Title: Reported trade of human organs in the Country.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (IDUKKI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has to urgently initiate steps to prevent organ trade especially that of kidneys as cases of cheating of innocent and hapless people by organized gangs are reported everyday.

Sir, I would like to cite the case of Ms. Sophia John, a student of the Kerala school in Delhi, which has been reported in *Malayala Manorama* daily. She was advised to undergo urgent transplant of kidney to save her life. As the kidney of her relative – as per law she can only receive this particular organ from a blood relation – was found not suitable, she and her parents fell for the offer of the so-called kidney *mafia*, who cheated her.

Her operation was fixed at a hospital at Trichur in Kerala, and this hospital has been given Rs. 1 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. It was at the intervention of the hon. Chairperson of UPA, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, this much of fund was granted to her, taking pity on her. Madam Sonia Gandhi intervened and this amount of Rs. 1 lakh for the transplant of kidney was granted from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. [R66]

## 18.00 hrs.

Now, apparently, it seems that she has lost that and also the other financial help, which she had got from other quarters.

What I would like to request is that the Government should take stringent action because in many cases this is being done by the socalled gangs and racketeers with the connivance of the hospital authorities and certain doctors. This has to be taken very seriously by the Government. Apparently, this hospital has appropriated this fund from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund, which was given to this poor girl.

I would, therefore, request that the Union Government should take action to recover this fund and also should direct the State Government to take action against such mafia gangs operating in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is 6 o' clock now. If the House agree, we shall extend the time of the House till the 'Zero Hour' business of today is over.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir, the House agrees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the time of the House is extended till the 'Zero Hour' business of today is over.