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Title: Need to take measures for providing speedy justice to undertrials languishing in jails in the country.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): Thank you, Mr. Chairman for giving me an opportunity to raise an important matter in this 'Zero Hour'.

I would like to draw the attention of this House, though you Chairman, to the most pathetic and unjustifiable plight of undertrials languishing in jails in India. More than 2,78,000 people are undertrials. ...(*Interruptions*)

I am compelled to raise this issue. Yesterday, all the TV channels and the newspapers were full of reports of a celebrity hitting down to death a poor man who was sleeping in a pavement of Mumbai. This celebrity was convicted. This convicted person, a mega film star, immediately within a few minutes or hours got an interim bail. Now, it is heard that the Mumbai High Court has also given the bail for four months for this personality. Mr. Chairman, yesterday the way a section of the celebrity in Mumbai acted....(*Interruptions*) I do not want to speak anything *sub judice*.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The matter is in the court.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: There is a paradox. About 2,78,000 people are in different jails but when a celebrity is convicted he gets the bail immediately. The Supreme Court in December, 2014 gave a verdict and the judgement says that a person who is in jail for half of the sentence which he would have got if he had been convicted, he should be released. The problem in India is there are two kind of justice. The poor people, the minority people, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people who are languishing in jails do not get bail but a celebrity even if convicted gets the bail. The Supreme Court order, which came in December, 2014, is there to release them all.

Steps may be taken to release those under-trials who have been in jails for so many years without any reason. The hon. Minister Shri Harsh Vardhan is sitting here. I would request him to bring it to the notice of the Prime Minister.