

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Dr. Bhagwat Karad: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik, (Maharashtra), Shri Sant Balbir Singh (Punjab) and Dr. Sikander Kumar (Himachal Pradesh).

### **Demand for restoration and support for Khazan Land in Goa**

SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE (Goa): Sir, my Special Mention is about demand for restoration and support for Khazan land in Goa. I rise to draw the attention of the august House to a significant issue concerning the Khazan land system in Goa. The Khazan Land System, an engineering marvel crafted by our ancestors centuries ago, consists of reclaimed wetlands and low-lying lands located in the inter-tidal zones of estuaries and tidal-affected rivers. These lands are protected and regulated by Marginal Marine Clay Bunds and a Sluice Gate System (MANAS) located near the mouths of rivers. The Khazan land system is a perfect model of an ecosystem with an excellent blend of men, marine life, flora, fauna, land, agriculture, water bodies, migratory bird habitats, mangrove forests, and beautiful backwaters.

However, these lands are now facing threats from extreme weather events driven by climate change, including changes in rainfall patterns, flooding, and rising sea levels. These factors are leading to permanent loss of land, erosion of riverbanks, pollution of groundwater due to salinity ingress, and flooding of nearby villages.

I urge the Government to provide the necessary assistance in terms of Special Grants, technical expertise and a robust policy framework to revitalize Khazan lands and ensure their sustainable management, which will help bring back thousands of hectares of land under cultivation, stop the permanent loss of land, and make the State more resilient to the challenges of climate change, sea level rise, and changes in rainfall patterns. Restoring Khazan lands will not only preserve our cultural heritage but also enhance environmental sustainability.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by hon. Member, Shri Sadanand Mhalu Shet Tanavade: Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu) and Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha).