

and Rules made thereunder are regulating the migrant workers. But the States are not following or implementing the provisions which leads to suffering of the workers in the event of mishap such as Moulivakkam Multistorey collapse in Chennai resulting in death of more than 75 persons.

The Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Minister from Odisha visited the location. The States requested for proper protection and compensation to these workers.

I request the Government to strictly enforce the Labour Laws such as the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 and the Workmen Compensation Act in letter and spirit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri Tarun Vijay. He is absent. Shri Derek O'Brien.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): I will just read two lines. I am not reading everything.

**Demand to declare the practice of offering commissions
illegal in the health care**

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, my Special Mention is regarding the rampant corruption in private healthcare. The medical profession is a very noble profession and there are lots of honest and very good doctors. But, unfortunately, ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Kindly don't give a speech. You read it out.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am reading only three lines.

It was an open Secret that laboratories, radiology clinics and other institutions offer doctors commissions and kickbacks for the act of referring a patient. This is happening and 30-50 per cent kickbacks have been given. The rest I will lay, Sir. * This deplorable practice encourages doctors to send patients for unnecessary tests, increases the cost of health care and reduces the quality of outcomes. The Code of Ethics Regulations laid down by the Medical Council of India forbids fee splitting or accepting of commissions by doctors. The code in recent years has been amended to make stricter rules against doctors receiving benefits in any form from drug and implant makers. However, rarely is action taken against offending doctors and institutions. While there is a regulation that prohibits doctors from receiving commissions from other doctors or diagnostic laboratories, this regulation does not cover private hospitals. It is a common practice for institutions running

*Laid on the Table.

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

high-tech and high cost investigations and treatments to offer incentives to doctors who refer patients to them. They are free to pay doctors openly and even treat such payments as business expenses for income tax purposes. The rampant corruption in Indian private health care has recently sparked a debate in the British Medical journal as well. However, MCI and the Ministry of Health have been slow in taking up the issue. I strongly urge the Government to take urgent steps to declare all commissions in health care illegal and create a strong deterrent against such practices.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Derek O'Brien.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) : Thank you. Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda.

**Demand to make a Comprehensive National Road Safety Law to
address issues pertaining to road accidents in country**

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Sir, I want to raise an urgent matter relating to road accidents in the country. Accidents impose a huge loss on people in terms of deaths, injuries and money. Unfortunately, the frequency of accidents in India is amongst the highest in the world. India accounts about ten per cent of fatalities in road accidents worldwide. According to statistics, in the past ten years, over eleven lakh people have died in road accidents in the country and more than 55 lakhs have been seriously injured or permanently disabled. This represents every hour. Fifty-six accidents were reported and 16 persons dead in India. Every year, lakhs of families are pushed into poverty when their bread-winner is either killed or disabled in a road accident. According to the Planning Commission of India, road accidents cause an annual economic loss amounting to three per cent of the country's GDP. Yet, a very little has been done to control this epidemic.

The causes for India's, exceptionally high number of crashes include a fractured licensing system, insufficient drivers' training, flawed road design and engineering, weak enforcement of traffic laws and the lack of rapid trauma care. The sole statute governing Road Safety in India, the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (MVA) is obsolete and has proved ineffective in addressing any of the aforementioned issues decisively.

I demand to enact a comprehensive National Road Safety Law for creating an inclusive legal framework to address the issue in its entirety and establishment of a dedicated National and State Level Enforcement Agencies to bring cohesiveness and