

May
2023

Social Impact Assessment Study for proposed land acquisition for The Post office Mashobra, Distt. Shimla HP

Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and
Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and
Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules,
2015 (HPRTFCTLARR Rules 2015).

Final Report

By
PLAN Foundation HP



Submitted to
Social Impact Assessment Unit (SIAU), Fairlawn, Shimla HP

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Abbreviations

BSNL	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited
CPRs	Common Property Resources
CPMG	Chief Post Master General
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
Govt.	Government
HP	Himachal Pradesh
PAFs	Project Affected Families
PAPs	Project Affected People
RTFCTLARR	The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition,
R&R	Rehabilitation and Resettlement
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SIMP	Social Impact Management Plan
SPO	Superintendent of Post Office
SSPO	Senior Superintendent of Post Office
ST	Scheduled Tribes

Glossary

- ❖ **Act** means: The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013(30 of 2013).
- ❖ **Affected Area** means such area as may be notified by the appropriate government for the purposes of land acquisition.
- ❖ **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 member(s) 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 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 recognized under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007) due to the 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 livelihoods 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.
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Below poverty line or BPL Family** refers to families falling below the poverty line as defined by the Planning Commission of India, from time to time, as well as those included in the BPL list of Himachal Pradesh.
 - ❖ **Central Government** refers to Government of India.
 - ❖ **Compensation** refers to the amount to be paid as compensation under various provisions of the Act 2013, for private property, structures and other assets acquired for the project, including rehabilitation and resettlement entitlements.
 - ❖ **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 as separate families.
 - ❖ **Land** includes benefits to arise out of land, and things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth.
 - ❖ **Land acquisition** means acquisition of land under The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act,2013.
 - ❖ **Landless** means such person or class of persons who may be: Considered or specified as such under any state law for the time being in force; or In a case of landless not being specified under clause (i), as may be specified by the appropriate Government;
 - ❖ **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;
 - ❖ **Market value** means the value of land determined in accordance with Section 26

of the Act 2013.

- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Public purpose** means the activities specified under sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Act 2013.
- ❖ **Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R & R) means** carrying out rehabilitation and resettlement as per RFCTLARR Act 2013.
- ❖ **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).
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Social Impact Assessment** means an assessment made under subsection (1) of Section 4 of the Act.
- ❖ **Social Impact Management Plan** means the plan prepared as part of Social Impact Assessment Process under sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Act.
- ❖ **State Government or “Government”** means the Government of Himachal Pradesh
- ❖ **Tenants** are those persons having Bonafede tenancy agreements for three years prior to the acquisition of the land, with a property owner with clear property titles, to occupy a structure or land for residence, business or other purposes.
- ❖ **Vulnerable groups** include persons such as differently abled, widows, and women headed household, persons above sixty years of age, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and other groups as may be specified by the State Government.
- ❖ **Women Headed Household** means a family headed by a woman and does not have a male earning member. This woman may be a widow, separated or deserted woman.

Executive Summary

Project and Public Purpose: Social Impact Assessment Study for the purpose of Land Acquisition for C/o Post Office Building, Mashobra situated at Village Mashobra, Tehsil Shimla (Rural), District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Proposed land to be acquired by the postal department, Government of India with a objective of office building for Post Office Mashobra. This proposed land acquisition is to ensure that the Postal Department has secure and legal ownership on the land of their constructed building, in order to provide reliable postal services to the community and support the functioning of the postal system as a critical aspect of the modern society.

Location: The proposed land acquisition is for the purpose of acquiring legal ownership of the land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr, on which the Post Office building is already situated. The land is located at village Mashobra, tehsil & district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Size and Attribute of Land Acquisition: The proposed acquisition of the land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr for the Post Office building in Mashobra, Shimla, is composed of several parcels of private land. The land is identified as Khasra No. 1023,1056,1057,1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7, located in village Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (Rural), district Shimla, HP. The land was initially owned by Sh. Chindu Mal, and it was purchased by Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan, who is now the single titleholder of the land to be acquired.

Alternatives Considers: As the Postal Department has already possessed the land and building since 1973, there is no other feasible option for relocating the office building. Moreover, the landowner had initially expressed willingness to surrender the land to the Postal Department for reasonable compensation, making it unnecessary to explore alternative options.

Social Impacts: The proposed acquisition of land for the post office in Mashobra is expected to have no adverse effects on the community's livelihood, employment, income, production, health, well-being, socio-cultural systems, and environment.

To ensure a smooth acquisition process, a survey was conducted to gather opinions from relevant stakeholders, including the owner of the land and affected individuals and groups. The survey results show strong support for the acquisition, with the landowner expressing willingness to sell the land and other stakeholders believing it will be in the community's best

interest. Based on the survey findings, the acquisition process will move forward in an efficient and timely manner, with all necessary legal and administrative requirements met.

During the focus group discussions, the landowner expressed readiness to accept reasonable compensation for the proposed acquisition. As the land belongs to only Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan and his family, no culture or social cohesion, or any gender-based impacts were observed during the survey.

Mitigation measures: The only negative impact identified during the study was loss of the land to the landowner, which can be categorized as a long-term impact. However, since the postal building has already been constructed on the land being acquired, the Department of Posts is in possession of the land for many years, and no displacement or loss of livelihood would occur due to the proposed acquisition.

While it is true that there is an emotional value attached to the land, the impact can be mitigated by compensating the owner adequately for the loss of land. It should be noted that no other negative impact has been identified during the study, and the acquisition of land will have no direct or indirect bearing on the livelihood, employment, income, production, health, well-being, and quality of life of the community, socio-cultural systems, and environment.

Assessment of social costs and benefit: During the primary survey and focus group discussions, it became evident that the social benefits of the project greatly outweighed the social costs for the wider community, despite some negative impacts on the project-affected family. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (RTFCTLARR) of 2013 provides adequate compensation for the losses and inconvenience experienced by the project-affected families, including compensation for structures and assets attached to the land. In summary, this project will have a positive impact on the local community.

1 Detailed Project Description

1.1 Project Background

The postal service is an essential aspect of contemporary society, serving as a global facilitator of communication, commerce, and social interaction. It provides individuals and businesses with the ability to send letters, cards, and other vital documents across long distances, particularly valuable for those located in rural areas of developing countries where reliable access to the internet or other communication technologies may be limited. The service is also critical for enabling the shipment of goods and documents both domestically and internationally, benefiting small businesses that may lack resources to establish their own shipping infrastructure. Moreover, the postal service enables social interaction by allowing people to exchange letters, cards, and other items with their loved ones, even when geographically separated, such as in long-distance relationships or military families.

It is noteworthy that the postal service is mandated to provide universal service, which means that it serves all customers, irrespective of their location or economic status. This ensures that even the most remote and underserved communities have access to the benefits of the postal service.

One such instance of the importance of the postal service is exemplified by the Mashobra Post Office, located in the main bazaar of Mashobra, which comprises seven branch offices, namely Dewla, Durgapur, Ghaini, Khatnol, Kiarkoti, Pahal and Thaila branch offices. These branch offices and Mashobra Post Office offer a range of postal services, including delivery of mails and parcels, old age pension, money transfer, banking, insurance, retail services, Common Service Centre, Aadhaar Services, and India Post Payment Bank services. These services are made available at the doorstep level to approximately 17 Gram Panchayats, serving around 20,000 people who rely on the postal service for their communication and banking needs.

