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Title: Regarding the proposal of holding the closing ceremony of Netajis' 125 Birth Anniversary celebration in and around Moirang, Manipur.

DR. R.K. RANJAN (INNER MANIPUR): Madam, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

It is my privilege to raise this issue in this august House expressing the aspiration of Netaji admirers and INA families to organize the concluding ceremony of *Parakram Diwas* in Manipur where the actual INA campaigns took place on the Indian soil.

A high-level committee, organising a year-long celebration of the 125th Birth Anniversary of Netaji, is a welcome step in the right direction in the national interest.

Madam, Manipuris are very proud to be a part of the freedom struggle as they are directly linked with the INKA campaigns. It was at Moirang, Manipur, the Indian tri-colour flag was first hoisted on April 14, 1944, on the Indian mainland. Although, Andaman was the first. The first INA office on the Indian soil was set up at Moirang some 34 km. away from Imphal. This is also one of the places where the INA operated the First Provincial Government of Independent India. From this location, the slogan *Delhi Chalo* was further echoed and reverberated. More than 7,000 INA soldiers waged the Imphal battle.

With this admirable historical background, I, on behalf of the people of Manipur, and the INA associates, would like to seek your kind indulgence for a favourable consideration to the proposal of holding the

closing ceremony of Netaji's 125th Birth Anniversary celebration in and around Moirang, Manipur. An amazing show stopper event of *Parakram Diwas* in Manipur would be a fitting tribute to Netaji and INA.