The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013

Act 30 of 2013. 114 sections. Bare Act with the official footnotes.

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[26th September, 2013.]

An Act to ensure, in consultation with institutions of local self-government and Gram Sabhas established under the Constitution, a humane, participative, informed and transparent process for land acquisition for industrialisation, development of essential infrastructural facilities and urbanisation with the least disturbance to the owners of the land and other affected families and provide just and fair compensation to the affected families whose land has been acquired or proposed to be acquired or are affected by such acquisition and make adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement and for ensuring that the cumulative outcome of compulsory acquisition should be that affected persons become partners in development leading to an improvement in their post acquisition social and economic status and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Sixty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

CHAPTER I PRELIMINARY

Section 1. Short title, extent and commencement

(1) This Act may be called the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

(2) It extends to the whole of India [1]***.

(3) It shall come into force on such date[2] as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint:

Provided that the Central Government shall appoint such date within three months from the date on which the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2013 receives the assent of the President.

[1] The word "except the State of Jammu and Kashmir omitted by Act 34 of 2019, s. 95, and the Fifth Schedule (w.e.f. 31-10- 2019).
[2] 1st January 2014, vide Notifn. No. 3729(E), dated 19th December, 2013, see Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, sec. 3(ii).

Section 2. Application of Act

(1) The provisions of this Act relating to land acquisition, compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement, shall apply, when the appropriate Government acquires land for its own use, hold and control, including for Public Sector Undertakings and for public purpose, and shall include the following purposes, namely:-

(a) for strategic purposes relating to naval, military, air force, and armed forces of the Union, including central paramilitary forces or any work vital to national security or defence of India or State police, safety of the people; or

(b) for infrastructure projects, which includes the following, namely:-

(i) all activities or items listed in the notification of the Government of India in the Department of Economic Affairs (Infrastructure Section) number 13/6/2009-INF, dated the 27th March, 2012, excluding private hospitals, private educational institutions and private hotels;

(ii) projects involving agro-processing, supply of inputs to agriculture, warehousing, cold storage facilities, marketing infrastructure for agriculture and allied activities such as dairy, fisheries, and meat processing, set up or owned by the appropriate Government or by a farmers' cooperative or by an institution set up under a statute;

(iii) project for industrial corridors or mining activities, national investment and manufacturing zones, as designated in the National Manufacturing Policy;

(iv) project for water harvesting and water conservation structures, sanitation;

(v) project for Government administered, Government aided educational and research schemes or institutions;

(vi) project for sports, health care, tourism, transportation or space programme;

(vii) any infrastructure facility as may be notified in this regard by the Central Government and after tabling of such notification in Parliament;

(c) project for project affected families;

(d) project for housing for such income groups, as may be specified from time to time by the appropriate Government;

(e) project for planned development or the improvement of village sites or any site in the urban areas or provision of land for residential purposes for the weaker sections in rural and urban areas;

(f) project for residential purposes to the poor or landless or to persons residing in areas affected by natural calamities, or to persons displaced or affected by reason of the implementation of any scheme undertaken by the Government, any local authority or a corporation owned or controlled by the State.

(2) The provisions of this Act relating to land acquisition, consent, compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement, shall also apply, when the appropriate Government acquires land for the following purposes, namely:-

(a) for public private partnership projects, where the ownership of the land continues to vest with the Government, for public purpose as defined in sub-section (1);

(b) for private companies for public purpose, as defined in sub-section (1):

Provided that in the case of acquisition for-

(i) private companies, the prior consent of at least eighty per cent, of those affected families, as defined in sub-clauses (i) and (v) of clause (c) of section 3; and

(ii) public private partnership projects, the prior consent of at least seventy per cent. of those affected families, as defined in sub-clauses (i) and (v) of clause (c) of section 3,

shall be obtained through a process as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government:

Provided further that the process of obtaining the consent shall be carried out along with the Social Impact Assessment study referred to in section 4:

Provided also that no land shall be transferred by way of acquisition, in the Scheduled Areas in contravention of any law (including any order or judgment of a court which has become final) relating to land transfer, prevailing in such Scheduled Areas.

(3) The provisions relating to rehabilitation and resettlement under this Act shall apply in the cases where,-

(a) a private company purchases land, equal to or more than such limits in rural areas or urban areas, as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government, through private negotiations with the owner of the land in accordance with the provisions of section 46;

(b) a private company requests the appropriate Government for acquisition of a part of an area so prescribed for a public purpose:

Provided that where a private company requests the appropriate Government for partial acquisition of land for public purpose, then, the rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements under the Second Schedule shall be applicable for the entire area which includes the land purchased by the private company and acquired by the Government for the project as a whole.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

In section 2, of sub-section (2), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

"Provided also that the acquisition of land for the projects listed in section 10A and the purposes specified therein shall be exempted from the provisions of the first proviso to this sub-section".

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 2 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

In section 2 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (30 of 2013), in its application to the State of Maharashtra (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act"), in sub-section (2), after the second proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

"Provided also that, the acquisition of land for the projects listed in section 10A and the purposes specified therein, shall be exempted from the provisions of the first proviso to this sub-section."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 2 (w.e.f. 26-4-2018).]

Section 3. Definition

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) "Administrator" means an officer appointed for the purpose of rehabilitation and resettlement of affected families under sub-section (1) of section 43;

(b) "affected area" means such area as may be notified by the appropriate Government for the purposes of land acquisition;

(c) "affected family" includes-

(i) a family whose land or other immovable property has been acquired;

(ii) a family which does not own any land but a member or members of such family may be agricultural labourers, tenants including any form of tenancy or holding of usufruct right, share-croppers or artisans or who may be working in the affected area for three years prior to the acquisition of the land, whose primary source of livelihood stand affected by the acquisition of land;

(iii) the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have lost any of their forest rights recognised under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) due to acquisition of land;

(iv) family whose primary source of livelihood for three years prior to the acquisition of the land is dependent on forests or water bodies and includes gatherers of forest produce, hunters, fisher folk and boatmen and such livelihood is affected due to acquisition of land;

(v) a member of the family who has been assigned land by the State Government or the Central Government under any of its schemes and such land is under acquisition;

(vi) a family residing on any land in the urban areas for preceding three years or more prior to the acquisition of the land or whose primary source of livelihood for three years prior to the acquisition of the land is affected by the acquisition of such land;

(d) "agricultural land" means land used for the purpose of-

(i) agriculture or horticulture;

(ii) dairy farming, poultry farming, pisciculture, sericulture, seed farming breeding of livestock or nursery growing medicinal herbs;

(iii) raising of crops, trees, grass or garden produce; and

(iv) land used for the grazing of cattle;

(e) "appropriate Government" means,-

(i) in relation to acquisition of land situated within the territory of, a State, the State Government;

(ii) in relation to acquisition of land situated within a Union territory (except Puducherry), the Central Government;

(iii) in relation to acquisition of land situated within the Union territory of Puducherry, the Government of Union territory of Puducherry;

(iv) in relation to acquisition of land for public purpose in more than one State, the Central Government, in consultation with the concerned State Governments or Union territories; and

(v) in relation to the acquisition of land for the purpose of the Union as may be specified by notification, the Central Government:

Provided that in respect of a public purpose in a District for an area not exceeding such as may be notified by the appropriate Government, the Collector of such District shall be deemed to be the appropriate Government;

(f) "Authority" means the Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority established under section 51;

(g) "Collector" means the Collector of a revenue district, and includes a Deputy Commissioner and any officer specially designated by the appropriate Government to perform the functions of a Collector under this Act;

(h) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement appointed under sub-section (1) of section 44;

(i) "cost of acquisition" includes-

(i) amount of compensation which includes solatium, any enhanced compensation ordered by the Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority or the Court and interest payable thereon and any other amount determined as payable to the affected families by such Authority or Court;

(ii) demurrage to be paid for damages caused to the land and standing crops in the process of acquisition;

(iii) cost of acquisition of land and building for settlement of displaced or adversely affected families;

(iv) cost of development of infrastructure and amenities at the resettlement areas;

(v) cost of rehabilitation and resettlement as determined in accordance with the provisions of this Act;

(vi) administrative cost,-

(A) for acquisition of land, including both in the project site and out of project area lands, not exceeding such percentage of the cost of compensation as may be specified by the appropriate Government;

(B) for rehabilitation and resettlement of the owners of the land and other affected families whose land has been acquired or proposed to be acquired or other families affected by such acquisition;

(vii) cost of undertaking 'Social impact Assessment study';

(j) "company" means-

(i) a company as defined in section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) other than a Government company;

(ii) a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (21 of 1860) or under any corresponding law for the time being in force in a State;

(k) "displaced family" means any family, who on account of acquisition of land has to be relocated and resettled from the affected area to the resettlement area;

(l) "entitled to act", in relation to a person, shall be deemed to include the following persons, namely:-

(i) trustees for other persons beneficially interested with reference to any such case, and that to the same extent as the person beneficially interested could have acted if free from disability;

(ii) the guardians of minors and the committees or managers of lunatics to the same extent as the minors, lunatics or other persons of unsound mind themselves, if free from disability, could have acted:

Provided that the provisions of Order XXXII of the First Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) shall, mutatis mutandis, apply in the case of persons interested appearing before a Collector or Authority by a next friend, or by a guardian for the case, in proceedings under this Act;

(m) "family" includes a person, his or her spouse, minor children, minor brothers and minor sisters dependent on him:

Provided that widows, divorcees and women deserted by families shall be considered separate families.

Explanation.-An adult of either gender with or without spouse or children or dependents shall be considered as a separate family for the purposes of this Act;

(n) "holding of land" means the total land held by a person as an owner, occupant or tenant or otherwise;

(o) "infrastructure project" shall include any one or more of the items specified in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 2;

(p) "land" includes benefits to arise out of land, and things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth;

(q) "landless" means such persons or class of persons who may be,-

(i) considered or specified as such under any State law for the time being in force; or

(ii) in a case of landless not being specified under sub-clause (i), as may be specified by the appropriate Government;

(r) "land owner" includes any person,-

(i) whose name is recorded as the owner of the land or building or part thereof, in the records of the authority concerned; or

(ii) any person who is granted forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) or under any other law for the time being in force; or

(iii) who is entitled to be granted Patta rights on the land under any law of the State including assigned lands; or

(iv) any person who has been declared as such by an order of the court or Authority;

(s) "local authority" includes a town planning authority (by whatever name called) set up under any law for the time being in force, a Panchayat as defined in article 243 and a Municipality as defined in article 243P, of the Constitution;

(t) "marginal farmer" means a cultivator with an un-irrigated land holding up to one hectare or irrigated land holding up to one-half hectare;

(u) "market value" means the value of land determined in accordance with section 26;

(v) "notification" means a notification published in the Gazette of India or, as the case may be, the Gazette of a State and the expression "notify" shall be construed accordingly;

(w) "patta" shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in the relevant Central or State Acts or rules or regulations made thereunder;

(x) "person interested" means-

(i) all persons claiming an interest in compensation to be made on account of the acquisition of land under this Act;

(ii) the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers, who have lost any forest rights recognised under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007);

(iii) a person interested in an easement affecting the land;

(iv) persons having tenancy rights under the relevant State laws including share-croppers by whatever name they may be called; and

(v) any person whose primary source of livelihood is likely to be adversely affected;

(y) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(z) "project" means a project for which land is being acquired, irrespective of the number of persons affected;

(za) "public purpose" means the activities specified under sub-section (1) of section 2;

(zb) "Requiring Body" means a company, a body corporate, an institution, or any other organisation or person for whom land is to be acquired by the appropriate Government, and includes the appropriate Government, if the acquisition of land is for such Government either for its own use or for subsequent transfer of such land is for public purpose to a company, body corporate, an institution, or any other organisation, as the case may be, under lease, licence or through any other mode of transfer of land;

(zc) "Resettlement Area" means an area where the affected families who have been displaced as a result of land acquisition are resettled by the appropriate Government;

(zd) "Scheduled Areas" means the Scheduled Areas as defined in section 2 of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (40 of 1996);

(ze) "small farmer" means a cultivator with an un-irrigated land holding up to two hectares or with an irrigated land

holding up to one hectare, but more than the holding of a marginal farmer.

