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**Government of India  
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways  
(Land Acquisition Division)**

Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi dated 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2016

**No. NH-11011/14/2016-LA**

To,

1. The Principal Secretary/ Secretary,  
Public Works Department/ Revenue, All State Government/ Union Territories
2. The Engineers-in-Chief/ Chief Engineer (NH),  
Public Works Department, All State Government/ Union Territories
3. The Director General (Roads Development) & Special Secretary,  
M/o RT&H
4. The Chairman,  
National Highways Authority of India  
G-5&6, Sector- 10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
5. The Managing Director,  
National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd,  
PTI Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi- 110001

PA to HoD  
07/12/16  
G.A.O.



**Sub: Appointment of dedicated Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) for Land Acquisition for National Highway (NH) Projects under the NH Act, 1956 –Reg.**

Sir,

The need for expeditious acquisition of land and pro-active cooperation of the State Governments in the process have been emphasized from time to time for enabling timely completion of National Highways (NHs) projects.

2. As you are aware, progress of many of the ongoing National Highway (NH) projects have been adversely affected due to delay in land acquisition. Further, availability of 90 % of required land is an essential pre-requisite for award of NH Projects now. However, on account of delay in Land Acquisition (LA), commencement of many of the projects is being inordinately delayed even after award of such projects.

3. The State Revenue Officers are generally notified as the Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) as per the NHs Act, 1956. Keeping in view the pre-occupation of the CALAs in their own assigned works, the Ministry has taken various policy initiatives during this year so as to facilitate expeditious action on part of CALAs for LA of NH projects; these include allowing appointment of retired Revenue Officers as Consultants in the Ministry, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) headquarters as well as in the field offices, viz. the Regional Offices (ROs)/ Project Implementing Units of the Ministry/ NHAI / NHIDCL, providing facilities such as one time grant for furniture and Office equipment, dedicated man-power (viz. Assistant Special Executive Officer, Senior Assistant, Surveyor, Computer Operator, Peon) , vehicles (including hire charges, driver, fuel, POL, etc.), monthly office expenses, Office rent, etc., to CALAs on Demands. Taluka Inspector of Land Records (TILR) may also be provided facilities on a case to case basis on demand such as providing electronic total station on rental basis for detailed survey for joint measurement, video shooting, preparation of land records / land plans, enumeration of trees, demarcation of ROW, staking out co-ordinates on ground, clearing of ROW; such works may also be got done by engaging private agencies through Contracts. The Ministry has also instructed its ROs, NHAI and NHIDCL that in order to ensure that CALA nominated by the States are not overburdened and for LA cases involving more than Rs. 250 – 300 crore or approximately 500 (± 10 %) land owners, appointment of additional CALAs may be resorted to. Copies of the relevant references in this context are enclosed for ready references.

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4. During several review meetings taken in the Ministry at the level of Hon'ble Minister (RT&H) and Secretary (RT&H) in recent times, it has, however, been felt that desired efficiency is still lacking in terms of timely acquisition of land.

5. It may be appreciated that delay in timely acquisition of land hampers progress of NHs projects; this would eventually cause major setback for overall Socio Economic development in the States. Therefore, considering the emphasis of the Ministry towards overall development of NH network and keeping in view the extent of LA requirements for ongoing and projects in the pipeline, it is requested that the State Governments may consider appointing dedicated CALAs for all the NHs Projects in the State irrespective of the agency for their implementations (viz. State PWDs, NHAI, NHIDCL, etc.); the numbers of such dedicated CALAs may be decided by the States depending upon the extent of estimated LA requirements.

6. It is requested that the State Governments may consider giving their consent for the proposal and also immediately take up necessary action accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Enclosure: As above



(Rajesh Gupta)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Tel No. 011-23718527

Copy for similar action to:-

1. ADG / ADG (I/C)/ Coordinator -I / Coordinator- III
2. CE (P-1)/CE (P-2)/CE (P-3)/ CE (P-4)/CE (P-5)/CE (P-6)/ CE (P-7)/CE (P-8)/CE (LWE)/ CE (SARDP- NE)/CE (NHDP- IVA)/ CE (Mon)/ CE (Planning)
3. All ROs/ ELOs/ PIUs of the NHAI/ M/o RT&H

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister (RTH&S)/ PS to MoS (RT&H)/ PS to MoS(RT,H,S,C&F)
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary (RT&H)/ PPS to AS&FA
3. PPS to JS (LA & EIC)/ JS (H)/ JS (T)/ JS (GAP & C)

No. NH-11011/40/2016-LA  
Government of India  
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways  
(LA Division)

Transport Bhawan  
1, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi dated 16, August, 2016

To,  
All Regional Officers,  
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

**Subject:** Procedure for payment of the amount of compensation for acquisition of land for NH Projects acquired under the NHs Act, 1956- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to say that as per the present practice, the amount of compensation payable in lieu of land acquired under the National Highways (NHs) Act, 1956, is placed solely at the disposal of Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA). In case of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and National Highways Inter-connectivity Improvement Projects (NHIIP), these funds are placed in a joint account held in the name of CALA and Project Director (PD). Funds are disbursed by CALA after declaration and finalization of land acquisition awards.

3. Since Land Acquisition involves huge amounts of compensation and the whole process takes sufficient period of time, therefore, these funds are unnecessarily parked in CALA's account for over a long period, thereby, resulting in blockade of funds. Also, the need of the hour is to move towards e-transfer of benefits directly to the account holders of beneficiaries.

4. In this regard, a more efficient manner of depositing the compensation amount with CALA for further disbursement to the beneficiaries has been proposed as under: -

**Proposed procedure:**

- All CALAs be registered on Public Financial Management System (PFMS) & will be mapped under respective RO
- The CALA (through PFMS) will prepare a Digital Payment Advice (DPA) using a Utility duly authenticated by Digital Signature with all requisite payment details of beneficiary.
- On the basis of DPA prepared by CALA(s), PFMS will consolidate the amount State/RO wise.
- The RO will prepare sanction along with bill on PFMS for Regional Pay Accounts Office (RPAO)
- The RPAO will make payment and issue DPA (on PFMS) for transferring of funds from the Consolidated Funds of India (CFI) to the CALA Account
- Accounting entries will be made on PFMS
- Funds shall be released to the designated CALA Accounts through Accredited Bank.
- Reverse Payment Scroll from Bank to complete Accounting
- As soon as the funds reach CALA A/c, the PFMS will give instructions electronically to sponsor bank of CALA to transfer money from CALA A/c to the end beneficiary. (PFMS is integrated with more than 100 Banks through server to server Core Banking Solution)
- Reverse scroll from sponsor bank to intimate settlement/success to CALA on PFMS

5. However, for the purpose of introduction of the proposed procedure, necessary office equipment and internet facility as well as manpower needs to be provided to CALA for operation of the web-based Utility/PFMS. ROs may meet the expenditure on office equipments and manpower through contingency on the lines of facility for CALA/TILR already circulated vide this Ministry's letter no. NH-15017/17(2)/2016-P&M dated 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2016.

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