

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2531

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2006

NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION POLICY

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**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

:

(a) The salient features of the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation; and

(b) The mechanism available or proposed to be developed to meet the requirements of Social Impact Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment of a project ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) The salient features of the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation-2003 (NPRR-2003), which is in force since February, 2004, are :

This Policy is applicable to the Projects displacing 500 families or more en masse in plain areas and 250 families or more en masse in hilly areas, Desert Development Programme (DDP) blocks or areas mentioned in Schedule V or Schedule VI of the Constitution of India.

This Policy is in the form of broad guidelines for guidance of all concerned, and offers minimum provisions, while the States or PSUs may offer better benefit packages.

This Policy document provides R&R benefits to those Project Affected Families

(PAFs) who have lost their land or house. These benefits are also be available to small and marginal farmers, agricultural and non-agricultural labourers, rural artisans/small traders/self-employed youths whether belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) or non-BPL category.

The above said categories of PAFs are entitled to get R&R benefits like allotment of house sites, grants for construction house and cattle shed, grant for land development and agricultural production, construction of shop/working-shed to rural artisans and grant for monthly subsistence allowance to Project Affected Families. The tribal PAFs get 25% higher R&R benefits in monetary terms in addition to other R&R benefits.

A Grievance Redressal Cell is to be set up at Project level and a Monitoring Cell at National level for monitoring the progress of various R&R projects.

(b) The following mechanism have been proposed in the draft National Rehabilitation Policy-2006 (NRP-2006) to meet the requirements of Social Impact Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment of a project :-

(i) Any physical displacement of 400 or more families en masse in plain areas, or 200 or more families en masse in tribal or hilly areas, DDP blocks or areas mentioned in Schedule V or Schedule VI of the constitution of India, due to land acquisition for projects or for any reason, where Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required as per existing laws, rules and guidelines, a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) report shall be prepared, in the prescribed proforma, simultaneously with the EIA Report, and submitted it to the agency prescribed in respect of EIA by the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(ii) In cases to which the above procedure is applicable, the SIA report will be examined concurrently with the EIA report by the multi-disciplinary expert group, which considers the EIA report.

(iii) In cases where there is no requirement of obtaining EIA clearance, the SIA report will be placed before a multi-disciplinary expert group constituted by the Requiring Body, if displacement is due to projects involving land acquisition, and in all other cases, by the concerned State Government. The above expert group shall examine the SIA report and accord clearance as per the procedure and within time limits.

(iv) Where both SIA and EIA are undertaken, the public hearing (to be organised by the State Government) done in the project affected area for EIA shall also cover issues related to SIA. Where there is no requirement for EIA, the SIA report shall be made available to the public hearing before it is placed before the expert group.

(v) Conditions laid down during SIA clearance shall be duly taken into account by the Administrator for R&R while preparing and implementing the R&R plan.