CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present study has been initiated to find out the effects of involuntary displacement and rehabilitation on human resources development. Though the concept of human resources development has many interpretations depending upon time, space and society, an attempt is made here to analyze the concept in the rural context. Development induced displacement is a worldwide phenomenon. Displacing the people from their homeland has led to far reaching consequences. Our aim in the present study is to look into the dynamics operating in the social, economic, cultural and psychological domains. In this chapter it is proposed to summarize the findings of the present study in the following paragraphs and make suggestions for a comprehensive R and R policy.

In the first chapter the problem of the research is introduced. The concept and origin of the human resources development has been traced. The objectives of the study and the hypotheses have been stated. The selection of the sample, the method of data collection are explained. The scope of the present study and the limitations of the study are analyzed. The chapter also provides the conceptual clarification to the key concepts used in the present study report. A brief review of literature is given to understand the relevance of the study.

In the second chapter the profile of the study area is provided. In this chapter a brief history of irrigation in India, the magnitude of displacement, the irrigation potentially, a profile of Karnataka state followed by the Bagalkot district, Bagalkot Taluk and the Rampur RC (the study area) has been explained. The chapter also provides a vivid picture of profile of the Upper
Krishna Project, the project affected area and the villages. It also gives a brief introduction to the evolution of resettlement and rehabilitation policy followed by the rehabilitation package of the displaced people of UKP.

The era of modern day large dams began in the early 1930s. By the late 1980s India had more than 1500 large dams. If one were to extrapolate the figures for 4291 large dams built in India, the total displacement figure would be 11.5 crores in the last hundred years or so. The major costs of large dams are borne by the poor and the weak. The irrigation benefits go to those living in the down streams and among them, disproportionately to the wealthy large farmers. In India large dams have already submerged 1.5 millions hectares of forests and countless other ecosystems. A few displaced can be physically resettled but a natural forest can never be replaced or recreated. With sustained and systematic development of irrigation the potential of irrigation has increased from 22.6 million hectares in 1951 to about 93.98 million hectares.

Karnatak located in the South-Western portion of Peninsular India occupying 1,91,791 sq kms constitute 6% of the country’s total area. It has 5,27,33,958 population which forms 5.31 percent of the country’s population. 67% of the workforce is engaged in agriculture and its related activities, which is the major sector of state’s economy. The study area Rampur R.C. is in the Bagalkot district of North Karnatak. When completed the UKP will irrigate about 6.2 lakh hectares of land. For the whole project nearly 3.5 lakh acres of land need to be acquired. The project causes enormous hardship to nearly 80,000 families. Another 20,000 families will be affected by the construction of canals and service roads. To accommodate the oustees of 201 villages and one town 135 R.Cs have been created. In this large scale continuing project spread over four decades, frequently changing R and R policies coupled with the low pace of project implementation are posing serious problems in the project.
implementation. The project authorities claim that the government has provided a generous rehabilitation package.

The third chapter provides information regarding the socio-economic background of the respondents. The general information about members of household on their age, sex, religion, caste, level of the education, marital status, occupation, annual income of the households have been provided. The study area is a composite R.C created just beside the three submerged villages to accommodate the 420 displaced families hoping that there will be a cultural homogeneity among the people. It is a congregation of people belonging to 22 different subcastes. The majority of them belong to Kuruba community (44%), 32.5 percent of the heads of household have attained the age of 60 and above. 51% of the heads of the household are illiterates which indicates the low profile of education. 31.5 percent of them are engaged in coolie, 42.5 percent of them belong to very poor category of annual income of below Rs. 12,000, medium families with 4-6 members forms about 42.5 percent in the study area. Sex ratio of the study area is slightly favourable to male population. Majority of the households belong to Hindu religion and 3.5 percent of the households belong to Islam. This information acquaints the reader with the field of research. A brief analysis about the domestic profile of the study area is also discussed. The submergence and evacuation process has been discussed in brief.

The fourth chapter deals with the process of displacement and its socio-economic repercussions on the uprooted people. The empirical observations regarding the shifting operation, the compensation received before shifting, impact of shifting on family, kinship, neighborhood and recreation are analysed. The main focus of the chapter is on the analysis of the empirical
findings pertaining to health and hygiene, education and training activities, occupation and income, and cultural and social aspects.

The fifth chapter deals with the problems of displacement and rehabilitation process, matters of emotional security, the utilization pattern of the rehabilitation package and the nature of investment of project affected people. It also discusses the empirical observations with regard to common property resources.

The sixth chapter gives a brief summary of the study report followed by concluding remarks in the light of the empirical findings. The chapter also presents suggestions for a comprehensive resettlement and rehabilitation policy and suggestions for further studies in this field.

The Observations of the Study

The empirical observation of the study begins with analysis of the process of informing the concerned people about the construction of the dam and the impending evacuation of the hamlets. It was found during the field study that 96.5% of the PAPs got information regarding the construction of the dam through rumours and about evacuation 75% of the people got information through rumours.

It indicates that the project authorities did not provide information to the concerned people in a proper and right manner. 96% of the people said that they never opposed the construction of dam which would take away their property and render them helpless in the future. The people expressed honestly their belief that the government's decision cannot be questioned. Majority of the people were not given full compensation for the lost property before shifting. People who gave up their property for the sake of the nation
have to be compensated fully at the market value before uprooting them. During the investigation it was found that 64.5% of the evacuees had to be coerced by the project authorities. Before displacing these people the government officials would have used the method of persuasion because the villagers have a lot of sentimental attachment towards their hereditary dwellings and lands. But people never expressed their dissent about the government's decision of uprooting them.

When the immovable property is lost family ties and kinship relations stand strained. People have developed so much hostility towards one another that they are not attending even the funeral of their own kith and kin. 18.5 percent of the joint families have been split in to nuclear families during displacement. In 28.5% of the families, sisters claimed their share in the ancestral property resulting in strained relationships between brothers and sisters. In 10.5% of the families members migrated to other places owing to displacement. Further, parents of the grownup children found it difficult to find a match to their children for marriage. In 55.5% of the families marriageable children could not get proper matches for their marriage. In this way displacement has affected the kinship bonds and disturbed the social network negatively.

Even after displacement and reduction in the income of the families, it was found that 32% of the people wish to have traditional marriages and spend for it. After displacement 72% of the families' neighborhood relations have been changed. As far as recreation is concerned, the subsidiary activities played an important role in their life. The dependence on subsidiary work to derive recreation has come down from 88% to 50%. This shows that a good number of people derive their entertainment by engaging in subsidiary work even after displacement. This has become a means for spending leisure time.
and it is productive in terms of additional income. It can be seen from the data that people who used to participate in socio-religious festivals regularly have withdrawn completely from it after submergence but their political participation has remained unaffected.

Before displacement large number of families were having all the necessary agricultural implements and this had given them a special status in the society and they were useful to others in one way or the other. But in the new location, many families have sold off their agricultural implements, which has reduced their social status in the society.

After submergence most of the families are found to be without landed property. The affected families searched to buy land but land was not available for sale. A few people could purchase the land but such lands are neither accessible nor cultivable. Only 17% of the families in the study area have purchased replacement land. Before submergence the farmers used to cultivate many food crops and cash crops but after submergence the quantity of yield has sharply decreased owing to the decrease in the size of land holdings.

Animals are the indispensable companions of rural people. It is with the help of animals that the farmers sustain themselves. After displacement many families have sold off their animals (some of the animals died of starvation) mainly because of the shortage of water, fodder and grazing yard. This has made way for the loss of subsidiary employment and reduction in the family’s income. People faced acute shortage of fuel in the new location. The dependence of the people even for small things has been increasing and self-sufficiency has been disappearing in the new place.

The effect of displacement on the health of the members of the family has been observed in the study area. The eldest member of the family
especially the first and the second eldest members' health has been affected adversely. The other members of the family are found to be healthy in the process of displacement. In the new location people are becoming more secular and modernized and are found to be approaching the government health centers. After displacement though the affected people are not much exposed to the written laws but are found to be using formal means of social control for correcting the deviants in the society. The food consumption pattern has also been affected negatively. Today people have lost self-sufficiency in the matter of food and they are more dependent upon the ration periodically supplied by the fair price shops under public distribution system. Along with this the nutritional standard has also declined.

