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14.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Shri Ajay Maken *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri S.K. Kharventhan.

Title: Need to release a commemorative stamp in honour of Dheeran Chinnamalai of Tamil Nadu who fought against the Britishers.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Tyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai was born in 1756 in Melappalayam, Kangayam Taluk, Erode District, Tamil Nadu which falls under my constituency and was known for his valour and fame. He was instrumental in stopping of collection of taxes by the then ruler, Hyder Ali in Kongu region which was brought under the Mysore ruler. After this incident, he was called as "Dheeran Chinnamalai" since he hailed from a place between Chennimalai and Sivanmalai, both abodes of Lord Karthikeya. Dheeran Chinnamalai gathered a strong army consisting of Kongu youths in and around Kangayam and trained them vigorously to fight against the Britishers. He was captured by the British army treacherously at Karumalai Hills in Palani region in my constituency and was hanged to death in 1806 at Sankagiri.

Tamil Nadu Government honoured him by establishing a transport corporation after his name with Trichy as its headquarters. Moreover, the building of the Collectorate at Erode has also been named after him. Every year 17th April is observed as Memorial Day in his honour. His 200th death year falls on July, 2005 and 250th birth year falls on April, 2006.

It will be a befitting tribute to the First Great Leader who fought against the Britishers and was known for his valour and sacrifice if a commemorative stamp is released in honour of Tyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai. I urge upon the UPA Government to take necessary action at the earliest.