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Title : Alleged violation of labour laws in making arrangements for Commonwealth games.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Thank you, Madam. I would like to draw the attention of this august House to a matter of great concern, that is, the human cost of the Commonwealth Games. Of course, we have to prepare for the Games but the long-term impact on the poorer sections should not be overlooked.

The *Outlook* Magazine has reported that an estimated one lakh families in Delhi have been evicted ruthlessly and their huts have been demolished to beautify the city. Since they have not been rehabilitated, these people have been abandoned on the roadside. The hon. High Court of Delhi has also noted this.

There is an apprehension that after the Games, there will be 30 lakh homeless people in Delhi including the 15 lakh migrant labourers.

There have been reports of blatant violations of labour laws also. Out of the 12 lakh workforce employed by the Commonwealth Games organizers, only 22,000 workers are registered. Except the registered few, all others are not receiving even the minimum wages, insurance cover and other benefits. What is astonishing is that over 70 deaths have already taken place during construction work and due to unhealthy conditions prevailing at the living quarters of the labourers.

Further it has also been reported that over 2,000 boys aged between 14 and years are working at several Games sites in gross violation of labour laws. It is shocking that child labour and other violations of labour laws are happening right under the nose of the Central Government. Hence I urge upon the Central Government to take stern and immediate action against these violations of labour laws and also to ensure proper rehabilitation of the evicted people.