The awareness and practice of family planning methods is also increasing among the people compared to their life in the earlier phase. People have become more conscious about the size of their families. Parents have understood their responsibility towards their children. Nearly 67.5% of the couple are found to be practicing family planning methods. Today the government itself is sponsoring the programme and it has been accepted by the people at the mass level. People get children not by chance but by choice which has facilitated them to establish small families.

Displacement has not affected the belief system and religious rites of the people. Many families have continued the same kind of rites and rituals even after displacement.

The quality of life in the new location is an important factor which is an indicator of the well being of any society. Factors like educational facilities food consumption pattern, security and sense of welfare and civic amenities have been worsened in the new location. Restoring people's livelihood and the
earlier social insurance mechanism is the foremost objective to be achieved in the process of rehabilitation. It begins with the process of shifting and resettling the people in a new location. People have to be allotted better sites to live in and be assured of a healthy, peaceful and decent living in the new location. In Physical resettlement the matters of adequacy and suitability depend upon the existing physical conditions and personal preferences but in any new location the affected people expect certain minimum standards. These expectations are not achieved in the resettlement of the project affected people of UKP.

The houses in the new locations are being constructed separately from other buildings. The average number of rooms per family in the new location is 4.63. After submergence there is ample scope for the expansion of the housing pattern. As a result of this, houses in the new location have sufficient space, ventilation and lighting. But most of the people could not make provision for the cattle sheds. The facilities inside the house, like electricity, independent kitchen and bathroom, toilet, tap water supply and the number of rooms have also been increased in the new location.

People have abandoned the traditional occupations owing to the displacement and have become either unskilled labourers or jobless. But a few chose new kind of occupations for their livelihood. People's dependence on government service and coolie has increased but others who were depending upon either agriculture or artisanship have lost employment in the new location. Before submergence in the study area the family's average annual income was Rs. 12,101 but after eight years of gap the people are reported to have Rs. 29,077 as the average annual income per family. If these levels of income are measured by the price levels, standard of living and living conditions of the respective years, it can be concluded that there is no enhancement in the income level of the families in the study area.
The change of occupational skill from pre-displacement phase to that of post displacement is an important factor in the present study. 53% of the families were having knowledge about agriculture and allied occupations. Majority of them have left the earlier occupations and joined unskilled occupations after submergence. As the data reveals the number of families depending upon unskilled work sharply increased from 23.5% to 53.5%. This indicates that people have left the traditional occupations and joined as unskilled workers in building construction, road construction and other unskilled works. More important fact is that people have not only lost occupations but also the occupational skill or ability related to it. These occupational abilities were acquired over a considerable period of time with sustained efforts. But the displacement process has put an end to these abilities abruptly. A knowledge which is neither preserved in the written form nor is in practice cannot remain in the human memory for a long time. These abilities are the very essence of the culture and civilisation. This amounts to a heavy loss to the little communities. In the new market economy people are leaning towards new kind of occupations, thinking that these occupations would bring them better wages and respect in the society. But these new occupations have enhanced neither their income nor their status. Nobody is prepared to work for kind as they used to work in the yester years. People have developed rationality about their occupations and have become materialistic in their life.

The uncertainty of yield from agriculture forces the peasant communities to be under the debt trap. This has been a regular feature of the farming community all over the country. Very often people in the village community borrow money from non-institutional sources. It is found in the study area that the affected families have not changed their sources of debt even after displacement.
The construction of dams is opposed all over the world as it leads to ecological imbalance. It appears from the investigation that the affected people never opposed the construction of reservoirs on the Krishna nor any leader or organisation has approached the affected people to launch a movement against the implementation of the project. People's legal illiteracy, inactiveness and lack of leadership have contributed towards their exploitation and the substandard rehabilitation of the project affected families.

