

Resettlement & rehabilitation policy: a mechanism of sustainability for displaced women of Odisha

Aliva Mohanty

Faculty, School of Women's studies, Utkal University, Vanivihar, Odisha, India

dralivamohanty@gmail.com

Abstract

Background/Objectives: The present paper intends to give coverage to the displaced women of three villages like Trijanga, Gobarghati and Kalinga Nagar of Odisha. To analyse the promises and performances done by TATA Steel for the betterment of displaced women of Kalinga Nagar.

Methods Adopted/Statistical Analysis: In the present study the data has been collected from respondents through interview method. Both primary and secondary sources of data collection method have been applied for the study. All total 100 sample displaced women have been selected through stratified simple random procedure. The stratification of the sample will be made on the basis of selection of data from pre and post displacement period.

Findings: Displacement of the women from their native place has affected the women a lot. Development induced displacement has a negative impact on the respondents. About 93% of respondents have stayed in the locality of TATA Steel for more than 5 years which states that they have also faced the struggle for their sustainability. 74% of respondents have reported that they have been displaced for the construction of TATA steel plant. 18% of respondents have said that they have been forcibly displaced by the local leaders. About 37 percent of respondents are not satisfied with the compensation provided to them by TATA steel. 75 percent of respondents have reported that they have been displaced to new locality in order to enhance their economic condition. About 12 percent of respondents have the idea that they will get new jobs in the new locality. 70% of respondents are accompanied by their friends while they are displaced. 20 percent of respondents have been accompanied by the local leaders.

Improvements: In the eligibility for R & R benefits, the women should be treated at par with their male counterparts. and importance should be given to the households headed by the women.

Key words: sustainability, resettlement rehabilitation, displacement

1. Introduction

About two-thirds of the world's forcibly uprooted people are displaced within their own country. They are known as internally displaced people (IDP) and UNHCR has been playing an increasingly important role in recent years in assisting them. According to the latest figures released by the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), there were 28.8 million IDPs around the world in 2012, up from 2011. The global number of IDPs has steadily increased from a total of around 17 million in 1997 [1]. The widespread impact of displacement upon the people is largely negative [2]. The environment too goes unheeded. The economic structure of the displaced people collapses. Social structure crumbles down and the habitants turn refugees overnight in their own habitats. The project displacing people from their habitats land, and occupation often shows highly disproportionate and inequitable benefits to those uprooted. This staggering proportion has significant and long term implications not only on the development of society but for securing socio-political harmony.

Thus, resettlement and rehabilitation of the displaced women has become a central feature of the development agenda, the 21st century starts with vast asymmetries in terms of major impoverishment risk factors relating to resettlement which is arising out of displacement such as landlessness, joblessness, homelessness, marginalization, food insecurity, increase in morbidity and mortality, loss of access to common property, and social disarticulation. Displaced women are suffering from multiple deprivations and violations to basic human rights [3]. The rights of displaced women remain at risks. Gender justice can be achieved if there is a conscious effort to move towards emancipator politics. This necessitates addressing the issue on an immediate basis by investing research insight into the phenomenon to make it preventable.

The effects of displacement depend on its duration, but immediate manifestations include family separations, exposure to gender violence, trauma associated with the deaths of family members, impaired health, and the loss of the home and possessions. Displacement may affect women's rights to inherit land and property. Over time, the cumulative effects of personal loss may result in depression and physical deterioration. Post-traumatic stress syndrome [4] is a common ailment among women who have been displaced for more than a few months. The long-term impact of displacement on women may mean the permanent loss of social and cultural ties, the termination of career and regular employment, and disruption or loss of educational opportunities. Some marriages do not survive the stress of displacement; divorces are common in IDP settings. Children suffer most when displacement spans periods of several years. They miss education during their formative years, undergo immeasurable trauma and psychological stress, suffer stunted growth due to extended poor nutrition, and have difficulties in socialization.

