CHAPTER-5

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Background

Land is one of the four factors of production, other three being labour, capital and organisation. Among these four, land is the most important factor as the extent of it is fixed by nature. India is emerging as one of the major player in World Economic arena and is attracting sizeable amounts of foreign capital in the country. Finding more economic space, many private sector companies and multinational companies have set up their projects at places having locational advantage. On the other hand, due to widespread poverty, unemployment, inequality (economic and social), poor social overhead capital and regional imbalance; the establishment of these development projects are considered as a vital economic necessity. Many capital-intensive projects in heavy engineering, steel, dams, power generation, infrastructure development, housing, fertilizer, etc. have also been taken up. These new projects built for development require large parts of non-developed land. Availability of such land near big cities is not possible which means that most of the development projects have to be setup in rural or semi-rural areas. In such areas, which mostly comprise villages, the main occupation is agriculture and the main source of income is land. This is where; the need of agriculture land acquisition comes in. The implementation of these development projects affects many different interests positively and negatively. Land acquisition improves the utilisation of land, ownership and land value. The development triggers the emergence of new livelihoods, trade, demand for new jobs and other business services. Despite the good cause of land acquisition, frequently it redefines the pattern of land ownership and its usage. Loss of land means loss of livelihood, disruption of economic activities, persistent land related disputes, inadequate and late compensation are some of the negative outcomes.

➢ Land Acquisition Act, 1894

This was framed in 1894 and the Indian Government adopted it in 1947 as a tool for land acquisition. This Act was created with the expressed purpose of facilitating the Government’s acquisition of privately held land for public purposes. The word "public
"purpose", as defined in the Act, refers to the acquisition of land for setting up educational institutions or schemes such as health, housing or slum clearance, apart from the projects for rural planning or formation of sites. The word "Government" refers to the Central Government if the purpose for acquisition is for the Union and for all other purposes; it refers to the State Government, local authorities, societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and co-operative societies established under the Co-operative Societies Act; can also acquire the land for developmental activities through the Government. Various amendments have been made to the 1894 Act from time to time. Despite these amendments the administrative procedures have remained same. The Act was revised in 1984 and 2007. Further The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 replaced the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

**Haryana Land Acquisition Policies**

Haryana is one of the first States to frame Rehabilitation and Resettlement policy in 2005 and made it better for farmers and announced on December 07, 2007. Some of these policy initiatives are minimum floor rates, royalty for 33 years everyone gets plot, building social infrastructure and skill development, etc. Further this policy was revised with addition of new initiatives and provisions, effective from September 07, 2010; known as Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy-2010. It constitutes various new parameters of compensation with area specific minimum floor rates, solatium at the rate of thirty per cent of floor rates, amount under section 23 (1A) for thirty months, no-litigation incentive at the rate of twenty per cent of the floor rate, allotment of residential plot on account of acquisition of self occupied residential house, allotment of residential plot on account of acquisition of land under the land oustee scheme, allotment of a commercial site or industrial plot in case hundred per cent of his/her land has been acquired. Other provisions includes job, alternate electric tube well connections, exemption of stamp duty and registration charges, scheme for landless persons and artisans, free technical education to the dependents in Government run industrial training institutes and polytechnics, fund equal to one per cent of the compensation amount for creating skill-sets, preference to these people in employment in industrial projects, investment advisory services, social and community infrastructure facilities, etc.
Land acquisition, either for state sponsored development or for private business projects, the socio-economic impacts are undoubtedly wide and far-reaching. However, there are a large number of studies have been conducted on the socio-economic impacts of agriculture land acquisition in India, as the system is dynamic in nature, there is a wider scope for lot of more studies. The justification for taking Haryana State as a case study is that there are few studies relating to the socio-economic impact of agricultural land acquisition on rural life. In order to look deeper, there is an urgent need to study the various socio-economic aspects of development projects. The present study is a sincere effort in this direction.

**Objectives of the Study**

(i) To study socio-economic conditions of families whose land has been acquired;

(ii) To analyze the progress of self-employment generation with the compensation money;

(iii) To study the changing current occupation patterns and new employment opportunities;

(iv) To compare and analyze infrastructure and living conditions before and after land acquisition.

**Research Methodology**

To fulfil the objectives of the present study, primary as well as secondary data has been used. The data was collected by survey method. In order to find out the empirical information, a sample survey was carried out. Sample for the field study was drawn by adopting multistage purposive sampling technique for selecting State, districts, projects, villages and sample households. Haryana State was purposively selected for the study. Among all districts of the State, four districts named as Panipat, Jhajjar, Rohtak and Sonipat were purposively selected. These districts lied in national capital region and thousands of acres of agriculture land in this area were acquired for mega development projects. Major four projects from these districts were chosen for study namely Panipat Thermal Power Station, Panipat (PTPS, Panipat), Rajiv Gandhi Education City, Sonepat.
Then a complete list of all villages, where land had been acquired under these projects was prepared and major land acquired three villages were selected from each district. In this procedure, total twelve villages had been taken. At the final stage, a complete list of all households, whose land had been acquired, was prepared by using the information provided by the concerned patwaris and villagers. Finally, interviews were conducted from fifty randomly selected households from each village, making a total of one hundred fifty from each district, by door-to-door visit in these villages during the year, 2012-13. A total of six hundred interview sheets filled from these twelve villages were taken for final data analysis and interpretations.

