

The Process of Land Acquisition And Rehabilitation For New Irrigation Projects In Telangana: A Case Study of Yetigadda Kisthapur Village Under Mallanna Sagar In Siddipet District

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Abstract- after the formation of Telangana State from erstwhile Andhra Pradesh in 2014, the Government of Telangana has decided to complete all the ongoing Irrigation Projects with some modification in some cases. It would not had been the case, If, 'The Draft National Policy for Rehabilitation of Persons Displaced as a Consequence of Acquisition of Land, 1996' and 'Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act

Keywords- National policy, rehabilitation, Acquisition of Land,

I. INTRODUCTION

Telangana region has a rich heritage of cultivation and irrigation dating back to several centuries. In the past, rulers paid a good deal of attention to the development of irrigation in their kingdoms for the benefit of their subjects. Irrigation works at the time of Kakatiya dynasty such as Ramappa, Pakhal, Laknavaram and many other big lakes have become names to remember.

The Mir Alam Tank is the finest example for arched dams. HussainSagar, Ghanapur Ayacut across the Manjira with two canals called Fathenahar and Mahaboobnagar Projects, Pocharamlake, Osmansagar, Himayatsagar, Nizamsagar Project, Mannair Project, Dindi Project, Palair Project, Wyra Project and Sarlasagar Projects are some of the magnificent contributions of the eminent Engineers of Hyderabad State under Nawab Ali Nawaz Jung Bahadur during the Nizam's kingdom in the Telangana Region.

After the formation of Telangana State from erstwhile Andhra Pradesh in 2014, the Government of Telangana has decided to complete all the ongoing Irrigation Projects with some modification in some cases.

Accordingly (Irrigation and CAD Department, 2017), then ongoing Irrigation Project, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Pranahita-Chevella Sujala Sravanthi has been split into two projects namely Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Pranahita Project and Kaleshwaram Project. Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Pranahita project is envisaged to divert 40 TMC of water by constructing a barrage across river Pranahita near the confluence of Wainganga and WardhaRivers at Tummidihetti (V), Koutala (M), Adilabad District for irrigating an ayacut of 2 lakh acres in East Adilabad district.

Kaleshwaram Project, envisages diversion of 160 TMC of water by constructing a barrage across river Godavari, at Medigadda (V) near Kaleshwaram, Mahadevpur (M), Karimnagar (Dist.) i.e., below the confluence with river Pranahita; and further conveying water to SripadaYellampally Project by constructing barrages at Annaram and Sundilla; and thereafter providing irrigation facilities for an ayacut of 18.25 lakh acres in 7 districts of Telangana State viz., Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Medak, Warangal, Nalgonda & Rangareddy Further, it also provides 10 TMC of Drinking Water to the villages enroute, 30 TMC of Drinking Water to twin Cities of Hyderabad & Secunderabad and 16 TMC of water for Industrial use. The following reservoirs are proposed under Kaleshwaram Project:

- Barrage atThummidihetti
- Barrage at Medigadda
- Barrage at Annaram
- Barrage at Sundilla
- Medaram Reservoir
- Malkapet Reservoir
- Anantagiri Reservoir
- Imamabad Reservoir
- Komarelli MallannaSagar (Tadkapally)
- Kondapochamma Sagar Reservoir (Pamulaparthy)
- Baswapur Reservoir
- Gandhamalla Reservoir
- Chevella Reservoir

- Thipparam Reservoir
- Kondamcheruvu
- Mothe Reservoir
- Gujjul Reservoir
- Katewadi
- Thalamadla
- Timmakkapally
- Kachapur
- Issaipet

The villages and the houses there in submerged Komuravelli Mallanna Sagar Reservoir are as follows:

- BramhanaBanjerupally (182 houses)
- Rampoor (232),
- YetigaddaKisthapur (547)
- Vemulaghat(638)
- Pallephad(582)
- Tipparam(120)
- Yerravally(348)
- Laxmapur (170)

The total number of houses that are submerged are 2819.

II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This paper analyses the acquisition of land and rehabilitation process in Etigadda Kistapur Gram Panchayat limits.

III. OBJECTIVES

- To know the process of land acquisition by Government
- To know the rehabilitation process
- To know the problems if arisen there in.

IV. HYPOTHESIS

- Land acquisition and rehabilitation process is in accordance with the Draft of National Policy for Land acquisition, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation and the Acts made there in.
- Problems are arisen due to people's sentiments regarding their land, houses and social security.

V. METHODOLOGY

Survey method has been used to analyze the problem. Primary data collected with personal interview with effected people, secondary data was collected to compare the field realities. Study period has been taken as December 1st 2016 to

31st January 2017. Overall comparative deductive analysis has been made to draw the conclusion.