Displacement also changes gender roles as families become separated, relatives are killed, and homes are destroyed. When such events occur, women may become heads of families and find themselves forced into unaccustomed roles and responsibilities for which Gender violence in conflict situations is a violation of the fundamental human right to mental and physical integrity as protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. CEDAW and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. Violence is the chief source of fear for displaced [5] women and girls. Researchers have begun to focus attention on the long-term effects of living under the threat of violence. Conflict situations greatly increase the violence inflicted upon them; at no other time are women and girls more vulnerable. During conflicts, women often not only lack the protection of their families and spouses, but also are under threat by armed soldiers, who may regard them as spoils of war. Even when abuses are not aimed at them personally, women suffer violations of their human rights disproportionately when the normal codes of social conduct are ignored because of conflict.

The loss of social support systems and community solidarity experienced when rural people are displaced and moved to urban centres may cause families to break up. Families that lose their social networks of support often lose everything. Men may be unable to find work or may become involved in the conflict leaving the woman responsible for the household often an unaccustomed role for which she may be ill prepared. Women separated from their husbands or widowed must take on the responsibilities of providing for the household. IDPs from rural areas must adapt [6] to living in an urban environment, and often find only menial or degrading work. Women separated from their husbands or widowed must take on the responsibilities of providing for the household. IDPs from rural areas must adapt to living in an urban environment, and often find only menial or degrading work.

Displaced women generally lack community support; in many instances, the community is fragmented. The disintegration of community unity increases the vulnerability of women and children and weakens their coping mechanisms. Women and adolescent girls become easy targets for abuse when they are separated from normal support systems, husbands and other male family members. Internally displaced women [7] continue to require protection against further displacement and abuses even after they return home. Women especially need support from their communities to defend their rights and cope with their plight. When families lose their support networks they may fall victim to crime and violence.

Viewing the significance of the topic from the perspective of resettlement and rehabilitation and its attendant complexities the concern is with effective rehabilitation, which it maintains can manage displacement. At the same time it is maintained that by expanding resettlement objectives beyond merely aiming to improve the standards of living of the people, it would be possible to offset these disabilities. Thus moving towards such a just resettlement and rehabilitation is the focus of this study. The present project is being launched for "Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy: A Mechanism of Sustainability for Displaced Women of Odisha."

Relevance of the Study:

The study has been carried out to know about the effective implementation of R&R Policy for safeguarding the displaced women of Kalinga Nagar. Attempt has been made in the study area to judge the contribution of R&R Policy in maintaining socio-political harmony among the displaced women of Kalinga Nagar. The review of several studies regarding the R&R Policy and displacement shows that the studies have been developed without any gender concern. So in this study attempt has been made to observe the implementation of R&R Policy from the gender perspectives which will benefit the mankind for their better future. So the present study is expected to yield deep research insight and can serve as an eye opener to many development issues. Added to this,

- The study can enable us to reduce the magnitude of displacement that has taken place due to development projects, especially, the dams, clearly indicates the gravity of the situation in India in general and Orissa state in particular.
- It can provide a series of definite gains to the economy but are never free from vices in the form of widespread displacement.
- It can provide support to the majority of the displaced people especially women of the tribal community, who are illiterate, forest based dwellers and poor peasants. They are economically backward and politically weak to score any advantage in their favour out of the project concerned.
- Of late, provisions for resettlement and rehabilitation for the outsees through some policy measures have been adopted by the authorities. Very often construction of the project receives priority over population displacement and thus needs a proper approach to deal with the human problem.
- It is a fact that the oustees do hardly share the benefit of such projects for which they have been uprooted, creating serious economic and social upheavals for themselves. Once they are uprooted from their own land based economy, they incur impoverishment in many ways. This sort of development is out of Pareto optimality.
- Studies on displacement are necessary in order to present the problems of displacement and suggest possible measures to overcome such problems arising out of the development process.
- The study can bring out priority areas which require urgent attention and enable the policy planners to prepare better R&R policies for the State.

