
CHAPTER 9

IMPACT OF REHABILITATION

★ 1. INTRODUCTION:

★ In the chapter that follows an attempt has been made to analyse the overall impact of rehabilitation in terms of the compensation that has been paid to the respondents and the opinions of the respondents about the amount of compensation and the utilization thereof, the time-lag between the process of displacement and rehabilitation and the difficulties they faced on account of rehabilitation, the extent and intensity of grievances that they aired about the manner in which they were rehabilitated and the sense of dissatisfaction that they expressed over the issue of rehabilitation, unfulfilled assurances given by the Ministers of the State Government to the displaced families and the manner in which these were fizzled out in course of time, the nature of employment opportunities that are available to the individuals from the displaced families, and some factual case studies from some displaced village communities.

2. COMPENSATION: The present section deals with the amount of compensation that has been paid to the respondents by the State Government, the opinions of the respondents about the amount of compensation that was paid to them, instalments in which the compensation was paid, and the manner in which the amount of compensation was utilized by the respondents.

3. AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION: The respondents were asked about the amount of compensation which was paid to them for various items of property such as land, house, well, trees, shifting and others. The total amounts on all these items were consolidated and are presented in Table 9.1.

TABLE 9.1
CASH COMPENSATION RECEIVED

Zones	Upto Rs.5000/-	Rs.5001/- to Rs.10000/-	Rs.10001/- + above	No Comp.	Total
Plain	177 (65.55)	47 (17.40)	22 (8.14)	24 (8.88)	270
Catchment	208 (71.47)	34 (11.68)	7 (2.40)	42 (14.43)	291
Konkan	34 (62.96)	10 (18.51)	9 (16.66)	1 (1.85)	54
Total	419 (68.13)	91 (14.79)	38 (6.17)	67 (10.89)	615

The data reveal that almost 11 percent of the respondents did not receive any compensation at all. This shows that even though these respondents have lost all that they had, they have not been compensated for in return.

Now as far as the amount of compensation is concerned, a majority of the respondents and that too from all the zones did receive the compensation amount upto Rs.5000/- only which was followed by the respondents who received the amount from Rs.5001/- to Rs.10,000/-. And lastly, there were also

a few respondents who received the amount of Rs.10,001/- and above as a compensation. Thus in general it can be said that a majority of the respondents received the compensation only upto Rs.5000/-.

When one compares these data with those of Karve and Nimbakar, one observes the similar trend. Their survey has showed that, "517 out of 602 families received cash compensation upto Rs.5000/-, and 45 families received Rs.5001/- to Rs.10,000/- and only 13 families received more cash compensation than that. (27 families do not know amount, no compensation received or no response)"¹

Thus the majority of the rehabilitated families have received the amount of less than Rs.5000/- as a compensation after the evaluation of property lost including land, houses, wells, trees, cowsheds, shifting etc.

Now the issue arises is, whether the amount paid by the government as a compensation was considered adequate or not by the respondents. The information on this aspect is presented in Table 9.2.

TABLE 9.2
VIEWS ABOUT COMPENSATION

Zones	Adequate	Not Adequate	Not Applicable	Total
Plain	9 (3.70)	237 (87.77)	24 (8.88)	270
Catchment	10 (3.43)	239 (82.13)	42 (14.43)	291
Konkan	2 (3.70)	51 (94.44)	1 (1.85)	54
Total	22 (3.57)	527 (85.69)	67 (10.89)	615

The table clearly shows that the cash compensation received by the respondents was not adequate at all. The respondents felt that the government's evaluation of their property was too low. The similar trend of dissatisfaction for 363 out of 602 families from Karve and Nimbakar's survey also stresses the same fact. The respondents were given the depreciated cost of their houses and land was evaluated at Rs.40/- per acre (kumri or shifting cultivation) to Rs.800/- per acre (best paddy land at the bottom of valley). But with the amount of compensation that they had received, the rehabilitated people were unable to build up good houses and buy some land elsewhere.

