

**Need to confer Bharat Ratna to Dr M.S. Swaminathan, posthumously and renaming of Indian Council for Agricultural Research in his name.**

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** Sir, the famous and a well-known agricultural scientist, Padma Vibhushan awardee, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan passed away about three months back in Chennai.

Sir, the country is very much aware about Dr. M.S. Swaminathan's contribution in our agricultural sector as well as self-sufficiency in food security. But at the same time, the NDA Government chose to disrespect the legend when he passed away as the Government did not accord any rightful honour or pay tributes or mark respect to Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, and displayed their arrogant and ungrateful attitude towards a great scientist. The Government also did not send a proper representative of the Union Government to be present throughout the funeral function in Chennai. His family belongs to my Parliamentary constituency, Kuttanad. He has made a great contribution to the agricultural sector in Kerala also. So, I demand, through you, at least now the Government must take steps in granting the rightful honour to Dr. M.S. Swaminathan by awarding him the citation of Bharat Ratna posthumously. Further, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan's life-size statue be erected in the Parliament Building along with a portrait installed in the Central Hall. Also, I suggest that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) be re-named immediately as M.S. Swaminathan Institute of Agricultural Research. The Government must rectify its mistake and honour Dr. M.S. Swaminathan for his extraordinary contribution to Indian agriculture and in ensuring food security which is considered as the pillar of the nation.

With these words, through you, I would urgently like to invite the attention of the Government to the contributions made by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan. The country cannot ignore him. So, hon. Ministers are here. ? (*Interruptions*) Hon. Cabinet Ministers are here. ? (*Interruptions*) Smriti Irani ji, Dharamendra Pradhan ji and Anurag Singh Thakur ji are here. ? (*Interruptions*) So, you are ignoring ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय सभापति: कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए ।

? (व्यवधान)

**THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI):** Sir, I take huge exception to my name being called out without substance and without information by the hon. Member. ? (*Interruptions*) Secondly, Sir, I am sure that once the Member lays the issue at hand on the Floor, the appropriate Minister will respond. ? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** Who is the appropriate Minister? ? (*Interruptions*) The Agriculture Minister is not there. ? (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI:** But I would tell, through you, Sir, that the hon. Member not to be in a spiteful position just because his Party has faced a humiliating defeat just yesterday after the election results were announced. ? (*Interruptions*)

माननीय सभापति: प्लीज़, बैठ जाइए । वैज्ञानिकों के विषय को पॉलिटिकल इश्यू मत बनाइए ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : श्री ज्योतिर्मय सिंह महतो ? उपस्थित नहीं ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : श्री बसंत कुमार पंडा जी ।

? (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती हरसिमरत कौर बादल (भटिंडा) : सर, मैं यहां यह विषय रेज़ करना चाहूंगी कि वर्ष 2019 में गुरू नानक देव जी के 550 साल के गुरुपुरब पर इस सरकार की तरफ से ? (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : मैडम, श्री बसंत कुमार पंडा जी बोल रहे हैं ।

? (व्यवधान)

माननीय सभापति : मैडम, आपका नाम नहीं लिया गया है ।

? (व्यवधान)