GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINES LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5532 ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PEOPLE

5532. SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the problems of the people who have been displaced by the projects of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited (MCL) in Odisha;

(b) if so, the number of such displaced families; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to resolve their problems?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): The problems of the people of Odisha who have been displaced by the projects of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) are being periodically reviewed by the Rehabilitation and Periphery Development Advisory Committees (RPDAC) constituted by Government of Odisha. In Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL), compensation against acquisition of land, trees/ crops and structures is assessed as per Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR Act, 2013) and being paid to the villagers after vesting of land with MCL under The Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act 1957 (CBA (A&D) Act, 1957).

(b) & (c): A total number of 635 families were displaced by project activities in NALCO. Out of which 600 families were displaced in Damanjodi, Koraput District and 35 persons were displaced at Angul District. Out of 600 Land Displaced Persons (LDP) at Damanjodi, 599 LDPs/their nominees were employed in NALCO. Regarding balance one case, decision is awaited from District Authority due to non-finalization of the nominee because of their family dispute. Out of 35 LDPs at Angul, 34 LDPs/their nominees were employed at NALCO while one LDP had preferred for one-time cash assistance in lieu of employment. In MCL about 16087 families have been identified to be displaced, out of which 11,637 have already been provided resettlement benefits as per Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) Policy of Government of Odisha. Resettlement and Rehabilitation is a continuous process for displaced people.