The primary data was collected through personal interview method, focus group discussion and discussion with the key informants. A pre tested interview schedule covering major aspects of socio-economic impact of land acquisition was administered among the sample households to elicit the needed information. Secondary data was collected from various sources like Statistical Abstract of Haryana, Haryana Government Gazette, Statistical Abstracts of all Districts, Census of India, Agriculture Census, various annual reports of HUDA, HSIIDC, HSAMB and Town & Country Planning departments, published and unpublished reports of Land Revenue Departments, Tehsil Offices, Project Planning Reports, Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, websites of various Government and private agencies, articles and research papers published in journals, magazines, newsletters and news papers.

To analyse the data collected from field work, simple statistical tools such as tabulation, pie diagrams, bar diagrams, line diagrams, percentage and paired T-test had been used.

The present research work has been organised into five chapters. The first chapter contains the meaning and legal framework of land acquisition. Second chapter highlights the review of some relevant studies. Third chapter deals with research methodology and also contains the profile of study. Fourth chapter deals with data analysis, which
highlights the impacts of land acquisition and fifth chapter summarises the research work, also contains some suggestions and limitations of the study.

- **Results**

  - **Demographic Characteristics**
    - Out of 600 sample households, the female respondents constituted 27.8 per cent and 72.2 per cent constituted by male.
    - The maximum 33.8 per cent respondents were of the age group of 31-45 years followed by 26.5 per cent of 19-30 years age group, 20.3 per cent of 46-60 years age group, 15.2 per cent of 61 years and above and 4.2 per cent were of 14-18 years of age group.
    - Looking at the marital status of respondents, 85.3 per cent were married, 9.3 per cent were unmarried, 4.5 per cent were widowed and only 0.8 per cent was divorced.
    - Regarding educational status, majority of the respondents 82.8 per cent were literate, out of which 8 per cent were primary, 17.2 per cent were middle, 30 per cent were matriculate, 14.8 per cent were senior secondary, 9.8 per cent were graduates, 3 per cent were post graduate and only 17.2 per cent were illiterate.
    - The joint family system still existed in the villages, majority of the respondents 46.8 per cent were belonged to 6-10 family members category, followed by 33.5 per cent to 1-5 category and 19.7 per cent to 11 and above family members category.
    - It was found that the general caste households had major land holdings i.e. 90.8 per cent were belonged to general caste category followed by other backward classes i.e. 9.2 per cent in the study area.

  - **Comparison of Land Holdings before and after Land Acquisition**
    - After land acquisition 4.2 per cent households became landless. The percentage of households who had land holdings less than 1.25 acre decreased from 11.5 per cent to 10.7 per cent. The households had land holdings 1.25 to 2.5 acres and 2.5 to 5.0 acres decreased from 22.5 per cent to 12.7 per cent and from 31.3 per cent to 28.8 per cent, respectively. On the other hand, the households had land
holdings 5.0 to 10 acres, 10 to 15 acres and 15.0 acres and above increased from 20.5 per cent to 24.5 per cent, from 10.8 per cent to 14.5 per cent and from 3.3 per cent to 4.7 per cent respectively.

- In totality, the size of land holdings of households was increased after land acquisition. The households who had big size of land holdings were benefitted as they purchased more agriculture land in other districts and States with their compensation money.

**Comparison of Occupational Pattern before and after Land Acquisition**

- If we look at the occupational pattern of households, agriculture was remained major occupation before and after land acquisition for 69.3 per cent and 40 per cent households respectively; but after land acquisition there was steep decrease in the percentage of households dependent on agriculture as main occupation i.e. 29.3 per cent.

- There was an increase in the percentage of households dependent on commercial dairy and poultry business as main occupation from 6 per cent to 11.3 per cent.

- Before land acquisition, agriculture labour and other work related to agriculture activities were major occupation for 7.2 per cent households but after land acquisition, it was reduced to 3.5 per cent.

- The dependency of households on non-agriculture labour and work activities were also increased from 4 per cent to 9.2 per cent after land acquisition.

- There was overall increase in private jobs from service, manufacturing and other sectors as a result the dependency of households on private jobs was increased from 4.2 per cent to 11 per cent.

- The dependency on Government job also increased for 3.2 per cent to 8.2 per cent households.

