

nt>

Title: Need to correct census undertaken in Jharkhand by including the devotees of Sarna religion.

SHRI SALKHAN MURMU (MAYURBHANJ): I would like to draw the attention of Government of India towards the defective census undertaken in Jharkhand State with regard to Adivasis. The Census Commissioner was apprised of the defects on 17.1.2001 at Ranchi that most of the Adivasis (Scheduled Tribes) are devotees of Nature worship and is popularly known as Sarna. In the absence of Sarna religion column and code number in the census format, the identity and existence of Sarna devotees could greatly get endangered.

The poor Adivasis migrate to neighbouring States for livelihood for three to four months in February every year. They come back in May. Hence, the census operation should have taken place in June in Jharkhand. The migrants are in lakhs.

The Adivasis must be involved in the process of census from top to bottom to ensure the correct counting.

The Adivasis resisted the census in the absence of needful corrections. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to take corrective measures to ensure factual data of Adivasis in Jharkhand. This is possible only by redoing the census in Jharkhand State.

13.00 hrs.