DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

TOUCHING LIVES

Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) India's first multi purpose river valley project, came into existence on July 7, 1948 by an Act of the Central Legislature. DVC's mandate was to harness the rampaging flood waters of the Damodar River which every year brought untold miseries to the population residing in the 24,235 sq. km. Damodar River Valley spread across the states of West Bengal and Jarkhand and to foster an integrated and multi-faceted development in the area of its operations.

FLOOD CONTROL: Damodar was the “river of sorrow” as such was the extent of devastation caused its ravaging flood waters. Conceived on the lines of the Tennessee Valley Authority in the USA, the DVC's immediate priority was flood control. Today, DVC has four dams across the Damodar, Barakar and Konar rivers and a water barrage at Durgapur to moderate flood waters and channel the excess water for irrigation and other purposes.

IRRIGATION: The DVC’s network of 2500 kms. canals enables farmers to cultivate their lands all the year round to raise kharif, rabi and boro crops in the valley area.

WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT: DVC is capable of moderating flood waters of 2.50 lakh cubic ft. per second (cusec.) to 6.1 lakhs cusec. through its four dams and harness the waters for generating electricity through thermal and hydel power plants besides supplying water to domestic and industrial consumers in the valley area.

GENERATION, TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY: DVC is a major power producer in Eastern India with installed generation capacity of 6210 MW (thermal), 147.20 MW (hydel) and another 1352 MW through joint venture projects. It supplies electricity through a network of 36 sub-stations and 16 receiving stations through 7082 circuit kms. of transmission lines to Railways, Coal India, Steel Authority of India, Jharkhand
Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd., West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd., Dishorgarh Power Supply Co., Tata Steel and other industrial units in the valley area.

SOIL CONSERVATION AND AFFORESTATION: The multi-disciplinary Soil Conservation Department of the DVC through its afforestation and soil conservation projects has immensely contributed to increasing the forest cover in the valley area and checking siltation in dams besides promoting water harvesting through a grid of approximately 16,000 check dams built by the DVC. In 2013-14, 40.50 lakh fingerlings were produced at the DVC’s Maithon Fish Farm and released in water reservoirs. Fingerlings are also regularly distributed free of cost to Fishermen’s Co-operative Societies in the valley area to encourage income generation in local communities.

SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROGRAMME: The Social Integration Programme (SIP) of the DVC aims at facilitating all round growth by enhancing the quality of lives of local communities residing in the valley area through an integrated approach aimed at uplifting their socio-economic condition and ensuring their participation in development initiatives undertaken by the DVC. Under the SIP, vocational training is imparted in self-employment activities like mushroom cultivation, sewing & knitting, typing, IT skills, soap manufacturing, candle and doll making, etc. Infrastructure development activities in association with Village Development Advisory Committees are also taken up to improve connectivity, sanitation, health facilities, availability of potable water, etc. in local villages around DVC project areas. In 2013-14, DVC spent Rs. 37 crore under the SIP

HEALTH CARE: The DVC’s Health Department operates a network of 6 Hospitals, 11 Dispensaries, 8 Homeo Dispensaries and 11 Medical Mobile Clinics in 10 districts of Jharkhand and 5 districts of West Bengal. Health camps, awareness campaigns and immunization programs are also regularly conducted.

EDUCATION: The DVC’s Education Department runs 8 Higher Secondary Schools, 7 Middle Schools, 1 Primary School and 21 Shishu Siksha Kendras (SSK) in the valley area in which 17,000 students are enrolled. Free reading and writing material are provided by DVC to students studying in the SSKs.

DVC - The pioneer:
• First multipurpose river valley project in India
• First organization to generate electricity through thermal, hydel and gas power plants
• First underground hydel station in India set up at Maithon
• First to burn untapped low grade coal in pulverized fuel furnaces
• First re-heat units in India utilizing high steam parameters
• First in Eastern India to introduce direct ignition of pulverized coal system for reducing oil consumption in boilers at Mejia thermal power station.

Damodar Valley Corporation: Touching lives - in the valley and beyond