

Notice: Seeking Comments/Suggestions on Proposed Changes to the Notification Procedure under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957

The Ministry of Coal is undertaking a review of the existing procedure prescribed under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 (CBA Act) for issuing notifications under Section 7 of the Act.

A significant number of cases pending before tribunals constituted under Section 14 of the CBA Act pertain to land-title disputes. One of the key reasons for such disputes is the current practice of issuing Section 7 notifications that specify only the outer boundary and the relevant plot/ khasra numbers, without indicating the names of the recorded title-holders. As a result, land titles are not frozen at the time of notification, leading to subsequent changes in land records and causing delays and difficulties for landowners in receiving compensation and related benefits.

With the availability of digital land records, GIS-based mapping, and technologically enabled verification systems, it is now feasible to obtain plot-wise details and names of recorded title-holders from the revenue authorities prior to issuing Section 7 notifications. Including such information in the notification will improve transparency, procedural uniformity, and efficiency across land-acquiring entities.

The Ministry proposes to modify the current procedure to incorporate the names of title-holders in Section 7 notifications and invites comments/suggestions from stakeholders before finalizing the change.

Stakeholders are requested to submit their comments within 15 days of the publication of this notice, by e-mail to: priw.moc@nic.in.