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Title: Need to provide employment to the persons whose Lands had been acquired by NALCO in Koraput district of Odisha.

SHRI JHINA HIKAKA (KORAPUT): I would like to state that in 1981, the National Aluminum Corporation acquired land for establishment of its industrial set up at Damanjodi in Koraput district of Odisha. The land acquired for the project at Damanjodi comes under the Fifth schedule of the Constitution. However, during the process of acquisition of land, an MOU was signed in which it was promised by the NALCO authority to provide rehabilitation as well as employment to the displaced persons who mostly belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe category. But, after a lapse of 35 years of land acquisition, neither rehabilitation nor has employment been provided to the displaced persons and land oustees by the NALCO authority. These poor landless people are struggling now for their livelihood. After decades of struggle, the district collector and the NALCO authority jointly identified 416 displaced and land oustee families as land affected persons vide letter No. 250/2014 dated 20.6.2014. However, later, the member of affected persons was reduced to 235 from 416 with a new brand 'Substantial Affected persons' along with some criteria vide latter No. R&REH 30/14-8682/R&DM dated 20.03.2015. The Chief Minister of Odisha also directed the NALCO authority to expedite the process to provide employment to the land oustees and displaced persons at the earliest but in vain.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to take the issue into consideration and order the concerned authority to provide employment to affected SC/ST and other downtrodden displaced and land oustees affected by the NALCO project at the earliest.