

Bill No. LXXII of 2025

THE RIGHT TO FAIR COMPENSATION AND TRANSPARENCY
IN LAND ACQUISITION, REHABILITATION AND
RESETTLEMENT (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2025

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BILL

*to amend the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition,
Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India
as follows:—

- 5 1. (1) This Act may be called the Right to Fair Compensation and
Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement
(Amendment) Act, 2025.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by
notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Short title and
commencement.

2. In section 10 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, after sub-section (4), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

“(5) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (2), no irrigated multi-cropped agricultural land situated in any district or region notified as climate-vulnerable by the Central Government or the appropriate State Government shall be acquired for any purpose under this Act. 5

Explanation 1. — For the purposes of this sub-section, “climate-vulnerable district or region” means any district or region identified as being prone to drought, flood, salinity ingress, desertification, or other climate-related risks affecting agricultural productivity, as notified from time to time by the appropriate Government, on the basis of a scientific assessment made by the appropriate institution, as notified for the said purpose. 10 15

Explanation 2. — The appropriate Government shall review and update such notification at intervals not exceeding five years.

(6)(a) Before acquiring any agricultural land under this Act, the appropriate Government shall cause to be conducted a Food Security Impact Assessment to evaluate the likely effects of such acquisition on local and regional food availability, agricultural productivity, and livelihoods dependent on agriculture from such land. 20

(b) The Food Security Impact Assessment shall be undertaken by a scientific or agricultural institution, as notified by the appropriate Government and shall include — 25

(i) an assessment of the projected loss of agricultural output, soil fertility, and irrigation potential;

(ii) an analysis of the impact on food supply chains and local employment in the agricultural sector; and

(iii) recommendations for mitigation measures or alternative sites, wherever feasible. 30

(c) A summary of the Food Security Impact Assessment and the steps proposed to safeguard food security shall be made public in such form and manner as may be prescribed and also annexed to the Social Impact Assessment study report under section 4. 35

(d) Within five years of acquisition of such land, the appropriate Government shall conduct a Post-Acquisition Food Security Review to assess the actual impact on food production and security in the affected area and cause the report containing the findings to be laid before the State Legislature or Parliament, as the case may be. 40

Explanation. — For the purposes of this sub-section, “Food Security Impact Assessment” means a scientific and socio-economic evaluation undertaken to determine the potential and actual impacts of proposed land acquisition on agricultural productivity, food availability, soil and water sustainability and the livelihoods of persons dependent on agriculture.” 45

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The intent of Section 10 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 is to safeguard national food security by limiting the diversion of productive agricultural land. However, the exception in sub-section (2) allows acquisition of irrigated multi-cropped land in “exceptional circumstances,” which has weakened the protection envisaged by Parliament.

In light of increasing climate vulnerability, manifested through droughts, floods, and soil degradation, this amendment seeks to strengthen the food security and climate resilience framework of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 by prohibiting the acquisition of irrigated multi-cropped land in such climate-vulnerable districts, and by introducing a mandatory Food Security Impact Assessment before acquisition and a Post-Acquisition Food Security Review to monitor impacts on agricultural productivity, food availability, and rural livelihoods. These measures shall ensure that land use decisions are scientifically informed, sustainable, and aligned with national food and livelihood security objectives.

The amendment upholds the principles of sustainable development, environmental protection, and livelihood security consistent with articles 21, 48, and 51A(g) of the Constitution of India.

Hence, this Bill.

RENUKA CHOWDHURY.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE RIGHT TO FAIR COMPENSATION AND TRANSPARENCY IN
LAND ACQUISITION, REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT ACT, 2013
(30 OF 2013)

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Special
provision to
safeguard food
security.

10. (1) Save as otherwise provided in sub-section (2), no irrigated multi-cropped land shall be acquired under this Act.

(2) Such land may be acquired subject to the condition that it is being done under exceptional circumstances, as a demonstrable last resort, where the acquisition of the land referred to in sub-section (1) shall, in aggregate for all projects in a district or State, in no case exceed such limits as may be notified by the appropriate Government considering the relevant State specific factors and circumstances.

(3) Whenever multi-crop irrigated land is acquired under sub-section (2), an equivalent area of culturable wasteland shall be developed for agricultural purposes or an amount equivalent to the value of the land acquired shall be deposited with the appropriate Government for investment in agriculture for enhancing food-security.

(4) In a case not falling under sub-section (1), the acquisition of the agricultural land in aggregate for all projects in a district or State, shall in no case exceed such limits of the total net sown area of that district or State, as may be notified by the appropriate Government:

Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply in the case of projects that are linear in nature such as those relating to railways, highways, major district roads, irrigation canals, power lines and the like.

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RAJYA SABHA

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BILL
to amend the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition,
Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

(Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, M.P.)