

## **Demand to look into the matter of increasing violence and abuse against children**

**SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY):** Sir, I rise to bring your attention to the alarming surge in violence and abuse against children in our country. It is disheartening to see that the recent data of National Crime Records Bureau paints a grim picture of the vulnerability of our children.

According to NCRB data, the situation reveals a distressing reality with staggering 409 crimes against children every day. Crimes against children are majorly dominated by two heads ? kidnapping and abduction, accounting for 45 per cent of cases and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POSCO) Act, 2012 cases accounting for 39.7 per cent, which includes child rape.

In this situation, I urgently call upon the Government to take swift and decisive action to enforce the existing laws rigorously, expedite the rapid solution of cases and advocate for immediate legislative measures which aim at introducing child-friendly methods for evidence gathering.

Additionally, it is imperative to conduct extensive capacity building and sensitisation programmes by law enforcement agencies to ensure that they can promptly and effectively handle the cases related to crimes against children.

Lastly, I would request for establishment of comprehensive rehabilitation programmes including the provision of dedicated psychologists to aid in the recovery and well-being of affected children. Thank you.