



## ROLE OF WOMEN IN ANTI TISCO MOVEMENT OF GOPALPUR OF ODISHA, GANJAM DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

Development Induced Displacement is a subject of much debate around the world. In India the development projects starting from construction of Dams, Industrial units, mining's etc. Displacement due to these projects are numerous and vast. People have left their houses and hearth. They have lost their source of livelihood such as agricultural land, fishing sources and other earning properties like, Common properties recourses (CPR). Women have comforted a lot many problems due to displacement. Displacement for men and women are different. Loosing a home may be a simpler issue for men but it is a survival and an issue of shame for women. Without a house men can stay outside and may be in the camp without any basic facility. But women can't stay like that even for few days. They may be vulnerable in various ways. Children including girls may face dangerous situations. They are study and school used to disrupt frequently. Many times the practices say that Resettlement and Rehabilitation colony are usually placed on a barren land away from peoples habitat and they don't get fertile cultivate land as compensation. Generally cash is given in the name of elderly male persons of the family. Cultural land social aspects are not taken care by the government.

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### INTRODUCTION

Development induced displacement on account of the "Development Project", a large number of people get physically displaced, losing their home and land and shuttering their culture and kinship linkages, which have been built over several centuries and generations. Although it is the key responsibility the Government or private sector undertaking implementing the project to ensure that at least the former standard of living of the displaced persons is restored at the minimum, but the researches have revealed that the displaced persons often have been marginalized and slipped below the threshold of poverty. Displacement brings certain adverse effects and risk, which are economic, social and communal implications. Again the women in the villages, the most vulnerable section of the society are the worst victims due to displacement. Development-induced displacement in the country has brought severe economic, social and environmental problems to the displaced people. Magnitude of people displaced and severity of the problems due to

multipurpose dam projects is low high as compared to other project in the country. The experience of post-independence period from project across the country suggests that the long drawn out process of displacement has caused widespread traumatic psychological and social cultural consequences. These include the dismantling of traditional production systems, desecration of ancestral sacred zones, graves and places of worship, scattering of kinship groups, disruptions of family system and informal social network (Kothari,1995) Michel M. Cernea (1997) has developed the 'risk and reconstruction model', which has already been tested to be applicable to the development-induced displacement situation in the Country. The model is built around a core concept: the risks of impoverishment. The eight-impoverishment risks are land lessness, joblessness, homelessness, marginalization, food insecurity, increased morbidity and mortality, loss of access to common property and social disarticulation.

### Displacement in Orissa: A statistical Picture

In Orissa alone various development projects like mining, industrial, power and dams have resulted in displacement of

81, 176 families from 1,446 villages following the acquisition of 6,22,463.94 hectares of land between 1950 and 1993. Nearly 80% of them have been displaced due to irrigation and hydropower projects (Pandey, 1998). However, the official figures have grossly underestimated the magnitude displacement. During the period, 1950-1985, 15 million people were displaced and in 1996, 21.6 million people were displaced in India mainly for dams, canal, and mining. The above table explains the types of displacement and the number of displaced person by 1996 in India. Development of civilization depends on constant development of human and non-human resources, ecological imbalances, environmental pollution, decay in human values physical and emotional traumas suffered by mankind are some of the glaring examples of displacement caused by development. Displacement, since post independence period such examples are many more, beginning from the 1980s Bharat Aluminium Company of Sambalpur district up to Gopalpur Tata Project of Ganjam district. In the same decade towards 1985 people of Baliapal of Balasore district were displaced for missile test range project. The proposed project was displacing the poor people of the area. The so-called development and displacement have become to side of the same coin and more over the former has become the cause for the latter. The missile test range project at Baliapal aimed at proliferating the defense market of the country at the cost of displacement of thousands of people from their lives and livelihood.