The respondents expressed their dissatisfaction about the inadequacy of the compensation money given for their houses and lands. The affected people faced money difficulties from the bureaucrats and the middlemen. Further the respondents said that there was rampant corruption in the payment of compensation money to the affected families. This has happened mainly because of the improper maintenance of the land records in the revenue department. Moreover the government has been implementing the rehabilitation programme on trial and error method.

Providing education to the youngsters and vocational training to the adults is also one of the primary objective of the rehabilitation programme. The process of displacement affects the normal learning process of the school going children. These children become drop-outs in the process. They may or may not come back to schools and resume their studies. As many as 132 students (out of 459 school going children) belonging to 41.5% of the families were affected. Among these the first siblings are the most affected who constitute 46.96% among the affected children. Whenever the family faces the situation of crisis, it is the senior siblings who have to sacrifice for the sake of the families and have to shoulder the major family responsibility. Among the affected children male children are more in number as they out number the female children in the normal course of time also. Among these children
studying at different levels of education, primary school children were more affected. 64.39% of these affected children discontinued their studies once for all. The dropout students were not unwanted in their families as they started assisting their parents in their domestic work and supplementing the income of their families. The number of students who left studies, remained idle and wasted their human resources constitute 69.69%. This is a serious outcome of the displacement which can not be repaired. When young minds are derailed from the formal learning process it is quite likely that these minds get attracted towards bad elements in the society. This should have been avoided by the project authorities in the interest of the future of the younger generation. This is contrary to the ethoes of the sustainable development of modern society. More pathetic fact about these children is that 9.84% of them have become bonded labourers. Inspite of the concept of welfare state this situation appears to be quite contradictory to the democratic ethoes and the tall claims of the constitution. The government should have formulated a comprehensive displacement strategy and a sound rehabilitation policy so as to identify such problems well in advance and mitigate the problems without subjecting the younger generation to any loss. During the field investigation it was found that the schools were the first to be shifted and after 8 years the entire villages were shifted. But most of the families preferred to stay in the earlier locations as some of them were engaged in draw down cultivation and other subsidiary occupations. As a result these schools become inaccessible for many children during this period.

The villages to be submerged in the back water of UKP were demarcated decades ago and providing educational infrastructure to these was stopped then onwards. After displacement the newly established Rampur R.C. has been provided all the necessary infrastructure and the level of schooling has
been upgraded to pre-university level (10+2 stage) but the displaced people are not given any special assistance from the government in the R.C. This fact is confirmed by 94% of the respondents. Though the government has prepared the rehabilitation package, the same has not been informed to the concerned people properly. Educating the children in rural India is beyond the reach of the parents. It was found during the field investigation that majority of the respondents opined that parents are the most reliable source of help for their children's education. Before submergence, education was not considered very important but after submergence majority of the people have considered education as an essential thing in life. People's perception about education has undergone a rapid change as 89.5% of the respondents said that education is very essential. After losing the physical property the development of human resources has gained importance and drawn the attention of both the scholars and the laymen. Regarding educational improvements in the future many respondents were optimistic. 94% of the respondents said that job oriented diploma course is the need of the hour in the sense that soon after completing the education a student has to be a self reliant person.

After displacement government has started many income generating schemes mainly with an intention of providing new kind of skills for the employment of the displaced people. Very few people are benefited by such programmes and majority of the people did not receive the benefit from any skill providing programmes. The needy people did not receive proper information regarding such programmes and those who came to know about such programmes did not venture to learn new kind of skills required for the new kind of occupations. Most of the people were over aged for the learning process. This goes against the official claims of the government policies in the matter of rehabilitation. Further it was found in the study area that the project
authorities did not care to reconstruct the livelihood of the project affected people. No programme of government has ensured the stability of income of the people. The government has established 135 rehabilitation centers to accommodate all the project affected families in it but the project affected people are not happy with the kind of treatment extended by the host population. In many RCs the PAPs have been looked down upon. Very often these people face problems regarding common property resources. The limited common property resources have to be shared by both the guest and the host communities which has created clashes many a times.

