

ABSTRACT

Dams created to generate electricity for growing industrial activities and water for agriculture have displaced large number of people from their source of livelihood and socio-cultural milieu. Amongst all developmental projects, dam causes the largest physical dislocation, submerging vast quantities of land and also impoverishes people to a large extent. Many rehabilitation packages were implemented to recoup the standard of living of oustees. However, most of the rehabilitation packages prepared to resettle oustees have created more problems for the displaced people than the economic benefit accrued to them. It's because, there was total lack of people's involvement and participation in the resettlement policy. At no stage oustees were taken into confidence when policies for their resettlement were formulated. The present study attempts to find out the socio- economic problems faced by the oustees in the resettlement areas. It also attempts to measure development of oustees by using Human Development Index. It also compares the HDI indicators within the sampled villages. It computes to rank the villages with regard to the HDI value. The result of the study shows that after displacement the oustees faced various socio- economic problems. Their socio- economic conditions have deteriorated. It is not only a matter of loss of source of livelihood but it has made them lifeless in resettlement areas. The result further shows that the Human Development Index of the oustees is quite low with respect to the people of Orissa and India with regard to the indices of human development index. None of the villages qualifies to fall under the category of medium or high human development.

Keywords: Rehabilitation, Displacement, Rehabilitation packages, Human development index, Ousteas