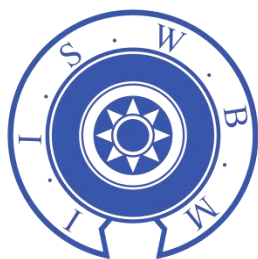


ESMF FOR WBEDGMP UNDER WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE

TRIBAL PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Document No.: IISWBM/ESMF-TPPF/WBSEDCL/2019-2020/001-2 (Version: 1.6)



IISWBM

March, 2021

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR WBEDGMP
UNDER WORLD BANK FUND ASSISTANCE**

TRIBAL PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK

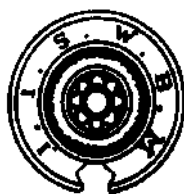
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**WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY
DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED**

**Vidyut Bhavan, Bidhan Nagar
Kolkata – 700 091**

Executed by



**Indian Institute of Social Welfare
& Business Management, Kolkata – 700 073**

March, 2021

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL) is a power distribution licensee for almost the entire State of West Bengal and accounts for about 80% of the power supply in the State and caters to almost 18.1 million customers (2018-19). At present grid connectivity has been extended in every nook and corner of the State covering 99% villages. To achieve Power for All (PFA) objective, the Government of West Bengal (GoWB) has sought World Bank assistance to support part of their investments in High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS), 33/11 KV GIS, Underground Cabling (UG) across select districts/towns (besides modern technology and institutional capacity building) to facilitate increased availability of power, improve service delivery and reduce system losses.

For implementation of proposed distribution network strengthening project, it is not only mandatory to comply with applicable national and state legislations/regulatory framework on environment and social issues but to carry out due diligence on such issues as per the provisions of World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) to meet the overall requirement of sustainable development.

The Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) outlines the objectives, policy principles and procedures for compensation and other assistance measures for tribal people who may be displaced/ affected due to project implementation. Accordingly, TPPF for the West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization Project (WBEDGMP) has been developed in adherence to applicable National/State regulations and World Bank's Environmental & Social Standard (ESS - 7): Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities.

The objective of Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) is to address the developmental needs of indigenous people/tribes as a distinct community through a process of sustainable development. The prime objectives of the TPPF includes:

- To assess the socio-economic profile of the tribes;
- To identify potential impacts (adverse and beneficial) on the tribes associated with the proposed sub-projects; and
- To recommend actions to incorporate a cultural-sensitive approach for the proposed sub-projects.



2.0 IDENTIFICATION OF TRIBAL PEOPLES & SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASELINE

In India, there are several policies which provide a legal framework for categorizing as well as ensuring dedicated attention to the tribal peoples. Article 366(25) of the Indian constitution refers to Scheduled Tribes (STs) as those communities who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution which uses the following characteristics to define indigenous peoples [Scheduled Tribes (ST)], (i) tribes' primitive traits; (ii) distinctive culture; (iii) shyness with the public at large; (iv) geographical isolation; and (v) social and economic backwardness.

The state of West Bengal has a considerable tribal population. The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of West Bengal State is 5,296,953 in which 4,855,115 rural area and 441,838 urban area as per 2011 census constituting 5.8 % of the total population (91,276,115) of the State in which 50.03 % males 49.97% females.

West Bengal has 40 tribal communities, among the forty notified scheduled tribes the Santal represents slightly more than half of the total ST population of the state (51.8%). Oraon (14 %), Munda (7.8 %), Bhumij (7.6 %) and Kora (3.2 %) are the other major STs having sizeable population in WB. Along with Santal, they constitute nearly 85 % of the State's total ST population. The Lodha, Mahali, Bhutia, Bedia, and Savar are the remaining STs, and having population of one per cent or more. The rest of the STs are very small in population size. The decadal growth of ST is 20.20% in WB.

3.0 LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR TRIBES

Government of India has framed many policies and laws to safeguard the interest of the Scheduled Tribes. Article 366(25) of the Indian Constitution refers to Scheduled Tribes (STs) as those communities who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution. According to Article 342 of the Constitution, STs are the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within these tribes and tribal communities. The constitutional safeguards related to tribal are:

- Article 14, related to equal rights and opportunities;
- Article 15, prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex, religion, race, caste etc.;
- Article 15 (4), enjoins upon the state to make special provisions for the STs;

One of the important National Acts which ensures Social Safeguards of the STs is "Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. World Bank Environmental and Social Standard i.e. Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (ESS - 7) need to be complied for sub-projects in WBEDGMP which are likely to have impact on the tribal community.



4.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS & MITIGATION

The impact can result from proposed activities throughout the project life-cycle from project design, construction, operations and maintenance to decommissioning stages. The major positive and negative impacts of the project with special reference to tribal communities are identified below.

The prime positive impacts of proposed project includes:

- Improved and Reliable Power Supply
- Increased Social Inclusion
- Improved Quality of Life
- Positive Impact for Women and Girls
- Energy Conservation

The prime negative impacts of proposed project includes:

- Loss of livelihood due to acquisition of private agricultural land, if any for setting up of GIS if. Whereas homestead land belonging to tribal people would be avoided for the setting up of substation; and
- Loss of common property resources due to procurement of government land, if any.
- The tribal population living in protected and reserved forest areas is at some risk because of dependence of their livelihoods on forest resources like trees, which may be cut or pruned to undertake project activities.
- The communities close to GIS and DTRs may face some health and safety concerns.

Land would be required only for construction of the GIS. In order to avoid the loss of private/communal lands or agriculture and forest lands, the WBSEDCL's endeavour will be, wherever possible, to secure Government land for their sub-projects and avoid private or communal lands, even if this requires realignments. Only in rare cases that Government land is not available will other methods of securing land be pursued as per RPF.

Once tribal populations affected by a sub-project are identified a TPPF are provided with special assistance as per laws and policies to receive adequate protection against project adverse impacts on their culture identities.

5.0 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

The proposed project includes the establishment of 33/11 kV Gas Insulated Sub-stations (GIS), the construction of which may require securing of land by the WBSEDCL. For constructing a 33/11kV GIS, less than 1 acre of land is required. While the majority of the land required for GIS



construction will be secured through transfer of Government lands, there is a possibility that some private land may need to be acquired. Wherever displacement is involved in tribal areas, RPF will be followed. However, this will be done only as a demonstrable last resort in the case of non-availability of Government lands in the area. In case of DTR foundation and distribution poles primarily government land would be used. The contractor constructing the HVDS and LT AB cabling network as well as UG cabling network would carry out the process of identifying optimum location as per DPR.

The implementation of the TPPF (if required) would be carried out by the contractor under the supervision of PIU-WBSEDCL. WBSEDCL Divisional/Regional offices would maintain close watch on the environmental and social safeguards including TPPF (if applicable) implementation through a system of Monitoring & Review.

6.0 GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) is an integral part of the institutional arrangement in relation to TPPF. A three-tier consumer GRM is already in place at WBSEDCL and this will also be a channel for the tribal peoples to file the grievances. To effectively address grievances related to ESMP implementation including TPPF, two GRM bodies are proposed to be established; Project Steering Committee (PSC) at the corporate level and Field level Grievance Redressal Committees (GRCs) at the sub-project sites.

The established PSC for WBEDGMP under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Engineer (Distribution) of WBSEDCL, shall be used to monitor and review the progress of implementation of ESMP including TPPF of each sub-project. Additional Chief Engineer (Distribution) WBSEDCL, will be convener of this Committee. This Committee should meet every quarter to review the progress made in the implementation of the ESMP including TPPF of each sub-project and to solve any grievances of the tribal peoples. This Committee will also provide policy related direction to the GRC and the participating departments with regard to ESMF.

The field level Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) will be established at each sub-project site under the chairmanship of Divisional/Regional Manager, WBSEDCL for redressal of grievances of the tribal peoples. Designated Divisional Manager of concerned region shall be the convener of this Committee. At the sub-project level, contractor/sub-contractors will provide support to this Committee. Block/Sub-division/District level head of all participating departments will be members along with a representative of tribal peoples, if any.

