

LOK SABHA

SYNOPSIS OF DEBATES*

(Proceedings other than Questions & Answers)

Monday, August 5, 2019 / Shravana 14, 1941 (Saka)

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the biggest temple of Indian Republic, the Parliament House has completed 92 glorious years of its existence. All political decisions are taken in this building which holds the distinction of being the temple of the largest democracy of the world. Ever expanding horizons of democracy since independence has obviously entailed the accountability of this sacrosanct and great heritage of the country thereby substantially adding to the aspirations of the nation. Seeing that, we all harbour aspirations to witness the Parliament House of the largest democracy of the world as the most magnificent, attractive and well equipped with state of the art technology. At a time when we are going to complete 75 years of our independence, we have a dream to transact the proceedings of Parliament sitting within a building with all kinds modern

* Hon. Members may kindly let us know immediately the choice of language (Hindi or English) for obtaining Synopsis of Lok Sabha Debates.

technological devices. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to make endeavours to fulfil the resolve of making a New India on attaining 75 years of independence in the year 2022.

This House urges upon the hon. Prime Minister to help us translate our cherished dream of sitting in the completely transformed and well equipped Parliament in the year 2022 on completion of 75 years of our independence. We all do share the vision of witnessing Parliament of India as the most splendid temple of democracy of the world.

**THE TRANSGENDER PERSONS (PROTECTION OF RIGHTS) BILL,
2019**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL) *moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said:* Transgender persons are discriminated against in our society. The Government has brought this Bill for protection of their rights. The Government will certainly consider the suggestions of hon. Members on this subject.

SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI *initiating said:* This is a historic piece of legislation which has the potential to change the lives of lakhs of transgender persons in our country. There are about 19 lakh transgenders in our country of which around 4779 stay in my State Odisha. The hon. Supreme Court judgement in 2014 termed the transgenders as 'third gender'. The earlier proposal of identification of the transgenders through a District Screening Committee has been scrapped. Now a person will be going through self-identification exercise and the District Magistrate will issue a certificate to that effect. This is definitely a very progressive step taken by the Ministry. Begging for this particular segment has also been decriminalized. And most importantly, the Bill envisages to set up a National Council which will be monitoring the welfare measures taken up for the welfare of the transgender persons. The Bill prohibits discrimination against transgender persons in every area.

SHRIMATI SATABDI ROY (BANERJEE): Transgender persons are absolutely different mentally, physically and emotionally. The society must embrace them. The Government should arrange habitation for them. We need to empower them financially and educationally. They should also get opportunities in jobs. The society needs to be sympathetic with them because they are not responsible for their condition.

SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH: This Bill is aimed at recognizing and protecting the rights of the transgender persons who face a lot of discrimination and disrespect in the society. They are mostly excluded from all privileges which may lead to bias and injustice to them. They are even thrown from their own families and villages. Every transgender persons shall have right to reside and be included in his household. We find that getting a residence for members of this community is the most difficult thing. The minds of the people are so prejudiced that it is very difficult to change things at the ground level. The Bill provides for the educational institutions, sports and recreational facilities for transgender without discrimination. I have a major concern regarding educational and healthcare facilities to transgender persons. The Constitution of National Council for transgender persons is a welcome step in this direction. If we provide them job opportunities, they need not beg or do any anti-social activity as they are accused of.

PROF. ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA: I rise to speak in favour of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019. The Bill addresses problems ranging from social exclusion to discrimination, lack of educational facilities, unemployment, lack of medical facilities and so on. It bolsters their right to live a life with dignity. Lack of access to education and non-availability of jobs often forces them to take to begging and prostitution. I hope that through this Bill