Departure and the distinction:

The present study is different from the conventional studies on displacement. It departs from the conventional displacement in the context of following points

- The present study will try to analyze displacement of women by the implementation of R&R Policy. Here the R&R policy will be basically refers to 'development opportunity' [8], This includes the need to avoid displacement and to ensure that it should be minimised. When it will take place, it is important to include women as full beneficiaries of compensation and as independent or co-owners of land; to make provisions for women's livelihoods along with housing and employment; to recognise and build on women's informal rights in customary practices; to avoid any violation of their rights; to include strong gender analysis and gender –sensitive data regarding the impacts of displacement; to have special provisions to include the full participation of women in decision-making processes around displacement and resettlement; and to build strong safeguards to facilitate women's access to compensation and any other benefits. As displacement in reality impoverishes the women, it shows the contrast between promises and performances and becomes a point of analysis which is seldom taken up in the present studies.
- The second point of departure from the conventional studies of displaced women lies with the fact that the displaced women is often viewed as economic marginalization, resulting in deprivation of life chances like nutrition, education, health care etc. But the present study intends to supplement a "life resource" angle to and views displacement of women leads to deprivation in the quality of life of women affecting the physical and economic growth, destroying the family and community life, the opportunity for cultural activity is affected and the right of movement is highly restricted, their right to participate and contest in the political processes become difficult. So displacement of women is not treated as economic problem, but the study looks at it largely from a socio political angle.
- The gap lies between the performances and promises of the R&R policy because there is no uniformity in the policy of R&R for different development projects. Though the guidelines of the policy put emphasis on the gender perspectives still then while implementing the policy not a single State has been adopting it properly. So gap lies in the promises and performances of the R&R policy. When the project [9] affected people suffer displacement along with its concomitant attributes like occupational degeneration, social disorientation, pauperisation, loss in dignity and often getting cheated of the compensation amount, which serve to make the experience a trauma. This has given rise to protest movements, marked by growing militancy. So the nature and degree of implementation of R&R policy varies according to the development, participation and protection of the displaced women.
- Unity and leadership of women at the time of displacement is scantily reflected in displacement literature. In the present research paper, an earnest attempt is made to make a collectiveness and leadership analysis of

displaced women to determine the extent and depth of “Capacity building of women” along with its causes and impact assessment.

- The effects of displacement depend on its duration, but immediate manifestations include family separations, exposure to gender violence, trauma associated with the deaths of family members, impaired health, and the loss of the home and possessions. Displacement may affect women’s rights to inherit land and property. Over time, the cumulative effects of personal loss may result on depression and physical deterioration. Post-traumatic stress syndrome is a common ailment among women who have displaced for more than a few months. The long-term impact of displacement [10] on women may mean the permanent loss of social and cultural ties, the termination of career and regular employment, and disruption or loss of educational opportunities. Even if a number of problems arise due to displacement still it strengthens the social integration among the displaced women to face the hurdles and cope the miseries with a bonding relationship with each other.
- Finally, the innovative angle of this research project lies in linking R&R policy of displacement of women with socio political harmony. The project starts with an assumption that the current problem of displaced women creates a risk society where cohesion, stability, peace and tranquillity are at stake. How it reduces socio political harmony and how through the effective implementation of R&R Policy, Socio political harmony can be restored is a major focus of this present piece of research.

What is special about the study

- The study tries to analyse the effective implementation of R&R Policy for the displaced women.
- The study intends to observe the causes and consequences of displacement through multi dimensional approach.
- The study tries to reflect upon violation of displaced women’s rights through R&R Policy.
- Capacity building of displaced women is the novelty in this research.
- Effective implementation of R&R Policy not only for socio political harmony will add a new dimension to the conventional approach to study condition of displaced women but it will help them to improve their knowledge and awareness about their rights.

Objectives:

The present paper intends to pursue the following objectives.

- To analyse the promises and performances done by TATA Steel for the betterment of displaced women. Of Kalinga Nagar.
- To analyse women’s resettlement programme done by TATA Steel and the acceptance of women and its effect on the life style of the women of Kalinga Nagar.