In the decade 1990 violent Chilika movement of Puri district became a national issue in the decade. Many villages protested the entry of Tata to, Chilika for prawn culture. The movement was successful from one point of view that Tata company was removed from this scenario. In 1993, displacement of rural poor people of started in Kashipur. International capital started tricking to Kashipur and excavated mines without any consultation with son or daughter of the soil. The people claimed so, as they were the primitive inhabitants of those jungles and hills. This so called development project not only injured them but also became vulnerable to their survival. Here is a case of installation of globalize economy were national boundaries are becoming porous by giving a state sanction. Public policies are increasingly shaped to accord external interests (external to peoples interests). The state has given a freehand to start various projects like "Utkal Alumina, "Aditya Birla" and "L & T" projects in the tribal hinterland of kashipur are in Rayagada district. In this study, we are discussing some initiations of globalization process and its impact in the country side of Orissa. It is evident from its manifestation in various forms at Chilika, Gopalpur, Kashipur and Phulbani, where people have rejected the so-called development project. No doubt these symbolize the growing tensions are repressions that women face They have realized that the proposed development project were not going to benefit the poor people of the area. Rather it has started displacing and disowning them. Out of this project, some projects have been completed and some are on going. Near about more than 4.5 lakhs people have been displaced so far losing their home, health and traditional culture and kinship (bondage) over generation to generation.

### Development Induced Displacement

Development Induced Displacement is not the recent phenomena in India. Displacement has alienated the resources from the community or family. In many cases with out any

compensation and rehabilitation, people were losing their native lands. Majority of displaced people not only lose their homes, their land, and their source of livelihood but also they have lost their social and economical status. The majority of displaced people have not yet been rehabilitated. Since 1996, 75% displaced people were awaiting for rehabilitation. At Chilika, Gopalpur, Kashipur and Phulbani, where people have rejected the so called development projects. Above table No. 3 reveals that in Orissa (by 1996), as many as 75% of people were displaced only for Dam project, 11.5% for industry, 5.3% for mines, .1% for urban development, 2.6% for thermal power installation and 0.15% fir sanctuaries. People lost their own identity and family occupation due to the developmental projects. Different kinds of development project were the factors behind the marginalization of displaced population of the state of Orissa. Mostly they were for dams, industries and mining projects etc., as evident from table 1.3.

### Displacement scenario in Gopalpur

To make a frame work of the displaced persons and their loss due to steel plant Project of Tata; We have to link it to environment and livelihood issues, a large number of persons have been forced to leave their source of livelihood or their access to the biomass resources on which they depended for generations. A total number of 2083 families comprising 10661 inhabitants in seven villages were estimated to be affected because of the steel plant complex at Gopalpur. The persons who were uprooted and shifted to another place had to undergo the entire process of re-socialization and adjustment in an unfamiliar environment.

The affected villages which were under the TATA Steel Plant Project covered Badapur, Badaputti, Kalipalli,, Laxmipur, Paikapada, Sindhigaon and Sri Ramachandrapur. Only the vacant land areas were affected in four other villages in the plant site such as Basanaputti, Chamakhandi, Jagannathpur, Manasurkota two n the resettlement site. Luhajhara, Sitaplli and two in the township as Aurapalli, Dura were being acquired without displacing people from their household. The details statistical figure of families and total number of population have been given below in the table No.4. The people of Badapur, S.Paikapada, Sindhigaon, have been tatally dsplacd for TATA Project. But since March 2001, only some people of Kalipalli village have been shifted. Due to smallness in size. Patrapur was included under Sindhigaon.

### Affected Land

For the settlement of steel plant project, both government and private land were affected. But more land that is private was acquired for the project than government land. Out of the total acres of land area there were eleven villages, which were highly affected by the project. The details of land area being acquired of the steel plant project are as follows:

### Demographic Details

A large number of people were affected due to displacement. The inhabitants displaced from the plant area comprised various categories of people. This mainly included cultivators, agricultural labor and marginal workers. A part from them many were jobless, hopeless, and helpless people. The demographic details of particular villages where in the land area were being acquired are presented in Table 2 and Table 6.

