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Title : Need to provide adequate compensation to the villagers in Tirunelveli Parliamentary Constituency whose lands have been acquired for expansion of Sterllite Copper Limited, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN (TIRUNELVELI): The Sterllite Copper Limited, one of the major industries in Tirunelveli Parliamentary constituency is situated at Sipcot, Thuthukudi. Now it is undergoing second expansion. The company is a tenant under Sipcot and if they need further land the Sipcot alone legally provide land for them. When Sipcot has been arranging the necessary land through acquisition under the prevailing Act, the Sterllite directly purchased land through sale deed at higher price and even took land under lease basis with annual rent of more than lakh. In the meantime the Sub-Collector, Thuthukudi also acquired some land at the cost of Rs. 1.42 lakh per acre. On the contrary, the Government under Land Acquisition Act fixed the rate at Rs. 7000 per acre and that payment has also not been given to the land owners. Before this, the Sterllite company entered into private land at South Veerapandiyapuram and surrounding villages without paying proper compensation. The people of South Veerapandiyapuram, Meelavitan, Madathur, Kayalurani, Saminatham and Rajavinkoil etc are affected by the act of the Sterllite Company which pose law and order problem.

I urge upon the Central Government to intervene and give proper advice and guidance to the State Government to solve the problems being faced by the villagers.