

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Demand for Complete Ban on Retail Sales of Acid and pending distribution of penalty amount among the victims

श्री भर्तृहरि महताब (कटक): चेयरमैन सर, धन्यवाद। दिल्ली के द्वारका में एक नाबालिग के ऊपर एसिड हमले की घटना एक बार फिर से स्पष्ट करती है कि समाज में कुंठा और हिंसा की कितनी परतें खुल रही हैं।

कैसे यह रह-रहकर यह सामने आ रही है।

Sir, here, I would like to draw the attention of the Government. The teen was on her way to the school when she was attacked with acid. That acid was purchased online. It is a horrific incident. The girl was to take CLAT exam on 18th December, that is, to get admitted in a National Law University. She has faced injuries on her face, neck and on her eyes. She has been admitted in Safdarjung Hospital today.

My question is in two parts. Firstly, how is the acid being made available despite Supreme Court's order of 2013 in retail shops or online? Secondly, why are the acid attack victims not being provided money meant for them? Why have they to run from pillar to post?

Sir, the number of acid attacks that have been reported in 2018, is 11; in 2019, it is 10; in 2020 because of COVID, it is only two; and in 2021, it is nine. An amount of Rs. 36.50 lakh has been collected as penalty. But it has not been distributed. I would, therefore, demand that the retail sales of acid needs to be banned completely. If you give sellers and buyers the leeway, the process will be misused. There is also need to have penal provisions of prison and not just fine. Sir, the Government of Bangladesh has already come with a very strict law in this regard. So, why can we not frame a law? I have submitted a Private Members' Bill also for consideration of this House.

I would request the Government to respond to these types of issues.

माननीय सभापति: किसी दूसरे देश का नाम लेने की जरूरत नहीं थी।

श्रीमती गीताबेन वी. राठवा ।