

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Mamata Mohanta to speak in Odia. Simultaneous interpretation is there.

Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary

SHRIMATI MAMATA MOHANTA (Odisha): * Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Forests and the Minister of Tourism about the Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha.

Sir, the Government of Odisha declared Similipal as a wildlife sanctuary in the year 1979. At that time, in the year 1980, there was a proposal to accord the status of a National Park to a specific area measuring 845 square kilometres. The tiger conservation project had already begun in Similipal during that period. In order to help and co-operate with the wildlife authorities visiting from outside the State, some locals were engaged and they were allowed to live in the core area. However, since the people living in the core area of the sanctuary have not yet been relocated, Similipal still remains as a proposed national park. Therefore, it is requested that Similipal wildlife sanctuary be accorded the status of a National Park with immediate effect.

The Department of Tourism should likewise consider promoting Similipal as a centre of tourism industry. This will provide employment opportunities to the unemployed educated youth of the district and there will be socio-economic development in the area.

Due to operational flaws in the system, forest fire in the summer has become an annual affair and the fire is raging even at present. As a result, various species of plants, mammals, birds and reptiles as well as tigers, elephants and other wildlife are in a continuous state of danger. It is a pity that the news related to Similipal is not being reported by the media. Last year, I myself tried to douse the jungle fire to get rid of the menace. As the fire incidents are largely man-made, steps should be taken for their permanent solution so that both humans and the environment can co-exist in

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Odia.

harmony. Therefore, I urge upon the Government through this august House to look into the matter with due earnest and to accord the status of National Park to Similipal.

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by the hon. Member.

Ailing jute industry

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Thank you Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to speak on my subject of Zero Hour, that is, 'Demand for saving ailing jute industry of our country' by the Central Government.