

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: So, why can't the Government of India lift this surplus rice of 15 MT? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Thank you.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: There is absolutely no reason whatsoever not to consider it when hon. Chief Minister of Odisha has written to the Prime Minister of this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Wanweiroy Kharlukhi from Gallery 3 on North East, Eighth Schedule.

**Need for inclusion of Khasi and Garo Languages in the Eighth Schedule
to the Constitution**

DR. WANWEIROY KHARLUKHI (Meghalaya): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir. My State Meghalaya had already celebrated 50th years of Statehood on 21st January, 2022. Meghalaya comprises of two-ethnic groups, Khasi-Jaintia and the Garos, who speak different languages but the sad part is that in spite of the demand made by the people and a resolution passed by the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly for the inclusion of the Khasi and Garo languages in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution, nothing was done. Today, we are a State of 50 years but without a recognized language. Sir, I appreciate your wishes that you used to express in this august House in favour of having Members expressing themselves in the House in their own languages. Sir, I take this opportunity to request you to impress upon the Government that though for fifty years we have been a State without a language, but, at least, on attaining fifty years of statehood, the Government may recognize us by including Khasi and Garo languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Thank you, Sir.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I 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.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Neeraj Dangji; not here. Then, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.