop in harvest in 300 acres of cultivable land due to the effluents;
- Germination problem in millets, ginger, and tumeric;
- Damage to stored potato, turmeric, ginger, arum, among others, due to increase in temperature;
- Loss of cattle and goats due to pollution-induced dysentery;
- Damage in 800 acres of paddy crops and 500 acres of paddy crops in Tulasipal and Languliabedha due to poisonous fluoride leaks on 29 October 1999 and 13 September 2004, respectively; and
- Damage to teak, mango, eucalyptus and other crops in Kulada, Gadarkhai, Tulasipal, and Banda due to a gas leak on 02 August 2005.”

(Source: Sanjay Khatua and William Stanley in their joint study ‘Ecological Debt: A Case Study from Orissa, India’, 2005)

6.10 Magnitude of Displacement:

Taking an overall view of the magnitude of development induced displacement that occurred in post-independence Orissa Sri Ota had the following observation to make, “Statistical figures indicate that till 2000, about 20 lakh people have been directly affected by Development Projects in varying degrees out of which about 5 lakh have been physically displaced losing their home & hearth from their original habitat. Statistical figures further indicate that while Dam/Irrigation Projects alone have displaced nearly 3.5 lakh people which is roughly 70% of the total displaced persons, Industrial Projects have displaced about 60,000 people which is 12% of the total displaced whereas the Mining Projects, Urban Development Projects, thermal Projects & Wild Life Sanctuaries have displaced 3.37%, 12.86%, 2.60% & 0.5% of the total displaced people in the State of Orissa. Although the above referred figures account for the already completed projects, there are a host of other projects which are either ongoing or are in the pipeline in which about 2 lakh more people are expected to be displaced.”

6.11 Condition of Displacees of completed projects:

Based upon the past studies made by various scholars, Sri Ota describes the overall condition of the displacees thus, “There are not very many systematic studies on the issue whether or not the Displaced Persons of the Development Projects have regained their former standards of living. But the limited number of studies conducted by Ota on Rengali Multipurpose Dam Project,

Pandey on Mahanadi Coal Field, Dalua on Upper Kolab Dam Project & Baboo on Hirakud Dam Project invariably indicate that the Displaced people by & large have failed to restore their former standards of living and majority of them have slipped below the threshold of poverty & have often become impoverished. Comparative analysis of data between the Pre-Displacement & Post-Displacement stage indicate that majority of the affected persons have become relatively landless, homeless and in most of the cases affected persons have lost access to common property resources, Social disarticulation has taken place, job opportunities have shrunk making them jobless and most of them have become marginalised. To be precise, majority of the Displaced Persons have become further impoverished in the post-displacement stage and many of them have slipped below the threshold of poverty. In fact, there are a good proportion of such people who have fallen into the debt trap of the unscrupulous moneylenders and in the process have become impoverished". (Source: Akhil B. Ota, *Reconstructing Livelihood of the Displaced Families in Development Projects, Causes of Failure and Room for Reconstruction*, published by AnthroBase Home, 2001).

6.12 Challenge and Response:

What is true of the state of the displaced in the context of a few important projects as discussed above holds more or less true in the context of the rest of the projects in Orissa, which were completed in the past. Since quite many persons alive at the time of displacement, who directly experienced its pinch are by now dead, their descendants, who have internalised the suffering associated with displacement from the hearsay and otherwise, and who have been galvanised into action in the new milieus of protest and resistance are carrying forward the banner of revolt, undeterred by the hostile factors whatsoever, to achieve the justice, which was once denied to their forefathers in the long past. And as the current scenario indicates, in the days to come, such localised struggles of displaced families of past projects are likely to grow in number and intensity.

The State has so far pursued a policy characterized by political expediency and administrative adhoc-ism towards the pending R&R issues of past projects. Only when the exasperated people take to streets for achieving the fulfillment of very assurances which were once dished out by the ministers or officials on behalf of the Government, the latter seems to spring into action all of a sudden. But instead of grappling with the issues that gave rise to the people's agitation, the Government views it as a law and order problem and seeks for ways and means to overcome it as such. The ministers tutored as usual by the bureaucrats do readily proffer a fresh bout of promises and assurances just to be forgotten as soon as the agitating people cool down. Such a long practised game of Indian Statecraft is of course fast losing its relevance. The people at large are growing in terms of awareness, articulation and organisation in the face of a dubiously behaving State. It is therefore very much probable that the State is going to witness a protracted series of people's outbursts and agitations centring round the issues that range from displacement which though most likely to be localised and issue-specific in nature shall each have the inflammable potential to rock the whole State machinery out of gear. It is therefore in the interest of the State to ensure an early and proper settlement of the pending R&R issues raised by

