

कि इस बात को ख्याल करके लड़की के लिए १८ बरस मंजूर कर लें। लड़के के लिए २१ बरस रखा जाये मुझे एतराज नहीं है। मैं इस बिल को सपोर्ट करती हूँ।

Dr. Jaisoorya (Medak) rose—

Mr. Chairman: Will you be able to finish it within five minutes?

Dr. Jaisoorya: Yes, very soon. I am competent. There are two aspects. One is the biological aspect as far as age is concerned. The other is: the needs of society. We have to make a compromise between the two.

Shri Biswas: The third is the emotional aspect.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: That is a constant factor in all matters.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Let me put some facts. It is only in recent times that a complete survey was made. We had up till now only fragmentary surveys about the biological aspect. It is correct that a girl, especially in the tropics, is physically ripe for marriage at 16. She is not biologically ripe for motherhood. The ideal age for a woman to become a mother is between 18 and 23. So, we have to see not only the physical ripeness of a Woman but also her biological role as a mother. Therefore, I suggest 18 is a very good age for marriage. Complications arose because of the evil aspect of the Indian Majority Act and all that—that a boy is his own master in his own right at the age of 18.

Another unfortunate fact I have to tell you. That is so unfortunate as it is: that a boy is physically ripe at 18 and his urge is highest at the age of 18. But society cannot allow that because there are very few boys who are, at the age of 18, economically independent. So, the question is how many boys will marry at the age of 18, although they may be ripe. Very few boys will be able to marry at the age of 18.

Secondly, if the minimum age of the girl is fixed at 18, there will be very

few cases of boys of 18 who will marry the girls. Generally, there is a difference of three to four years. There are extremely few cases that I know of, where boys have married girls who are older than themselves—the boys. There are one or two little instances of which we should not be so terrified as to say that the age of boys should be raised to 21. If you look at it factually, very few cases will come under this category. On the average, society's position is that very few boys will marry at the age of 18. Most of them marry pretty late, and most of them marry girls who will be above 18 years of age. Therefore, I do not think we should make such a tremendous fuss about it. We can make a law that both can marry at the age of 18, *de facto*. Actually, it comes to what we really want: that the boy should be above 21 and the girl should be above 18.

Mr. Chairman: It is almost 10.45.

We shall take up Private Members' Bills. I think first we will take up the Bills to be introduced.

GOVERNMENT OF PART C STATES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Government of Part C States Act, 1951.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Government of Part C States Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I introduce the Bill.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S INSTI- TUTIONS LICENSING BILL

Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay—Suburban): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate and license