Rahim (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala).

संत बलबीर सिंह जी, आपका स्पेशल मेंशन है - Demand to stop the cultivation of paddy in Punjab.

## Demand to stop cultivation of paddy in Punjab

SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH (Punjab): @Sir, Punjab which fed the people of the country during the Green Revolution period and filled the country's granary is currently paying a heavy price. The excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in Punjab has turned the prosperous state into a cancer zone. Farmers of Punjab are stuck in crop cycle of wheat and paddy. The Government adopted the Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy to meet the Central grain storage requirements on the farmers of Punjab since 1973. Now every year the area under paddy is increasing in Punjab. Due to this, the pressure on the underground water is also increasing. During paddy cultivation, where the vast water storage is being affected, handling of the paddy stubble afterwards also remains a major challenge every year. Every year, precious lives are lost due to accidents due to this smoke. Therefore, the paddy crop is not suitable according to the climatic conditions of Punjab. Pond-irrigation is required for the paddy crop, which has led to dangerous groundwater depletion in more than three-fourth blocks in Punjab. Now in Punjab, there is no life without submersible motors for irrigation of crops. These tools have become the cause of debt for the farmers. I urge the Government to take suitable measures to stop the cultivation of paddy in Punjab.

श्री उपसभापित : संत बलबीर सिंह जी, आपने अंग्रेज़ी में दिया था, लेकिन पंजाबी में पढ़ा। माननीय सदस्य, जो अपूब्ड टेक्स्ट होता है, आप वही पढ़ सकते हैं। कृपया इस बात का ध्यान रखें। माननीय डा. अजित माधवराव गोपछड़े। ...(व्यवधान)... Please.

## Demand for establishing a single window clearance system for doctors looking to start hospital

DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE (Maharashtra): Sir, it has been reported that all health insurance claims will now be processed through a single window called the

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<sup>@</sup> English translation of the original speech delivered in Punjabi.