Chapter 3

SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT: THE PLANNERS’ PERSPECTIVE

Indian planners have always seen large dams playing a very important role in the country’s overall development. These dams provide irrigation, electricity, industrial as well as drinking water and work as flood control measures. The main rationale behind storing water in large reservoirs is to make it available throughout the year.

In India, rainfall is both erratic and unevenly distributed. Even during monsoon some areas do not get rain. Monsoon itself is also not a very dependable source of water because of its erratic occurrence. Besides there are deserts and drought prone areas which have no other source of water except ground water, which is also very scanty. So water stored in reservoirs can be taken to the needy areas for the purpose of irrigation and domestic use.

Hydro electric power is a renewable and pollution free source of energy. Though our installed generating capacity has gone up from 1362 MW, at the time of independence to 63,000 MW, at the end of the seventh five year plan, yet in terms of per capita consumption of electricity, India is far behind the most of the developed countries. Hydro-electric projects are absolutely necessary to meet the requirements.
All irrigation projects, hydro-electric projects and multiple purpose projects function by storing the river water in larger reservoirs. This water unless and until, it, is stored, runs off to the sea and goes waste.

Impoundment of water in large scales gives rise to certain problems:
1. Displacement of population
2. Submergence of forests
3. Water logging and salination
4. Siltation
5. Possibility of earth quake

But these problems, the planners contend, can be tackled by taking adequate environmental and human safeguard measures. The displaced people can be provided with adequate compensation and can be resettled and rehabilitated properly. Loss of forests can be covered by compensatory afforestation. Even without reservoirs there is loss of forests because of its unsustainable use by the forest dwellers. Water logging can be avoided by checking over irrigation; supplying water in limited quantities, so that it can be used economically; making conjunctive use of surface and ground water; prohibiting water intensive crops in certain areas which are considered ‘sensitive’. Siltation
can be checked by adequate soil conservation methods and earthquakes can be avoided by not constructing the dams on faulty zones and by designing the dam in such a way that it can withstand the seismic forces.

Compared to the benefits derived from large dams, their costs are negligible. The argument that small dams can work as substitutes for large dams is irrelevant. Small dams can at best work as supplementary projects, but they can never be the alternatives to the big dams.

India has a history of large dams that includes such multipurpose projects like Tungabhadra, Damodar, Bhakra-Nangal and Hirakud which have brought immense prosperity to the people. But the Narmada valley Project—one of the largest river valley Projects in the world and the largest in India—is the most ambitious projects ever planned. Sardar Sarovar Project: The Life-line of Gujarat

The planners have justified the sardar sarovar project as the lifeline of Gujarat. The regions of Kachch, Saurashtra and north Gujarat, are the lands of frequent drought. In these areas the rainfall is low and uncertain. Moreover the surface and ground water in the coastal areas is also saline.
This water scarcity forces the people and the cattle to migrate to south Gujarat during droughts. The government has to spend crores of rupees in supplying water to these areas through tankers. The government has tried all possible means to deal, with the problem of water scarcity in these areas. Only the Narmada water by providing irrigation and drinking water to these areas, can bring relief to the people.

**Major Benefits from the Sardar Sarovar Project**

**Irrigation**

Sardar Sarovar Project is designed to provide irrigation to 1.8 million ha. of land spread over 12 districts in Gujarat and 75,000 ha. in the two districts of Jalore and Barmer in Rajasthan. Out of Gujarat’s share of 9 MAF of the Narmada water 7.94 MAF will be utilised for the purpose of irrigation. 75% of the area to be irrigated by the Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat is drought prone.
### Table: 5

Area Planned to be Irrigated by the Sardar Sarover Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Agricultural area ('000 ha)</th>
<th>Area under SSP ('000 ha)</th>
<th>% of Agricultural area under SSP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bharuch</td>
<td>507.8</td>
<td>97.95</td>
<td>19.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baroda</td>
<td>593.0</td>
<td>340.15</td>
<td>57.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kheda</td>
<td>536.1</td>
<td>116.01</td>
<td>21.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gandhinagar</td>
<td>51.9</td>
<td>10.65</td>
<td>20.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmedabad</td>
<td>676.2</td>
<td>331.27</td>
<td>48.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panchmahal</td>
<td>547.8</td>
<td>9.68</td>
<td>1.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mehsana</td>
<td>753.3</td>
<td>150.19</td>
<td>19.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baraskantha</td>
<td>925.6</td>
<td>313.89</td>
<td>33.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surendranagar</td>
<td>782.5</td>
<td>303.73</td>
<td>38.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhavnagar</td>
<td>703.1</td>
<td>48.27</td>
<td>6.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajkot</td>
<td>810.0</td>
<td>34.12</td>
<td>4.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kutch</td>
<td>2363.1</td>
<td>37.85</td>
<td>1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9250.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>1793.85</strong></td>
<td><strong>19.39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Agro Climatic Zones**

Unlike the earlier irrigation projects, whose command areas are treated like homogenous entities and as such are
provided with a uniform pattern of irrigation, the command area of the Sardar Sarovar Project is classified into 13 agro climatic zones, taking into consideration the level of rainfall, the soil variety, the ground water availability and the climatic factors. This is done to achieve the maximum utilization of the Sardar Sarovar Water. Each region will get a limited quantity of water, depending on its requirement for each agricultural season. The conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water is also ensured. The Command area of the Sardar Sarovar Project witnesses a low and uncertain rainfall. Hence the supply of the Narmada water through the Sardar Sarovar Project for irrigation purposes, the planners contend, is a necessity rather than luxury. The schemes of watershed development can be a part of the irrigation planning of the area, but they can not constitute an alternative to the Sardar Sarovar Project.

**Drinking Water**

A major benefit from the Sardar Sarovar Project comes in the form of drinking water provision for a large number of villages and urban centres. The original proposal of the government of Gujarat, submitted before the NWDT contained a provision for providing industrial and municipal water to Ahmedabad and other towns and cities. From its share of 9 MAF water from the Narmada, 1.06 MAF was allocated for the
above purpose. Since the NWDT has allowed the state
governments to use the allocated water according to their
own choice, the government of Gujarat has decided to use
0.853 MAF water out of 1.06 MAF set aside for industrial and
municipal use, for drinking water purpose and the balance
will be utilized for the industrial and municipal processes.
8215 villages and 135 urban centres will get drinking water
benefit from the Sardar Sarovar Project.

Table: 6
Area to Get Drinking Water Benefit from the
Sardar Sarovar Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Urban Centres</th>
<th>Villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Saurashtra</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>4,877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kachch</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Banaskantha</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mehsana</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sabarkantha</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ahmedabad</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Panchmahal</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>135</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,215</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NCA: 1993: 3.
While planning the supply of drinking water, certain important decisions were taken:

- All the villages and urban centres of Saurashtra and Kachch will get drinking water from the Sardar Sarovar Project.

- The no source and inadequate source villages of north Gujarat and Panchmahal districts will be considered for water requirement of rural areas.

- Domestic water requirement of all the villages and urban centres coming within the command area of Sardar Sarovar Project up to Mahi, will be met from the ground water and local sources.

- Villages, within the command area of Sardar Sarovar Project, will get water for domestic consumption from ground water recharge and villages tank recharge.

- Villages, which have ground water with high salinity and fluoride content, will receive water from the Sardar Sarovar Project.

- Water from all the existing sources will be utilized to the maximum, before the Narmada water is supplied for domestic consumption.

Power

In the western region where there is always a shortage of peaking power, the actual shortage might jump to 1900 MW at the end of the 8th five year plan and to 2300 MW at the
end of the 9th five year plan. Sardar Sarovar Project with
an installed capacity of 1450 MW will meet the requirements
of the western region. Moreover, the chief source of power
in this region is thermal, which needs to be replaced by
hydel power and this makes Sardar Sarovar Project even more
important and urgent.

Implementation of Environmental Safeguards Measures

Forests

The total forest area to be submerged by the Sardar
Sarovar Project is 37,000 ha. But a Narmada Control
Authority (NCA) publication states that "out of the 37,000
ha. land, that will be inundated by the project, only 13,386
ha. is legally classified as forest, but a substantial part
of this land is river bed basin and the balance supports
poor tree growth". The same publication further states that
"the government records show huge areas as forest cover, but
in reality it is only denuded or barren land".

Nevertheless, the following steps are being taken to
cover the loss of forests going to be submerged by the
project.

- 16,030 ha. of non-forest land and 28,827 ha. of
degraded forest land is being planted with new trees.
"Over and above this an area of 18,000 ha. of land all
along the main and branch canals is also being planted with trees".³ 

- 5738 ha. of land in sixteen villages in Kachch district is to be covered under compensatory afforestation. New trees are also being planted on the hills near the main dam site.

- Plantation of new trees as a part of the programme of soil and moisture conservation is also being done on an area of 1,76,000 ha. of forest land.

- The target is to plant 100 trees for every single tree coming under submergence.

- The plantation is done not only to restore the ecological balance but to balance the demand and supply of the area.

- Many public sector undertakings like Indian Petrochemicals, Gujarat State Fertilizers, etc are involved in the afforestation project and have been given the responsibility to plant new trees.

With all the above measures, the planners are confident that "the Sardar Sarovar Project will go down the history as a Project, which has given a definite impetus to the regeneration of our forest wealth".⁴

**Water logging and Salinity**

The accumulation of excess irrigation water results in
water logging and salinity. This happens when the entire command area of the Project gets uniform and liberal water supply, and there is no proper drainage system.

To avoid this problem the distribution and drainage system of the Sardar Sarovar Project command area meticulously designed.

The Project command area is classified into 13 agroclimatic zones. Each area has to get its share of surface water depending on the level of the rainfall, groundwater availability, nature of soil, crops grown and many other climatic factors. Thus there is no question of surface water accumulating on the field. In fact the amount of water supplied per unit area in the Sardar Sarovar Project command is the lowest compared to the other projects. This will motivate the farmers to use the surface water economically. The farmers will get water in proportion to their land holdings. If they choose to go for water intensive crops, they have to use water from other sources like well or reduce the areas of their crops under irrigation. Conjunctive use of ground water and surface water is also encouraged.

The Project will supply water on a volumetric basis, through a computerized system. The automatic computer monitor will regulate the discharge of water from the canal
down to 300 cusecs. This will check the canals from drawing more water than required.

Along with the distribution system the surface drainage system is also designed for all the agroclimatic zones:

- Region 1 and 8 being very good in surface topography and internal drainage, the surface drainage requirement in the form of minor drains for local patches will be sufficient for these regions.

- A large part of region 9 has similar conditions and requirements.

- For regions 2, 5 and 13 which are also good in surface and internal drainage, limited number of minor dams, remodelling of existing canals and ground water extraction for conjunctive use are planned.

- The above measures (applicable to regions 2, 5 and 13) with a limited use of moderately saline ground water have been planned for region 3, 6, 10, 11 and 12 which have relatively flat ground slope and have moderate internal drainage.

- For regions 4 and 7, together with bordering areas of 9, 10 and 12 which are relatively difficult for drainage, intensive drainage network is planned.

To sum up:

Ground water extraction, part mixing of saline water, improved water management and agricultural practices bleaching of surface salts by flooding
with surplus spill waters of Narmada, salinity resistant agriculture and continuous careful monitoring of the groundwater table and salinity status through observation wells and Piezometer etc. will constitute the multipronged strategy for tackling the problem areas.5

Earthquakes

Though the dam site is located on a fractured zone, the region in which the dam is situated has a low seismic activity and has witnessed low to medium tremors so far. However, utmost care is taken to avoid any reservoir induced seismicity.

As C.C Patel, Chairman Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited (SSNNL) states:

Instrumentation is being provided in the body of the dam at a cost of Rs. 3 crore and 9 seismotectonic stations are been established around the dam site, 4 on each side of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and one at Kevadia. These instruments will assist in monitoring the seismic activity around the dam as well as monitoring the health of the dam by measurements of temperature uplift pressure, stresses and strains and deflection occurring in the body of the dam. No more precautions are necessary.6

Protection of Wildlife

To protect the wild animals coming under submergence migratory corridors have been provided for their safe migration to the periphery.

The national park for the black buck at valvader, the wild ass sanctuary in the little Rann of Kachch and the
Nalsarover birds sanctuary are coming under the command are of the Sardar Sarovar Project. During drought, these sanctuaries suffer from water shortage. While water to valvadar national park and wild ass sanctuary is supplied with the help of tankers, the Nalsarover becomes so dry that the migratory birds change their destination. The Sardar Sarovar Project will provide water to the birds and animals throughout the year and will be a boon to the ecosystem of these sanctuaries.

As another step to safeguard the wildlife, the area of Shoolpaneswar sanctuary has been extended to the shores of the Project. Besides this, two sanctuaries one on each bank of the Narmada, in the forest areas of Madhya Pradesh and of Maharashtra are to be constructed. A new sanctuary for the endangered species of the great Indian bustard is also being formed in Kachchh.

Fisheries

Though the coastal fisheries adjacent to the mouth of the river will get affected, the reservoir fishing will prove beneficial. Shrimp farms can be opened in the command area, and the loss can be compensated.

Health

Most of the diseases encountered along the river bank
are due to bad sanitary conditions. The supply of fresh water will itself be a check on them. To control the water borne diseases like Malaria, the government has taken the necessary steps to strengthen the existing health centres and establish new centres.

**Plans to Protect the Ancient Monuments**

The plan to protect the ancient monuments coming under submergence, necessitates their relocation at a different place. In Gujarat, two temples - Shoolpaneshwar and Hamfeshwar are coming under submergence. According to the government soruces, "Shoolpaneswar has already been relocated and reconstructed near Gora, about 15 Kms. down stream from the present location and Hamfeshwar is being moved to a higher ground".7 In Madhya Pradesh, 12 monuments in Khargone, 20 monuments in Dhar and 2 in Jhabua districts are coming under submergence. Out of these, eleven monuments -- Shiva Temple - Roligaon, Kalenjeshwar Temple - Semalda, Shankar Temple - Barda, Jalaleshwar Temple - Khujawa, Rock-Cut-Caves - Khujawa, Bhawani Mata Mandir - Khujawa, Shiva Temple - Nagjheri, Ratneshwar Temple - Dharampuri, Ganesh Temple - Dharampuri, Venkat Bihari Temple - Dharampuri, Vilpankeshwar Mahadeo Temple - Dharampuri -- are to be shifted to a new site. The sculpturs are to be shifted to the Narmada Park to be constructed near Lalbagh palace in Indore.
Resettlement and Rehabilitation

When the NWDT award was passed in 1979, the resettlement and rehabilitation provisions it contained were thought of as the most liberal R&R package ever offered, to the people displaced by any development project. It offered to every family from which more than 25% of land had been acquired for the Project, land of equal size with a minimum of 2 ha. and maximum subject to the state ceiling. In addition to this, cash compensation for property acquired; house plots; rehabilitation grants; grant-is-aid and civic amenities were also to be provided to the displaced family. It gave the affected people of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra the option to settle in the command area of the Project in Gujarat. As per the award, the displaced people were to be resettled one year before the submergence.

It did not offer land to the people who were cultivating on the encroached government land for years. Thus the encroachers, a majority of whom are tribals, were treated as landless for the purpose of resettlement and were to be offered cash compensation and other facilities. Moreover, it did not contain any provision for resettlement of the people to be displaced in Gujarat.

Realising the shortcomings of the NWDT award, the three states have formulated their own resettlement and
rehabilitation policies. All these state policies nevertheless contain the progressive provisions of the NWDT award and are based on the principles and objectives laid down in the World Bank's 1985 credit and loan agreements:

The main objectives of the plan for Resettlement and Rehabilitation of the Oustees are to ensure that the Oustees shall, promptly after their displacement: (i) improve or at least regain the standard of living they were enjoying prior to their displacement; (ii) be relocated as village units, village sections or families in accordance with the Oustees' preference; (iii) be fully integrated in the community to which they are resettled and (iv) be provided with appropriate compensation and adequate social and physical rehabilitation infrastructure, including common services and facilities.8 (Italics in original)

Gujarat's new resettlement and rehabilitation policy is applicable to the oustees of Gujarat and those oustees from Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra who are willing to settle in Gujarat. As per the NWDT award, resettling the oustees of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, in its territory, is the responsibility of Gujarat and in case the oustees from these two states are not willing to come to Gujarat, Gujarat shall pay the costs of resettlement and rehabilitation to the concerned states.