Complaint boxes will be placed at every sub-projects locations i.e. RM/DM office of WBSEDCL which would be collected once in two days by concerned RM/DM. Grievances received through other modes (postal, email, or over the phone), existing customer three tier GRM channels will be compiled. An e-mail and toll free phone number will be provided for receiving grievances/complaints through these methods. Toll free phone number, email, and address of



PIU shall also be suitably displayed at sub-project locations. Additionally, PIU will provide support to illiterate, tribal, physically challenged and other vulnerable to record their grievances.

The affected tribal peoples, if any who are not satisfied with the decision/mechanism has the freedom to move court of law at any stage for redressal of their complaint. In case it is referred to court, the above referred GRM shall cease to take cognizance of complaint.

7.0 STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION & DISCLOSURE

The stakeholder consultation workshops was conducted at Bankura Jilla Parishad Conference Hall on 14th February, 2020 and Baruipur Municipality Conference Hall on 10th February, 2020. Detailed presentation on draft ESMF including TPPF was made which was followed by discussion and suggestions by the participants. The suggestions were noted and incorporated suitably in the ESMF/TPPF document.

In order to make the TPPF preparation and implementation process transparent, salient features of TPPF shall be translated in Bengali which is widely spoken and understood in the project area and disclosed on the Project Authority's website. The documents available in the public domain will include TPPF (summary in Bengali). Copy of all documents will be kept in PIU for ready reference. As per Access to Information Policy of the World Bank, all safeguard documents will also be disclosed and available at the World Bank's external website.

Further to the web disclosure of the Draft TPPF on Project Authority's website, wide publicity would be given through newspaper advertisements about the disclosure and seeking public views and suggestions. Executive summary of the TPPF translated in Bengali would be distributed to the stakeholders. The final TPPF incorporating given comments, if any, shall be forwarded to the World Bank for its review and clearance and subsequent disclosure on the World Bank's portal.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL) is a power distribution licensee for almost the entire State of West Bengal, except for certain areas, which are catered by private distribution licensees. WBSEDCL accounts for about 80% of the power supply in the State and caters to almost 18.1 million customers (2018-19). At present grid connectivity has been extended in every nook and corner of the State covering 99% villages and the low and medium voltage consumer base has seen a significant increase post implementation of rural electrification schemes. However, this has led to a steady increase in Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss levels. WBSEDCL continually strives to enhance the quality of services delivered to its customers. WBSEDCL provides quality power to a gargantuan customer base of more than 1.95 crore across West Bengal through its service network spanning 5 Zones, 20 Regional Offices, 76 Distribution Divisions and 530 Customer Care Centers.

To achieve Power for All (PFA) objective, the Government of West Bengal (GoWB) has sought World Bank assistance to support part of their investments in High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS), 33/11 KV GIS, Underground Cabling (UG) across select districts/towns (besides modern technology and institutional capacity building) to facilitate increased availability of power, improve service delivery and reduce system losses. Further the State has planned investments in modern ICT technologies including operational technologies across the complete electricity supply and demand chain to ensure efficiency and monitor reliable supply of power.

For implementation of proposed distribution network strengthening project, it is not only mandatory to comply with applicable national and state legislations/regulatory framework on environment and social issues but to carry out due diligence on such issues as per the provisions of World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) to meet the overall requirement of sustainable development.

To accomplish this mission, it is imperative to undertake a) preparation of Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) along with Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF), Gender Development Framework (GDF), Labor Management Procedure (LMP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for proposed project and b) Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) including preparation Environment & Social Management Plan (ESMP) for each proposed sub-project. Accordingly the Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) for the West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization



Project (WBEDGMP) has been developed as per GoI and state policies & laws and World Bank's Environmental & Social Standards to address the tribal peoples issues.

1.2 TRIBAL PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR WBEDGMP

The Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) for the West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization Project (WBEDGMP) has been developed as per GoI and state policies & laws and World Bank's Environmental & Social Standard i.e. Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (ESS -7). World Bank recognizes that tribal peoples issues are important dimensions of its poverty reduction, inclusive economic growth, human well-being and development effectiveness agenda. The objective of Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) is to address the developmental needs of indigenous people/tribes as a distinct community through a process of sustainable development.

The Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) outlines the objectives, policy principles and procedures for compensation and other assistance measures for tribal people who may be displaced/ affected due to project implementation.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE TPPF

The Tribal Peoples Planning Framework (TPPF) illustrates the specific activities to address tribal peoples specific concerns and social impacts associated with the proposed project. The prime objectives of TPPF includes:

- To assess the socio-economic profile of the tribes;
- To identify potential impacts (adverse and beneficial) on the tribes associated with the proposed sub-projects; and
- To recommend actions to incorporate a cultural-sensitive approach for the proposed sub-projects.



2.0 IDENTIFICATION OF TRIBAL PEOPLES & SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASELINE

2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF TRIBES

The World Bank's ESS - 7 recognises that Indigenous Peoples identities and aspirations are distinct than majority of the ethnic groups in national societies and often are found to be disadvantaged by traditional models of development. In many instances, they are among the most economically marginalized and vulnerable segments of the population. Their economic, social and legal status frequently limits their capacity to defend their rights connected to land, territories and natural and cultural resources and may restrict their ability to participate in and get benefited from development, aims to give full respect to their dignity, human rights and cultures of indigenous peoples, thereby contributes to the Bank's mission of poverty eradication and sustainable development. It also gives recognition to the fact that the identities, cultures, lands and resources of indigenous peoples are uniquely mutually involved and development programs may create adverse impact as they are vulnerable to changes caused by them, hence it is necessary to come up with special measures that can ensure that they are included in and can obtain benefits from these programs as deemed to be appropriate. Because of the varied and changing contexts in which Indigenous Peoples live, the extent of vulnerability would be a key variable in designing plans to promote equitable access to benefits or to mitigate adverse impacts.

The term "Indigenous Peoples" is used in a generic sense to refer exclusively to a distinct social and cultural group possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:

- (a) Self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous social and cultural group and recognition of this identity by others; and
- (b) Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats, ancestral territories, or areas of seasonal use or occupation, as well as to the natural resources in these areas; and
- (c) Customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are distinct or separate from those of the mainstream society or culture; and



- (d) A distinct language or dialect, often different from the official language or languages of the country or region in which they reside.

The World Bank follows national processes during project screening for the identification of tribal peoples. In India, there are several policies which provide a legal framework for categorizing as well as ensuring dedicated attention to the tribal peoples. According to Article 342 of the Constitution, STs are the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within these tribes and tribal communities which have been declared as such by the President through a public notification. Article 366(25) of the Indian constitution refers to Scheduled Tribes (STs) as those communities who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution which uses the following characteristics to define indigenous peoples [Scheduled Tribes (ST)], (i) tribes' primitive traits; (ii) distinctive culture; (iii) shyness with the public at large; (iv) geographical isolation; and (v) social and economic backwardness before notifying them as a Scheduled Tribe. However, identification of tribes is a State subject. Thus, classification of a tribe would depend on the status of that tribe in the respective State. Further the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the constitution provides special provision for tribal peoples in selected regions of the country. In the state of West Bengal certain areas have been identified as Schedule Area (1) under Schedule V.

2.2 TRIBAL POPULATION IN PROJECT AREA

The state of West Bengal has a considerable tribal population. The Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of West Bengal State is 5,296,953 in which 4,855,115 rural area and 441,838 urban area as per 2011 census constituting 5.8 % of the total population (91,276,115) of the State in which 50.03 % males 49.97% females.

West Bengal has 40 tribal communities of castes notified in the central list as scheduled tribes (STs) in India. Among the forty notified scheduled tribes the Santal represents slightly more than half of the total ST population of the state (51.8%). Oraon (14 %), Munda (7.8 %), Bhumij (7.6 %) and Kora (3.2 %) are the other major STs having sizeable population in WB. Along with Santal, they constitute nearly 85 % of the State's total ST population. The Lodha, Mahali, Bhutia, Bedia, and Savar are the remaining STs, and having population of one per cent or more. The rest of the STs are very small in population size. The decadal growth of ST is 20.20% in WB.

As per the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, the following tribes were listed as scheduled tribes in West Bengal: 1. Asur 2. Baiga, 3. Badia, Bediya, 4. Bhumij 5. Bhutia 6. Sherpa 7. Toto 8. Dukpa, Kagatay, Tibetan, Yolmo, 6. Birhor, 7. Birjia, 8. Chakma, 9. Chero, 10. Chik Baraik, 11. Garo, 12. Gond 13. Gorait, 14. Hajang, 15. Ho 16. Karmali, 17. Kharwar, 18.



