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Title : Need to provide employment to the persons whose lands were acquired for setting up of Rourkela Steel plant.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Displaced people of Rourkela Steel Plant have been demanding for employment since quite some time and have put forth their grievances through various forums. The Union Minister of Steel had indicated in the Parliament on 21.12.2004 that it is the duty of the State Government to identify the eligible persons who can be given employment and the Rourkela Steel Plant would act accordingly. During the year 1992-1993 a joint verification has done by the district authorities of Sundargarh and Rourkela Steel Plant authorities had identified 1098 persons eligible for employment. So far no employment has been given to any of the identified families. The Revenue Department of the Orissa State Government has been consistently pursuing the matter with the Rourkela Steel Plant authorities but the Steel Plant authorities have not taken any positive steps in this direction. This has given rise to serious discontentment in that region.

I would urge upon the Government to intervene and take immediate steps in directing the Steel Plant authorities to initiate the process of recruitment to the displaced families as per the joint list prepared so that the feelings of the people can be assuaged. Further, the land used for railway lines in Steel Plant area were acquired as a composite package for the Steel Plant. The displaced persons are also demanding similar rehabilitation measures for the land acquired for the Steel Plant but used for Railway line.

I would urge upon the Government to give it due consideration.