2. Methodologies adopted for the study

2.1. Sources of data collection

Data for the study has been collected both from primary and secondary sources.

2.2. Primary data: Has been collected from the sample through a structured interview schedule. Information on different items influencing socio-economic condition and activities of displaced women like age, caste, level of income, size of land holdings, occupational pattern, educational status, and marital status will be collected. Specific information on promises and performances made by TATA Steel for the rehabilitation and resettlement of displaced women of Kalinga Nagar, the persistence of gap between promises and performances, resentment and protest movement done by the displaced women, the status of socio political harmony on displaced women, the condition of social harmony in the family, neighbourhood, community, the cultural observances, collective efforts, community participation, the attitude of the displaced women towards the social integration, the family security system of the displaced women, leadership qualities of displaced women, the patron-client relationship has been collected considering their importance and relevance in the study area.

2.3. Secondary data: With respect to the sample villages has been collected through village schedule. Field survey method has been used and displaced women have been personally interrogated as the respondents or units of the

sample. Requisite data have been collected by canvassing interview schedules containing questions which have been asked and filled by the interviewer in a face to face situation with the informants. Pretesting of the schedule in a trial and error procedure is adopted by a pilot survey and necessary modifications have been made for clarity and correct interpretation of questions and to know the extent of non response. The questions have been so formed and designed as to ensure adequacy, precision and correctness of answers from the informants on a wider range covering of displaced women.

2.4. Tools of data collection:

The major tools through which the data has been collected from the study are as follows.

- Interview Method
- Focused Group Discussion

2.5. Universe and sample

- The present study relied on sampling method. As the study intended to make a cross class study of resettlement and rehabilitation of displaced women, it decided to give coverage to the women from pre displacement and post displacement period. Taking into account the severity of the displacement situation, the condition of pre and post displacement situation were decided to bring into the ambit of the sample. It tried to collect information from displaced women of three villages such as Gobar ghati, Sansailo and Trijanga of Kalinga Nagar of Jajpur district of Odisha.
- The sampling design adopted for the present study is a stratified simple random sample of displaced women of Kalinga Nagar, Odisha. In the present study all total 100 sample displaced women have been selected through stratified simple random procedure. The stratification of the sample has been made on the basis of selection of data from pre and post displacement period of TATA Steel project in Kalinga Nagar area of Odisha.

3. Results and discussion

Resettlement and Rehabilitation is a policy measure to pay compensation to the oustees when their lands, their houses and their common property resources are taken away in the name of development. It is observed that the process of displacement is quicker than the process of Resettlement and rehabilitation. Resettlement programmes have predominantly focussed on the process of physical relocation rather than on the economic and social development of the displaced and other negatively affected people. This has severely eroded the development effectiveness of resettlement and rehabilitation programmes and heightened the impoverishment risk of the resettlers. Rehabilitation can be envisioned as a process that would reverse the risks of resettlement [11]. Cernea suggests a risk and reconstruction model of rehabilitation [11] that would be marked by a series of transitions from:

- landlessness to land-based resettlement;
- joblessness to re-employment;
- food insecurity to safe nutrition;
- homelessness to house reconstruction;
- increased morbidity and mortality to improved health and well being, and
- social disarticulation and deprivation of common property resources to community reconstruction and social inclusion

In order to provide support to the displaced women TATA Steel has made a number of promises but there lies a gap between the promises and performances made by TATA Steel. The gap analysis can be better studied by going through the table 1.