Khond, 19. Kisan, 20. Kora, 21. Korwa, 22. Lepcha, 23. Lodha, Kheria, Kharia, 24. Lohara, Lohra, 25. Magh, 26. Mahali, 27. Mahli, 28. Mal Pahariya, 29. Mech, 30. Mru, 31. Munda 32. Nagesia, 33. Oraon 34. Parhaiya, 35. Rabha 36. Santal 37. Savars. However, after 2002 amendment the Tamang and Limbu (Subba) was added in the list of ST.

Table 2.1 presents status of ten major STs of West Bengal. The analysis reveals that Santhal tribes dominates in State i.e. 51.8% followed by Oraon (14%). The other tribes includes Munda, Bhumij, Kora (Figure 2.1).

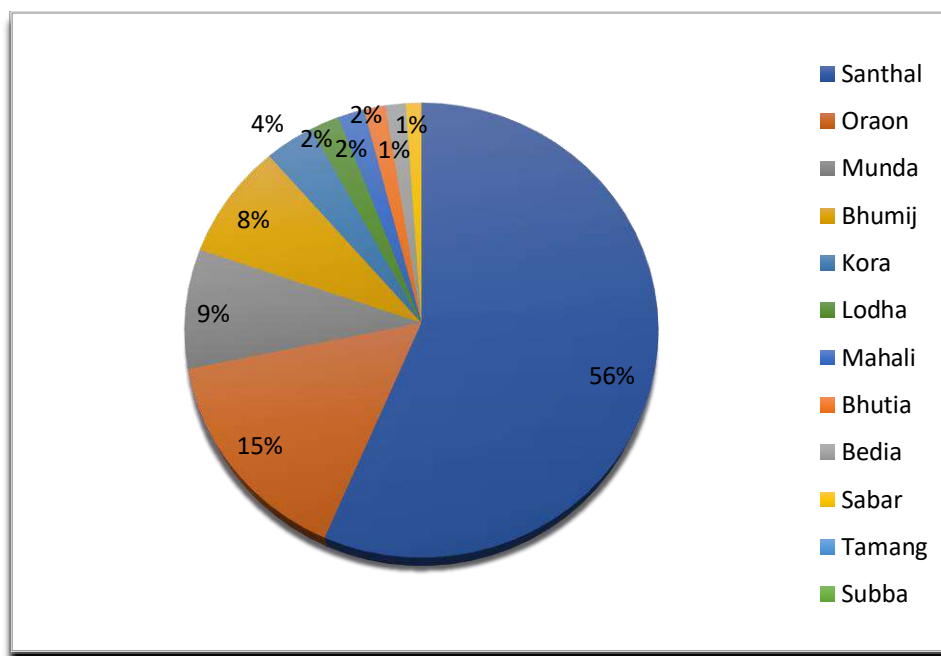
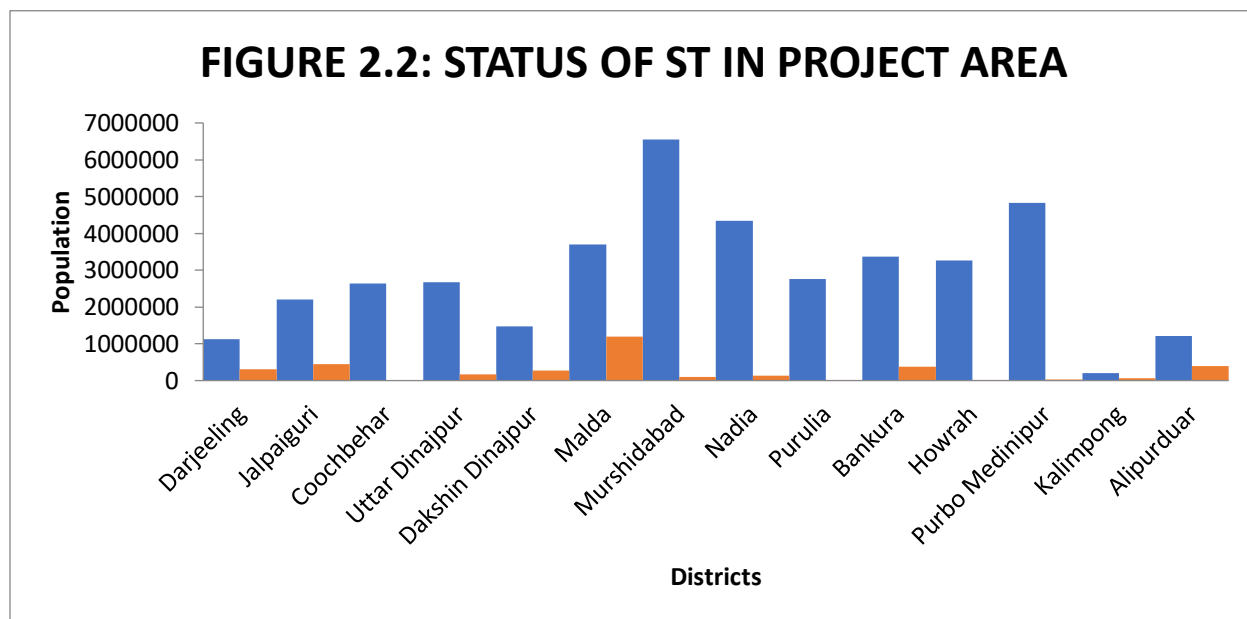
TABLE 2.1: POPULATION AND PROPORTION OF TEN MAJOR STs IN WEST BENGAL

SI No	Scheduled Tribe	Population	Percentage of the Total ST Population
1	Santal	2,280,540	51.8
2	Oraon	617,138	14
3	Munda	341,542	7.8
4	Bhumij	336,436	7.6
5	Kora	142,789	3.2
6	Lodha	84,966	1.9
7	Mahali	76,102	1.7
8	Bhutia	60,091	1.4
9	Bedia	55,979	1.3
10	Sabar	43,599	1

Source: 2011 Census of India

Status of tribal peoples in selected districts for implementation of WBEDGMP is presented in Figure 2.2. It is important to note that the districts of West Medinipur, Jalpaiguri, Purulia and Bardhaman have more than half of the total ST population of West Bengal; besides the remaining districts i.e. Bankura, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur have sizable ST population.



FIGURE 2.1: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MAJOR TRIBES IN WEST BENGAL**FIGURE 2.2: STATUS OF ST IN PROJECT AREA**

2.3 SACRED GROVES IN WEST BENGAL

In West Bengal, most SGs are found in the south western districts where the tribal populations are the largest, and where industrial development has not expanded enough to expunge indigenous cultural traditions. Status of sacred groves in selected districts for implementation of WBEDGMP is presented in Table 2.2. The analysis reveals that abundance of sacred groves is high in Bankura, Birbhum, Medinipur West and Purulia. The indigenous cultural milieu in the region consists of a strong legacy of animistic institutions including SGs. The lack of industrial growth in the region seems to have facilitated the survival of such institutions. Protected over centuries, SGs are remnants of pristine forests in climax formation. However, survey of SGs in West Bengal indicated that along with the indigenous flora, non-native trees like guava (*Psidium guajava*), *Acacia auriculiformes*, *Ervatamia divaricata* and *Polyalthia longifolia* also occur in the SGs. This indicates that these trees are often planted in the SGs to replace dead trees in the stand, and therefore the biotic composition of SGs is not necessarily pristine, but is a result of continuous human intervention and management. SGs are known to contain many rare and endemic flora.