State Amendment

Jammu And Kashmir and Ladakh (UTS).-

Section 3.-

In clause (e):-

(i) in sub-clause (ii), after "except Puducherry", insert "and Jammu and Kashmir";

(ii) in sub-clause (iii), after "Union territory of Puducherry" occurring at both the places, insert "and Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir".

[Vide the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization (Adaptation of Central Laws) Order, 2020, vide notification No. S.O. 1123(E), dated (18-3-2020).]

CHAPTER II

A.-PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION FOR DETERMINATION OF SOCIAL IMPACT AND PUBLIC PURPOSE

Section 4. Preparation of Social Impact Assessment study

(1) Whenever the appropriate Government intends to acquire land for a public purpose, it shall consult the concerned Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, at village level or ward level, in the affected area and carry out a Social Impact Assessment study in consultation with them, in such manner and from such date as may be specified by such Government by notification.

(2) The notification issued by the appropriate Government for commencement of consultation and of the Social Impact Assessment study under sub-section (1) shall be made available in the local language to the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and in the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil, and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed, and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government:

Provided that the appropriate Government shall ensure that adequate representation has been given to the representatives of Panchayat, Gram Sabha, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, at the stage of carrying out the Social Impact Assessment study:

Provided further that the appropriate Government shall ensure the completion of the Social Impact Assessment study within a period of six months from the date of its commencement.

(3) The Social Impact Assessment study report referred to in sub-section (1) shall be made available to the public in the manner prescribed under section 6.

(4) The Social Impact Assessment study referred to in sub-section (1) shall, amongst other matters, include all the following, namely:-

(a) assessment as to whether the proposed acquisition serves public purpose;

(b) estimation of affected families and the number of families among them likely to be displaced;

(c) extent of lands, public and private, houses, settlements and other common properties likely to be affected by the proposed acquisition;

(d) whether the extent of land proposed for acquisition is the absolute bare- minimum extent needed for the project;

(e) whether land acquisition at an alternate place has been considered and found not feasible;

(f) study of social impacts of the project, and the nature and cost of addressing them and the impact of these costs on the overall costs of the project vis-a-vis the benefits of the project:

Provided that Environmental Impact Assessment study, if any, shall be carried out simultaneously and shall not be contingent upon the completion of the Social Impact Assessment study.

(5) While undertaking a Social Impact Assessment study under sub-section (1), the appropriate Government shall, amongst other things, take into consideration the impact that the project is likely to have on various components such as livelihood of affected families, public and community properties, assets and infrastructure particularly roads, public transport, drainage, sanitation, sources of drinking water, sources of water for cattle, community ponds, grazing land, plantations, public utilities such as post offices, fair price shops, food storage godowns, electricity supply, health care facilities, schools and educational or training facilities, anganwadis, children parks, places of worship, land for traditional tribal institutions and burial and cremation grounds.

(6) The appropriate Government shall require the authority conducting the Social Impact Assessment study to prepare a Social Impact Management Plan, listing the ameliorative measures required to be undertaken for

addressing the impact for a specific component referred to in sub-section (5), and such measures shall not be less than what is provided under a scheme or programme, in operation in that area, of the Central Government or, as the case may be, the State Government, in operation in the affected area.

Section 5. Public hearing for Social Impact Assessment

Whenever a Social Impact Assessment is required to be prepared under section 4, the appropriate Government shall ensure that a public hearing is held at the affected area, after giving adequate publicity about the date, time and venue for the public hearing, to ascertain the views of the affected families to be recorded and included in the Social Impact Assessment Report.

Section 6. Publication of Social Impact Assessment study

(1)The appropriate Government shall ensure that the Social Impact Assessment study report and the Social Impact Management Plan referred to in sub-section (6) of section 4 are prepared and made available in the local language to the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil, and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed, and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government.

(2) Wherever Environment Impact Assessment is carried out, a copy of the Social Impact Assessment report shall be made available to the Impact Assessment Agency authorised by the Central Government to carry out environmental impact assessment:

Provided that, in respect of irrigation projects where the process of Environment Impact Assessment is required under the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, the provisions of this Act relating to Social Impact Assessment shall not apply.

B.-APPRAISAL OF SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT BY AN EXPERT GROUP

B.-APPRAISAL OF SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT BY AN EXPERT GROUP

Section 7. Appraisal of Social Impact Assessment report by an Expert Group

(1) The appropriate Government shall ensure that the Social Impact Assessment report is evaluated by an independent multi-disciplinary Expert Group, as may be constituted by it.

(2) The Expert Group constituted under sub-section (1) shall include the following, namely:-

(a) two non-official social scientists;

(b) two representatives of Panchayat, Gram Sabha, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be;

(c) two experts on rehabilitation; and

(d) a technical expert in the subject relating to the project.

(3) The appropriate Government may nominate a person from amongst the members of the Expert Group as the Chairperson of the Group.

(4) If the Expert Group constituted under sub-section (1), is of the opinion that,-

(a) the project does not serve any public purpose; or

(b) the social costs and adverse social impacts of the project outweigh the potential benefits,

it shall make a recommendation within two months from the date of its constitution to the effect that the project shall be abandoned forthwith and no further steps to acquire the land will be initiated in respect of the same:

Provided that the grounds for such recommendation shall be recorded in writing by the Expert Group giving the details and reasons for such decision:

Provided further that where the appropriate Government, inspite of such recommendations, proceeds with the acquisition, then, it shall ensure that its reasons for doing so are recorded in writing.

(5) If the Expert Group constituted under sub-section (1), is of the opinion that,-

(a) the project will serve any public purpose; and

(b) the potential benefits outweigh the social costs and adverse social impacts,

it shall make specific recommendations within two months from the date of its constitution whether the extent of land proposed to be acquired is the absolute bare-minimum extent needed for the project and whether there are no other less displacing options available:

Provided that the grounds for such recommendation shall be recorded in writing by the Expert Group giving the details and reasons for such decision.

(6) The recommendations of the Expert Group referred to in sub-sections (4) and (5) shall be made available in the local language to the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil, and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government.

Section 8. Examination of proposals for land acquisition and Social Impact Assessment report by appropriate Government

(1) The appropriate Government shall ensure that-

(a) there is a legitimate and bona fide public purpose for the proposed acquisition which necessitates the acquisition of the land identified;

(b) the potential benefits and the public purpose referred to in clause (a) shall outweigh the social costs and adverse social impact as determined by the Social Impact Assessment that has been carried out;

(c) only the minimum area of land required for the project is proposed to be acquired;

(d) there is no unutilised land which has been previously acquired in the area;

(e) the land, if any, acquired earlier and remained unutilised, is used for such public purpose and make recommendations in respect thereof.

(2) The appropriate Government shall examine the report of the Collector, if any, and the report of the Expert Group on the Social Impact Assessment study and after considering all the reports, recommend such area for acquisition which would ensure minimum displacement of people, minimum disturbance to the infrastructure, ecology and minimum adverse impact on the individuals affected.

(3) The decision of the appropriate Government shall be made available in the local language to the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil, and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed, and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government:

Provided that where land is sought to be acquired for the purposes as specified in sub-section (2) of section 2, the appropriate Government shall also ascertain as to whether the prior consent of the affected families as required under the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 2, has been obtained in the manner as may be prescribed.

Section 9. Exemption from Social Impact Assessment

Where land is proposed to be acquired invoking the urgency provisions under section 40, the appropriate Government may exempt undertaking of the Social Impact Assessment study.

CHAPTER III SPECIAL PROVISION TO SAFEGUARD FOOD SECURITY

Section 10. Special provision to safeguard food security

(1) Save as otherwise provided in sub-section (2), no irrigated multi-cropped land shall be acquired under this Act.

(2) Such land may be acquired subject to the condition that it is being done under exceptional circumstances, as a demonstrable last resort, where the acquisition of the land referred to in sub-section (1) shall, in aggregate for all projects in a district or State, in no case exceed such limits as may be notified by the appropriate Government considering the relevant State specific factors and circumstances.

(3) Whenever multi-crop irrigated land is acquired under sub-section (2), an equivalent area of culturable wasteland shall be developed for agricultural purposes or an amount equivalent to the value of the land acquired shall be deposited with the appropriate Government for investment in agriculture for enhancing food-security.

(4) In a case not falling under sub-section (1), the acquisition of the agricultural land in aggregate for all projects in a district or State, shall in no case exceed such limits of the total net sown area of that district or State, as may be notified by the appropriate Government:

Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply in the case of projects that are linear in nature such as those relating to railways, highways, major district roads, irrigation canals, power lines and the like.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

After Chapter III, the following Chapter shall be inserted, namely: -

"CHAPTER III A

PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER II AND CHAPTER HI NOT TO APPLY TO CERTAIN PROJECTS

10A. Power of State Government to exempt certain projects:-The State Government may, in the public interest, by notification in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette, exempt any of the following projects from the application of the provisions of Chapter II and Chapter III of this Act, namely:-

(a) such projects vital to national security or defence of India and every part thereof, including preparation for defence or defence production.

(b) rural infrastructure including electrification;

(c) affordable housing and housing for the poor people;

(d) industrial corridors set up by the State Government and its undertakings (in which case the land shall be acquired up to one kilometer on both sides of designated railway lines or roads for such industrial corridor); and

(e) infrastructure projects, including projects under public-private partnership where the ownership of the land continues to vest with the Government:

Provided that the State Government shall, before the issue of notification, ensure the extent of land for the proposed acquisition keeping in view the minimum land required for such project."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 3 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

After section 10 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"10A. Power of State Government to exempt certain projects

The State Government may, in the public interest, by notification in the Official Gazette, exempt any of the following projects from the application of the provisions of Chapter II and Chapter III of this Act, namely:-

(a) such projects vital to national security or defence of India and every part thereof, including preparation for defence or defence production;

(b) rural infrastructure including irrigation and electrification;

(c) affordable housing and housing for the poor people;

(d) industrial area or industrial estate set up by the State Government and its undertaking;

(e) industrial corridor set up by the State Government and its undertaking (in which case the land shall be acquired up to one kilometre on both sides of designated railway line or roads for such industrial corridor); and

(f) infrastructure projects including projects under public-private partnership where the ownership of land continues to vest with the Government:

Provided that, the State Government shall, before issue of notification, ensure the extent of land for the proposed acquisition keeping in view the bare minimum land required for such project.]

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 3 (w.e.f. 26-4-2018).]

CHAPTER IV NOTIFICATION AND ACQUISITION

Section 11. Publication of preliminary notification and power of officers

(1) Whenever, it appears to the appropriate Government that land in any area is required or likely to be required for any public purpose, a notification (hereinafter referred to as preliminary notification) to that effect along with details of the land to be acquired in rural and urban areas shall be published in the following manner, namely:-

(a) in the Official Gazette;

(b) in two daily newspapers circulating in the locality of such area of which one shall be in the regional language;

(c) in the local language in the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be and in the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil;

(d) uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government;

(e) in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) Immediately after issuance of the notification under sub-section (1), the concerned Gram Sabha or Sabhas at the village level, municipalities in case of municipal areas and the Autonomous Councils in case of the areas referred to in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, shall be informed of the contents of the notification issued under the said sub-section in all cases of land acquisition at a meeting called especially for this purpose.

(3) The notification issued under sub-section (1) shall also contain a statement on the nature of the public purpose involved, reasons necessitating the displacement of affected persons, summary of the Social Impact Assessment Report and particulars of the Administrator appointed for the purposes of rehabilitation and resettlement under section 43.

(4) No person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land specified in the preliminary notification or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification till such time as the proceedings under this Chapter are completed:

Provided that the Collector may, on the application made by the owner of the land so notified, exempt in special circumstances to be recorded in writing, such owner from the operation of this sub-section:

Provided further that any loss or injury suffered by any person due to his wilful violation of this provision shall not be made up by the Collector.

(5) After issuance of notice under sub-section (1), the Collector shall, before the issue of a declaration under section 19, undertake and complete the exercise of updating of land records as prescribed within a period of two months.