The Department of Posts has maintained possession of a plot of land in Mashobra since 1973, on which a building was constructed to house the Mashobra Post Office. The construction of the building was carried out in two phases, with the initial phase commencing in 1973, and involving the construction of the primary building, which was completed on 31st January 1973. The second phase, which began in 1998, saw the construction of ancillary structures such as stairs, railings, and a septic tank, and was completed on 31st July 1999.

Previously, the department was known as the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, which was later divided into two independent departments: the Department of Posts and the Department of Telecommunications. At present, both departments, Department of Posts and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Department of Telecommunications use this building, and a section of it is also leased to the Department of Horticulture, Government of Himachal Pradesh.

In 2002, the ownership of the land was challenged by the landowner, Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan, who remained an elected public representative (Member of Legislative Assembly, Himachal Pradesh, 1990). Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan took the matter to court, ultimately leading to the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court eventually ruled in favor of Sh. Bhagat Ram, the landowner. As a result, the Department of Posts is currently in the process of acquiring the land on which the building is located, following the decision made by the Supreme Court of India.

1.1.1 Inter State/International Aspects

No interstate or international aspects has been found which may lead any impact on proposed process.

1.1.2 Developers Background

This land acquisition is proposed by the department of posts, government of India. The postal system in India has a rich history dating back to the Mauryan Empire, where runners were used to deliver messages. During the Mughal era, post offices were established and "dak runners" carried messages on foot or horseback. The East India Company modernized the system in the 18th century, and the government took control in 1858. India's postal network rapidly expanded, playing a key role in the country's struggle for independence. After independence, the postal system was further modernized, and today India Post operates over 150,000 post offices and offers various services, including mail delivery, money transfer, and e-commerce delivery.

1.1.3 Governance or Management Structure

The Department of Posts in India operates under the Ministry of Communications, which is responsible for formulating policies and programs for the development of postal services in the country. The Department is headed by the Director-General, who is assisted by a team of senior officials.

The Department of Posts is divided into 23 postal circles, each of which is headed by a Chief Postmaster General (CPMG). The postal circles are further divided into regions, divisions, and sub-divisions, with each level being headed by a senior official.

The Department of Posts has a workforce of over 400,000 employees, who are responsible for delivering postal services across the country. The employees are organized into various cadres, such as postal assistants, sorting assistants, postmen, and others, and are trained to provide efficient and reliable postal services.

The Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh operates under the overall governance and management structure of the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, Government of India. However, at the state level, the Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh has its own governance and management structure.

The Chief Postmaster General (CPMG) of Himachal Pradesh heads the postal circle in the state. Under the CPMG, there is a team of senior officials who are responsible for the day-to-day management of postal services in the state. The team includes the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices (SSPO) and the Superintendent of Post Offices (SPO), who are responsible for overseeing the functioning of post offices at the regional and divisional levels, respectively.

The Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh is divided into four regions, each headed by a Regional Postmaster General (RPMG). The regions are further divided into divisions and sub-divisions, each headed by a Divisional Head or Sub-Divisional Head.

At the local level, there are over 800 post offices across the state, which are managed by postmasters and other postal officials. The employees of the Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh are organized into various cadres, such as Postal Assistants, Sorting Assistants, Postmen, and Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS).

The Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh is committed in providing efficient and reliable postal services to the people of the state. It has introduced several new initiatives, such as mobile banking, e-commerce delivery, and speed post, to modernize its services and provide greater convenience to the people. The Department of Posts in Himachal Pradesh plays a crucial role in connecting the people of the state to each other and to the rest of the country and is an essential part of the state's infrastructure.

1.2 Project Rationale and Public purpose

The Mashobra Post Office is located in the main bazar of Mashobra and has 7 Branch Offices attached to it, providing a range of postal services including delivery of mail and parcels, old age pension, money transfer, banking, insurance, retail service, Common Service Centre,

Aadhaar Services, and India Post Payment Bank services. Approximately 20,000 people from 17 Gram Panchayats benefit from these services at the doorstep level. The post office is a vital link between Mashobra and the rest of the world, especially for those living in remote areas with limited access to delivery services. In addition to postal services, the post office offers financial services such as savings accounts, money orders, and insurance policies, which are essential for people without access to banks or financial institutions.

As per sub-section b (i) of Section 2 (I) the RTFCTLARR Act, 2013, the land acquisition for Post office Mashobra, Distt. Shimla HP is well justified under the definition of infrastructure projects for public purpose.

Therefore, in exercise of powers conferred by rule 3 of the Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015, a social impact assessment study has been conducted for the land which is being acquired.

1.3 Project Details

The proposed acquisition pertains to the land and building that are currently owned and possessed by the Postal Department, and on which they have already constructed buildings. Therefore, a social impact assessment (SIA) has been conducted for this specific land. The following table presents the project details:

Table 1-1 Details of project :

Sr. N.	Particulars	Details as per proposal
1.	Name of the project	Land for Post office Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (rural), district Shimla HP
2.	Area of land to be acquired	387.56 Sq Mtr comprise in Khasra No. 1023,1056,1057,1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7.
3.	Location	The proposed land is located at village Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (Rural) district Shimla HP
4.	Capacity	NA
5.	Outputs	NA
6.	Production Targets	NA
7.	Cost	NA
8.	Risk	NA

1.3.1 Location

The total private land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr comprise of Khasra No. 1023,1056,1057, 1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7 at village Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (Rural) district Shimla HP.

1.3.1.1 Access to Project Area

The proposed site is located at about 16 km from the Shimla old bus stand and about 136 km far from Chandigarh. The location is main bazar Mashobra and situated on link road from the State Highway No. 13.

1.4 Examination of Alternatives

The land earmarked for acquisition is situated in main bazar of Mashobra. It has been under the possession of the Postal Department since 1973, and a building has already been constructed on the land. Therefore, no viable alternatives exist that can be considered as substitutes.

1.5 Phases of project construction

The building has been already constructed so phasing out of project is not applicable.

1.6 Core design features, size and type of facilities

The building has been already constructed so no such core design, size and type of facilities is applicable. However the already constructed building comprise of four floors which houses post office, BSNL office, rented horticulture department office and some official residences of BSNL and Post Office staff.

1.7 Need for ancillary infrastructural facilities

Not applicable.