TABLE 2.2: DISTRIBUTION OF SACRED GROVES IN WEST BENGAL

District	Abundance of Sacred Groves				
	High	Moderately High	Low	Very Low	Nil
Bankura	√				
Birbhum	√				
Coochbear			√		
Darjeeling			√		
Dinajpur, North				√	
Dinajpur, South				√	
Howrah				√	
Hooghly				√	
Jalpaiguri		√			
Malda					√
Medinipur, East		√			



Medinipur, West	√				
Murshidabad				√	
Purulia	√				
24 Parganas, North					√
24 Parganas, South				√	

2.4 SACRED GROVES AND THERE RELATIONS WITH THE TRIBES

Tribes has tradition of nature conservation. Most tribal peoples are illiterate and nurtured their traditions. These people has strong affinity in maintaining traditional rituals and festivals (Sarul, Jathal, Ashari, Bandna, Maghi, Ma-More). Forest oriented deities (Marang Buru, Jaher era, Erosim, Harihorsim). Value of season oriented ritual maintaining (Marang Buru During Full Moon Night of Spring, Erosim During Summer before Oryza Seed Sowing, Ashari During Rainy Season Before Paddy Planting, Bandna During Autumn after Deepawali, Maghi During Winter after Harvest, Ma-More During Alternately 5-10 Years when at Epidemics).

Natural Sacrificial system and belief {Various animals (ex. Fowl for Ox Worshipping or Erosim deity, Pigeon for Marang Buru) and or plants (ex. Twigs of Sheora for deity Marang Buru, Spikelets of Oryza for deity Erosim) are sacrificed to realize the gentlest boon of the deity. In times of familiar crisis, the family members take vow before the deity for getting rid of the crisis. When crisis is wiped out by the boon of the deity, she is propitiated in terms of various offering, gifts or sacrifices in the form of living animals and or plants or terracotta of animals and birds etc.}. Belief about worshipping i.e. worshipping the Goddess ensures protection from wild animals. Deities are represented by burnt clay idols of horses and elephants and are led on as Belief on forest of Goddess. Religious superstition acts as powerful means for the conservation. Community management for nurturing forest are found to be higher as they have sentimental feeling about nature is 'common property'. Nourishment of monoculture about deity worshipping.

3.0 LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR TRIBES

3.1 NATIONAL & STATE POLICIES AND LAWS

Government of India has framed many policies and laws to safeguard the interest of the Scheduled Tribes. Article 366(25) of the Indian Constitution refers to Scheduled Tribes (STs) as those communities who are scheduled in accordance with Article 342 of the Constitution. According to Article 342 of the Constitution, STs are the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within these tribes and tribal communities which have been declared as such by the President through a public notification. The constitutional safeguards related to tribal are:

1. Article 14, related to equal rights and opportunities;
2. Article 15, prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex, religion, race, caste etc.;
3. Article 15 (4), enjoins upon the state to make special provisions for the STs;

One of the important Acts which ensures Social Safeguards of the STs is "Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The applicable legal and policy framework to proposed sub-projects are presented in Table 3.1.

TABLE 3.1: APPLICABILITY OF NATIONAL LAWS, POLICIES AND STATE RULES

Acts/ Rule/ Policy	Objective	Applicability to project
5 th Schedule of Constitution (Article 244)	<p>Provides for the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes.</p> <p>Article 244(1) and Article 244 (2) of the constitution of India enables the government to enact separate laws for governance and administration of the tribal areas. In pursuance of these articles, President of India had asked each of the state to identify</p>	For sub-projects (HVDS and GIS) falling under Scheduled Areas, if any



	tribal dominated areas. Areas thus identified by the states were declared as Fifth Schedule areas.	
73 rd Amendment of Constitution, 1992	Enables participation of Panchayat level institutions in decision-making and supporting preparation and implementation of development schemes.	For any sub- project located in Panchayat area
Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996	The provisions of PESA Act extends the provisions of Part IX of Constitution relating to Panchayats to the Scheduled Areas. As per the provisions, every village in Schedule V areas will have Gram Sabha which would approve of the plans, programs and projects for social and economic development before such plans, programs and projects are taken up for implementation at village level.	For approval of any sub-project located in Scheduled Areas if any
The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	The act recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who has been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. The act provides a framework for recording forest rights so	For sub-projects (HVDS and DTRs) passing through forest land



	vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land.	
The Electricity Act, 2003 (With Amendments in 2003 & 2007) and The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885	The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and the Electricity Act, 2003 give the concerned authority to place tower, poles and lines on any transmission and distribution utilities land as required. However, Section 10 (b) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, clearly states that land for the lines and poles (towers) will not be acquired. Further, Section 67 (3) and 68 (5) of the Electricity Act, 2003 require the utilities to minimise damage to property in carrying out their works, and to pay full compensation to all persons interested for any damage sustained by them due to the works carried out.	For all sub-projects
Ministry of Power, Guidelines for Payment of Compensation Towards Damages in Regard to Right of Way for Transmission & Distribution Lines, 2015	These guidelines have been formulated for “determining the compensation towards “damages” as stipulated in Section 67 and 68 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Section 10 and 16 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 which will be in addition to the compensation towards normal crop and tree damages”.	For all sub- projects where HVDS passing through agricultural area, if any
Central Electricity Authority (Measures	Regulations specify general safety precautions pertaining to	For all sub-projects



relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2010	construction, installation, protection, operation and maintenance of electric supply lines and apparatus including service lines and apparatus on consumer's premises, switchgear on consumer's premises, identification of earthed and earthed neutral conductors and position of switches and switch gears thereon, earthed terminal on consumer's premises, accessibility of bare conductors and placement of danger notices	
Central Electricity Authority (Safety Requirements for Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Electrical Plants and Electric lines) Regulations, 2011	These regulations provide safety provisions relating to Owner (utilities) and specifies that owner shall make safety provisions an integral part of work processes to ensure safety of employees including employees of contractor, sub-contractor as well as visitors. The regulations further provide provisions for setting up of safety management system, safety manual, safety officer and safety committee, reporting of accidents, emergency management plan, mock drills and medical facilities	For all sub-projects



Thus adequate provisions exists in the country to address the issues related to tribal peoples.

3.2 WORLD BANK's ESS

World Bank Environmental and Social Standard i.e. Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (ESS - 7) need to complied for sub-projects in WBEDGMP which are likely to have impact on the tribal community. The salient features of ESS - 7 is presented in Table 3.2.

TABLE 3.2: SALIENT FEATURES OF APPLICABLE WORLD BANK ESS

ESS - 7: Indigenous Peoples/ Sub- Saharan Underserved Communities	<p>ESS -7 contributes to the Word Bank's mission of poverty reduction and sustainable development by ensuring that the development process fully respects the dignity, human rights, economies, and cultures of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>The ESS -7 mandate free, prior, and informed consultation results in broad community support to the project by the affected Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>The proposed project shall include measures to (a) avoid potentially adverse effects on the Indigenous Peoples' communities; or (b) when avoidance is not feasible, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects.</p> <p>Projects are designed to ensure that the Indigenous Peoples receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate and gender and inter generationally inclusive.</p> <p>The project shall ascertain broad community support for the project based on social assessment and free prior and informed consultation with the affected Tribal community, if any.</p>
Applicability	ESS - 7 would be applicable to only those sub-projects where there are significant number of indigenous /tribal people are there and potential adverse impacts on indigenous people are anticipated and if indigenous people are among the intended beneficiaries.

4.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS & MITIGATION

This section identifies the potential intended and unintended impacts of the proposed projects on the communities around the project sites. The section further disaggregates the impacts on vulnerable population including farmers, women, Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and minorities. The impact can result from activities throughout the project life-cycle from project design, construction, operations and maintenance to decommissioning stages. The major social impacts of the project are identified below.

4.1 POSITIVE IMPACTS

The prime positive impacts of proposed project includes:

Improved and Reliable Power Supply

The proposed project aims to improve 24x7 power for all and quality power supply to both domestic and industrial users. The proposed project also aims to ensure consistent voltage there by reducing dependence on other sources of energy.

Increased Social Inclusion

The Government of India is committed to improving the quality of life of its citizens through higher electricity consumption. The Government of West Bengal with active support from Government of India's has planned for implementing 24X7 Power for All (PfA) in the state. The program is aimed at achieving 24x7 reliable powers for all the households. This would lead to rapid economic development of the state in primary, secondary & tertiary sectors resulting in inclusive development of the State.

Improved Quality of Life

Improved electricity supply will help in economic development of the people of the state; additionally, access to electricity would reduce the time spent by women on household activities which will entail availability of more time for other activities including caring for their own health.