Section 12. Preliminary survey of land and power of officers to carry out survey

For the purposes of enabling the appropriate Government to determine the extent of land to be acquired, it shall be lawful for any officer, either generally or specially authorised by such Government in this behalf, and for his servants and workmen,-

(a) to enter upon and survey and take levels of any land in such locality;

(b) to dig or bore into the sub-soil;

(c) to do all other acts necessary to ascertain whether the land is adapted for such purpose;

(d) to set out the boundaries of the land proposed to be taken and the intended line of the work (if any) proposed to be made thereon; and

(e) to mark such levels, boundaries and line by placing marks and cutting trenches and where otherwise the survey cannot be completed and the levels taken and the boundaries and line marked, to cut down and clear away any part of any standing crop, fence or jungle:

Provided that no act under clauses (a) to (e) in respect of land shall be conducted in the absence of the owner of the land or in the absence of any person authorised in writing by the owner:

Provided further that the acts specified under the first proviso may be undertaken in the absence of the owner, if the owner has been afforded a reasonable opportunity to be present during the survey, by giving a notice of at least sixty days prior to such survey:

Provided also that no person shall enter into any building or upon any enclosed court or garden attached to a dwelling-house (unless with the consent of the occupier thereof) without previously giving such occupier at least seven days' notice in writing of his intention to do so.

Section 13. Payment for damage

The officer so authorised under section 12 shall at the time of entry under section 12 pay or tender payment for any damage caused, and, in case of dispute as to the sufficiency of the amount so paid or tendered, he shall at once refer the dispute to the decision of the Collector or other chief revenue officer of the district, and such decision shall be final.

Section 14. Lapse of Social Impact Assessment report

Where a preliminary notification under section 11 is not issued within twelve months from the date of appraisal of the Social Impact Assessment report submitted by the Expert Group under section 7, then, such report shall be deemed to have lapsed and a fresh Social Impact Assessment shall be required to be undertaken prior to acquisition proceedings under section 11:

Provided that the appropriate Government, shall have the power to extend the period of twelve months, if in its opinion circumstances exist justifying the same:

Provided further that any such decision to extend the period shall be recorded in writing and the same shall be notified and be uploaded on the website of the authority concerned.

Section 15. Hearing of objections

(1) Any person interested in any land which has been notified under sub-section (1) of section 11, as being required or likely to be required for a public purpose, may within sixty days from the date of the publication of the preliminary notification, object to-

(a) the area and suitability of land proposed to be acquired;

(b) justification offered for public purpose;

(c) the findings of the Social Impact Assessment report.

(2) Every objection under sub-section (1) shall be made to the Collector in writing, and the Collector shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard in person or by any person authorised by him in this behalf or by an Advocate

and shall, after hearing all such objections and after making such further inquiry, if any, as he thinks necessary, either make a report in respect of the land which has been notified under sub-section (1) of section 11, or make different reports in respect of different parcels of such land, to the appropriate Government, containing his recommendations on the objections, together with the record of the proceedings held by him along with a separate report giving therein the approximate cost of land acquisition, particulars as to the number of affected families likely to be resettled, for the decision of that Government.

(3) The decision of the appropriate Government on the objections made under sub-section (2) shall be final.

Section 16. Preparation of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme by the Administrator

(1) Upon the publication of the preliminary notification under sub-section (1) of section 11 by the Collector, the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement shall conduct a survey and undertake a census of the affected families, in such manner and within such time as may be prescribed, which shall include-

(a) particulars of lands and immovable properties being acquired of each affected family;

(b) livelihoods lost in respect of land losers and landless whose livelihoods are primarily dependent on the lands being acquired;

(c) a list of public utilities and Government buildings which are affected or likely to be affected, where resettlement of affected families is involved;

(d) details of the amenities and infrastructural facilities which are affected or likely to be affected, where resettlement of affected families is involved; and

(e) details of any common property resources being acquired.

(2) The Administrator shall, based on the survey and census under sub-section (1), prepare a draft Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme, as prescribed which shall include particulars of the rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements of each land owner and landless whose livelihoods are primarily dependent on the lands being acquired and where resettlement of affected families is involved-

(i) a list of Government buildings to be provided in the Resettlement Area;

(ii) details of the public amenities and infrastructural facilities which are to be provided in the Resettlement Area.

(3) The draft Rehabilitation and Resettlement scheme referred to in sub-section (2) shall include time limit for implementing Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme.

(4) The draft Rehabilitation and Resettlement scheme referred to in sub-section (2) shall be made known locally by wide publicity in the affected area and discussed in the concerned Gram Sabhas or Municipalities.

(5) A public hearing shall be conducted in such manner as may be prescribed, after giving adequate publicity about the date, time and venue for the public hearing at the affected area:

Provided that in case where an affected area involves more than one Gram Panchayat or Municipality, public hearings shall be conducted in every Gram Sabha and Municipality where more than twenty-five per cent. of land belonging to that Gram Sabha or Municipality is being acquired:

Provided further that the consultation with the Gram Sabha in Scheduled Areas shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (40 of 1996).

(6) The Administrator shall, on completion of public hearing submit the draft Scheme for Rehabilitation and Resettlement along with a specific report on the claims and objections raised in the public hearing to the Collector.

Section 17. Review of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme

(1) The Collector shall review the draft Scheme submitted under sub-section (6) of section 16 by the Administrator with the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee at the project level constituted under section 45.

(2) The Collector shall submit the draft Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme with his suggestions to the Commissioner Rehabilitation and Resettlement for approval of the Scheme.

Section 18. Approved Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme to be made public

The Commissioner shall cause the approved Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme to be made available in the local language to the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil, and shall be published in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed, and uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government.

Section 19. Publication of declaration and summary of Rehabilitation and Resettlement

(1) When the appropriate Government is satisfied, after considering the report, if any, made under sub-section (2) of section 15, that any particular land is needed for a public purpose, a declaration shall be made to that effect, along with a declaration of an area identified as the "resettlement area" for the purposes of rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected families, under the hand and seal of a Secretary to such Government or of any other officer duly authorised to certify its orders and different declarations may be made from time to time in respect of different parcels of any land covered by the same preliminary notification irrespective of whether one report or different reports has or have been made (wherever required).

(2) The Collector shall publish a summary of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme along with declaration referred to in sub-section (1):

Provided that no declaration under this sub-section shall be made unless the summary of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme is published along with such declaration:

Provided further that no declaration under this sub-section shall be made unless the Requiring Body deposits an amount, in full or part, as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government toward the cost of acquisition of the land:

Provided also that the Requiring Body shall deposit the amount promptly so as to enable the appropriate Government to publish the declaration within a period of twelve months from the date of the publication of preliminary notification under section 11.

(3) In projects where land is acquired in stages, the application for acquisition itself can specify different stages for the rehabilitation and resettlement, and all declarations shall be made according to the stages so specified.

(4) Every declaration referred to in sub-section (1) shall be published in the following manner, namely:-

(a) in the Official Gazette;

(b) in two daily newspapers being circulated in the locality, of such area of which one shall be in the regional language;

(c) in the local language in the Panchayat, Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and in the offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil;

(d) uploaded on the website of the appropriate Government;

(e) in the affected areas, in such manner as may be prescribed.

(5) Every declaration referred to in sub-section (1) shall indicate,-

(a) the district or other territorial division in which the land is situated;

(b) the purpose for which it is needed, its approximate area; and

(c) where a plan shall have been made for the land, the place at which such plan may be inspected without any cost.

(6) The declaration referred to in sub-section (1) shall be conclusive evidence that the land is required for a public purpose and, after making such declaration, the appropriate Government may acquire the land in such manner as specified under this Act.

(7) Where no declaration is made under sub-section (1) within twelve months from the date of preliminary notification, then such notification shall be deemed to have been rescinded:

Provided that in computing the period referred to in this sub-section, any period or periods during which the proceedings for the acquisition of the land were held up on account of any stay or injunction by the order of any Court shall be excluded:

Provided further that the appropriate Government shall have the power to extend the period of twelve months, if in its opinion circumstances exist justifying the same:

Provided also that any such decision to extend the period shall be recorded in writing and the same shall be notified and be uploaded on the website of the authority concerned.

Section 20. Land to be marked out, measured and planned including marking of specific areas

The Collector shall thereupon cause the land, unless it has been already marked out under section 12, to be marked out and measured, and if no plan has been made thereof, a plan to be made of the same.

Section 21. Notice to persons interested

(1) The Collector shall publish the public notice on his website and cause public notice to be given at convenient places on or near the land to be taken, stating that the Government intends to take possession of the land, and that claims to compensations and rehabilitation and resettlement for all interests in such land may be made to him.

(2) The public notice referred to in sub-section (1) shall state the particulars of the land so needed, and require all persons interested in the land to appear personally or by agent or advocate before the Collector at a time and place mentioned in the public notice not being less than thirty days and not more than six months after the date of publication of the notice, and to state the nature of their respective interests in the land and the amount and particulars of their claims to compensation for such interests, their claims to rehabilitation and resettlement along with their objections, if any, to the measurements made under section 20.

(3) The Collector may in any case require such statement referred to in sub-section (2) to be made in writing and signed by the party or his agent.

(4) The Collector shall also serve notice to the same effect on the occupier, if any, of such land and on all such persons known or believed to be interested therein, be entitled to act for persons so interested, as reside or have agents authorised to receive service on their behalf, within the revenue district in which the land is situated.

(5) In case any person so interested resides elsewhere, and has no such agent, the Collector shall ensure that the notice shall be sent to him by post in letter addressed to him at his last known residence, address of place or business and also publish the same in at least two national daily newspapers and also on his website.

Section 22. Power to require and enforce the making of statements as to names and interests

(1) The Collector may also require any such person to make or deliver to him, at a time and place mentioned (such time not being less than thirty days after the date of the requisition), a statement containing, so far as may be practicable, the name of every other person possessing any interest in the land or any part thereof as co-proprietor, sub-proprietor, mortgagee, tenant or otherwise, and of the nature of such interest, and of the rents and profits, if any, received or receivable on account thereof for three years next preceding the date of the statement.

(2) Every person required to make or deliver a statement under this section shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of sections 175 and 176 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860).

Section 23. Enquiry and land acquisition award by Collector

On the day so fixed, or on any other day to which the enquiry has been adjourned, the Collector shall proceed to enquire into the objections (if any) which any person interested has stated pursuant to a notice given under section 21, to the measurements made under section 20, and into the value of the land at the date of the publication of the notification, and into the respective interests of the persons claiming the compensation and rehabilitation and resettlement, shall make an award under his hand of-

(a) the true area of the land;

(b) the compensation as determined under section 27 along with Rehabilitation and Resettlement Award as determined under section 31 and which in his opinion should be allowed for the land; and

(c) the apportionment of the said compensation among all the persons known or believed to be interested in the land, or whom, or of whose claims, he has information, whether or not they have respectively appeared before him.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

In the Principal Act, after section 23, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"23A. Award of Col lector without enquiry in case of agreement of interested persons.-(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 23, if at any stage of the proceedings, the Collector is satisfied that all the persons interested in the land who appeared before him have agreed in writing on the matters to be included in the award of the Collector in the form prescribed, he may, without making further enquiry, make an award according to the terms of such agreement.

(2) The determination of compensation for any land under sub-section (1) shall not in any way affect the determination of compensation in respect of other lands in the same locality or elsewhere in accordance with the other provisions of this Act.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration Act, 1908 (Act 16 of 1908), no agreement made under sub-section (1) shall be liable to registration under that Act."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 4 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

After section 23 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"23A. Award of Collector without enquiry in case of agreement of interested persons.-(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in

section 23, if at any stage of the proceedings, the Collector is satisfied that all the persons interested in the land who appeared before him have agreed in writing on the matters to be included in the award of the Collector in the form prescribed by rules made by the State Government, he may, without making further enquiry, make an award according to the terms of such agreement.

(2) The determination of compensation for any land under sub-section (1) shall not in any way affect the determination of compensation in respect of other lands in the same locality or elsewhere in accordance with the other provisions of this Act.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908), no agreement made under sub-section (1) shall be liable to registration under that Act."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 4 (w.e.f. 26-4-2014).]

