

Need to Stop Trading Human Kidney in the country

SHRI B.J. PANDA(Orissa): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, though the trade in human organs has been banned, there is sufficient evidence to show that kidney trade is thriving in some States by misuse of the legal provisions. The Centre for Sustainable Development (India) of the IIT, Chennai, has reported that there is evidence of a rise in kidney trade since the passing of the Transplantation of Organs Act, 1994. Demand for kidneys in India greatly outstrips availability. Kidney disease gets scant attention in the health policy in the country and a majority of the patients receive little or no treatment. Those who are able to pay for a transplant, get it through brokers at private hospitals. Studies show that almost all unrelated donors sell a kidney in an attempt to escape debt or deep poverty, which otherwise proves very costly to them. With incontrovertible evidence available in the kidney trade, focus must be on rooting it out without compromise. The first priority is vigorous prosecution of those operating in organ sale racket, as Karnataka has done. The law has to be tightened to control illegal organ donations. Part of the solution lies in a comprehensive cadaver programme for donation of solid organs building on the successful eye donation campaign. Efforts by Non-Government Organisations to create an organ registry must receive whole-hearted official support. The State Governments must treat renal failure as a public health priority and fund low cost dialysis. The customs duty and taxes on dialysis kits must go.

Thank you.

Medical Facilities to Women Workers in Sericulture Sector in Karnataka and other States in the Country

SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA (Karnataka): My home State Karnataka leads the country in sericulture sector as it produces maximum raw silk as well as silk fabric and other products. Silk is also produced in other Southern States, North-East and some other parts of the country. At the initial stages of silk production namely, rearing of cocoon, collection, etc., for preparation of silk yarn mostly women workers are engaged in the work. Lakhs of women workers are earning their livelihood from the sericulture sector. Most of them handle the cocoon and other silk producing procedure by their legs and bare hands. Since they do it everyday most of them get infected by various skin diseases, many a time serious and dangerous ones. Unfortunately these hapless women sericulture workers do not get proper medical treatment. Since they belong to very poor

segment of society, they cannot think of getting themselves treated privately. Due to the fear of losing wages for the day they do not even go to sub-Centres or Primary Health Centres or other Government run hospitals. This results in deterioration of the disease, which sometimes becomes cancerous.

Hence I demand that the State should provide necessary medical facilities to the sericulture women workers suffering from skin diseases due to the nature of their work. If some woman worker is found to be suffering from any skin disease she should be given paid holiday to visit hospital where she should be attended by skin specialists and be given requisite free of cost. Medical camps should be organized at places where there is concentration of women sericulture workers with team to skin specialists and other physicians and free medicines be distributed in such camps. For this purpose, I demand from the Central Government to provide adequate Central grant to Karnataka and other silk producing States so that necessary Medicare is provided to lakhs of women sericulture workers. Thank you.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN (Assam): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

Relief to the Refugee Families Migrated of 1947 PoK.

SHRI T.S.BAJWA (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, a number of families migrated from Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir in 1947. Some displaced families settled in different parts of Jammu and Kashmir, some lived in refugee camps while others settled outside the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Government had announced an *ex-gratia* cash relief of Rs.25,000 to the head of the each displaced families. It is surprising that the families which migrated from Pakistan-occupied-area and settled in various parts of the country have not been compensated with any kind of relief. The cases of some such families were rejected on some laid down criteria. The hon. Prime Minister, on his recent visit to Jammu and Kashmir, announced that the cases of all such migrants' families will be looked into a fresh, and the needful will be done. I, therefore, request the Central Government to take early steps in consultation with the State Governments to identify all such displaced families living in or outside Jammu and Kashmir, revise the