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Title: Demand to develop an appropriate education system for children in the country.

SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYNAGAR): Sir, education has always been affected by persistent issues such as accessibility, continuity, learning gaps, and gender-inequality, but all these have been amplified due to the pandemic.

According to the hon. Education Minister himself, 15 crore children are out of the educational system in India. According to the National Right to Education Forum, 10 million girls are at risk of dropping out. This clearly implies that the efforts put in to educate girls will all go in vain. Now is the time to take necessary action or else it will be irreversible.

Loss of income in the families has snatched away the opportunity of the girl child of the family. We should not wait for this to reflect in the records and indexes, rather attention must be given to come up with a robust mechanism that will ensure that children are not deprived of their right to education. More funds should be allocated for education, and ensure psycho-social well-being support to children who have lost their guardians. Financial assistance must be coupled with proper care system that will look after the needs of children, which is necessary for their development.

Teachers must be trained to adapt to new normal environment of digital literacy, which brings me to the most crucial point, namely, accessibility. Children must be provided with means of continuing their education far away from their classrooms. I would request the hon.

Minister to look into the matter seriously because it is equivalent to a silent pandemic, which is engulfing our country. We need to educate and protect the children of the nation. Thank you, Sir.