

Proposed Framework for  
Empanelment of Organizations  
and  
Individual Experts for Conducting  
**Social Impact Assessment**  
in Land Acquisitions



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## 1. BACKGROUND

As per the requirements of Section 4(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013, it is mandatory to conduct SIA and prepare a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) for acquisition of land (a) by the government for its own use, hold and/or control, or for public–private partnership projects or (b) by any private organization for public/industrial use.

It is recognized that states require an empanelled list of organizations and experts for conducting SIA. This document aims to streamline the process of empanelment in every state by providing a uniform and robust process that draws in a pool of expertise to conduct a fair and just process of assessment in cases of land acquisitions, resettlement and rehabilitation.

SIA is an instrument that helps assess and determine the implications of land acquisition on the affected community and people. An SIA helps minimize the risks involved in displacement, rehabilitation, compensation and resettlement. It guides the agency acquiring the land to plan in an informed manner, thus saving costs and ensuring timely completion of projects and, therefore, reducing the risks involved in delay.

The overall objective of SIA is to make the process of land acquisition participatory, transparent, humane and informed. The SIA study for land acquisition presents and justifies that (a) the land to be acquired serves a public purpose; (b) extent of land to be acquired for public purpose is the absolute bare minimum; (c) land acquisition at an alternative place has been considered and not found feasible; (d) overall potential benefits outweigh the social impacts and costs; and (e) acquisition process delineates the movable and immovable properties likely to be impacted as well as the number of affected families and persons likely to be displaced.

As the state-level rules/legislations/notifications on land acquisition and constitution of SIA units differ from one another, this document has been prepared keeping the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 as the point of reference. *Annexure: SIA—Institutional support and facilitation* provides information on processes followed by different states.

The state government(s) shall identify or establish an independent state SIA unit, which shall be responsible for ensuring that SIAs are commissioned and conducted by such persons or bodies other than the requiring body as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act. There should be a database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners that will serve as a network of individuals and institutions with required skills and capabilities to conduct SIA studies for land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement.

The applicant may be an organization, individual, NGO or other institution/ agency with comprehensive experience in undertaking SIA, R&R etc. (as detailed in this document) for at least three years.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR EMPANELMENT OF ORGANIZATION(S)

**Table 1: Eligibility criteria for empanelment**

S. no.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	DETAILS OF CRITERIA	PROOF
1.	Legal identity	Organizations with valid registration under the Companies Act, Registered Firm, Proprietorship, Co-operative, Societies Registration Act, state or Central government or registered under any other Act. The organizations can be a consultancy firm, NGO, voluntary agency, public trust, academic institution or similar agency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valid PAN card</li> <li>Service tax registration if applicable</li> <li>Certificate of registration</li> <li>Audited balance sheet or IT returns for the last three years, certified by a chartered accountant</li> </ul>
2.	Past experience	An organization having at least three years of experience in preparation of SIA, land acquisition and socioeconomic survey, and in preparation of and involvement in implementation of R&R, CSR or state- or centrally-run social scheme or training and capacity building	Certificate of satisfactory completion/satisfactory progress of work
3.	Composition of organization's team for SIA	<p>The organizations should have experienced and qualified professionals with adequate manpower for survey, data collection and social impact assessment. The minimum in-house manpower requirement to qualify as an organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social expert</li> <li>Database specialist</li> <li>Community mobilization expert</li> </ol> <p><b>Note:</b> At the time of empanelment, if the organization doesn't have sufficient domain experts (as listed in point 5 below), it can engage external/freelance consultants. In such cases, the empanelment shall be given to the organization and <b>not the external/freelance consultant.</b></p> <p>An external or freelance consultant who may have domain expertise may not be a full-time employee of any organization and must be working as an individual expert (consultant) in an NGO(s) or in research organization(s)/ academic institute(s). In such cases, a no objection certificate (NOC) is to be obtained from the head of the parent organization as the case may be. At the time of empanelment, the <b>external/freelance consultant</b> domain experts must have an MoU/written agreement with the organization/s.</p> <p><b>The individual with such an arrangement of the MoU/written agreement will be eligible to apply for empanelment with a maximum of three organizations. In case of submission of candidature with more than three organizations, he/she will be disqualified to be engaged for SIA studies within the state for a period of three years.</b></p> <p>External/freelance experts may contribute to the SIA as and when work is assigned to them. However, their expected functions are the same as those of in-house experts of the hiring organization.</p> <p>At the time of empanelment, the organization should provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name of consultant/freelance expert</li> <li>Name of domain/functional areas for which services are provided</li> <li>Scope of services covered</li> <li>Duration of association</li> <li>Specific roles and responsibilities</li> <li>Signature of domain expert and head of organization</li> <li>All payments to experts/freelancer for services rendered to be made through bank. Statutory deduction and taxes should be deducted and organization should comply with all legal/mandatory provisions related to workers and employees like provident fund etc.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Manpower</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment contract or job offer letter</li> <li>An MoU or letter of agreement with freelance/ individual consultant</li> </ol>

