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Title: Need to declare 25th Baisakh (8th May), the birthday of Kavi Guru Rabindranath Tagore as a National Holiday.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (BARDHMAN-DURGAPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me permission to speak in the 'Zero Hour'.

Sir, 8th May of this year is the completion of 150th birth anniversary of Kavi Guru Rabindranath Tagore. We all know that he was a great genius and a versatile personality.

Humayun Kabir wrote in his introduction to the centennial collection of Tagore's selected essays, titled "Towards Universal Man": "His achievements are so great that they mark him out as one of the greatest son of India. "His achievements are so great that they mark him out as one of the greatest sons of India and indeed one who has a message for the entire mankind." Indeed, he was a great philosopher, poet, dramatist, novelist, short-story writer, music composer, artist and what not? His *Viswa Bharati* is a matter of pride for all of us. His song '*Jana Gana Mana*' is the National Anthem of India and also in Bangladesh, the National Anthem is '*Amar Sonar Bangla*' which is written by him. He also fought for the cause of India. He left Knighthood protesting against the *Jalianwala* massacre. He fought against the British move to divide India by dividing Bengal.

Sir, last year the Government of India has formed the National Committee to observe 150th Birth Anniversary in a befitting manner. So, in this completion year of that celebration, the Government should declare 8th May as a National holiday. This is my request to the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

Shri P.L. Punia is allowed to associate himself with the matter raised by Shri SK Saidul Haque.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, 8th May, 2012 is the completion of 150th Birth Anniversary year of Kavi Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore. Rabindra Nath Tagore is not only a Bengali poet he was also a versatile genius. He wrote poetry, drama, novel and what not. He had a multifarious personality also. He fought against British imperialism when there was a conspiracy to divide Bengal by the British imperialist forces. He came to the street and gave the leadership to the people of Bengal. He united not only the people of Bengal but also the entire country.

Sir, in order to pay respect to such a great man like Kavi Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore, I demand that 8th May, 2012 should be declared as a National holiday. As the Government of India has constituted the National Committee to observe 150th Birth Anniversary of Kavi Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore, it would be in the fitness of things to declare 8th May as a National holiday. I hope this proposal will get the support of the entire House to declare 8 मई को रविन्द्रनाथ टैगोर की एक औ पचासवीं वर्षगांठ है। इसे राष्ट्रीय छुट्टी घोषित की जाए।...*(व्यवधान)*

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा (हज़ारीबाग): सभापति महोदय, हम इसका पुरजोर समर्थन करते हैं।

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (BARABANKI): Sir, please allow me to associate with this matter....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those who want to get associated with this matter can send their slips to the Table.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: S/Shri P.L. Punia,

Jitendra Singh,

Mahendra Kumar Roy,

Nripendra Nath Roy,

Shakti Mohan Malik,

Shrimati Susmita Bauri,

Pulin Bihari Baske,

Dr. Anup Kumar Saha,

Bansa Gopal Chowdhury,

Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar,

Ravindra Kumar Pandey, and

Shri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan are allowed to be associated with this matter.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it is the demand of the entire House that 8th May should be declared as a National holiday to pay respect to Kavi Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore. ...(*Interruptions*)