

1801 hours

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up *Zero Hour*.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (GUWAHATI): Sir, I am raising a very sensitive matter of urgent public importance. It is regarding violent incidents that occurred in the Garo Hills of Meghalaya from 1st January and continued unabated for 10 days. During the violence, houses and properties of Rabha Tribe people, who are the minority population in Garo Hills, were burnt down. A total of 16 villages were gutted. Their properties were looted. It is said that nearly 10 people were killed and 31,000 Rabha Tribe people fled to Assam. Those people are still reluctant to go back because they are afraid of their security.

Sir, a few delegations comprising of different sections of people met the State Home Minister and requested him that proper security arrangements may be made for those minority Rabha Tribe people, who were living in the Garo Hills.

Therefore, Sir, I would urge upon the hon. Home Minister to take immediate steps to rehabilitate all those uprooted Rabha Tribe people and to bring back normalcy in the Garo Hills. People of all sections had been living there peacefully for ages together. We want that peace and normalcy be restored there so that those Rabha Tribe people may go back to their respective homes in Garo Hills, Meghalaya instead of living in the camps in Assam.

श्री विष्णु पद राय (अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह): सभापति महोदय, अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह में आदिवासी जातियों का बाहुल्य है। पिछले 60 सालों से वहां के लोगों की मांग रही है कि मुंडा, औराव, खडिया, हरिया, लुहार जातियों को आदिवासी दर्जा मिले। इसी तरह से अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह में अनुसूचित जाति के लोग भी हैं। ये लोग आंध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, केरल और उत्तर प्रदेश आदि राज्यों से वहां आए हैं और वहीं बस गए हैं, लेकिन उन्हें अनुसूचित जाति का दर्जा नहीं दिया गया है। सन् 2011 में भारत में जनगणना का काम शुरू है। जनगणना के लिए जो फार्म है, उसमें क्वेश्चन नम्बर 8 में अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति का कोई व्यक्ति होने पर कोड 2 डाला जाता है। अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीपसमूह में 9 फरवरी