4.	Qualification of team or external/freelance consultant	<p>The applicant organization should have a team of at least one social expert with a Master's or Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences, such as Sociology, Social Work, Economics, Political Science, Geography, Rural Development, Anthropology, Rural Management etc. An expert with a Master's degree shall have a minimum of five years experience in land acquisition and socioeconomic survey as well as in preparation of and involvement in implementation of R&amp;R, CSR or state- or centrally-run social schemes. <b>Experts with a Bachelor's degree require eight years of experience in similar areas for the organization to qualify for empanelment.</b></p> <p>The team can also have at least one expert with a Master's or Bachelor's degree in subjects such as Engineering, Architecture, Agriculture, Forestry, Environment Planning, Town Planning etc., with proven experience in undertaking land acquisition, socioeconomic survey and implementation of R&amp;R or CSR or state- or centrally-run social scheme or the like. <b>In order to qualify for empanelment, an expert with a Master's degree shall have a minimum of five years of experience. An expert with a Bachelor's degree shall have a minimum of eight years of experience.</b></p>	
5.	Domain expertise	<p>An applicant organization at time of filing application for empanelment should define their domain expertise in the fields of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in land surveying</li> <li>• Expertise in cost-benefits analysis</li> <li>• Valuation of structure/crop/utilities</li> <li>• Experience in preparation and or implementation of R&amp;R plan</li> <li>• Experience in community mobilization and engagement</li> <li>• Experience in preparation and formulation of entitlement framework and compensation package</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>• Expertise in GIS</li> <li>• Experience and expertise in training and capacity building</li> <li>• Experience and expertise in gender, CSR, livelihood restoration, community development and the like</li> </ul>	Completion certificates/ Satisfaction certificate / Letter of award
6.	Infrastructure	<p>SIA organization(s) desirous to apply for the empanelment should have the following:</p> <p><b>Infrastructural facilities including:</b> Office setup with backup support like computers and broad band for adequate communication, library, etc.</p> <p>Note—Provide details of offices at multiple locations if applicable</p>	<p><b>Infrastructure facilities</b></p> <p>Rent/ownership receipt/fixed line bill/website</p>
6.a	Website	The organization should have a website reflecting all details such as objective, director's name, teams/unit names, areas of work, partner organizations, types of social works undertaken, reports, achievements, etc.	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>Link to organization's website</p>
6.b	Research (qualitative and quantitative)	The organizations should have adequate knowledge and capacity to undertake research such as literature review, data collection, data entry, data analysis, report writing, the use of research software such as excel, SPSS, etc, capacity to conduct focused group discussions (FGDs)	<p><b>For Research</b></p> <p>Publications/research studies/ reports</p>
6.c	Quality Assurance System	It is necessary that the organization applying for empanelment have a system of quality assurance in place for improving the delivery and effectiveness of its scope of work. In this regard, the organization may be a certified ISO9001:2008 entity. However, this is <b>not compulsory</b> and <b>only preferable</b> . <b>The organization should have a set of internal procedure of appraisals and/or an internal framework in place for quality assurance</b>	<p><b>Quality Assurance System</b></p> <p>Relevant certificates and documents of internal monitoring systems, reviews and the like</p>

### 3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT/EXPERT

**Individual** consultants/experts with the domain expertise and qualification (as given in Table 2, points 2 and 3) can apply for empanelment.