Positive Impact for Women and Girls

As per the working paper on Energy, Gender and Development of the World Bank 2011, the literature on gender and energy suggests that providing electricity to communities and homes and motive power for tasks considered women's work can promote gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's and girls' access to education, health care, and employment. Most gender benefits of providing electricity and motive power occur because women tend to spend more time at home, are responsible for household.

Energy Conservation

One of the proposed investments is to replace the existing LVDS with HVDS which will help to reduce AT&C losses and conserve electricity.

4.2 NEGATIVE IMPACTS

The prime negative impacts of proposed project includes:

Securing Land

Land would be procured only for setting up of GIS. Whereas for erection of DTRs and distribution poles no land would be procured as these would be primarily placed on Government land along the existing road corridor.

Land secured for construction of GIS may no longer be accessible to the existing users/owner. The potential social impacts related with the establishment of GIS are as follow:

- Loss of livelihood due to acquisition of private agricultural land if any. Homestead land would not be used for the setting up of substation; and
- Loss of common property resources due to procurement of government land, if any.

Securing land for the sub-projects may impact lands that are customarily owned, used, or occupied by the tribal people's, legal recognition of their customary rights to such lands and ancestral domains should be integrated into the sub-project. This would need full recognition of the existing customary land tenure system of the tribal people and conversion of customary usage of rights to communal and/or individual ownership rights. The TPPF will include an action plan for legal recognition of perpetual or long-term renewable custodial or user rights.



Common Property Resources

For access to DTRs location or distribution poles, the contractor would use the existing road i.e. National/State highway or other town/village road. During construction scheme due to the movement of the construction related vehicle and machinery some of the roads especially town/village roads may get affected.

Tribal Communities and their Cultural Properties

The sub-projects activities would usually bypass settlements where the habitations are dense, and generally tends to pass through rural areas where they can easily access to large stretches of land devoid of structures. As the baseline section indicates major ST population resides in rural areas of the state, it may have insignificant impact on the tribal population and their domains in selected sub-projects.

However, the extent of the impacts may vary owing to the socio-economic position of tribal persons in villages. The tribal population living in protected and reserved forest areas is at some risk because of dependence of their livelihoods on forest resources like trees, which may be cut or pruned to undertake project activities.

Impact on community health and safety

The communities close to GIS and DTRs may face some health and safety concerns. The safety concerns for Electric Power Distribution Network (HVDS) are highlighted below:

- *Exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMF):* Electric and magnetic fields are produced by voltage and current respectively. Although there is public and scientific concern over the potential health effects associated with EMF, there is no empirical data demonstrating adverse health effects from exposure to typical EMF levels from power distribution lines and equipment.
- *Exposure to hazardous material:* Communities and people in close vicinity of the GIS and distribution equipment like transformers are at some risk of exposure to insulating oils and gases like Polychlorinated Biphenyls [PCB] and Sulfur Hexafluoride [SF6] in addition to the pesticides used for clearing vegetation in the right of way corridor.
- *Noise:* Transformers or 33/11 kv lines may create some buzzing or humming sound, which can be a nuisance. However, the noise produced by power lines or transformers do not cause any known health risk.



- *Electric shocks and electrocution:* The electric voltage higher than 11kV pose serious threat of electrocution to humans and can be fatal. Further more, electric charge can travel through induction and hence poses threat to high rise structures, even when they are not in direct contact with live wire.
- *Electro magnetic Interference:* The over head transmission and distribution lines might create interference with radio and cell phone signals through mutual induction.

4.3 IMPACT MITIGATION

4.3.1 LAND PROCUREMENT

Land would be required only for construction of the GIS. In order to avoid the loss of private/communal lands or agriculture and forest lands, the WBSEDCL's endeavour will be, wherever possible, to secure Government land for their sub-projects and avoid private or communal lands, even if this requires realignments. Only in rare cases that Government land is not available will other methods of securing land be pursued as per RPF.

4.3.2 TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CULTURAL PROPERTIES

The GIS plots may be close to the ancestral domains of the tribal people and the HVDS may also slightly impact their domains, forests, sacred groves. In sub-projects located outside the Scheduled Areas tribal people may also be affected. In such areas provisions of the Fifth Schedule will not apply. Once tribal populations affected by a sub-project are identified a TPPF are provided with special assistance as per laws and policies to receive adequate protection against project adverse impacts on their culture identities.



5.0 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

During the planning and designing of sub-projects the safeguards planning would involve conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessment including additional specialised studies and application for Forest Clearance (if required). However, during the project implementation the focus of safeguards would be primarily on:

- Procurement of Land
- Implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan

The mechanism proposed to be adopted for ensuring safeguards during these processes is described in subsequent sections.

5.1 LAND PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The proposed project includes the establishment of 33/11 kV Gas Insulated Sub-stations (GIS), the construction of which may require securing of land by the WBSEDCL. For constructing a 33/11kV GIS, less than 1 acre of land is required. While the majority of the land required for GIS construction will be secured through transfer of Government lands, there is a possibility that some private land may need to be acquired. Wherever displacement is involved in tribal areas, RPF will be followed. However, this will be done only as a demonstrable last resort in the case of non-availability of Government lands in the area.

WBSEDCL-PIU in association with the Divisional/Regional Offices of WBSEDCL would coordinate with the District Administration. Necessary clearance from relevant department including the Forest Clearance (in case the land for the GIS substation belongs to the Forest Department), would be obtained by Land Department of WBSEDCL before commencement of civil works.

In case of DTR foundation and distribution poles primarily government land would be used. The contractor constructing the HVDS and LT AB cabling network as well as UG cabling network would carry out the process of identifying optimum location as per DPR. Sub-project contractors would also be responsible for carrying out public consultations and disclosures with assistance of WBSEDCL PIU for the purpose. In case of land belonging to other departments, the contractor with assistance of WBSEDCL PIU will obtain necessary clearance before construction.



5.2 IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

During the construction stage of the HVDS, GIS substation and UG cabling network due care would be taken to minimise/ mitigate environmental impacts. WBSEDCL would also give utmost importance to health & safety of workers, employees and nearby communities as described in the Environment and Social Management Plan. The implementation of the TPPF (if required) would be carried out by the contractor under the supervision of PIU-WBSEDCL.

WBSEDCL Divisional/Regional offices would maintain close watch on the environmental and social safeguards including TPPF (if applicable) implementation through a system of Monitoring & Review.



6.0 GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

3-tier grievance redressal mechanism is already in place at WBSEDCL. It would be aligned to resolving grievance/disputes related to the environmental and social performance of the project. The system would be used by the stakeholders including tribal affected persons to flag-off any concerns/grievance/disputes in the project and seek redressal of the same thereby ensuring effective participation.

In order to realign with existing GRM mechanism of WBSEDCL to address grievances related to ESMP implementation as well as issues related with indigenous people, two bodies are to be established; Project Steering Committee (PSC) at the corporate level and Grievance Redressal Committees (GRCs) at the sub-project sites. These PSC and GRCs would be aligned with the existing grievance redressal mechanism of WBSEDCL for easy access and timely redressal of any grievance of the APs and other local people.

6.1 PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

The established PSC for WBEDGMP under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Engineer (Distribution) of WBSEDCL, shall be used to monitor and review the progress of implementation of ESMP of each sub-project. Adl Chief Engineer (Distribution) WBSEDCL, will be convener of this Committee.

This Committee should meet every quarter to review the progress made in the implementation of the ESMP of each sub-project and to solve any grievances of the APs including tribal peoples. This Committee will also provide policy related direction to the Grievance Redressal Cell and the participating departments with regard to ESMF and TPPF.

6.2 GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL COMMITTEE

The Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) will be established at each sub-project site under the chairmanship of Divisional/Regional Manager, WBSEDCL for redressal of grievances of the APs including tribal peoples. Sub-station In-Charge shall be the convener of this Committee. At the sub-project level, the ESMP Implementing Agency (IA) i.e. contractor will provide support to this Committee. Block/Sub-division/District level head of all participating departments will be members along with a representative of APs including Indigenous Peoples and local NGOs/CBOs, if any.



It is proposed that the APs including Indigenous Peoples first register the grievances with the IA. After receipt of grievance, the IA should take them to the Committee to take up the matter during the next immediate meeting and initiate measures for redressal. No grievance can be kept pending for more than a month which means the Committee has to meet every month. Implementation of the redressal rests with the PIU. In case the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the proposed redressal measures, it can take approach the PSC. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the decision of PSC, it can approach the court of law.

