

an>

Title: Need for a law to protect samaritans.

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Thank you, Madam. Madam Speaker, I want to bring to the notice of the House the issues being faced by Good Samaritans - people who help injured victims - across the Country, and the need for us to take urgent action on the issue.

As per the 2015<sup>th</sup> Law Commission of India Report, 50 per cent of these people died of treatable injuries because they did not have access to rapid assistance or care. The fear of legal and procedural hassles and in many cases the harassment that follows, is so high that people in our country are afraid to even help people in need. So the bystanders do not come forward to help them because of this.

On May 12 last year, the Government of India took a commendable step by issuing guidelines for the protection of good Samaritans. A few months ago, the Supreme Court in its historic judgement gave force of law to these guidelines and made them binding for all States. This is a huge victory. I have been advocating for this and in fact, I have also submitted a Private Member's Bill to make sure there is a comprehensive law for the protection of good Samaritans.

Madam speaker, the Government has demonstrated great political will and commitment to the issue by notifying guidelines. But to ensure that there is accountability of various agencies, redressal of cases of harassment and a change in behaviour of bystanders on ground, we need a comprehensive Good Samaritan Law for India. The hon. Supreme Court has pointed out that the guidelines are only an interim measure until such time that a comprehensive law is passed for protection of Good Samaritans. I want to reiterate that it is with only such a law that we can ensure that our heroes are not harassed and that more people feel secure to stand up as good Samaritans to help people in such a need. I, thus, appeal humbly to the Government of India to take their initiative forward and bring a Good Samaritan Law for India.

Thank You, Madam.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** श्री पी.पी. चौधरी, श्री वन्दू प्रकाश जोशी, श्री येडमल नागर, श्री सुधीर गुप्ता, श्री आलोक संजर, डॉ. सत्य पाल सिंह, श्री भैरों प्रसाद मिश्र और कुँवर पुष्पेन्द्र सिंह चन्देल को श्रीमती किरण खेर द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है।