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Title: Need to check the increasing number of cases of missing children and enact stringent laws to safeguard and protect the children in the country.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to raise an important and common problem prevailing in many States of the country.

Countless number of children go on missing every year in many States of the country. In 2005, the National Human Rights Commission informed that on an average 44,000 children are reported missing every year and as many as 11,000 of them remain untraced. Many NGOs claim that the estimates of missing children are much higher than reported.

Children are tempted in many ways by anti-social elements. There are cases where infants are lifted from hospitals and young children are abandoned by parents. Children who go missing may be exploited and abused for various purposes. There are instances where infants are sold to childless couples, employed in tea stalls, involved in begging and prostitution, etc. The ultimate aim is to extort money.

Most of these children come from poorer families who do not have access to police services and even if reported, they are not taken seriously by the police. According to CBI, there are over 800 gangs involved in child lifting and are operating across the country. Every child is precious and much more needs to be done to counter the menace of missing of children.

The NHRC has made several recommendations to the Union and State Governments on this issue.

I humbly urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps and enact stringent laws to safeguard and protect the children of the country from missing. The Government may direct all the State Governments to take stringent action in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.T. Thomas and Shri Anto Antony are allowed to associate himself with the issue raised by Shri Ramasubbu.

श्री घनश्याम अनुरागी (जालौन): महोदय, बुंदेलखण्ड में कई करोड़ रुपये खा गयीं उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार।...**(व्यवधान)**

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री घनश्याम अनुरागी : उपाध्यक्ष जी, यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है। इसकी जांच कराने की आवश्यकता है। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 49 करोड़ रुपये के पेड़ लगाए...**(व्यवधान)** यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है, इसकी जांच कराने की आवश्यकता है।...**(व्यवधान)**

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : कृपया बैठ जाइए।