The proposed grievance redressal mechanism for WBEDGMP is presented in Table 6.1.

TABLE 6.1: GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM FOR WBEDGMP

Level	Agency	Time Period for Redressal of Grievances	Issues likely to Emerge	Responsibility
GP/Town	Village Panchayat/ Ward members	Maximum of one week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air & Noise Pollution during construction activities • Debris/waste dumping • Encroachment • Livelihood Assistance • Damage & Compensation • Access to CPRs • Temporary disruption of traffic & utility services 	AP/Tribal Community Representative, Village/Nagar Panchayat, Incharge CCC as Chairperson and Env & Social Officer as Convener
Sub-Project	Grievance Redressal Committee	Maximum of one month		DM/RM-WBSEDCL as Chairperson and Sub-station In-Charge as Convener
Corporate	Project Steering Committee	Maximum of three months		Head PIU, Adl CE(Dist), WBSEDCL, as Chairman, Member (Env & Social Issues), PIU-WBSEDCL as Convener

6.3 COURT OF LAW

The APs including tribal peoples who are not satisfied with the mechanism given above has option to avail general legal environment consisting of court of law to address their grievance.



6.4 GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

As mentioned in earlier section systematic Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) has been evolved for WBEDGMP which would be active for the entire life of the project. All complaints would be registered by respective Engineer in charge of the site. The complaints can be registered verbally (in person), in writing or by mail or through Web Portal (www.wbsedcl.in). The addresses of the CCC/Divisional Offices/email/ Phone Number would be displayed at the site. The Mail Box would be set up for the purpose at all Customer Care Offices of WBSEDCL in selected districts for implementation of WBEDGMP. . Grievances received through other modes (postal, email, or over the phone), existing customer three tier GRM channels will be compiled. An e-mail and toll free phone number will be provided for receiving grievances/complaints through these methods. Toll free phone number, email, and address of PIU shall also be suitably displayed at sub-project locations. Additionally, PIU will provide support to illiterate, tribal, physically challenged and other vulnerable to record their grievances.

The complaints received would be recorded in a Register of Complaints along with the description of complaint, date, Name of the aggrieved along with the contacts. The decision/s regarding the complaint would also be recorded in the register. The decision regarding the Grievance would be communicated to him by Speed Post within 7 days of the decision being reached. The complainant would have 7 days from the receipt of the letter to approach the next level for reconsideration.

6.5 GRM BUDGET

All costs involved in resolving the complaints/grievances (meetings, consultations, communication and reporting/information dissemination) will be borne by the WBSEDCL; costs related to escalation of grievances to Court of Law would also be met by WBSEDCL.



7.0 CONSULTATION AND DISCLOSURE

Through the process of consultation and disclosures, WBSEDCL would envisage to build participation of stakeholders at each stage of project planning and implementation. WBSEDCL would be responsible not only for ensuring participation of the community in the consultation process but to make it effective ensure integration of the feedback received from stakeholder into the project plans where it deems fit.

7.1 CONSULTATION MECHANISM

A Consultation Framework has been prepared to ensure involvement of stakeholders at each stage of project planning and implementation. To ensure community participation at different stages of the project the Consultation framework for WBEDGMP has been proposed in Table 7.1.

TABLE 7.1: SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK

Project Phase	Activity	Details	Responsible Agency	Target Stakeholders
Conceptualization	Screening Surveys	Identification of the Environmental and Social Sensitive Areas which needs to be excluded	Environmental and Social Consultant	WBSEDCL CCC/ Divisional Office, District Land Revenue Office
	Stakeholder Mapping	Cross-section of Stakeholders to be identified in order to facilitate their Participation in the Sub-project	Environmental and Social Consultant	WBSEDCL CCC/ Divisional Office, District Land Revenue Office

	ESMF Disclosure	Reference Framework for Environmental & Social Issues and Mitigation in Procedures to be followed in the sub-project	Environmental and Social Consultant	WBSEDCL CCC/ Divisional Office, District Land Revenue Office, District Magistrate, Public
Planning	Detailed Surveys	Identification of the Environmental and Social Sensitivities which needs to be avoided	Environmental and Social Consultant	Local Land Revenue Office, Village Panchayat, Local Community People
Implementation	Check Surveys	Identification of Sensitivities along RoW	Contractor along with the WBSEDCL CCC/ Divisional Office	Community People especially the Land-owners including tribal peoples (if any), Local Land Revenue Officer, Village Panchayat
	Disclosure of Final ESMF	Dissemination of Impact and Mitigative Measures to minimize the significant adverse impact, if any.		

The stakeholder consultation workshops was conducted at Bankura Jilla Parishad Conference Hall on 14th February, 2020 and Baruipur Municipality Conference Hall on 10th February, 2020. Detailed presentation on draft ESMF including TPPF was made which was followed by discussion and suggestions by the participants. The suggestions were noted and incorporated suitably in the ESMF/TPPF document. The detail of stakeholder consultation workshop including list of participants and Minutes of the Meeting, etc are presented in **Appendix 1**.

7.2 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

The information disclosure would provide citizen centric information on the policies and the details of sub-projects along with its implementation process of WBEDGMP. It would be carried out in accordance to the provision of the Right to Information Act 2005 and World Bank Policies on Information Disclosure. The WBEDGMP Information Disclosure Procedure would ensure that information concerning the WBEDGMP's activities is made available to the public in the absence of a compelling reason for confidentiality.

The type and timing of the disclosure, channels to be used, frequency and duration of disclosure in WBEDGMP are presented in Table 7.2.

TABLE 7.2: SUMMARY OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE PLAN

Project Phase	Documents to be Disclosed	Frequency and Duration of Disclosure	Channels of Disclosure
Project Planning	ESMF Disclosure including RPF, TTPF, GDF, LMP and SEP	Once it is approved by WBSEDCL Board after that it will remain disclose for the entire life of the project	Website of WBSEDCL & World Bank and Information leaflet to be provided during consultation meetings
	ESIA and ESMP for Sub-projects including RP, TDP, GDP, LMP and SEP	Once it is formally accepted by WBSEDCL after that it will remain disclose for the entire life of the project	Website of WBSEDCL & World Bank and DM/RM offices of WBSEDCL
Tendering	Grievance Redresses process	Once it is formally accepted and institutionalised	WBSEDCL PIU, CCC/DM/RM Offices, Contractors Office, Local GPs/Municipal Office
Implementation	Information regarding work plan, Dos & Don't, Monitoring Schedule, etc	Once at the start of the project and as and when demanded by APs	WBSEDCL PIU, CCC/DM/RM Offices, Contractors Office, Local GPs/Municipal Office
	ESMP and	At regular intervals	Extracts put up at



	RP/TDP/GDP/LMP/SEP Implementation Report		WBSEDCL PIU, CCC/DM/RM Offices and full report available on WBSEDCL Website
Operation	Information of Hazardous Waste Generation and Disposal	Continuously for the entire life of WBEDGMP	WBSEDCL website and respective facilities

7.3 FEEDBACK MECHANISM

The feedback of the project affected persons including tribal peoples would be captured through the CCC/Division/Regional offices of WBSEDCL and conveyed to WBSEDCL PIU for necessary action. The feedback mechanism as discussed in the Grievance Redresses Mechanism would be used.

APPENDIX 1

Detail of Stakeholder Consultation Workshops at Selected District/Town for Formulation of ESMF including TPPF



West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited


(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)

Division Office, Bishnupur Division

Administrative Building, Kurchibon, Bishnupur, Bankura-722122

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend the Public Consultation Meeting conducted by WBSEDCL on 14th February, 2020 at 2:00 pm at Conference Hall, Zilla Parishad, Bankura, West Bengal on Environmental & Social Impacts and Mitigation Measures (ESIA-ESMP) during the implementation of proposed sub-project for conversion of existing LVDS to HVDS and Installation of GIS at Bankura District under West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization Project (WBEDGMP), a World Bank aided project of WBSEDCL, Government of West Bengal.


