

Seventeenth Loksabha

&gt;

Title: Request to protect the minorities, their institution and they should be allowed to celebrate chritmas and other festivals without any fear.

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, it is most shocking and disturbing to note that places of worship belonging to the Christian minorities across the country from Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Assam to Uttar Pradesh are being targeted and extensively vandalised by the extremists of right wing groups with the active connivance of the militants of right wing groups.

It is very shameful for the minority community, especially Christians. During Christmas and New Year celebrations, they attacked churches and even carol groups. So, the entire Christian community are very unhappy with these incidents. This type of attacks on Christian priests, pastors, and other prayer groups are very shameful for our country. So, I would request the Government of India to protect the minorities, their institutions and they should be allowed to celebrate Christmas and other important festivals without any fear.

Sir, the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs is present here. He is from Kerala and he is very much aware of the sentiments of the Christian community. So, I would request him to respond on this important matter.