VI. YETIGADDA KISTAPUR

A. Yetigadda Kistapur

Yetigadda Kistapur is a Village located in Thoguta Mandal of Siddipet District in the state of Telangana. Agriculture is the main occupation of people living in Yetigadda Kistapur, some of the crops grown in this region include Paddy, jowar, ragi, vegetables, groundnut, castor, sugarcane, mango, lime, Tamarind. Blacksmiths, barbers, carpenters, potters, toddy-tappers, sweepers, and leatherworkers are among the Other crafts in Yetigadda Kistapur. Most commonly men wear Dhothi, Lungi and Pancha and women wear Saree, Salwar as traditional clothing. Telugu is the main language in Yetigadda Kistapur used for communicating in the Village. Yetigadda Kistapur is known for its natural liveliness with greenery and natural peace. Yeti Gadda Kistapur is easily accessed by road from Siddipet and Gajwel Towns, APSRTC is running buses from Siddipet to Yetigadda Kistapur. The nearest Railway Station to Yetigadda Kistapur is Tupran and the nearest Airport is Rajiv Gandhi International Airport – Hyderabad. Gajwel and Siddipet are nearby Cities and Towns from Yeti Gadda Kistapur Village. The tourist attractions of the area are: Yetigadda Kistapur Hanuman Temple, Venksteshwara Swamy Temple, Gatti Gutta Fort, Kudavelly Creek, KotiLingala Temple.

As said earlier, Yetigadda Kistapur is submerged under Mallanna Sagar. The speciality of the village is, out of total population of 2800 except 40 families, all others have the agricultural land. The speciality of agriculture of this village is at least two crops are grown in a year as it is a fertile land having irrigation either with wells or mostly with bore wells. Except 10 land lords with above 10 acres of land all are marginal, small or medium farmers.

A. Process of Land acquisition

Process of land acquisition was started during the month of December, 2015 and it was almost completed by May, 2016. It was started with a Notification by Government, accordance with the notification, Revenue officials called the farmers, offered cheques accordance with the GO 123 which was issued by availing the provision in the central act ,2013 (Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (LARR),2013) which was in force since 1st January,2014.

B. Rehabilitation process

Rehabilitation process was not yet started (by January 31st, 2017).

C. Agony, Agitation and Suicides

As the news spread regarding submergence of the village, mental agony was started among the people of the village and it reached the saturation when revenue officials called the farmers to offer the cheques in lieu of their lands. Slowly it was developed in to the agitation mode and got attracted by civil organizations and political parties. On 26th January, 2017 a farmer namely Chatlapally Ramulu of Tirumalgiri village under Yetigadda Kistapur Grampanchayat, aged 56 years, who got Rs. 2.36 lakh for his 17 guntas (0.17 acres) lost his life. As per his family members, wife Laxmi, 51 years and son Ch.Venkatesh, 21 years, Ramulu has killed himself by taking poison as he was unable to bear the agony of leaving land and his newly constructed residential house.

VII. WHAT WAS WRONG IN THE PROCESS

What was wrong in the Process: Agony is natural when one has to leave his home, land, belongings and finally his village forever. But, Yetigadda Kistapur study reveals some special reasons for agony, agitation and farmer suicide along with the natural phenomena.

A. Fertile land with at least two crops a year

Agricultural land around the village is very fertile one. Farmers here grow at least two crops a year with own water facility with bore wells. That is the reason; the 2013 Central Act specially regulates the multi-crop irrigated land in the process of acquisition. And 2013 Act also calls for the social impact study before the acquisition is made. This was not done in Yetigadda Kistapur.

B. No organization for effected people

The Draft National Policy for Rehabilitation of Persons Displaced as a Consequence of Acquisition of Land (Ministry of Rural Development, 1996) calls for an organization for displaced persons representing all sections of people. An implementation group consisting of Representatives of Management, Displaced Persons, Local Administration, Voluntary Action Groups, etc., should be formed, says the National Policy Draft. This action is missing in the process at Yetigadda Kistapur. Neither the Organization nor the Implementation Group with effected was formed in Yetigadda Kistapur.

C. No meeting with effected people in Yetigadda Kistapur by Government Representatives

A meeting was organized with public representatives and some youth of the village at Siddipet (now district head quarter) but not in the village. Even a single meeting with all effected people was conducted neither before nor during the land acquisition process by any representative of the Government.

D. No written assurance

In a meeting held at Siddipet, then, Honorable Minister for Irrigation has given oral assurances for compensation, re-construction and rehabilitation of effected people. No written assurances were given either to the people or to the village heads. If oral assurances in a meeting held for the purpose by concerned Minister if at all recorded, that was neither shown nor given to effected people of Yetigadda Kistapur.

VIII. FINDINGS

- Process of land acquisition was started with a Notification by Government accordance with the GO 123 which was issued by availing the provision in the central act ,2013 (Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (LARR),2013) which was in force since 1st January,2014.
- No social impact study before the acquisition is made.
- The land in Yetigadda Kistapur is fertile land with at least two crops a year which demands special regulation while acquisition.
- No organization for effected people was formed to involve the all sections of village people in process
- No meeting with effected people in Yetigadda Kistapur was held by Government Representatives to explain and convince the people for the process.
- No written assurance was given either to village head or to villagers regarding re-construction and rehabilitation process.

IX. CONCLUSION

Due to the paucity in following procedure in the process of land acquisition and rehabilitation, the agony of people of Yetigadda Kistapur was increased this changed in to agitation and led to a farmer suicide in Tirumalgiri village under Yetigadda Kistapur Gram Panchayat. It would not had been the case, If, 'The Draft National Policy for Rehabilitation

of Persons Displaced as a Consequence of Acquisition of Land, 1996’ and ‘Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (LARR),2013’ were followed strictly in the process of land acquisition.

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