

Title: Allocation of Rs. 3000 crore to Orissa Government to carry out fiscal , governance and related reforms.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I draw the attention of this august House to one news item that appeared in *The Hindustan Times* on the 3rd May 2002, captioned '50,000 Government employees in Orissa may be retrenched'. It says:

"The team, comprising members of the Joint Technical Mission of the World Bank and Department for International Development of the UK Government, worked in collaboration with the State Government in operationalising fiscal, governance and related reforms. The State Government has no choice but to do as the team suggests. Orissa is negotiating a Rs.3,000 crore aid from the World Bank for the fiscal and governance reforms."

In this context, I would say that the financial crisis is not only with the Government of Orissa, but also with all other State Governments. I would also like to draw the attention of this House to the letter that the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. J. Jayalitha has written to the hon. prime Minister of India on 25.03.2002.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Saroja, you have given a notice to raise the matter pertaining to 'retrenchment of 50,000 employees in Orissa'. Where have you reached now?

DR. V. SAROJA : The Orissa Government has requested the Government of India to allocate Rs.3,000 crore for the bailout package. In this context, I would like to say that not only the Government of Orissa, but also the Chief Ministers of other States have requested the Government of India for immediate allocation of funds for the bailout package, to get out of the financial crisis that they are in. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has already made a request. So, will the hon. Prime Minister of India immediately convene an emergency meeting to discuss the financial crisis of individual States and to take stock of the situation?

In this context, I would point out that there is a report on the Union Budget 2002 captioned 'Sinha dangles Rs.12,300 crore reform carrot for States'. So, through you, Sir, I would plead with the Prime Minister of India to immediately convene an emergency meeting.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right, you have already done your job.

DR. V. SAROJA : I also request him to allocate Rs.3,000 crore to the Government of Tamil Nadu from the Fiscal Reforms Incentive Fund. Thank you.