- The percentage of households dependent on business and self-employment was increased from 2.5 per cent to 7.2 per cent.

- Because of increase in need and demand for skilled labour in ongoing projects, the percentage of households increased from 2.8 per cent to 8.5 per cent in this category. The other occupations also showed increase from 0.8 per cent to 1.3 per cent.
There was a major shift in occupational pattern and it was diversified from farming to other segments.

**Utilisation of compensation money**

- Out of 600, majority of households, 84.2 per cent reported that they had invested some amount of compensation money on purchase of agriculture land and development of land holdings.
- Second largest number of households i.e. 57.5 per cent had spent money on house building and house repairing, followed by 39.7 per cent spent money for domestic consumption, 29.5 per cent deposited some part of that money in bank, while 26.2 per cent households spent money on social functions like marriages and other ceremonies, 13.7 per cent households invested some money in business activities and 12.7 per cent households spent on the education of their children.
- The result of the study clearly shows that highest number of households had spent compensation money on productive purposes like purchase of agriculture land, house building, education, business activities, etc.

**Impact on Farming and Other Agriculture Activities**

- Out of 45 per cent households reported that the quality of cultivable land was increased after land acquisition, as they had purchased more agriculture land, 39 per cent said it was decreased and 15.8 per cent said it remained same.
- The modernisation and mechanisation of agriculture was increased for 70.7 per cent households as after land acquisition they were doing agriculture with more mechanised way, only 14.2 per cent said it decreased and 15.2 per cent said it remained same.
- Out of 600, 68.8 per cent households reported that their agriculture loans and credit were decreased after land acquisition, 14 per cent households said that these were increased and 17.2 per cent said these were remained same.
- 53.3 per cent households responded that their agriculture income was increased, as they were the household livestock to business livestock. 24.5 per cent responding that it was decreased, while 22.2 per cent responded it remained same. The income from livestock was increased for 54.3 per cent households, decreased for 21.8 per cent and remained same for 23.8 per cent.
Environmental Impact

- It was clear from the responses of households that the air pollution level had raised steeply due to the establishment of these projects. 70.2 per cent households reported that there was a steep increase in it, 29.8 per cent said it was same and none of the households said it was decreased.

- These projects had put very severe impact on quality and quantity of water in these areas, 58.5 per cent households reported that water pollution was increasing and 41.5 per cent said it was same but with the passage of time it would increase. None of the households said that water pollution had decreased.

- 70.5 per cent households responded that the noise pollution was increasing day by day, 29.5 per cent said it was same and nobody responded that it was decreased.

- Only 12.3 per cent households were of the view that health was improved, 46.2 per cent said it was decreased and 41.5 per cent said it was same as before land acquisition.

Opinion of the Households about Socio-Cultural and Lifestyle Changes

- 57.3 per cent households reported that the impact of urbanization was increasing on these villages, 16.8 per cent responded that it was decreased and 25.8 per cent responded that there was no change in lifestyle.

- The trend regarding social strength and structure was towards negativity; it was almost same in all the districts. 21.8 per cent households said that there was an increase in social strength and structure, 39.2 per cent said it was decreased and 39 per cent responded that it was same.

- Only 10.7 per cent households reported that social security was increased, while a majority of households 59.3 per cent said that it was decreased and 30 per cent responded that it was same.

- The sudden change in socio-economic and environmental scenario in these areas certainly affected the cultural and religious sentiments and activities of the households. Out of total, only 28.7 per cent households reported that cultural and religious activities in these areas were increased, 46.8 per cent said that it was decreased and 24.5 per cent said that it was same.
• The overall responses for alcoholism and addiction were a mix of both positive and negative sentiments. This data clearly shows that 53.2 per cent were of the view that this change was increased the percentage of alcoholism and addiction while 28.5 per cent said that the development provided right direction and opportunities to the educated youth, thus alcoholism and addiction was decreased. Only 18.3 per cent responded that the position in this regard was same as before land acquisition.

