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Title: Need for total prohibition in India.

SHRI E.T.MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Total prohibition is very important as far as India is concerned. Mahatma Gandhi had strongly argued to ban liquor production and sales and the framers of the Constitution included Article 47 in the Directive Principles of state policies.

Domestic and sexual abuses are happening mainly due to alcohol. It spoils the family, community and work efficiency of masses. It is a main cause for road accident also. Underage drinking habit is also increasing in an alarming way. It ruins the budding generation. Teenage suicide, bad performance in schools and Colleges, brain and heart-liver related diseases are increasing in an unprecedented manner.

According to the Global Bureau of Disease Study, liquor consumption has emerged as fourth largest cause of human death in the world. I am proud enough to say that Kerala has taken a bold decision to go for total prohibition. International brewers and distillers of alcoholic beverages are keen to become popular in India, because it potentially offers the third largest market for their product globally. India has also become one of the largest producers of alcohol-it produces 65% of alcoholic beverages in South-East Asia. Most urban areas have witnessed an explosion in the number of bars and nightclubs that have opened in recent years.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to take urgent step for a total ban of alcoholic product in the country.