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Title: Need to provide employment to SC/ST families whose land was acquired for setting up of NALCO at Damanjodi in Koraput district of Odisha.

SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI (JAGATSINGHPUR): In 1982 NALCO acquired land in Damanjodi, Koraput, Odisha to set up a Bauxite extraction and refinery unit in which 428 families comprising around 90% of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population of 22 villages lost their land. During the establishment of NALCO at above site, assurance was given by Government as well as NALCO authority to provide compensation along with employment to the land oustees in NALCO, Damanjodi. Though a negligible amount of compensation was provided to the land oustees, still they supported the move of Government to establish NALCO having expectation of employment, as assured, to one able person from every family of land oustees. However, over 30 years have been passed yet no employment has been given to any member of these Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe poor families. It is appreciated that the NALCO at Angul, Odisha, has started giving employment to the affected as well as substantially affected people of the locality in their industrial set up at Angul, Odisha. This instance has to some extent made the poor Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe land oustees of NALCO, Damanjodi hopeful of gaining employment.

In this regard, I would like to urge upon the Minister of Mines to look into the matter and order the authority of NALCO at Damanjodi, Koraput, Odisha to give employment to one able person of every poor SC/ST families of Damanjodi who lost their land due to establishment of NALCO at the site more than 30 years ago.