

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Request to confer Bharat Ratna on Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy, the first lady doctor of India.

**\*SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR):** Hon. Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. Today is the 133<sup>rd</sup> birth anniversary of Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy. She was born in Pudukkottai of Tamil Nadu in the year 1886. Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy got the distinction of being the first girl student to study medicine in India and the first female doctor of India; after being graduated in the year

1912. She also became the first female surgeon of the country. She was the first woman to become a legislator in India as she was a legislator in the Madras Legislative Council. Having been attracted by Gandhian principles Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy took part in salt satyagraha and in protest against the British she resigned her post as MLA of the Madras Legislative Council. She instituted the Madras Institute of Cancer in the year 1954. The Nehru Government awarded her the Padma Bhushan in the year 1956. The Tamil Nadu Government led by Dr. Kalaingar added glory by starting a pension scheme in her name as Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Pension Scheme. I urge upon the Union Government to confer Bharat Ratna on Dr Muthulakshmi Reddy. Thank you for this opportunity. Vanakkam.

**माननीय अध्यक्ष :** सीनियर एडवोकेट श्री पी. पी. चौधरी ।

