

## Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding welfare schemes for old age persons.

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Hon. Speaker Madam, there are nearly 104 million elderly persons in our country and their number is increasing steadily. It was found that 71 per cent of elderly population resides in rural areas while 29 per cent in urban areas. Of these 104 million elderly people, it was found that more than 51 million of them live below poverty line. We need immediate intervention by the Central and the State Governments. The issue of elder abuse highlights a national shame. It requires both introspection and action from society at large. Many elderly persons are being subjected to abuse within their own families by their own sons and daughters.

Madam Speaker, with the changing family patterns and younger people migrating to cities in search of work, a large number of elders are being left alone at their old age. In urban areas, adults find themselves so pre-occupied with work and the stress of city life that they leave elder persons unattended at home.

Another cause for worry is that the number of homeless elderly is also increasing. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati V. Sathyabama. Is Sathyabama present here?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Madam, I am about to complete it.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : ऐसा नहीं होता है। एक मिनट से ज्यादा समय हो गया है।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: I am just concluding.

HON. SPEAKER: Then complete it.

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण यादव (बाँका): अध्यक्ष महोदया, कृपया मुझे बोलने के लिए आधा मिनट का समय दें।  
...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : अभी कुछ नहीं ।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: I urge upon the Government, due to the high degree of sickness of senior citizens, they should be provided more financial assistance, monthly pension of Rs. 3000 and free treatment facilities for the welfare of senior citizens. Thank you Madam.

HON. SPEAKER:

Advocate Joice George,

Dr. P.K. Biju,

Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan,

Shri M.B. Rajesh and

Shrimati V. Sathyabama are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher.