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Title: Need to put a moratorium on payment of interest on outstanding debt liabilities by the Governments of West Bengal, Kerala and Punjab.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): A new Government came to power in West Bengal in May, 2011. The previous Government left a total outstanding debt of Rupees two lakh three thousand crores. The new Government has to pay more than Rupees Twenty six thousand crores annually as repayment of principal and interest. This is being deducted directly by the Central Government from the State's dues every month. As a result of this, the State Government is facing great difficulty in paying salaries and meeting development expenditure. The State Government had asked for a moratorium on payment of interest for three years. But the Central Government has not responded so far. West Bengal is in debt trap along with Kerala and Punjab. I demand that this moratorium should be extended to all the three States in the interest of their people and national integration.