People who had sentimental attachment to their landed property faced emotional problems while parting from their original home and land. For majority of the people it was a painful experience. It is natural that people who directly depended upon their land to sustain their life had deep sense of attachment towards their land. Those who did not have any attachment towards their home and hearth were very insignificant in number. Before submergence the size of one's land holding, the quantity of yield grown in the lands and the number of members in the family and the number of live stock, especially the number of oxen were important parameters in deciding the social status of a man in the village community. In the post displacement scenario majority of the people said that they not only lost the assets but also the social status ascribed to them by virtue of such factors earlier. People who have lost a little or no property for the displacement have been enrolled as the PAPs in the government roster and have been entitled for all the benefits provided under the rehabilitation package. These people enjoy relatively higher status and are the real winners in the entire process of displacement and rehabilitation.
Displacement has affected different people in varying degrees. Among the project affected people those who are fit, have sustained the effect and are doing well in the new atmosphere. Those who are weak and marginalised could not sustain the effect of displacement and its resulting consequences. Some weaker sections in the society require special help and care in addition to what the normal people get. Majority of the people opined that there are no special provisions for the rehabilitation of the marginalised groups like women, children, aged people, handicapped, economically poor and scheduled castes and tribes.

When the news of evacuation broke out for the first time in 1960s. Majority of the people did not take the news seriously as they used to hear about it often from different sources. But when the news brokeout in the 1980s a small section of the people received the news with shock, fell ill and never recovered from the shock of the news. The news of evacuation has brought different consequences. The more the loss of the property the severe was the trauma of evacuation.

The government has provided rehabilitation package to the project affected families which includes 12 main provisions of both cash and kind. To avail the benefit of different provisions mentioned under the rehabilitation package the PAPs had to make a hard and prolonged struggle with the officials, lawyers, touts and the R & R rules. The consolidation of various documents itself has been the biggest hurdle for the illiterate and innocent project affected people. The inability of these people to fulfill all the formalities has made the project affected people pessimistic in life. This has defeated the very purpose of the rehabilitation policy. It requires the people of proper vision and refined management.
The package utilisation pattern and the nature of investment by the project affected people has been studied. The provision of compensation money for the lost houses and lands is one of the major provision under the rehabilitation package. The compensation money has entered abruptly in the peaceful life of villagers. People who were used to barter system got into the new economic system soon after displacement. People who were never used to cash economy received bundles of currency. Before submergence they used to aspire for lands, cattle, agricultural implements, good health and other basic necessities in life, but after submergence their priorities changed. Now people started aspiring for more fashionable, novel, materialistic and many a times, quite unsustainable things in life. They started thinking, dreaming and aspiring in the new direction.

The construction of modern house, marriage of grownup children, settlement of pending loans, buying luxury items have become their priorities. Sometimes people have ventured to invest in new kind of activities. Owing to lack of business acumen and occupational skills required for the new kind of profession people have met with little success.

After displacement the government has paid the compensation money for the affected families. But the people many a times were at a loss to understand what to do with this huge amount of money. Lack of guidance, rudimentary rehabilitation plans, experimental resettlement methods and outdated government laws have rendered the affected people helpless. Now the rehabilitation package has been wound up. The people have neither property nor money in their hands. All the sources of help have been dried up. The PAPs are in search of other sources of money to borrow and again are ready to fall into the vicious circle of debt.
Majority of the respondents said that the rehabilitation package is generous but failed in implementation from government side. They point at the project authorities for the unsuccessful implementation of the project as well as the resettlement and rehabilitation programme. Rehabilitation is an endless process and it is more psychological than physical. Even after decades of rehabilitation people may point at the government for their backwardness. Both the state and the citizen have equal responsibility towards making the rehabilitation a success but success cannot be expected from the borrowed money and borrowed wisdom. It has to evolve from within.

Majority of the people in the study area expressed their dissatisfaction about the name of the R.C. The "Rampur" has been derived from a neighbouring village called Rampur. Just "R.C" is suffixed to it. They are intending to have a name which indicates the names of their earlier habitats.

Verification of Hypotheses

Hypothesis no 1.