It is evident from the table1 that the TATA Steel has made some promises for the displaced women of Kalinga Nagar. About 92% of displaced women have received monetary compensation, 97% of the respondents have received job opportunities, 91% have received voter-ID, BPL card etc. previously which they do not have. TATA steel has also provided education to 88% of girl which reveals that to provide protection and safety to the displaced women. TATA Steel has made a lot of promises for the displaced women. As shown as figure-1a

Figure 1a. Distribution of respondent on th basis of promises

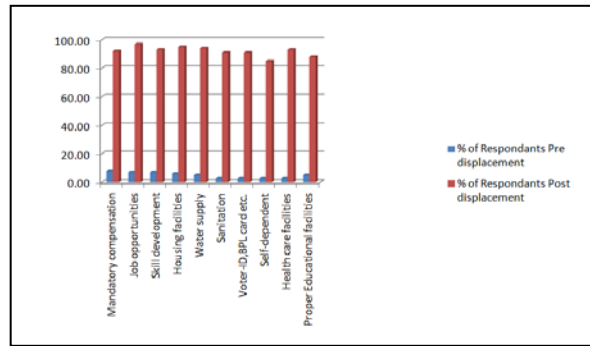
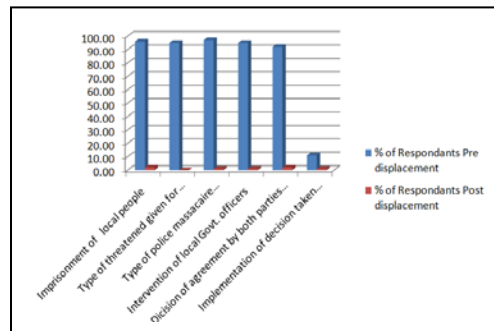


Table 1. Distribution of Respondents on the basis of promises and performances made by TATA Steel.

| Promises and Performances | Nature | Frequency | | Percentage | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | Pre displacement | Post displacement | Pre displacement | Post displacement |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Promises | Monetary compensation | 8 | 92 | 8.00 | 92.00 |
| | Job opportunities | 7 | 97 | 7.00 | 97.00 |
| | Skill development | 7 | 93 | 7.00 | 93.00 |
| | Housing facilities | 6 | 95 | 6.00 | 95.00 |
| | Water supply | 5 | 94 | 5.00 | 94.00 |
| | Sanitation | 3 | 91 | 3.00 | 91.00 |
| | Voter-ID,BPL card etc. | 3 | 91 | 3.00 | 91.00 |
| | Self-dependent | 3 | 85 | 3.00 | 85.00 |
| | Health care facilities | 3 | 93 | 3.00 | 93.00 |
| | Proper Educational facilities | 5 | 88 | 5.00 | 88.00 |
| Performances | Imprisonment of local people | 96 | 2 | 96.00 | 2.00 |
| | Type of threatened given for evacuating the houses | 95 | 0 | 95.00 | 0.00 |
| | Type of police massacre faced (physical, verbal, lathe charge etc.) | 97 | 1 | 97.00 | 1.00 |
| | Intervention of local Govt. Officers | 95 | 1 | 95.00 | 1.00 |
| | Decision of agreement by both parties in front of police and magistrate | 92 | 2 | 92.00 | 2.00 |
| | Implementation of decision taken within a specified period for rehabilitation of people | 11 | 1 | 11.00 | 1.00 |

The performance of TATA Steels shown in the table 1 indicates that there is a gap between the promises and performances made by TATA Steel. 96% of respondent have reported about the imprisonment of local people. 95% have been threatened for evacuating their houses. About 97% have faced the police massaccarie (physical, verbal or lathe charge) etc. About 95% of respondents need the intervention of local government officers. Around 92% of respondents have agreed about the decision taken by both parties in front of police and magistrate. 11% of respondents want to get rehabilitation within a specified period of time. As shown as figure-1b.

Figure 1b. Distribution of respondents on the basis of Performances



The performance outcome of TATA Steel shows that it again worsens the condition of the displaced women. They have taken a very drastic action against the victims of displacement. So these actions of TATA Steel have made them violent and reactive. Their psycho-social relation has been hampered.

Key Observations:

- The loss and gain scenario of the displaced women states that there is a major gap has been observed by TATA Steel, whatever loss the respondents have due to displacement that has been compensated by TATA Steel by providing alternative strategies to equal the loss.
- One of the major finding of the study is that the gender discrimination become more prominent during post displacement. It was 75% which was very marginal in pre displacement. As the compensation was provided by TATA Steel so more favour was given to the boys than girls who reveals a clear cut picture of gender discrimination.

