GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1463 ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

COMPENSATION TO FARMERS

†1463. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether compensation has been paid to all the farmers whose land has been acquired for establishment of unit of Power Grid Corporation at Deoli of Wardha district in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has paid any compensation to farmers whose land becomes useless due to towers used to connect power grid line and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the manner in which compensation is determined along with the number of persons who received such compensation so far; and
- (e) the details of the works carried out by power grid corporation, Deoli under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Compensation has been paid by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (POWERGRID) to all affected land owners, whose land has been acquired for establishment of substation at Deoli in District Wardha, Maharashtra.

A total of 113.81 hectares land has been acquired for establishment of the substation. Out of 113.81 hectares land, 99.79 hectares has been taken on lease from Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC). The balance 14.02 hectares land has been acquired as per provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894 from the land owners, for which Rs. 2.99 crore has been paid as compensation amount, as decided by revenue authorities of the State Government.

.....2.

(c) & (d): Transmission lines in the country are constructed under the ambit of Electricity Act, 2003. The provisions stipulated in Sections 67 and 68 of the Electricity Act, 2003 read with Sections 10 & 16 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 govern the compensation amount to be paid to the affected land owners. Land below transmission line is not acquired (only user rights are given to the transmission licensee) and ownership of land remains with the land owners, who are allowed to continue cultivation, after construction work is over. As per the provision under Section 10 (d) of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the damages/ compensation, as assessed by revenue authorities, are paid to land owners/ farmers by the transmission licensees.

In order to bring uniformity in payment of compensation towards damages in regard to Right of Way for laying of transmission lines, Ministry of Power (MoP), Govt. of India issued Guidelines in 2015, which prescribes payment of 85% of land value for tower base area and 15% of land value towards diminution of land value in the width of Right of Way corridor. In addition to above, MoP has also issued guidelines in July, 2020 for additional land compensation in form of non-usability allowance up to 15% of the land value for the corridor in notified urban areas. Land being State subject, all the State/UT Governments have been advised to adopt these Guidelines.

(e): An expenditure of Rs. 29.60 lakh has been incurred under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by POWERGRID, Deoli, Wardha District during the last three years for construction of road berms, laying of hume pipe at State highway connecting point, Random Rubble (RR) Masonry for strengthening of area near culvert along with RCC Road at village Padegaon in Deoli tehsil. In addition to above, an expenditure of about Rs. 0.70 lakh has been incurred towards carrying out COVID relief activities in the area.
