

**Need to ensure child safety by prohibiting pornographic
images on the internet**

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise a very important issue on the heinous crimes. Associating with the sentiments expressed by our hon. Chairman, with agony and heavy heart, I am raising this issue of child abuse. As the hon. Minister of Women and Child Development is also here, last week a mother of a child called me and told me that her child has a smart phone where he could find everything and Pornographic material is easily available to him on smart phone. She pleaded me to do something. She said, she couldn't see his child doing this. Last week, a 16-year-old girl, a tribal girl, in the western district of Dharmapuri was raped by two boys. A 14-year-old girl was subject to repeated sexual assault by a minor boy. Every day, when we see newspapers, rape cases of minor children are reported. An 11-year-old girl with hearing impairment was sexually assaulted for six months at her apartment complex. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has received 5,951 complaints about child abuses in the last three years. The WHO estimates that globally, up to one billion children aged 2 to 17 years old have experienced physical assaults. On the occasion of World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, that is, on the November 19th, we see a peak in the rising crimes against children, pornographic material is everywhere. You cannot get rid of it. Porn makes up for 30 per cent of the Total data transferred across the internet. That is why it is very unsafe for the children who are using smart phones to play online games. Actually, I have seen in many advertisements, the Google -browsers add pop-ups, which has lot of these images, it is rubbish. Children, as young as 8 to 9 years, are coming across sexually explicit material on the internet and in the other media. In one study of 932 sex addicts, 90 per cent of men and 77 per cent of women reported that pornography was the factor in their addiction. Sir, is my time over?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: I want to plead to the Government, just stop this, stop this nonsense. I know the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology administered an Act. They have made various provision under the different Sections, but everything is readily available. Everything is on the internet. Please stop it. Completely ban it. Completely ban these things coming on the internet and social media, and save our children. Please do that.

DR. BANDAPRAKASH (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH (Manipur): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती सरोजिनी हेम्ब्रम (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

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

श्री नारायण दास गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी (असम): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

लेफ्टीनंट जनरल (डा.) डी. पी. बत्स (सेवानिवृत्त) (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री अमर शंकर साबले (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

محترمہ کہکشاں پروین (بہار): مہودے، میں بھی خود کو اس وشنے سے سمبڈہ کرتی

ہوں۔

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Women and Child Development wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): The angst which has been enunciated by Vijilaji in the House today, I think everybody, including the Minister, can associate with it. I am grateful that this House passed, in its last Session, special penal provisions against child pornography online. My request, through you, Sir, to each Member of Parliament and to each District official to report about such things, and it is also my endeavour to get their support so that such content is taken down immediately. Till now, 377 websites have been alerted and content has been taken down. Fifty FIRs have been filed. We are trying to make the district administration the fulcrum of this coordinated effort. With your permission, Sir, I will soon share with every Member of Parliament, the methodology of reporting such incidents. Sir, I would like to inform that 1098 is the child line number that we can encourage children in our constituency to call on. I would join with this cause. In fact, the cases that have been referred to right now by Vijilaji, if she can give me immediate information, I will have the Administration act upon it today itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, there is unanimity in the House. And, what is required is action at the lower level, local level. Unfortunately, that is not happening in spite of the law, in spite of the Minister's direction and all. It is really painful. Parents are having mental agony and nobody is able to say anything. Moreover, it is not a partisan or political issue. I think we have to take further steps. The Minister can have consultation with some well-meaning Members who are interested. You can call an informal meeting, talk to them and come out with some more ideas and share with Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad also.

Concern over the functioning of LIC

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, एलआईसी देश के करोड़ों पॉलिसी होल्डर्स के लिए एक आशा की किरण है, क्योंकि वे अपनी सेविंग्स को इसमें इन्वेस्ट करते हैं। अधिकांश गरीब एवं मध्यम वर्गीय परिवार अपनी बचत से एलआईसी की पॉलिसी खरीदते हैं। अनेक दशकों से एलआईसी ने करोड़ों भारतीयों को बोनस के साथ लाइफ कवर भी दिया है। आज उसके पास लगभग 11 लाख करोड़ रुपए से ज्यादा के reserves हैं। केन्द्र सरकार की बिगड़ती अर्थव्यवस्था के कारण हमारे ऐसे सभी पब्लिक सेक्टर्स और आरबीआई से ये reserves से राशि लेकर देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को सुधारने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ-साथ इसमें इस बात को भी सोचना चाहिए कि एलआईसी पॉलिसी होल्डर्स की इन्वेस्टमेंट का भी ख्याल रखा जाए, लेकिन आज हालात यह है कि अविश्वास बढ़ता जा रहा