their condition will be made better definitely. Many transgenders have proved their worth by becoming judges.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: This Bill is about social inclusion and protection of fundamental rights of the transgender community. Through this legislation, the transgender community will have a legal record in case of violation of their rights. If we want to bring them into the mainstream of our society, then we have to treat them at par with other citizens of the community. I would request the hon. Minister kindly to incorporate their right of inheritance into the bill. The welfare measures taken by the Government are commendable. But the parents of the transgender child cannot wash their hands off financial responsibility. I would like to request the hon. Minister that the right of adoption of transgender should also be addressed.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA: This Bill will pave the way for bringing self-respect and dignity to a marginalized society. This Bill substantiates that we have not been treating transgender as per what the Constitution mandates us to do. So, it is a laudable move. I had gone through the Bill and did not find a provision treating transgender as OBCs as per an earlier judgement of the Supreme Court. So, I request the hon. Minister to please consider this. With these observations, hoping that my suggestions will be taken into consideration, I support the Bill.

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER: I rise to support the historic Bill. This Bill established a law for lakhs of transgender persons who have been deprived of their rights. To bring the marginalized communities to the centre is a core objective of this Bill. It is shameful that access to basic facilities and basic services is not given to them. This is the more failure. The State Governments and the Central Government will prepare their own Health Manual. I would like to say that it is this Government which has stood by the marginalized whether it is was the Muslim women, whether it was the SCs, STs and now, the transgenders who have always been respected in Indian society.

SHRI P. RAVEENDRANATH KUMAR: This Bill will benefit a large number of transgender persons, will mitigate the stigma, discrimination and abuse against this marginalized section and bring them into a normal society. This Bill stipulates that no establishment shall discriminate against transgender persons in matters relating to employment, recruitment, promotion and other related issues. I welcome this Bill.

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: I would like to thank the Prime Minister of the country and the Minister of Social Welfare and Empowerment for bringing in this Bill for the protection of the rights of the transgender persons and for their welfare. This Bill has been amended as per the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The transgender persons are viewed with a

discriminatory approach in our society. Hence, all the possible efforts are required to be made to bring them into the mainstream of the society. I support this Bill which is intended to provide opportunities of education, employment and healthcare facilities to the transgender persons.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE: I am supporting the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019.

DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI: I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my Government for bringing in the Bill in this temple of democracy in order to sort out the problems of the transgender persons. This Bill aims at eliminating all sorts of discriminations being meted out to them. We should also ensure that they are not discriminated against in matters of their employment and promotions. The transgender persons have to face a number of health related issues due to the unscientific procedure of transformation into eunuch. That's why, I would like to urge upon the Government to ensure that the procedure of transformation into eunuch is undertaken through cervical surgery in a hospital. They need to be provided the opportunities of education and employment in order to bring them into the mainstream of the society.

SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR: Even today the transgender persons are subject to social boycott and discrimination in our society. They have to face a

number of difficulties in the pursuit of earning their livelihood. Not only that, they are compelled to take recourse to begging. This Bill provides for adequate measures for the recognition of the identity of the transgender persons, equal opportunity of education and employment, social security and healthcare facilities along with eliminating the discrimination being meted out to them. At the same time, such a mechanism is required to be set up that may facilitate the persons of this community to avail of the pension benefits. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI: I rise to support the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2019. The way this Government is making efforts to provide proper education, healthcare facilities and employment opportunities to all along with ensuring a quality and uncomplicated life for them irrespective of their caste, religion and community shows that our Government is a sensitive Government. The transgender persons would constantly face discrimination right from their home to the society. So, the Supreme Court had issued directives direct to the Central Government and the State Governments on 15th April 2014 to take various steps for the welfare of the transgender community. The Government has defined the transgender persons and made a number of provisions for the protection of their rights in this Bill. We have taken a slew of measures to remove the difficulties of the transgender children through this Bill. The Bill provides for

