

Need to bestow `Bharat Ratna` upon Freedom fighters from Punjab

DR. AMAR SINGH (FATEHGARH SAHIB): I thank you, Chairman Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on an important subject pertaining to my State Punjab.

Sir, this pertains to a part of history of Punjab and I want to draw the attention of this august House and the entire country. Punjab is the shield of the entire country. Whenever a foreign invader came to attack India through the Western borders, the Punjabis rose as one man and opposed these invaders. Punjabis fought against Mughals, Ahmad Shah Abdali and the British tooth and nail.

During the freedom struggle too, Punjabis were at the vanguard as far as fighting against British rule is concerned. In Cellular Jail in Andaman Islands in Port Blair, State-wise lists have been displayed of freedom fighters incarcerated there. The list of Punjab is unending. Lot of Punjabis sacrificed their lives for the sake of the motherland India. Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Lala Lajpat Rai, Rajguru, Sukhdev, Madan Lal Dhillon, Kartar Singh Sarabha etc. sacrificed their lives for this country.

I urge upon the Government and this august House to grant `Bharat Ratna` award to all these martyrs so that the youth of this country should feel that we remember and honour our martyrs.

Thank you.