The Provisions Contained in the NWDT Award

As per the award, an oustee is a "person who since at least one year prior to the date of publication of the
notification under Section 4 of the Act, has been ordinarily residing or cultivating land or carrying on any trade, occupation or calling or working for gain in the area likely to be submerged permanently or temporarily".9

Both Gujarat and Maharashtra follow the above definition of 'oustee', whereas Madhya Pradesh's policy of resettlement and rehabilitation, defines a displaced person as:

Any person who has been ordinarily residing or carrying on any trade or vocation for his livelihood for at least one year before the date of publication of notification under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act or has been cultivating land for at least three years before the date of such notification in an area which is likely to come under submergence whether temporary or permanent because of Project or is otherwise required for the Project.10

The NWDT award does not have any provision for the acquisition of the private land holdings that get isolated or physically cut due to submergence, whereas under the state policies such landholdings are to be acquired by the government and the owner be treated as 'oustee'.

According to the provision of the NWDT award each family is to be paid Rs.750 as resettlement grant. In addition to it the oustee families are to be paid grant-in-aid in the following manner.
Where total compensation is received
Above Rs.2000 Grant-in-aid Nil
Between Rs.2000 and Rs.5000 Rs.500 less an amount equal to one third of the compensation in excess of Rs.500.
Less than Rs.500 Rs.500.

Every oustee family has to be allocated a house plot (60’ x 90’) free of cost.

The civic amenities to be provided include one primary school (3’ rooms) for every 100 families; one panchayat ghar, one dispensary, one seed-store, one children’s park, one village pond for every 500 families; one drinking water well with trough and one tree platform for every 50 families.

The R&R Policies of the States

Maharashtra

Every landed oustee from whom land is acquired for the Sardar Sarovar Project, will be given land equivalent to that acquired with a minimum of 2 ha. and maximum fixed by the state ceiling. Joint holders of the land will also be given land equivalent to his share that is acquired with a
minimum of 2 ha. The state will provide irrigation facilities.

Encroachers, who encroached on or before 31-3-'78, will be given 2 ha. of land and compensation as ex-gratia payment for the balance land.

Landless oustees, the encroachers who encroached after 31-3-78, the major son and unmarried daughter of all the categories of oustees, will be given 1 ha. of land if they move with others to the relocation site.

Each oustee family will be given a plot of 500 sqms. free of charge. The landholders will be given Rs. 8,000 and the landless as Rs. 4,000 as house building advance. The state will provide free transportation to the oustees.

Each oustee family will be given Rs.15 per day for 25 days in a month for one year, as subsistence allowance and Rs. 750 with an increase of 8% per year with January 1980 as base year, as resettlement grant. Besides these, a grant-in-aid up to Rs. 500 as per NWDT award will also be given to each oustee family. Civic amenities to be provided to the people include: one primary school (3 rooms) for every 100 families; one panchayat ghar, one samaj mandir (cultural centre) one health dispensary, one seed store, one children’s park, and one village pond for every 500
families; one drinking water well with trough and one tree platform for every 50 families. Besides these, approach and internal roads, play ground for school (1 acre for primary school and 2 acres for secondary school), electricity supply, open gutters, public latrine, open space for collection of animals, grazing ground, threshing platform, open space for bazaar, cremation and burial ground, are also to be provided at the relocation site.

Other benefits include absorption of the oustees in the Project work; 50% reservation in ITI; 50% reservation for the children of the oustees in class III and IV in all government, semi-government and local organisations. Preference would be given to the Project-affected persons in public employment, which include setting minimum qualifications and age relaxation up to 3 years.

All the ongoing welfare schemes in the original settlement are to be implemented at the relocation site.

Gujarat

Each landed family from which land is acquired for the Sardar Sarovar Project, will be given land equivalent to that acquired with a minimum of 2 ha. and maximum fixed by the state ceiling. Joint holders of the land will also be given land equivalent to their share, with a minimum of 2 ha.
Encroachers, who encroached one year prior to the notification under section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, will be given 2 ha of land and compensation as ex-gratia payment for the balance land. Landless agricultural labourer, major sons of all the categories of oustees, joint holders and encroachers are entitled to get 2 ha of agricultural land.

All oustee families and their major sons will be given a residential plot of 500 sqms free of charge.

The amount of compensation, payable to the oustees for their lands is to be calculated on the basis of the current market value of land of equivalent size, location and quality.