Section 24. Land acquisition process under Act No. 1 of 1894 shall be deemed to have lapsed in certain cases

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, in any case of land acquisition proceedings initiated under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894,-

(a) where no award under section 11 of the said Land Acquisition Act has been made, then, all provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation shall apply; or

(b) where an award under said section 11 has been made, then such proceedings shall continue under the provisions of the said Land Acquisition Act, as if the said Act has not been repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), in case of land acquisition proceedings initiated under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (1 of 1894),where an award under the said section 11 has been made five years or more prior to the commencement of this Act but the physical possession of the land has not been taken or the compensation has not been paid the said proceedings shall be deemed to have lapsed and the appropriate Government, if it so chooses, shall initiate the proceedings of such land acquisition afresh in accordance with the provisions of this Act:

Provided that where an award has been made and compensation in respect of a majority of land holdings has not been deposited in the account of the beneficiaries, then, all beneficiaries specified in the notification for acquisition under section 4 of the said Land Acquisition Act, shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

In the Principal Act, in section 24, in sub-section (2),-

"(1) in the existing proviso, for the expression "where an award has been made" the expression "where the said award has been made 5 years or more prior to the commencement of this Act" shall be substituted;

(2) after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

Provided further that in computing the period referred to in this sub-section, any period or periods during which the proceedings for acquisition of the land were held up on account of any order, stay, suspension or injunction issued by any Court or the period specified in the award of a Tribunal for taking possession or such period where possession has been taken but the compensation is lying deposited in a Court or in any designated account maintained for this purpose, shall be excluded."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 5 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

In section 24 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:-

"Provided further that, in computing the period referred to in this sub-section, any period or periods during which the proceedings for acquisition of the land were held up on account of any stay or injunction issued by any court or the period specified in the award of a Tribunal for taking possession or such period where possession has been taken but the compensation is lying deposited in a court or in any designated account maintained for this purpose on account of refusal or not coming forward for receiving compensation despite receipt of such notice under sub-section (2) of section 12 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (I of 1894), shall be excluded. Also if the said land is mutated within three years after passing the award in the name of acquiring body, it shall be deemed that the possession of the land has been taken."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 5 (26-4-2018).]

Haryana

In section 24 of the principal Act,-

(i) after sub-section (1), the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:-

Explanation.-For the purpose of this sub-section, a land acquisition proceeding shall be deemed to have been initiated under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (Central Act 1 of 1894) where notification under section 4 of the said Act has been published in any form under sub-section (1) of the said section.

(ii) in sub-section (2),-

(a) the word "physical" shall be omitted;

(b) for the word "or" occurring after the words "possession of the land has not been taken", the word "and" shall be substituted;

(c) in the proviso, for the sign "."existing at the end, the sign ":" shall be substituted; and

(d) after the existing proviso, the following proviso shall be added at the end, namely:-

Provided further that in computing the period referred to in this sub-section, any period during which the proceedings for acquisition of the land were held up on account of any stay or injunction issued by order of any court, shall be excluded:

Provided further that the entry in rapat roznamcha regarding taking or handing over possession recorded by the Land Acquisition Officer or Revenue Official shall be treated as possession taken for all intents and purposes.

[Vide Haryana Act 21 of 2018, sec. 2 (9-5-2018).]

Section 25. Period within which an award shall be made

The Collector shall make an award within a period of twelve months from the date of publication of the declaration under section 19 and if no award is made within that period, the entire proceedings for the acquisition of the land shall lapse:

Provided that the appropriate Government shall have the power to extend the period of twelve months if in its opinion, circumstances exist justifying the same:

Provided further that any such decision to extend the period shall be recorded in writing and the same shall be notified and be uploaded on the website of the authority concerned.

Section 26. Determination of market value of land by Collector

(1) The Collector shall adopt the following criteria in assessing and determining the market value of the land, namely:-

(a) the market value, if any, specified in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (2 of 1899) for the registration of sale deeds or agreements to sell, as the case may be, in the area, where the land is situated; or

(b) the average sale price for similar type of land situated in the nearest village or nearest vicinity area; or

(c) consented amount of compensation as agreed upon under sub-section (2) of section 2 in case of acquisition of lands for private companies or for public private partnership projects,

whichever is higher:

Provided that the date for determination of market value shall be the date on which the notification has been issued under section 11.

Explanation 1.-The average sale price referred to in clause (b) shall be determined taking into account the sale deeds or the agreements to sell registered for similar type of area in the near village or near vicinity area during immediately preceding three years of the year in which such acquisition of land is proposed to be made.

Explanation 2.-For determining the average sale price referred to in Explanation 1, one-half of the total number of sale deeds or the agreements to sell in which the highest sale price has been mentioned shall be taken into account.

Explanation 3.-While determining the market value under this section and the average sale price referred to in Explanation 1 or Explanation 2, any price paid as compensation for land acquired under the provisions of this Act on an earlier occasion in the district shall not be taken into consideration.

Explanation 4.-While determining the market value under this section and the average sale price referred to in Explanation 1 or Explanation 2, any price paid, which in the opinion of the Collector is not indicative of actual prevailing market value may be discounted for the purposes of calculating market value.

(2) The market value calculated as per sub-section (1) shall be multiplied by a factor to be specified in the First Schedule.

(3) Where the market value under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) cannot be determined for the reason that-

(a) the land is situated in such area where the transactions in land are restricted by or under any other law for the time being in force in that area; or

(b) the registered sale deeds or agreements to sell as mentioned in clause (a) of sub-section (1) for similar land are not available for the immediately preceding three years; or

(c) the market value has not been specified under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (2 of 1899) by the appropriate authority,

the State Government concerned shall specify the floor price or minimum price per unit area of the said land based on the price calculated in the manner specified in sub-section (1) in respect of similar types of land situated in the immediate adjoining areas:

Provided that in a case where the Requiring Body offers its shares to the owners of the lands (whose lands have been acquired) as a part compensation, for acquisition of land, such shares in no case shall exceed twenty-five per cent, of the value so calculated under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) as the case may be:

Provided further that the Requiring Body shall in no case compel any owner of the land (whose land has been acquired) to take its shares, the value of which is deductible in the value of the land calculated under sub-section (1):

Provided also that the Collector shall, before initiation of any land acquisition proceedings in any area, take all necessary steps to revise and update the market value of the land on the basis of the prevalent market rate in that area:

Provided also that the appropriate Government shall ensure that the market value determined for acquisition of any land or property of an educational institution established and administered by a religious or linguistic minority shall be such as would not restrict or abrogate the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

Section 27. Determination of amount of compensation

The Collector having determined the market value of the land to be acquired shall calculate the total amount of compensation to be paid to the land owner (whose land has been acquired) by including all assets attached to the land.

Section 28. Parameters to be considered by Collector in determination of award

In determining the amount of compensation to be awarded for land acquired under this Act, the Collector shall take into consideration-

firstly, the market value as determined under section 26 and the award amount in accordance with the First and Second Schedules;

secondly, the damage sustained by the person interested, by reason of the taking of any standing crops and trees which may be on the land at the time of the Collector's taking possession thereof;

thirdly, the damage (if any) sustained by the person interested, at the time of the Collector's taking possession of the land, by reason of severing such land from his other land;

fourthly, the damage (if any) sustained by the person interested, at the time of the Collector's taking possession of the land, by reason of the acquisition injuriously affecting his other property, movable or immovable, in any other manner, or his earnings;

fifthly, in consequence of the acquisition of the land by the Collector, the person interested is compelled to change his residence or place of business, the reasonable expenses (if any) incidental to such change;

sixthly, the damage (if any) bona fide resulting from diminution of the profits of the land between the time of the publication of the declaration under section 19 and the time of the Collector's taking possession of the land; and

seventhly, any other ground which may be in the interest of equity, justice and beneficial to the affected families.

Section 29. Determination of value of things attached to land or building

(1) The Collector in determining the market value of the building and other immovable property or assets attached to the land or building which are to be acquired, use the services of a competent engineer or any other specialist in the relevant field, as may be considered necessary by him.

(2) The Collector for the purpose of determining the value of trees and plants attached to the land acquired, use the services of experienced persons in the field of agriculture, forestry, horticulture, sericulture, or any other field, as may be considered necessary by him.

(3) The Collector for the purpose of assessing the value of the standing crops damaged during the process of land acquisition, may use the services of experienced persons in the field of agriculture as may be considered necessary by him.

Section 30. Award of solatium

(1) The Collector having determined the total compensation to be paid, shall, to arrive at the final award, impose a "Solatium" amount equivalent to one hundred per cent. of the compensation amount.

Explanation.-For the removal of doubts it is hereby declared that solatium amount shall be in addition to the compensation payable to any person whose land has been acquired.

(2) The Collector shall issue individual awards detailing the particulars of compensation payable and the details of payment of the compensation as specified in the First Schedule.

(3) In addition to the market value of the land provided under section 26, the Collector shall, in every case, award an amount calculated at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum on such market value for the period commencing on and from the date of the publication of the notification of the Social Impact Assessment study under sub-section (2)of section 4, in respect of such land, till the date of the award of the Collector or the date of taking possession of the land, whichever is earlier.

State Amendment

Andhra Pradesh

In the Principal Act, after Chapter-IV, the following new Chapter IV A shall be inserted, namely:-

CHAPTER IV A

Voluntary acquisition of land

30A. Acquisition of land by the State Government by entering into agreement.-(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Principal Act, or any other law, whenever it appears to the State Government that the land is needed in any area for any public purpose, the State Government or its Authorized Officer will enter into an agreement with the willing land owner to sell the land in favour of the State for the matters specified therein in a prescribed form.

(2) The State Government or its Authorized Officer shall pass an order in terms of agreement under sub-section (1) for acquisition, and the substance of the order shall be notified in the Gazette. On such publication of notification, the title, ownership and all interests of the land owner who enters into agreements, shall vest with the State, free from all encumbrances.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Registration Act, 1908 (Act l6 of 1908), no agreement entered under sub-section (1) shall be liable to registration under that Act.

(4) If any family, other than the family of the land owner who entered into an agreement, is affected by the acquisition of land under this section, the State Government shall pay a lumpsum amount towards rehabilitation and resettlement, if any, as prescribed in the rules framed hereunder:

Provided that no agreement or the lumpsum amount towards rehabilitation and resettlement as may be prescribed, shall be abnormally at variance to the disadvantage of the land owners.]

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 6 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

CHAPTER V REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT AWARD

Section 31. Rehabilitation and Resettlement Award for affected families by Collector

(1) The Collector shall pass Rehabilitation and Resettlement Awards for each affected family in terms of the entitlements provided in the Second Schedule.

(2) The Rehabilitation and Resettlement Award shall include all of the following, namely:-

(a) rehabilitation and resettlement amount payable to the family;

(b) bank account number of the person to which the rehabilitation and resettlement award amount is to be transferred;

(c) particulars of house site and house to be allotted, in case of displaced families;

(d) particulars of land allotted to the displaced families;

(e) particulars of one time subsistence allowance and transportation allowance in case of displaced families;

(f) particulars of payment for cattle shed and petty shops;

(g) particulars of one-time amount to artisans and small traders;

(h) details of mandatory employment to be provided to the members of the affected families;

(i) particulars of any fishing rights that may be involved;

(j) particulars of annuity and other entitlements to be provided;

(k) particulars of special provisions for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to be provided:

Provided that in case any of the matters specified under clauses (a) to (k) are not applicable to any affected family the same shall be indicated as "not applicable":

Provided further that the appropriate Government may, by notification increase the rate of rehabilitation and resettlement amount payable to the affected families, taking into account the rise in the price index.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

In the Principal Act, after section 31, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"31A. Payment of Lump sum amount by State Government:-Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, whenever the land is to be acquired for any projects as notified in section 10A, it shall be competent for the state Government to pay such lumpsum about as may be prescribed in the rules in lieu of Rehabilitation."

Provided that the payment of such lumpsum amount in lieu of Rehabilitation and Resettlement as may be prescribed, shall not be abnormally at variance to the disadvantage of the affected families."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 7 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

After section 31 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"31A. Payment of lump sum amount by State Government for its linear nature projects.-Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, it shall be competent for the State Government to pay, whenever the land is to be acquired for its own use amounting to less than one hundred acres or whenever the land is to be acquired in case of projects which are linear in nature as referred to the proviso to sub-section (4) of section 10, as Rehabilitation and Resettlement cost, such lump sum amount equal to fifty per cent. of the amount of compensation as determined under section 27 to the affected families."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 6 (26-4-2018).]

Section 32. Provision of infrastructural amenities in resettlement area

In every resettlement area as defined under this Act, the Collector shall ensure the provision of all infrastructural facilities and basic minimum amenities specified in the Third Schedule.

Section 33. Corrections to awards by Collector

(1) The Collector may at any time, but not later than six months from the date of award or where he has been required under the provisions of this Act to make a reference to the Authority under section 64, before the making of such reference, by order, correct any clerical or arithmetical mistakes in either of the awards or errors arising therein either on his own motion or on the application of any person interested or local authority:

Provided that no correction which is likely to affect prejudicially any person shall be made unless such person has been given a reasonable opportunity of making representation in the matter.

