

Recommendations of the Workshop

1. The proposed Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 1998 should be widely publicised and discussed at various public forums before enactment.
2. In view of the present state of conflict arising from the process of acquisition of land, there is a need to evolve an appropriate forum for negotiations and bargaining and build up community strength, for community based bargaining, as part of the reconciliation strategy.
3. Community leadership should be encouraged and provided space in such negotiation process.
4. A sound baseline should be created at the outset of the acquisition process in order to evolve alternative models of acquisition in terms of minimising displacement and also work as an monitoring and evaluation tool during the pre and post displacement phases.
5. All efforts should be made to keep the land requirement to a minimum.
6. Before acquiring land, the land records should be updated and revised.
7. A Land Use Policy Body (LUPB) should be set up in the concerned district comprising district officials, specialists and different user groups, to review utilisation of land to be acquired/previously acquired.
8. Whenever fresh acquisitions are made, a review should be undertaken of the utilisation of previously acquired land, if any.
9. The quality of land should be taken as a factor while deciding the project site. It should cause least disruption to the livelihood.
10. Efforts should be made to avoid multiple displacement.
11. Land required for public and private sector industries should not be acquired through the Land Acquisition Act and should take place through open negotiation with the community. It is the responsibility of the government to ensure fair and transparent negotiation.
12. All projects involving displacement of more than 100 persons or acquiring more than 50 acres of land should be subjected to an independent review.
13. The cost of R&R should be included in the project cost.
14. Implementation of the R&R should be a time-bound programme and resettlement must take place before the actual displacement.
15. In implementing R&R people's participation should be ensured right from the drawing board stage itself.
16. The compensation package and the other terms of rehabilitation should be subject to negotiation since the Draft National Policy of Rehabilitation assumes its rehabilitation package as the statutory minimum.
17. Replacement value, which includes among other factors of dislocation, the cultural discontinuities, social disintegration, future land use etc., should be taken as a norm of the compensation package.
18. While devising the compensation package the employment problems of the second generation should also be kept in mind.
19. The compensation package should be flexible enough to offer alternate choices, e.g. land for land/house for house/job/self-employment/cash etc. to the displaced.

20. While selecting the rehabilitation site special care should be taken for maintaining the cultural ambience, environmental and ecological balance and minimising physical distance from the original site as far as possible.
21. The time limit prescribed in the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill should be strictly adhered to failing which the case should automatically be referred to a Land Acquisition Arbitration Board which should give its verdict within a period of six months. The Board should comprise government officials, independent experts and the representatives of the acquiring agency and the community.
22. Organisations like CII, FICCI etc. should help sensitise their members to become better corporate citizens.
23. The agency responsible for resettlement and rehabilitation should be empowered to function as a single window delivery system.
24. A Multipartite agreement between project authorities, government and displaced people should take place where the project authorities are held equally responsible for R&R operations.
25. Proper care should be taken to improve quality of life $\frac{3}{4}$ education, health care, drinking water, sanitation, communication, electricity, etc. $\frac{3}{4}$ at the rehabilitation site. Special attention should be paid to strengthen food security.
26. Post displacement problems like alcoholism, mental stress, increased morbidity and mortality etc. should be given priority status and care should be taken to develop appropriate coping mechanism.
27. Ongoing projects should be re-appraised for its R&R components with reference to the Draft National Policy of Rehabilitation.