DE & Divisional Manager
Bishnupur Division
WBSEDCL



WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING ON

**ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT
PLAN FOR INSTALLATION OF HVDS & GIS AT BANKURA DISTRICT
UNDER WBEDGMP WITH WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE**

*14th February, 2020, Conference Hall, Zilla Parishad
Bankura, West Bengal*

Programme Schedule

- Welcome Address By Shri Debashis Mondal, RM Bankura, WBSEDCL
- Address By Sabhadipati, Zilla Parishad Bankura
- Brief Overview of Bankura HVDS & GIS Sub-Project under WBEDGMP with Fund Assistance of World Bank By Shri SG Dutta, Head PIU-WBEDGMP & Adl CE (Distribution), WBSEDCL
- Environmental and Social Issues and Mitigation Measures for Conversion of Existing LVDS to HVDS & Installation of GIS at Bankura District By Prof (Dr) K M Agrawal, Project Director, IISWBM
- Address By SDO/BDO, Bankura/Bishnupur/ Khatra Subdivision/Blocks
- Address By Sabhapati Bankura/Bishnupur/ Khatra
- Views and Suggestions of PWD/BSNL and Other Utility Service Providers
- Views and Suggestions of Public/Shop Owners and Other Stakeholders on Possible Environmental and Social Impact of the Proposed Project
- Closing Remark & Vote of Thanks by DM Bankura, WBSEDCL

Minutes of Meeting of Public Consultation Meeting

Held on 14th February, 2020 at Zilla Parishad, Bankura

The public consultation for formulation of Environmental & Social Management Framework (ESMF) as well as Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental Management Plan (ESMP) for HVDS and GISs Sub-project of Bankura District regarding West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization Project (WBEDGMP) of WBSEDCL with fund assistance of World Bank was held in the office of Bankura Zilla Parishad on 14th February, 2020. The project consists of installation of two new Gas Insulated Substations (GIS) in Radhanagar Gram Panchayet and Ratanpur Gram Panchayet of Bankura district, installation of HVDS with LT AB cable and load shifting (alteration/rearrangement of transformers). The project is proposed to be funded by World Bank and the estimated cost is approximately INR 100 crore.

The program was started with introductory speech given by Mr. Tirtha Mal, Divisional Manager of WBSEDCL, Bishnupur Division. He mentioned the brief description of the project and highlighted the importance of that project in the rural area of Bankura District. He admitted the safety issues which may arise during the commissioning of that project work as the Bankura district has a vast forest area and have elephant corridor through which elephant oftenly move from Dalma Range. Accordingly Mr. Mal emphasized the need of safety of elephant and other wild animals is a prime concerned issue as directed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. For the purpose more 11kV AB cable may be considered as Bankura district has various elephant crossing areas which may be subjected to the Right of Way (RoW) of few HT and LT distribution system.

The technical work description of the project was described by the Mr. Parthaprati Naskar, S.E(E), DPD, WBSEDCL. Mr. Naskar introduced main schemes of this electricity distribution grid modernization project of Bankura District i.e. firstly, installations of two numbers of GIS; secondly, installations of more numbers of 25 kVA transformers and a few of 63 kVA transformers instead of 100 kVA transformers; and thirdly, most HT line will pass through load centre. He addressed the problems of the existing electricity distribution system of Bankura District such as up-down of distribution voltage, low voltage due to long length of distribution line and long time of maintenance in rural area due to long distance from the substations. Therefore the proposed project need to be implemented on priority basis to overcome these problems of Bankura District. He also mentioned that in new project 100 kVA transformers are going to be avoided because there is less scope of maintaining of strong voltage profile in case of 100 kVA transformer.

Dr. Krishna M. Agrawal, Project Co-ordinator, IISWBM gave a brief presentation about the likely Environmental & Social Impact along with mitigative measures for minimizing the potential risks and impact of proposed project. He highlighted the need of incorporation of

environmental and social issues in proposed project activities as per World Bank's recent Environmental & Social Standards (ESS 1 to 10). He emphasized the mechanism of assessment of environmental & social risks and impact followed as per the World Bank's guidelines and norms. He mentioned that the proposed project activities would not require any additional land except for setting up of GIS at Radhanaga and Ratanpur therefore no RoW issues are involved. The land for both the GIS have been already identified and procurement process as per West Bengal Land Procurement Policy has been initiated. He informed that local people as well as concerned GPs have ensured for full support to procure land and start construction activities as early as possible. Dr Agrawal also mentioned that as such there would not be any adverse environmental impact however during construction period insignificant air and noise pollution may be generated which would be taken care by adopting mitigative measures like sprinkling of water etc. However as the project area have significant forest cover including elephant corridor and also tribal population in certain stretches of the Bankura district adequate measures would be adopted during implementation of the project to minimize the negative impacts if any.

Hon'ble Sabhadhipati of Bankura Zilla Parishad Shri Mrityunjay Murmu, praised the initiative taken by WBSEDCL for improving the power quality and reliability in the Bankura District and also welcomed the proposed project being funded by World Bank. He highlighted about the major problems of rural people of Bankura District specially the Radhanagar Gram Panchayet and Ratanpur Gram Panchayet and requested WBSEDCL to start implementation of GIS in these two identified areas for the purpose. He assured to extent his full co-operation and support required for implementation of project and also advised concerned Gram Panchayet pradhan present during the meeting to cooperate at local level for execution of project. The same tune was heard on the voice of Mr. Sibaji Banerjee, Karmadhakya of Bankura Zilla Parishad. Besides addressing the technical problem, Mr. banerjee addressed billing problem issues also. Another issues like electricity requirement of agricultural area and problems of jungalmahal area due to HT and LT line were also addressed. All the Karmadhakyas and other representatives of Bankura Zilla Parishad also welcomed the project and assured to provide all kind of assistance to implement the proposed project. All the local people are very excited about the project as they are the prime beneficiaries of the proposed project. Meeting ended with the thanks to chair and all present.

বাঁকুড়ায় তৈরি হবে ৪ টি সাব স্টেশন

ভোল্টেজ সমস্যা মেটাতে বিশ্বব্যাঙ্কের ১০০ কোটি

অরূপ ভট্টাচার্য • বাঁকুড়া

বিএনএ: বাঁকুড়া জেলায় লো-ভোল্টেজের সমস্যা নির্মূল করার পাশাপাশি চুরি রুখতে এরিয়াল বাঞ্চ কেবলের মাধ্যমে বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহের উদ্যোগ নিচ্ছে বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তর। পাশাপাশি ইন্দাস, মকুটমণিপুর, বিষ্ণুপুরের রাধানগর ও ওন্দার রতনপুরে আরও চারটি নতুন সাবস্টেশন গড়ে তোলার পরিকল্পনা করছে বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তর। এজন্য প্রাথমিক সার্ভে করে বিশ্বব্যাঙ্কের কাছে ১০০কোটি টাকার ডিপিআর জমা দিয়েছে জেলা প্রশাসন ও বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তর। খুব শীঘ্রই বিশ্বব্যাঙ্ক এই টাকা বরাদ্দ করবে বলে আশা করছে জেলা প্রশাসন ও বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তরের আধিকারিকরা।

বাঁকুড়া জেলা পরিষদের সভাপতি মৃত্যুঞ্জয় মুর্মু বলেন, জেলার লোডশেডিং ও লো-ভোল্টেজের সমস্যা নির্মূল করার জন্য আমরা বিশ্বব্যাঙ্কের কাছে একটি প্রস্তাব পাঠিয়েছি। আশা করছি কিছুদিনের মধ্যেই এই প্রকল্পটি বাস্তবায়িত করার জন্য অনুমোদন মিলবে। অন্যদিকে, বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তরের বাঁকুড়ার রিজিওনাল ম্যানেজার দেবশিস মণ্ডল বলেন, জেলার ২২টি ব্লকের বিদ্যুৎ বন্টন ব্যবস্থা ঢেলে সাজার পাশাপাশি লো-ভোল্টেজ, বিদ্যুৎ চুরি ও দুর্ঘটনা কমানোর জন্য এরিয়াল বাঞ্চ কেবলের মাধ্যমে বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহের জন্য বিশ্ব ব্যাঙ্কের কাছে ১০০কোটি টাকার একটি প্রস্তাব জমা দিয়েছি। কিছুদিনের মধ্যেই অনুমতি মিলবে বলে আশা করছি।