Now for those respondents who had marked that the amount paid as compensation was not adequate, the further question that was asked was to state the reasons behind it. The majority of the respondents (347) have remarked that the money paid for their landed and housing property was extremely poor and the rate for compensation was not appropriate. 65 respondents reported that, due to illiteracy, they were unable to estimate the correct amount as compensation and therefore they were not able to receive due amount.

4. INSTALMENTS IN RECEIVING COMPENSATION: The amount of compensation was received by the respondents through instalments. The situation in this regard is presented in Table 9.3.

TABLE 9.3
INSTALMENTS OF COMPENSATION

Zones	One	Two	Three	Not Applicable	Total
Plain	99 (36.66)	108 (38.88)	39 (14.44)	24 (8.88)	270
Catchment	130 (44.67)	107 (36.76)	11 (3.78)	42 (14.43)	291
Konkan	13 (24.07)	28 (51.85)	12 (22.22)	1 (1.85)	54
Total	242 (39.34)	243 (39.51)	63 (10.23)	67 (10.89)	615

The table indicates that the amount of compensation was mostly paid either in one or two instalments and in few cases it was paid in three instalments. As far as the zone distribution is concerned, it shows that in plains and catchment zones the compensation was paid in one or two instalments; whereas in konkan region the compensation was paid in two or three instalments.

5. UTILIZATION OF COMPENSATION AMOUNT: The amount of compensation was paid in instalments and the question that arose was the purpose for which this amount was spent. The details in this connection are presented in Table 9.4.

TABLE 9.4

UTILIZATION OF COMPENSATION AMOUNT

Zones	Land Pur- chase	House Constru- ction.	Other	Land/ House/ other.	Not app.	Total
Plain	5 (1.85)	47 (17.40)	2 (0.74)	192 (71.11)	24 (8.88)	270
Catchment	17 (5.84)	41 (14.08)	114 (39.17)	77 (26.46)	42 (14.43)	291
Konkan	5 (9.25)	1 (1.35)	15 (27.77)	32 (59.25)	1 (1.85)	54
Total	27 (4.39)	89 (14.47)	129 (20.97)	301 (48.94)	67 (10.89)	615

The data clearly indicate that the compensation amount was utilized by the respondents on purchasing the land, constructing the house and on other miscellaneous items. The table also shows that 129 respondents have used the amount on other purposes such as marriages of their daughters in the families, lending it to relatives, and on day-to-day expenses. For these respondents it became a grave situation in course of time as the amount of compensation was not invested in productive endeavours.

Karve and Nimbakar have also noted that, "the considerable amount of money was not properly utilized mainly because it was paid as cash instead of in kind (land, materials for house construction, development expenditure on land). The money paid should have been sufficient for their new settlement. However, whatever money was left with the

displaced families by the time they had effected their move, was simply eaten through instead of being used to provide something which could have afforded more lasting benefits." 2

6. DURATION BETWEEN DISPLACEMENT AND REHABILITATION: This section deals with the impact of slow rehabilitation process on the part of the respondents and the difficulties that they faced on account of this rehabilitation.

The construction of the Koyana Dam started the process of displacement and the people had to be rehabilitated at different places. The following table indicates the duration between the displacement and the actual rehabilitation.

TABLE 9.5

DURATION BETWEEN DISPLACEMENT AND REHABILITATION

Zones	Upto 6 months	6.1 months to 1 year.	1.1 year to 5 year	5.1 year + above yrs.	Total
Plain	101 (37.40)	51 (18.18)	71 (26.29)	47 (17.39)	270
Catchment	166 (57.03)	46 (15.80)	63 (21.64)	16 (5.49)	291
Konkan	3 (5.55)	12 (22.22)	27 (50.00)	12 (22.21)	54
Total	270 (43.89)	109 (17.72)	161 (26.17)	75 (12.19)	615

The data indicate that nearly half of the respondents got themselves rehabilitated within 6 months after their displacement and this is particularly so in the catchment

area, the families which were staying on the banks of river preferred to move upwards and stay on the hilltops. This is how these families have shifted from the banks to the hilltops within 6 months of rehabilitation.

