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Title : Need to declare Sabarimala in Kerala as a National Pilgrimage Centre.

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (CHALAKUDY): Pride of the Sahyadri ranges nestled in the Gods' own country Kerala, the Sabarimala Sri Dharmasastha Temple is the most thronged pilgrimage site perched at a great elevation. By allowing the people of all religions, the temple has set a perfect example of harmony in today's world. Sabarimala believes that each human is a devotee of the ultimate Lord who is the soul within, irrespective of one's religious association viz. Hinduism, Islam, or Christianity. Lakhs and lakhs of people visit Sabarimala every year during the month from November to January.

This year also a large crowd of people visited Makara Vilakku from all parts of India. Due to heavy rush, there was a stampede last year and in which hundreds of devotees lost their lives.

Taking into consideration its national importance, Government should release forest land for development of this temple and also I humbly urge that Sabarimala may be declared as a National Pilgrimage Centre.