

## ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

As per notification dated 14.9.06 of MOEF, Government of India issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, prior environment clearance of projects has become mandatory in respect of all new irrigation projects and for extension of existing projects. The application for obtaining Environmental Clearance are submitted to the newly constructed State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) which will be examined by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC). Revenue Departments and the proposals are transmitted to MOEF, Govt. of India for grant of necessary approval.

### **Initiatives taken during 2014-15**

- To upgrade knowledge on LA and R&R matter capacity Building Programmes on “Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation & Resettlement” have been organized at Baripada. 200 employees of DoWR participated.
- Efforts made to settle the pending cases relating to forest land diversion and environment clearance by taking up the issues with the F&E Department, Govt. of Odisha, MoEF, Govt. of India, in its Regional Office at Bhubaneswar as well as at New Delhi.
- Special efforts made to sensitize Collector & DMs for compliance of Forest Right Act-2006.
- To facilitate the field work on LA&RR, retired RIs, Amins & Data Entry Operators are allowed to work in the field establishment of Spl. LAOs / Spl. LA & RROs / PD (R&R)s.
- To expedite the field work on LA and R&R, Govt. order has been taken for fresh recruitment of Revenue Inspectors and Amins.

### **Organisation**

The Directorate of R&R functions as a composite Directorate under the Dept. of Water Resources. The land Acquisition matter is dealt by Additional Secretary assisted by Under Secretary, Officer in special duty and other ministerial staffs. The R&R matter is dealt by Director-cum-Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to Government who is assisted by Deputy Director-cum-Ex-Officio Under Secretary, Asst. Conservator of Forests, Asst. Director(CM), IPDP officer and other ministerial staffs. In the field there are Spl. LA & RROs, Project Director, R&R and Zone Officers etc. who are responsible for acquisition of land and implementation of R&R is closely interacts with Revenue & D.M Dept. on policy matters.

The principal jobs of the Directorate are

- To process land acquisition cases expeditiously to make land available to the project.
- To ensure that land losers get genuine compensation.
- Successful resettlement and rehabilitation with participation of displaced people and all stake holders.
- Emphasis on Land based rehabilitation in the ayacut area to the extent possible.
- Livelihood reconstruction through skill up-gradation.
- Make the displacement experience as less traumatic as possible.
- Expediting Forest and Environment clearance proposals for irrigation Projects.