

Title: Regarding firing on adivasis (Tribals) in Kerala.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Sir, *adivasis* in Kerala are on a struggle to regain their lost land from which they were systematically evicted by the powerful encroachers. In fact, the Government of Kerala has given them an assurance that they will be given their land back. The Chief Minister, after signing the agreement, assured them that they will be given back their land and danced with the tribals. That photograph appeared in the newspaper. Now, as a token of their protest, to force the Government implement the promise given to them, they have occupied a part of the forest land. Sir, these poor people were brutally beaten up. They were fired on. ...(*Interruptions*) This is a very serious issue. This sort of a brutality is unheard of in the history of Kerala.

Sir, I request, through you, that a Central team should come to Kerala to enquire about it. ...(*Interruptions*) This sort of a brutality is unheard of in Kerala. Severe lathicharge and firing took place. ...(*Interruptions*) A Central team should come to Kerala and the Home Minister should respond to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri N.N. Krishnadas will speak now.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALGHAT): Sir, this is the first incident of its kind ever heard in the history of Kerala, this kind of brutal attack against *adivasis*. One *adivasi* has been declared to have been killed by the police, but more *adivasis* may be killed. ...(*Interruptions*) Hundreds of *adivasis* are in police custody and they are being brutally tortured by the police. This is not only a simple question of law and order; this is something more than that. ...(*Interruptions*) So, I request that the Central Government should immediately intervene in the matter. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vinay Kumar Sorake.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, the Home Minister is here. He should respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : I requested the Leader of the Opposition also to ask the Chief Minister ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, this is a State subject. If State subjects are allowed to be raised in the House ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (IDUKKI): Sir, a Central team should visit Kerala to ascertain the facts. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : The Leader of Opposition also should ask the Government ...(*Interruptions*) Hon. Home Minister is sitting here. He should respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE : Sir, it concerns the *adivasis* of this country. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : This is not on law and order. *Adivasis* are being killed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Home Minister is present here. He can collect the information and send it to you, or he can make a statement right now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Home Minister, this is an issue of serious nature. You can get the information and send it to the hon. Members.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): About what?

MR. SPEAKER: About Kerala, firing on Adivasis.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please sit down. Let the hon. Minister speak.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that in this hubbub I could not understand what was being said. If there has been any incident of firing in Kerala, I will find out from the State Government and inform the House.