

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

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need to address the financial crisis in state of Kerala

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P. (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I take this opportunity to demand the immediate release of Rs. 5,352 crores Central aid which is due to the State of Kerala. It is the genuine share of the people of Kerala and it is not anybody's generosity. This amount includes Rs. 790 crores in the form of UGC pay revision, another Rs. 700 crores for paddy procurement and for health care it is Rs. 220 crores. So, altogether, it comes to Rs. 5,352 crores.

The State of Kerala submitted all the documents properly and made certain changes suggested by the Central Government. But, till now, this huge amount is due to the State of Kerala. So, I take this opportunity once again to demand immediate release of the same.

Sir, I would like to add one important thing. The existing Centre-State financial relations must be redefined. According to the Fifteenth Finance Commission — as it is rightly observed — States' account for more than 62 per cent of total national expenditure. The States are playing a major role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Whereas, their income share is just 37 per cent! This is huge and glaring disparity and this must be addressed within no time.

Sir, after implementation of the GST, States are suffering due to shortage of finance. So, there is an immediate need and demand for revisiting or restructuring or

redefining the Centre-State financial relations. Otherwise, we cannot achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. I demand the Union Government to take note of this.

Let me add one more thing. Kerala is a State which is the worst sufferer. The Fifteenth Finance Commission provided for just 1.9 per cent of the Central taxes to Kerala, whereas, at the time of Tenth Finance Commission, it was 3.9 per cent of the Central taxes. Hence, kindly note all these points and redefine the Centre-State financial relations. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Those who want to associate with the hon. Member may kindly send their slips to the Table.

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

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue 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.

**Need to take steps to release Indian fishermen who are currently
in Pakistani jails**

श्री शक्तिसिंह गोहिल (गुजरात) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी इजाजत से गुजरात के मछुआरों का एक इश्यू उठाना चाहता हूँ।

सर, हमारे गुजरात का दरिया किनारा पाकिस्तान से सटा हुआ है। आज भी 156 मछुआरे पाकिस्तान की कैद में हैं। पाकिस्तान का कानून कहता है कि अगर आपने गलती से बॉर्डर क्रॉस किया है, तो maximum imprisonment is for three years. वे तीन साल से ज्यादा कैद में नहीं रख सकते हैं, परन्तु तीन साल बीत जाने के बाद भी वे लोग वहीं पर कैद में हैं। पाकिस्तान मरीन हमारी सरहद से हमारे मछुआरों को उठा कर ले जाती है और जो फिशिंग बोट्स वहाँ पर रहती हैं, उनके अन्दर से सारे पुर्जे उठा लेते हैं, चुराकर ले जाते हैं। इसलिए अगर वे फिशिंग बोट्स वापस आती भी हैं, तो हमारे मछुआरों के किसी काम की नहीं रहती हैं। इसी के चलते उनकी कुछ माँगें थीं और जब मनमोहन सिंह जी की सरकार थी, तो हम उनसे मिले और हमने तीन-चार चीजें की थीं। मैं आपके जरिए सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि उनको पुनः शुरू किया जाए।

हमने एक काम यह शुरू करवाया था कि अगर यहाँ से मछुआरे की फैमिली उसे डाक भेजेगी, खत लिखेगी, तो वह उसे वहाँ कैद में मिलेगा और जो मछुआरा पाकिस्तान की कैद में है, वह वहाँ से अपनी फैमिली को खत लिख सकता था। वह काम शुरू हुआ था। इस सरकार की रिजीम में वह बन्द हो गया है। एक परिवार का बन्दा किसी दुश्मन देश की कैद में है और उसके