सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु मा कश्चित दुःख भाग्भवेत। तब ही हम अपने उद्धात लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर सकेंगे।

## Demand to restore the confidence and dignity of SC/ST staff at their workplaces

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, through the prodding of this august House, seeking the intervention of the Centre, in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension, I would like to get the longstanding grievances of the Scheduled Tribe staff working at the Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax Headquarters located in Shillong, redressed early in the interest of equitable justice and human dignity at workplace.

I understand that many Scheduled Tribe officers at the level of Superintendent at the above office, including women employees, have been transferred from Shillong to other places in the North-East, in the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram. Most of the transferred Scheduled Tribe employees are in indifferent health, requiring continued stay at Shillong where they are settled.

The cases of harassment of Scheduled Tribe staff at lower grades, which are dormant, also need to be examined by the concerned authorities at the Centre. At a time when the Government is determined to enhance tax collections to contain fiscal deficit with the active co-operation of the personnel manning the Central Customs, Excise and GST Departments, it is imperative that their morale and dedication to duty be kept high through equitable treatment and dignity at workplace.

I fondly hope that the Centre will act with alacrity on this sensitive issue to restore the confidence and dignity of SC/ST staff at their workplaces.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA): The House stands adjourned till 1100 hours on Monday, the 25th November, 2019.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 25th November, 2019.