*The individual experts/consultants belonging to the local areas may be given preference as these may have a thorough understanding of the local demography, economy, socioeconomic and political relations, etc., of the state/region where the land is being acquired.*

The individual experts/consultants are expected to provide specific inputs in their respective areas of specialization. In addition, the individual experts/consultants shall also have a broad understanding of SIA and further provide support in writing of SIA report in the local language/dialect.

**The state SIA unit can select the organizations or individual consultants or a combination of both for formation a SIA team to conduct the desired assessment.**

**Table 2: Eligibility criteria for empanelment of an individual expert**

S. no.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	DETAILS OF CRITERIA	PROOF
1.	Legal identity	Individuals having experience in various domain with valid paperwork areas shall be empanelled	i. Valid PAN card/Aadhar card ii. Audited balance sheet/ IT returns for last three years, certified by chartered accountant
2.	Past experience	A consultant/expert having experience in land acquisition, socioeconomic survey, involved in preparation and implementation of R&R, CSR or State or Central run social scheme or training and capacity building and alike	Completion certificates, satisfaction certificate or letter of award
3.	Qualifications	Individual experts/consultants may be independent practitioners, social experts, academicians, technical experts and the like. They may have a graduate or post-graduate degree in Social Science subjects such as Sociology, Social Work, Economics, Natural Sciences or Humanities, Geography, Political Science and the like. <b>An expert/consultant with a graduate degree shall have at least eight years of work experience while experts/consultants with a Master's degree shall have at least five years of relevant experience.</b>  Individual experts/consultants may also have a Master's or Bachelor's degree in technical subjects such as Engineering, Architecture, Agriculture, Forestry, Environment Planning, Town Planning and the like, with proven experience in undertaking land acquisition, socioeconomic survey, implementation of R&R and/or CSR, or state- or centrally-run social schemes.	Relevant certificates/documents

4.	Domain area	<p><b>Individuals</b> should have expertise in any of the following and may apply for empanelment based on experience and qualification given in <b>Table 2, points 2 and 3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in land surveying</li> <li>• Expertise in cost-benefits analysis</li> <li>• Valuation of site alternative</li> <li>• Valuation of structure/crop/utilities</li> <li>• Experience in preparation and or implementation of R&amp;R plan</li> <li>• Experience in community mobilization and engagement</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation</li> <li>• Experience in preparation and formulation of entitlement framework and compensation package</li> <li>• Expertise in GIS</li> <li>• Expertise and experience in training and capacity building</li> <li>• Experience and expertise in gender, CSR, livelihood restoration, community development and the like</li> </ul>	Completion certificates/ satisfaction certificate/letter of award
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#### 4. DISQUALIFICATION

The criteria for the disqualification of an organization as well as an individual with association are given below:

**The following shall be considered as disqualification for both organizations and individuals:**

- i. An organization/individual expert/consultant can be disqualified in case of any false information leading to empanelment
- ii. An organization/individual expert/consultant shall be disqualified if they have been blacklisted by any organization in India for non-performance of work
- iii. An organization/individual expert/consultant shall be disqualified if they have indulged in corrupt or fraudulent practices or failed to complete the assignments on time or are favouring the requiring body
- iv. Abuse of data, information or reports in their custody or found to have made false or incorrect declarations will lead to disqualification
- v. An organization, individual expert or consultant involved in corrupt practices by any public agency, private agency or individuals from the organization convicted for fraudulent practices shall be disqualified
- vi. An organization, individual expert or consultant is known to have been engaged in an activity that is prohibited by law in India and/or has been declared guilty by the court of law
- vii. Any organization, individual expert, consultant facing such a situation shall not be entitled to apply. In case of empanelment without disclosing all the relevant facts, the empanelment is liable to be cancelled as soon as the matter is discovered and documented

## 5. PROCESS OF EMPANELMENT

1. The applicant organization, individual expert or consultants who are applying for empanelment in the state may apply online
2. The application for empanelment shall be evaluated by a committee constituted within the state's SIA unit for said purpose
3. The shortlisted organization, individual expert or consultant may after scrutiny of documents called to make in-person presentation of credentials to the committee. The applicants shall be given at least seven days due notice for preparation and making the presentation.
4. The state SIA unit should evaluate applicants based on a weight-age scale as given in Tables 3 and 4 or devise their own criteria for empanelment.

