टहल थामी, जोबिन्द खन्त्याल सम्पादक



नेपालगा सादिवासी सिष्टितार नीतिगत अवस्था, चुनौती र अवसरहरू

सक्पादन सल्लाहकार

शान्ति कुमारी राई दिनेश कुमार घले शंकर लिम्ब भिम राई अमृत योन्जन-तामाङ

> सम्पादक टहल थामी गोबिन्द छन्त्याल





नेपालमा आदिवासी

अधिकार

नीतिगत अवस्था, चुनौती र अवसरहरू

सम्पादन सल्लाहकार

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शंकर लिम्ब

भिम राई

अमृत योन्जन-तामाङ

सम्पादक

टहल थामी गोबिन्द छन्त्याल



नेपालमा आदिवासी अधिकारः नीतिगत अवस्था, चुनौती र अवसरहरू प्रकाशकः नेपालका आदिवासीहरूको मानव अधिकार सम्बन्धी विकल समूह (लाहुर्निप) अनामनगर, काठमाडौँ।

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Indigenous Peoples Rights in Nepal: Policy Status, Challenges and Opportunities

Editorial Advisors: Shanti Kumari Rai, Dinesh Kumar Ghale, Shankar Limbu, Bhim Rai, and Amrit Yonjan-Tamang. Edited by Tahal Thami/Gobinda Chhantyal

संक्षेपीकरण

आईएलओ अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय श्रम संगठन

आजउराप्र आदिवासी जनजाति उत्थान राष्ट्रिय प्रतिष्ठान

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गाविस गाउँ विकास समिति

जिवस जिल्ला विकास समिति

नपा नगरपालिका

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नेकपा नेपाल कम्युनिष्ट पार्टी

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राष्ट्रसंघीय घोषणापत्र

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लाहुर्निप नेपालका आदिवासीहरूको मानव अधिकार

सम्बन्धी विकल समूह

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सी.बी.आर. समुदायमा आधारित पुनर्स्थापना

सं. सम्पादक

Abbreviation

AD Anno Domini

ADB Asian Development Bank

AGRBS Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit

Sharing

AIPP Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

CA Constituent Assembly

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity
CBR Community Based Rehabilitation

CBS Central Bureau of Statistics

CEDAW Convention on the Elimination of all Forms

of Discrimination against Women

CERD Convention on the Elimination of All Forms

of Racial Discrimination

COP Conference of the Parties CPN Communist Party of Nepal

CRC Convention on the Rights of the Child CSR Corporate Social Responsibility

CSRDSP Committee for State Restructuring and

Division of State Power

DDC District Development Committee

DFID Department for International Development

EA Electricity Act

EIA Environment Impact Assessment FPIC Free, Prior and Informed consent

GI Governance Index
GL Generation License
GoN Government of Nepal
GSI Gender and Social Inclusion
HDI Human Development Index

HLSRRC High Level State Restructuring Committee
ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political

Rights

ICESCR International Covenant on Economic, Social

and Cultural Rights

ICIMOD International Centre for Integrated Mountain

Development

IEE Initial Environmental Examination IFAD International Fund for Agricultural

Development

IFC International Finance Corporation
ILO International Labour Organisation

INC Indigenous and Nationalities Commission

IPPs Independent Power Producers

IPs Indigenous Peoples

IWGIA International Work Group for Indigenous

Affairs

LAHURNIP Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of

Nepalese Indigenous Peoples

LGBTI Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender &

Intersex

LTR Lands, Territories and Resources

MAT Mutually Agreed Terms

MoAD Ministry of Agricultural Development
MoFSC Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
MoFSC Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
MoLJPA Ministry of Law, Justice & Parliamentary

Affairs

MoPE Ministry of Population and Environment

MW Mega Watt

NBSAP National Biodiversity Strategy and Action

Plan

NC Nepali Congress

NEFIN Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities

NESAC Nepal South Asia Centre

NFDIN National Foundation for Development of

Indigenous Nationalities

NPC National Planning Commission NTFPs Non-Timber Forest Products PES Payment for Ecosystem Services

PI Poverty Index SL Survey License

SOM/P Standard Operating Manual/Procedures

SRHLRC State Restructuring High Level

Recommendation Commission

UCPN (Maoist) Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)