**Table 1. Displacement in the Indian Context**

Different Sectors of Displacement	No. of Displaced People	% of Displacement in each Sector	% of Tribal Displaced People
Mining	2,5,0000	11.97	About 40
Industry	12,5000	5.87	60
Dams	16400000	76.99	35
Sanctuaries	6,00000	2.82	90
Others	5,00000	2.35	30
Total	2130000	100.00	40 (about)

Source: Gender in Displacement Indian Context A.B. Ota, 1996

**Table-2. Development Projects in Orissa (1950-1993)**

Sl.No.	Types of Project	No. of Villages Displaced/ Affected	No.of Families Displaced/ Affected	Total Land Acquired (in Hect.)
1.	Mines	79	3143	2427.03
2.	Industries	113	10703	21963.00
3.	Thermal Power	73	2426	3155.31
4.	Irrigation and Hydel Power (dames)	1181	64903	595918.60
	Total	1446	81176	622463.94

(Source: Development Induced Displacement)

**Table 3. Development Projects and Displacement Scenario in Orissa (1950-1996)**

Category projects	No. of families affected	% of total Displacement	% of tribal displaced people
Mines	5000 (Apprx.)	5.37	40
Industries	10704	11.5	60
Dam Projects	70,000	75.22	35
Thermal Power	2426	2.6	2.5
Wild life sanctuaries	142	0.15	90
Urban Slums	4792	5.15	20
Total	93064	100.00	40

Source : Gender in Displacement India Context A.B. Ota. 1996.

**Table 4. Details of Displaced families and Persons**

Villages	No.of families	No.of persons
Bapur	181	1200
Badapautti	343	1491
Kalipalli	283	1212
Laxmipur	63	267
Paikapada	257	983
Sindhigam	384	1907
Sri Ramchandrapur	572	3601
Total	2083	10661

Source: Project Report of TATA, 1996

**Table 5. Details of Land Area acquired for Steel Plant Project**

Villages	Land Area (Acres)		
	Private Land	Government Land	Total
I. Project Site			
Badapur	398.211	84.879	343.090
Badaputti	319.647	254.316	573.963
Basanaputti	189.812	49.375	236.187
Chamakhandi	377.793	58.553	436.346
Jagannathpur	36.443	80.896	397.339
Kalipalli	211.958	46.127	258.085
Laxmipur	116.873	38.725	55.598
Mansurkota	413.222	158.156	71.378
Paikapada	769.628	147.235	916.863
Sindhigoan	434.398	153.175	587.5736
Sri ramchandrapur	881.695	148.668	1030.363
Total	4429.68	1220.105	5549.785*
II. Resettlement Site			
Luhajhar	284.118	18.577	302.695
Sitalapalli	253.770	19.287	273.07
Total	537.888	37.864	575.752
III. Township Site			
Aruapalli	379.673	70.287	449.96
Dura	482.977	12.945	495.922
Total**	978.309	141.761	1120.070*

Source: Resettlement, Rehabilitation at Gopalpur Tata Project, 1996

\*Out of the total area, only 5000 acres for plant site and 1000 acres for the township will be acquired after completion of all surveys.

\*\*Includes 115.669 acres of private land and 8.529 acres of Government land from the erstwhile village Ankuli, which has not been merged with Berhampur town

Table-6. Demographic of the villages affected due to Displacement

Villages	Area (Ha)	House Holds	Population								Total Workers		
			Total			Scheduled Caste		Scheduled Tribe		Literate		M	F
			T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Badapur	200.15	165	881	434	447	139	141	-	-	262	114	212	37
Badaputti	392.34	283	1491	774	717	42	44	-	-	264	89	386	120
Kalipalli	104.19	237	1212	579	633	49	65	-	-	246	135	319	36
Laxmipur	62.97	52	267	117	150	29	40	-	-	42	31	60	49
Paikapada	371.87	223	983	438	545	166	215	-	-	122	37	226	117
Sindhigaon	240.420	408	1907	893	1014	166	205	-	-	470	214	482	394
Sri Ram Chandrapur	1005.71	741	3601	1745	1856	941	934	-	-	868	174	986	264

