

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (RAMPUR): Madam Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity given to me.

Madam, I would like to draw the attention of this House to the matter concerning the welfare of the unorganized workers in the cinema industry. Basically I come from the entertainment industry, and I have closely seen the plight of the people employed in the cinema industry under different categories such as 'A' grade, 'B' grade, and 'C' grade. The cinema workers play a very vital role. But I really do not know which class they belong to, and under which category we can put them. I would like to say that maybe they come under an ignored category. They come under the unorganized labour. Lakhs of people are working in this industry. They are not getting any facilities under the industry status.

Today, I would like to explain their plight. Basically, the workers such as light boys, Assistant Cameramen, Assistant Makeup men, small technicians are totally dependent on their daily wages. Their situation is so pathetic, and their work is not regular or guaranteed. If they work, then they get daily wages for that day.

The Government has declared that cinema has the industry status. These workers are in a very poor condition. They do not get any Provident Fund or any pension. The people who are employed in the Bollywood and the regional industries such as Telugu industry, Kannada industry, Malayalam industry, Marathi industry, Assamese industry, Bhojpuri industry are suffering very badly. Nobody is bothering as to how they are living and what they are doing.

If the Government has given the industry status, then these people have to be put under this category so that they get pension and provident fund. I urge upon the Government to bring either an amendment to the existing Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 keeping in view of the plight of their daily wages or bring a new legislation especially for the welfare of these unorganized workers so that their lives will be secure and protected.