

(v) Need to ensure regular payment of salaries to teachers and other employees of degree colleges of Uttar Pradesh

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur): I would like to draw your attention towards non-payment of salaries for the past many months to the teachers/employees of degree colleges in U.P.

Teachers/employees of Degree Colleges in U.P. are not being regularly paid their salaries for the past many months, whereas other employees of the State are being paid regularly. As a result, they are facing acute financial hardships. The festival of Holi has passed but they have not been paid their salaries for the month of February.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to ensure regular payment of salaries to the teachers and other employees of degree colleges in U.P.

(vi) Need to take concrete steps for setting up a separate Jharkhand State

SHRI SIMON MARANDHI (Rajmahal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 16 hill districts of South Bihar are predominantly inhabited by tribals. This area abounds in deposits of Coal, Manganese, Bauxite, Granite and other minerals and meets the mineral requirements of major part of the country. However, as a result of non-implementation of educational, social, economic, cultural and development schemes in right earnest, the people of this area feel themselves neglected and cut off from rest of Bihar. In the light of all this, the leaders of various political parties, for a long time, had been regularly taking up the demand for the formation of a separate Jharkhand State with the State Government as well as with the Central Government. Last year the hon. Minister of Home Affairs also gave an assurance in this regard, but nothing came out of it. That's why the people of the Jharkhand region had been compelled to announce economic blockade. Last year and even this year because of the current

economic blockade, various schemes of the Government are getting delayed and face a bleak future.

In the prevailing circumstances, I would request humbly to the Central Government to intervene immediately and also take the initiative in the matter of setting up a separate Jharkhand State, so as to find a permanent solution of the problem.

(vii) Need to set up an Agricultural University at Parlakhemundi, Orissa

[English]

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Sir, Parlakhemundi is located at the border of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. It is an historical town of the southern Orissa. It is known for the birth place of late Maharaja Krishna Chandra Gajapathi, the first premier of Orissa. Besides, it is the privileged place of several leading freedom fighters, educationists and poets. Now, it is the headquarters of the newly created Gajapathi district.

The background of Parlakhemundi deserves special consideration of the Government of India for its all-round development. It is the rice bowl of Southern Orissa. But the people of the area are not able to make any progress in the field of agriculture. Due to lack of any facility to pursue higher studies in agriculture, the students of the area desirous of studying agriculture are unable to do so. It is also a fact that the only Agricultural University established at Bhubaneswar in North Orissa is far away from Parlakhemundi. If an Agricultural University is set up at Parlakhemundi, it will cater to the needs of the entire Southern region.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to set up an Agricultural University at Parlakhemundi in Orissa. The newly established university may be named after the late Maharaja Krishna Chandra Gajapathi as in the case of the Medical College at Berhampur.