Villages	Cultivator		Agricultural Laborers		Livestock		Mining and Quarrying		Manufacturing and processing in			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	household industry and allied activities		Other than household industry	
									M	F	M	F
Badapur	60	0	113	36	3	0	0	0	12	0	0	0
Badaputti	261	44	72	66	14	0	0	0	4	1	12	0
Kalipalli	214	14	89	19	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Laxmipur	40	4	12	39	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Paikapada	18	89	89	23	4	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
Sindhigaon	172	118	140	233	11	0	0	0	0	0	13	2
SriRam Chandrapur	551	27	208	190	56	21	0	0	16	0	36	10

Villages	Construction Workers		Trade Commerce Workers		Transport Storage & Communication Workers		Other Services		Marginal Workers		Non Workers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Badaputti	0	0	8	6	1	0	14	3	3	32	385	656
Kalipalli	0	0	4	1	3	0	6	2	28	339	232	258
Laxmipur	0	0	3	1	0	0	3	5	0	27	57	74
Paikapada	0	0	3	2	1	0	8	2	21	223	191	205
Sindhigaon	9	2	37	10	39	0	61	2	18	65	393	555
SriRam Chandrapur	3	0	65	9	11	0	40	7	12	479	747	1113

Table 7. Demographic Details of the village Located near the Project Site

Villages	Area	House holds	Population								Total Workers		
			Total			Scheduled Caste		Scheduled Tribe		Literate		M	F
			T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Badaputi	387.34	108	467	231	236	36	36	-	-	92	34	125	96
Chamakhandi	587.51	377	1846	909	937	205	203	-	-	456	126	439	189
Jagannathpur	317.6	156	798	390	408	76	80	3	1	193	95	176	12
Mansurkota	396.59	100	439	216	223	167	174	2	3	99	27	135	136

Village	Cultivator		Agricultural Laborers		Livestock Forestry Fishing etc.		Mining and Quarrying		Manufacturing and Processing in			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	House hold industry & Allied activities		Other than household Industry	
									M	F	M	F
Basanaputi	56	43	43	42	1	1	0	0	6	1	3	1
Chamakhandi	288	0	65	184	1	0	0	0	7	0	10	0
Jagannathpur	125	1	10	11	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
Mansurkota	25	3	90	131	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	0

Villages	Construction Workers		Trade & Commerce Workers		Transport Storages & Communication Workers		Other Services		Marginal Workers		Non Workers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Chamakhandi	0	0	27	2	9	0	32	3	19	225	451	523
Jagannathpur	0	0	15	0	11	0	10	0	0	8	206	207
Mansurkota	0	0	1	0	1	0	11	2	0	0	81	87

The information about the village and land is presented here to give a background picture. The observation of the demographic details give from the above table the idea that the village Badapur was having 220.15 hectares of area containing 165 households. The total population was 881 in which 434 were male and 447 were female. Total 280 people were belonging to SC category and the literacy rate was near about 43%.

### Voices of Displaced Women of Gopalpur

I have conducted interviews and consultations with displaced/affected persons covering the TISCO Projects to elicit their grievances in the post rehabilitation situation. The consultations/ conducted in Luhajhar colony reflect the development induced displacement and its impact on women as follows.

**Table 8. Demographic Detail of the Villages Near the Rehabilitation Site**

Villages	Area	House hold	Population									Total Workers	
			Total			Scheduled Tribe		Scheduled Tribe		Literate		M	F
			T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Luhajhar	135.17	147	147	76	71	39	36	-	-	35	9	42	-
Sitalapali	288.54	1382	1382	699	683	125	99	-	-	317	118	345	34

  

Villages	Cultivator		Agricultural Labourers		Livestock Forestry Fishing etc.		Mining and Quarrying		Manufacturing and Processing in				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	House hold Industry & Allied activities		Other than house hold Industry		
									M	F	M	F	
Luhajhar	35	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sitapalli	231	12	61	18	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	7	0

  

Villages	Constructin Workers		Trade & Commerce Workers		Transport Storages & Communication Workers.		Other Services		Marginal Workers		Non Workers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Luhajhar	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	34	71
Sitapalli	0	0	13	2	1	0	29	1	20	242	334	407