(2) The Collector shall give immediate notice of any correction made in the award so corrected to all the persons interested.

(3) Where any excess amount is proved to have been paid to any person as a result of the correction made under sub-section (1), the excess amount so paid shall be liable to be refunded and in the case of any default or refusal to pay, the same may be recovered, as prescribed by the appropriate Government.

State Amendment

Andhra Pradesh

In the principal Act, after section 33, the following new section 33 A shall be inserted, namely:-

"33A. Recovery of the amount wrongfully paid.-Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, the authority in a reference under section 64 or the High Court in appeal under section 74, or any other authority in any legal proceedings find that the money has been wrongfully paid to any person under this Act, the State Government or its authorized person or Collector shall recover the same as arrears of land revenue."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 8 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Section 34. Adjournment of enquiry

The Collector may, for any cause he thinks fit, from time to time adjourn the enquiry to a day to be fixed by him.

Section 35. Power to summon and enforce attendance of witnesses and production of documents

For the purpose of enquiries under this Act, the Collector shall have powers to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses, including the parties interested of any of them, and to compel the production of documents by the same means, and (so far as may be) in the same manner as is provided in the case of a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908).

Section 36. Power to call for records, etc

The appropriate Government may at any time before the award is made by the Collector under section 30 call for any record of any proceedings (whether by way of inquiry or otherwise) for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the legality or propriety of any findings or order passed or as to the regularity of such proceedings and may pass such order or issue such direction in relation thereto as it may think fit:

Provided that the appropriate Government shall not pass or issue any order or direction prejudicial to any person without affording such person a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

Section 37. Awards of Collector when to be final

(1) The Awards shall be filed in the Collector's office and shall, except as hereinafter provided, be final and conclusive evidence, as between the Collector and the persons interested, whether they have respectively appeared before the Collector or not, of the true area and market value of the land and the assets attached thereto, solatium so determined and the apportionment of the compensation among the persons interested.

(2) The Collector shall give immediate notice of his awards to such of the persons interested who are not present personally or through their representatives when the awards are made.

(3) The Collector shall keep open to the public and display a summary of the entire proceedings undertaken in a case of acquisition of land including the amount of compensation awarded to each individual along with details of the land finally acquired under this Act on the website created for this purpose.

Section 38. Power to take possession of land to be acquired

(1) The Collector shall take possession of land after ensuring that full payment of compensation as well as rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements are paid or tendered to the entitled persons within a period of three months for the compensation and a period of six months for the monetary part of rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements listed in the Second Schedule commencing from the date of the award made under section 30:

Provided that the components of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Package in the Second and Third Schedules that relate to infrastructural entitlements shall be provided within a period of eighteen months from the date of the award:

Provided further that in case of acquisition of land for irrigation or hydel project, being a public purpose, the rehabilitation and resettlement shall be completed six months prior to submergence of the lands acquired.

(2) The Collector shall be responsible for ensuring that the rehabilitation and resettlement process is completed in all its aspects before displacing the affected families.

Section 39. Additional compensation in case of multiple displacements

The Collector shall, as far as possible, not displace any family which has already been displaced by the appropriate Government for the purpose of acquisition under the provisions of this Act, and if so displaced, shall pay an additional compensation equivalent to that of the compensation determined under this Act for the second or successive displacements.

Section 40. Special powers in case of urgency to acquire land in certain cases

(1) In cases of urgency, whenever the appropriate Government so directs, the Collector, though no such award has been made, may, on the expiration of thirty days from the publication of the notice mentioned in section 21, take possession of any land needed for a public purpose and such land shall thereupon vest absolutely in the Government, free from all encumbrances.

(2) The powers of the appropriate Government under sub-section (1) shall be restricted to the minimum area required for the defence of India or national security or for any emergencies arising out of natural calamities or any other emergency with the approval of Parliament:

Provided that the Collector shall not take possession of any building or part of a building under this sub-section without giving to the occupier thereof at least forty-eight hours notice of his intention to do so, or such longer notice as may be reasonably sufficient to enable such occupier to remove his movable property from such building without unnecessary inconvenience.

(3) Before taking possession of any land under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2), the Collector shall tender payment of eighty per cent. of the compensation for such land as estimated by him to the person interested entitled thereto.

(4) In the case of any land to which, in the opinion of the appropriate Government, the provisions of sub-section (1), sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) are applicable, the appropriate Government may direct that any or all of the provisions of Chapter II to Chapter VI shall not apply, and, if it does so direct, a declaration may be made under section 19 in respect of the land at any time after the date of the publication of the preliminary notification under sub-section (1) of section 11.

(5) An additional compensation of seventy-five per cent. of the total compensation as determined under section 27, shall be paid by the Collector in respect of land and property for acquisition of which proceedings have been initiated under sub-section (1) of this section:

Provided that no additional compensation will be required to be paid in case the project is one that affects the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security and strategic interests of the State or relations with foreign States.

State Amendment

Maharashtra

"In section 40 of the principal Act, in sub-section (2), after the words "approval of Parliament", the words "or to comply with the directions given by the Central Government to the State Government" shall be added."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 7 (w.e.f. 26.4.2018).]

Section 41. Special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

(1) As far as possible, no acquisition of land shall be made in the Scheduled Areas.

(2) Where such acquisition does take place it shall be done only as a demonstrable last resort.

(3) In case of acquisition or alienation of any land in the Scheduled Areas, the prior consent of the concerned Gram Sabha or the Panchayats or the autonomous District Councils, at the appropriate level in Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution, as the case may be, shall be obtained, in all cases of land acquisition in such areas, including acquisition in case of urgency, before issue of a notification under this Act, or any other Central Act or a State Act for the time being in force:

Provided that the consent of the Panchayats or the Autonomous Districts Councils shall be obtained in cases where the Gram Sabha does not exist or has not been constituted.

(4) In case of a project involving land acquisition on behalf of a Requiring Body which involves involuntary displacement of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes families, a Development Plan shall be prepared, in such form as may be prescribed, laying down the details of procedure for settling land rights due, but not settled and restoring titles of the Scheduled Tribes as well as the Scheduled Castes on the alienated land by undertaking a special drive together with land acquisition.

(5) The Development Plan shall also contain a programme for development of alternate fuel, fodder and non-timber forest produce resources on non-forest lands within a period of five years, sufficient to meet the requirements of tribal communities as well as the Scheduled Castes.

(6) In case of land being acquired from members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes, at least one-third of the compensation amount due shall be paid to the affected families initially as first instalment and the rest shall be paid after taking over of the possession of the land.

(7) The affected families of the Scheduled Tribes shall be resettled preferably in the same Scheduled Area in a compact block so that they can retain their ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity.

(8) The resettlement areas predominantly inhabited by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall get land, to such extent as may be decided by the appropriate Government free of cost for community and social gatherings.

(9) Any alienation of tribal lands or lands belonging to members of the Scheduled Castes in disregard of the laws and regulations for the time being in force shall be treated as null and void, and in the case of acquisition of such lands, the rehabilitation and resettlement benefits shall be made available to the original tribal land owners or land owners belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

(10) The affected Scheduled Tribes, other traditional forest dwellers and the Scheduled Castes having fishing rights in a river or pond or dam in the affected area shall be given fishing rights in the reservoir area of the irrigation or hydel projects.

(11) Where the affected families belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are relocated outside of the district, then, they shall be paid an additional twenty-five per cent. rehabilitation and resettlement benefits to which they are entitled in monetary terms along with a one-time entitlement of fifty thousand rupees.

Section 42. Reservation and other benefits

(1) All benefits, including the reservation benefits available to the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes in the affected areas shall continue in the resettlement area.

(2) Whenever the affected families belonging to the Scheduled Tribes who are residing in the Scheduled Areas referred to in the Fifth Schedule or the tribal areas referred to in the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution are relocated outside those areas, than, all the statutory safeguards, entitlements and benefits being enjoyed by them under this Act shall be extended to the area to which they are resettled regardless of whether the resettlment area is a Scheduled Area referred to in the said Fifth Schedule, or a tribal area referred to in the said Sixth Schedule, or not.

(3) Where the community rights have been settled under the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007), the same shall be quantified in monetary amount and be paid to the individual concerned who has been displaced due to the acquisition of land in proportion

with his share in such community rights.

CHAPTER VI PROCEDURE AND MANNER OF REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT

Section 43. Appointment of Administrator

(1) Where the appropriate Government is satisfied that there is likely to be involuntary displacement of persons due to acquisition of land, then, the State Government shall, by notification, appoint in respect of that project, an officer not below the rank of Joint Collector or Additional Collector or Deputy Collector or equivalent official of Revenue Department to be the Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

(2) The Administrator shall, with a view to enable him to function efficiently and to meet the special time-frame, be provided with such powers, duties and responsibilities as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government and provided with office infrastructure and be assisted by such officers and employees who shall be subordinate to him as the appropriate Government may decide.

(3) Subject to the superintendence, directions and control of the appropriate Government and the Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement, the formulation, execution and monitoring of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme shall vest in the Administrator.

Section 44. Commissioner for rehabilitation and resettlement

(1) The State Government shall appoint an officer of the rank of Commissioner or Secretary of that Government for rehabilitation and resettlement of affected families under this Act, to be called the Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement.

(2) The Commissioner shall be responsible for supervising the formulation of rehabilitation and resettlement schemes or plans and proper implementation of such schemes or plans.

(3) The Commissioner shall be responsible for the post-implementation social audit in consultation with the Gram Sabha in rural areas and municipality in urban areas.

Section 45. Rehabilitation and resettlement committee at project level

(1) Where land proposed to be acquired is equal to or more than one hundred acres, the appropriate Government shall constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of the Collector to be called the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee, to monitor and review the progress of implementation of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement scheme and to carry out post-implementation social audits in consultation with the Gram Sabha in rural areas and municipality in urban areas.

(2) The Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee shall include, apart from officers of the appropriate Government, the following members, namely:-

(a) a representative of women residing in the affected area;

(b) a representative each of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes residing in the affected area;

(c) a representative of a voluntary organisation working in the area;

(d) a representative of a nationalised bank;

(e) the Land Acquisition Officer of the project;

(f) the Chairpersons of the panchayats or municipalities located in the affected area or their nominees;

(g) the Chairperson of the District Planning Committee or his nominee;

(h) the Member of Parliament and Member of the Legislative Assembly of the concerned area or their nominees;

(i) a representative of the Requiring Body; and

(j) Administrator for Rehabilitation and Resettlement as the Member-Convenor.

(3) The procedure regulating the discharge of the process given in this section and other matters connected thereto of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee shall be such as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government.

Section 46. Provisions relating to rehabilitation and resettlement to apply in case of certain persons other than specified persons

(1) Where any person other than a specified person is purchasing land through private negotiations for an area equal to or more than such limits, as may be notified by the appropriate Government, considering the relevant State specific factors and circumstances, for which the payment of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Costs under this Act is required,

he shall file an application with the District Collector notifying him of-

(a) intent to purchase;

(b) purpose for which such purchase is being made;

(c) particulars of lands to be purchased.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Collector to refer the matter to the Commissioner for the satisfaction of all relevant provisions under this Act related to rehabilitation and resettlement.

(3) Based upon the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme approved by the Commissioner as per the provisions of this Act, the Collector shall pass individual awards covering Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlements as per the provisions of this Act.

(4) No land use change shall be permitted if rehabilitation and resettlement is not complied with in full.

(5) Any purchase of land by a person other than specified persons without complying with the provisions of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme shall be void ab initio:

Provided that the appropriate Government may provide for rehabilitation and resettlement provisions on sale or purchase of land in its State and shall also fix the limits or ceiling for the said purpose.

(6) If any land has been purchased through private negotiations by a person on or after the 5th day of September, 2011, which is more than such limits referred to in sub-section (1) and, if the same land is acquired within three years from the date of commencement of this Act, then, forty per cent. of the compensation paid for such land acquired shall be shared with the original land owners.