27 such provisions that may facilitate the transgender persons to avail of the benefits of all the schemes being implemented by the Union Government without being subjected to any discrimination. Our Government has decided to constitute a National Council for the protection of the rights of the transgender persons. Our National Council has been entrusted with the task of preparing policies, programmes, legislation and projects for the transgender persons. A effort has also been made to eliminate all sorts of discriminations in the matters of their education and employment through this Bill. Under this Bill, provision have been made to issue certificates to transgender persons. Our Government would provide the benefits of welfare schemes to transgender persons without any discrimination. I would also like to request the Government to provide reservation benefits to transgender persons in jobs. Apart from that, facilities like housing, toilets, electricity and cooking gas should be provided to these persons. Our government has made an endeavour to bring them into the mainstream of the society so that their capabilities could be used in the nation building.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Today, this country is making an honest effort to provide justice to transgender persons. Till now, transgender persons were deprived of their rights in this country. Now, efforts are being made to ensure them their rights. Through this Bill, they will get a certificate to this effect. Apart from that, right of residency is also being provided to them. Through this Bill, all

the discrimination against these persons has been done away with. This is for the first time, a National Council for transgender persons is being constituted. Representation of NITI Aayog would also be ensured in this Council so that all the schemes could be formulated in the country with a greater focus on transgender persons. So I would like to request all the hon. Members to support this Bill unanimously and create a new history in this country.

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI: It is a matter of immense pleasure for me that most of the demands of the transgender persons have been incorporated in this Bill. A demand was also made to bring a stringent law with regard to the cases of harassment, rape and murder against transgender persons. Similarly, there is also a need to provide reservation in various sectors to these persons. Moreover, people need to change their view and inculcate positive feeling towards them. Similarly, arrangements should be made to provide education, job and skill development to them. A demand has also been made with regard to providing shelter for the transgender persons who have been thrown out from their families. Moreover, instead of rehabilitation, focus should be given on their skill building and providing them soft loans for entrepreneurship. I would request that this Bill should be passed unanimously.

SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT: Today, an important section of the society is being conferred their rights through this Bill. There are lakhs of

transgender persons in our country and particularly in Mumbai their number is more than three lakhs. They had been a life with a bleak future. Now, through this Bill, all of their problems have been done away with. This Bill opens the doors for education, jobs etc for them. If any person tries to perpetrate any injustice against transgender persons, then they can approach the court. Apart from that, Government has also made provisions regarding funds through this Bill, however, there is also a need to provide funds to the State Governments. Once again, I would like to thank the Government for providing justice to one of the deprived sections of this country through this Bill.

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL: As per the anatomy of human body, the systems of our body and that of transgenders is same. They should not suffer just because of some fault by nature in their reproductive system. They should not be ill-treated due to some shortcoming in only one organ of the body. This Bill provides for giving recognition to the identity of the transgenders, to end discrimination against them, adopt welfare measures for them, setting up of a national council for the education, social security and health of transgenders. Till now, they had to remain deprived of their civil rights. According to a survey, around 40 per cent of the total population of the transgenders had to face psychological violence, physical molestation, rape, inequality, discrimination in jobs and prejudice in educational institutions. Not only this, they were abandoned

by their parents. They had to face atrocities like no reservation in jobs, disinherited from their property rights, forcibly challaned by police under sections of obscenity etc. Sex change operations by transgender people should be made completely free.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Transgender community in the country is a community which is most marginal because they do not fit under the general categories of male or female. As a result thereof, they have had been facing problems like social boycott, discrimination, lack of educational facilities, unemployment, lack of medical facilities etc. Today, the Government has tried to bring equality to them. In clause 6 of this Bill, a provision has been made for the education, social security and health of the transgenders separately. The Government has been taking not only one but many welfare measures for them. There is a provision for constituting a national council for the transgenders. A facility of pension could have been provided to them on the lines of handicapped persons. This Bill will remove the pain or harassment faced by the families, especially the parents on the birth of transgender children. This Bill will provide to the transgenders not only the Right to Equality in the society but also remove the feeling of being a separate category from their mind. Today is an historic day, I support this Bill.

SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA: Only we have discriminated against the people of transgender community in the society. The society has not tried to understand their feelings. They also have the right to live in the society but they have to get separated from their family itself. Due to lack of understanding, the parents abandon their transgender children. Now, after the passing of this Bill, the parents will not behave with their transgender children in this manner because now they will not be required to give answer to the questions raised by the society. It is a very important Bill and our Government deserves accolades for that because this Bill has been brought to reform the society.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA) *replying said:*

Today, the Transgender Bill was discussed in the House in which 18 hon. Members took part and expressed their important views. This Bill talks about the protection of the interests of the transgenders like to provide penalty for the crimes committed against the transgenders, and setting up of a national council for protection of their interests. In the year 2014, a ruling by the Supreme Court granted recognition to the transgenders as the third gender. Supreme Court had also given various instructions for the protection of their interests. Even after so many years of independence, there was no law for the protection of their interests. A number of

complaints of various kinds of discrimination like sexual exploitation have had been received. On many occasions they were even made to face humiliation in public places. A few people would not let them their house. Under such circumstances, the Government was faced with a grave issue as to how to provide a dignified life and take care of their health profile which has led to bringing in a comprehensive Bill in this House. I appeal to all the Members of this House to pass this Bill unanimously so that we can protect the interests of transgenders.

The Bill was passed.

THE SURROGACY (REGULATION) BILL, 2019

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN) moved that the Bill to constitute National Surrogacy Board, State Surrogacy Boards and appointment of appropriate authorities for regulation of the practice and process of surrogacy and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration. In recent years, India has emerged as a hub for surrogacy especially for couples from other countries. There are about two to three thousand surrogacy clinics running illegally in the country and the whole issue is thoroughly unregulated. There have been reports concerning unethical practices including exploitation of

surrogate mothers. The 228th report of the Law Commission had recommended that the Government should enact legislation. Besides assurances given by various Governments, there was also a Public Interest Litigation in the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court had also suggested to the Government that there should be a law to regulate surrogacy in the country. I would like to inform the hon. Members as to what is the international scenario right now. Commercial surrogacy is banned and is considered illegal in many countries. There are only two or three places in the whole world where it is allowed, that is, in Russia, Ukraine and California, province of USA. The European Parliament also recently condemned the practice of surrogacy. The purpose of the Bill is to ensure effective regulation of surrogacy, prohibit commercial surrogacy and also allow ethical surrogacy. It will also prevent exploitation of surrogate mothers and children born through surrogacy. I think, this is a very important social issue. I would request this House to pass this unanimously.

DR. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR *initiating said:* I stand here to support this Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019. This is actually being brought before the ART Bill, which is not right. This is all a hullabaloo. I cannot speak.

PROF. RITA BAHUGUNA JOSHI: I congratulate hon. Minister for bringing this Bill on such a sensitive issue. I feel that parenthood is the most satisfying and the most beautiful experience for a married couple. We all know

that there may be several reasons for a woman not able to give birth to a child. Some individuals want that their body should not bear the burden of giving birth to a child and they should get a child using some alternative method. Therefore, this is an alternative to giving birth to a child in a natural manner. The Indian Council of Medical Research issued the guidelines and legalized surrogacy, but there was no legislative backup to these guidelines. Gradually, surrogacy has become an industry worth Rs.25 thousand crore. About 2000 to 3000 foreign couples come to India for surrogacy each year. This legislation was needed because the body of the woman was being exploited or was likely to be exploited. Are we making a woman a factory of producing children? We all know that there is a large number of people belonging to the weaker sections in our country. Such women do not even know on what grounds a contract has been signed with them. The middleman makes maximum profit in such a scenario. Surrogacy also leads to health issues in women. I am glad that our Government has been bringing various Bills for the overall well-being of the women. Only such married couples could go in for surrogacy who do not get child upto five years after marriage and they will have to submit a certificate also in this regard. The age of the woman should be from 23 to 50 years and that of man from 26 to 55 years. The Bill also provides for regulating the surrogacy clinics. The intended parents will have to get insurance for the surrogacy mother. The child born out of surrogacy will have the same right as that

of their own child. It is our bounden duty to keep the women safe and healthy. This should also be linked with Aadhaar as it will ensure that the woman cannot go in for surrogacy more than once. I would, therefore, like that this Bill may be passed unanimously.

