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Title: Regarding poor maintenance of tribal hostels in Andhra Pradesh.\*

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU): Hon. Chairperson, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance concerning children.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act was made by this Parliament on 4<sup>th</sup> August, incidentally the same day, in 2009. But it has not been implemented properly. It had come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Government has emphasis on providing education and promoting cent per cent literacy in the country. We are entering a young India and the present children are the future citizens of this country. In this particular situation, I would like to draw the attention of this august House regarding the facilities that are provided to the children in the welfare hostels in the rural areas.

Children are suffering because of lack of infrastructure. They do not have proper food to eat. We are talking about healthy mind in healthy body but the problem is that the children are being given substandard food. The food supplied to them is not being monitored at all. Not only that, they are not given nutritious food. The children are lying on the bare floor without beds in my Constituency. In the rural India, this problem is being faced in so many schools and welfare hostels.

Not only that, Sir, the schools and hostels are very far away; and the children are walking from the school to the hostel. In many areas, people are making the children to work like labourers. Children are not being given healthy atmosphere to study. All these problems have been persisting in all the welfare hostels. We have been visiting welfare hostels and such is the situation there. Though there is a Diet Chart but it is not being followed by the management of the schools. There is no proper monitoring also. Though the Member of Parliament is the Chairman of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee of a particular District and is submitting reports to the Government, yet no action is being initiated against these wardens.

There are so many schemes that the Central Government has come up with for the children but these schemes are not being implemented in the right spirit. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Social Justice as well as the HRD Minister to intervene and pass such laws as may be right to provide good education for the children. Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Bhairo Singh Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Kothapalli Geetha.