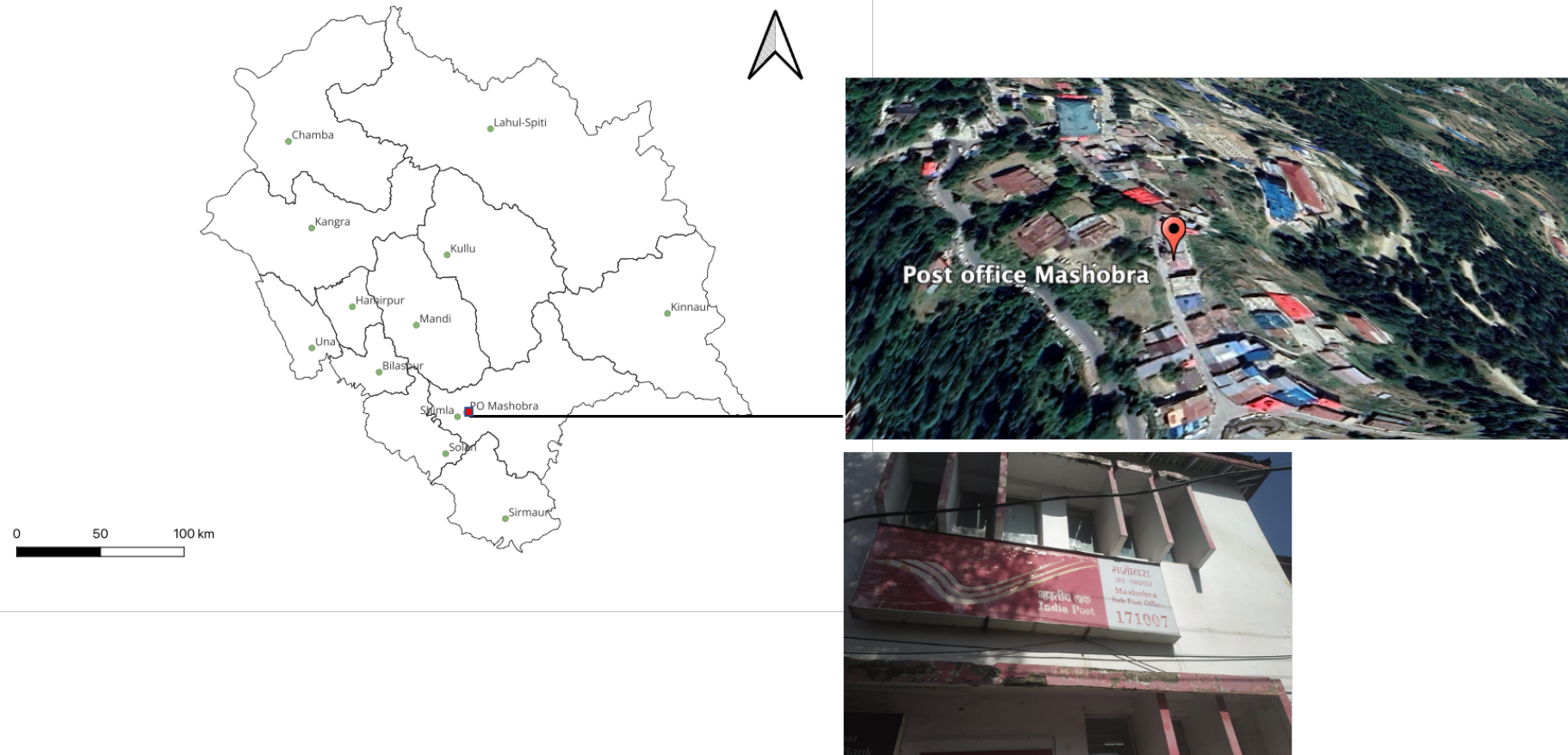
1.8 Workforce requirement (temporary & permanent)

Not applicable.

1.9 Details of SIA or EIA and any technical feasibility reports.

No such study has been conducted and shared by the respective agency except the present SIA which has been conducted for present acquisition of 387.56 Sq Mtr of private land.

Picture 1-1 Location of Post Office Mashobra, District Shimla HP



Source: SIA Team

Picture 1-2 Photographs of land proposed to be acquired



Source: SIA Team

1.10 Applicable Legislations and Policies

1.10.1 Preparation of Social Impact Assessment Study

Section - 4 of the RTFCTLARR Act, 2013 mandates that whenever the appropriate Government intends to acquire land for a public purpose, it shall consult the concerned Panchayat 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. (Section 4 of Act)

Rule 3 sub-section (1) of the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015 states that the State Government shall, for the purpose of the Act, issue a notification for carrying out Social Impact Assessment in accordance with Part-B of FORM-I of these rules regarding the commencement of Social Impact Assessment and the same shall be made available in both Hindi and English to the concerned Panchayat or Municipality or Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, and in the concerned offices of the District Collector, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the Tehsil. A wide publicity will also be made in the affected area through publication in at least two daily newspapers circulated in the area, and also by affixing the notification at conspicuous places within the affected areas. Besides this, the notification shall also be uploaded on the website of the State Government: (HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015)

2 Team composition, Approach, Methodology and Schedule of the Social Impact Assessment

This chapter briefly describes the team composition and overall structure of the methodology used to conduct the SIA for land proposed to acquire for Post Office Mashobra, District Shimla HP. The following sections will discuss a detailed description of the methods used to gather information and the rationale behind the specific strategy.

2.1 Team Details

The composition of Social Impact Assessment (SIA) team is given in Table 2.1, which was responsible for carrying out this SIA Study. Each team member is an expert in his field and has undertaken numerous studies.

Table 2-1 Composition of SIA Team

S. No	Name	Qualification	Gender	Expertise/Responsibility
1	Er Tarun Gupta	B.Tech (AG), PG PM, PG DMM	Male	Senior Environment Officer, Deptt. of Environment, Science & Technology (Retd.) Expert EIA & SIA, Report Writing (Team Leader)
2	Mangat Chauhan.	PG PM&IR, PG Marketing Management	Male	Impact Assessment & Community Mobilization (Project Coordinator)
3	Raman Kumar	Ph.D.	Male	Expert in Survey & Data Analysis, Impact Assessment & Community Mobilization
4	M.R. Sharma	Bachelors in Social work	Male	Survey & Statistical Researcher
5	Sangeeta	Master of Arts	Female	Survey & Statistical Researcher
6	Pooja Sharma	M.Com	Female	Survey & Statistical Researcher
7	Nishima Bhardwaj	M.A Sociology	Female	Investigator & Gender Specialist

Following is the list of field surveyors who participated in the primary survey:

Table 2-2 List of surveyors

S. No	Name	Qualification	Gender	Designation
1	Pushp Raj	MA	Male	Surveyor
2	Nitesh Sharma	BSW	Male	Surveyor

2.2 Description and Rationale for the Methodology and Tools Used to collect information for Social Impact Assessment.

2.2.1 Aim

The study aims to conduct Social Impact Assessment in accordance with Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015.

