

MR. CHAIRMAN: After three minutes, automatically, the mike goes off.
...(Interruptions)... Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

Growing drug menace amongst the children in Bengaluru

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I wish to raise the issue of growing menace of drug abuse amongst children in my city of Bengaluru.

In the light of an ongoing discussion in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly about the drug menace, especially in Bengaluru, where Bengaluru is increasingly becoming the hub of drugs in South India, the Assembly discussed the measures they would be taking under the Goonda Act, that is, the Karnataka Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug-Offenders, Gamblers, Goondas Act, 1985 to control the problem of drug abuse amongst children in my city of Bengaluru.

Sir, the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health (IGICH) and the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurological Sciences (NIMHANS) have been cautioning about the rising trend of large amount of drug-addicted children that are visiting them for consultation and cure. The Narcotics Control Bureau of Bengaluru in the last two years has given a clear indication of the rampant drug abuse and the rise of it in my city. In February, 2018, Sir, officers of the NCB Zonal Unit seized 36.6 kgs. of Marijuana from a bus stand and 28.6 kgs. from yet another bus stand. These are just a few of the reported cases of a surge in drug abuse and trafficking in our city.

Sir, according to the NCB officials, youngsters are more vulnerable to drug addiction. Drug peddlers know this and prey mostly on them. The network of peddlers are not just well connected in Bengaluru and other cities of Karnataka, they are also connected with other cities in the South of India. It is about time something is done before the situation gets irreversible and a whole generation of children becomes addicts. Sir, there is a need for a strong national mission that includes laws prescribing harsh penalties for drug peddling, drug consumption and sale; and I request the Government of India to intervene in this. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SURESH GOPI (Nominated): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE (Karnataka): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

सरदार बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विवेक के. तन्खा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate ourselves with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the Members who have raised their hands, please send a slip because my office is telling me that taking down the names of such a large number of Members within that short period is not possible. So, please send a slip. Your name will be included. Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati.

Increased room tariffs in hotels due to higher GST slabs

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI (Nominated): Mr. Chairman, Sir, commending the implementation of GST, I have a few suggestions related to tourism industry.

While safety and security, hygiene, cheating by touts, lack of basic tourism infrastructure, etc., are the common problems faced by the international tourists, abnormally high room tariff, cost for food and beverages besides high GST charge is making India a costly tourist destination.