

That the Bill further to amend the Apprentices Act, 1961, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, if you want to say something, you can say; or, you may ...*(Interruptions)*... That is enough. No need. Okay, motion moved. Now, I am starting the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, take it tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*... We will have a meaningful discussion tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Treasury Benches say what they want. Mr. Naqvi, do you want to say something? ...*(Interruptions)*... If they agree, I have no problem. Then, I can proceed to Special Mentions. I have taken the view of the treasury benches also. The Apprentices Bill is already moved. Discussion will be tomorrow. Now, I am taking Special Mentions. Those who want to read, can read.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, (SHRI P. RAJEEVE), *in the Chair*]

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to take effective measures for eradication of leprosy in the country

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, India continues to record the highest number of leprosy cases in the world even after officially achieving the total eradication of the disease in 2005. After six decades of the implementation of the National Leprosy Control Programme in 1955 by the Government of India, crores of rupees have been spent on various phases of the leprosy eradication projects but the figure of leprosy prevalence in the country is far from being satisfactory while the rate of detection of new cases is escalating each year. Sixty per cent of new leprosy cases in the world are reported to be detected in India and it is also reported that the Government statistics grossly underestimate the extent of leprosy in the country.

Many districts continue to have incidences of leprosy in spite of the WHO benchmark of elimination of leprosy whilst several States have a prevalence rate exceeding 1 per 10,000. The West Bengal Government has taken measures to mitigate the prevalence of leprosy and the number of cases detected has reduced from 1.08 to 0.87 per 10,000 from 2012 to 2014. The other State Governments should take similar measures like the State of West Bengal to reduce leprosy cases.

The Government of India is answerable for inefficiency in wiping out the chronic disease. There should be more effective and intense action plan implemented in States which have a leprosy rate of more than 0.50 per 10,000 population. There is also a need for the Government to focus more on awareness programmes to fight this disease and on rehabilitation of persons affected by leprosy. Thank you.

SHRI ANAND BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Demand for Central allocation for flood water canal in
Tirunelveli District in Tamil Nadu**

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Tambiraparani River is the only source of water for the people of Tirunelveli and Tuticorin Districts in South Tamil Nadu. This year we had enough rains and surplus water was forced to drain into the Bay of Bengal. To stop the flowing of river water into the sea during monsoon, the Flood Water Canal work is underway only by the State of Tamil Nadu allocation and dispersal of funds. I would urge the Centre to provide one time hefty allocation to this project as to save the drought areas of the South. Many areas are only rain-fed areas and painfully look on for monsoons. If monsoon fails, there is starvation in many homes. This project yields more agriculture promotional activities among people of the South. River water could be used during rainy seasons and Flood Water Canal which carries this river water could be utilized to fertilizer uncovered areas of the South. We urge the Centre to allocate for these much needed projects.

Thank you.

**Demand to investigate the incidents of duping buyers by builders in N.C.R.
and take strict action against builders involved in malpractices**

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से सदन में विशेष उल्लेख के द्वारा अति महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाना चाहता हूँ। एन.सी.आर. में कई बिल्डर्स गलत विज्ञापनों द्वारा जनता को ठगने का काम कर रहे हैं। वे ऐसे प्लॉट जनता को बेच रहे हैं, जिन पर उनका कोई अधिकार ही नहीं है। कुछ बिल्डर ऐसी भूमि पर प्लैट बनाकर बेचने का वादा कर रहे हैं, जो उनके नाम से आवंटित ही नहीं की गई है।

प्रॉपर्टी बेचते वक्त बिल्डर्स ग्राहकों को आश्वस्त करने के लिए प्रोजेक्ट डिले होने पर