❖ Impact on Women due to Land Acquisition
• The overall impact on women education was positive, as only 9.2 per cent households told that it was decreased, maximum 57.8 per cent told that it was increased and 33 per cent told that it was same after land acquisition.
• 54.8 per cent households reported that the focus of women towards employment was increased as they had started becoming earning hands of family, 36.5 per cent said that it was same and only 8.7 per cent said that it was decreased.
• The value and role of women in major activities of family had increased with the increase in education, employment, nuclear family, urbanisation, change in socio-cultural structure, etc. 66.5 per cent responded that decision making power of women in their family was increased considerably. Only 8.3 per cent said that it was decreased and 25.2 per cent said that it was same.
• The impact on women safety and security was negative after land acquisition as 73.2 per cent respondents reported that it was decreased, 21.2 per cent said it was same and only 5.7 per cent responded that it was decreased.
• 17.5 per cent said that women’s health had improved; a majority of households, 64.5 per cent responded that land acquisition put adverse impact on women health and 19.2 per cent responded the same.
• 41.5 per cent said that cultural importance of women was increased, 34.7 per cent responded decrease and 23.8 per cent responded that it was same.
• Overall 65.3 per cent households were of the view that standard of living for women was improved, 17.3 per cent said it was not improved and 17.3 per cent said that it was same.
- Overall the entertainment factor came out positively with 58 per cent households said that after land acquisition women had much more time to relax, focus on herself and involve in the activities which were entertaining to them like gossiping, watching television, listening music, go to market, wear new trendy cloths, etc. Only 17.7 per cent said that it was decreased and 24.3 per cent responded that there was no change in it.
- 57.5 per cent responded that women in the villages had positive view towards this changing scenario, 24.3 per cent responded that it was negative and 18.2 per cent responded it was same.

- **Infrastructural Changes and Developments (Basic Amenities)**
  - In totality, if we compare the changes and developments in the basic amenities, the combination of average and good responses was increased from 66.5 per cent to 80.7 per cent for roads, from 33.6 per cent to 73.2 per cent for drinking water, from 39.2 per cent to 70 per cent for medical facilities, from 36.6 per cent to 83.5 per cent for availability of electricity, from 58.8 per cent to 87.2 per cent for educational facilities.
  - Overall the status of these basic facilities had improved considerably after land acquisition but lot of work need to be done to improve the medical facilities. On the other hand, the status of auxiliary amenities like sewerage, street conditions, streetlights, parks, banks, availability of LPG, stadium were improved marginally.

- **Infrastructural Changes and Developments (Auxiliary Amenities)**
  - After land acquisition 89.7 per cent households said that sewerage lines condition was poor, only 8.5 per cent said it was average and a very few only 1.8 per cent said that it was good. Before acquisition, there was no sewerage system in these villages.
  - In totality the conditions of streets in these areas had improved as the poor responses regarding these, decreased from 44.3 per cent before land acquisition to 17.5 per cent after land acquisition, for average responses it was increased from 46.7 per cent to 47.8 per cent and for good response of households it was increased from 9 per cent to 34.7 per cent.
- Before land acquisition, there was no facility of parks near these villages. After land acquisition, there was poor response of 92 per cent, the average response was 3.5 per cent and the good response was 4.5 per cent.

- The bank facilities of nationalised as well as private banks had increased in these areas, the poor response of households was decreased from 38.3 per cent to 10.5 per cent, average response was decreased from 37.8 per cent to 34 per cent and the good response was increased from 23.8 per cent to 55.7 per cent.

- The availability of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) also improved in these areas as the poor response of households was decreased from 51.8 per cent to 20.2 per cent, average response was increased from 40.2 per cent to 63.5 per cent and good response was increased from 8 per cent to 16.3 per cent.

- The Government had focused on establishment of stadium at village level, the poor response of households was decreased from 72.2 per cent to 35.2 per cent, the average response was increased from 20.5 per cent to 46.7 per cent and the good response was increased from 7.3 per cent to 18.2 per cent.

Implementation of Land Acquisition Policy and Its Components

- Only 30.5 per cent households were aware about land acquisition policy.

- Out of total, 79.8 per cent households reported that despite some hurdles raised by some officials and staff of the Government agencies, they had received the compensation money in time through cheques.

- 85 per cent households had received full compensation money except royalty and other benefits; remaining 15 per cent included those who refused to take compensation initially and some who did not received full payment due to legal issues or process delay or lack of documents or land disputes, etc.

- Out of total, only 34.3 per cent households were satisfied with compensation money being at par with the market value.

- 42.2 per cent households were getting royalty in time. No residential plot or industrial plot was allotted to any households against their land acquired. No-Litigation Incentive scheme was not the part of land acquisition policies during these acquisitions.

- It was found that jobs were provided to only 6.8 per cent affected households.
• Only 22.7 per cent households reported that social infrastructure like school, hospitals, bus-stands, chowpals, community centre, roads, etc. were given preference by Government and these facilities were improved.

• No effective steps were taken for skill development for persons whose land had been acquired; only 8.7 per cent households said that initially banks and local administration conducted trainings. Only 10.8 per cent households responded that some steps were taken by the Government to develop environment.

• Initially, only 6.2 per cent households had denied for receiving compensation money, they were on the way of legal fight against land acquisition and wanted their land back but later on they received compensation money. Out of total 600 households, 69.5 per cent selected the option of court case. These court cases were done collectively and independently by the villagers.

• Only 37 per cent households said that they had got any one or some of the direct benefits.

• It was found that 41.7 per cent households had got direct and indirect benefits due to increase in nearby land prices, business opportunities, overall development in education, medical and transportation facilities in the area, etc.

