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Title: Need to issue a commemorative stamp in recognition of Puli Thevan, a freedom fighter of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI MANICKA TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): Puli Thevan was one of the earliest veteran freedom fighters and the first opponent to the British rule in Southern India. He was regarded as the first ruler in Indian history, who sowed the seed by his gallant resistance to expel foreigners from our native land. He organized all the palakkars against the Nawab and the British.

Puli Thevan, was born in a tiny village called Nelkattancheval South Tamil Nadu of Tirunelveli District. Since childhood he was very courageous and valiant by his nature and vehemently opposed the British Rule and the Nawab. During the period from 1750 to 1767, the British feared to challenge him. History reveals that his struggle against the British was much earlier to various freedom struggles including the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857.

Since independence, the Union Government has constructed memorials, placed the statue, declared holidays even issued commemorative stamps in recognition of the services rendered to the nation by many freedom fighters of the country. But, the Union Government has not done anything as tribute to the earliest veteran freedom fighter and first opponents of the British rule in South India, Puli Thevan.

The Tamil Nadu Government has built a monument in the birth place of Puli Thevan at Nerkattancheval. In order to memorise history, I appeal to the Union Government to issue a commemorative postage stamp, bearing his brilliant picture as a token of our country's respect to this remarkable hero in our history.