UML Unified Marxist Leninist

UN United Nations

UNCED United Nations Conference on Environment

and Development

UNDP United Nations Development Programme
UNDRIP United Nations Declaration on the Rights of

Indigenous Peoples

UNPFII United Nations Permanent Forum on

Indigenous Affairs

VDC Village Development Committee

WB World Bank

WRA Water Resource Act

WSSD World Summit on Sustainable Development

प्रकाशकीय

संविधानसभामार्फत संविधान निर्माणलाई लोकतन्त्रको उत्कृष्ट नमूना मानिन्छ । इतिहासमा यस्ता अवसर बिरलै आउँछ । नेपालको सन्दर्भमा पिन नेपली जनताको लामो संघर्षपछि यो अवसार जुरेको हो । तर जसरी संविधानसभाले आम जनता तथा समुदायहरूको अधिकारका आवाजहरूको सम्बोधन गर्नुपर्थ्यो, त्यो हुन सकेन । संविधानसभाबाट बनेको संविधानमासमेत आदिवासीलगायतका समुदायहरूको अधिकार सुनिश्चित हुन नसक्दा असन्तुष्टिहरू भन बढेका छन् । त्यसको समाधान बेलैमा निकाल्न नसके देश भयंकर दुर्घटनमा पर्न सक्छ । त्यसरी संवैधानिक अधिकारबाट बन्चित एक समूह हो आदिवासी । ती समूहहरूको अधिकारका सम्बन्धमा संविधानमा भएका व्यवस्था र उनीहरूले चाहेको अधिकारका सम्बन्धमा गत पुष २२-२३, २०७३ (6-7 Januray 2017)मा काठमाडौंमा बृहत् सम्मेलनमा छलफल भएको थियो । सो कार्यक्रमको आयोजना गर्न पाउँदा लाहुर्निप गर्व महशूस गर्दछ ।

सो कार्यक्रम आयोजनामा विभिन्न व्यक्ति, व्यक्तित्व तथा संघसंस्थाहरूको अमूल्य सहयोग लाहुर्निपलाई मिलेको थियो। यसरी सहयोग तथा सल्लाह सुभाव दिनुहुने डा. कृष्ण भट्टचन र डा. नवीन राईप्रति हामी आभारी छौं। त्यसैगरी United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) का उपाध्यक्ष Mr. Raja Devasish Roy, सोही निकायकी सचिवालयबाट पाल्नु भएकी Ms. Julia Raavad, र International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) बाट कार्यक्रममा सहभागी बन्न आउनु भएका Mr. Christian Erniप्रति लाहुर्निप आभारी छ । त्यस्तै कार्यक्रमलाई सफल पारिदिन सहयोग गर्नुहुने अमृत योन्जन तामाङ, यशोकान्ती भट्टचन, डम्मर लोहोरुङ, डम्बर तेम्बे र नारायण निङ्लेखुप्रति पनि धन्यवाद व्यक्त गरिन्छ।

सो कार्यक्रम सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न गर्नका लागि महत्वपूर्ण सहयोगका United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) लाई पनि धन्यवाद टक्रयाइन्छ । साथै कार्यक्रमा उपस्थित भई कार्यक्रमको शोभा बढाई दिन् भएकोमा राष्ट्रिय मानवअधिकार आयोगका अध्यक्ष माननीय अनुपराज शर्मा, आदिवासी जनजाति उत्थान राष्ट्रिय प्रतिष्ठानका उपाध्यक्ष चन्द्रबहाद्र गुरुङ र सदस्यसचिव गोविन्द माभीप्रति लाहर्निप कृतज्ञ छ । त्यसै गरी नेपाल आदिवासी जनजाति महासंघ, राष्ट्रिय आदिवासी जनजाति महिला महसंघलाई पनि धन्यवाद साथै सो कार्यक्रममा गरिमामय उपस्थितिका लागि माननीय सांसदहरू, विभिन्न संघसंस्थाका प्रतिनिधिहरू, बृद्धिजीविहरू, राजनीतिक दलका प्रतिनिधिहरू, विभिन्न राजदतावासका प्रतिनिधिहरू, व्यापारिक क्षेत्रका प्रतिनिधिहरू, सरकारी निकायका प्रतिनिधिहरू, संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघलगायत अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय निकायका पितिनिधिहरू र सामाजिक अभियन्ताहरूपित हार्दिक धन्यवाद जापन गरिन्ह्य ।