5.2 Conclusions

The present study has been carried out to evaluate the socio-economic impacts of agricultural land acquisition in Haryana. It provides an insight on the changes in socio-economic conditions taking place at grass root levels due to land acquisitions, strategies being adopted by the farmers to cope with the emerging challenges of stagnating employment, income and output from crop sector, constraints and implications of changing land use, agriculture diversification, industrialization, urbanization and infrastructural development.

• The overall scenario of land acquisition policy was gone against small and marginal farmers and it was in favour of medium and big farmers. A majority of small and marginal farmers had spent the compensation money on day to day and unproductive uses but they could not purchase new agriculture land, as the amount left with them after other expenses was not sufficient to buy equal or
more area of land. On the other hand, the land prices were also increased very steeply in the nearby areas. So many of the small and marginal farmers either became landless or left with very little area of land.

- Medium and big farmers received handsome amount of compensation money and they were already economically sound. Therefore, they had purchased comparatively more area of agriculture land in multiples, they were also having more facilities like irrigation, electricity, connectivity to roads, etc. in nearby districts or States, where land prices were very low than that of the land acquired. In totality, the area of land with the sample households increased after land acquisition.

- Agriculture remained major occupation for households before and after land acquisition but after land acquisition there was steep decrease in number of households depended on agriculture. Diversification in occupation pattern developed in the study area and this diversified from farming to other segments.

- In all these districts, the project construction work was remained for years because of it also there were rise in non-agriculture activities, which had created huge demand for non agriculture labour and work. The maximum benefit of this was gone to the people who were earlier engaged in non agriculture activities like labour, carpenters, electrician, etc. and to qualified youths who were searching for work.

- With the establishment of these projects, more and more opportunities in terms of private jobs arose from service, manufacturing and other sectors. In long run thousands of jobs would come up in these areas; the benefit of this would go to all the families in these villages, whether their land was acquired or not. There was also significant increase in number of households dependent on government job.

- The business or self-employment opportunities also grew parallel with the development; there was significant increase in dairy, private job, local businesses and small manufacturing units. But due to lack of experience and inefficiency in management, the attempt to do successful business got failed for many.

- Most of the households were skilled and experienced in agriculture and allied activities. But with the fast development, the requirement of these kinds of skills
for earning sufficient livelihood was reduced; on the other hand the demand for technical and skilled works increased very fast. The youngsters developed such skills through technical courses; trainings and they were earning handsome income from it.

- More than 80 per cent households had spent compensation money on productive purposes like purchasing of agriculture land, land development, education, house building and business.
- Marginal farmers spend more money on education as they were left with no option but to spend on education of their children for better career prospects for them.
- Some of households spent their money on unproductive purposes like social functions, bad habits like alcoholism, drug addiction, extravaganzo and luxury spending, etc. leading to destruction of future of their families. This led to very miserable conditions for these families.
- The quality of land and ground water at all the districts varied but in totality the land at all the locations was used for agriculture and this land could be used for long term good farming. By neglecting the quality of land and its important share in agriculture production the State Government acquired this valuable good quality agriculture land. However with little efforts by the Government, these projects could be established at the areas of barren land or relatively poor quality of land. The Government neglected the important facts about ecological balance, environmental factors, food security and even rising food inflation.
- The impact on agricultural activities varied from area to area, but the quality of land and its productivity surrounding the thermal plant projects in Panipat deteriorated due to ash, dust and liquid waste from the plants; A whooping 350 acres fertile land belonging to about hundred farmers gradually had turned barren in Sutana village as seepage of effluents containing barium, cadmium, chromium, lead and mercury contaminated the fields from the bottom ash disposal pond near the plant.
- After land acquisition, modernisation and mechanisation of agriculture had also increased. With the availability of money, the farmers were adopting new
techniques and methods of cultivation with the help of advanced technology with updated quality and verities of pesticides, seeds, fertilisers, equipments and machinery. Some farmers had started advance farming in poly houses, shade nets and more cash crops, etc.

- The availability of land in villages became comparatively less than that of before acquisition. The available land was not enough for traditional farming so farmers started growing fodder crops for cattle. The increased population density and reduction in land area diverted the normal livestock to business livestock; this resulted increase in livestock income for more than fifty per cent households.

- After land acquisition, most of the farmers got rid of the traditional exploiting credit bound farming practices. In many cases, farming and livestock was taken as successful business, which ultimately increased their livestock income. Earning from farming at new land or given it on lease and getting regular annual royalty on every acre acquired, all this together made them profitable as compared to earlier uncertainty of climate and productivity of crops.