If the oustee, from whom land is acquired for the Sardar Sarovar Project agrees to accept the government land, 50% of the compensation amount payable to him, will be set off as the first instalment of payment. The balance cost of the land will be recovered from him at an interest free loan, repayable over 20 years. The oustee has the option to pay 100% of the compensation amount and the difference between the compensation and the price of the government land, will be paid ex-gratia. The encroachers who are entitled to get paid ex-gratia for their balance land have the option to pay 100% of the ex-gratia amount and the
difference between the ex-gratia amount and the price of the government land, will be paid ex-gratia.

Landless agricultural labourers, and major sons of all the categories of oustees, will be exempted from paying the cost of the 2 ha. of land allotted to them.

Each oustee family will be paid as subsistence allowance, Rs.15 per day, for 25 days in a month for one year, in three instalments. Another Rs. 750 with an increase of 8% per year with January 1980 as the base year will be paid to them as resettlement grant inclusive of transportation charges. Besides these they will also be provided a grant-in-aid in the following manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compensation received</th>
<th>Grant-in-aid.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than Rs. 500</td>
<td>Rs.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between Rs. 2000 and 500</td>
<td>Rs 500 less an amount equal to one third of the compensation in excess of Rs. 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grant-in-aid will also be paid with an increase of 8% per year with January 1980 as the base year. No grant in-aid will be paid where the compensation received is above Rs. 2000.

Each landed oustee family will be given Rs. 5,000 as financial assistance for its economic development. The
landless agriculture labourers, encroachers, the and major sons of all the categories of the oustees, will be given Rs.5000 as financial assistance to obtain productive assets for their economic development.

Civic amenities

Civic amenities include one primary school (3 rooms) for every 100 families; one panchayat ghar, one dispensary, one seed store, one children's park and one village Pond for every 500 families; one platform and one drinking water well with trough for every 50 families and proper roads at the relocation site. Besides these all the ongoing welfare schemes in the old settlement will be implemented at the new resettlement site.

Madhya Pradesh

Every oustee family, from which land is acquired for the Sardar Sarovar Project will be given land equivalent to that acquired with a minimum of 2 ha and a maximum of 8 ha. The government will provide irrigation facilities, if the land is not already irrigated. If the land is not irrigable, instead of 2 ha., 4 ha of land will be given to the allottee. Encroachers, who have encroached prior to 13.4.1987, are also eligible to get land. "Where the area of the land acquired from an encroacher is upto 1 Ha. he will
be entitled to 1 Ha. of land. In those cases where acquisition of land from an eneroacher is more than 1 Ha., he will be entitled to 2 Ha. of land irrespective of the fact that the land acquisition from such an eneroacher may even be greater than 2 Ha".11

"For calculating the compensation for agricultural and rural abadi land to be acquired for the Project, the price of similar land in the adjacent command areas will be taken as the basis. For assessing the value of urban abadi and other lands, the average sale prices in the nearest town of similar size outside the submergence area will form the basis of calculation of compensation".12

If an oustee does not want land in lieu of the land acquired from him, he will be entitled to get the entire amount of compensation in one instalment. In case a ST family makes such a choice, "it will be essential to obtain an order from the collector who will after necessary enquiry, certify that this will not adversely affect the interests of the oustee family".13

If the oustee agrees to accept land in lieu of the land acquired from him, 50% of the compensation amount payable to him, will be set off as the first instalment of payment for the land. "The balance cost of the allotted land will be treated as an interest-free loan and the proportionate area
of the land will be mortgaged with the government for that amount".14

"There will be no recovery of this loan for the first 2 years. Thereafter, the loan would be recovered in 20 equal yearly instalments".15

"Grant-in-aid would paid to cover the gap between the amount of compensation and the cost of allotted land in those cases where the cost of allotted land is more than the amount of compensation. This grant would be payable to all displaced land-owning Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe families and other families losing upto 2 Ha. of land. For other families from whom more than 2 Ha. and upto 8 Ha. of land is acquired, grant-in-aid in addition to amount of compensation will be given by the Narmada Valley Development Authority at the following rates:

a. Rs. 2000/- per Ha.

or

b. 50\% of the difference of the price of the allotted land and the amount of compensation, whichever is less.

