

Program Profile

Program	Program name	Assessing the Social Impacts of the Rampal Power Plant in in the local Community.
	Category	A5

Summary of Program

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Abstract of Program	The Rampal coal-based power plant has brought several challenges to the local community, particularly affecting their livelihoods. The construction and operation of the plant may influence the daily lives of residents in surrounding areas through issues such as displacement, environmental degradation, health concerns, and limited employment opportunities. Some community members have lost their homes and land to accommodate the plant's development. This study aims to examine the changes in local livelihoods before and after the establishment of the Rampal Power Plant. It also seeks to identify potential opportunities and initiatives that could support both the power plant's functions and the well-being of the nearby population.

Details of Program

Planning

Objectives	Long-term Goals	To build a positive connection between the Rampal Authority and the local community.
	Short-term Targets	To understand and align the perspectives of both the local community and the Rampal Authority.
	Rationale	To create awareness and remove prevailing myths among the local community.
Subject (Leader)	Initiator(s)	AREFIN
	Champion(s)	Choudhury, Musfiq Mannan
	Major team member(s)	AREFIN
Environment	Nature/Society	In a society like the Sundarbans area, people are not highly modernized or well-educated. Most of them are engaged in fishing, farming, teaching in schools, colleges, or madrasas. For such a community, the introduction of a new industrial project raises concerns about cultural values, community life, and social behavior
	Industry/Market	The Rampal Authority believes that the project has minimal environmental

		impact and complies with all government environmental regulations. However, there remains a significant gap in understanding and trust between the local community and the Rampal Authority
	Citizen/Government	There is a lack of communication between the government body, Rampal Authority and the local Community.
Resources	Human resources	Me and 2 of the Member from Rampal Authority was connected with me. They have some known senior person from the local community. Example: Member, chairman, School Teacher, and Fisher man, & farmer.
	Financial resources	Survey Based work, Funded by World University of Bangladesh.
	Technological resources	Survey Based Program.
Mechanism	Strategy (Weight/Sequence)	Strategic Approaches for Research: 1. Collaboration with Rampal Authority – Establishing direct engagement with the Rampal Authority to understand their perspectives, policies, and development agendas. 2. Collaboration with the Local Community – Building connections with local residents to explore their needs, concerns, and lived experiences. 3. Integrated Collaborative Framework – Creating a platform that brings together both the Rampal Authority and the local community, fostering dialogue, mutual understanding, and joint decision-making.
	Organization	Want to Introduce real life a community-based Workshop in the Survey Study Course .
	Culture	Our student has survey-based study in which the have an opportunity to understand how to get connected with this type of project.

Launch date	Already been working on it to publish my paper.
Responsible organization	1. Rampal Authority 2. Local People surrounded by it.
Program content and process	Program Content The study is structured around three core thematic areas: 1. Assessment of Livelihood Changes • Documenting the socio-economic conditions of the local community before and after the construction of the Rampal Power Plant. 2. Analysis of Environmental and Social Impacts • Examining environmental degradation, health issues, and ecological shifts resulting from plant operations. • Understanding community perceptions of risks and challenges related to air quality, water resources, and agricultural productivity. 3. Exploration of Collaborative Opportunities • Investigating possible approaches for collaboration between the Rampal Authority and the local community. • Identifying initiatives that can balance the plant's operational needs with sustainable livelihood opportunities for local residents. Program Process The research process will be implemented through the following stages: 1. Preliminary Investigation • Reviewing literature, policy documents, and environmental impact assessments related to the Rampal Power Plant. • Conducting informal discussions with community representatives and authority stakeholders. 2. Field Data Collection • Focus group discussions with displaced residents, local leaders, and workers. • Key informant interviews with Rampal Authority officials and local government representatives. 3. Data Analysis • Thematic analysis of community narratives regarding displacement, environmental degradation, and health concerns. • Mapping areas of conflict and cooperation between authority

	and community. 4. Integration and Collaboration Framework - Developing a framework to identify potential areas of collaboration between the Rampal Authority and the community. - Highlighting opportunities for joint initiatives, such as skill development, employment programs, and environmental mitigation.
Key highlights of the content/process	- Producing research findings that outline both challenges and opportunities. - Preparing academic publications, policy briefs, and community-level reports to ensure knowledge sharing and informed decision-making.
Differences from traditional approaches	Focuses mainly on documenting negative impacts of industrial projects on communities. This study goes beyond impact assessment by emphasizing collaboration between the Rampal Authority and the local community to identify mutually beneficial solutions.
Progress as of today	The collaboration process has already begun, and the outcomes are currently being developed into a publication.
Problems in implementation	It's a long-term process. The Rampal Authority are trying to introduce some community engaged program to stay connected with the local people. My objective was to make a link up between them.
Approaches to solve the problems	The central challenge lies in the lack of collaboration between the Rampal Authority and the local community. The objective of this study is to understand the limitations faced by both sides and to create a platform that fosters dialogue, mutual understanding, and meaningful collaboration, ensuring that development and community well-being move forward together.
Completion date, if completed	This survey-based study focused on exploring the communication gaps and lack of information exchange between the Rampal Authority and the local community. With the study now completed, my current objective is to develop the findings into a publication format.
Seeing	
Impacts on students	Students will learn how to understand the impact of local community for an industrial project local.
Impacts on professors	There are lots of research gap between the various type of stakeholders among the community.
Impacts on university administration	Already working on the project to develop it into a research article.
Responses from industry/market	The Rampal Authority is genuinely interested in bridging the gap and building a better understanding with the local community
Responses from citizen/government	The government has many industrial projects, but the main gap lies in the fact that the authorities often overlook the real needs and benefits of the local people.
Measurable output (revenues)	(If possible, provide specific program outcomes in monetary terms.)

Measurable input (expenses)	(If possible, provide specific inputs to the program in monetary terms.)
Cost-benefit analysis for effectiveness	A cost-benefit analysis will be done at the end of the project to understand the impact of the project on sustainable development.
Future Planning	
Where does the project go from here?	The Rampal Project has created a significant impact on the local community. However, there are widespread misunderstandings, misguidance, and illogical perceptions surrounding it, which continue to influence the people's views. If these misunderstandings are removed, numerous opportunities will open up for the local community.
Addendum	
Exhibits, pictures, diagrams, etc.	 Picture: A group Discussion with the local People and the Rampal Authority (Source: Author)
Reports, mimeos, monographs, books, etc.	
Others which may help explain the program (including website links)	Want to publish this study in a journal paper.