- The other long lasting effect on these areas was steep increase in the air, water and noise pollution levels, especially in the areas near thermal power plants and industrial units. The quality of land and its productivity surrounding the thermal plant projects was deteriorated due to ash, dust and liquid waste released from these plants. The ash spread over plants and trees led to poor quality of fodder and crops ultimately effecting cattle health. The smoke coming out of these factories was foul in smell and caused irritation in eyes and poor visibility. Heavy noise pollution generated from the development activities and operations of thermal plants were affecting environment and health adversely.

- These projects were putting very severe impact on quality and quantity of water in these areas. The poor quality polluted water were putting adverse impact on health of human and cattle also. Water logging became major problem in villages near thermal plants, which led to damaging crops and structures. The taste of water became salty. In long run it may lead to scarcity of water in the area. Due to excess use of water, the ground water level may also get deplete.
• The population became more vulnerable to various kinds of respiratory, skin diseases and infections. Poor availability of medical and diagnosis facilities added to the problems of villagers. The increased population pressure was also affecting the house keeping and general sanitary conditions negatively.

• In Sonipat, the project was related to education and there was no side effect of pollution, so the households were of the view that the future of their children living in this area would be highly beneficial.

• The government agencies had promised to develop large green cover around these projects, in spite of these promises this aspect was completely neglected. Households felt cheated that the government had also acquired pure air, water and good health with land.

• Due to impact of urbanization and modernization, there was considerable change in socio, cultural and lifestyle system in these villages. Most of the households constructed or upgraded their houses with all the contemporary modern facilities and infrastructure. Earlier, the basic work for most of households was related to farming but now with the change in occupation pattern and increased employment and education opportunities, the lifestyle of the whole family had shown considerable improvement. More focus was on sanitation and hygiene in and outside the houses. Government also focused on development of some of the basic infrastructure like roads, schools, streets, medical services, transportation services, etc.

• The trend of social strength and structure was towards negativity. Social security came out as major concern. The increased outside population from variety of cultures changed the old deep-rooted traditional system. Alcoholism and drug addiction were put very adverse impact on some of the households.

• With the increase in land prices in nearby areas of these villages, the farmers whose land was not acquired in these projects, the price of remaining land hand increased many folds adding to the wealth and status of these farmers.

• More benefits were gone to the non agriculture population that were not having any land from generations, especially to many poor families of Schedule Caste and Backward Caste categories in which only one family member was working
for the livelihood of whole family. Now with the opportunity of working in these industries, most of the members of these families were working in factories for work. Now these families were also renting space or rooms to the outsider labour.

- People showed togetherness against the common problems arose due to the sudden socio-economic and environmental changes. On the other hand, land acquisition shattered the foundation of socio-economic structure of the villages. The sudden reduction in economic resources of the households led to conflicts related to the sharing of resources among family members and society. The claims or rights on the property put up by the family members and by the daughters in the property led to destruction of age old traditional system of respect and shattered the integrated social system of combined families. The social functions in families and the group activities also turned into expensive activities with more show-offs and less volunteer participation. The increase in developmental activities and easy access to other mode of entertainment created a huge gap between traditional religious activities and changed lifestyle.

- On the other hand, wealth, education and development resulted more strong bonding and cultural sharing among relatives and families. Earlier, the resources were scarce and only hand to mouth but with the increase in land prices the farmers became economically and socially more strengthen. Therefore, its future trend, whether it would take positive or negative turn, would depend on the community heads and elders in the villages.

- The people with old tradition view were not ready to digest the changes occurring in the society and community. It was a hard fact for them that how it could change so drastically and fast without their control and monitoring.

- Lack of proper investment advisory and career guidance services deviated the unemployed youths as well as those who were not able to smartly handle the fast changing new community development structure. On the other hand, those youth who accepted the change positively and reacted smartly with the changing pattern of development, this development provided right direction and opportunities to them.
The compensation money received against the land acquired was spent on purchasing of cars, new house, furniture and other lavish lifestyle items, lastly left them with no money and land which led to darkness for their future existence, this all together put a considerable share of village population into alcoholism and addiction.

The focus of women towards employment, role in major activities of family, the decision-making power, health, cultural importance and standard of living was increased considerably. The issue of women safety and security had become major concern after land acquisition.

The overall impact on women education was positive, competition at all levels forced parents to change the old ideology and allowed girls to study.

Changed occupation pattern put pressure on female members of family and after land acquisition focus of women towards employment increased and they started becoming earning hands of family.

Earlier women were engaged in daily farm activities; they used to be active with the heavy physical exercises involved in agriculture work as well as work at home but after land acquisition most of the work was related to home and that too was of low physical exercise that put negative impact on health of women.

Land acquisition disturbed the socio-cultural system of villages, which led to less respect and importance of women in fast moving urbanised life style. On the other hand, the increase in facilities, awareness, education, employment and urbanisation had improved the standard of living for women. After land acquisition, women had more time to relax, focus on her and involve in the activities, which were entertaining to them. This was truer in case of women in financially sound families.