জেলা প্রশাসন ও বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তর সূত্রে জানা গিয়েছে, জেলার ২২টি ব্লকেই কমবেশি লোডশেডিং হয়। গরমের সময় ইন্দাসের আকুই, শাসপুর, মঙ্গলপুর, কোতুলপুরের লাউগ্রাম, তালডাংরার হাড়মাসড়া, বিবড়দা, রতনপুর, বিষ্ণুপুরের রাধানগর, সারেঙ্গা, রানিবাঁধ, খাতড়া সহ জঙ্গলমহলে লো-ভোল্টেজের সমস্যা প্রকট আকার নেয়। অন্যদিকে বিষ্ণুপুর, জয়পুর, ইন্দাস, কোতুলপুর, সারেঙ্গা,

ওন্দা, সিমলাপাল, তালডাংরা সহ জেলার অধিকাংশ ব্লকেই কমবেশি বিদ্যুৎ চুরির ঘটনা দেখা যায়। বিদ্যুৎ চুরি রুখতে দপ্তরের আধিকারিকরা অভিযানও চালান। চুরি রুখতে গিয়ে দপ্তরের কর্মীরা সাধারণ মানুষের ফ্লোভের শিকারও হন। তাছাড়া ঝড়বৃষ্টির কারণে ছিঁড়ে যাওয়া তারে বিদ্যুৎস্পৃষ্ট হয়ে মৃত্যুর ঘটনাও ঘটে। দপ্তরের পরিকল্পনা অনুযায়ী বর্তমান তার পরিবর্তন করে এরিয়াল বাঞ্চ কেবলের মাধ্যমে বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ করা হলে লো-ভোল্টেজ, বিদ্যুৎ চুরি ও তার ছেঁড়ার কারণে দুর্ঘটনা এড়ানো যাবে। কীভাবে পুরো কাজ হবে তা নিয়ে গত সপ্তাহে জেলা পরিষদের মিটিং হলে বাঁকুড়ার তিন মহকুমার ডিই, জেলা পরিষদের সভাপতি মৃত্যুঞ্জয় মুর্মু, পূর্ত কর্মাধ্যক্ষ শিবাজী বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়, বিদ্যুৎ কর্মাধ্যক্ষ অংশুমান চক্রবর্তীকে নিয়ে ম্যারাথন বৈঠক করেন। পরিকল্পনা অনুযায়ী লো-ভোল্টেজ কমাতে জেলায় চারটি বিদ্যুতের সাবস্টেশন তৈরির কথা ভাবা হচ্ছে। যারমধ্যে ইন্দাস ও মকুটমণিপুরের সাবস্টেশন তৈরির জন্য বিদ্যুৎ দপ্তর প্রয়োজনীয় টাকা বরাদ্দ করবে। এছাড়াও বিশ্বব্যাঙ্কের কাছে প্রঠানো প্রস্তাবে বিষ্ণুপুরের রাধানগর ও ওন্দার রতনপুরে দু'টি সাবস্টেশনের প্রস্তাব রাখা হয়েছে। প্রস্তাব অনুযায়ী জেলার ২২টি ব্লকে প্রায় ১১হাজার কিলোমিটার এলাকায় বর্তমান লাইনের পরিবর্তন করে এরিয়াল বাঞ্চ কেবল লাগানোর কথা বলা হয়েছে। এছাড়াও যে সমস্ত এলাকায় ট্রান্সফর্মারগুলিতে বেশি লোড রয়েছে তা কমিয়ে ভাগ করে দেওয়ার পরিকল্পনা রয়েছে। শুধু তাই নয়, জঙ্গলমহল সহ যে সমস্ত এলাকায় এক ট্রান্সফর্মার থেকে অন্যটির দূরত্ব কমানোর পরিকল্পনা রয়েছে। পাশাপাশি বাঁকুড়া জেলার একটা বড় এলাকাজুড়ে জঙ্গল রয়েছে। জঙ্গলের ভিতরে থাকা বিদ্যুতের খুঁটিতে হাত ধাক্কা দেওয়ায় খুঁটি ভেঙে যায়। পরে সেই তারের সংস্পর্শে এসে হাতের মৃত্যু পর্যন্ত ঘটে। বর্তমান তারের পরিবর্তে কেবল লাগানো হলে দুর্ঘটনা এড়ানো সম্ভব হবে।

**ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF WBEDGMP
(WORLD BANK PROJECT)**

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Date: 13/12/2020

Name of the Town: Radhanagar GP

Ward No.: Bishnupur Block

Name of the District: Bankura

Name of the State: WB

Purpose of meeting: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Study for HVDS & GIS Sub-project of Bankura District under WBEDGMP.

Sl. No.	Environmental, Social, Health and Safety Issues Raised	Suggestions Made
1.	Low voltage problem facing all days.	It should be corrected
2.	Power cutting problem during rainy time	We want regular supply of power.
3.	Agriculture and cottage industry face problem due to low power.	It should be improved.
4.	Damages like roads, tubewell, pipelines etc. should be repair during running works.	

Signature(s) *Satya Pradhan*

Pradhan
Radhanagar Gram Panchayat



**ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF WBEDGMP
(WORLD BANK PROJECT)**

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Date: 14th Feb 2020
Name of the Town: GP: Ratanpur
Ward No.: Block: Onda

Name of the District: Bankura
Name of the State: WB

Purpose of meeting: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Study for HVDS & GIS Sub-project of Bankura District under WBEDGMP.

Sl. No.	Environmental, Social, Health and Safety Issues Raised	Suggestions Made
1.	Voltage up down.	
2.	Discontinuation of power for more than 4 hrs naturally.	
3.	In rainy season & heavy storm power discontinuation for	for new setup of supply system a model
	3 to 4 days.	power station,
4.		Try to avoid to cutting trees when laying wire.
5.		Given information to public to avoid accident.
6.		Due to long time lag of existing setup break down restoration
		time is almost on wire site.

Signature(s)



14.2.2020.

Pradhan
Ratanpur Gram Panchayat



West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited

(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)


Regional Office – South 24 Parganas

CIN – U40109WB2007SGC113473

WEBSITE – www.wbsedcl.in

INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend the Public Consultation Meeting conducted by WBSEDCL on 10th February, 2020 at 3.30 pm, at Conference Hall, Baruipur Municipality Office, Baruipur, 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal on Environmental & Social Impacts and Mitigation Measures (ESIA-ESMP) during the implementation of proposed sub-project for conversion of existing overhead electrical network to underground cable at Baruipur town under West Bengal Electricity Distribution Grid Modernization Project (WBEDGMP), a World Bank aided project of WBSEDCL, Government of West Bengal.


(A.K. Mallik)

Regional Manager
South 24 Parganas Region
WBSEDCL



WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING ON

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BARUIPUR TOWN UG CABLING NETWORK PROJECT UNDER WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE

*10th February, 2020, Conference Hall, Baruipur Municipality
Baruipur, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal*

Programme Schedule

- Welcome Address By Shri Anup Kr Mallik, RM Baruipur, WBSEDCL
- Address By Shri Shakti Roy Chowdhury, Chairman, Baruipur Municipality
- Brief Overview of Baruipur U/G Cabling Sub-Project under WBEDGMP with Fund Assistance of World Bank By Shri Amitav Kayal, CE (Distribution), WBSEDCL
- Environmental and Social Issues and Mitigation Measures for Conversion of Existing O/H Electricity Distribution Network to U/G Cabling Network at Baruipur Town Area By Prof (Dr) K M Agrawal, Project Director, IISWBM
- Address By SDO, Baruipur Subdivision
- Address By Shri Gautam Das, Vice-Chairman, Baruipur Municipality
- Views and Suggestions of Hon'ble Councillors of Baruipur Municipality
- Views and Suggestions of PWD/BSNL and Other Utility Service Providers
- Views and Suggestions of Public/Shop Owners and Other Stakeholders on Possible Environmental and Social Impact of the Proposed Project
- Closing Remark & Vote of Thanks by Shri S Ghorai, DM Baruipur, WBSEDCL

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop at Bankura Zilla Parishad for Formulation of ESMF including TPPF of WBEDGMP



Stakeholder Consultation Workshop at Baruipur Municipality Office for Formulation of ESMF including TPPF of WBEDGMP