**Table 3: Scale for empanelment for organizations (indicative)**

S. no.	Pointers	Value	Domain (= value)
1	Infrastructure– a. Number of staff b. Available resources (computer applications such as Excel, software programme for Social Sciences (SPSS), library, subscriptions to magazines, reading material etc.) c. Office Area	5 x 3 = 15	a. Number of staff i. 5–7 persons = 5 ii. 3–5 persons = 4 iii. 1–3 persons = 3 iv. 1–2 persons = 0  b. Available resources: i. Computer applications such as Excel, SPSS, etc, library, subscriptions to magazines, reading material etc. = 5 ii. Computer applications such as Excel, SPSS, subscriptions to magazines, reading material etc. and no library = 3 iii. Computer applications such as Excel, SPSS and no library, no subscriptions to magazines, reading material and alike = 0  c. Area i. > 500 square feet = 5 ii. 500–200 square feet = 3 iii. < 200 square feet = 0
2	Domain expert/s	15	i. > 8 persons = 15 ii. 6–8 persons = 10 iii. 3– persons = 5 iv. < 3 persons = 0
3	Years of relevant work experience	20	i. >10 years = 20 ii. >7 to <10 years = 15 iii. >5 to <7 years = 10 iv. 3–5 years = 5
4	Effectiveness of presentation made for empanelment by applicant	30	Excellent – 30 Very good – 25 Good – 20 Fair – 15 Average – 10 Poor – 5
5	Number of projects/ assessments conducted	20	i. 20 project/assessments = 20 ii. 15–20 project/assessments = 15 iii. 10–15 project/assessments = 10 iv. 5–10 project/assessments = 5 v. < 5 project/assessments = 0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	

**Table 4: Scale for empanelment for individual expert/consultant (indicative)**

S. no.	Pointers	Value	Breakup
1.	Years of relevant work experience	20	i. > 15 years = 20 ii. >10 to <15 years = 15 iii. > 5 to <10 years = 10 iv. < 5 years = 0
2.	Number of projects / assessments undertaken (SIA, Socio-economic Survey, CSR, Costing of movable and immovable assets related to land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation, land acquisition or other relevant)	30	i. >10 projects = 30 ii. > 7 to <10 projects = 20 iii. > 3 to <7 projects = 10 iv. < 3 projects = 0
3.	Number of papers published and / or reports developed and approved in the relevant area	10	i. > 5 papers = 10 ii. 4 papers = 8 iii. 3 papers = 6 iv. 2 papers = 4 v. 1 paper = 2
4.	Number of training programmes imparted in the relevant area	10	i. >10 trainings = 10 ii. > 7 to < 10 trainings = 8 iii. > 3 to < 7 training = 5 iv. > 1 to < 3 trainings = 2 v. < 1 trainings = 0
5.	Individual presentations based on last two projects (evaluation criteria) i. Approach and methodology ii. Innovative ideas of recommendations that were implemented iii. Level of knowledge of subject iv. Understanding of local sociocultural aspects v. Knowledge of vernacular language / dialect	30	Excellent – 30 Very good – 25 Good – 20 Fair – 15 Average – 10 Poor – 5

5. In-person presentation is to be given by the head of the organization or individuals seeking empanelment on two best studies/assessments undertaken by the organization in the last three years. Presentations shall not be outsourced to any person who is not a member or staff of the applicant organization. The committee may invite external experts of their choice to the presentation to assess the credentials of the applicant(s)
6. The status of application for empanelment shall be uploaded on the website, thereafter a notification shall be issued for certificates
7. Validity of empanelment of organization and individuals shall be for three years. After completion of three years, organization and individuals shall apply for renewal
8. Any empanelled organization or individual may withdraw from the panel at any time by giving one month's advance notice in writing to the nodal officer. However, withdrawal is not permitted in case of pending or ongoing assessments
9. Organizations or individuals who did not qualify in the previous attempts or those who voluntarily withdrew from empanelment earlier can reapply at the next available opportunity
10. All disputes, differences, claims and demands developed under the empanelment shall be referred to the Secretary (revenue), and the final decision and the same shall be binding on the empanelled organizations/individuals

## 6. STANDARD TIMELINES FOR EMPANELMENT

The process of empanelment shall be conducted once a year. It should start in May and end by July. A minimum of one month time period shall be given for submitting applications; one month for presentation and scrutiny of applications; and one month for verification of credentials and issuing the empanelling certificates, subject to disqualification in the future.

