

**L-G Vinai Kumar Saxena directs renewal of expired lease deeds in residential colonies *Special camps to be organised for renewal and handing over of renewed lease deeds to residents L-G says step will bring much-needed relief, security and stability to affected families***

Leh, April 7: In a major relief to the large population facing uncertainty and hardships due to the non-renewal of expired lease deeds, Lieutenant Governor Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena has cleared the deck for the renewal of the expired lease deeds, fulfilling the long-pending demand of the people of Ladakh.

Shri Saxena has directed the Chief Secretary to organise special camps to settle the pending cases and hand over the renewed lease deeds to the eligible applicants. The Lieutenant Governor has directed to prioritise the matter and provide relief to the aggrieved families by resolving all pending cases at the earliest. Notably, these lease deeds were executed decades ago when Ladakh was a part of Jammu and Kashmir.

The first such camp will be organised on April 15, where, after verification of documents and processing of the licence fee, fresh lease deeds will be executed on the spot and handed over to the eligible applicants.

The Lieutenant Governor has also directed to renew the lease deeds where ground rent was unpaid, subject to their depositing double the applicable ground rent, as a one-time settlement. This will further bring greater relief and clarity on land title in these cases.

For several years, the non-renewal of lease deeds has caused considerable hardship to residents of Housing Colonies. The absence of valid lease documents created legal uncertainty and construction hassle, along with difficulty in securing bank loans. This prolonged pendency had led to anxiety among families and hindered planned development in these areas.

The Lieutenant Governor reiterated that resolving long-pending public grievances remains a top priority of the Administration. "Such initiatives are essential to build public trust, strengthen governance mechanisms, and ensure that citizens are not inconvenienced due to procedural delays. The handing over of renewed lease deeds is expected to bring much-needed relief and stability to the affected families and stands as a testament to the Administration's commitment to responsive, transparent and people-friendly governance," stated the Lt Governor.

Immediately after assuming the charge of the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena held a meeting with concerned officials to discuss land-related issues in Ladakh, including pending lease deed cases. He had also received representations from the affected people as well as several social and political groups, seeking his intervention in resolving the issues. Acting on the requests, the Lieutenant Governor directed the renewal of the expired lease deeds on an urgent basis.

The initiative marks a major administrative milestone in clearing the backlog of cases and streamlining land-related processes. It also aims at providing legal certainty and security of tenure to residents, while also enhancing efficiency in public service delivery.