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Title: Need to constitute a National Council for Occupational Therapy.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMATHITTA): I request the Government to kindly constitute a National Council for Occupational Therapy. Even though we have separate national councils to design and oversee professional courses, a regulator of Occupational Therapy in this regard is lacking. I draw the kind attention of this august house that occupational therapy is not included in the Mental Health Care Bill 2012. Occupational therapy and diseases dealt by that stream should be granted proper attention. Occupational therapy deals with a number of diseases that emanate from mental, physical, social and emotional components. Early detection and proper caring can cure or mitigate the intensity of many diseases that emanate from these components. However, we do not have adequate facilities in this regard. Occupational therapy can play a major role to that effect. If we have national body to design and regulate courses related to occupational therapy it will be helpful in bringing adequate occupational therapists to meet the requirement of the country. Moreover it will be a great step towards Health Security.