

(Shrimati Roda Mistry.) and downtrodden, ignorant, destitute, are totally insensitive to wrong and injustice, completely forsaken by our traditional legal system which could not even remotely reach out to them.

Thus when the institution of the Legal Aid Implementation Committee was realised, it bespoke of much help and social justice to the poor and the needy, the forgotten segment of our society. But, unfortunately, within a short while of its functioning, realisation set in that this may become one more programme of the people that has no connection between the theory and practice. Sir, my comment has no reflection on the working of the Committee for Implementation of Legal Aid Schemes. On the contrary, I would go on to add that they are working under very trying circumstances and fulfilling all the requirements to the best of their ability.

Sir, the Committee against all odds and with its sleeves rolled up, practically and pragmatically took up its allotted tasks and more by taking up programmes such as the promotion of legal literacy, the carrying of legal service to the very doorsteps of the deprived by organising legal aid camps in rural areas, the training of paralegals in the basic elements of social legislation, providing a sort of first aid in law, the identifying of problems affecting special categories of neglected sections of the communities such as the Scheduled Castes and Tribes^ the agricultural and other categories of labour, women and children, through special calls set up for such purpose, the promoting of public interest litigations with a view to bringing the problems of the poor before the courts, and finding solutions to them through the process of law, and the setting up of legal aid clinics in universities and law colleges with a view to diverting the vast but untapped energy of students, to constructive channels for the cause of service to the poor.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You complete this paragraph.

SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think, I will continue later. Thank you so much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This will continue on the next day.

SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY: On the 26th Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whenever the turn comes.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Arms (Amendment) Bill, 1983

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha signed by the Secretary of the Lok Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose herewith the Arms (Amendment) Bill, 1983, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th August, 1983."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

REFERENCE TO THE DEMAND FOR PLACING THE GOPAL SINGH PANEL REPORT ON MINORITIES ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Bihar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity of drawing your attention and the attention of the House to the Gopal Singh Panel Report on Minorities.

Sir, as you are aware, the ruling party in its manifesto of 1980 had said:

"So far as the economic condition of minorities. Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society is concerned, a thorough examination is needed to ascertain if the benefits of various fiscal policies of Governments, both Union and States, do really reach them. It is learnt that incentives, facilities and other encouragements^ entitlements, like licences, quotas, loans etc are not being fully, availed of." 5. P.M.

"A high power panel...will be appointed to go into the whole question and make recommendations."