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Title: Issue regarding increasing incidents of rape in Karnataka.

*KUMARI SHOBHA KHARANDLAJE (UDUPI CHIKKMAGALUR):Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to speak in Kannada language. Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union government about the increasing incidents of rape in Karnataka. During the last 8 to 10 months rape and sexual assaults were repeatedly committed in the state. Such incidents are taking place all over the country. However, the horrific and barbaric incidents of rape and sexual assaults on school girls and even on small kids reported from Bengaluru in the State of Karnataka made the civil society hangs its head in shame.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the recent incident of sexual assault and death of Nandita, a school girl from Thirthahalli in Shivamogga district of Karnataka, took the Centre stage in the State. Nandita was abducted by 3 boys from Thirthalli and drove her to a nearby hill. She was forced to consume poison mixed with water and attempt was made to rape her. Somehow she managed to escape and took shelter in a nearby house. Later, she started vomiting. She was taken to a hospital at Thirthalli and then she was admitted in a hospital at Shivamogga. From there, she was shifted to Manipal Hospital, where she breathed her last. Before her death she told the doctors at the hospital that she was made to consume poison. There has been a huge protest from across the state to condemn this inhuman incident and urge the State Government to punish the culprits. But it did not yield any result. The State Government ordered a probe. Unfortunately attempts are being made to 'close' the case. State authorities gave a twist to the case saying that the girl had committed suicide. Physical assaults on Nandita's father and other family members was committed and the Grocery shop of the victim's father was also set on fire by miscreants.

Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission to the Union Government is that there should be a CBI enquiry into the incident relating to brutal death of Nandita. Justice should be done to the victim and her family by the impartial investigation of CBI. The reality of this inhuman incident of sexual assault and death should be made known to the world.

Therefore, I strongly urge the Union Government to take immediate step to hand over the case to CBI.

Thank you.