

## **Need for legislation to control crimes/killings in the name of honour in the country-Laid**

**DR. D. RAVI KUMAR (VILUPPURAM):** I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the grave issue of honor-based crimes that affect individuals across castes, tribes, faiths, and gender. These crimes, rooted in regressive social norms, remain underreported. The National Crime Records Bureau has recorded only 540 cases of honor killings since 2014—an alarming indicator of systemic underreporting. The Law Commission of India has recommended a standalone law to address such crimes. The Supreme Court, in *Shakti Vahini vs. Union of India* (2018), also called for specific legislation to tackle honor-based violence. I urge the Government to act decisively to enact a comprehensive law to address all forms of honor-based crimes, create a separate NCRB and police record system to track these crimes beyond killings, establish special and fast-track courts to ensure swift justice, impose strict penalties on law enforcement officials who fail to prevent such crimes, provide police protection, financial aid, legal support, shelter, and psychosocial care to couples at risk and abolish or strictly regulate caste, khap, and katta panchayats that promote such violence. We should affirm that crimes committed in the name of honor have no place in a democratic, rights-based society.