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Title: Regarding setting up a Science Park sub-regional centre near Pathani Samanta Interpretation Centre, Khandpara by the Central Government.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. The Government of Odisha has sent a proposal to the Central Government for setting up a Science Park Sub-regional Science Centre near Pathani Samanta Interpretation Centre, Khandpara.

Pathani Samanta was a very renowned person in the 19th century. The museum interpretation centre in the name of Pathani Samanta at Khandpara is an objective to bring into limelight the life, work and contribution of Samanta Chandrasekhar. Khandapara is the birth place of Samanta Chandrasekhar. He was born in 1834 and passed away in 1904. He is popularly known as Pathani Samanta. He enriched Indian astronomy founded by Arya Bhatta, Brahm Gupta and Bhaskara. He designed his own instruments out of wood and bamboo in very simple form using pure trigonometry. Using this he was able to measure the height of trees, hills and clouds. He determined the angle between the stars and planets, calculated timing of eclipse and studied motion of planets in the Zodiac. Using available astronomical information he wrote *Siddhanta Darpan*, a mathematical treatise having 2500 *slokas* in Sanskrit which is still considered a master piece by the astronomers. The Pathani Samanta planetarium is established in Bhubneswar. We have put up a museum there.

My request before the Government is, the Government of Odisha has already written letters to the Central Government, to establish a Science Park Sub Regional Science Centre near Pathani Samanta Interpretation Centre, Khandpara with special emphasis on Physics, astro-physics and astronomy.