## Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding conferring Bharat Ratna on tribal leader Shahid laxman Naik of Odisha-laid.

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA (KORAPUT): Tribal resistance movement was integral part of freedom struggle and there is long list of tribal resistance movements that took place in different parts of Odisha. But nothing is more inspiring and edifying than the saga of heroic struggle and sacrifice of the Greatest Tribal leader of Koraput — Shahid Laxman Naik.

He fought single handedly against oppressive foreign rulers with consummate skill, rare passion and fervour of a fighter. He was the very fountain of grit, courage and strength and stood up like a rock for freedom of his mother land. He sacrificed all his comforts and ultimately consumed himself but did not break or bend a bit before the willy machination of foreign usurpers. I request Prime Minister to consider recommending his name for "Bharat Ratna" who remains imprinted in the minds of millions of people in India especially tribals as the leader of leaders.