

Title : Need to amend Indian Penal Code providing stringent punishment for the rapist.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I am raising a very important matter under Rule 377. Even in today's paper it was reported that the limbs were cut off for having reported the heinous offence of rape.

The move to bring in a new legislation for giving deterrent punishment to rapist is an issue of national importance. It has become a common occurrence now-a-days that the rapists escape punishment on technical grounds. There is a need to amend the penal code regarding the offence of rape wherein the consent of the victim can be presumed in cases where the victim is above the age of 16 and below 18. This is a grave situation arising out of a wrong provision in the statute. It is high time for amending penal law raising the age from 16 to 18 in matters of giving consent. I request the Central Government to take immediate steps to amend the penal code. This is a matter of urgent public importance.