

Title: Re: Naming of one of the fast Petrol Vessels of the Indian Coast Guard after Rani Velu Nachiyar, the Queen of Sivaganga.

DR. T. SUMATHY (A) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Hon. Chairperson, I am thankful to you for allowing me raise an issue in this august House. Rani Velu Nachiyar, Queen of Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu, born on 3rd January, 1730, an inspirational and an iconic personality, was the first Indian Queen, who had actually waged war against the British East India Company. She was the Queen, who had actually rebelled, and regained her kingdom 85 years or even before Jhansi Ki Rani's First Freedom Struggle of 1857-58.

The Government of India honoured her valour in spirit of freedom by releasing a commemorative stamp in 2008, and our able leader Shri M.K. Stalin also had ordered a tableau, portraying the life and achievements of Queen Velu Nachiyar, to be paraded in the length and breadth of Tamil Nadu during the Independence Day Celebrations, and a dance-drama comprising 62 State artistes were also performed during the Independence Day Celebrations.

Sir, the Indian Coast Guard Ships are named after brave 'Women of Substance and Excellence' from various fields. For example, Kittur Rani Chennamma, and to name a few. But nothing has yet been named after Queen Velu Nachiyar, who was a versatile personality. She could speak 12 languages including Urdu, French and English; and was very well versatile in warfare, archery and martial arts.

So, I would like to request the Union Government as well as the hon. Defence Minister to name one of the fast patrol vessels of the Indian Coast Guard after Rani Velu Nachiyar, the Queen of Sivaganga.

Thank you.