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Title : Need to bring out a commemorative stamp to mark the centenary year of the historical Anti-Partition of Bengal Movement.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, I stand here to draw the attention of this august House on the occasion of the centenary year of the historical Anti-Partition of Bengal Movement that is called as the first National Movement during the British Raj. On 19th July, 1905, the British Government resolved that partition of Bengal would be effected and Bengal was ultimately partitioned on 16th October of the same year[bru109].

As a result Bengal was divided into four States, Bihar, Assam, Orissa and Tripura Hills. Again during Independence, Bengal was divided into East Pakistan and West Bengal. The educated Bengalis felt that it was a deliberate blow inflicted by Lord Curzon on the national consciousness and growing solidarity among the Bengali-speaking population. Leaders like Sanjivani gave a clarion call to the people to boycott British goods, observe mourning and sever all contacts with the official bodies. In a meeting held at Kolkata on 7th August 1905, a Resolution was unanimously passed calling the countrymen to abstain from purchasing British products till "Partition Resolution" was not withdrawn. Stalwarts like Dwijendralal Roy, Rajanikanta Sen and Rabindranath Tagore came down to streets opposing partition of Bengal.

In the sequence of patriotic movement, the world-famous poet Rabindranath Tagore conferred a new theme of brotherhood, love and peace among all the Indian communities with *Raksha Bandhan* and had spread the idea of broader sense of unity, nationalists secularism and above all humanity as well as to protest against hostility and communal game of British Raj.

In response, people came out of their houses in thousands and crores in his support. Rabindranath's famous song, "Let Bengal's water, air, fruits be one and blessed, O Lord", was composed and chanted by everybody. Folk poet Mukunda Das moved from village to village calling upon women to throw away the bangles made by British companies. Women observed mass fasting, boycotted cooking and offered *puja* to Mother India. The movement turned to be a mass movement.

In commemoration of Centenary of Anti Partition of Bengal Movement, I urge upon the Government to issue a commemorative stamp and first day cover. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except Shri Rewati Raman Singh's speech.

(Interruptions) * * *