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Title: Need for a moratorium on payment of interest by debt stressed West Bengal.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): A new government came to power in West Bengal in May, 2011 after 34 years of rule by a Left Front government. The Left Front government left behind a total outstanding debt of Rupees Two Lakh Three Thousand Crores. The present government is to pay Rupees Twenty Eight Thousand crores in the current year as repayment of principal and interest. This amount is being deducted directly by the Central Government from the state's dues monthly. As a result of this, the state government is facing great difficulty in paying salaries to Government Employees and meeting development expenditure. The State Government has asked for a moratorium on payment of interest for three years. But the previous UPA government had not responded to the demand. West Bengal is the worst debt stressed state in the country. I demand that this moratorium should be extended to West Bengal along with Kerala and Punjab in the interest of their people and national integration. This would be a welcome step by the new NDA Government.