

Monitoring of Resettlement and Rehabilitation Activities of Rampur Hydroelectric Project

(Second Quarter Report for the Period 01.01.2008 to 31.03.2008)

Introduction

The implementation of R&R activities has been monitored for the period Jan 1, 2008 to Mar 31, 2008. The details of present status of these activities have been presented in Annex.-1. The information was collected during the month of may and 3 visits were made for the purpose. The team relied on observations, individual interviews and group interviews with stakeholders. The findings are based 11 stakeholders' meetings. In the meetings issues like compensation received, treatment meted out by project officials, employment generation and their responses regarding the implementation of R&R activities, income generation activities, decline in crop yields etc were discussed. Important persons in this respect who actively discussed with monitoring team were Govind Ram, Gurdev Ram, Sher Singh, Chet Ram and Duma Devi (Member of Grievances Redressal Committee) of Averi and Biju Ram, Kapoor Chand, Udham Ram, Roop Singh, Nathu Ram, Roshan Lal, Balveer Thakur and Rahesh Negi etc of Bayal village. The responses were recorded at the spot. In addition, the team conducted meetings with R&R officials. Mr. R.R. Sinha, Ms Alka Jaiswal, Mr. Hitesh Kapoor, Mr. Anil Sharma etc were the key persons who provided information about the R&R activities. The observations were cross-checked with the responses of Project Management before accepting and presenting these as monitored values or responses.

The monitoring team came out with the following findings.

A. Activities Under RAP

1. Private Land Acquisition

The activity has been completed.

2. Payment of Compensation to Shareholders

The activity has been completed. Three brother purchased 12 bighas of orchard at Bandal at a cost of Rs. 25 lacs. The PAFs have been investing the compensation money mainly with the financial institutions. Mr. Govind Ram of Averi invested Rs. 4,10,000 with Life Insurance Corporation of India, Rs. 1,10,000 with Bajaj Alliance and he has put Rs. 2,00,000 in fixed deposit at a nationalized bank in Rampur.

3. Disbursement of Full Construction Grant

The grant has been disbursed to all the 35 landless families authenticated by DC Kullu.

4. Provision of House/ House Plots (Resettlement Benefits).

Plots for construction of house have been allotted to 15 houseless families (5 plots at village Averi and 10 plots at village Bayal). 2 families out of 5 have shifted to new houses in Averi. Mr. Tara Chand has not started the construction as he preferred to build the house at Nither.

5. Land Purchased through Direct Negotiation

The activity has been completed. Cost of land has been paid to all the six shareholders. Land amounting to 0.76 ha was purchased.

6. Disbursement of Cash Assistance to Houseless Families

The first installment of Rs. 10.80 lacs have been disbursed to 15 eligible families, Rs. 72,000 per family. Inspection for the releases of second installment was under progress. No assistance has been provided to 10 families whose houses have been acquired but not rendered houseless as these families had more than one houses. Same is the case of Mr. Gurdev Ram. Mr. Biju Ram was dissatisfied with the amount of compensation as he thought that the total construction cost will easily exceed Rs. 4 lacs whereas the compensation was only Rs. 1.80 lacs. It was consensus that the construction cost will exceed by at least 50%. In addition to this, it was reported that plot development was to be done by RHEP who delayed it and Mr. Roshan Lal could not afford the delay. So he got it done himself and had to spend about Rs. 12,000 in the process. Mr. Daya ram though has a plot at Bayal preferred to build house at Nirsu. 6 families also complained about partiality in sanctioning the sheds. They have also not been sanctioned the water connections. Due to absence of approach roads, they had to spend Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000 per house for the carriage of construction materials.

7. Rehabilitation Grant (RG) to Non-title Holders

Whereas the activity of rehabilitation grant to landless families has been completed, approval for release of grant to three non-title holders (one encroacher and two tenets) is awaited from Board of Directors.

8. Acquisition of Cattle sheds

No progress has been reported as the list of affected families is awaited from DC Kullu.

9. Assistance to Vulnerable Group Families

The target was to provide financial assistance 46 vulnerable families but no progress in this regard could be achieved as the certified list of families is awaited from DC Kullu.

10. Hiring of Taxies

16 vehicles have been hired from residents of project affected area but none from PAF reportedly because no PAF submitted application for the purpose. Due to this fact only 45% progress could be achieved in this regard.

