

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3550  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2011  
ACQUISITION OF LAND  
Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total area of land acquired so far for setting up special economic zones and the value thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether the livelihood of the farmers has been adversely affected due to acquisition of the land;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the manner in which the interests of the farmers are protected in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI)

(a) to (c): Land is a State subject. Land for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. The State Governments allot Government land and also wherever needed acquire land for the purpose. State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition for SEZs, first priority should be for acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary single crop agricultural land could be acquired for the SEZs. If perforce a portion of double cropped agricultural land has to be acquired to meet the minimum area requirements, especially for multi-product SEZs, the same should not exceed 10% of the total land required for the SEZ. The Board of Approval on SEZs only considers those proposals, which have been duly recommended by the State Government. Further, pursuant to the decision of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) in its meeting held on 5th April, 2007. The State Governments have been informed on 15th June, 2007 that the Board of Approval will not approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007, the State Government Agencies are implementing relief and rehabilitation package for any affected person due to land acquisition for SEZs. The total area of land involved in notified SEZs is 45,849 hectare. State-wise details are as per Annexure.

(d): The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007, which covers all cases of involuntary displacement, came into effect on 31st October, 2007. The rehabilitation & resettlement benefits for the affected families in the Policy, inter alia, include that in case of a project involving land acquisition on behalf of a requiring body, the requiring body 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. Further, wherever necessary, the requiring body shall arrange for training of the affected persons, so as to enable such persons to take on suitable jobs. To give the legal backing to the above Policy, the Government has introduced a Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011 on 7th September, 2011 in the Lok Sabha.