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Title: Issue regarding desecration of Shri Vyasaraaja Tirtha (Moola Brindavana) by some miscreants and anti social elements.

**SHRI TEJASVI SURYA (BANGALORE SOUTH):** Thank you, Sir, for this opportunity. I would want to bring to the attention of this Government and the hon. House a very sad and disturbing event that has taken place in my State just yesterday.

There is a 15<sup>th</sup> Century holy place, the *Moola Brindavana* of a great saint by the name Shri Vyasaraaja Tirtha. He was a 15<sup>th</sup> Century saint and the fountainhead of the Bhakti movement in Karnataka. He was also the Rajaguru of the Vijayanagara Dynasty for Krishnadevaraya. He was also the Guru of Purandara Dasa and Kanaka Dasa. This place has been vandalised, destroyed and desecrated in Hampi.

Hampi is a UNESCO world heritage site.

It pains to see that a site as important and holy as the *Moola Brindavan* of such a great saint, where he left his mortal body, has been desecrated by miscreants and anti-social elements yesterday. Just in the last six or seven months, this is the second incident in Hampi where such miscreants and anti- social elements are destroying the world heritage sites.

Therefore, I urge the hon. Government to take immediate measures to not only arrest, take punitive action against these miscreants but also to ensure that technological solutions like installation of CCTV cameras

and such other measures are immediately taken to ensure that such activities will not be indulged in, in the coming days.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI):** The matter which Shri Tejasvi Surya raised is a matter of very serious concern. Lakhs and lakhs of peoples' feelings have been hurt. From the Government side, I would like to say that I would bring the matter to the notice of the concerned Minister and also to see that action is taken by the concerned authorities.