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Title: Regarding need for effective implementation of National Prohibition Policy .

DR. K. DHANARAJU (TINDIVANAM): Alcoholism is spreading like wild fire across the country with the introduction of more and more liquor brands. It is now a trend among the college/school students. It has become a fashion of the day and those who do not drink are considered backward.

Farmers become alcoholics. The number of victims belonging to below/above poverty line families is increasing everyday and it is alarming. As a result their living condition has gone from bad to worse. Economically they are weaker, their children do not go to schools. Many die due to alcohol addiction and they consume liquor out of sheer frustration. Their families are deprived of proper food & clothes due to alcoholism.

Many of the Government Schemes are implemented to employ the poor but even the purpose of the schemes is defeated due to alcoholism.

Our party Founder Leader Dr. S. Ramadoss has taken a Vehicular Propaganda Rally from Tuticorin to Chennai covering the whole of Tamil Nadu for implementation of Prohibition.

Instead of adhering to the directive principles of Article 47 of the Constitution of India, some of the State Governments are involved in selling liquor through Government run retail shops. It is a gross violation of the Constitution. These Governments encourage the people to drink by opening more liquor shops and also by extending the timings to serve liquor in Bars.

Further around 25% cases in the Courts of different states relate to crime done under the influence of liquor. Government should discourage the use of liquor and make some laws to save the people of this Country.

I urge upon the Government to relook at the National Prohibition Policy and issue necessary instructions to the State Governments/Union Territories to take appropriate steps to discourage the people from drinking liquor. Further, new licences for opening of Liquor Shops/Night Club Bars should not be given. The Central Government should take strict action against those who violate the Rules and Regulations of the licences already given.