F. No. R-11011/16/2025-OMB/CRCS

Office of Cooperative Ombudsman Ministry of Cooperation Government of India

9th Floor, Tower-E, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, Delhi-110029 Dated: 16th September 2025

Hearing in the matter of Shri Shrawan Ram Vs. Lotus Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., New Delhi before the Hon'ble Cooperative Ombudsman

Shri Shrawan Ram

Complainant

Lotus Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., New Delhi

Respondent

ORDER

- 1. Shri Shrawan Ram, in his complaint dated 23rd June 2025, filed through his son & authorized representative Shri Amit Kumar, has stated that he has invested an amount of Rs.100000/- with Lotus Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., New Delhi for a period of 7 years vide Receipt No. F000001521 dated 31st July 2013. Upon completion of investment period, he vide his various representations, latest dated 08th May 2025, requested the society to refund the maturity amount of his investment.
- 2. As the society did not refund the money to the complainant, he made a complaint to the Cooperative Ombudsman. A notice dated 03rd July 2025 was issued by the office of the Cooperative Ombudsman, to the respondent society seeking its response to the complaint.
- 3. The respondent society vide its reply dated 01st August 2025 has submitted that it had purchased land from the funds contributed by its members through proper registered sale deeds. Subsequently these purchases had come under litigation as these were included in the auction proceedings initiated under the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in another matter.
- 4. The respondent society has further stated that once the land is released, the society is committed to liquidating the asset and refunding the contribution amount to its members.

- 5. On perusal of the facts and available record, following aspects emerge:
 - a) The respondent society did not refund the amount invested by the complainant even after its maturity citing ongoing litigation related to the land it had purchased.
 - b) Refund of investment by members cannot be contingent on the business actions/decisions of the society management. The society is bound to refund the investment to the members along with interest thereon, on the maturity of the same.
- 6. After due consideration of representations made, documents submitted and the relevant provisions of law, the matter is hereby disposed off with following directions:
 - Lotus Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., New Delhi is hereby directed to pay the amount due & claimed by the complainant against his investment along with up-to-date interest thereon within 15 days from the date of issue of this order.
 - ii. Compliance report to be submitted by the Society to this office.

(Alok Agarwal)

poperative Ombudsman

Complainant:

Shri Shrawan Ram, Village –Nundra, Tehsil –Makrana, Dist. –Didwana Kuchaman, Rajasthan - 341504

Respondent:

Chairman, Lotus Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., 605 – A, Pearls Business Park, D-7, Netaji Subash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi - 110034

Copy to:

NIC with a request to upload on CRCS website.