## 7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS/EXPERTS

- i. The SIA team will solely be involved in conducting the **Social Impact Assessment (SIA)** as given in Section 4 of the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*
- ii. The SIA team shall prepare a Social Impact Management Plan, '*listing the ameliorative measures required to be undertaken for addressing the impact for a specific component referred to in sub-section (5)*', as stated in Section 4, sub-section (6) of the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*
- iii. The SIA team in coordination with the state SIA unit, will participate in the Public Hearing for SIA, and is bound to record and include the views of the affected families in the SIA report as given in Section 5 of the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*
- iv. The SIA team to prepare the SIA report within a period of six months from the date of its commencement as given in Section 4, subsection (2) of the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*
- v. The SIA report is to be prepared in the local language of the region where the land is being acquired as given in Section 6, sub-section (1) of the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*
- vi. The empanelled organization conducting SIA can involve an external expert or consultant with the relevant experience and expertise as given in Section 2 (Manpower). This is however not compulsory and can be done when the organization does not have a relevant in house domain expert
- vii. The external freelance/consultant is to be perceived as an employee of the empanelled organization/institution although he/she may not be a full time/in-house employee of the organization/institution
- viii. SIA team may hire field staff for conducting public consultations, collection of data, focused group discussions and interviews

**ANNEXURE: SIA—INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND FACILITATION**

State	SIA unit—What state rules say <sup>1</sup>	Empanelment—What state rules say and status <sup>2</sup>
Andhra Pradesh	The Commissioner, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) shall be the State SIA Unit to arrange to carry out an SIA study.	<p>SIA unit shall build and continuously expand state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>Commissioner, R&amp;R shall select an SIA team for each project from the individuals and institutions empanelled in the state database comprising atleast one woman member.</p> <p>The state has empanelled 11 entities for the purpose of SIA.</p>
Arunachal Pradesh	No such provision	
Assam	<p>The state government through the Commissioner, R&amp;R, shall identify or establish a state SIA unit and other district SIA units in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district to ensure that SIAs are conducted as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.</p> <p>Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati, is the Assam SIA unit.</p>	<p>The state SIA unit along with the district SIA Unit shall build and continuously expand the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>Commissioner, R&amp;R shall select an SIA team for each project from the individuals and institutions empanelled in the state database comprising at least one woman member.</p>
Bihar	<p>The State Government shall notify one or more agencies of repute for carrying out the SIA study. Such agencies shall be notified by the state government as the State SIA Unit. The state SIA unit shall be responsible for ensuring that SIAs are commissioned and conducted by such persons other than the requiring body as per the provisions of the Act.</p>	<p>The state SIA unit shall be responsible for selecting the SIA team for each project from the individuals registered or empanelled in the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners, essentially comprising one woman member.</p> <p>Anugrah Narayan Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS) and the Asian Development Research Institute have been empanelled for the purpose of SIA.</p>
Chhattisgarh	<p>The state government shall identify or establish an SIA unit to ensure that SIAs are conducted as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.</p> <p>*Though no SIA unit has been established, powers under Sections 4, 5 ,6 and 7 etc. have been notified to fall under the jurisdiction of the collector.</p>	<p>The SIA unit shall build and continuously expand the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>The SIA unit shall be responsible for selecting an SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with at least one woman member.</p>
Goa	No such provision	
Gujarat	<p>Subject to Section 10(a) of the Gujarat Amendment, shall conduct SIA where Section 10(a) lays out power of the state government to exempt certain projects.</p> <p>The appropriate government shall invite applications from the Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs, and professionals. The applicants shall be responsible for ensuring that SIA are commissioned and conducted by such agencies as per the provisions of the Act.</p> <p>After assessing their capacity through interviewing and experience, the appropriate government shall accredit and draw out a list of such accredited Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs, and professionals.</p>	