Nearly 18 percent of the respondents reported that they were rehabilitated within a period from 6.1 months to 1 year and this is true particularly in the Konkan and plain zones.

26 percent of the respondents reported that it took from 1.1 to 5 years for them to rehabilitate themselves and 12 percent of the respondents reported that it was more than 6 years period between their displacement and rehabilitation. Thus 38 percent of the respondents had to wait for a long time between their displacement and rehabilitation. It was mainly because of the lack of the proper rehabilitation policy with the State Government. When the people were actually being displaced there was no rehabilitation act that could guide the norms regarding the rehabilitation process.

When the respondents were asked about the type of residence in which they stayed during the period of displacement and rehabilitation, 234 (38.04) respondents reported that they were made to stay in tin sheds, 149 (24.22) respondents reported that they had to stay in small thatched huts, 135 (21.95) respondents - all from the catchment zone - shifted their structures to the hilltops, and 97 (15.76) respondents told that they constructed their houses with the leftout material from the old houses.

These rehabilitated people have not been able to construct pakka houses during all these years of rehabilitation. And we don't think that they will be able to do so in the near future simply because of the fact that these people are barely living from hand to mouth. Their economic condition is far from satisfactory. They have been practically reduced to beggars. They, however, don't resort to begging because the pattern of culture in which they all have been brought up does not allow them to do so. From their very appearance and from the type of houses in which they are living in it appears that they are beggars. They are, however, not beggars. Moreover they don't like themselves to be called as beggars. There is nothing that they can do to improve their lot. They have become pawns in the hands of nature. The situation has forced itself upon the rehabilitated people.

7. OPINION ON EXPENDITURE FOR KOYANA DAM AFFECTED PEOPLE: The Government of Maharashtra did spend lakhs of Rupees on the process of rehabilitation of the Koyana Dam affected people. The respondents were asked to express their opinions on the expenditure of these funds. The following table gives the details in this regard.

TABLE 9.6OPINIONS REGARDING FUND UTILIZATION

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Illiterate respondents - unable to reply	43	(6.99)
Don't know/Unable to reply	192	(31.21)
Funds not used on dam affected families	54	(8.78)
Funds not used on the settlement of respondents	85	(13.82)
Funds used only on certain settlements	31	(5.04)
Funds used on unnecessary items	119	(19.34)
Funds used were helpful only to native village	18	(2.92)
Funds used were beneficial to the respondent to- some extent.	37	(6.01)
Any other reasons.	36	(5.85)
T O T A L	..	615 (99.96)
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The table clearly indicates that almost 38 percent of the respondents did not express any opinion regarding the utilization of the funds on the process of rehabilitation. Again among those respondents who have expressed their opinions about the utilization of funds, there is no uniformity. Not only that, nearly 20 percent of the respondents went to the extent of saying that the utilization of fund amounts to sheer wastage.

From these diverse opinions one can draw some interesting conclusions. The major conclusions being the fact that the funds were spent during the whole process of rehabilitation but these were not necessarily spent on matters of mutual interest to the displaced families and their colonies. The native villagers and their active leaders saw to it that those funds were sanctioned for the rehabilitated colonies,

but these were diverted and actually spent in the native village communities for the benefit of the native villagers at the cost of the displaced colonies.

Here again the Government agencies can not be blamed, Government can function well only if it receives active co-operation from all the quarters.

8. GRIEVANCES OF THE REHABILITATED RESPONDENTS: When one takes a glance at the long list of the grievances voiced by the newly rehabilitated respondents, one gets the idea of the problems they continue to face. The details in this regard are presented in Table 9.7.

TABLE 9.7

GRIEVANCES OF THE REHABILITATED RESPONDENTS

Grievances	No. of respondents	Percentage
Agricultural Land	398/615	(64.71)
Drinking Water Facility	404/615	(65.69)
Approach Roads	260/615	(42.27)
Health Facility	493/615	(80.16)
Educational Facility	164/615	(26.66)
Absence of Community Hall	574/615	(93.33)
Disputes over village boundry	54/615	(8.78)
Difficulties in Cattle rearing	74/615	(12.04)
Other grievances	358/615	(58.21)

There is a long list of grievances which our respondents have voiced when they were approached for their interviews.

