

erupted during partition, he advocated for communal harmony and urged Sikhs to remain united with India. Amidst the chaos and violence of partition, Master Tara Singh emerged as a prominent leader, particularly, representing Sikh interests. He worked to maintain peace and protect minority communities including Sikhs, Hindus and Muslims in the face of widespread violence and displacement.

Master Tara Singh engaged in negotiations with Indian leaders to secure special provisions for Sikhs in Indian Constitution which recognized Sikhs as a separate religious entity and guaranteed them the right to manage their religious institutions. Throughout his life, Master Tara Singh worked towards fostering unity among different communities in Punjab and India at large. Despite advocating for Sikh rights, he emphasized the importance of communal harmony and the integration of Punjab within the broader Indian nation.

Master Tara Singh's leadership, advocacy and commitment to communal harmony during the period of immense upheaval and uncertainty needs to be honoured with *Bharat Ratna*. I urge the Government to do the needful.

### **Need for regulating Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Artificial Intelligence (AI), undoubtedly a transformative force, demands our careful consideration and caution. There is an immediate need to legislate laws regulating AI systems to strike a delicate balance between fostering technological advancement and safeguarding personal liberty and potential misuse.

The challenges posed by AI, encompass issues such as lack of domain knowledge, privacy concerns, high cost of computational infrastructure, data and potential for unemployment due to the adoption of AI in various sectors. Unregulated AI poses a significant threat to humanity and it is our collective responsibility to grapple with the demanding and challenging task of regulation. These challenges extend beyond technical considerations to ethics, privacy, transparency and the potential manipulation of information. The Government should ensure that powerful AI systems are developed only when their positive effects are clear and risks are manageable. That the Government must establish independent regulatory bodies tasked with framing regulations concerning various aspects of AI. These bodies should define principles for responsible AI and their application based on risk assessment. Regular audits of AI applications are crucial to effectively regulate and restrict their use, particularly in high-risk scenarios affecting humans directly.

The law on AI must ensure that principles of responsible AI are applied at each phase of AI framework lifecycle including design, development, validation, deployment, monitoring and refinement. We must ensure that our regulatory frameworks reflect the principles of responsible AI, safeguard the wellbeing of our citizens and promote the democracy of the future. I urge the Government to do the needful. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri P. Wilson: Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Sujeet Kumar (Odisha), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala) and Dr. John Brittas (Kerala).

### **Demand for equal accessibility to healthcare facilities for transgender community**

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the pressing concern of ensuring equal accessibility to healthcare facilities for the transgender community in our country. Recent studies and reports have shed light on the systemic challenges and discrimination faced by the transgender community within the healthcare system requiring immediate attention of the House. Historically, transgender individuals have been excluded from mainstream healthcare services. The narrow focus on only preventing HIV and STDs has overshadowed the overall health needs of trans people resulting in undiagnosed non-communicable diseases and mental health issues. Some of the glaring issues like expensive gender affirmation surgeries, the dearth of trained healthcare providers, inaccessibility to formal healthcare services due to lack of appropriate documentation and constant discrimination by healthcare providers are pushing transgender individuals to seek potentially unsafe healthcare alternatives. Further, the inadequacy of the medical education curriculum in including the science of trans identity has significantly contributed to negative biases among healthcare providers.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to take urgent cognizance of the issue. I urge the Government to advise the State Governments on creating inclusive health facilities, sensitizing healthcare professionals on the unique health needs of trans individuals, introducing more gender-diverse content in the medical curriculum, and initiating proactive community outreach programs specifically targeting the trans community is very much required. Sir, such an initiative would ensure a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for the trans community seeking healthcare services.