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI: The Bill is introduced for regulation of the practice and process of surrogacy. The global infertility rate is also increasing. As we are increasing the scientific technologies, surrogacy has come into existence. The eligibility criteria for intending couple are to mandatory have as certificate of essentiality and a certificate of eligibility. I would also like to bring to your kind notice about some issues which are to be defined in this Bill. Close relative is not defined. The other point to be considered is authorization for termination of pregnancy if in the process of surrogacy, sometimes the surrogate mother of the intended couple do not want the surrogate child, the rules should also be framed correctively. An abortion of the surrogate child requires written consent of the surrogate mother and an authorization by the appropriate authority. If a child being born out of surrogacy arrangement is at the risk of physical or mental abnormalities, under the Bill, only the surrogate mother's consent will be required to abort the child. This Bill does not allow the storage of embryo or gamete for surrogacy. This prohibition may have adverse health implications for the intending mother.

DR. SUBHAS SARKAR: This is an important Bill. I would like to request all the Members of this House to support this Bill. My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that the waiting time of five years after marriage should be minimized to two years. Further, the National Surrogacy Board should allow any friend of the couples to become a surrogate mother.

SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS: I applaud the Government for their effort to regulate the practice of surrogacy. I request the Minister to reconsider the provision which lays down the waiting time of five years. The Bill should define 'close relative' term clearly. I also request the Minister to ensure anonymity of the surrogate. There should not be any overlap of authority between the national and state level boards. The Bill must provide a review and appeal procedure for surrogacy applications which would give couples the right to challenge the decision of the Boards. There should be single uniform agenda to guide doctors or patients. The Government should invite successful surrogacy specialists on board and consult with them to give a decent plan for the aspiring parents.

SHRI P. RAVEENDRANATH KUMAR: I rise to support the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019. My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that considering the health point of view of the intending mother, the existing provisions in Indian Council for Medical Research guidelines, 2005 should be continued which allow the storage of eggs for a period of five years.

SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU: I want the Minister to frame this Bill in such a way that it regulates rather than restricts the practice of surrogacy. The Bill should clearly define the term 'close relative' and this restriction should be done away with. Second, the provision of five years of waiting period after the marriage should not be there in the Bill. We should also allow the people who are having same sex relationship of having a baby through surrogacy. The Bill should provide insurance cover for six years from the date of confirmation of pregnancy. The Bill also need to clarify as to how the NRIs, PIOs and OCS card holders can go through this process.

SHRI RAVI KISHAN: I would like that this Bill should be more stringent in nature so that people do not misuse the practice of surrogacy. This Bill intends to support only those mothers who are sick and cannot conceive. The practice of surrogacy should not become an industry. I thank the Government for bringing in this Bill.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: This type of Bill should be realistic, pragmatic and difficult to circumvent and it should help the genuinely needy persons. I request the hon. Minister to widen the scope of clause 4 of the Bill. My humble submission is that provision of an egg or sperm donor should be incorporated in the Bill. Secondly, five years waiting period is too long and it runs counter to right to reproductive autonomy. As per the WHO standards,

after one year of married life, the couple should be considered infertile. In fact in a society like ours five year's wait may lead to divorce or second marriages and disturb our social fabric. Besides, the term 'close relative' has to be clearly defined. I would request the hon. Minister to widen the scope of surrogacy to members of the LGBT community, widows, divorcees, overseas citizens of India and to the PIOs.

SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL: There is no denying the fact that we need an urgent law to deal with surrogacy as in the absence of a concrete law, many illegal and unethical practices had surfaced. However, if national and State Surrogacy Boards are set up without providing for any financial expenditure, it would turn out to be a toothless tiger. Not just that, the provisions of the Bill in a way goes against Supreme Courts Puttuswamy judgement wherein it has been ruled that everyone has a right to autonomy in respect of his or her body. Besides, Section 9 of the Bill prohibits the forcing of any surrogate mother to have an abortion except in such conditions as may be prescribed. This effectively leaves no procedure for the surrogate mother to terminate the pregnancy while the law protects the bodily integrity and privacy of every woman to seek termination of pregnancy regardless of their contractual obligations. Leaving it to the administration would be violation of fundamental right to privacy. To my mind, the most vulnerable person in this equation is the surrogate mother. We must

ensure their protection and proper health care. Not just that, the Constitution recognizes every person with a disability as a full citizen with the same rights and protections as everyone else. Seeing that, allowing the couple having a physically or mentally child would not be appropriate.

SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Surrogacy is all about sacrifice and happiness-sacrifice by a mother and happiness for a woman, who cannot become mother. However, it is unfortunate that India has become a surrogacy hub with a rise in unethical practices. Therefore, the Government has come with the Surrogacy Regulation Bill, 2019. The path of surrogacy is adopted when women, who have medical problems or are in such conditions that they cannot conceive. At times, surrogacy is a great abiding solution even for those who are not able to adopt a child because of their age or marital status. This also includes the gays. Where there is no biological connect, the Surrogate mother merely carries the baby to term and delivers to the couple. In the wake of the passage of the Bill, there would be an effective check on the exploitation of women and the role of intermediaries would be a thing of the past. Further, as per the provisions of the Bill Indian couples legally married for at least 5 years would be allowed to exhaust the option of surrogacy. However, there are a few concerns we need to look into. In the first place, surrogate mothers should be adequately compensated for coupled with proper strict rules in place lest it should be subjected to commercialization.

Moving further, in view of the reports of the failure of altruistic surrogacy in several countries, I would like to urge upon the Minister to make the Bill more inclusive and not to restrict it to close relatives alone.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: While the intended purpose of the Bill is well founded, there are some issues that are missing. As per the provision of the Bill, the surrogate mother has to be a close relative of either of the two partners whereas the term 'close relatives' remains undefined. My suggestion is that even a 'close relative' chooses to be a surrogate mother, she should be adequately compensated for. Further, there is no mention of any specific time frame for obtaining eligibility certificate from the competent authority by the intending couple. Besides, five years is a rather long period to be eligible, so it should be reduced to 2 to 3 years. Alongside, transgenders including unmarried couples, homosexual couples should also be included within the ambit of surrogacy. More importantly, couples with mentally or physically challenges child have been made eligible to opt for surrogacy. It's not fair. Last but not the least, complete ban on commercial surrogacy would place surrogate mothers in a dangerous situation. Therefore, I would urge upon the Minister to allow it on case to case basis subject to close scrutiny of circumstances.

SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL: Today, India is going to be the hub of surrogacy at the global level which warranted some stringent legislation.

A lot of provisions have been made in the Bill to put a check on the commercialisation of surrogacy. However, I would like to strongly suggest to get to the bottom of the problem and do the needful to fix the issue of infertility which is on the rise for quite some time and can be largely attributed to air pollution, water pollution, lifestyle issues etc. I hold the conviction that prevention is always better than cure.

SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: Surrogacy is a viable option available to women who are not able to conceive. However, given the rampant commercialisation of surrogacy, sale and purchase of human embryo and gamete leading to potential exploitation of innocent and poor women, this Bill was essentially called for. Among the whole host of provisions contained in the Bill what assumes greater significance is that a surrogate mother will be allowed to enter into surrogacy only once in their life time. This would put a severe check on the alleged tendency of being lured to be a surrogate mother. This apart, setting up of a Surrogacy Board at the national level to regulate surrogacy is really a good step in the right direction. Lastly, I would like to suggest that inclusion of the provision of IVF and Donors' aids would prove to be very helpful.

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SNEHLATA SHRIVASTAVA
Secretary General

**Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.

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NOTE: It is the verbatim Debate of the Lok Sabha and not the Synopsis that should be considered authoritative.

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