The intensity of these grievances is very deep and the extent is very wide. When they were asked to give a list of these grievances, they became very angry. Some of them went even to the extent of remarking that "There is nothing that we can do except giving a long list of grievances. And this is exactly what we have been doing during all these years."

The most important grievance that they spoke about was about the allotment of land to the displaced families. The land has been allotted only to those who were clear title holders at the time of the displacement. More than two thirds of the respondent-families have voiced this grievance. Sub-title holders went unrecognized in the allotment of land. In the peasant communities in India, it has been a customary practice to keep all the landholdings in the name of the senior most male member in the joint family who is legally recognized as the title holder. All his younger brothers and cousins who have been staying together under a common roof are not considered as title-holders but they are known as sub-title holders. Accordingly in the Koyana Dam affected people also, it is only the clear title holder who has been benefited, and his brothers and cousins who were staying together in the joint family at the time of the displacement, but who in course of time got separated and formed their own families became the sufferers.

Equally important grievances voiced by them were about drinking water facilities (65 percent), Health facilities-

(80 percent), Approach Roads (42 percent), Educational facilities (27 percent), Community Hall (93 percent) and Difficulties in Cattle rearing (12 percent).

There are no adequate drinking water facilities, no electricity facilities, no approach road facilities, no health facilities, no community hall facilities. The Koyana electricity has reached almost each and every village located in remote parts of Southern Maharashtra. But in many of the displaced families, people continue to live without electricity in utter darkness. In several rehabilitated colonies it has so happened that the native local leaders have succeeded in diverting these facilities into their own localities.

There is the total absence of medical facilities also particularly in the catchment zone. Especially during the monsoon season, if somebody falls seriously sick, what people do is, they wait for the patient till until he recovers on his own or he dies in course of time. For in the catchment area, during the rainy season the settlement on the hilltop becomes a natural prison.

Moreover in these settlements there is the absence of the community living with no community hall, no market place, no school and wherever school building is there, teacher is not there. And wherever teacher is there, he is not to be found in the school for want of students, because students are engaged by their parents in grazing the animals.

The nature of these grievances has assumed a vicious circle, one problem giving rise to another. As a result of this grave situation a number of these grievances is increasing everyday. And there is no solution to these problems. The State Government is also seen doing everything that it could. Government alone will not be able to solve the problem of displacement and rehabilitation. The entire society must rise to the occasion. All the interested parties including voluntary organisations must come together and join the Government agencies in the process of rehabilitation. Instead of doing this, they all have been waiting for the Government to do everything for them. In the democratic country like ours it is the duty of each and every citizen to do everything that he or she can, in his or her own way, in his or her own capacity. However surprisingly we have been trained ever since independence not to do anything on our own.

9. FEELINGS OF DAM AFFECTED PEOPLE: When the question was asked to the respondents whether they were benefited due to the displacement and rehabilitation process, they expressed their responses in the following manner as given in table 9.8.

TABLE 9.8
FEELINGS OF DAM AFFECTED PEOPLE

Zones	Benefitial	Not Benefitial	Total
Plain	26 (9.62)	244 (90.37)	270
Catchment	3 (1.03)	288 (98.96)	291
Konakn	15 (27.77)	39 (72.77)	54
Total	44 (7.15)	571 (92.84)	615

The data clearly indicate that the majority of the respondents reported that the displacement and rehabilitation process has not at all benefited them and this is true for all the zones. It is because the kind of life that they are leading is below poverty line which is utterly miserable and which they never had experienced in their earlier lives.

Only 7 percent of the respondents felt that the displacement and rehabilitation was benefitial to them and this was mainly in the plain and konkan zones. The people who were rehabilitated in Sangli District and Phaltan Taluka of Satara District in Plain areas found the process benefitial because they are leading better lives. Some respondents from konkan zone also found it benefitial as they were able to get employment opportunities due to the proximity to the industrialized belt of Bombay.

The reasons why these displaced people expressed total dissatisfaction over the process of rehabilitation were first because they felt that they were not properly compensated for the agricultural land that they lost, secondly because they felt that adequate civic amenities have not been provided to them by the State Government in their new colonies, thirdly because they felt that their children were deprived of educational facilities and employment opportunities, and lastly because they felt that they are being discriminated and isolated from the rest of the native villagers. They feel that they are being treated as second grade citizens. As a result of all these reasons they have not been able to become one with the native village people. They are trying to maintain their separate identity which is far from the one that they have had in their own village communities before displacement.

10. UNFULFILLED ASSURANCES BY STATE MINISTERS: In the light of the grievances voiced by the Dam affected people, an attempt has been made to throw some light on the assurances given to them by the State Ministers. The Koyana Khore Shetakari Samaj was established in 1953 and a meeting was held on February 21, 1954 under the presidentship of Late Yashawantaro Chavan. The meeting was attended by thousands of people and five resolutions regarding the developmental activities were passed in the meeting.

Late Yashawantrao Chavan, who was the then Minister for supplies in Bombay Government assured the gathering that,

"the Government is planning meticulously for the future settlements of the displaced villages which will be rehabilitated in due course of time. The Koyana dam will create paradise for Maharashtra. We all, alongwith Mr. Naik-Nimbalkar, Minister for construction and Mr. Balasaheb Desai, Member of Legislative Assembly, will solve this problem through co-operation and legal measures. The government is trying to solve the problems regarding road construction. The issue of grain supplies during the rainy season is with me and I will solve it satisfactorily. I will co-operate with you not as a minister but as a citizen of Satara."3

Mr. Malojirao Naik-Nimbalkar, the then minister for construction addressed a meeting of Koyana Khore Shetakari Samaj on January 9, 1955 in Bombay and assured that, "the villages which are being affected by the Koyana Dam will be rehabilitated in Koyana catchment area and nobody will be landless. Not a single farmer will be required to leave Koyana catchment. The government will try its level best."4

The then Chief-Minister Vasantaraoji Naik assured the people on January 5, 1964 that, "the injustice has been done to the Koyana dam affected people. These people have sacrificed their lands and houses for the human welfare and development of the country at the instance of Mr. Balasaheb Desai, the then Home Minister. These people have shifted to various places at the government's instruction. The people who had 30 acres of land, could not receive 3 acres of land after rehabilitation. I alongwith with Mr. Balasaheb

Desai will solve the problems and try to establish an ideal settlement of dam affected people. No injustice should be done to the people who have sacrificed for the development of the country by leaving aside their selfinterests." 5

On the occasion of the first conference of Venna Yojana Punarvasahat on August 6, 1965 the then Deputy Minister for Rural Development, Mr. Dadasaheb Jagtap, said that, "the government has failed in case of rehabilitation of Koyana dam affected people. The government has made provision of Rs.27 lakhs for this purpose. These people will be allotted four types of houses A, B, C, and D on the basis of the kind of original houses. The government will not give cash compensation. Apart from that, wherever possible the land will be allotted, and water will be supplied to irrigate land." 6

Mr. Prataprao Bhosale, the then Minister for state had assured in a meeting at Bamnoli that all the problems of Koyana dam affected people would be solved satisfactorily within one and half years." Bhosale explained that, "as the Koyana dam is not an irrigation project, the rehabilitation of the dam affected is not possible in the command area and therefore there are many problems. But now the government has taken a decision to consider this issue separately. Those who have lost lands and houses, will be given alternative lands. The government has distributed 2500 acres of land and the remaining work will be completed within the next six months. The work of providing drinking water

facility is going on and the buildings will be constructed for village panchayats. The government has decided to construct good roads leading to Satara and Mahabaleshwar and the survey in this connection has already been started." 7

The Government of Maharashtra has made delay in the rehabilitation of Koyana Dam affected people. This has been accepted in the State Assembly by Mr. Shantaram Gholap, Minister for Revenue and Mr. Anantrao Thopate, State Minister for Rehabilitation. Mr. Thopate assured that, "the Zilla Parishad has not carried out the rehabilitation work as per the desired schedule. Now the separate sub-divisional office is being created by the State Government and the task of rehabilitation and provision of minimum civic amenities will be carried out on the war footing." 8

However all these assurances given to them were fizzled out in the air. And there are still some displaced families impatiently waiting for their problems to be solved.

11. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: employment opportunities for the Dam affected ones have been discussed at some length in the pages to follow.

The project affected individuals will have to apply in the prescribed form alongwith the certificate of land acquisition officer. The Certificate for employment is issued to the project affected individual and his dependents- husband/wife, adult sons, unmarried daughters, adult brothers and sisters, mother and father. This certificate

is issued only for one individual of the project affected family, however, in case of the projects which have been completed before 1965, the certificate is issued for two individuals. The names of those who have been issued these certificates are informed well in advance to all the concerned departments of the Government for giving preference in the employment.

The Government has not guaranteed employment for project affected people but they will be issued only the certificates and it is for the concerned people to try and seek employment on their own with the help of certificates issued to them by the Government officials. However, "the Government has reserved 5 percent seats for the project affected families. The individual will have to apply to the concerned government department alongwith the certificate and if the individual is found eligible for the post, he will be given preference and he will be appointed. If the individual applies for some government department and informs accordingly to the Rehabilitation office, then this office will intimate the department concerned for preferential appointment of the individual." 9

The "Government has issued orders for giving preference to the dam affected people and their dependents in government and semi-government sectors. But it has not been implemented except in Satara Employment Office. The Bombay Employment Office assists in giving employment to lakhs of people, but the Koyana Dam affected persons are ignored there. The

Koyana dam affected people are not even given employment opportunity in some offices of Koyana Project." 10

12. LAND BEFORE AND AFTER REHABILITATION: The people in the Koyana Catchment were engaged in agriculture from generation to generation. The farmers had affection for the land which they cultivated. "As the Koyana river is in Sahyandri ranges, there were no facilities of transportation, school and colleges and no employment in factories. Agricultural land was the only source of livelihood. The families here started shifting only on the assurance of agricultural land at the place of rehabilitation. The families had 15 to 60 acres of land, and they used to cultivate paddy, wheat, nagali, vari and sava and they were able to maintain their livelihood accordingly." 11

- a) Principle of Land Allotment: In the first stage, if the pieces of Tari (Paddy farming) and Kumari (barren land farming) land were acquired for the Koyana Project, then the cost of these pieces was taken into account and the land of the same cost was allotted to them at the place of rehabilitation. The same principle was adopted during the second stage. This practice has been termed as "Principle of equal valuation"
- b) The above mentioned principle has been accepted by the government while allotting land. However this policy has adversely affected the following types of families which were not eligible for allotment of land.

- 1) Those families whose land was not under water during the second stage but have been rehabilitated as if their land under water has been acquired.
- 2) Those families whose only houses have been acquired.
- 3) Those families whose land has submerged under water but have not deposited money for alternative land at the rehabilitation settlement.
- 4) As per tradition the elder-man in the family has been the title-holder but there are many joint families in which there are a number of sub-title holders.

On account of these four reasons if the dam affected families have become landless, then these should be : allotted land by making provision in the principle. The "land allotted to the dam affected people was Kumari land of forest Department. When the Kumari land of dam affected people was acquired, the compensation was paid @ Rs.40/- per acre. But when the land was allotted to the dam affected people, its rate was decided on the basis of existing rate. Therefore the Kumari land has been charged @ Rs.400/- to Rs.700/- which shows that the dam affected people had to pay 10 times of the amount for taking land at the rehabilitated places." 12

The land for which compensation was to be paid was classified into three categories "1) Good, 2) Medium, and 3) Low. The good quality land was the one where the paddy

can be cultivated. It was given compensation @ Rs.800/- per acre. The medium category was for Kolamb land and its compensation was @ Rs.200/- per acre. The third category included barran land and its compensation was @ Rs.40/- per acre. At the places of rehabilitation, the good land where paddy cultivation can be undertaken was costing from Rs.2000/- to Rs.2500/- per acre." ¹³

13. IMPACT OF REHABILITATION-EVIDENCE FROM LITERATURE: Sheth has noted some of the comments in his article.¹⁴ Mr. Jadhav, Kotawal of Dewali village remarked that, "the dam was constructed in 1962, but the government had collected land revenue of the land submerged under water upto 1970. While receiving compensation for the land, there were cases of corruption and from Talathi onwards to the leaders at the district level all were involved in it."

