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Title: Need to launch National Deafness Control and Rehabilitation Programme for the betterment of persons suffering from deafness-laid

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (NAGARKURNOOL): Deafness is a disease caused due to various reasons viz. antenatal, congenital, organic defects and due to injuries. Also, because of deafness from the childhood, children become mute and they will called deaf-mutes.

Now the medical field had become so advanced, deafness due to many causes are surgically correctable, hearing Aids, could be provided to the sufferers of deafness depending on the cause.

In the year 2004-2005, there was a representation from nearly 40-45 Members of Parliament to make deafness controlling programme as a national programme. After lot of discussion and deliberations the Planning Commission had agreed to take up the deafness controlling programme as a national programme under the name of National deafness control and Rehabilitation Programme and the programme was taken up in 60 districts in first phase and later it was extended to 110 districts in the country. Now the programme is not taken up with the spirit with which it was taken up earlier and it is running at snail pace. Now, through you madam Speaker, I request Government of India to take up the "Deafness Control and Rehabilitation Programme" nation wide and allocate sufficient funds for the programme to be implemented in a better way to help the deaf and deaf-mute children to become independent to earn their lively hood on their own instead of their becoming dependent on the parents and on the whole on the society and at their mercy.