11. Petty Contracts

D- Class works, of the value up to Rs. 10 lacs, worth Rs. 4.3 millions have been awarded to contractors from project affected areas, registering a progress of only 43%. In addition to this it was proposed to award petty contracts worth Rs. 40 millions to contractors from project affected panchayats which target was revised to Rs. 13.83

millions. This target was achieved registering a cumulative progress of 34.57%. all the aspirants of obtaining patty contracts were not able to secure one. Mr. Rajesh Negi despite trying was not able to get even one contract. His grouse was that some influential persons were able to get 2-3 contracts of 10 cubic meters retaining walls in a year thereby making a saving of about Rs. 1 lac per wall. He reported about 5 such patty contractors in Bayal only.

12. Dumping of Muck

First installment of Rs. 0.3 millions has been paid to 24 families of village Avery. The proposal for release of second and final installment of equal amount has been processed.

13. Compensation for losses caused due to blast damage

There are 12 families affected by blasting, around the surge shaft in Bayal, have been paid first installment of Rs. 26 millions. The proposal for release of second installment has been processed.

14. Data Base Management

The matter has been taken up with Centre for Good Governance, Hyderabad which will depute two scientist to visit the project during May 2008.

15. Income Generation Activities

Certified list of 37 landless and houseless families has been received from DC Kullu, however, full list is still awaited. It has been decided to launch the scheme initially for landless and houseless families and letters have been issued to these families. In addition to this the PAFs are sitting ideal having no income generation activities. Presently, all the 5 families were without any productive work. Mr. Govind Ram and others said that they are currently busy in house construction and will think of undertaking some income generation activity only after the house is completed. Presently, they only have few cows to look after and that is the only activity which can be categorized under income generation activities. Mr. Gurdev Ram, though not doing anything himself, his son is doing the job of tailoring. He is planning to buy land which he thinks should be available at the rate of Rs. 1,20,000 per bigha after the land rates come down as there will be hardly any buyers after the PAFs have spent their money. His enquiries revealed the present rates to be about Rs. 6 lacs per bigha for agricultural land and about Rs. 8 lacs for orchard land. One of the main apprehension about the employment provided was that the employment was with the private construction companies who will bind up as soon as their business is complete. What will happen afterwards was the main worry. To top it all the villagers reported low crop yields which will not be able to sustain them. Mr. Kapoor Chand reported productivity of wheat to be about 2-3 Qtls per bigha and that of maize to be 2-4 Qtls per bigha.

In order to sustain the families, as they had no income generation activities, persons like Keshav Ram and Bhagi Chand started acting share croppers. They had agreement for one year at a time and the terms were sharing the produce equally with the landlord. Usually 2-3 bighas of land is taken for share cropping. Paddy and wheat are the crops

grown under the agreement. Seed is provided by the land lord and fertilizers costs are shared equally. The share croppers reported lower crop yields of 1.5-2 qtls/bigha in case of wheat and 3 qtls/bigha in case of paddy.

16. Merit Scholarship

Five applications from project affected families were received and merit scholarship has been released to all. In addition to this 7 more applications were received which were processed and scholarship is yet to be released to them. All the students/ parents were satisfied with the amount of the scholarship and its disbursement.

17. Provision of Technical Education

No change has been reported.

18. Infrastructural Facilities

No fresh activity was reported during the period under consideration.

19. Support Services to PAFs

The matter has been taken with CSK Ag. University, Palampur. Report is still awaited.

20. Infrastructure Development Works

Infrastructure development works amounting to Rs. 2.5 millions in affected panchayats are under implementation.

21. Augmentation of Drinking Water supply

7 deep energized bore wells and 7 hand pumps will be installed in affected panchayats. The installation of deep bore well was under tendering process. Presently, the drinking water was being supplied daily through tankers.

22. Grievances Redressal Committee

The Committee has not met so far due to transfer of SDM. It was interesting to find that no one has so far enquired about the reasons as to why the meeting has not taken place.

23. Health facilities

MHV is visiting all the 7 Panchayats thrice a week. The respondents revealed their satisfaction with the facility as they had to visit Rampur earlier even for minor ailments involving a fare of Rs 8 and sometimes consultation fee of private doctors to the tune of about Rs. 50. But some persons like Mr. Roshan Lal were dissatisfied as his family members found that Brufen is prescribed and given for all the ailments.

Suggestions/Aspirations of PAF

The PAF mainly repeated the suggestions forwarded during the survey for 1st period report. In addition to these they wanted the introduction of income generation activities

be expedited. They wanted that the RHEP should make some provision for employment of those who will be rendered jobless after the private companies shift their operations after the completion of the project. There is a 6 inch water pipe running behind the houses being constructed in Bayal. This pipe busted and posed a serious damage the houses. The families want the pipe to be shifted.

