GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RAILWAYS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:248 ANSWERED ON:18.08.2011 REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT IN RAILWAYS Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for mandatory compensation as well as jobs under the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (NRRP) to one eligible member of the family;

(b) if so, whether this policy is implemented by the Railways in letter and spirit;

(c) the details of districts and the number of farmers whose land was acquired for laying Hajipur-Sugauli, Chhapra-Muzaffarpur and Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi railway lines;

(d) the present status of compensation/job provided to these families; and

(e) the steps taken / being taken for the timely disposal of the pending cases?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.248 BY SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.08.2011 REGARDING REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT IN RAILWAYS.

(a) and (b): As per National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy 2007, the land requiring body, in addition to compensation for land, shall give preference to the affected families – at least one person per nuclear family - in providing employment in the project, subject to the availability of vacancies and suitability of the affected person for the employment, for projects requiring large scale displacement of families. In case of linear acquisition like railway lines, only an ex-gratia payment of such amount as the appropriate government may decide but not less than Rs. 20,000/- in addition to the compensation, is to be paid.

For land required for railway projects, which is acquired through State Governments under Land Acquisition Act-1894, compensation is decided by State Governments which includes cost of land as well as crops, trees, structures built thereon etc. Acquisition of land for some of the projects has also been taken up under Railway (Amendments) Act, 2008 as "Special Railway Projects", which takes care of provisions under NRRP- 2007. Ministry of Railways vide their letter dated 16.07.2010, has issued a policy as per which employment to one eligible person of the family of land looser will be provided by Railway for those cases where land acquisition process has not been concluded by way of possession of land by railway upto the date of issue of the said letter.

(c) and (d): Project wise details of farmers whose land is being acquired alongwith compensation amount deposited with State Govt. is as under:

Sl Name of Area of land Number of farmers whose Compensation deposited No. project to be acquired land is being acquired with state government

1. Hajipur-Sagauli 1861 acre 597 Rs.90.4 cr

2. Chhapra-Muzaffarpur 947 acre 456 Rs.38.05 cr

(Acquisition of land for these three projects is being done under Land Acquisition Act-1894 through State Government)

(e): Application for entire land acquisition for Hajipur-Sagauli and Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi projects have been submitted with State Government. Application for 98 villages out of total 101 villages for Chhapra- Muzaffarpur project has been submitted with State Government. Requisite amount as requested by State Government is being deposited from time to time. State Govt. is being regularly pursued to expedite acquisition of land and payment of compensation to the land losers. No application for job has been received by East Central Railway in these projects as per extant policy in vogue.