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Title: Richard Hay and Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi made a submission regarding reported assault and murder of a dalit law student at Perumbavoor near Cochin, Kerala.

PROF. RICHARD HAY (NOMINATED): Madam Speaker, with your permission, may I present to the august House a most grievous and shameful incident which took place in Kerala recently. It is yet another dark spot in the psyche of our country. It is another slur on the conscience of the country, after the Nirbhaya Case. One more Dalit woman, Jisha, a Law student, was sexually abused, no, brutally raped in daylight and murdered after torturing the body and the soul of this hapless victim. She is a poor Dalit girl living at Perumbavoor, near Cochin, Kerala.

The victim's intestines were ripped out, which brings back the sordid and gory memories of the 2012 gang-rape that triggered widespread protests all over the country – the ill-fated Nirbhaya Case.

According to the autopsy report, the victim was beaten up most savagely after the rape and her intestines were pulled out using a sharp-edged weapon. At least 30 injuries were found on her body.

So far, the Kerala Government have not taken any action and there were no arrests so far. It is apparent that the Government of Kerala is neglecting this case. The Government is shirking its basic duty – to protect the lives of the citizens.

It is shocking to note that atrocities against Dalits are on the increase in Kerala. Infant mortality is also the highest among Dalits in Kerala. Deaths due to hunger and malnutrition are also on the rise in Kerala among Dalits. No one is able to live safely in Kerala. What a sorry state of affairs!

I strongly urge upon the Government of India to intervene and look into this heinous and barbaric crime that occurred in Kerala, a 100 per cent literate State, in daylight. Kerala is described as 'Gods Own Country'. Does that description suit Kerala? I call it a 'Devil's Own Country' now. This frightful and gruesome incident has shocked the country, once again, after the horrifying Nirbhaya case. This is a laxity on the part of the Government of Kerala.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Nishikant Dubey, Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Prof. Richard Hay.

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Madam, I associate myself with whatever my friend has already stated. But, I want to bring two, three more facts before you. One is the Killoor incident that happened a couple of years ago where the then CPM leaders from panchayat to the Member of Parliament, MLA and everybody said that a young girl who was an under-aged girl was raped, molested and murdered on the pretext of making her a film heroine and all. A VIP and his family were involved in that. At that point in time they promised that culprits would be brought to books. Till date, nothing has happened in that case.

Another incident has happened today. I want to remind, not just the people of Kerala but the people of the country that a culprit and a criminal called *â€¦* was the one who raped and murdered...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Do not take anybody's name. The name will not go on record.

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI : At that point in time, death penalty was supposed to be given. These people spoke against death penalty. I am just trying to bring back the Nirbhaya case. At that point in time, this House passed a law that a death penalty in such cases should be given. I want to remind the country that had culprits been given their due of death penalty and brought to book at least the fear of God, the fear of law would have gone into their minds and they would not have engaged in the kind of crimes which are happening. This case which has happened yesterday only goes to depict the bankruptcy of morality which the Administration has brought upon the people of Kerala.

Kerala is a completely different society. In this incident, where a girl gets murdered, a girl's intestines are ripped apart, in that situation, when people from the panchayat to the top are not even responding and not even responsive. There is another party. There are incidents after incidents happening where such perverted incidents are happening in Kerala. It only speaks about the bankruptcy of morality in the Administration. Political answerability does not exist in Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Arjun Meghwal, Shri Sharad Tripathi, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri P.P. Chaudhary, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Dr. Kirit P. Solanki and Shrimati Darshana Jardosh are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Meenakshi Lekhi.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, it is a very serious issue. The entire House is naturally agitated over this incident so much so the general society in the State also. One incident happened where a *dalit* girl was raped and murdered. Before that incident was forgotten, another incident where a nursing student was gang-raped in an auto rickshaw in the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram. It is a very serious matter. We should not look at it from any political angle, particularly when elections are taking place there. I will be conveying to the hon. Home Minister to find out from the Government of Kerala the factual situation. I would also urge upon him to advise them to take the strongest possible action. Whenever some incidents happen, they try to politicize it. My own appeal is that this is not an issue of politics. It has to be condemned squarely. People who have shown laxity in taking action, action should also be taken against them. I will convey the feelings of the House to the hon. Home Minister.

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.09 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.13 hours

*Lok Sabha reassembled at Thirteen Minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock*

(Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 *

माननीय सभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, नियम 377 के अधीन मामलों को सभा पटल पर रखा जाएगा। आज जिन सदस्यों को नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत मामलों को उठाने की अनुमति दी गई है और जो उन्हें सभापटल पर रखने के इच्छुक हैं, वे 20 मिनट के भीतर मामले का पाठ व्यक्तिगत रूप से सभा पटल पर भेज दें। केवल उन्हीं मामलों को सभा पटल पर रखा माना जाएगा, जिनके लिए मामले का पाठ निर्धारित समय के भीतर सभा पटल पर प्राप्त हो गया है। शेष को व्यपगत माना जाएगा।