SHRI JOSE K. MANI (KOTTAYAM): I would like to raise an issue that has assumed alarming proportions as reflected in a mass petition signed by more than 1.5 lakh people alleging a sudden surge in Caesarean deliveries in India solely to extort money from unsuspecting women by pushing them towards surgical deliveries. The WHO has recommended that C-Section surgeries should normally constitute 10-15% of total deliveries.

The WHO findings also reveal that Caesarean section rates higher than 10% are not associated with reductions in maternal and new born mortality rates.

I find that as per National-Family Health Survey-IV, the incidence of C- section in India is 17.2%. Against this national average, Kerala has recorded 35.8%. in C-section deliveries. It is strange that Kerala recognised as the state with lowest maternity and new born mortality rate in India, now topping the list with 35.8% of C-section deliveries in the country. I urge the Centre to check this rampant racket in both private and government hospitals.

14.04 hours

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