Mr. Shivaram Patil of Dewali village commented, "in the field of education there is no face-to-face contact between teacher and students. The schools are run not even for a month during the year. We met the chairman of the Panchayat Samiti at the Taluka level but here there is no teacher."

Sheth ¹⁵ has also described the situation of dam affected people as follows.

The Government has cleared off the loan for dam construction and electricity centre on March 31, 1978. Today the Central Government receives profit of ps. 3

per unit, and the State Government ps. 5 per unit. Apart from this, the industrialists and capatialists receive average profit of Rs.50 crores per day.

The Government began to acquire land since 1959 as per the Land Acquisition Act of 1898.

Due to the wood cutting in the forests, the rivers are filling up with mud. If the forests near Koyana reservoir are not well protected, then the Koyana dam will be useless in another 100 years only which will be less by 50 years as per the estimated calculations.

Due to the practice of joint family, the head of the family was the title-holder. If the brothers separate in due course of time, then they are considered as sub title-holders. The Government availed of this practice in social system for the exploitation of the displaced families. The title holders got land, whereas the sub-title holders whose land was submerged got no land. Due to this Government's policy, only 30 percent of the dam-affected families got land; whereas the other landholders became landless.

What has the government allotted to the dam affected colonies? A Small Samajamandir with asbestos cover and a primary school at the cost of Rs.65,000/- each. There is no machinery for repairs. Under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, the road construction is being done without using roler and it is washed away during the next rainy season and the grass grows upto 4 feet high on these roads.

The Rehabilitation office of Satara district indicates that, the government has not allotted land to 390 landholders. The government does not take into consideration the question of subtitle holders. One who was a land owner in the year 1962 only continues to be the land owner as per the rules of the government.

When the Koyana project was handed over to the government, it was decided to deposit Rs.15 crore every year in the account of the Koyana project and the rehabilitation work was to be carried out through these funds. During the last 22 years Rs.330 crore might have been accumulated in the said fund. However nobody knows what happened to those funds that ought to have been spent on the rehabilitation of the displaced and dam affected people.

The Government will have to appoint three special Tahashildars to arrange to look into the problems of sub-title holders. Those dam-affected ones who are settled in other districts, should be surveyed and they should be allotted land accordingly by considering them as title-holders. Apart from these, those who have lost their land for electricity, house, government housing colony and office complex will also have to be considered as dam affected ones and the benefits of the Act should be extended to them also.

There is no registration of 19 settlements in Patan Taluka and 8 settlements in Javali Taluka in the Government records. In 1972 "Patan Taluka Koyana Punarvasan Samiti"

was formed and "it has often put forth the problems of Koyana dam affected people to the government." 16

Patan Taluka Koyana Tunarvasan Samiti launched a symbolic strike in front of the Tahashildar's office at Patan. The leaders submitted a memorandum regarding government's role in fulfilling the long awaited demands of the dam affected people. Mr. D.M. Deshmukh, the president of the Samiti, and Mr. Rajabhau Shelar, Mr. Jayawant Shelar and Mr. Balasaheb Kolekar all leaders of the Samiti addressed the meeting. The demands put forth to the Government were, "the sub-title holders may be given the status of title-holders, the land should be allotted to the landless, the amounts of the Devasthanas with the government should be released immediately, preference may be given to the children of dam affected families in government employment and the civic facilities be provided in the new settlements on a priority basis." 17

The government officials at the Secretariat level are unable to understand the seriousness of the problem of settlement of Koyana dam affected families. "They are of the opinion that this has been a 20 year old issue and now the funds cannot be raised for this task." 18

