# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 603 ANSWERED ON 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

### LAND ACQUISITION FOR SRINAGAR RING ROAD

#### 603. SHRI AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड्क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that land acquisition for Srinagar Ring Road project, involving over 600 acres, is causing grievances due to compensation being calculated under the outdated Jammu & Kashmir Land Acquisition Act, 1934 and if so, the reasons for using repealed laws;

(b) whether compensation for fruit trees is being calculated based on 1996 rates, resulting in payments far below current market values and if so, the steps being taken to address this issue;

(c) whether the Government plans to apply the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, to ensure fair compensation to affected farmers and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures that are being taken to prevent unauthorized uprooting of fruit trees without proper compensation, as reported in villages Wathoora and Gudsathoo of District Budgam?

#### ANSWER

#### THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(a) Currently, Land Acquisition for Srinagar Ring Road Phase 2 and Phase 2A is being carried out under National Highways (NH) Act, 1956 wherein compensation is determined in accordance with the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013. The Land Acquisition for Phase – I of Srinagar Ring Road was, however, carried out during 2017-18 in accordance with the Jammu & Kashmir Land Acquisition Act, 1934 as per the then extant applicable legal position in Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) The compensation for assets viz. structures, trees, tubewells etc. is assessed by Competent Authority for Land Acquisition as per the norms of the then State/UT Government. In particular, compensation for fruit bearing trees is assessed by local Horticulture authorities in accordance with applicable guidelines.

(c) As in (a) above.

(d) The award for acquisition of land alongwith assets stand issued for the villages Wathoora and Gudsathoo of District Budgam falling under Srinagar Ring Road. Compensation has been disbursed to the rightful owners in general, however, compensation in disputed cases has been deposited with District Court. Possession of land for construction of Ring Road is being handed over to NHAI by CALA in accordance with law.

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