

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding land acquisition in Lakshadweep Islands.

SHRI MOHAMMED FAIZAL P.P. (LAKSHADWEEP): Sir, the unprecedented and massive land acquisition notices now being issued by the District Collector in Lakshadweep Islands during the last few months are several times more than the total land acquired by the administration for various developmental activities including tourism projects during the last 75 years. Majority of the Tribal land is going to be acquired for the purpose of tourism activity alone and is going to be handed over to non-Tribal multinationals in total disregard to the protection that has been guaranteed to us by the founding fathers of our Constitution. Total area of land notified by the present administration is to the tune of nearly 52 lakh sq. mts. including inhabited and uninhabited Islands and the areas now identified for new projects. This is in addition to the land already taken by the administration through acquisition and lease from the locals for the developmental activities during the last 75 years. If the land used for construction of roads and the free space of 1.5 mts. stipulated from the edge of the roads and the 20 mts. NDZ surrounding the islands is taken into consideration, 50 per cent of lands in a few islands has already been lost by the inhabitants. ... (*Interruptions*)

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HON. CHAIRPERSON: Only approved text will go on record.