2.2.2 Objectives

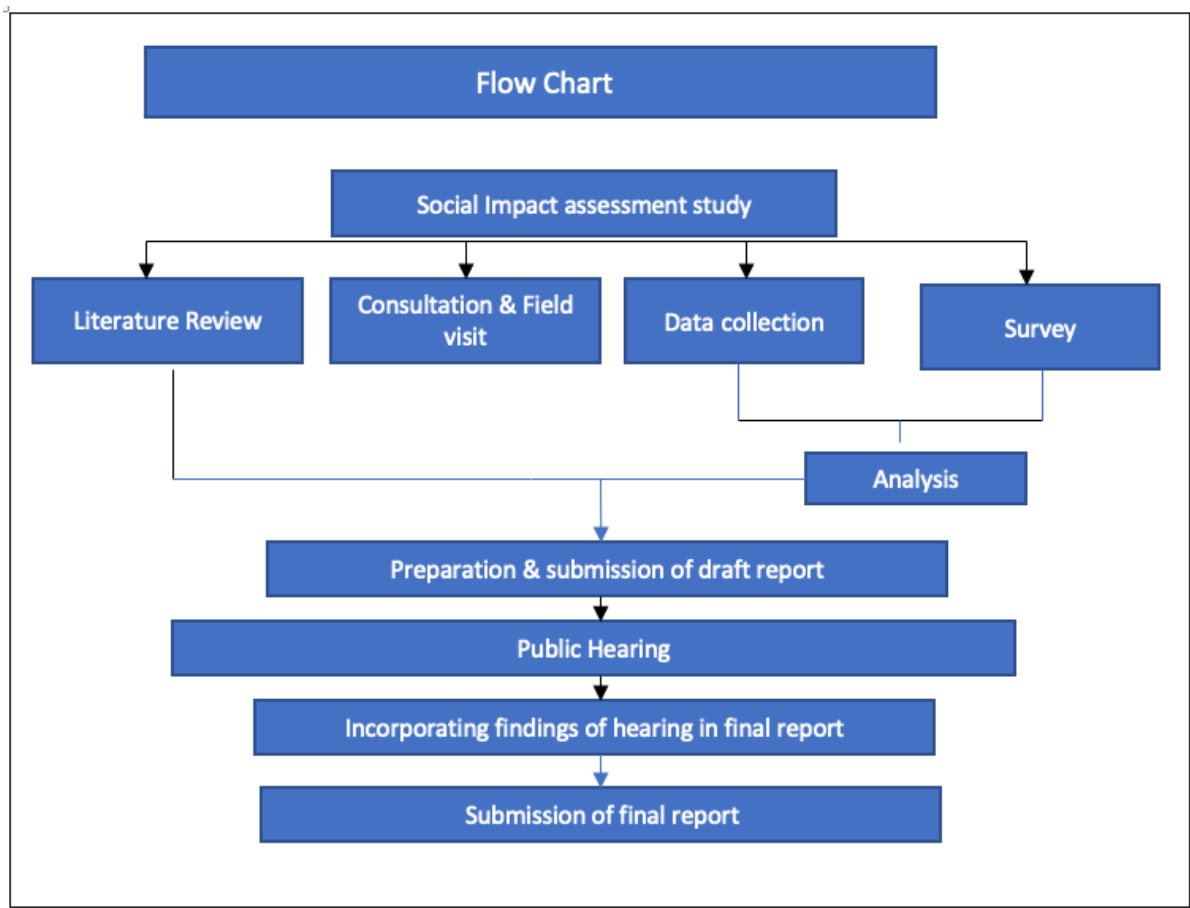
The following are the objectives of the Study:

1. Assessment of whether the proposed acquisition serves the public purpose as per the criteria listed under section 2 of the RTFCTLARR Act, 2013.
2. Estimating affected families and the number of families likely to be displaced.
3. Extent of land, public and private, houses, settlements and other common properties likely to be affected by the proposed acquisition.
4. Whether the extent of land proposed for acquisition is the absolute bare minimum extent needed for the project.
5. Whether land acquisition at alternate place has been considered and found not feasible.
6. Study of the project's social impacts, nature and cost of addressing them, and the impact of these costs on the project's overall costs of the project vis-à-vis the benefits.
7. Preparation of socio-economic and cultural profile of the affected area and resettlement site (if any) as per FORM-II of the HPRTFCTLARR rules,2015.
8. Preparation of a Social Impact Management Plan as per Form III of HPRTFCTLARR rules,2015.

2.2.3 Methodology

The methodology adopted to conduct a social impact assessment and to prepare SIMP is described below. The SIA was prepared in accordance with the RTFCTLARR Act 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015. The figure below presents the methodology of the SIA study in the form of a flow chart.

Picture 2-1 Flow chart to conduct SIA in land acquisition for Post Office Mashobra, Distt. Shimla Himachal Pradesh



Process/methodology for conducting SIA study and preparation of SIMP

1. Literature review
 - ❖ Court order related to said proposal.
 - ❖ Aggarwal, M (n.d.) Vulnerable Groups in India – Status, Schemes, Constitutions of India.
2. Consultation & field visit
 - ❖ Identification of stakeholders (Primary & secondary data)

- ❖ Field visit (site visits, Panchayat visit,)
 - ❖ Consultation with stakeholders
3. Data Collection
 - ❖ Secondary Data (Panchayat records, Revenue department)
 4. Primary Data (questionnaires & FGD, field visit) 100% sample survey was conducted and pre designed questionnaires were utilized for getting information.
 5. Analysis of data collected
 - ❖ Qualitative and quantitative analysis of various social, economic and environmental parameters. Analysis of primary and secondary data collected
 - ❖ Inference drawn from FGDs
 - ❖ Inference drawn from stakeholder consultations
 - ❖ Observation from site survey
 6. Draft Report

2.2.4 Description and Rationale for the Methodology

Carrying SIA is a time-bound study and concerns the interest of people who are financially, economically, and socially dependent on the land getting acquired for the upcoming project. Therefore, the above methodology has been adopted to carry out the study and ensure a humane, participatory, informed, and transparent land acquisition process for the land on which the postal department has already raised/ constructed buildings and the land and building is in possession of Postal department for which current SIA has been conducted. This methodology safeguards adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement and for ensuring that the cumulative outcome of the acquisition should be that affected persons become development partners, leading to an improvement in their post-acquisition social and economic status.

2.2.4.1 Identification of the Stakeholders to be Consulted for SIA

A list of all major stakeholders was prepared who were likely to be directly or indirectly affected by this acquisition of land. Thereafter list of stakeholders was finally classified into two broad categories namely:

- 1) **Primary Stakeholders:** These included single family which is owner of said land
- 2) **Secondary Stakeholders:** These included department of Post, Gram Panchayat and local residents of the area.

Identification of the stakeholders was followed by Desk Review. Documents such as RTFCTLARR Act 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015, R&R Policy, Revenue record, Panchayat record, Court orders and service sectors in which people of the project area are involved were collected from government and non-government sources and reviewed. Collection and review of such data was primarily to develop understanding about the socio-economic conditions of the concerned area and availability of infrastructure facilities and service delivery system.

2.3 Tools to collect Information for Social Impact Assessment

Information to carry out the study was collected from both Primary and Secondary Source.

1. **Information collection tools** - In order to collect authentic information about the primary stakeholders and the intensity of impact on them, a structured questionnaire was prepared. The questionnaire covered a wide range of qualitative and quantitative information.
2. **Primary Survey** - A survey of primary stakeholders was carried out with the help of a pre-structured questionnaire. The aspects covered in the questionnaire were identification particulars of PAFs, social profile, family details, occupation, source of income, family expenditure, household assets, information of affected structure, commercial/self-employment activities, employment pattern, opinion, and views of PAFs on project and resettlement and rehabilitation. Most part of the questionnaire was pre-coded except those reflecting the opinion and views of PAFs, which was left open-ended and recorded during stakeholders' interviews.
3. **FGDs** - One aspects of the study was consultations with stakeholders, people's representatives, and community leaders. Consultations opened the line of communication between the stakeholders and the SIA Team and helped in identifying the impacts perceived by the community.
4. **Supervision of Data Collection and Ground Verification** - The Core team members supervised data collection, and ground verification was conducted.

2.4 Sampling Methodology

As the total number of PAF is only one, so SIA team conducted meeting with Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan and his elder son Sh. Dinesh Chauhan being an advocate persuaded the litigation

in district, high and supreme court which lead to the judgement under which present land acquisition process has been initiated.

2.5 Overview of Information and Data Sources Used

SIA and SIMP were prepared based on data and information presented in Table 2.3. This data was collected through field visits and stakeholder consultations as per FORM-II of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015.

