GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3170

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST MARCH, 2017/ PHALGUNA 30, 1938 (SAKA)

RESETTLEMENT FUND FOR HINDU REFUGEES

3170. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sanctioned a package of Rs. 2000 crores as resettlement funds for Hindu refugees of PoK in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to transfer funds directly into the beneficiary's account; and
- (c) the details of other benefits provided/proposed to be provided to Hindu refugees in the valley?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

- (a): The Government of India, on 22nd December 2016, has sanctioned a package of Rs.2000 Crores for providing financial assistance of Rs.5.5 Lakh per family to 36,384 displaced families of Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir area POJK (1947) and Chhamb (1965 and 1971), living in Jammu and Kashmir.
- (b): The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has been requested to provide requisite details of all beneficiaries so that the amount of financial

assistance could be transferred directly into the beneficiaries' account to enable this Ministry to start disbursing the amount. The State Government has already started the work to collect requisite details and documents in this respect and has received forms from 3,135 eligible beneficiaries till 16th March 2017

(c): Details of other benefits provided so far to the displaced families of POJK (1947) and Chhamb (1965 and 1971), living in Jammu and Kashmir, are given at Annexure.

<u>Details of other benefits provided so far to the displaced families of POJK (1947) and Chhamb (1965 and 1971), living in Jammu and Kashmir</u>

1. Displaced Persons of POK (1947)

- 1.1 In order to mitigate the hardship of the families of displaced persons from POJK and to rehabilitate them, the Government of India had announced relief and rehabilitation measures from time to time. In 1947-48, a package was sanctioned, which included allotment of 2-3 acres of irrigated or 4-6 acres of un-irrigated land, Rs.1,000 per family as ex-gratia relief and regularization of 46 basties in rural areas for rural settlers. Subsequently, ownership rights in respect of State land were also conferred upon them. In respect of Evacuee land, occupancy tenancy rights were given under the Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976. The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir has informed that a total of 6,80,850 kanals of evacuee property land and 2,43,000 kanals of State land had been allotted to the Displaced Persons of 1947. For urban settlers, the package included ex-gratia payment of Rs.3500 per family. 1,628 residential quarters and 793 plots have also been allotted to the urban settlers.
- 1.2 In 2000, the Government of India announced another package as under:
 - (i) Payment of cash compensation for land deficiency @Rs.5,000 per kanal subject to maximum of Rs.25,000 per family.
 - (ii) Payment of ex-gratia relief @Rs.25,000 per family to those displaced persons of Pak occupied Kashmir who were held in Pak captivity during the crucial period from September, 1947 and December, 1950; those who did not stay in camps; and where the head of the family did not move along with family before the cut-off date.
 - (iii) Payment of Rs.2 Crores to the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir for allotment of plots to those who had settled in urban areas.
 - (iv) Release of Rs.25 Lakh to State Government for improvement of civic amenities in 46 regularised basties.
- 1.3 In 2008, the Government of India announced another package in which the scale of cash compensation for land deficiency was increased from Rs.5,000 per kanal to Rs.25,000 per kanal subject to maximum of Rs.1.5 lakh and Rs.2 lakh to be provided to the urban settlers who have not been allotted plots in urban areas in lieu of the plots.

2. Displaced Persons of Chhamb

- 2.1 In 1965, the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir rehabilitated about 3500 displaced families of Chhamb by providing cash compensation of Rs.3000 per family and land.
- 2.2 In 1971, 4600 families of displaced persons from Chhamb were accommodated in relief camps. Subsequently these families were rehabilitated in Jammu and Kashmir in a phased manner under different schemes implemented through the Chhamb Displaced Persons Rehabilitation Authority (CDPRA). The agricultural families were given 4 acres of irrigated or 6 acres of un-irrigated land per family. Government of India had sanctioned the payment of cash compensation of up to Rs.5,000 per kanal in lieu of land deficiency. In addition, they were given rehabilitation grant of Rs.13,500 per family.
- 2.3 In 2002, the Government of India sanctioned a scheme for payment of ex-gratia relief @Rs.25,000 per family for about 1200 displaced families of Chhamb, who had property in Chhamb Area but were residing elsewhere in the State and did not stay in the relief camps.
