

No. 04/08/2013-CP&R/FRA
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs

216-J, D Wing,
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi-110001
Dated: 07.02 2018

To

The Secretary,
Hill Areas Department,
Government of Assam,
Dispur, Guwahati- 781006 (Assam)

Subject:- Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) plan proposal of Assam Power Generation Corporation Ltd. to implement the Lower Kopili Hydro-Electric Project (120 MW)- Regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter number HAD.332/2013/62 dated 7th January, 2017 and letter of Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited vide No. APGCL/CGM(H)/W/2009-10/296/115 dated 16.09.2017 on the subject mentioned above and to say that while the proposed R & R plan complies with the general requirements of R&R Act, 2013 and Forest Rights Act, 2006, this Ministry feels that it is necessary to take care of interests of the PAFs so that actual benefits of the Project can reach them and any negative consequences can be prevented and/or mitigated at the very initial stage.

2. In order to effectively monitor the implementation of the project, a Monitoring Committee through the Commissioner Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) may be set up to oversee and monitor implementation of the R&R package including additional measures suggested by this Ministry. This Ministry may also please be provided feedback at half-yearly intervals. Further, the R&R Plan be disclosed not only to the Project Affected Families (PAFs), but also to the residents of the project affected area. The R&R Plan may be uploaded on the website of the Project Authority and a copy of the same may please be sent to this Ministry through e-mail for putting it up on the web-site of this Ministry as well.

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3. Subject to the condition that the proposed R&R Plan will be followed in totality and also point No. 9 in check list- II enclosed with this Ministry's letter of even number dated 07.09.2017 i.e. fishing rights to project affected families is secured as well as implementation of 18 additional measures (copy enclosed) are ensured by State Government, this Ministry conveys its approval to the proposal.

4. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Roopak Chaudhuri)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

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Copy to:-

- (i) Chief General Manager, Assam Power Generation Corporation Limited, Bijulee Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Paltan Bazar, Guwahati-781001.
- (ii) ✓ Director (NIC) with request to upload the said letter on the website of Ministry of Tribal Affairs


Lower Kopili (120 MW) Hydero-Electric Project

Measures in addition to R&R Plan

1. Small contracts up to Rs. 30 lakhs should be reserved for PAFs. Registration as contractor may not be insisted upon.
2. Vehicle hiring rates to be at least 25% higher than those fixed by the DC for the area.
3. All PAFs should be allowed free of cost lifting of spare utilizable debris and other material.
4. Scrap disposal from HEP- In the construction phase as also in the operation phase, allow/reserve the auction only for PAFs.
5. Foreshore Cultivation should be allowed to PAFs exclusively without any charge, provided it is safe for them.
6. Preventive measures as well as remedial measures must be taken at project cost for water charging induced slope destabilization- i.e. land sinking, slope failure around reservoir. All such contracts to be assigned to PAFs.
7. Preferential allotment of Shops/ commercial plots in the project colony should be made only to PAFs. Same arrangement should be done for R&R colony, if any.
8. Present and future need of drinking water for the PAFs to be met even if tapping is required from the proposed reservoir. It must be treated as a matter of their right.
9. Following arrangements should be made to ensure health facilities to PAFs-
 - (i) Periodic free of cost health check- up for PAFs.
 - (ii) Project staff and labour to undergo periodic health check- up to prevent spread of any possible communicable diseases.
 - (iii) Arrangements for running mobile health facilities with qualified personnel and necessary equipment should be made, until health infrastructure improves. Frequency and places (with timings) must be decided in consultation with PAFs or their Gram Sabha and displayed prominently at appropriate places.
10. Training in life saving skills- Since reservoir would be a new geomorphological feature in the local habitat, most of the villagers and children need to learn swimming lessons. Further it will help in boating and recreation related activities, besides in fishing (new proposed occupation/ supplement to livelihood). Assistance in acquiring boats with Life guards/ buoy should be provided.
11. Introduce scholarship scheme to address low literacy /education levels.
12. R&R Cells can be staffed before starting work with a mix of experienced and young staff from social science educational qualification in which local youth may also be engaged.


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13. As per MoP resolution dated 31.3.2008, share of PAFs in revenue of the project – Stand of the project may be included in the R&R plan. If revenue is to be shared with people in PAAs/PAFs, BPL families may be given 20% more than other PAFs.
14. Access to project communication facilities may be extended to PAFs in emergency and in the case of dire need.
15. PAFs must be part of disaster preparedness and requisite training must be given to them in this regard.
16. Since Project is RoR type with d/s releases regulated as per grid requirements, the natural flow and patterns will be altered. Hence, prior to releasing water from dam/ barrage, adequate and effective warning system has to be put in place so that local communities and visitors may be made aware to avert Larji HEP type (June 2014, Kullu HP) tragedies.
17. Mandatory disclosure- The R&R plan along with Chapter 12 of EIA (Socio-economic profile) is to be disclosed not only to PAFs but also to the residents of Project Affected Area besides putting it (on permanent basis) on the website of the Project. Similarly, the monthly /periodic implementation progress report of R&R plan has to be disclosed regularly.
18. Project may like to assist digital outreach in the Project Affected Areas.


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