In some cases, lack of money, work, livelihood, education destroyed the whole tradition pattern and women were unable to adopt according to the new changing pattern, this was truer in case of small farmers having poor living conditions which were earlier completely dependent on their land for all livelihood activities.

Due to these projects, focus of Government had increased on improvement of road and transport facilities in these areas and these facilities were improved.
• Education facilities improved a lot with the increase in number of schools, colleges, vocational educational institutes, coaching and training centres for competitive exams, etc.

• Government had done lot of work for drinking water supply but there were lot of scope and areas of improvement in relation to the quality of water. The availability of electricity was improved a lot in all these areas especially in areas where land was acquired for thermal power projects.

• The supply and demand of medical facilities in these villages had no match; there was huge deficiency of quality, latest up to date advanced hospital and clinics in these areas. Most urgent requirement was in the areas where heavy pollution was making life difficult.

• The basic infrastructural amenities such as transport, medical, education, electricity, drinking water and medical facilities improved in these areas while auxiliary amenities like sewerage, street conditions, parks, play grounds, banks and availability of LPG were improved marginally.

• The Government had remained unsuccessful in highlighting the various components of the land acquisition policy except the compensation amount. More than 70 per cent were not aware about land acquisition policy and process. This communication gap led to many disputes.

• Most of the households received full compensation money except royalty and other benefits, some did not receive compensation included who refused to take compensation and who did not receive full payment due to legal issues or process, delay or lack of documents or land disputes, etc. In Sonipat, many households refused to take compensation money as they were on agitation against acquisition and wanted their land back, but later on all the households received compensation.

• The level of dissatisfaction about compensation package varied considerably in all the districts as the households in study area analysed and calculated various aspects such as socio, economic and environmental in calculating the value of their land which really meant a lot to them and justified for long run but the calculations done by the acquisition authority considered only the monetary
values of land and neglected other aspects. The compensation amount was not according to the expectations of households.

- However, in most of the cases the compensation amount was paid on time but the other policy components like royalty, residential plots, etc. were delayed and in many cases these were not given till date. Private developers were paying higher compensation for land than public projects. Such inequities were also contributing tensions between farmers and the Government.

- The provision of annual royalty was most satisfying policy component and in most of the cases it was paid timely. This reduced the uncertainty of their income. The earnings from agriculture land and getting regular annual royalty on every acre acquired all together made them profitable as compared to earlier.

- Other major dissatisfying factor was that, no concrete steps were taken by the Government to provide jobs to the members of affected families, which were repeatedly promised by the Government before land acquisition. Only four per cent were able to get the jobs in these projects that were by their own efforts.

- The Government had done promises to the villagers before the land acquisition regarding providing upgraded rural social infrastructure and facilities remained neglected, some work was done on this segment but that was too slow and not up to the expectations of affected households.

- Government had done very little efforts in arranging post acquisition technical training programmes, skill development and investment advisory services which were very important for the local affected population for deciding their way forward.

- More than 70 per cent collectively or independently put court case against land acquisition. They were spending their valuable time and money on this legal battle, as no sufficient and effective arrangement was made by the Government to provide an equal platform for legal representation of their issues.

- Government had announced some additional benefit i.e. provisions for those whose land had been acquired like alternate electric tube well connections, exemption of stamp duty and registration charges, etc., most of these factors or components of compensation package remained unattended and neglected.
• Rehabilitation and resettlement of the population, whose land was not acquired but directly or indirectly affected by the land acquisition, was completely neglected in the policy framework and concrete steps were not taken for their future.

• Government was completely focused on only acquisition of land and handing it over to the corporate, thereafter the responsibility of timely establishment of these projects did not lie with the Government or it was completely neglected, which affected the future of local population very badly. The job opportunities, self employment, business opportunities, development, social infrastructure and many other factors all together were linked with the establishment of these projects any delay in which badly affected the local community socially, economically, environmentally and psychologically. This aspect was completely neglected by Government, the project establishment deadlines were extended time to time and the land acquired from the farmers remained unutilised or underutilised for years, in most of the cases these deadlines crossed more than decade, which was very frustrating for the local community.

After overall analysis, we found that the land acquisition affected the rural environment negatively as well positively, however the land acquisition policy of Haryana was good and the combination of various aspects of rehabilitation and resettlement but the major dissatisfying factor about land acquisition on the part of Government was improper and delayed implementation of the policy components. The delivery system and mechanism adopted by Government for disbursement of benefits to the affected households was slow and inefficient in terms of effectively and timely delivery of the promises made by Government, that too at the time when households were desperately expecting fast and justified support from the Government. Instead of delivering the promises by adopting transparent process the Government made the things more difficult and time consuming which added frustration to affected households. So there is urgent need to give attention of this issue and lot of scope for further studies.