Table 2-3 Data sources used

S. No	Information	Primary Source
1.	Demographic details of the population in the project area	Field/ Primary survey
	Age, gender, caste, religion of PAF	Field/ Primary Survey
2.	Poverty levels	Field/ Primary Survey
3.	Vulnerable groups	Field/ Primary Survey
4.	Kinship patterns and women's role in the family	Field/ Primary Survey
5.	Social and cultural organization.	Meeting
6.	Civil society organizations and social movements.	Meeting
7.	Land use and livelihood, Livestock, Agricultural and non-agricultural use	Field/ Primary Survey, Field survey

**Source: Team SIA*

2.6 Schedule of Consultations with Key Stakeholders and Brief Description of Public Hearings Conducted

Following was the schedule of public hearings that were organized as per the provisions of the act.

Table 2-4 Scheduled Public Consultation Date with Key Stakeholders in Mashobra, Himachal Pradesh

S.N.	Distt.	Tehsil	Location	Date of Public Hearing
1.	Shimla	Shimla (Rural)	Mashobra	17/5/2023

Issues and suggestions given by the community during public hearing are as under:

The Public Hearing was conducted at Panchayat Samiti Hall, BDO office complex, Mashobra. The Hearing was chaired by Sub Divisional Magistrate Shimla (Rural) and PRIs along with few other people attended the Public Hearing.

Major finding:

- ❖ No issue was raised by the people present in public hearing. No person/organisation objected for the proposed land acquisition.
- ❖ The requiring body stated that proper compensation as per the provisions of the act will be provided to the land owner.

Picture 2-2 Public Hearing Information through Newspaper and Public Notice in Local Area of Mashobra, Himachal Pradesh

सूचना
डाकघर मशोबरा, जिला शिमला, (हि.प्र.) हेतु भूमि
अर्जन बारे जन सुनवाई

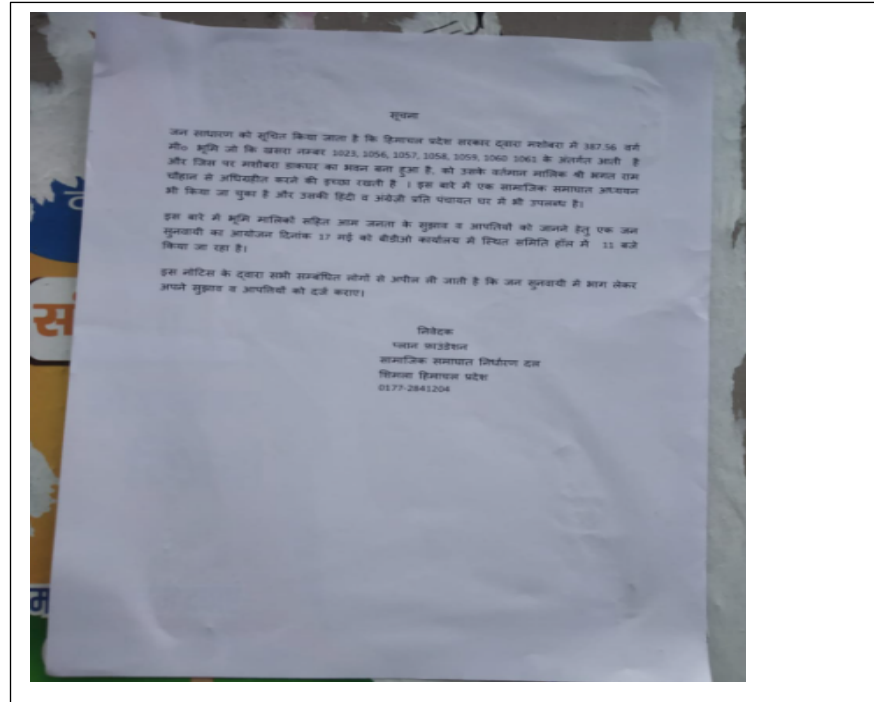
सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि डाकघर मशोबरा, जिला शिमला, हि.प्र. जो कि मशोबरा पंचायत में स्थित है, हेतु भूमि अर्जन किया जाना प्रस्तावित है। इस हेतु एक सामाजिक समाघात अध्ययन किया गया है जिसकी एक एक प्रति (हिन्दी व अंग्रेजी) सभी सम्बंधित पंचायत, तहसील, उपमंडल व जिलाधीश कार्यालयों में उपलब्ध है। इस बारे में पंचायत में जन सुनवाई का आयोजन निम्नानुसार किया जा रहा है। सभी प्रभावित परिवारों व पंचायत प्रतिनिधियों से अनुरोध है कि सम्बंधित तिथि को निम्नानुसार जन सुनवाई में भाग लें।

जिला	उपमंडल	पंचायत	प्रभावित गांव/मोहाल	जन सुनवाई का दिन व समय	जन सुनवाई का स्थान
शिमला	शिमला	मशोबरा	मशोबरा	17.05.2023 (10:00-1:00)	पंचायत घर मशोबरा

उक्त जन सुनवाई का नोटिस सम्बंधित कार्यालय उप मंडल समाहर्ता एवं उपमंडल अधिकारी द्वारा हिमाचल प्रदेश भूमि अधिग्रहण, पुनस्थापन और पुनर्वास में उचित प्रतिकर और पारदर्शिता अधिकार अधिनियम 2013 के खंड 5 के अंतर्गत जारी किया जा चुका है जो कि सम्बंधित पंचायत, तहसील, उपमंडल व जिलाधीश कार्यालयों में उपलब्ध है।
अतः इस सूचना के द्वारा सभी को सूचित किया जाता है कि उपरोक्त विवरणानुसार जन सुनवाई में भाग लेकर अपने सुझाव व आपत्ति दर्ज कराएं।

निवेदक
सामाजिक समाघात निर्धारण अध्ययन दल

Source: SIA Team



Picture 2-3 Photographs of the Public Hearing in Mashobra, Himachal Pradesh



Source: SIA Team

3 Land Assessment

This chapter focus on the details of the total private land to be acquired for the post office building, Mashobra, Distt. Shimla HP including the location. Available maps and primary sources, including the primary survey, has been used to explore the nature, present use, and classification of the land. A brief description on the ownership pattern, transfer and use of land for the last three years was also assessed.

3.1 Information from the Land Inventories and Primary Sources

The total private land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr comprise in Khasra No. 1023,1056,1057,1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7 at village Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (Rural) district Shimla HP.

The proposed land belongs to single titleholder Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan. Post office building includes staff residences constructed by the department. The land is in possession of the postal department since 1973.

Table 3-1 Landholding of PAF under acquisition

S.N.	Land owner	Size (Sq. Mtr.)
1	Bhagat Ram Chauhan	387.56

3.2 Entire Area of Impact Under the Influence of the Project

The total private land requirement for the proposed acquisition is 387.56 Sq. Mtr which is in the possession of department and building is already constructed on said land.

3.3 Total land requirement for the project

The total private land measuring 387.56 Sq. Mtr is required by the postal department on which Post office building is situated is located at village Mashobra, tehsil & district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

3.4 Present use of any public, unutilized land in the vicinity of area

During the primary survey and FGDs, it is found that there is no public un-utilized land in the vicinity of area. The department has already constructed its building on said land so option of other land is not explored.

3.5 Land Already Purchased, Alienated, Leased/Acquired, and Intended Use for Each Plot of Land Required for The Project

The requiring body has not purchased or taken lease of any land for the project. However, the intended use of the land proposed for acquisition is provided in the table below:

Table 3.2 Proposed land to be acquired and it's intended use

S. No	Land Proposed to be Acquired	Intended Use
1	Khasra No. 1023,1056,1057,1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7	Post office building, Staff residence

3.6 Quantity and Location of Land Proposed to be Acquired for the Project

The total private land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr comprise in Khasra No. 1023,1056, 1057,1058,1069,1060, 1061 Kita -7 at village Mashobra, tehsil Shimla (Rural) district Shimla HP.

