

**Proceeding of the meeting of Social Impact Assessment Appraisal Committee (SIAAC)
held on 26.05.2021**

Video conference of Expert Group member was held on 26.05.2021 as per provision of section 7 of "The right to fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013", for acquisition of 30 acres of land for public purpose for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE), a "project for Government administered, Government aided educational and research schemes or institutions" in village-Chhiddan, Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab were held under the chairpersonship of Prof. Rajesh Gill, Panjab University, Chandigarh. Following members who attended the meeting through video conference are as under:-

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1	Prof. Rajesh Gill	Chairperson & Social Scientist
2	Sh. Sudesh Kaul	Expert on Rehabilitation
3	Sh. Baldev Singh	Member Secretary, S.E.E.(Technical Expert)
4	Sh.Suvinder Singh	Sarpanch Vill - Chhidden , Teh- Ajnala
5	Dr. Rajesh Kumar	SIA PGIHRE Project coordinator (Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar)
6	Ms. Jagir Kaur	Panch. Vill-Chidden, Teh. Ajnala
7	Sh.Dilbag Singh	Panch. Vill-Chidden, Teh. Ajnala (instead of Sh. Suvinder Singh (Sick))
8	Smt. Shalinder Kaur	Director (Hort)
9	Sh.Gurinder Dhangal	Dy.Dir.(Hort)

It was informed that as per "The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013", Guru Nanak Dev University has been notified as Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Agency for Government of Punjab. The work of Social Impact for completion of SIA Study for acquisition of 30 acres of land for public purpose for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE), a "project for Government administered, Government aided educational and research schemes or institutions" in village-Chhiddan, Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab was awarded to SIA Agency, Guru Nanak Dev of University, Amritsar. The SIA Agency, GNDU, Amritsar submitted the SIA study report to Nodal Officer, Horticulture Department, Punjab Govt. on 23.04.2021. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Principal Project Coordinator, SIA Agency, Guru Nanak dev University, Amritsar gave the presentation on the SIA study report as below:-

Sr. No.	SIA Status	Date
1	Notification of Social Impact Assessment	29.10.2020 &22.01.2021

2	Public Hearing Held	25.03.2021
3	Constitution of Expert Committee Member	04.05.2021
4	Letter for meeting to Expert Group	04.05.2021
5	Meeting of Social Impact Assessment Appraisal Committee	26.05.2021

Indicative Methodology of Conducting SIA:-

Aspects of SIA	Description of Methodology	Source
Assess whether the proposed acquisition serves public purpose	The development falls in category 2(e) of section 2 of the RFCT-LARR Act 2013 and in the category of 'Public Purpose'.	RFCTLARR Act 2013
Estimate no. of project affected families and no. of families among them likely to be displaced	Conducted sample survey involving systematic random sampling method in the proposed area through structured schedule by interviewing method	Collected from the Revenue and field verification
Understand the extent of land (public and private), houses, settlement and other common properties likely to be affected by the proposed acquisition	Ownership details of the land and type of land to be acquired, enumeration of affected properties, trees etc. is given in chapter 6, pg.69-72 submitted SIA-PGIHRE report	Collected from the Revenue and field verification
Understand the extent of land acquired is bare minimum needed for the project	With the consultations of project affected families (PAFs) and other stakeholders, it came out that the land being acquired is of bare minimum need.	Secondary sources, and field verification and Public Hearing on 25 March 2021
Study of the social impacts, nature and cost of addressing them and impact of these cost on the overall cost of the project vis-à-vis the benefit of the project	Described in chapter 5,6,7&8 of submitted SIA-PGIHRE report	Field study and Public Hearings and Focused Group Discussions

Project and Public Purpose:-

One of the objectives of the Social Impact Assessment study is to examine the nature of the proposed project, whether it is a public purpose project or not. It is to prove that the proposed acquisition of 30 acres of land for public purpose for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE), a "project for Government administered, Government aided educational and research schemes or institutions" in village-Chhiddan,

Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab serves the public purpose clause as under RFCTLARR 2013, besides understanding that land acquired is bare minimum needed for the project.

Keeping in the view the above issues, it is in the public interest to go ahead with the acquisition of 30 acres of land for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE), in village-Chhiddan, Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab. The SIA study on the basis of public hearing, documents of revenue department and field study found that 30 acres of land notified for acquisition belongs to 'one family' of the village only. Henceforth, there is no need for independent Social Impact Mitigation Plan (SIMP).

