

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY & PROMOTION**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 187.
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 30TH NOVEMBER, 2015.**

SALT PAN LAND IN MUMBAI

187. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether 5400 acres of salt pan land in Mumbai is in possession of the Government and given on lease for salt cultivation and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether 1800 acres of land out of this is developable and comes under Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints from people's representatives that some private builders have entered into illegal MoU/agreement and started process of building proposals pass;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for private builders entering into MoU for use of this Government land for commercial real estate purpose; and
- (e) the action being contemplated by the Government against these builders?

ANSWER

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्यमंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)(श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)**

- (a): An area of 5378 acres of land in Greater Mumbai is under orders of transfer to Ministry of Urban Development. It is covered under 31 Salt Works (6 leases, 24 licensed lands) in 13 Revenue Villages and one under erstwhile Bombay Salt and Chemicals Works. The details of 5378 acres of Salt Pan Land in Mumbai is at Annexure.
- (b): As per the report of Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) prepared in 2010, an area of 1206 Hectares comes under CRZ. Out of this, 867 Hectares (2141 Acres) falls in the village of Kanjur, Bhandup, Mulund and Nahur of Greater Mumbai. 204 Hectare (503.88 acres) is developable land in the said villages.

(c) & (d): The Government has received complaint from Dr. Kirit Somaiya, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) recently about some private builders allegedly entered into MoU / Registered agreement with the lessees. The above MoU/Registered Agreement to develop the salt pan lands have been filed before the Hon'ble City Civil Court in Notice of Motion No. 321 of 2010 in Suit No. 6256 of 2005 (Bombay High Court Suit No. 1173 of 2005) praying for restraining the Garodias i.e. Plaintiffs from dealing with and disposing of Suit lands. Shri Gordhandas S. Garodia and Shri Mahesh Kumar Gordhandas Garodia obtained lease hold rights by virtue of a consent Decree in Suit No. 1799 of 1980. Lease right holders of Arthur Salt Works entered in to Registered Consent Deed/Registered Agreement for development of land under the said salt works with M/s Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Ltd. and executed Declaration No. 3/7478/2009 and Consent Deed for Government Project bearing No. 2/1526/2009.

(e): On receipt of two documents viz. (1) Registered Declaration No.3/7478/2009, (2) Registered Consent Deed, Salt Department filed Additional Affidavit and Supplementary Affidavit in Notice of Motion No. 321 of 2010 in Suit No. 6256 of 2005 in Bombay City Civil Court (Bombay High Court Suit No. 1173 of 2005), bringing the deal between the parties to the knowledge of the Hon'ble Court and praying for restraining the Plaintiffs from dealing with and disposing of Suit lands. The Suit No. 1173 of 2005 was filed by the Plaintiffs, Gordhandas S.Garodia in Bombay High Court against termination of lease by an order dated 02-11-2004 passed by the Salt Department which was subsequently transferred to City Civil Court and is given new number Suit No. 6256 of 2005. The said matter at present is subjudice. Further Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue), Government of Maharashtra has been requested to cancel the changes made in the Revenue records pursuant to Government of Maharashtra's order dated 13-08-2008 and also to instruct the Registrar not to register any deed in respect of the said land as they belong to the Govt. of India. It is also proposed that on expiry of leases it should not be renewed and even in any future developmental activities, these entities may be kept out.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 187 FOR ANSWER ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2015.

Detail of Salt Pan Land in Mumbai

An area of 5378 acres of land in Greater Mumbai is under orders of transfer to Ministry of Urban Development. Out of this:

- (i) 350 acres out of 700 acres of erstwhile Bombay Salt & Chemicals Works are in the possession of Salt Commissioner Organisation.
- (ii) An area of 1033 acres has been acquired / transferred to various agencies so far with or without approval of Government of India. It includes 99 acres transferred to Ministry of Urban Development.
- (iii) 265 acres of lands are under leases not renewed / erstwhile licenses in Wadala.
- (iv) 1560 acres of lands under erstwhile licenses are now under litigation for ownership dispute.
- (v) 350 acres land handed over to Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) for dumping ground at Kanjur, Out of 700 acres of erstwhile Bombay Salt & Chemical Works.
- (vi) About 776 acres of lands are under creeks and open land, etc. around the Salt Works, but no survey number have been indicated for these lands.
- (vii) An area of 498.38 acres is under encroachments which includes organized colonies and are under litigation.