यस पुस्तकमा सो कार्यक्रममा प्रस्तुत कार्यपत्रहरू समावेश गरिएका छन् । कार्यक्रममा कार्यपत्र प्रस्तुत गरिदिनुहुने विभिन्न मन्त्रालयका प्रतिनिधि-कर्मचारीहरू तथा बुद्धिजीविहरूप्रति पनि लाहुर्निप आभारी छ । साथै यस पुस्तक प्रकाशनमा प्रत्यक्ष तथा परोक्ष रुपमा योगदान गर्ने सबैप्रति हामी आभार व्यक्त गर्दछौं ।

शान्ति कुमारी राई

विषय सूची/Content

संक्षेपीकरण / Abbreviation प्रकाशकीय

लैंगिक समानता, संस्कृति र भाषा नेपालमा महिलाको अवस्था र सुधारका प्रयासहरू

नारायण बहादुर कुवँर
आदिवासी जनजाति महिला र बालबालिकाका सन्दर्भमा
नेपाल सरकारको नीति र अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय प्रावधानहरू

कैलाश राई २९

नेपालमा मातृभाषाको उपयोगः नीतिगत र कार्यगत अवस्था

डा.डिल्लीराम रिमाल ५३

मातृभाषा, मातृभाषामा शिक्षा र संस्कृतिसम्बन्धि राज्यको नीति

अमृत योन्जन-तामाङ १०५

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प्रचलित कानूनमा आदिवासी जनजाति सम्बन्धी व्यवस्था शंकर लिम्बू १९९

भूमि अधिकार, संरक्षित क्षेत्रहरू र जलवायु परिवर्तन

भूमिसुधार र व्यवस्थापनको क्षेत्रमा भएका नीतिगत व्यवस्थाहरूको विश्लेषण लीलानाथ दाहाल २१९

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Policies Related to the Electricity Development in Nepal

Sagar Raj Goutam

Introduction

The share of energy consumption, according to fuel type, is dominated by fuel wood that accounts for about 70% and electricity accounts for about 3% while energy consumption through petroleum products account for about 13%. The domestic electricity supply system of Nepal is small, and hydropower contributes in the order of 88.33% of the total installed electric power generating capacity

of the country. However, Nepal still holds the power position of that of one of the highest potential but lowest consumption. The total installed generating capacity in the country including the private as well as others is about 925MW. Out of which about 867MW of electricity is from hydropower. Hydropower facilities are mostly run-of-river and account for 84% of total installed capacity. Despite high level of susceptibility of run-of-river to high rates of spillage they represent the least-cost development plan and hence are the most adopted. Among the total installed capacity, more than 1/3 of the installed capacities have been established through the participation of private sector.

The power development started in Nepal with the development of Pharping Hydropower Project in 1911 A.D. and has been in the development stage ever since. Though the development started much earlier, pace of development of the sector had been much slower. It was only during the 1990s that the far reaching policy changes were introduced in Nepal which led to the opening up of the power sector to domestic and foreign private sectors. Enactment of Electricity Act, 1992 and Electricity Regulations, 1993 marked the entry of independent power producers (IPPs) in Nepal's Power Sector through non-recourse financing. Different acts and policies have been adopted for the development as well as management of the hydropower projects. Despite a decade-long conflict and subsequent continuous political transition being the main barrier for the

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development of hydropower projects in post 1990 era, the result of the economic liberalisation policy adopted in the electricity sector is becoming visible now. As a result the contribution of the private sector in the electricity industry is going to be increased substantially within five years. This is evident from the fact that around 3340MW of hydropower projects are at various stages of construction. Likewise about 5651MW capacity of projects are in advanced stage and are seeking for generation license (GL) from Ministry of Energy in order to enter into construction phase. Similarly about 5863MW of hydropower projects are being studied under the survey license (SL) [1].

