

an>

title: Need to restore all the interest rates on small savings schemes.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): Hon. Chairman, Sir, drastic cut in interest on small savings affects millions of widows, girl children, retired persons and VRS retirees who are dependent on interest income to meet their day to day expenses. These people do not get DA-linked pension and hence their interest income is fixed. Every year, due to inflation, they have to adjust their expenses or have to increase their investments. Now, with the reduction in interest rates, they will find it difficult to meet regular expenses and hence I request the intervention of Finance Minister to restore old interest rates for all the schemes. As we see, even in Sukanya Samridhi Yojana for girl children the interest rates came down to 8.6 per cent from 9.3 per cent. In the senior citizen savings schemes, interest rates have come down to 8.6 per cent from 9.3 per cent. My specific demand to the Finance Minister is that all the interest rates should be restored as earlier.