

**SHRI SURENDRA LATH (Orissa):** Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention of the Hon. Member.

**Demand to rescue the innocent Indian Youth Detained in a Pakistani Jail**

**SHRI K.P.K. KUMARAN (Tamil Nadu):** Sir, cases of innocent Indian citizens finding their way into foreign prisons are not only strange but also painful. When the victim happens to be poor and has been put behind bars due to his ignorance of any language other than his mother tongue, it is most calamitous. One such case is the detention of a rural youth named Ganesa Pandian from Thankaipandarapuram village in the Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu.

He had been working in the far off city of Mumbai as a bonded labour in a small factory and escaped from the tyranny of his employer, he had fled from the factory premises and had boarded a train without ticket on the assumption that the train was bound to his native State of Tamil Nadu, whereas it was not so. This wrong step had led him to Pakistan and he found himself stranded at the platform of Rawalpindi railway station. He is now in the Rawalpindi prison in Pakistan.

A letter written by him to his relatives in his native village in India has spurred up a few endeavours by them to rescue him but nothing concrete has so far resulted.

Under these circumstances, the Government also may bestow some pity on humanitarian grounds and expedite the rescue operation of this innocent India youth and direct the concerned authorities to see him freed from the foreign prison and reach his native place safely.

**SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu):** Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**SHRI JABIR HUSAIN (Bihar):** Sir, I also associate myself with Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Need to pay more attention towards the Welfare of Scs/Sts**

**SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat):** Sir, various issues concerning the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes are not getting adequate attention from the authorities in spite of oral and written