Haryana	<p>An SIA unit means a society, a corporation or any other body constituted by the competent authority (Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana, Revenue and Disaster Management Department) or a unit accredited by the government which is authorized to conduct an SIA study on any proposed acquisition.</p> <p>Haryana Institute of Public Administration (HIPA) is notified as the State SIA Unit. The Unit shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of the said Act and its rules.</p>	<p>SIA unit shall build and continuously expand state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>The SIA unit shall be responsible for selecting an SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with atleast one woman member.</p> <p>While selecting the SIA team, it is to be ensured that there is no conflict of interest involving the appointed team appropriate government.</p>
Himachal Pradesh	<p>The state government shall identify or establish an independent organization which shall be responsible for ensuring that Social Impact Assessments are commissioned and conducted by such persons or bodies other than the requiring body as per the provisions of the Act.</p> <p>Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration is the state SIA unit.</p>	<p>The SIA Unit shall build and continuously expand State Database of Qualified SIA Resource Partners and Practitioners.</p> <p>SIA Unit shall be responsible for selecting SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with atleast one woman member.</p> <p>The state has empanelled 10 entities for the purpose of SIA.</p>
Jharkhand	<p>The Revenue and Land Reforms Department shall identify, select and empanel any agencies to be notified as the State SIA Unit with specific jurisdiction for carrying out an SIA Study.</p>	<p>The SIA Unit is responsible for selecting an SIA team for each project from individuals and institutions empanelled in the state database with at least one woman member.</p> <p>The state government has empanelled 26 entities as SIA Units for Jharkhand.</p> <p>Revenue and Land Reforms Department shall be competent to disqualify and de-empanel any SIA Unit any time after assigning a reasoned cause.</p>
Karnataka	<p>The state government, through the Commissioner for Rehabilitation and Resettlement, shall establish an independent organization after referred to as the state SIA unit and other district SIA units with the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district, which shall be responsible for ensuring that social impact assessment studies are commissioned and conducted by such person or bodies other than the requiring body as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.</p> <p>On request of the state government, conduct SIA by preparing project specific ToR.</p>	<p>The State SIA Unit shall be responsible for selecting the SIA agency for each project from the individuals and institutions registered or empanelled in the State Database as Social Impact Assessment Resource persons and Practitioners. The services of universities, NGOs and research institutes can be obtained for the purpose. The selection of the SIA Agency shall be done in a transparent manner.</p> <p>No person shall be registered or empanelled as resource person or practitioner unless he is a holder of a Master's Degree in Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Engineering, Social Work or Environmental Science.</p> <p>The SIA team should have at least one woman member.</p> <p>The state has empanelled 37 entities for the purpose of SIA.</p>

Kerala	<p>The government shall, for the purpose of conducting SIA study in accordance with the provisions of the Act, invite applications from individuals and organizations with experience in conducting SIA.</p> <p>After assessing their capacity through an interview and assessment, the appropriate government shall accredit them to conduct SIA study for the project and draw out list of SIA units</p>	<p>The government shall empanel these SIA units in various categories depending on the scale of the acquisition, etc.</p> <p>The state has empanelled eight entities for the purpose of SIA.</p>
Madhya Pradesh	No such provision	
Maharashtra	<p>Appointment of agency for SIA study: The appropriate government shall invite applications from the Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs and professionals. The selected applicants shall be responsible for ensuring that SIA are commissioned and conducted by such agencies as per the provisions of the Act.</p> <p>After assessing their capacity through interviewing and experience, the government shall accredit and draw out a list of such accredited Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs and professionals who shall evaluate the SIA study for the project.</p>	
Manipur	<p>The state government shall identify or establish a SIA Unit to ensure that SIAs are commissioned and conducted as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.</p>	<p>SIA unit shall build and continuously expand the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners. The SIA Unit shall be responsible for selecting an SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with at least one woman member.</p>
Meghalaya	No such provision	
Mizoram	State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Mizoram is the state SIA unit and the institute which is responsible for carrying out SIA.	
Nagaland	No such provision	
Odisha	<p>The state government shall identify or establish an SIA unit to ensure that SIAs are conducted as per the provisions of the Act. The Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies is the state SIA unit.</p> <p>The Secretary or Commissioner, R&amp;R, shall act as a state-level Nodal Officer for facilitating the state-level SIA unit for ensuring completion of SIA studies within the stipulated period.</p> <p>Additional District Magistrate shall act as district-level Nodal Officer to facilitate SIA teams for ensuring completion of studies for each project.</p>	<p>The authority conducting SIA study, Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, shall be responsible for selecting the SIA team for each project from the individuals and institutions empanelled in the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>The SIA team shall include at least one woman member.</p>
Punjab	No such provision	
Rajasthan	<p>Appointment of agency for SIA study: The state government shall invite applications from the Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs and professionals. The selected applicants shall be responsible for ensuring that SIA are commissioned and conducted by such agencies as per the provisions of the Act.</p> <p>After assessing their capacity, the state government shall accredit and draw out a list of such accredited Department of Social Sciences of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs and professionals who shall evaluate the SIA study for the project.</p>	