**Table 9. Demographic Detail of the Villages Near the Rehabilitation Site**

Villages	Area	House hold	Population									Total Workers	
			Total			Scheduled Tribe		Scheduled Tribe		Literate		M	F
			T	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Arunapalli	274.78	151	861	426	435	101	91	-	-	185	97	229	108
Dura	662.88	618	31110	1562	1548	275	268	-	-	1070	639	786	136

  

Villages	Cultivator		Agricultural Laborers		Livestock Forestry Fishing etc.		Mining and Quarrying		Manufacturing and Processing in				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	House hold Industry & Allied activities		Other than house hold Industry		
									M	F	M	F	
Arunapalli	35	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dura	247	59	103	52	17	1	0	0	34	2	14	0	0

  

Villages	Construction Workers		Trade & Commerce Workers		Transport Storages & Communication Workers.		Other Services		Marginal Workers		Non Workers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Arunapalli	18	0	5	0	1	0	45	2	0	0	197	327
Dura	33	0	78	12	35	0	207	9	42	97	752	1315

Source: Primary Census Abstract 1991.

### Loss of Livelihood

There has been a major shift in the occupations of displaced person (DPS) after displacement. DPS have completely lost their previous occupations such as cultivation, coconut, mango grooves, kewda, cashew plantation and caste based occupations, livestock rearing etc. Since the project failed to provide agricultural land to the resettles could not purchase agricultural land due to unavailability of land nearer to the colony. High cost land in the locality and lack of adequate cash as compensation and rehabilitation assistance being spent to meet their survival needs and other purposes during the long gap between payment of compensation and actual resettlement. Backward communities live scheduled castes and scheduled tribes find difficulties in making a living. Due to insufficiency and irregularity of wage labour in the resettlement site, seasonal migration to different places in search of livelihood has been a common practice for most of the resettles.

### Common Property Resources (C.P.R)

When people were displaced from their native villager of Gopalpur, they had to loose some of their rights over Common Property Resources (C.P.R.). Such as; the vast water land of Rusikulya.

This river was providing than water for cultivation, drinking and multipurpose uses. This place of rehabilitation colony, they are sifted from the bank of Rusikulya and thus were deprived or all the above water uses. They are not compensated with land. Other C.P.R. were of kewara flower, cashew, coconut. People have become total landless, agriculture land was providing them the work and also the landless were engaged as agriculture laborers. Now in this Luhajhar colony question of cultivation doesn't arise. Those who were depending on cultivation, now they have no work to do. At best they are going for wage labour to far off places. For women it is not possible to search for a new work at a different place other than their native land. For women also to get fire hood has become another problem. The first and most important of all for the displaced women have in that they have lost their power they have enjoyed in the pre-displacement period. This is because; their role as productive workers in the economic sphere in eliminated by destroying the productive activities in which the rural women used to engage themselves.

### Unsafe R/R Colony

For women this rehabilitation at Luhajhar is not safe as that of their own villagers in Gopalpur. Before displacement women

and girls were moving freely in their native villages and could go to fetch work for their livelihood; After displacement the scenario has completely changed. The sense of community life has vanished. Mostly girls of women are confined to their own a caged life houses. Such as community festival, gettogetherness etc. Policy has failed to substitute their cultural loss. Because the houses and land of one village is shattered and intermingled with another, the primitive concept of "Kothaghar", has whethe. The "Kula Pancha" (Caste Panchayat) has lost its power and existence. After compensation money went to the hands of males and they purchased vehicles, consumer goods and addicted to liquor. Money was distributed among brothers. So money could not be utilized for any productive purpose. The displacement is always a sordid affair. Responded, men and women wept and expressed their pathos in tears and chocking voices. They narrated their violent struggle with Tata Company and the state, out of these 25 project villagers. The people who were engaged in some type of jobs outside the village, they left their native land easily. They left the path of struggle and quickly agreed to resettlement. But the people who were having small and fertile landed property in Gopalpur did not wish to leave their land. Because they knew they have to disown their agricultural land, which they would never get in the (R.R) colony. Thus the people mostly women fought a serious continuous movement against the company people and the Government.

People of five villages still existing there and did not succumbed to the displacement.

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