

tea workers willing to pursue higher education and, finally, a serious look into the grave issue of our world famous 'Darjeeling Tea' brand being wrongfully misrepresented by Nepal Tea, thereby, adversely affecting our tea industry.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.G. KENYE (Nagaland): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Problems faced by musicians due to damage to their musical  
instruments in Air India flight to the USA**

DR. SONAL MANSINGH (Nominated): Sir, I have the honour of being nominated by the President of India from the field of culture and arts. And this has happened

almost after quarter of a century, after Pandit Ravi Shankarji. The issue that I want to raise, through you, is, unfortunately, the community of artists, especially, performing artists, has no voice and no representation, generally. There are hardly any discussions. I want to give you a small example. The equipment of artists that they use whether it is the instruments or the costumes that they use or whatever it is, that is, professionally very, very important to their lives, art and vocation. There is hardly any arrangement or convenient way to insure them. Number two, Air India is our own airline and I always travel by Air India until and unless I have to travel to a place where Air India does not go. Sir, Air India breaks the professional instruments, and I want to give you a recent example, when a very eminent sitarist travelled to JFK, New York on 1st November. The performance was on 2nd November and the sitar, costing almost Rs. 4 lakh, was given to him at the JFK airport, broken vertically and horizontally. Whereas, they had packed it, as per the international norms, the instruments have to be packed properly, and fragile and all these stickers have to be put on that. Sir, they had the concert on 2nd November. The sitar costing 4 lakhs of rupees was made to order. What did they do, Sir? The Air India, instead of apologising to them, told them that they should buy another seat. Sir, this is ridiculous. So, my request through you, Sir, is that the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Civil Aviation should come together to discuss this very important issue. Culture, Sir, is not being taken seriously any more, as I see, and as I have observed, and I feel very sad about this. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Sonal Mansingh.