

Title : Need for setting up of a mega steel plant in Keonjhar

**SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR):** Madam, Keonjhar is part of the mineral rich Singhbhum-Keonjhar Corridor bordering the south of Jharkhand and a large part of this Corridor falls in this district. This district has one of the largest and most developed iron ore reserves in Asia with the iron ore mineral reserve of 2,500 million tonnes much of which is exported by the Government. Despite being rich in natural resources like iron ore and other minerals, this district is highly backward and there are very few employment opportunities for the youth in this area due to which the youth have to migrate to other States for employment.

For optimum utilisation of availability of high-quality iron ore, there is a need to establish a mega steel plant in this district, which will not only lead to the all-round development of the district but it will also provide employment opportunities to the youth. The necessary infrastructure like port connectivity, railway connectivity, and national highway connectivity is well placed.

Therefore, I request the Government to take immediate steps towards setting up a mega steel plant in Keonjhar so that there can be proper development of this area and the employment related problem of the youth can be solved.