Study of Alternative Proposals:-

In the light of above facts and 'one family' falling in the category of project affected families (PAFs) involving negligible displacement, there is no need to study alternative.

Study of Positive and Negative effects:-

Positive Impact of the PGIHRE Project	Negative Impact of the PGIHRE Project	Remarks
Increased Education level in the region	Loss of fertile ancestral agricultural land and income from it	Keeping in view the whole analysis, acquisition of 30 acres land serves the public purpose clause and the SIA-PGIHRE report validates the public purpose clause.
Easy affordability of education in the region	Affording higher education still remains a challenge for many poor families	
Boost to the economy of the region as international trade in horticulture produce shall increase immensely.	No negative impact	
Even farmers to benefit a lot from the availability of new high yield varieties of horticulture plants	No negative impact	
Boost to Development of Infrastructure	No negative impact	
Local youth to have better employment opportunities	No negative impact	
Quality of life to change	No negative impact	
Increased opportunities for female students	No negative impact	

Analysis of affected land and assets:-

Type of Impact	Mitigation measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of land which is being held by 'one family' largely in view of realizing better economic prospects and loss of agricultural activity by one project affected family. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compensation as per provisions of RFCTLARR Act 2013 Rehabilitation Assistance

Project Area: Loss of Land:-

The proposed acquisition of 30 acres of land as per layout plan is for public purpose for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE), in village-Chhiddan, Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab under RFCTLARR 2013.

The land detail of the village is presented below:-

State	District/s	Sub division/s	Village/s	Land to be acquired
Punjab	Amritsar	Ajnala	Chhiddan	32 Acre 04Kanals* Later reduced to <u>30 Acre only**</u> <i>vide letter issued by Additional Secretary, (Development), Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Department Horticulture, Punjab Govt No. 25/14/2015-kb. 4(2)/591 dated 22-01-2021</i>

Observations made by Experts Committee

After the detailed presentation and discussion, following are some of the observations of Social Impact Assessment Appraisal Committee (SSIAC). The members expressed their satisfaction over the contents of the SIA study report which contained detailed analysis of the social impact assessment upon the stakeholders. The expert committee members made certain observations/recommendations which are discussed as under for the information of the Government.

After detailed deliberation the expert committee decided as under:-

- 1) Adequate compensation must be given to the land owners, i.e., project affected families.
- 2) Preference may be given to the residents of Chhiddan Village in employment generated by PGIHRE.
- 3) Members recommended that reservation of seats and fee concession may be ensured for the youth residing at Chiddan village in admission to various courses at PGIHRE.

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- 4) During acquisition, small leftover parcels of land may be considered as far as possible within provision of the Right to fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013.
 - 5) The committee recommends acceptance of the SIA-PGIHRE report and initiation of further necessary action for acquisition of 30 acres of land for completion of PGIHRE project.

The expert Group constituted under section 7, sub-section 1 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 has opined that:

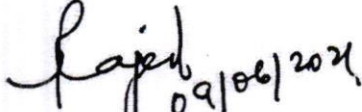
Sr. No.	Opinion of the expert group	Yes	No
1	The project will serve any public purpose	√	
2	The potential benefits outweigh the social cost and adverse social impacts	√	
3	The extent proposed to be acquired is absolute bare minimum	√	
4	There are no other displacing options available	√	

Recommendations:-

The expert group is of the opinion that the setting up of proposed PGI-HRE which has been delineated in section 2(i)-e(Planned Development) of "The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation Act, 2013", it serves the public purpose. While doing appraisal of the SIA study report the committee has found that the land proposed for acquisition is bare minimum.

The SIA study report ascertains that the potential benefits of the project outweigh the social cost and adverse social impacts.

In the light of above-mentioned facts, the case is recommended to the Government of Punjab to proceed for acquisition of acquisition of 30 acres of land for public purpose for the establishment of Post Graduate Institute of Horticulture Research and Education (PGIHRE) in village-Chhiddan, Hadbast No. 333, Sub-Division- Ajnala, District- Amritsar, Punjab as per provision of "The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition and Rehabilitation Act, 2013".


 09/06/2021
 Chairperson (SSIAC)
 Professor Rajesh Gill
 Non-Official Social Scientist