Policies

While the policies adopted were framed to encourage and mobilise private sector in development of hydropower sector, several of those policies address mechanisms to involve local communities in the development process of electricity sector. Some of the major ones are described subsequently:

Water Resources Act [2]: The Water Resources Act (WRA), 1992 states the ownership of water resource vested to state of Nepal. With this authority vested to the state, the utilisation of water resources has to be carried out through licenses with some exceptions. Likewise for the collective benefit, development of resources can be done through Water User's Association. This acts also prioritises the use of water resources according to its utilisation. If the government or a licensee implements construction

work relating to the development and utilisation of water resources, the government or licensee may prohibit the use of the premises, whether a house or land. The government allows using, developing and expanding services to national, international company and individual by entering into a contract. The government or the licensee, however, has to pay compensation as prescribed to the concerned person for the damage or loss caused by the prohibition.

Electricity Act [2]: The Electricity Act (EA), 1992 is concerned with developing electric power and providing standard and safe electricity services to the people. This Act has the same provisions about land acquisition and prohibition on using the premises of construction area as are stated in the Water Resources Act. The same procedure is also applied in paying compensation. The EA requires permission (License) by submitting prior application from individual or organised institution (Legal Person) who want to survey, produce, expand or distribute electricity submission of economic, technical requiring and environmental study report inter alia other requirements determined by existing laws policies. The duration of the permission varies subject wise: five years for survey and for 50 years for producing, expanding and distribution. Furthermore provisioning for royalty is one of the important aspects of this Act. As far as public involvement during the development of hydropower project is concerned, this act has a provision that mandates Department of Electricity Development to issue Public Notice and seek advice/ comments/ grievances etc from concerned stakeholders in connection to construction of the project. Any genuine concerns can be addressed through setting condition while issuing Generation License.

Environment Protection Act and Rules [2]: The Environment Protection Act and its rules, 1997 have been framed in order to achieve sustainable development from inseparable inter-relationship between the economic development and environment protection. This act allows systematic environmental studies of hydropower projects including the processes of public involvement. Two levels of study are envisaged through this instrument-Initial Environment Examination (IEE) and Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)-depending on the nature of the project. Without approval of this study a project cannot be implemented. For energy related projects, the approval of IEE lies with Ministry of Energy and approval of EIA lies with Ministry of Population and Environment

According to these instruments, environment is dealt within three categories-physical, biological and socioeconomic & cultural. Under the socioeconomic and cultural aspect, the project is looked at the social and cultural level. Where this instrument does not categorically cover the aspect of indigenous peoples, it definitely provides a window for all the local communities that need to be dealt during environment study. There are several level of public engagement at the IEE and EIA study level.

For IEE study of any hydropower project, expert/focused consultation is carried out at the local level. To make sure that the public is well aware of the

project and to be familiar with their views, comments, suggestions and other concerns, 15 days public notice is published in a national newspaper followed by pasting of such notices in the public places at local level. On receiving the feedbacks, they are suitably incorporated and related solutions are devised in the IEE report. The draft report is then shared at the local level. A very important point to be noted is that the recommendation of Village Development Committee /Municipality is required for the approval of the IEE. This allocation of the power to such local institutions is to ensure that the local level approval is the initial requirement for any project to move forward.

The same public consultation process of IEE is adopted at EIA process. In addition to this, when draft EIA report is prepared, the content of the report like issues identification; determining their significance and rating those as potential impacts; mitigation measures; environment measurement plan etc. are shared through the public hearing at the local level. The views of the affected communities/people are collected and fine-tuned solutions are devised. The document is then opened to public for 30 days by Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) before taking decision on it.

After ILO Convention No.169 came into effect in 2007 a provision has been made in the IEE/EIA to review this document as well during the course of EIA/IEE study in order to internalise the provisions made in

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ILO Convention No.169. During the course of time the process of preparing and the content of IEEs and EIAs have been evolved. Department of Electricity Development over the time has published several manuals including "Manual for Public Involvement in the EIA Process of Hydropower Projects" in order to streamline the EIA/IEE process giving much needed emphasis on the public involvement in the development process. The Manual is to ensure the involvement of the public in the EIA process of the hydropower projects so as to meet up their requirements. The Public Involvement represents the involvement of all the people residing in the project areas.

