GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 34 ANSWERED ON MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022/ ASHADHA 27, 1944 (SAKA)

NAP-BHR PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS LAND CONFLICTS QUESTION

34. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has recognized the land rights as human rights and, if so, the details of the measures taken by the Government to address the issues related to the alarming nature of land conflicts between the public/private business entities and the citizens/farmers etc; and
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the affirmative provisions in the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR) to address the issues related to the land conflicts?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

[RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

- (a): As per inputs provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs, there is no document in custody which shows that land rights have been recognized as human rights. As per section 2(d) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, "human rights" mean the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution of India or embodied in the International Covenants and enforceable by courts in India.
- (b): National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR) is a policy strategy developed by a State to protect against adverse human rights impacts by business enterprises in conformity with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). It contains action plans to further the principles of UNGP in three different pillars the "State duty to Protect Human Rights", "Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights" and "Access to Remedy". The Government adopted a multistakeholders consultation approach to develop the NAP- BHR. A series of consultations were held with Business Chambers, Civil Society Organizations, Central Government Ministries/ Departments and the State Governments and the inputs/suggestions received from these stakeholders have been taken into account to formulate the Zero draft of NAP, which was released in the public domain in December, 2018.