The problems of Koyana dam affected people have not yet been solved though 25 years have passed after the construction of the dam. "Thus it has spoiled three generations of past, present and future. After 1966 in the first stage, the land under forest was allotted which was not useful for agricultural purposes. In the second stage, additional 5000 acres of

forest land was to be allotted, but it was agreed that these lands are not useful for agricultural purposes in 1975 committee. The land has not been allotted to 20-25 villages. In 1975 it was decided that 1400 families from these villages be rehabilitated. Thus due to the uncertain policies of the Government, the familial life of the Koyana dam affected people has been disturbed." 19

The Government tried to rehabilitate the Koyana dam affected people through rehabilitation department but then some grants were given to Zilla Parishadas to provide civic facilities but these funds have not been appropriately utilized.

14. DAM AFFECTED PEOPLE AND VILLAGES: Mr. Mahabib Gafur Sheikh who is staying in Kasegaon Dist. Satara for the last 13 years in a rented house has lodged a complaint with the Rehabilitation Officer, Satara, in which he has argued that "the government has simply issued a certificate to them beyond that it has not done anything further about their rehabilitation. They have been rendered homeless and landless and the applications and complaints forwarded to the Rehabilitation Officer are not attended to even today." 20

In yet another disturbing case "Mr. Dhondiram More, a farmer from Taloshi village, was holding 61 acres of land. The government gave compensation at the rate of Rs.125/- per acre. The government has not observed the assurance of land allotment. He has been serving as a

peon on 'Surya Project' for the last 25 years and leading a miserable life." 21

These are some of the representative cases of the dam affected people. The big projects like Koyana one are of national pride but we have forgotten all those who have sacrificed their lives for this task.

Devali Village: The village has a population of 500. The villagers reported that "the compensation paid by the government was too small to reach their destined places. Our huts have thatched-roof which costs Rs.80/- per year for renewal, but we are unable even to spend this much amount. The average rain fall ranges between 150" and 200". People fall sick with Maleria and snake-bites. We don't have a health centre. It is located at Tapola, which takes about half an hour to reach that place by launch. The doctors do not turn up to these settlements for years together. The governmental facility of polio-dose has not reached this place. If there are cases of snake bites, the patients are to be treated without any charges, but they demand Rs.50/- for every injection and as the poor people have no money, the patient dies in front of our eyes."

Kalamb Village: The Sarpanch of the village remarked that, "Primary education has become a big joke here. The teachers do not turn up here in the rainy season. They come here only twice in two months and disappear. The village officials have lodged a number of complaints against them

but these have been unattended to so far. The students are promoted upto 4th standard without learning anything.

Afterwards they are sent to Bombay for hotel-work, household-work etc. as they are not educated. Koyana dam has ruined our lives. There are many factories run on electricity of Koyana but are our sons employed in these factories ?"

Dabhe Village: The electricity has reached in the vicinity of our village, but we are not benefited from it. The government has assured of free electricity which has not come true. If one has to bring floor from the mill, one has to go to Mahableshwar on foot by climbing up for 7 miles and 3000' above the sea level.

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Village Kupwad-Bamnoli: The land of 70 acres was allotted to 10 farmers at Kupwad-Bamnoli, near Sangli as dam affected people. This land was acquired by Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation and the plots were sold to the industrialists. This was done without issuing any notice to the farmers. The industrialists occupied the plots, constructed factories and started production, but the farmers have not received any compensation for their lands. The affected farmers sent in applications to the Chief-Minister, Minister for Industries, Collectorate of Sangli District and other concerned officials for the last one year, however, farmers have not received justice so far. Thus the land allotted to the Koyana Dam affected ones has been derived from them and they have been left to themselves once again.

The settlement is under Sangli Zilla Parishad and Kupwad Grampanchayat, but both of them have not taken any steps to solve their problems. The Zilla Parishad supplied a boring scheme after repeated demands. The drinking water facility is useless as the pipes have been broken down into pieces.

The Koyana fund was established in 1964-65 for providing civic facilities to the rehabilitated villages, Sangli Zilla Parishad has drawn Rs.2/- lakh from this fund and as the accounts have not been settled by the Parishad, additional funds cannot be asked for.

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