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Title: Need to bring forward a Bill providing for assured employment on compassionate grounds to the wards of Central Government employees dying in harness.

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (QUILON): Sir, there is a provision in the Central Government rules to give appointment on compassionate grounds to the wards of Central Government employees who died in harness. This is limited to five per cent of the recruitment. By and large, the wards were employed in those Departments in which the officials were working when they died.

Since the recruitment is almost nil or very minimal in most of the Departments, the wards of the expired officials are not at all considered for compassionate appointment. Five per cent of the recruitment does not count to anything when there is no recruitment or only very few recruitments. In each and every Department, there are thousands of applications pending requesting for appointment on compassionate grounds. The Departments are seemed to be working on how to deny these posts falling under compassionate grounds.

In the present circumstances when much recruitment is not taking place, it is necessary that the five per cent condition should be removed. Since the order is based on a Supreme Court judgement, the Government should take necessary steps to get the rules changed through legislation. Through you, Sir, I urge upon the Central Government to take an initiative for the legislation.