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Title: Regarding Human Rights Day.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for this opportunity.

I would like to bring to the notice of this hon. House, through you, a very important matter. Today is observed as the Human Rights Day. It was decided in 1948 by the UN that this day, the 10th of December, should be observed as Human Rights Day.

On this day, I would like to highlight the point that basic human rights include the right to food and freedom from hunger. Actually, freedom from hunger and malnutrition is defined within the framework of the right to life. Unless a person is alive, there is no relevance of this right to life. So, food security becomes very important.

On this occasion, I would like to bring to the attention of this august House that all over India women organisations are observing this day as the day for right to food security and freedom from hunger. I request the Government of India on this day to see that the Abhijit Sen Committee Report is implemented. One of the most important recommendations of this Committee, appointed by the Government of India, is that the public distribution system should be universal, the targeted system should be abolished and food grains should be given to all people at half the present price because the present price is actually more or less like the market price.