Taking into consideration the appreciation in the cost of land with the lapse of time period, the amount of compensation will be revised by the Authority".16
However, the oustee has the option to make the full payment for the allotted land. In such cases, "where the option of interest-free loan is not availed of and the family pays full cost of land, such family would be assisted by a further grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,000/- per Ha. per year for 2 years".17

All the oustee families from the rural areas will be allocated a house plot (90'Xx60'), free of cost.

"A grant-in-aid would be paid to the displaced family to the extent of the difference between the compensation paid for the previous dwelling and the cost of the house, the family would be entitled under the Indira Awas Yojna at the relocation site. Such oustee tenant families of rural areas, whose income is below the poverty line, shall be paid grant-in-aid according to their entitlement under the Indira Awas Yojna for construction of house in the new abadi site".18 All the families displaced from the urban areas will be settled in new urban areas. "In urban areas the oustee will be entitled to allotment of residential plots in the new relocation site on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economically weaker scale</td>
<td>95 sq mt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income Group</td>
<td>140 sq.mt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Income Group</td>
<td>280 sq.mt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Income Group</td>
<td>420 sq.mt&quot;.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"The oustee shall be entitled to any size of plot out of the specific four sizes of plots according to his income", or he will be allotted a plot equal in size to the plot held by him earlier. The difference between the amount of compensation paid for his earlier plot and the price of the new plot, is to be paid by the government. "In the new relocation site, if any oustee wishes to obtain plot of a size bigger than his entitlement, he will have to pay additional price for such bigger plot".

"As far as possible Government houses will be provided to the tenant Government servants and employees of the Corporate bodies".

"Such tenants who wish to construct their own houses shall be allotted plots according to their income groups. Full cost of the plots shall be recovered from the tenants. If the income of the tenant is below the poverty line, he shall be provided plot free of cost".

All the encroaches who have houses on the encroached government land (the encroachment should be before 13:4' 1987.) will be given a plot, the size of which shall not be more than 50 sq.mts. in the new relocation site. The allottee has to pay the full cost of the plot. "If the income of the encroacher is below the poverty line he shall
be allotted a plot free of cost. The entitlement would be on the condition that he does not own any other residential plot whether in his own name or in the name of any member of his family (e.g. wife or minor children). The compensation for the house constructed on encroached land shall be determined on the basis of the replacement value. No compensation shall be paid for the encroached plot of land".24

Commercial and industrial plots shall also be allotted to the oustees at the relocation site. The oustees who were having shops and industries at the original settlement, would be given preference. In case there is a difference between the amount of compensation paid for the old plot and the price of the new plot, the amount shall be paid by the Project.

"Such oustees who are carrying on their trade or business in hired buildings in the commercial areas shall be allotted shops on hire in new towns on priority basis. Such rural oustees who may desire to acquire commercial plots shall be allotted suitable shops and plots on such conditions as may be determined by the Narmada Valley Special Area Development Authority".25

All the displaced families are entitled to get rehabilitation grant payable to them "in suitable
instalments in a period of one year as under:

a. Families of landless agricultural labourers. Rs. 11,000/-
b. Landowning and other families of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Rs. 11,000/-
c. Families of small and marginal farmers Rs. 11,000/-
d. Other landowning families and families of any other category Rs. 5,500/-

Special Provisions for the Rehabilitation of the Landless Oustees

The resettlement and rehabilitation policy of Madhya Pradesh makes special provisions for the rehabilitation of landless oustees:

Adequate arrangements will be made by the Narmada Valley Development Authority for upgradation of existing skills or importation of new skills so as to promote full occupational rehabilitation. In this regard, new opportunities emerging as a result of the Project will be fully exploited for the benefit of the displaced families. Suitable provisions will be incorporated in the tender documents of Local Competitive Bidding (LCB) and other forms to ensure employment of displaced persons. The Narmada Valley Development Authority will ensure appropriate arrangements for discharge of these responsibilities within a stipulated time-frame. In the interim period, special financial assistance will be given to supplement the income of the landless agricultural labourers and landless Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe oustees families for 3 years in descending order which shall be in addition to the grant-in-aid.
The amount of this special financial assistance will be distributed spreading over a period of 3 years at Rs. 8,250/-, Rs.5,500/- and Rs.2,750/- respectively, in instalments in that year. For this purpose, the concerned oustees shall have to submit the details and factual information to the agency about the business or occupation he has entered into for earning his living and the details about the productive assets purchased by him for the purpose.28

