

Now, Shrimati Rekha Sharma on 'Demand to implement Creche Policy across the country to support working mothers and strengthen women's participation in the workforce'.

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SHRIMATI REKHA SHARMA (Haryana): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. I rise to emphasize the critical role of creche facility in boosting women's workforce participation and driving women-led development, a key pillar of *Viksit Bharat 2047*. Our structured childcare ecosystem is not just a social necessity but an economic imperative enabling women to contribute actively to nation building. Sir, under the visionary leadership of hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the Government has championed women-led development, recognizing the empowerment of women, strengthening families, communities and the nation. His commitment to inclusive growth is reflected in the introduction of national minimum standard and protocol of creches, ensuring quality child care services, fostering a formal care economy, generating employment and reinforcing *Atmanirbhar Bharat*. The availability of creche facilities helps in reducing career breaks as many women are forced to leave their jobs due to lack of child care support. Haryana led the way as first to implement a Creche Policy in 2022, ensuring safe and accessible childcare for working mothers. It aims to open 500 creches under Creche Policy and has already opened 165 in first phase across 16 districts with plan to upgrade and equip them with modern facilities. The States like Karnataka and Odisha are also making progress. Sir, Creche Policy contributes to retaining experienced women professionals, thereby strengthening the economy and creating a more inclusive society. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Smt. Rekha Sharma: Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Devendra Pratap Singh (Chhattisgarh), Shri Subhash Barala (Haryana), Shrimati Seema Dwivedi (Uttar Pradesh), Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik (Maharashtra) and Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu).

Now, Shri K. Vanlalvena on 'Demand for declaring Lianpui Village, Mizoram as National Importance.