Session : 7 **Date :** 22-05-2006

Participants : Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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Title : Need to bring suitable legislation providing for immediate medical treatment to the injured persons in medico-legal emergency cases.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VIJAYAWADA): At present, injured persons in emergency have to undergo a lot of agony before they get admitted into hospital. According to existing law, when a person gets seriously injured and is taken to hospital for emergency medical treatment, hospitals insist that first a case be registered with police and fulfill all formalities before he is admitted into hospital.

It is a well known fact that police many a times do not register the case under the garb that particular area does not fall under their jurisdiction.

If one looks at the whole scenario, one gets a feeling that those who are expected to provide relief in emergency cases-doctors, hospitals or police – have become so insensitive that no humanitarian consideration is shown towards injured. And, in some cases, persons have even lost their lives.

Furthermore, when injured person died and his relatives are not in a position to immediately pay hospital bills, certain hospitals refused even to part with dead body. I am not saying that hospital should forego its medical bills. But, I firmly believe, on such occasions, no hospital should be allowed to retain dead body. Instead, whenever such instances come to the notice of the Ministry/Police, they should, suo motu, give necessary directions to authorities concerned that if anybody indulges in such an act he should be liable for criminal prosecution. At the same time, if required, relevant Acts/rules should be amended forthwith and culprits should be punished, particularly in cases mentioned above.