Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding Sabarimala Temple issue.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Madam Speaker, as you know,

Kerala has been deeply troubled by the ongoing controversy regarding the Sabarimala

Temple. Irresponsible parties have been trying to hijack protests by genuine believers in a

bid to reap political dividends. They have been engaging in vandalism and violence not only

disrupting the law and order in the State, but also disturbing the sanctity of the Holy Abode

of Lord Ayyappa. ...(Interruptions)

This problem can only be solved either through a judicial process in the form of a

review of the hon. Supreme Court's judgment or through a legislative action by the

Parliament. It is hypocrisy to create violence and protest when you have the majority to pass

a law. ...(Interruptions)

I urge the Government to come up with a legislative action to ensure and protect the

freedom of religious places and worship in principle with constitutional values because we

need to clarify the application of essential religious practices. ...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Kulmani Samal is permitted to associate with the issue raised by

Dr. Shashi Tharoor.