3.7 Nature, Present Use and Classification of Land

The land measuring 387.56 Sq Mtr, on which Post office building is situated is located at village Mashobra, tehsil & district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh and is proposed to be acquired for department of post.

Table 3-2 Classification of the proposed land

S. No	Land Quantity (Sq. Mtr)	Type	Use
1	387.56 Sq Mtr	---	Building

*Source: Notification for SIA, survey

3.8 Size of Holdings, Ownership Patterns

The proposed land to be acquired for department of post falls in M.C. Shimla, district Shimla. Single land ownership is getting acquired for the project; land ownership belongs to the male.

3.9 Land Distribution and Number of Residential House Being Acquired

It is proposed to acquire 387.56 Sq Mtr of land owned by single titleholder. On this property, post office building built by department of Post is located.

3.10 Land Prices and Recent Changes in Ownership and Transfers

The classification of land category for calculation of compensation is given as under:

1. **Category-I (0-25 mtr):** Property/Land in which any point of the concerned Khasra Number or part thereof is land up to a distance of 25 meters from a road.
2. **Category-II(20% < Base Rate)(25-50 mtr):** Property/Land in which no point of the concerned Khasra Number or part thereof is 25 to 50 meters from such road.
3. **Category-III(40% < Base Rate)(50-100 mtr):**Property/Land in which no point of the concerned Khasra Number or part thereof is 50 to 100 meters from such road.
4. **Category-IV(50% < Base Rate)(100-1000 mtr):** Property/Land in which no point of the concerned Khasra Number or part thereof is 100 to 1000 meters from such road.
5. **Category-V(60% < Base Rate)(>1000 mtr):** Property/Land in which no point of the concerned Khasra Number or part thereof is 1000 meters or more from such road.

The SIA team did not come across any changes in the ownership over a period of last three years.

4 Estimation and Enumeration of Affected Families and Assets

This chapter focuses on estimation and enumeration of the affected families by this proposed land acquisition for the Postal department building. This chapter includes the details of directly and indirectly affected families or persons, common property, public land use dependence is being taken under this land acquisition. This information was gathered through the primary survey.

4.1 Directly Affected Persons

The proposed acquisition of 387.56 Sq Mtr private land is directly affecting single family. The land is in possession of the department of Post. Because owners did not live there, therefore there is no displacement involved.

4.1.1 Tenants/Occupiers

During the primary survey, no leaseholder/occupier was found on the land being proposed for acquisition. The land and the constructed building on the land is in possession of the department of Post.

4.1.2 Schedule Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers

There is no affected family falling in the ST category and no traditional forest dwellers who have lost any of their forest rights.

4.1.3 Dependence on Common Property Resources (CPRs)

During survey, no CPRs were found on the land proposed to be acquired.

4.1.4 Land Assigned by State Government

During the survey, no person was found who have been assigned any land by the State Government under any of its schemes which is being proposed to be acquired.

4.1.5 Dependence of Land for Livelihood

During the survey no livelihood dependency of the PAF was found on the land being acquired. There were no productive assets to be found such as livestock, trees, crops, water resources, grazing ground etc.

4.2 Indirectly Impacted, Inventory of Productive Assets and Significant Land

During the survey, no indirectly impacted PAFs or PAPs were found on the land being acquired. No agriculture use is possible on land as Post office building is situated on same piece of land.

5 Socio-Economic and Cultural profile

5.1 Directly Affected Persons

The land proposed to be acquired is a private property of single titleholder and the primary impacted persons/families from the acquisition will be the owner. Presently there is no person residing on the premises and none were found deriving any direct/indirect dependency of livelihood from the land under consideration. The details of primary stakeholder are as under:

Table 5-1 Details of Primary Stakeholders

S.N.	Name	Relation with HH head	Age (yrs)	Gender (M/F)	Education	Occupation
1.	Bhagat Ram Chauhan	HH Head	85	M	LLB	Retired
2.	Dinesh Chauhan	Son	55	M	LLB	Advocate
3.	Mahender Chauhan	Son	52	M	BA	Orchardist /Agriculture
4	Hitender Chauhan	Son	48	M	BA	Business
5.	Surender Chauhan	Son	43	M	BA	Business/ Shop
6.	Prem Chauhan	Son	41	M	BA	Orchardist /Agriculture

5.2 Income and Poverty Levels

The owner and family are well to do in terms of income levels. Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan was MLA in Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. He won election from BJP in 1990. Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan was himself an advocate and one of his son Sh. Dinesh Chauhan is also an advocate. Family falls under term of “Undivided Hindu family” and all sons of Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan are living with their respective family as different places.

5.3 Vulnerable Groups

No vulnerable groups among the PAFs were found during the Survey.

5.4 Land Use and Livelihood

The categorization of land to be acquired as per the revenue records is uncultivated. Also, during the survey and field visits no livelihood dependency of any kind (Directly/indirectly) was found on the land to be acquired. No Local Economic activities or factors contributing to Local Livelihood could be found in and around the land being acquired that would be impacted by the project

5.5 Kinship Patterns

In Himachal Pradesh, land rights are only passed onto from one generation to the next. As per the state rules, any migrant cannot buy a land in the Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, the land here is an ancestral property and it only gets distributed to the legal heirs equally unless the Will says otherwise.

Women plays crucial role in the family affairs and most of the household works are being performed by the women wherein no economic valuation of these tasks performed by them is reckoned.

5.6 Administrative, Political, Cultural, and Civil Society Organizations

No Administrative, Political or Civil Society Organizations were identified within the land area slated for acquisition, with the exception of the post office building.

5.7 Regional Dynamics and Historical Change Processes

The land to be acquired is a small patch of mere 387.56 Sq Mtr located at Mashobra Bazar. The location is primary, as the area is known for tourism attraction and number of hotel, home stays and other related activities are established in area. Moreover, no historical, cultural or religious place could be found that would get impacted.

5.8 Quality of the Living Environment

Mashobra is a picturesque town located in the Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh, India. It is situated at an altitude of 2,146 meters above sea level and is surrounded by lush green forests and snow-capped mountains. The town is known for its scenic beauty and serene environment, which makes it a popular tourist destination.

In terms of the quality of the living environment, Mashobra has a pleasant climate with cool summers and cold winters. The air quality is generally good, with low levels of pollution, and the water quality is also considered to be safe and clean. The town is relatively free from noise pollution, which adds to its peaceful atmosphere.

Mashobra has a well-planned and well-maintained infrastructure, with well-paved roads, adequate public transportation, and reliable electricity and water supply. The town also has good medical facilities and educational institutions, making it a suitable place of living for families and children.

Overall, Mashobra offers a high quality of living environment with its natural beauty, peaceful atmosphere, and well-developed infrastructure.

6 Social Impacts

This chapter discusses the detailed analysis of social impacts due to the land acquisition for Post office at Mashobra, district Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. The following sections describe methods used to gather information and the impact assessment of this project.

6.1 Framework and Approach to Identifying Impacts

SIA of a project is carried out to assess, in advance, the social repercussions that are likely to occur due to various activities undertaken under a project to promote development, such as dams, mines, industries, highways, ports, airports, urban development and power projects. It is a tool that can help decision-makers to foresee the likely impacts of their actions and to take steps to prevent or at least contain them through SIMP. As an aid to the decision-making process, SIA provides information on social and cultural factors that need to be taken into account in any decision that directly or indirectly affects the lives of people in the project area.

