

Title: Need to restore the land acquired by the Defence Ministry at Shelarwadi village, in Pune district to the farmers.

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL (KHED): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Defence towards the pathetic conditions of about 125 poor farmers of village Shelarwadi, Dehu Road Cantonment of Pune district due to acquisition of their land by the Government for certain projects. Before, 1941, these farmers owned this cultivable wet land. But during the World War-II, this sole means of their livelihood was snatched by the British Defence Authorities vide Government of India Notification No. 824 OR/41 dated 4.10.41. In 1948, their agricultural land was given to the villagers on lease. The possession of leased agricultural land was with the villagers from 1948 to 1989. But, again in 1989, the land was acquired by the Defence Estate Office vide their letter No. L/220 dated 12.1.89 for the purpose of 'Red-Rose Project' and the land was reclassified by making it impossible for farmers to get it on lease again. The Project for which the land was acquired has been shifted to Tamil Nadu and the land is lying barren for the past ten years. The villagers have made several requests to the then Defence Ministers and Prime Minister for allotment of these lands to them.

Therefore, I request the Government to pay kind and sympathetic attention to the matter and do justice with the villagers of Shelarwadi by giving them the aforesaid land.