

Environmental Clearance

As per notification dated 14.9.06 of MOEF, Government of India issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, prior environment clearance of projects has become mandatory in respect of all new irrigation projects and for extension of existing projects. Intensive persuasion was made with F&E Deptt. / MOEF, GOI for constitution of SEIAA (State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority) and EAC (Expert-Appraisal committee) to expedite grant of Environmental clearance in respect of Irrigation Projects. In the meantime constitution of SEIAA and EAC has already been notified and they have started functioning. The applications for obtaining Environmental Clearance are being considered by the above authority.

New Initiatives

- Application of Remote Sensing and GIS Technology for identification of Revenue land.
- Preparation of R&R action plan by Independent Agencies by conducting socioeconomic, Socio cultural and Infrastructural Survey.
- Involvement of reputed Architects to ensure optimum use of land in a planned way with all basic amenities in a holistic manner.
- Steps initiated for creation of Database for the completed, ongoing and pipe line irrigation projects.
- Various training programmes and exposure visit organized for the field level functionaries by the support of UNDP. A team consisting of 13 officers of the Department has been sent Engineering Staff College, Hyderabad.
- Special efforts made to settle the pending cases related to forest and environment clearance by taking up the issues with F&E Dept. Govt. of Orissa, MOEF, Govt. of India in its Regional Office at Bhubaneswar as well as at New Delhi.
- Revised R&R plan of Ong irrigation Project has been submitted to MOTA.
- Project Director (R&R) has been functional in Subarnerekha and Kanupur Project.
- 20 displaced families / affected families of Chalgada project were imparted training on baby corn cultivation.
- 205 field level officers comprising of Spl. LAO, Executive Engineer, Asst. Engineer, Junior Engineer, Revenue Inspector and Amin were imparted training on R&R.

Organisation

The Directorate of R&R functions as a composite Directorate under the Dept. of Water Resources. The Directorate is headed by the Director-cum-Ex-officio Additional Secretary to Govt., who is assisted by Joint Secretary/Deputy Secretary, Deputy Director-cum-Ex-Officio under Secretary, Asst. Conservator of Forests, Asst. Director (CM), IPDP officer and other ministerial staffs. In the field there are Spl. LA and RRO sand Zone Officers etc. who are responsible for acquisition of land and implementation of R&R Policy – 2006 in the field. The Spl. LA & RROs are under functional control of the RDCs concerned. The Directorate of R&R is responsible for acquisition of private land, alienation of Government and diversion of forest land for non-forest use as required for construction of the Irrigation projects. The land is acquired as per the Land acquisition act (1864) and Forest & Environment laws etc. The displacement of people from the acquired land is done as per the Orissa Resettlement & Rehabilitation policy 2006. It closely interacts with the Directorate of R&R; Revenue & D.M. Dept. on policy matters and organizes Trainings to operationalise the R&R Policy 2006.

The principal jobs of the Directorate are

- To process land acquisition cases expeditiously to make land available to the project.
- To ensure that land losers get genuine compensation.
- Successful resettlement and rehabilitation with participation of displaced people and all stake holders.
- Emphasis on Land based rehabilitation in the ayacut area to the extent possible.
- Livelihood reconstruction through skill up-gradation, horticulture, reservoir fishery, diary and other means.
- Make the displacement experience as less traumatic as possible.
- Expediting Forest and Environment clearance proposals for irrigation Projects