The process of conducting Social Impact Assessment has been designed in a manner which involved all stakeholders in systematic approach to assess the impact of proposed acquisition. The framework & approach to identify the impacts is shown in following steps:

Step 1: Background study and case studies

Step 2: Identification of different PAPs

Step 3: Preparation of primary survey questionnaire

Step 4: Conduct primary survey and FGDs with various Stakeholders

Step 5: Analysis of data collected

Step 6: Identifying various impacts and their intensity in project area.

6.2 Description of Impacts at Various Stages of the Project

Normally the social impacts for the land are broadly classified into 3 stages, namely:

1. Impact during the pre-construction stage
2. Impact during the construction stage
3. Impact during the operation stage

However, as mentioned earlier, since the building has already been constructed on the land being acquired, therefore study of impacts during Pre-construction and construction Phases has

not been taken. Moreover, the land is already in possession of postal department since long back so no new impact on community has been found. The PAP stands no risk of getting landless as family is not residing there. The land is not inherited by Sh. Bhagat Ram Chauhan as he purchased it from another person. The family is living at village which is far from said land.

7 Analysis of Costs and Benefits and Recommendations on Acquisition

This chapter presents a comprehensive analysis of the costs and benefits associated with the land acquisition for the Mashobra post office located in the Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh. The recommendations presented herein have been informed by in-depth stakeholder consultations.

7.1 Assessment of Public Purpose

The Mashobra post office holds immense significance in the local community, serving as a vital link connecting its residents with the rest of the world. Its prompt delivery services for letters, packages, and parcels are particularly essential for those living in remote areas where other delivery services may not operate.

In addition to its mail delivery services, the post office also provides a range of financial services, including savings accounts, money orders, and insurance policies. These services are especially valuable for individuals without access to banks or other financial institutions in the vicinity.

Overall, the Mashobra post office is an indispensable institution that provides invaluable services to the local community. It serves as a crucial community hub, facilitating connections with the world and offering essential financial services.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the land acquisition for the Mashobra post office, Distt. Shimla, HP, is well-justified under the definition of infrastructure projects for public purpose as per sub-section b (i) of Section 2 (I) of the RTFCTLARR Act, 2013. This further underscores the importance of ensuring a thorough cost and benefits analysis to ensure that the acquisition serves the public interest and is a sound investment for the community.

7.2 Less Displacing Alternatives & Minimum Land Requirement

The acquisition of land for public purposes such as building post offices is a common practice in India. However, it is essential to explore fewer displacing alternatives and minimum land requirement before initiating any acquisition process.

In this context, the proposed acquisition of 387.56 Sq Mtr land in Mashobra, Shimla for the post office building does not raise concern regarding impact on the local community and environment. The department of post has already constructed a building on the said land and

the land & building are in possession of postal department for a long time. However, in pursuance to the Supreme Court directions, process has been initiated for land acquisition and to provide compensation to the owner of the land.

In conclusion, while the acquisition of land for public purposes may be necessary, it is crucial to consider fewer displacing alternatives and minimum land requirement to ensure sustainable development and minimize the impact on local communities and the environment. The land is already with postal department and the matter is only of compensation, so question of less displacing alternatives and minimum land requirement is addressed so far.

Due to the proposed land acquisition, people will not face any displacement. The Landholder is willing to surrender his land with a condition that proper adequate compensation is paid to him.

Therefore, it is evident that the land being acquired is bare minimum and essential land required for department of post to serve the community and to protect the public funds utilized to build the Post office building. Furthermore, no suitable alternate land/ govt. land was available in the vicinity for construction of the post office. Also, no displacement is occurring due to this acquisition.

7.3 Nature and Intensity of Social Impacts

If permanent, an impact will have the same intensity during the post-construction phase as during the pre-construction/ construction stage. On the other hand, temporary impacts will show a continuous decrease in intensity during the following stages of the project cycle. Therefore, any impact lasting even after the construction phase is considered a long-term impact; if it lasts only until the construction phase is going on, it is considered a short-term impact. Since the building has already been constructed on the land being acquired, the only negative impact that was found during the study was loss of land to the land owners which can be categorized as a long-term impact. Although the land once lost cannot be reclaimed and there is a certain emotional value attached to it which is irreparable. However, this impact can be well mitigated if the owners are compensated adequately. No displacement or loss of livelihood would occur due to the proposed acquisition.

7.4 Final Conclusion

Based on the analysis presented above, it is evident that the postal service is a crucial essential service provided by the state to the common people. The postal department currently possesses

the land and has already constructed a building on it. However, the department's claim of acquiring the land in the past was not accepted by the Hon'ble Court. Therefore, the department is currently in the process of acquiring ownership rights to the land through a current acquisition process, which would grant it legal authority to use, occupy, and control the land in question, which may have been previously owned by someone else.

Considering the aforementioned factors, the study recommends that the proposed land acquisition for the department of post should be carried out, subject to the implementation of all measures suggested to mitigate the various identified impacts in a judicious manner.

8 Social Impact Management Plan

This Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) has been prepared in accordance to the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015 with the aim to mitigate negative social impacts and enhance the positive impacts of the project.

8.1 Approach to Mitigation

This Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) has been prepared following the RFCTLARR Act, 2013, and the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015, with the aim to mitigate negative social impacts and enhance the positive impacts of the proposed acquisition. It consists of a set of mitigation, monitoring, and institutional measures that need to be taken during the project's design, construction, and operational phases to eliminate adverse social impacts or reduce them to acceptable levels. The SIMP may be implemented during the various phases of the project, viz., pre-construction, construction, and operational phases.

In the present acquisition process, land to be acquired is already in the possession of the Postal department on which they have raised building of the post office long back and in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme court directions this process of land acquisition has been initiated. Whereas, a description of the various management measures suggested under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015.

8.2 Measures to avoid, mitigate and compensate impacts

1. If there is any dispute between the stakeholders, then this dispute should be resolved first and made sure that the compensation is given to the legal owner.

8.3 Measures included in R&R and compensation as per Act 2013

This SIA report will benefit the requiring body to undertake the land acquisition process and prepare a Plan of Action according to the aspiration conveyed by the project-affected families and other stakeholders during public consultations and surveys. Furthermore, in light of the study's findings, the following steps may be taken to mitigate expected social impacts:

Table 8-1 Impacts identification and corresponding mitigation measures under proposed land acquisition for department of Post, Mashobra, Distt. Shimla Himachal Pradesh

S.No.	Assessed Impacts	Suggested Mitigation Measures
1	Loss of Private Land (387.56 Sq Mtr)	Appropriate Compensation to title holders and stakeholders as per the provisions of RTFCTLARR Act, 2013
2	Loss of Private Assets due to Acquisition such as Residential and Commercial Structures, boundary walls, Crops, Fruits bearing and non-fruit bearing trees.	Not applicable
3	Inconvenience caused due to acquisition for displaced Families and individuals	Not applicable
4	Loss of employment/ income/ livelihood dependent on land	Not applicable
5	Loss of Community Assets such as Gharats, Cremation grounds, bavdis. River crossing, Ropeways, and Temples etc.	Not applicable

6	Loss of Common properties such as Water Resources including Drinking water resources such as springs/& bavdis. Loss of pastures/grazing lands, forests for collection of firewood.	Not applicable
7	Impacts on vulnerable groups	Not applicable
8	Impact on Food Security and animal husbandry: Loss of Cultivable land and grazing grounds will lead to negative impact on agriculture and animal husbandry.	Not applicable
9	Noise pollution, Air pollution, and Water Pollution.	Not applicable

**Source: Team SIA*

8.3.1 Outlay for SIMP Implementation

The entitlement framework and the process of rehabilitation and resettlement have been furnished below in the backdrops of the legal provisions applicable for the project affected families.

