GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STEEL LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:24
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009
EMPLOYMENT TO FAMILIES AFFECTED DUE TO ACQUISITION OF LAND
Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the families whose land has been acquired for Salem Steel Plant in Tamil Nadu are agitating and demanding of employment to one person per family; and
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government to provide employment to them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL(SHRIA. SAI PRATHAP)

(a)&(b): Yes Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu had acquired an area of 3973.08 acres of land from 3002 families for Salem Steel Plant during the period 1970-83. Regarding the offer of employment to displaced families, the CPSUs are governed by Government guidelines and Court orders. The writ petitions filed by the displaced families at Salem were dismissed by a Single Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras with a direction that the individuals should get themselves sponsored by the employment exchange in response to Salem Steel Plant's notification and other things being equal, the persons of the displaced families could be given preference. The issue was further contested by the displaced persons before a Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras, which upheld the decision of the Single Bench.

Despite the limited employment potential due to the size of the Plant and installation of sophisticated technology, Salem Steel Plant has still been able to provide employment to 212 displaced persons.