The reaction of the respondents regarding the R&R policy can be known by knowing their attitude towards their rehabilitation, the purpose of their rehabilitation, their feeling towards it, the type of situation they faced, the persons who accompany them to the new locality etc. The attitude of the respondents towards their staying in the locality of TATA Steel can be known from the following tables.

Table 2. Distribution of respondents on the basis of staying in the locality

| No. of years staying in the area | Frequency | Percentage |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| < 3 years | 04 | 4.00 |
| 3 – 5 years | 03 | 3.00 |
| >5 year | 93 | 93.00 |
| Total | 100 | 100.00 |

Table 2 reveals that 93% of respondents have stayed in the locality of TATA Steel for more than 5 years which states that now they have been acquainted with the situation and type of support and help provided by TATA steel. They have also faced the struggle for their sustainability. Very few percentages for respondents have stayed for 3 – 5 years in that locality. So they are not very much habituated with the situation. So the displacement situation has affected a large percentage of women. They have suffered a lot being displaced from their own native place. As shown as Figure 2.

Figure 2. Percentage of respondents staying in the locality



Table 3. Distribution of respondents on the basis of purpose of displacement

| Purpose of displacement | Frequency | Percentage |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| For the construction of TATA steel plant | 74 | 74.00 |
| Forcibly by local leader | 18 | 18.00 |
| Reasons unknown | 05 | 05.00 |
| Any others | 03 | 03.00 |
| Total | 100 | 100.00 |

Table 3 states that 74% of respondents have reported that they have been displaced for the construction of TATA steel plant. About 18% of respondents have said that they have been forcibly displaced by the local leaders. A very marginal percentage i.e. 5% has reported that they have not known why they have displaced. So the figure of the above table indicates that to majority of respondents the reasons for displacement have been known. The maximum percentage of respondent are dissatisfied with the approach made by TATA Steel. As shown as Figure 3. The feeling of the respondents towards the displacement has been depicted in the Table 4

Figure 3. Distribution of respondents on the basis of purpose of displacement

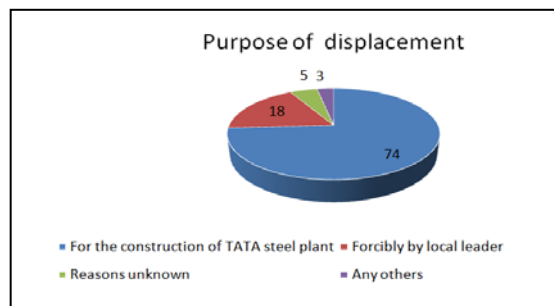
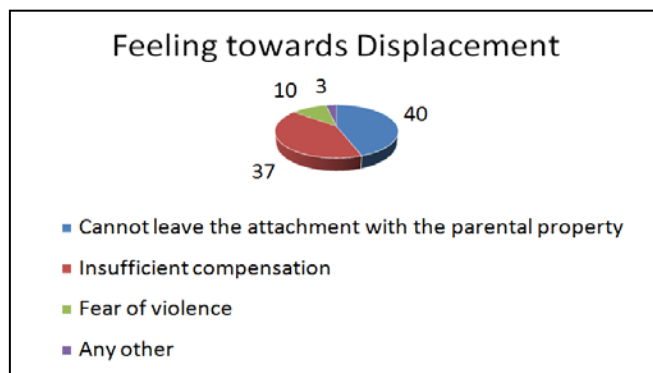


Table 4. Distribution of respondents on the basis of their feelings towards displacement

| Feeling towards Displacement | No. of respondents | % of respondents |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Cannot leave the attachment with the parental property | 40 | 40.00 |
| Insufficient compensation | 37 | 37.00 |
| Fear of violence | 10 | 10.00 |
| Any other | 03 | 03.00 |
| Total | 100 | 100.00 |

Table 4 reveals that 40 percent of respondent are not feeling comfortable in the process of displacement. They cannot leave their attachment with the parental property. About 37 percent of respondents are not satisfied with the compensation provided to them by TATA steel. So overall the respondents are not comfortable with the approach made by TATA Steel for their displacement. As shown as Figure 4.