Recommendations and Policy Issues

No fresh recommendations are made.

B. Activities Under Sustainable Community Development Programmes (SCDP)

The current status of these works has been monitored by the civil engineer and the details are presented below.

#	Name of the Work	Evaluation	Suggestion/Response of Community
1	Pucca path	Jeepable road in Averi village approximately 500 meters in length and 2 nos. pucca paths were constructed with P.C.C (Plain Cement Concrete) in village Averi and Damehli to Bari village. These paths are 3 feet wide and quality of work is up to desired level.	It was reported by the villagers that the width of the path may be increased to 4 feet and the same criteria may be taken for preparation of estimate so that it may cause no variation at the time of execution. Crematoria ground in Averi village may be developed with proper shelter and sitting arrangements. Some villagers reported that the proper fencing for community centres/temple and pucca path should be constructed up to its approach. However, villagers were satisfied with work of project.
2	Averi Village plots	There are five plots allotted to the houseless families. Out of these 4 plots are under construction of houses. The construction work on one plot is yet to be started as the owner is out of village.	At the left side of the entrance of the village necessity of retaining wall approx. 6 meter in length and 3 meters in height is observed.
3	Bayal village plots	10 plots were allotted to the beneficiaries. All plots are developed with proper retaining walls. Construction of houses is in progress. Some of them are at final stage. Construction on three plots is yet to start.	It was reported by the plot owners that the water pipe in back of the plots is not safe as water leakage damaged the house.
4	School infrastructure	Chatti School fencing, retaining wall, railing, flooring has been done.	The quality of work is up to desired level. The proposal to built a pucca path 4 feet wide up to school from Someg root approx. 850 meters length is added. In order to meet the requirement of the local people especially the children studying in the school.

ANNEX-1

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES UNDER R&R
PLAN OF RHEP**

Sl. No.	Activities	Target	Revised Target	Progress during the quarter	Cumulative progress	% of progress	Remarks
1	Private Land Acquisition (Ha)	29.10	29.10	-	29.10	100	Completed
2	Payment of compensation to shareholders	196	202	-	202	100	Completed
3	Distribution of full construction grant to landless families	55	35	-	35	100	
4	Allotment of house plots	29	15	-	15	100	
5	Land purchased through direct negotiation (in ha.)	0	0.76	-	0.76	100	Completed
6	a. Disbursement of cash assistance to houseless families	29	15	-	15		1 st grant has been released
	b. Disbursement of cash assistance to families whose houses were acquired but not declared as a houseless by Dy Commissioner, Kullu	10	10	-	-	-	
7	Disbursement of rehabilitation grant to the non title holders (encroacher and tenants)	3	3	-	-	-	
8	Financial assistance to the families whose cattle shed acquired	15*					List awaited from Dy Commissioner, Kullu
9	Disbursement of financial assistance to vulnerable group families	46	-	-	-	-	
10	Hiring of taxis from PAFs (vehicle months)	600	600	48	271	45.16	
11	Providing of petty contracts to	10	-	-	4.3	43	

	the contractors from PAFs	million					
12	Providing of petty contracts to the contractors from project affected panchayats	40 million	13.83	-	13.83	34.57	
13	Payment of compensation to the affected villagers of Averi due to dumping of Muck	Million	-	-	.31	-	
14	Payment of compensation to the affected villagers of Bayal near Surge shaft area (Affected due to construction activities of RHEP)						
15	Income Generation scheme	54	54	0	0	0	List of PAF awaited
16	Merit Scholarship scheme to the wards of PAFs	200	50	5	5	10	
17	Technical Education for local youths	155	155	35	70	45	
18	Infrastructural facilities/aids to schools situated in the affected area (Rs. Millions)	10	10		0.27	2.7	
19	Support services to the PAFs farmers in their agriculture/veterinary practices (in millions)	1.5	-	-	-	-	
20	Infrastructure development works in affected panchayats (Rs. Millions)	125	125	-	12.12	9.7	Works of Rs. 2.5 million in progress
21	No. of patients treated in the project area through MHV	40000	-	-	19709	49.27	
22	No. of patients referred to Govt Hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	5 patients have been referred to dispensary at Bayal

MONITORING
OF
RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES OF RAMPUR
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

Second Quarter final Report
(For the Period 1.1.2008 to 31.3.2008)

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