Explanation.-For the purpose of this section, the expression-

(a) "original land owner" refers to the owner of the land as on the 5th day of September, 2011;

(b) "specified persons" includes any person other than-

(i) appropriate Government;

(ii) Government company;

(iii) association of persons or trust or society as registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (21 of 1860), wholly or partially aided by the appropriate Government or controlled by the appropriate Government.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

[In the principal Act, in section 46, in sub-section (6), in the Explanation, in clause (b), the words "any person other than", shall be omitted.]

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 9 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

"In section 46 of the principal Act, in sub-section (6), in the Explanation, in clause (b), sub-clauses (i) and (ii) shall be deleted."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 8 (w.e.f. 26.4.2018).]

Haryana

"In clause (b) of Explanation to section 46 of the principal Act, the words "any person other than" shall be omitted."

[Vide Haryana Act 21 of 2018, sec. 3 (w.e.f. 9.5.2018).]

Section 47. Quantification and deposit of rehabilitation and resettlement amount

Where the Collector is of the view that the obligations of the Requiring Body with regard to rehabilitation and resettlement can be quantified into monetary amount, he shall allow the payment of such amount into an account in complete satisfaction of such obligations, which shall be administered by the Administrator appointed under section 43, under the supervision of the Collector.

CHAPTER VII NATIONAL MONITORING COMMITTEE FOR REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT

Section 48. Establishment of National Monitoring Committee for rehabilitation and resettlement

(1) The Central Government may, whenever necessary, for national or inter-State projects, constitute a National Monitoring Committee for reviewing and monitoring the implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement schemes or plans under this Act.

(2) The Committee may, besides having representation of the concerned Ministries and Departments of the Central and State Governments, associate with it eminent experts from the relevant fields.

(3) The procedures to be followed by the Committee and the allowances payable to the experts shall be such as may be prescribed.

(4) The Central Government shall provide officers and other employees to the Committee necessary for its efficient functioning.

Section 49. Reporting requirements

The States and Union territories shall provide all the relevant information on the matters covered under this Act, to the National Monitoring Committee in a regular and timely manner, and also as and when required.

Section 50. Establishment of State Monitoring Committee for rehabilitation and resettlement

(1) The State Government shall constitute a State Monitoring Committee for reviewing and monitoring the implementation of rehabilitation and resettlement schemes or plans under this Act.

(2) The Committee may, besides having representatives of the concerned Ministries and Departments of the State Government, associate with it eminent experts from the relevant fields.

(3) The procedures to be followed by the Committee and the allowances payable to the experts shall be such as may be prescribed by the State.

(4) The State Government shall provide such officers and other employees to the Committee as may be necessary for its efficient functioning.

CHAPTER VIII ESTABLISHMENT OF LAND ACQUISITION, REHABILITATION AND RESETTLEMENT AUTHORITY

Section 51. Establishment of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority

(1) The appropriate Government shall, for the purpose of providing speedy disposal of disputes relating to land acquisition, compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement, establish, by notification, one or more Authorities to be known as "the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority" to exercise jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred on it by or under this Act.

(2) The appropriate Government shall also specify in the notification referred to in sub-section (1) the areas within which the Authority may exercise jurisdiction for entertaining and deciding the references made to it under section 64 or applications made by the applicant under second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 64.

Section 52. Composition of Authority

(1) The Authority shall consist of one person only (hereinafter referred to as the Presiding Officer) to be appointed, by notification, by the appropriate Government.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), the appropriate Government may authorise the Presiding Officer of one Authority to discharge also the functions of the Presiding Officer of another Authority.

Section 53. Qualifications for appointment as Presiding Officer

(1) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Presiding Officer of an Authority unless,-

(a) he is or has been a District Judge; or

(b) he is a qualified legal practitioner for not less than seven years.

(2) A Presiding Officer shall be appointed by the appropriate Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of a High Court in whose jurisdiction the Authority is proposed to be established.

Section 54. Terms of office of Presiding Officer

The Presiding Officer of an Authority shall hold office for a term of three years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.

Section 55. Staff of Authority

(1) The appropriate Government shall provide the Authority with a Registrar and such other officers and employees as that Government may think fit.

(2) The Registrar and other officers and employees of an Authority shall discharge their functions under the general superintendence of the Presiding Officer.

(3) The salaries and allowances and other conditions of service of the Registrar and other officers and employees of

an Authority shall be such as may be prescribed.

Section 56. Salary and allowances and other terms and conditions of service of Presiding Officers

The salary and allowances payable to and the other terms and conditions of service (including pension, gratuity and other retirement benefits) of the Presiding Officer of an Authority, shall be such as may be prescribed:

Provided that neither the salary and allowances nor the other terms and conditions of service of the said Presiding Officers shall be varied to their disadvantage after appointment.

Section 57. Filling up of vacancies

If, for any reason other than temporary absence, any vacancy occurs in the office of the Presiding Officer of an Authority then the appropriate Government shall appoint another person in accordance with the provisions of this Act to fill the vacancy and the proceedings may be continued before the Authority from the stage at which the vacancy is filled.

Section 58. Resignation and removal

(1) The Presiding Officer of an Authority may, by notice in writing under his hand addressed to the appropriate Government, resign his office:

Provided that the Presiding Officer shall, unless he is permitted by the appropriate Government to relinquish his office sooner, continue to hold office until the expiry of three months from the date of receipt of such notice or until a person duly appointed as his successor enters upon his office or until the expiry of his term of office, whichever is earlier.

(2) The Presiding Officer of an Authority shall not be removed from his office except by an order made by the appropriate Government on the ground of proven misbehaviour or incapacity after inquiry in the case of the Presiding Officer of an Authority made by a Judge of a High Court in which the Presiding Officer concerned has been informed of the charges against him and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of these charges.

(3) The appropriate Government may, by rules, regulate the procedure for the investigation of misbehaviour or incapacity of the aforesaid Presiding Officer.

Section 59. Orders constituting Authority to be final and not to invalidate its proceedings

No order of the appropriate Government appointing any person as the Presiding Officer of an Authority shall be called in question in any manner, and no act or proceeding before an Authority shall be called in question in any manner on the ground merely of any defect in the constitution of an Authority.

Section 60. Powers of Authority and procedure before it

(1) The Authority shall, for the purposes of its functions under this Act, shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) in respect of the following matters, namely:-

(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;

(b) discovery and production of any document or other material object producible as evidence;

(c) receiving evidence on affidavits;

(d) requisitioning of any public record;

(e) issuing commission for the examination of witnesses;

(f) reviewing its decisions, directions and orders;

(g) any other matter which may be prescribed.

(2) The Authority shall have original jurisdiction to adjudicate upon every reference made to it under section 64.

(3) The Authority shall not be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice and subject to the other provisions of this Act and of any rules made thereunder, the Authority shall have the power to regulate its own procedure.

(4) The Authority shall, after receiving reference under section 64 and after giving notice of such reference to all the parties concerned and after affording opportunity of hearing to all parties, dispose of such reference within a period of six months from the date of receipt of such reference and make an award accordingly.

(5) The Authority shall arrange to deliver copies of the award to the parties concerned within a period of fifteen days from the date of such award.

Section 61. Proceedings before Authority to be judicial proceedings

All proceedings before the Authority shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860) and the Authority shall be deemed to be a civil court for the purposes of sections 345 and 346 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974).

Section 62. Members and officers of Authority to be public servants

The Member and officers of the Authority shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860).

Section 63. Jurisdiction of civil courts barred

No civil court (other than High Court under article 226 or article 227 of the Constitution or the Supreme Court) shall have jurisdiction to entertain any dispute relating to land acquisition in respect of which the Collector or the Authority is empowered by or under this Act, and no injunction shall be granted by any court in respect of any such matter.

Section 64. Reference to Authority

(1) Any person interested who has not accepted the award may, by written application to the Collector, require that the matter be referred by the Collector for the determination of the Authority, as the case may be, whether his objection be to the measurement of the land, the amount of the compensation, the person to whom it is payable, the rights of Rehabilitation and Resettlement under Chapters V and VI or the apportionment of the compensation among the persons interested:

Provided that the Collector shall, within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of application, make a reference to the appropriate Authority:

Provided further that where the Collector fails to make such reference within the period so specified, the applicant may apply to the Authority, as the case may be, requesting it to direct the Collector to make the reference to it within a period of thirty days.

(2) The application shall state the grounds on which objection to the award is taken:

Provided that every such application shall be made-

(a) if the person making it was present or represented before the Collector at the time when he made his award, within six weeks from the date of the Collector's award;

(b) in other cases, within six weeks of the receipt of the notice from the Collector under section 21, or within six months from the date of the Collector's award, whichever period shall first expire:

Provided further that the Collector may entertain an application after the expiry of the said period, within a further period of one year, if he is satisfied that there was sufficient cause for not filing it within the period specified in the first proviso.

Section 65. Collector's statement to Authority

(1) In making the reference, the Collector shall state for the information of the Authority, in writing under his hand-

(a) the situation and extent of the land, with particulars of any trees, buildings or standing crops thereon;

(b) the names of the persons whom he has reason to think interested in such land;

(c) the amount awarded for damages and paid or tendered under section 13, and the amount of compensation awarded under the provisions of this Act;

(d) the amount paid or deposited under any other provisions of this Act; and

(e) if the objection be to the amount of the compensation, the grounds on which the amount of compensation was determined.

(2) The statement under sub-section (1) shall be attached a schedule giving the particulars of the notices served upon, and of the statements in writing made or delivered by the persons interested respectively.

Section 66. Service of notice by Authority

The Authority shall thereupon cause a notice specifying the day on which the Authority will proceed to determine the objection, and directing their appearance before the Authority on that day, to be served on the following persons, namely:-

(a) the applicant;

(b) all persons interested in the objection, except such (if any) of them as have consented without protest to receive

payment of the compensation awarded; and

(c) if the objection is in regard to the area of the land or to the amount of the compensation, the Collector.

Section 67. Restriction on scope of proceedings

The scope of the enquiry in every such proceeding shall be restricted to a consideration of the interest of the persons affected by the objection.

Section 68. Proceedings to be in public

Every such proceeding shall take place in public, and all persons entitled to practice in any Civil Court in the State shall be entitled to appear, plead and act (as the case may be) in such proceeding.

Section 69. Determination of award by Authority

(1) In determining the amount of compensation to be awarded for land acquired including the Rehabilitation and Resettlement entitlements, the Authority shall take into consideration whether the Collector has followed the parameters set out under section 26 to section 30 and the provisions under Chapter V of this Act.

(2) In addition to the market value of the land, as above provided, the Authority shall in every case award an amount calculated at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum on such market value for the period commencing on and from the date of the publication of the preliminary notification under section 11 in respect of such land to the date of the award of the Collector or the date of taking possession of the land, whichever is earlier.

Explanation.-In computing the period referred to in this sub-section, any period or periods during which the proceedings for the acquisition of the land were held up on account of any stay or injunction by the order of any Court shall be excluded.

(3) In addition to the market value of the land as above provided, the Authority shall in every case award a solatium of one hundred per cent. over the total compensation amount.

Section 70. Form of award

(1) Every award under this Chapter shall be in writing signed by the Presiding Officer of the Authority, and shall specify the amount awarded under clause first of section 28, and also the amounts (if any) respectively awarded under each of the other clauses of the same sub-section, together with the grounds of awarding each of the said amounts.

(2) Every such award shall be deemed to be a decree and the statement of the grounds of every such award a judgment within the meaning of clause (2), and clause (9) of respectively, of section 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908).

Section 71. Costs

(1) Every such award shall also state the amount of costs incurred in the proceeding under this Chapter, and by what persons and in what proportions they are to be paid.

(2) When the award of the Collector is not upheld, the cost shall ordinarily be paid by the Collector, unless the Authority concerned is of the opinion that the claim of the applicant was so extravagant or that he was so negligent in putting his case before the Collector that some deduction from his costs should be made or that he should pay a part of the Collector's costs.

Section 72. Collector may be directed to pay interest on excess compensation

If the sum, which in the opinion of the Authority concerned, the Collector ought to have awarded as compensation is in excess of the sum which the Collector did award as compensation, the award of the Authority concerned may direct that the Collector shall pay interest on such excess at the rate of nine per cent. per annum from the date on which he took possession of the land to the date of payment of such excess into Authority:

Provided that the award of the Authority concerned may also direct that where such excess or any part thereof is paid to the Authority after the date or expiry of a period of one year from the date on which possession is taken, interest at the rate of fifteen per cent. per annum shall be payable from the date of expiry of the said period of one year on the amount of such excess or part thereof which has not been paid into Authority before the date of such expiry.

