

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I 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.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): 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.

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Demand for early passage of the Bill regarding inclusion of six communities of Assam in the list of Scheduled Tribes

SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN (Assam): Sir, six communities of Assam, namely, Tai Ahom, Koch-Rajbongshi, Moran, Mottock, Chutia and Adivasi (Tea) Tribes, have been demanding for their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe list of Assam for many decades.

Prior to introduction of Citizenship Amendment Bill in Parliament, BJP-led NDA Government introduced 'The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2019' in Rajya Sabha on 9th January, 2019 for the inclusion of six communities in the Scheduled Tribes list of Assam. CAB became CAA, but, the said Bill for Scheduled Tribes is yet to be passed.

Sir, according to information received through RTI from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs constituted a Committee on 29.02.2016, which has recommended that Government may grant in-principle approval of ST status to six communities; the Office of the Registrar General of India also supports the proposal for inclusion of above six communities in the S.T. list of Assam; the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) also concluded that these six communities possess characteristics of Scheduled Tribes and qualify to be included in the list of STs of Assam and supported the proposal of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

[Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan]

So, Sir, will the Government take action for early passage of the Bill for the inclusion of above mentioned six communities of Assam?

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

Demand for reinstatement of core concepts removed from the CBSE syllabus

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, the Central Board of Secondary Education has revised and reduced the curriculum for students between Classes 9 and 12 for the academic year 2020-21. But within the featured syllabus many chapters do not feature that are important to understand the social and democratic fabric of the country and the very ethos of secularism set forth by our Constitution. Such topics, under the ambit of Political Science which have been removed, include Democracy and Diversity, Citizenship, Nationalism, Secularism. Further, topics like Challenges to Democracy, Gender, Religion and Caste, India's Relations with its Neighbours: Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar, Social and New Social Movements in India have been omitted. Moreover, under Social Science, important subjects like Constitutional Design, Democratic Rights and Food Security in India have been deleted. Also, such important financial concepts which have shaped the economic discourse of the country like the Goods and Services Tax, and Demonetization, have been removed. Has the Government considered the impact of such deletions on the students' preparation of competitive examinations, which have topics as integral to their syllabus? These topics are also important for the all-round development and awareness of our students. Reducing workload of students cannot be an excuse for removing such concepts. The government should have consulted more stakeholders including a wide pool of teachers and academic experts. I urge the Education Ministry and the government not to weaken the academic foundation of students and take a holistic approach towards their learning process. Thank you.

DR. SASMIT PARTA (Odisha): I associate myself with the Special Mention by Ms. Dola Sen.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NIKKANTI (Odisha): I also associate myself with the Special Mention by Ms. Dola Sen.