

निवेदन करता हूँ कि जनगणना का काम तत्काल शुरू हो। मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूँ कि जनगणना और जातिगत जनगणना, इन दोनों कामों को जल्दी शुरू कराना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge : Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal (Punjab), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Ms. Sushmita Dev (West Bengal), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi (Telangana), Shri Ashok Singh (Madhya Pradesh), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Neeraj Dangi (Rajasthan), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shrimati Rajani Ashokrao Patil (Maharashtra), Shri Pramod Tiwari (Rajasthan), Smt. Ranjeet Ranjan (Chhattisgarh), Smt. Phulo Devi Netam, (Chhattisgarh), Shri N.R. Elango (Tamil Nadu), Shri Chandrakant Handore, (Maharashtra), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Shri Sanjay Yadav (Bihar), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shri Sanjay Raut (Maharashtra), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav (Uttar Pradesh), Shri Prem Chand Gupta (Bihar), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra) and Smt. Jaya Amitabh Bachchan (Uttar Pradesh).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sujeet Kumar.

Request regarding Unique Disability ID Certification Camps for Autistic Children and Young Adults

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to bring to the attention of the Government on an issue which, I am sure, will have the support of the entire House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, listen to him. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have noted your request. I will come back to you. Please, listen to him.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Sir, the month of April is the Autism Awareness Month and the 2nd of April, that is, tomorrow, is the Autism Awareness Day. Autism incidence is

rising globally and India is no exception. Currently, about 1.5 per cent of children and youth in India suffer from autism. It is also called the ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder), and it is the number one pediatric concern for the parents. I take this opportunity to salute all the parents who have autistic kids, and I express the solidarity with all those parents.

In 2016, the hon. Prime Minister launched a visionary scheme called the UDID (Unique Disability ID), which was a recognized proof of disability issued by the Government and it also helped to create a national database of differently-abled persons and also helped all the parents to access Government schemes. Again, I compliment the Government for running various schemes to support individuals with ASD, such as *Niramaya*, *Aspiration*, *Gyan Prabha*, *Samarth*, *Gharonda* and *Udhyam Prabha*. However, it has been brought to my notice by many parents, who have autistic children, that obtaining a UDID card is very cumbersome. Currently, there is a six-stage process to obtain the UDID card, which is extremely complex. I understand that this six-stage process has been created to bring transparency and efficiency in the obtaining of the ID card and also in availing of the Government benefits because we do not want duplicate and fake beneficiaries. So, it is understandable. However, many parents of autistic kids cannot submit to this complex process because unlike kids with other disabilities, autistic kids do not tolerate crowds, they do not tolerate different environment and they do not tolerate hospitals. This is depriving the parents of the intended benefits which the kids could have and it compounds to their stress and suffering. Then, there is also a very long waiting process and also very few hospitals are there which offer the certification process.

So, Sir, through you, I would like to request very humbly to the Government the following things. One is to set up these certification camps in all the Anganwadis, mainstream schools, NHM centers, MCH centers, and normal schools also, so that parents of autistic kids can go to these places and obtain the certification with minimum hassles and avail all the benefits. Secondly, the Government should make this announcement in its websites of all the Departments, so that there is wider publicity and dissemination. And finally, the Government should rope in...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the House, the Unique Disability ID card is an affirmative scheme. I had the occasion to inaugurate one of the high excellence autism schools, and having noticed at my level also, with many representations, this Unique Disability ID card is very essential for extension of governmental benefits.

Now, if these children go to the hospital, they face a different environment, daunting environment, and autism, unlike dyslexia and others, is virtually life-long. Tomorrow is the World Autism Awareness Day. I would urge that facilitation mechanism be indicated. One way could be that team could go to such institutes or such places where there is grouping of such kind of people. This will go a long way in realising a very well thought out scheme that has been in vogue now for about eight-nine years. So, tomorrow is the day when you can contemplate of unfolding a scheme so that these people -- the number is large, around 30 million -- get the benefit fastest.

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Sujeet Kumar : Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Shri Tiruchi Siva (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Ram Chander Jangra (Haryana), Smt. Rekha Sharma (Haryana), Shri Devendra Pratap Singh (Chhattisgarh), Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki (Madhya Pradesh), Smt. Mamata Mohanta (Odisha), Smt. Maya Naroliya (Madhya Pradesh), Smt. S. Phangnon Konyak (Nagaland), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Ms. Kavita Patidar (Madhya Pradesh), Shrimati Sumitra Balmik (Madhya Pradesh), Shri Rwngrwa Narzary (Assam), Shri Amar Pal Maurya (Uttar Pradesh), Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal (Punjab) and Dr. Radha Mohan Das Agrawal (Uttar Pradesh).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Radha Mohan Das Agrawal; Need to improve nutrition quality of food under Mid-day Meal Programme.

डा. राधा मोहन दास अग्रवाल: माननीय सभापति महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute, Radha Mohan Agrawal ji. Yes, Mr. Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Thank you very much. Sir, you are the custodian of this House, of the rules as well as of the Members of Parliament. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav has raised a genuine concern about threat to the life of a Member of this House. You have to take cognizance and render justice.
