

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

**Demand to make law provisioning deemed consent for
donation of eye after death**

SHRI K. J. ALPHONS (Rajasthan): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are 15 million blind persons in this country. 20 per cent of these can gain sight if cornea was available. Additionally, two lakh persons are becoming blind every year. Most of these people can get back sight if cornea is available. Unfortunately, only 25,000 corneas are getting donated a year in India. Buddhist religious authorities in Sri Lanka issued a dictat that eye belongs to the society after death. Today, Sri Lanka exports cornea to over 50 countries. In many countries, there is a law of deemed consent, which means that unless specifically willed, eyes will belong to the society after death.

I request that a Bill relating to deemed consent be introduced in this House, which can be discussed and passed after the House applies its mind.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUBHASISH CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

12.00 NOON

श्री मोती लाल बोरा (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. डी. पी. वत्स (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Demand for release of Performance grant to Tamil Nadu
Urban and Rural Local Bodies**

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the 14th Finance Commission had allocated an amount of ₹ 365.37 crore and ₹ 414.92 crore to the Urban Local Bodies. ₹ 194.78 crore and ₹ 221.20 crore to the Rural Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu as the Performance Grant for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19. The financial year 2018-19 has already ended. All Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies are in dire need of funds to carry out their day to day affairs to provide basic amenities to citizens. Non-release of Performance Grant for the last two financial years and the second installment of Basic Grant to the Local Bodies for the Financial Year 2018-19 is causing serious financial constraint on Urban Local Bodies and Rural Local Bodies in addressing the severe drought prevailing in the State. If the fund is released immediately, it would help the severe drought-affected areas.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Finance to release the Performance Grant of ₹ 560.15 crore and ₹ 636.12 crore (₹ 780.29 crore to Urban Local Bodies and ₹ 415.98 crore to Rural Local Bodies) for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19 and the second installment of Basic Grant of ₹ 1,608.03 crore (₹ 731.09 crore to Urban Local Bodies and ₹ 876.94 crore to Rural Local Bodies) for the financial year 2018-19 to Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu under 14th Central Finance Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The other Special Mentions will be taken up in the evening. If there is time they can read, otherwise, they have to be laid on the Table of the House. Now, Question Hour.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

2G Services by BSNL

*136. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL still provides 2G services in the country, especially in Tamil Nadu;