Sikkim	<p>The state government shall identify or establish an SIA Unit to ensure that SIA's are conducted as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.</p> <p>Department of Economics, Statistics, Monitoring and evaluation, Government of Sikkim is the state SIA unit.</p>	<p>SIA unit shall build and continuously expand state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.</p> <p>The SIA unit shall be responsible for selecting an SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with at least one woman member.</p>
Tamil Nadu	<p>Tamil Nadu State Social Impact Assessment Unit (TNSSIA) is the state SIA unit. TNSSIA shall function under the overall control of the Commissioner.</p>	<p>The TNSSIA unit shall invite applications from the departments of recognized universities, colleges and reputed organizations for empanelment as SIA agencies to carry out SIA studies and to prepare Social Impact Management Plan under the Act. After assessing the capacities, qualifications and experience of the applicants, the TNSSIA unit shall empanel the eligible applicants to be SIA agencies, so as to create a state data base of qualified SIA agencies.</p> <p>Based on the ToR, the TNSSIA unit shall select an eligible agency from the empanelled agencies.</p>
Telangana	No such provision	
Tripura	<p>If an acquisition is for public purpose, the state government shall engage a study team to undertake a SIA of the project. It will work for and under the supervision, direction and control of the state government.</p> <p>As per the RTI, there is no specific SIA unit that has been formed in the state. SIA unit is formed against each proposal as and when required.</p>	
Uttar Pradesh	<p>The appropriate government may nominate the planning department of the government for the purpose of selecting an SIA agency as the case may be, or shall itself identify or establish an independent outsourced district SIA agency, referred to as Agency, which shall be responsible for ensuring that SIA study is conducted by such person other than the requiring body, for all the cases of land acquisition provided under the Act.</p> <p>Gautam Buddha University is the empanelled agency.</p>	<p>For this purpose, the appropriate government/ collector/planning department shall invite an application from the department of social work of the recognized universities and colleges, NGOs and professionals. The selected applicants shall be responsible for conducting the SIA as per the Act. The appropriate government/collector/planning department shall then draw out a list of such accredited people after assessing their capacity through an interview to evaluate the SIA study for the project. An expert group is then constituted and the name of the agency shall be notified.</p> <p>Clause of at least one woman member in the team is absent.</p>
<p>Note: In those areas, where agencies with such capacities are not available or where engagement of such agencies is infeasible in cost-benefit terms, then the appropriate government may go ahead with the social impact assessment study process through its own employees or officers. For this purpose, appropriate government may nominate the Chief Development Officer (CDO) or another district-level officer, not below the rank of Additional District Magistrate as nodal officer who shall be responsible to monitor the process.</p>		

Uttarakhand	The state government shall identify or establish an SIA unit to ensure that SIAs are conducted as per the provisions of the Act for all cases of land acquisition under the Act.	The SIA unit shall build and continuously expand the state database of qualified SIA resource partners and practitioners.  The SIA unit shall be responsible for selecting the SIA team from the aforementioned database by the SIA unit with at least one woman member.
West Bengal	No such provision	

**REFERENCES**

- 1 Collated from RTIs, state rules and notifications
- 2 Collated from RTIs, state rules and notifications





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