"Displacement of the people affects their livelihood negatively" is proved to be positive as observed by the data contained in chapter four refering to various aspects of displacement like changes in food consumption pattern, family health status, recreation, cultivation of bad habits, quality of life, provision of educational facilities, effect on education attendance, achievement of educational levels, the drop out rates, source of employment, development of occupational skills, effect of government programmes, usefulness of skill development programmes, job opportunities etc.
Hypothesis No. 2:

"Displacement affects the family pattern of the displaced people" is proved positively, as observed by the data obtained in chapter four and five regarding the matters like religion and faith, involvement in religious activities, loss of control over the family members, effect of displacement on the family's social status, types of dwellings, nucleation effect on the joint family system etc.

Hypothesis No 3:

"The impact of displacement on different sections of the community is different" is also proved positive as observed by the data contained in chapter four and five pertaining to the matters like use of medical services, change in the level of education, degree of trauma of evacuation, effect of displacement on social position, straining of relationship by displacement among various caste groups and kinship groups, effect on marriage match making pattern, differentiation in allotment of sites based on caste and financial status, adequateness of the site according to the size of the family, sharing of common property resources and the difficulties faced by the marginalised groups in the process of rehabilitation pattern, victimisation of the lower class and caste people by the officials and the touts and so on.
Suggestions.

The following suggestions are proposed in the light of the findings of the present study.

- In any project induced displacement the bureaucrats as well as the PAPs are confronted with the problem of poorly and secretively maintained revenue records. Hence the consolidation of revenue records with regard to the people’s assets is needed to avoid complication in distributing the compensation money to the affected people.

- Reducing the limit on the land holding size under the land ceiling act, in view of the country’s growth of population and the land use patterns.

- Labelling or assessing the people’s physical and the intellectual property before displacement is to be taken into consideration which would help in preparing region specific R and R action plan.

- Providing educational rehabilitation package to the PAPs so as to meet the growing needs of the job opportunities of these people.

- Displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation are to be regarded as emerging disciplines and their study should be promoted by providing relevant information and literature to the researchers in the field.

- The pros and cons of the projects of big dams are to be given weighty consideration by involving the stake holders before the implementation of the project in the light of the effects that they bring in the society.
The process of displacement and rehabilitation has to be changed and it has to begin with the rehabilitation of the people and then their area could be submerged.

The present money compensation has to be changed to land to land and house to house as much as possible in order to minimise the financial misappropriation in the R and R office.

Before displacing the settlements their common property resources (CPR) have to be given due consideration and are to be compensated properly. It means this work should begin a decade in advance and then the people can be shifted to the place of their destination.

An all India Level institute may be established on par with the IITs to pick up the youngsters among the affected families to train them in the new kind of occupations and to train the bureaucracy involved in the R and R task to avoid the short comings in the future.

A residential school may be opened in all the RCs to cater to the educational needs of the affected families’ children for a period of 10 years after displacement.

The existing 5% reservation of jobs for the affected families in group C and D category should be extended to group A and B category in all departments of state and central government recruitments.

While preparing the action plan for a project the local socio-economic and cultural diversities have to be given due consideration along with the national rehabilitation standards. This helps the bureaucrats to establish rapport with the affected people and makes the R and R task more participative.
➢ The illiterates among the displaced people should be provided with information and guidance regarding the proper utilisation of the compensation package. It will be easier if there is an institute or office at the project head quarter level specifically established for this purpose.

➢ The displaced people of the employable age must be given training in various skills and trades to enable them to have a sustained income.

➢ Those who have neither the compensation package nor the employable age should be provided with old age pension after proper verification that they are the displaced, landless and homeless people.

➢ To avoid desertions of elderly people by their children the share of elders in the compensation package must be deposited in a fixed deposit account in the nearest nationalised bank with the instruction for payment of monthly or quarterly interest to the account holder in person, subject to the condition that in case of the death of such account holder the deposit amount shall go to the nominees as recommended by him or her.

➢ The Impoverishment Risks and Reconstruction of livelihood model of (IRR Model) Michael Cernea could be employed in the task of R and R in the context of India by making certain modifications to suit the regional socio-economic and cultural diversities.

➢ In all the development induced displacement the displaced people are not taken into confidence who are the main stakeholders in the development process. Hence there is a lot of scope for further research with a stakeholders perspective.