An Entitlement Matrix has been developed in compliance with Laws, Rules and Policies framed by the Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh. The entitlement matrix presented in Table 8.2 summarizes the types of losses and corresponding nature and scope of entitlements.

Details of Cost of Resettlement and Rehabilitation has not been worked out; however, the entitlement framework and the process of rehabilitation and resettlement have been furnished earlier in the backdrops of the legal provisions applicable for the project affected family.

Table 8-2 Entitlement matrix for land acquisition for Post Office Mashobra, Distt. Himachal Pradesh

S.N.	Impact Category	Unit of entitlement	Details of entitlement	Remarks
Loss of Assets-titleholders				
1	Private Land	Land Owner(s)/ Titleholders	<p>(a) Cash compensation for the land at market value, which will be determined as per provisions of RFCTLARR Act, 2013.</p> <p>(b) Amount equivalent to current stamp duty on compensation amount for replacement of lost assets.</p> <p>(c) Loss of perennial and non-perennial crops and trees will be compensated in accordance with the provisions of Horticulture and Agriculture Department as applicable.</p> <p>(d) A Grant of Rs 25,000 for replacement of cattle shed or petty shops.</p>	<p>Compensation for land includes compensation for all assets attached to the land.</p> <p>Not Applicable</p>

2	Loss of structure (Residential or Commercial or Res-cum- Commercial)	Land Owner(s)/ Titleholders	<p>(a) Cash compensation determined on the basis of current rates as per admissible norms.</p> <p>(b) Shifting allowance of Rs 50000 as per provisions of RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the displaced families.</p> <p>(c) Provision of free house as per RFCTLARR Act 2013, for completely displaced residential/commercial or Equivalent cost of the house may be offered in lieu of the constructed house.</p> <p>(d) Subsistence allowance of Rs 36,000 for the displaced families (RFCTLARR Act 2013).</p> <p>(e) Resettlement allowance of Rs 50,000 for the displaced families (RFCTLARR Act 2013).</p>	Not Applicable
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3	Tenants and Leaseholders	Tenants and Leaseholders	(a) Registered lessees will be entitled to an apportionment of the compensation payable to structure owner as per applicable local laws.	Not Applicable
Loss of Residential and Commercial Structures - Non-Titleholders				
4	Encroachers	Affected Person (Individual/ Family)	(a) Encroachers shall be given advance notice of 2 months in which to remove assets/crops. (b) Right to salvage materials from affected structure	Not Applicable
Loss of livelihood – Title and Non-Titleholders				
5	Loss of livelihood – Title holders, Agriculture labour and commercial squatters	(Individual/ Family)	(a) One-time grant of Rs 25,000 (value prescribed under RFCTLARR Act 2013)	For commercial squatters, the eligibility will become from the date of Census Survey
6	Foreseeable and unforeseen impacts likely during the construction stage	Owner, affected person	(a) Payment of damages to a Structure if any (b) Temporary access would be provided, wherever necessary.	Such as temporary impacts on structures, temporary disruption to access or passage

7	Temporary loss of income of mobile kiosks, if any		(a) Two-month advance notice to vacate the area	
8	SC, ST		(a) Assistance to include in government welfare schemes if not included, if eligible as per Government criteria; and Additional benefits to SC and ST as per the provisions of RFCTLARR Act 2013 Second Schedule	
9	Unforeseen impacts		(a) Any unforeseen impacts shall be documented and mitigated in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Act.	

**Source: Team SIA*

8.4 R&R Measures Stated by Requiring Body

Since no displacement is occurring due to the land being acquired therefore no R&R measures have been stated by the Requiring Body.

8.5 Additional Measures stated by the Requiring Body

No additional Measures have been shared by the Requiring Body

8.6 Institutional Arrangement

As per the act 2013, where land proposed to be acquired is equal to or more than 100 acres, the government shall constitute a “Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee”. As the proposed acquisition is only for 387.56 Sq Mtr , as such this may not be applicable.

9 Conclusion and recommendations

This chapter provides a conclusion and recommendations based on the SIA team's primary survey, stakeholder consultations, and field visits. Findings are presented under each objective, followed by recommendations.

Objectives, observation/findings and recommendations

Objectives: -

1. Assessment as to whether the proposed acquisition serves the public purpose as per the criteria listed under section 2 of RTFCTLARR Act, 2013.

- The proposed land acquisition process has been initiated in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble supreme Court of India for the acquisition of land which is already in the possession of Department of post since long and has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas.
- During the FGDs and consultation with owner and secondary stakeholders supported present land acquisition for continuing essential postal services to the local community. Therefore, the land acquiring authority can go ahead with the land acquisition process dully addressing issues of the land owner.

2. Estimation of affected families and the number of families among them likely to be displaced.

- The proposed acquisition of 387.56 Sq Mtr private land is affecting one titleholder to the extent that he is the owner of the land which is in the possession of Department of post since long and the postal department is providing essential postal services to the local community since long back. The owner does not live or do any operation on the said land and this land acquisition process has been initiated in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble supreme Court of India. The total proposed land is to be acquired from one title holder.
- No person is going to be landless from the proposed acquisition.

3. Extent of land, public and private, houses, settlements and other common properties likely to be affected by the proposed acquisition.

- The proposed acquisition is of 387.56 Sq Mtr private land which is already in the possession of Department of post since long and has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas.

4. Whether the extent of land proposed for acquisition is the absolute bare minimum extent needed for the project.

- The proposed acquisition is of 387.56 Sq Mtr private land which is already in the possession of Department of post since long and has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas.
- This land is the only available option for acquisition as the land is already in the possession of postal department since long and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas.

5. Whether land acquisition at alternate place has been considered and found not feasible.

- As the land proposed to be acquired is already in the possession of Department of post since long and the department has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas as such issue of alternate place has not been considered.

6. Study of social impacts of the project, and nature and cost of addressing them and the impact of these cost on the overall costs of the project vis-à-vis the benefits of the project.

- Acquisition of proposed land is in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which is already in the possession of Department of post since long and the department has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas.

7. Preparation of socio-economic and cultural profile of the affected area and resettlement site (if any) as per FORM-II of the HPRTFCTLARR rules, 2015.

- The Socio-economic and cultural profile of the affected area has been prepared accordance with Form II of HPRTFCTLARR rules, 2015 placed in chapter 5 of the report.

8. Preparation of a Social Impact Management Plan as per Form III of HPRTFCTLARR rules, 2015.

- The Social Impact Management Plan in accordance with Form III of HPRTFCTLARR rules,2015. has been prepared and placed in chapter 8 of the report.

Recommendations: -

Acquisition of proposed land is in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which is already in the possession of Department of post since long and the department has constructed post office building on it and is providing essential postal services to the people of Mashobra and surrounding areas. The owner is also willing to provide this land provided fair compensation and issues and concerned raised by him are positively addressed and resolved timely and legitimately.

10 References

1. SIA Notification,
2. (n.d.). *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013* .
3. (n.d.). *The Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015*
4. Court order related to land.