5.3 Suggestions
• Compensation alone cannot solve the bitter issue of displacement. It should be a combination of cash compensation and other aspects of rehabilitation and resettlement. The highest compensation value achieved through the agriculture productivity and market rates should be offered with a consultative process of negotiation.

• The land acquisition process should be innovative. The land acquisition policy, its process and its timing should be made clear to the landowners and these should be provided timely with the participation of people.

• There is need to develop social infrastructure and facilities. The Government should focus on skill development programmes, investment guidance, professional trainings, etc.

• There should be equity between the Government and private land acquisition on both the level of compensation as well as variations in payment in different situations creates tensions because land has same importance for all farmers.

• The Government should organise seminars and other innovative ways to train farmers about the utilization of the compensation money and other modern agriculture techniques.

• The Government should have a clear-cut policy regarding the acquisition of fertile agriculture land for the establishment of industries. The Government should explore all the possibilities of the establishment of industries on non-agricultural land and mention this with reasons in the Gazette notification, if acquisition of agriculture land becomes unavoidable.

• There is a need to take serious attention in the direction of environmental development by the industries, Government, social agencies and NGO’s, etc. Large green covers, parks, trees on both sides of roads and streets, green pockets within and outside the project area and its boundary wall should be developed. Lot of work could be done in the direction of planned green cover development, if State Government takes positive steps.
• One point help desk should be established near these villages to make coordination between various Government agencies and the affected people to resolve issues arising due to land acquisition. One stop clearance window for taking care and immediate solutions to the aspects related to compensation package, this should be approachable, responsive, proactive and fast track.

• The Government and investors should be accountable to local communities. Government must also conduct periodic inspection of the project site to evaluate the impacts of the project.

• Local people should be given preferences in jobs and reservation should be given in educational institutions.

• Projects in agriculture dominated States like Haryana should be agriculture based and agriculture promoting. At present the Government is focusing only on establishment of industrial units whether it is linked with agriculture or not. In State like Haryana the Government should formulate special policies for establishment of industries related with agriculture sector.

• As the practical field and market situations varies drastically from area to area, district to district, project to project similarly the parameters for calculating the various constituents of compensation package also vary and Government should make project wise land acquisition policy to attend all the aspects of compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement.

• Lot of extra land pool is already available with Government, thousands of acres of land acquired by Government for various projects is lying underutilized from decades; it was used by investors as property investment or property dealing not for the real purpose for which it was acquired. Also lots of land is available with government offices and its attachments at district and block levels. All the offices should be clubbed under one roof and the spared land should either be utilised for some prestigious projects or these land pockets should be sold to generate high revenue. The Government should make a policy for clubbing unutilised or underutilized land under the various departments in the State.
• The Government should formulate future policies for the affected areas with consultation and participation of local people as the impact on social structure is long lasting and its future trend, whether it would take positive or negative turn would depend on these Government policies toward community development.

• Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) of the industries towards the local community should be the part of the policy and this role should be closely monitored by Government agencies, which is at present completely neglected.

• The Government should ensure timely implementation of the projects as this is directly linked with the future of local people; any delay in the implementation would affect the future of local population very badly.

• The land acquisition policy should ensure that the good quality productive agricultural land should not be acquired for establishment of large scale industrial projects instead the efforts should be made in the direction of more and more planning to acquire barren unproductive land. The important factors like ecological balance, environmental factors, food security and even rising food inflation should be taken care while formulating the policies.

• Our current socio-economic progress and the overall growth paradigm need to be rethought and restructured, even if one aspect of sustainable development (benefit sharing or creation) is achieved, violating another pillar of sustainability (environment) can antagonize the community. This calls for a focal shift from short-term economic growth to the achievement of long-term sustainable development by implementing longterm green growth strategies.

5.4 Limitations of the Study

• The first limitation of the study is lack of information from the Government and private agencies about the record of acquired land and about the project business activities. Some Government officers were also reluctant to provide practical information due to sensitivity of the topic in the Country and State as a whole. These limitations made it difficult to get sufficient secondary data about particular facts and figures to support the research.
• Secondly it might be too early to examine the impacts as Rajiv Gandhi Education City, Sonipat and Industrial Model Township, Rohtak were at the developing stage.

• Only 600 households were studied in this study, this was very small number to show the real impact of land acquisition. Other communities, those had not land, were not surveyed in this study but land acquisition put considerably effect on these families, indirectly.

• This study is related to social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects of the study area; hence, it was not easy to get real information from the households about these aspects which were directly or indirectly linked with their personal emotional issues which make them disturbed or which they did not want to share. So it was very tricky to get this information.

• Earlier, very few studies have been done in Haryana related to this topic; hence more studies need to be done in the long run to determine the socio-economic and environmental impacts of land acquisition.