***The Right To Fair Compensation And Transparency In Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation And Resettlement Act, 2013***

**Consent:**For government projects, no consent is required while consent of 70 per cent of landowners is required for Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects and 80 per cent for private projects.

**Social Impact Assessment:**In the case of a land acquisition (irrespective of the ownership of project), Social Impact Assessment is necessary unless and until there is an urgency. If the project is for irrigation, then Environmental Impact Assessment is required.

**Irrigated multi-cropped land:**In case the land in question is irrigated multi-cropped, it cannot be acquired beyond a limit specified by the state government.

**Limitations:**The Central Act of 2013 was brought to give effect to pre-existing fundamental right to livelihood of citizens. It ensures that livelihood will not be taken away unless-

* It is in public interest and that is seen by social impact assessment
* The affected citizens are given rehabilitation

The amendments made without considering the above factors will take away fundamental rights of the citizens.

**Safeguards:**State Governments have to set up dispute settlement Chairman and he should be a district judge or practising as a lawyer for 7 years. The Act also has provision for the establishment of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Authority for speedy disposal of disputes.

**Return of land:**If the project doesn't start in 5 years, the land acquired under the Act has to be returned to the original owner or the land bank.

### ****Compensation under the 2013 Land Acquisition Act****

Compensation varies with the market rates. In the case of rural area, it is four times the market rate and for an urban area, it is two times. Affected artisans, small traders, fisherman etc. by the land acquisition are given one-time payment even if they do not own any land.

There is also provision for rehabilitation and resettlement award which includes employment to one member of an affected family.

If Government acquires the lands for a private company, the said private company will be responsible for relief and rehabilitation of the affected people along with an additional rehabilitation package for SC/ST owners.

Fertile, irrigated, multi-cropped farmland can be acquired only in last resort.

If such fertile land is acquired, the Government will have to develop an equal size of wasteland for agriculture purpose.

In case someone is not satisfied with an award under the Act, they can approach the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR) Authority.