Hydroelectricity Development Policy, 2001 [2]: Attracting and encouraging national and international investors for the development of hydropower projects through establishing transparent process is one of the key features of this policy. In addition, management of appropriate benefit to the local level, sharing of risk associated, measures to reduce environmental impact and rehabilitation of displaced family are some of the other features of this policy. This policy has also quantified environmental water release required at the downstream of the headwork. The royalty to be provided by developer to the government has also been increased through this policy. However, Electricity Act needs to be revised in order to make that provision to take effect fully. While this policy has provisioned 1% of royalty for VDC from the government's royalty for the expansion of rural electrification, according to the Local Self-governance Regulation, 1999, 50% of royalty is being distributed to district development committee for the development activities of the related

Constitution of Nepal [3]: The Constitution of Nepal, in relation to development and management of natural resources, embraces policy to (i) protect, promote, and make environmental friendly and sustainable use of, natural resources available in the country. in consonance with national interest and adopting the concept of intergenerational equity, and make equitable distribution of benefits, according priority and preferential right to the local communities, (ii) to make multi-purpose development of water resources, while according priority to domestic investment based on public participation, (iii) to ensure reliable supply of energy in an affordable and easy manner, and make proper use of energy, for the fulfillment of the basic needs of citizens, by generating and developing renewable energy, (iv) to adopt appropriate measures to abolish or mitigate existing or possible adverse environmental impacts on the nature, environment or biological diversity, (v) to pursue the principles of environmentally sustainable development such as the principles of polluter pays, of precaution in environmental protection and of prior informed Similarly National Natural Resource consent. and Fiscal Commission has been envisaged in the Constitution to (i) prepare basis for natural resource use. revenue distribution, modality formulation; (ii) prepare basis for share of investment and return; (iii) study/ research for Dispute resolution; (iv) study and research work about environmental impact assessment required in the course of distribution of natural resources.

With the three level of governance (power) at federal, state and local along with the concurrent power, the

Constitution has stated the jurisdiction, in principle, of each level related to natural resources, water resources, hydro-electricity and transmission line projects. The Constitution has embraced a policy to provide equitable distribution of benefits derived from the use of natural resources or development and certain portions of such benefits shall be distributed, pursuant to law, in forms of royalty, services or goods to the project affected regions and local communities.

Action plan on National Energy Crisis Mitigation and Electricity Development Decade [4]: Government of Nepal has put in place a policy entitled "Action Plan on National Energy Crisis Mitigation and Electricity Development Decade, 2016" to encourage the development of 10,000MW of hydropower capacity over a 10 year period so as to fulfill the electricity demand of the country. This initiative is expected to assist in the optimal usage of an available hydropower resource, to create employment and to aid in the development of Nepal. The Action Plan covers the major aspects of the hydropower development such as electricity sector reforms, planning guidelines for the development of the hydropower projects, land acquisition and safeguards as well as financial arrangements and procurement for the development of power projects. The Action Plan has incorporated the "right of way" compensation mechanism so that the hurdles regarding the land acquisition can be minimised and also incorporates the safeguard of the people stating that 10% equity share shall be given

to the community/people affected by the project. Likewise, this plan also provisioned community support program to be inbuilt in IEE and EIA reports of the hydropower projects with cost allocation. According to this provision, 0.75% of total cost of the project of size up to 100MW and 0.5% of the total cost of the project of size greater than 100MW has to be allocated for community support program in addition to the cost of mitigation measures envisaged in IEE/EIA report. This provision will allow further engagement with the affected community in order to uplift and address their concerns.

Challenges and way ahead

The electricity industry will have to deal with different challenges in order to grow and achieve its aim of generating 10,000MW of electricity in 10 years. The challenge this sector faces spreads across political, legal, technical and environment spectrum at all the governance level. While the allocation of authority and responsibility amongst federal, state and local government is based upon the nature and the size of the project/activity related to development and management of water resources, the Constitution envisages formulating the basis of sharing through appropriate law. In the present context, while local governance entities like VDCs and municipalities have the responsibility to recommend implementation of particular project, the challenge for such local level institution is to use such authority effectively. The present EIA/IEE processes that are being practiced

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since last two decades need to be updated based on the learning that has been made so far.

Constitution being in place, an overarching policy formulation on water resources is the next step which will pave way for enactment and formulation of respective acts and rules in the context of allocation/sharing of power for the various uses of water resources across three different level of governance. Furthermore, it is also important to document the best practices and learning of public involvement in the process of EIAs/IEEs and their implementation which can be very useful in formulating new policies, acts and regulations along with the related guidelines/manuals.

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