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title: Need to regulate hospitals run by Corporate houses in the country.

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN(NILGIRIS) : Hon. Speaker, I pray to my leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I would like to raise an important issue that there is an urgent need to regulate corporate hospitals.

There are two things which have ruined the noble profession. They are: mediclaim and corporatization of the hospitals. These two things have made the medical profession a business. Our hon. Supreme Court, to bring medical profession at par with industry, brought it within the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act.

Mediclaim, which enhanced the expectations of the patients, as the payment is not made from their pocket, insisted on undue investigations and procedures.

The medical profession is plagued by corporate investors and pharma industry together. It has also escalated the cost of medical treatments beyond the reach of the common man and it is without any control by a common doctor. The entire field is ruined and getting rotten.

The realities of the private medical sector today are frequent irrational procedures and surgeries, distorting the influence of corporate and multi-specialty hospital on the ethics of medical profession and growing grip of the pharmaceutical companies on private medical practice. These pharmaceutical companies are sponsoring foreign tours and junkets to doctors. The Government is trying to dilute the Clinical Establishments Act of 2010. Rules were passed in 2012. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please do not read this much. You have to make only points.

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Standards are yet to be formulated. Due to this, it has not been implemented.

There is a strong lobby of the corporate health sector and the Indian Medical Association, which is the biggest lobby of doctors in India. This lobby is trying to completely eliminate any kind of regulation. Now, there is a total jungle raj.

Hence, I would urge upon the Government that there is an urgent need to regulate corporate hospitals, which is the need of the hour. I would also urge upon the hon. Speaker Madam to have a detailed discussion on this issue in this august House under the permissible rule.