GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1939

TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th December, 2024

DELAY IN COMPENSATION FOR LAND ACQUISITION

1939. SHRI AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that over 600 families from Budgam and Srinagar have been awaiting full compensation for over 10 years for approximately 480 acres of land acquired by the Defence Estates Department in 2011-2012 at Karewa Damodar near Srinagar airport;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay;
- (c) whether it is a fact that farmers were initially paid 4.80 lakh per kanal in 2012-2013, and that the final rate decided was between 18–20 lakh per kanal but remains undisbursed, despite current market rates exceeding 2 crore per kanal in adjoining areas and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intends to reassess the compensation under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013—which now applies to Jammu and Kashmir—potentially entitling the affected families to higher compensation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

(a) to (c): MoD has issued sanction on 04.03.2011 for acquisition of requisitioned land in Villages Karewa Damodar, Wathora and Karalpora, District Budgam (UT of J&K) at an estimated cost of Rs. 234.25 crore. An amount of Rs. 181.54 crore has already been deposited by the Defense Estates Office Srinagar with Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam for release of compensation to the landowners.

However, the area of acquired land reflected in the Form J Notification issued by Government of J&K under the J&K Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (RAIP) Act, 1968 is found to be more than the actual area acquired on ground. DGDE has taken up the matter with the Government of J&K for amendment in the said notification. The Award made by the Collector can be considered once requisite amendment is made under the Form J Notification.

(d) & (e): No, Sir. Since the land already stands acquired under the provisions of the J&K RAIP Act 1968, there is no such provision to reassess the compensation under the Right to Fair compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (RFCTLARR), 2013.