Section 73. Re-determination of amount of compensation on the basis of the award of the Authority

(1) Where in an award under this Chapter, the Authority concerned allows to the applicant any amount of compensation in excess of the amount awarded by the Collector under section 23, the persons interested in all the

other land covered by the same preliminary notification under section 11, and who are also aggrieved by the award of the Collector may, notwithstanding that they had not made an application to the Collector, by written application to the Collector within three months from the date of the award of the Authority concerned require that the amount of compensation payable to them may be re-determined on the basis of the amount of compensation awarded by the Authority:

Provided that in computing the period of three months within which an application to the Collector shall be made under this sub-section, the day on which the award was pronounced and the time requisite for obtaining a copy of the award shall be excluded.

(2) The Collector shall, on receipt of an application under sub-section (1), conduct an inquiry after giving notice to all the persons interested and giving them a reasonable opportunity of being heard, and make an award determining the amount of compensation payable to the applicants.

(3) Any person who has not accepted the award under sub-section (2) may, by written application to the Collector, require that the matter be referred by the Collector for the determination of the Authority concerned.

Section 74. Appeal to High Court

(1) The Requiring Body or any person aggrieved by the Award passed by an Authority under section 69 may file an appeal to the High Court within sixty days from the date of Award:

Provided that the High Court may, if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal within the said period, allow it to be filed within a further period not exceeding sixty days.

(2) Every appeal referred to under sub-section (1) shall be heard as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be made to dispose of such appeal within six months from the date on which the appeal is presented to the High Court.

Explanation.-For the purposes of this section, "High Court" means the High Court within the jurisdiction of which the land acquired or proposed to be acquired is situated.

CHAPTER IX APPORTIONMENT OF COMPENSATION

Section 75. Particulars of apportionment to be specified

When there are several persons interested, if such persons agree in the apportionment of the compensation, the particulars of such apportionment shall be specified in the award, and as between such persons the award shall be conclusive evidence of the correctness of the apportionment.

Section 76. Dispute as to apportionment

When the amount of compensation has been settled, if any dispute arises as to the apportionment of the same or any part thereof, or as to the persons to whom the same or any part thereof is payable, the Collector may refer such disputes to the Authority.

CHAPTER X PAYMENT

Section 77. Payment of compensation or deposit of same in Authority

(1) On making an award under section 30, the Collector shall tender payment of the compensation awarded by him to the persons interested entitled thereto according to the award and shall pay it to them by depositing the amount in their bank accounts unless prevented by someone or more of the contingencies mentioned in sub-section (2).

(2) If the person entitled to compensation shall not consent to receive it, or if there be no person competent to alienate the land, or if there be any dispute as to the title to receive the compensation or as to the apportionment of it, the Collector shall deposit the amount of the compensation in the Authority to which a reference under section 64 would be submitted:

Provided that any person admitted to be interested may receive such payment under protest as to the sufficiency of the amount:

Provided further that no person who has received the amount otherwise than under protest shall be entitled to make any application under sub-section (1) of section 64:

Provided also that nothing herein contained shall affect the liability of any person, who may receive the whole or any part of any compensation awarded under this Act, to pay the same to the person lawfully entitled thereto.

Section 78. Investment of money deposited in respect of lands belonging to person incompetent to alienate

(1) If any money is deposited in the Authority concerned under sub-section (2) of section 77 and it appears that the land in respect whereof the same was awarded belonged to any person who had no power to alienate the same, the Authority concerned shall-

(a) order the money to be invested in the purchase of other lands to be held under the like title and conditions of ownership as the land in respect of which such money shall have been deposited was held; or

(b) if such purchase cannot be effected forthwith, then in such Government of other approved securities as the Authority concerned shall think fit,

and shall direct the payment of the interest or other proceeds arising from such investment to the person or persons who would for the time being have been entitled to the possession of the said land, and such moneys shall remain so deposited and invested until the same be applied-

(i) in the purchase of such other lands as aforesaid; or

(ii) in payment to any person or persons becoming absolutely entitled thereto.

(2) In all cases of money deposited to which this section applies the Authority concerned shall order the costs of the following matters, including therein all reasonable charge and expenses incident thereon, to be paid by the Collector, namely:-

(a) the costs of such investments as aforesaid;

(b) the costs of the orders for the payment of the interest or other proceeds of the securities upon which such moneys are for the time being invested, and for the payment out of the Authority concerned of the principal of such moneys, and of all proceedings relating thereto, except such as may be occasioned by litigation between adverse claimants.

Section 79. Investment of money deposited in other cases

When any money shall have been deposited in the Authority concerned under this Act for any cause other than the causes mentioned in section 78, the Authority may, on the application of any party interested or claiming an interest in such money, order the same to be invested in such Government or other approved securities as it may think proper, and paid in such manner as it may consider will give the parties interested therein the same benefit from it as they might have had from the land in respect whereof such money shall have been deposited or as near thereto as may be.

Section 80. Payment of interest

When the amount of such compensation is not paid or deposited on or before taking possession of the land, the Collector shall pay the amount awarded with interest thereon at the rate of nine per cent. per annum from the time of so taking possession until it shall have been so paid or deposited:

Provided that if such compensation or any part thereof is not paid or deposited within a period of one year from the date on which possession is taken, interest at the rate of fifteen per cent. per annum shall be payable from the date or expiry of the said period of one year on the amount of compensation or part thereof which has not been paid or deposited before the date of such expiry.

CHAPTER XI TEMPORARY OCCUPATION OF LAND

Section 81. Temporary occupation of waste or arable land, procedure when difference as to compensation exists

(1) Whenever it appears to the appropriate Government that the temporary occupation and use of any waste or arable land are needed for any public purpose, the appropriate Government may direct the Collector to procure the occupation and use of the same for such terms as it shall think fit, not exceeding three years from the commencement of such occupation.

(2) The Collector shall thereupon give notice in writing to the person interested in such land of the purpose for which the same is needed, and shall, for the occupation and use thereof for such term as aforesaid, and for the materials (if any) to be taken therefrom, pay to them such compensation, either in a gross sum of money, or by monthly or other periodical payments, as shall be agreed upon in writing between him and such persons respectively.

(3) In case the Collector and the persons interested differ as to the sufficiency of the compensation or apportionment thereof, the Collector shall refer such difference to the decision of the Authority.

Section 82. Power to enter and take possession and compensation on restoration

(1) On payment of such compensation, or on executing such agreement, or on making a reference under section 64, the Collector may enter upon and take possession of the land, and use or permit the use thereof in accordance with the terms of the said notice.

(2) On the expiration of the term, the Collector shall make or tender to the persons interested compensation for the damage (if any) done to the land and not provided for by the agreement, and shall restore the land to the persons interested therein:

Provided that, if the land has become permanently unfit to be used for the purpose for which it was used immediately before the commencement of such term, and if the persons interested shall so require, the appropriate Government shall proceed under this Act to acquire the land as if it was needed permanently for a public purpose.

Section 83. Difference as to condition of land

In case the Collector and persons interested differ as to the condition of the land at the expiration of the term, or as to any matter connected with the said agreement, the Collector shall refer such difference to the decision of the Authority concerned.

CHAPTER XII OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Section 84. Punishment for false information, mala fide action, etc

(1) If a person, in connection with a requirement or direction under this Act, provides any information that is false or misleading, or produces any false document, he shall be liable to be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or with both.

(2) Any rehabilitation and resettlement benefit availed of by making a false claim or through fraudulent means shall be liable to be recovered by the appropriate Government in the manner as may be prescribed.

(3) Disciplinary proceedings may be drawn up by the disciplinary authority against a Government servant, who if proved to be guilty of a mala fide action in respect of any provision of this Act, shall be liable to such punishment including a fine as the disciplinary authority may decide.

Section 85. Penalty for contravention of provisions of Act

If any person contravenes any of the provisions relating to payment of compensation or rehabilitation and resettlement, every such person shall be liable to a punishment of six months which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

Section 86. Offences by companies

(1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company, every person who at the time the offence was committed was in charge of, and was responsible to, the company for the conduct of the business of the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly:

Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to any punishment if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he had exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where an offence under this Act has been committed by a company and it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or that the commission of the offence is attributable to any neglect on the part of, any director, manager, secretary or other officer of the company, such director, manager, secretary or other officer shall also be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Explanation.-For the purposes of this section,-

(a) "company" means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals and a Requiring Body; and

(b) "director", in relation to a firm, means a partner in the firm.

Section 87. Offences by Government departments

(1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by any department of the Government, the head of the department, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly:

Provided that nothing contained in this section shall render any person liable to any punishment if such person proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that such person exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where any offence under this Act has been committed by a Department of the Government and it is proved that the offence has been committed with the consent or connivance of, or is attributable to any neglect on the part of any officer, other than the head of the department, such officer shall also be deemed to be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

In the principal Act, for section 87, along with the marginal heading the following section shall be substituted, namely:-

"87. Offences by Government officials.-Where any offence under this Act has been committed by any person who is or was employed in the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, at the time of commission of such alleged offence, the Court shall take cognizance of such offence provided the procedure laid down in section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Act 2 of 1974) is followed."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 10 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Maharashtra

For section 87 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:- "87. Offences by Government Officials.-Where any offence under this Act has been committed by any person who is or was employed in the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, at the time of commission of such alleged offence, the court shall take cognizance of such offence provided the procedure laid down in section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974), in its application to the State of Maharashtra, is followed."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 9 (w.e.f. 26-4-2018).]

Haryana

After section 87 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"87A. Offences by Government officials.-Where an offence under this Act has been committed by any person who is or was employed in the Central Government or State Government, as the case may be, at the time of commission of such alleged offence, no court shall take cognizance of such offence unless the procedure laid down in section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 2 of 1974) has been followed."

[Vide Haryana Act 21 of 2018, sec. 4 (w.e.f. 9-5-2018).]

Section 88. Cognizance of offences by court

No court inferior to that of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class shall be competent to try any offence punishable under this Act.

Section 89. Offences to be non-cognizable

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) every offence under this Act shall be deemed to be non-cognizable.

Section 90. Offences to be cognizable only on complaint filed by certain persons

No court shall take cognizance of any offence under this Act which is alleged to have been committed by a Requiring Body except on a complaint in writing made by the Collector or any other officer authorised by the appropriate Government or any member of the affected family.

CHAPTER XIII MISCELLANEOUS

Section 91. Magistrate to enforce surrender

If the Collector is opposed or impeded in taking possession under this Act of any land, he shall, if a Magistrate, enforce the surrender of the land to himself, and if not a Magistrate, he shall apply to a Magistrate or to the Commissioner of Police, and such Magistrate or Commissioner, as the case may be, shall enforce the surrender of the land to the Collector.

Section 92. Service of notice

(1) Save as otherwise provided in section 66, the service of any notice under this Act shall be made by delivering or tendering a copy thereof signed, in the case of a notice, by the officer therein mentioned, and, in the case of any other notice, by order of the Collector.

(2) Whenever it may be practicable, the service of the notice shall be made on the person therein named.

(3) When such person cannot be found, the service may be made on any adult member of his family residing with him; and, if no such adult member can be found, the notice may be served by fixing the copy on the outer door of the house in which the person therein named ordinarily dwells or carries on business, or by fixing a copy thereof in some conspicuous place in the office of the officer aforesaid or of the Collector or in the court-house, and also in some conspicuous part of the land to be acquired:

Provided that, if the Collector or Judge shall so direct, a notice may be sent by post, in a letter addressed to the person named therein at his last known residence, address or place of business and also publish the same in at least two national daily newspapers and also on his website.

Section 93. Completion of acquisition not compulsory, but compensation to be awarded when not completed

(1) The appropriate Government shall be at liberty to withdraw from the acquisition of any land of which possession has not been taken.

(2) Whenever the appropriate Government withdraws from any such acquisition, the Collector shall determine the amount of compensation due for the damage suffered by the owner in consequence of the notice or of any proceedings thereunder, and shall pay such amount to the person interested, together with all costs reasonably incurred by him in the prosecution of the proceedings under this Act relating to the said land.