In the case of landless agricultural labourer oustees and landless Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe oustees, the cut off date for the release of special financial assistance for subsistence, earning a living and establishing economically viable self employment units and purchase of productive assets generating employment will be the date one year after such an oustees has been given a Patta for plot at the new rehabilitation site. 29

In case any oustees family fails to inform the agency within a period of one year commencing from the date of settlement about the details of the self-employed unit and the purchase of productive assets, then the special financial assistance for which he is entitled will be given commencing from the second year in three years in the same order of Rs.8,250/- in the second year, Rs,5,500/- in the third year and Rs.2,750/- in the fourth year in instalments.30

The landless non-agricultural labourers will be paid Rs.19,500 as special financial assistance.

The oustees has to submit a detailed account of the "setting up of an economically viable self-employed unit for earning his livelihood and purchase of production assets".31

The oustees will be given the special financial assistance as soon as he puts an application for the same.
In case the concerned oustee does not submit his proposals for the productive assets or does not put up any demand for assistance, then the payment of the assistance can be made in instalments commencing from the next year similar to the procedure followed in the case of the landless agricultural labourers, vis.-payments in instalments to commence from the second year followed by 3rd and 4th years, except that in this case the remaining amount of Rs.3000/- will be released in the 5th year.32

The landless oustees are entitled to get a reserve grant in addition to the special financial assistance:

The assistance amount as entitled under the reserve grant to the landless agricultural labourers, and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe landless labourers can be released in one instalment to the extent of Rs.12,500/- alongwith the amount of special financial assistance after the agency is convinced about the setting up of a self-employed unit and purchasing of productive assets. In cases where the information has not been made available or no demand has been made by the oustee such an oustee will be given Rs. 12,500/- in the 5th year in one instalment.33

In case the assistance amount is needed in one instalment to any landless oustee for his livelihood and setting up an economic unit or purchasing of productive assets and if the agency is convinced and satisfied, the rehabilitation grant, special financial assistance and reserve grant of Rs.40,000/- can be given in one instalment to the landless agricultural labourers and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe landless oustee. Similarly, landless non-agricultural labourers will also be entitled for the assistance of Rs. 25,000/- in one instalment.34

The oustee will have a joint account with the Rehabilitation Officer, in the bank in which the amount
payable to him will be deposited. The oustee will also get the interest earned on such amount. The civic amenities to be provided at the new relocation site include: water well/tubewell with trough, link and approach roads, primary school, panchayat bhawan-cum-community hall, playground, childrens' park, cattle-shed, seed-store, threshing ground, tree platform, place of worship, electricity, dispensary pond (wherever feasible), cremation and burial ground, and water supply and sanitary arrangements for the municipal towns.

An employment exchange and sub-exchange will be opened for the benefit of the displaced persons who will be given priority in the employment on the Project and allied works. Special efforts will be made to employ young educated persons.

Age relaxation of 2 years would be given in class III posts in the state government services. In order to ensure that the displaced persons are gainfully employed, additional training facilities will be promoted. A Fisheries Research and Training Institute will be set up in the periphery of the reservoir in order to impart training to fishermen and fisherwomen from the affected area. Other facilities provided to the displaced families include:
(1) Free transportation to the relocation site and where free transport facility is not available, the oustee family will be given a lumpsum of Rs.500 as transportation charge.

(2) Full exemption from payment of registration fees and stamp duty will be given to displaced families purchasing land under the rehabilitation scheme of the Project.

(3) Continuation of all the welfare schemes, the people were entitled to at their old settlement.
References


2. Ibid.

3. Ibid. P.5.

4. Ibid.


9. Ibid.20.


12. Ibid. P.34.

13. Ibid. P.40

14. Ibid.

15. Ibid.

16. Ibid. P.40-41.

17. Ibid. P.41-42.
18. Ibid. P.43-44.
19. Ibid. P.44-45
20. Ibid. P.45
21. Ibid.
22. Ibid. P.46
23. Ibid. P.46-47.
24. Ibid. P.47.
25. Ibid. PP.48-49.
26. Ibid. P.42.
27. Ibid. PP.50-51.
28. Ibid. P.85.
29. Ibid.
30. Ibid.
31. Ibid. P.86.
32. Ibid.
33. Ibid. P.86-87.
34. Ibid. P.87.