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Title: Need to expedite the enactment of the Bill for the protection of rights of the people afflicted with HIV/AIDS.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI) :I invite the attention of the Government towards the increasing incidents of discrimination to the people living with HIV/AIDS. People living with HIV/AIDS face some of the worst rights violations in our country. There are more than 30 lakhs persons living with HIV/AIDS in India. They are discriminated merely because of their HIV status. Children are refused admission in schools and patients denied treatment in hospitals. In the absence of a comprehensive statute, HIV positive people remain vulnerable to rights violations. The HIV/AIDS Bill which was cleared by the Ministry of Law and Justice in Mrch, 2010 is pending and has to be cleared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. I request urgent action to bring the Bill before Parliament.