Figure 4. Distribution of respondents on the basis of their feelings towards displacement



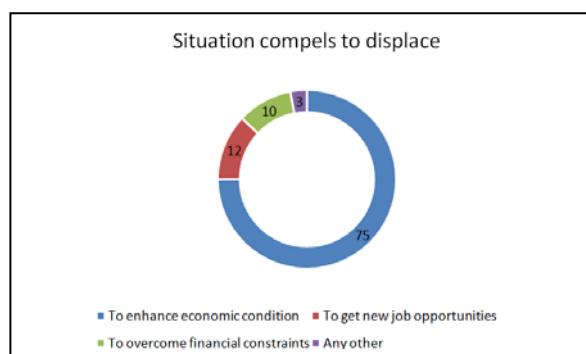
The displaced women are a very dissatisfied with the attempt made by TATA Steel. They are very uncomfortable with the approach of TATA steel which tempted the displaced women to be reactive to the situation. The response of the respondents regarding the situation which compels them to displace to a new locality has been displaced in the table 5

Table 5. Distribution of the respondents on the basis of reasons for shifting to new locality

| Situation compels to displace | No. of respondents | % of respondents |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| To enhance economic condition | 75 | 75.00 |
| To get new job opportunities | 12 | 12.00 |
| To overcome financial constraints | 10 | 10.00 |
| Any other | 03 | 04.00 |
| Total | 100 | 100.00 |

Table 5 reveals that about 75 percent of respondents have reported that they have been displaced to new locality. In order to enhance their economic condition. So they feel that they can lead a comfortable life by increasing their economic capabilities. Around 12 percent of respondents have the idea that they will get new jobs in the new locality. So majority of respondents have a new hope and expects better future by displacing themselves to a new locality. Even if it is a trouble some task for them still they are apprehending a better situation. As shown as Figure 5.

Figure 5. Distribution of the Respondents on the basis of reasons for shifting to new locality



So the persons who are involved in displacing the women, that can be observed from the Table 6

Table 6. Distribution of respondents on the basis of accompaniment

| Persons accompanied | No. of respondents | % of respondents |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Family members | 02 | 02.00 |
| Friends | 70 | 70.00 |
| Relatives | 04 | 04.00 |
| Local leaders | 24 | 24.00 |
| Any other | - | - |

It is evident from the above table that maximum percentage i.e. 70% of respondents is accompanied by their friends while they are displaced. 24 percent of respondents have been accompanied by the local leaders. So the study reveals that the family members and relatives do not have any interest for the displacement. They are very much dissatisfied with the attempt of TATA Steel. So they are reluctant to accompany any villagers in the case of displacement.

Key observation

- Displacement of the women from their native place has affected the women a lot. Their livelihood has been hampered. Their sustainability has been severely affected by leaving their parental place to a new locality.
- Development induced displacement has a negative impact on the respondents. The process of industrialization and the context of economic development have severely affected the marginalized and

weaker section of the community especially the women. The innocent women have been forcibly displaced from their own parental place. Some might have not known the reason of their displacement.

- The respondents have a very sensitive feeling regarding the process of displacement. The attachment of their own parental place has hurt them like anything. The insufficient compensation has severely affected their economic position and their fear for violence has made them emotionally weak.
- Development induced displacement helped the respondent to develop a high hope for their future. Even if the situation of displacement has severely affected them still they have the hope for getting the new job opportunities and to enhance their economic capability in post displacement.
- Social bonding plays a very important role in strengthening the social relationship. At the time of distress the respondents have been accompanied by their friends and relatives for shifting to the new locality. This reveals the belongingness of the respondents with their friends and relatives.

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