

Darbhanga Parliamentary Constituency has been lying closed for several years causing adverse affect on the livelihood of thousands of families. The State Government is trying to reopen it, but now it is not in a position to invest adequate amount of funds in it. The repairing of outdated machinery, the payment of arrears of electricity bills, strengthening the proper arrangement of railway live upto the factory and payment of the outstanding dues of Banking and Financial Institutions amounting to Rs. 70 crore in total, are yet to be done. The demand of paper in the country is very high.

I, therefore, would like to urge the Central Government to grant central aid to restart the Ashok Paper Mill in Darbhanga.

**(vi) Need to treat 'SAARA' community of Orissa as Scheduled Tribe**

[English]

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar): Sir, although the Saaras of Orissa belong to Scheduled Tribes it is not mentioned in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act of 1976 as a result they are deprived of the benefit meant for Scheduled Tribes. In No. 59 of the serial category of the tribes, it is mentioned as Saoria, Savar, Savru, Sahara. Although Savar and Saara are the same but the officials do not recognise it. In spite of repeated representations to no steps seem to have been taken by the Central Governmnet. But the tribal people of 'Saara' continue to suffer.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Governmnet to make necessary corrections and instruct the Orissa Government to treat the Saara tribe as a Scheduled Tribe.

**(vii) Need to reveiw the decision to provide land belonging to Kandla Port Trust to Cargill Multinational Company for preparation of salt**

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, had started his

Dandi March in 1930 from the Sabamati Ashram in Gujarat to launch his salt Satyagrah and he had got success too. But today despite the protest from Kandla Port Trust, the Gujarat Government has decided to provide 15 thousand acres of land belonging to Kandla Port Trust in Gujarat to one of the greatest American Multi-National Companies Cargill to produce salt. Today, more than two lakh people of the country are employed in salt industry. With the producing of salt by the Cargill Company, all the labourers would be rendered jobless.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to cancel the decision of granting 15 thousand acres of land belonging to Kandla Port Trust to U.S. Cargill Company in the interest of the nation.

**(viii) Need to regularise services of seasonal Khalasis working under Eastern Rivers Circle, Central Water Commission, Bhubaneswar, Orrissa**

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, I draw the attention of the Central Governmnet regarding agitation of 246 seasonal Khalasis working under Eastern Rivers Circle, Central Water Commission, Bhubaneswar for their regularisation of service.

The seasonal Khalasis in Central Water Commission are normally offered five or six months engagement in every year. But in the Eastern River Circle, Bhubaneswar only 89 days, work was provided and thereafter out of 246 seasonal Khalasis, 121 were offered engagement for 7 to 17 days on daily wage basis. It indicates that work is there but the Department desires to get the job done paying only daily wages. This is discriminatory and exploitive and unfair labour practice. Many of the Khalasis have been engaged as seasonal Khalasis for more than 20 years and gathered experience in assisting the flood forecasting and other works done in the Central Water Commission. The