

## **Regarding inclusion of Sambalpuri language in the 8th Schedule to the Constitution**

श्री सुरेश पुजारी (बासगढ) : At the outset I express my gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister shri Narendra Modiji and Home Minister shri Amit Shahji for nominating many odias for Padma Awards, including many from the Western part of odisha, like Shri Haladhar Nag, shri Jeetendra Haripal, shri Mitrabhanu Gountia krishna atel etc.

This year in 2023-24, four odias, including two from Western odisha got padma award, Shri Binod pasayat from Sambalpur and Guru Bhagabat pradhan from Bargarh, my constituency.

Sir Sambalpuri language is spoken by more than two crores of people in odisha. Sambalpuri music, dance, drama etc are very popular. It has its own grammar, words and literature. Exclusive musical instruments like Dhol, Mandal, Nishan, Tasha are used in Dance like Dal khai, Raserkeli etc. Now the time has come to include Sambalpuri language in the 8th schedule of the constitution.

Sir i will also request the government to install the statue of freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai in the Parliament complex for his brave fight against the British rule, 37 years before the first war of independence in 1857.