

## **Need to declare 'Thirukkural' by Thiruvalluvar as India's National Book**

**SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE):** Vanakkam, Chairperson Madam.

With a voice that echoes the pride of Tamil Nadu and the conscience of this nation, I rise to humbly urge the Government to declare Thirukkural, authored by the sage Thiruvalluvar as India's national treasure book. This is not a regional demand. It is a national call for moral recognition. Thirukkural is not a religious scripture, but a timeless ethical masterpiece of 1,330 couplets that teach *aram*, *porul*, and *inbam*. Its verses speak of non-violence, justice, compassion, equality, and duty. In this House, the Prime Minister has quoted from Thirukkural; the Finance Minister has quoted from Thirukkural; and many others have also displayed the verses.

This is not a new demand. The Tamil Nadu Assembly has already passed resolutions to announce Thirukkural as a national treasure book. Why is there a delay? In these challenging times, when public life yearns for ethical grounding, what better beacon than Thirukkural? It transcends region, religion, and language. It unites where politics divides. By declaring Thirukkural as a national treasure book, we honour not just Tamil heritage but India's commitment to dharma, dignity, and moral clarity.

I appeal to the hon. Minister and this Government to declare Thirukkural as a national treasure book.