Strangely, neither the Orissa R&R Policy, 2006 nor the National R&R Policy, 2007 has any provision for the settlement of the pending compensation claims and R&R benefits due to the displaced families of the projects completed in the past. However, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 which got notified on 2nd January 2007 has the following words of assurance to offer to the forest dwelling tribals and other communities who were displaced by any project in the past but have not been at all or adequately rehabilitated by the concerned authorities: "*Right to in situ rehabilitation including alternative land in cases where the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers have been illegally*

evicted or displaced from forest land of any description without receiving their legal entitlement to rehabilitation prior to the 13th day of December, 2005". [Vide Section 3(1m)]. This provision implies that any tribal or forest dweller whoever was displaced in the past prior to 13th Dec. 2005 but not rehabilitated at all or in a proper manner can now claim under the new Act all sorts of pending entitlements right from unpaid compensation to resettlement in the very land from where he/she was displaced. The Rules-2007 notified under the Act on 1st January 2008 mandates the formation of a multi-stakeholder State level Monitoring Committee to be formed with Chief Secretary as its Chairperson to implement its provisions. The said Committee shall consist of the highest State level functionaries from such departments and agencies as Tribal Welfare, Revenue, Forests, Panchayatiraj and State Tribal Advisory Committee with Commissioner Tribal Welfare serving as its Member-Secretary. This Committee as and when formed should first of all systematically undertake the crucial job of documenting the particulars of tribals and forest dwellers displaced in the past but not yet rehabilitated, and then proceed to dispose of their unmet claims. Though the new Act doesn't address to all sections of displaced population, it however, if properly implemented shall go a long way in redeeming the pent-up anger of the most marginalised sections among them such as tribes and forest dwellers.

6.13 What needs to be done now?

Under the circumstances, the following measures need to be undertaken by the State in order to address effectively the pending issues around compensation, resettlement and rehabilitation of the displacees and oustees of the projects completed in the past

- The State should constitute a Commission for early settlement of pending compensation claims and R&R packages for the displaced families of the completed projects and also for mitigation of continuing environmental hazards caused by these projects;
- At the level of each project the concerned authorities should build up an exhaustive inventory of the pending compensation claims and undelivered R&R components in consultation with the associations of the displaced families and citizens' forums; and
- In the manner of First Track Courts or Lok Adalats, the pending issues of compensation and R&R packages in the context of each completed project should be disposed of by the concerned civil courts.
- The multi-Department State level Monitoring Committee formed with Chief Secretary as its Chairperson to implement the Forest Rights Act and Rules should undertake a systematic documentation of the particulars of the tribal and forest-dweller families who were displaced in the past but fully or partially deprived of the rehabilitation benefits and then proceed to fulfill their unmet entitlements.

Sources consulted:

- *News item, 'Trains hit, cloud on steel output- Talks on to end tribal standoff in Rourkela' The Telegraph, Calcutta, Thursday, January 12, 2006, and News item 'Tribals block entry to Rourkela' by Dillip Satapathy in Bhubaneswarin Refiff News, 11, Jan 2006)*
- *Article 'Forgotten Ousteers' by Sri Kishore Kumar Sahu, in premier Oriya daily 'Samaj' dated 9 Dec. 2007*
- *Assurance Committee on Displaced Families of Hirakud Dam, quoted in premier Oriya daily Samaj dated 9 Dec. 2007*

- *Report of HLTC on To Study Various Aspects of Water Usage for Hirakud Reservoir, Dept. of Water Resources, Govt of Orissa, August, 2007*
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- *Booklet 'Completed Project vis-à-vis unsolved problems', published by Deogarh Pressure Group, Deogarh, 25th Feb. 2005*
- *A joint study 'Ecological Debt: A Case Study from Orissa, India' by Sanjay Khatua and William Stanley 2005*
- *Orissa Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy, 2006*
- *National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy, 2007*
- *Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 notified on 2nd January 2007*
- *Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules 2007 notified on 1st January 2008*

Boxes

Box 6.1 People's protest against diversion of Hirakud water to industries