Section 94. Acquisition of part of house or building

(1) The provisions of this Act shall not be put in force for the purpose of acquiring a part only of any house, manufactory or other building, if the owner desires that the whole of such house, manufactory or building shall be so acquired:

Provided that, if any question shall arise as to whether any land proposed to be taken under this Act does or does not form part of a house, manufactory or building within the meaning of this section, the Collector shall refer the determination of such question to the Authority concerned and shall not be taken possession of such land until after the question has been determined.

(2) In deciding on such a reference made under the proviso to sub-section (1), the Authority concerned shall have regard to the question whether the land proposed to be taken, is reasonably required for the full and unimpaired use of the house, manufactory or building.

(3) If, in the case of any claim under this Act, by a person interested, on account of the severing of the land to be acquired from his other land, the appropriate Government is of opinion that the claim is unreasonable or excessive, it may, at any time before the Collector has made his award, order the acquisition of the whole of the land of which the land first sought to be acquired forms a part.

(4) In the case of any acquisition of land so required no fresh declaration or other proceedings under sections 11 to 19, (both inclusive) shall be necessary; but the Collector shall without delay furnish a copy of the order of the appropriate Government to the person interested, and shall thereafter proceed to make his award under section 23.

Section 95. Acquisition of land at cost of a local authority or Requiring Body

(1) Where the provisions of this Act are put in force for the purpose of acquiring land at the cost of any fund controlled or managed by a local authority or of any Requiring Body, the charges of land incidental to such acquisition shall be defrayed from or by such fund or Requiring Body.

(2) In any proceeding held before a Collector or Authority concerned in such cases the local authority or Requiring Body concerned may appear and adduce evidence for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation:

Provided that no such local authority or Requiring Body shall be entitled to demand a reference to the Authority concerned under section 64.

Section 96. Exemption from income-tax, stamp duty and fees

No income tax or stamp duty shall be levied on any award or agreement made under this Act, except under section 46 and no person claiming under any such award or agreement shall be liable to pay any fee for a copy of the same.

Section 97. Acceptance of certified copy as evidence

In any proceeding under this Act, a certified copy of a document registered under the Registration Act, 1908 (16 of 1908) including a copy given under section 57 of that Act, may be accepted as evidence of the transaction recorded in such document.

Section 98. Notice in case of suits for anything done in pursuance of Act

No suit or other proceeding shall be commenced against any person for anything done in pursuance of this Act, without giving to such person a month's previous notice in writing of the intended proceeding, and of the cause thereof, nor after tender of sufficient amendments.

Section 99. No change of purpose to be allowed

No change from the purpose or related purposes for which the land is originally sought to be acquired shall be allowed:

Provided that if the land acquired is rendered unusable for the purpose for which it was acquired due to a fundamental change because of any unforeseen circumstances, then the appropriate Government may use such land for any other public purpose.

Section 100. No change of ownership without permission to be allowed

No change of ownership without specific permission from the appropriate Government shall be allowed.

Section 101. Return of unutilised land

When any land acquired under this Act remains unutilised for a period of five years from the date of taking over the possession, the same shall be returned to the original owner or owners or their legal heirs, as the case may be, or to the Land Bank of the appropriate Government by reversion in the manner as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government.

Explanation.-For the purpose of this section, "Land Bank" means a governmental entity that focuses on the conversion of Government owned vacant, abandoned, unutilised acquired lands and tax-delinquent properties into productive use.

State Amendments

Andhra Pradesh

"In the principal Act, in section 101, for the words "a period of five years", the words "a period specified for setting up of any project or for five years, whichever is later," shall be substituted."

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 11 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Haryana

After section 101 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

"101A. Power to denotify land.-When any public purpose, for which the land acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (Central Act 1 of 1894) becomes unviable or non-essential, the State Government shall be at liberty to denotify such land, on such terms, as considered expedient by the State Government, including the payment of compensation on account of damages, if any, sustained by the land owner due to such acquisition:

Provided that where a part of the acquired land has been utilized or any encumbrances have been created, the landowner may be compensated by providing alternative land alongwith payment of damages, if any, as determined by the State Government."

[Vide Haryana Act 21 of 2018, sec. 5 (w.e.f. 9-5-2018).]

Section 102. Difference in price of land when transferred for higher consideration to be shared

Whenever the ownership of any land acquired under this Act is transferred to any person for a consideration, without any development having taken place on such land, forty per cent. of the appreciated land value shall be shared amongst the persons from whom the lands were acquired or their heirs, in proportion to the value at which the lands were acquired within a period of five years from the date of acquisition:

Provided that benefit shall accrue only on the first sale or transfer that occurs after the conclusion of the acquisition proceedings.

Section 103. Provisions to be in addition to existing laws

The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of, any other law for the time being in force.

Section 104. Option of appropriate Government to lease

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the appropriate Government shall, wherever possible, be free to exercise the option of taking the land on lease, instead of acquisition, for any public purpose referred to in sub-section (1) of section 2.

Section 105. Provisions of this Act not to apply in certain cases or to apply with certain modifications

(1) Subject to sub-section (3), the provisions of this Act shall not apply to the enactments relating to land acquisition specified in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) Subject to sub-section (2) of section 106, the Central Government may, by notification, omit or add to any of the enactments specified in the Fourth Schedule.

(3) The Central Government shall, by notification, within one year from the date of commencement of this Act, direct that any of the provisions of this Act relating to the determination of compensation in accordance with the First Schedule and rehabilitation and resettlement specified in the Second and Third Schedules, being beneficial to the affected families, shall apply to the cases of land acquisition under the enactments specified in the Fourth Schedule or shall apply with such exceptions or modifications that do not reduce the compensation or dilute the provisions of this Act relating to compensation or rehabilitation and resettlement as may be specified in the notification, as the case may be.

(4) A copy of every notification proposed to be issued under sub-section (3), shall be laid in draft before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in disapproving the issue of the notification or both Houses agree in making any modification in the notification, the notification shall not be issued or, as the case may be, shall be issued only in such modified form as may be agreed upon by both the Houses of Parliament.

State Amendments

Maharashtra

After section 105 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely: "105-A. Provisions of this Act not to apply to certain Maharashtra Acts or to apply with certain modifications.-(1) Subject to sub-section (2), the provisions of this Act shall not apply to acquisition of land under the enactments specified in the Fifth Schedule.

(2) The State Government may, by notification, within one year from the date of commencement of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Maharashtra Amendment) Act, 2018 (Mah. XXXVII of 2018), direct that any of the provisions of this Act, relating to the determination of compensation in accordance with the First Schedule and rehabilitation and resettlement specified in the Second and Third Schedules, being beneficial to the affected families, shall apply to the cases of land acquisition under the enactments specified in the Fifth Schedule or shall apply with such exceptions or modifications that do not reduce the compensation or dilute the provisions of this Act relating to the compensation, rehabilitation and resettlement as may be specified in the notification, as the case may be :

Provided that, no such notification shall be issued except on a resolution passed by both Houses of the State Legislature."

[Vide Maharashtra Act 37 of 2018, sec. 10 (w.e.f. 26-4-2018).]

Maharashtra

Amendment of section 105A of Act 30 of 2013.-In section 105-A of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (30 of 2013), in its application to the State of Maharashtra, as amended by the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Maharashtra Amendment) Act, 2018 (Mah XXXVII of 2018), in sub-section (2), for the words, brackets and figures "within one year from the date of commencement of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Maharashtra Amendment) Act, 2018 (Mah XXXVII of 2018)" the words, brackets and figures "within one year from the date of commencement of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Maharashtra Amendment) Act, 2020 (Mah. III of 2022)" shall be substituted.

[Vide Maharashtra Act III of 2022, sec. 2 (w.e.f. 20-01-2022).]

Section 106. Power to amend Schedule

(1) The Central Government may, by notification, amend or alter any of the Schedules to this Act, without in any way reducing the compensation or diluting the provisions of this Act relating to compensation or rehabilitation and resettlement.

(2) A copy of every notification proposed to be issued under sub-section (1), shall be laid in draft before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in disapproving the issue of the notification or both Houses agree in making any modification in the notification, the notification shall not be issued or as the case may be, shall be issued only in such modified form as may be agreed upon by both the Houses of Parliament.

Section 107. Power of State Legislatures to enact any law more beneficial to affected families

Nothing in this Act shall prevent any State from enacting any law to enhance or add to the entitlements enumerated under this Act which confers higher compensation than payable under this Act or make provisions for rehabilitation and resettlement which is more beneficial than provided under this Act.

Section 108. Option to affected families to avail better compensation and rehabilitation and resettlement

(1) Where a State law or a policy framed by the Government of a State provides for a higher compensation than calculated under this Act for the acquisition of land, the affected persons or his family or member of his family may at their option opt to avail such higher compensation and rehabilitation and resettlement under such State law or such policy of the State.

(2) Where a State law or a policy framed by the Government of a State offers more beneficial rehabilitation and resettlement provisions under that Act or policy than under this Act, the affected persons or his family or member of his family may at his option opt to avail such rehabilitation and resettlement provisions under such State law or such policy of the State instead of under this Act.

Section 109. Power of appropriate Government to make rules

(1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, the appropriate Government may, by notification, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-

(a) the process of obtaining the prior consent under the first proviso to sub-section (2) of section 2;

(b) the limits of land in rural areas or urban areas under clause (a) of sub-section (3) of section 2;

(c) the manner and the time limit for carrying out social impact assessment study under sub-section (1) of section 4;

(d) the manner of preparing and publishing social impact assessment study reports under sub-section (1) of section 6;

(e) the manner and time for conducting survey and undertaking census under sub-section (2) of section 16;

(f) the manner of preparing draft Rehabilitation and Resettlement Scheme under sub-section (5) of section 16;

(g) the manner of conducting public hearing under sub-section (5) of section 16;

(h) the manner of depositing amount by the Requiring Body under second proviso to sub-section (2) of section 19;

(i) the manner in which and the period within which any excess amount paid may be recovered under sub-section (3) of section 33;

(j) the form in which the Development Plan shall be prepared under sub-section (4) of section 41;

(k) the powers, duties and responsibilities of Administrator under sub-section (2) of section 43;

(l) the procedure of Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee under sub-section (3) of section 45;

(m) the procedure to be followed by the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee and allowances to be paid to the experts under sub-section (3) of section 48;

(n) the procedures to be followed by the State Monitoring Committee and the allowances payable to the experts under sub-section (3) of section 50;

(o) the salaries and allowances and other conditions of service of the Registrar and other officers and employees of an Authority under sub-section (3) of section 55;

(p) the salary and allowances payable to and the other terms and conditions of service (including pension, gratuity and other retirement benefits) of, the Presiding Officer of an Authority under section 56;

(q) any other matter under clause (g) of sub-section (1) of section 60;

(r) the manner of recovery of the rehabilitation and resettlement benefits, availed of by making false claim or through fraudulent means, under sub-section (2) of section 84;

(s) the manner of returning the unutilised land by reversion under section 101;

(t) manner of publication wherever the provisions of this Act provide for;

(u) any other matter which is required to be or may be specified under this Act.

State Amendment

Andhra Pradesh

In the principal Act, in section 109, in sub-section (2), after clause (u) the following clause shall be added, namely:-

"(v) to give effect to the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Act, 2018"

[Vide Andhra Pradesh Act 22 of 2018, sec. 12 (w.e.f. 1-1-2014).]

Section 110. Rules made by Central Government to be laid before Parliament

Every rule made by the Central Government under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

Section 111. Rules made by State Government to be laid before State Legislature

Every rule made by the State Government under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature where it consists of two Houses, or where such Legislature consists of one House, before that House.

Section 112. Previous publication of rules made by Central and State Government

The power to make rules by the Central or State Government under this Act shall be subject to the condition of the rules, being made after previous publication.

Section 113. Power to remove difficulties

(1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Part, the Central Government may, by order, make such provisions or give such directions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to it to be necessary or expedient for the removal of the difficulty:

Provided that no such power shall be exercised after the expiry of a period of two years from the commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.

Section 114. Repeal and saving

(1) The Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (1 of 1894) is hereby repealed.

(2) Save as otherwise provided in this Act the repeal under sub-section (1) shall not be held to prejudice or affect the general application of section 6 of the General Clauses Act, 1897 (10 of 1897) with regard to the effect of repeals.

Schedules

The Schedules are not reproduced in this PDF. Each is in the official file, at the page given:

THE FIRST SCHEDULE (official file, page 48)

THE SECOND SCHEDULE (official file, page 49)

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