PREFACE

Power generation is high on agenda of Government of India. It has established on its own & provided environment to cause establishment of power projects through other agencies so as to accelerate the development of the country. Keeping this objective in mind the Central Govt. as well as the State Govt. of Himachal Pradesh has given impetus on establishment of the power projects in the State and since the State has vast hydro power potential hence, the establishment of large number of hydro power generation projects in the State.

A hydropower project leads to involuntary displacement of local habitants & hence, the issues of resettlement & rehabilitation of those affected because of establishment of the project. The present study is an attempt to analyze the effect of the hydropower projects on socio-economic life of the people of the Himachal Pradesh.

The study is divided into four (4) main chapters followed by Annexure(s) and Bibliography.

Chapter-1 contains introduction about the energy and an introduction to the hydropower generation. The data on hydropower generation in the State has been summarized along with a brief depiction of the various hydropower projects running/under execution/planned. It gives details about the electricity position/generation from the year 1948 to present and also the efforts of to harness the maximum generation of electricity, in the Himachal Pradesh by the State Govt., Joint Sector and private sector. National Resettlement and Rehabilitation
Policy, 2007 has been elaborated along with the salient features of National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy, 2003 and comparison amongst the former and the latter regarding key benefits which are envisaged to be extended, at the minimum, to the project affected people / families has been made. Important policy provisions of National Water Policy, National Hydro Policy & The H.P. State Hydro Power Policy have also been presented.

Chapters II deals with the Review of Literature on the subject, need of the study, objectives / hypothesis of the study followed by the scope of the study. Methodology of the study used has been elaborated in detail. In present study we have used primary as well as secondary data. The primary data has been collected with the help of well designed questionnaire administered to the sampled respondents from the project affected families in all the four projects viz. Kol Dam, Larji Hydro power project, Malana-I & Malana-II.

Chapter III presents the representation of the responses of the survey and its tabulation with graphical representation i.e. the primary data generated from the respondent of the projects on the basis of the sample survey and also provides an empirical analysis of the Impact of Hydro Power Projects on the Socio-Economic Life of the project affected area. The hypothesis testing has also been carried out.

Chapter-IV deals with the results of the analysis i.e. conclusions; recommendation(s) and suggestions(s) are made on the basis of the analysis, observations and with reference to the ambitious policies in place.
The study will be helpful to all the stakeholders including general public where new hydro power plants are planned to be established. The present study will always be acknowledged by all those who are affected by the establishment of these hydro power plants in Himachal Pradesh. It is a matter of common knowledge that the establishment of hydro power plant at any place leaves sweet & sour memories to the local habitants. The present study will also be advantageous to all execution agencies which are engaged in the establishing hydropower plants in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(Rajiv Sindhu)