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Title: Reported manhandling of Media persons by CRPF in Kerala.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): This is a time when we have passed the Right to Information Act. So, it is the right of every citizen to get news whatever it is at the earliest. The journalists are doing a great service in this regard.[\[R18\]](#)

Sir, recently, in Kerala, the Central Reserve Police Force, the CRPF, have very brutally beaten up journalists who went to report a very important matter, a very keenly contested by-election in the State, the results of which the people were awaiting very eagerly. The journalists had the passes from the respective authorities and the Election Commission, still they were wrongfully detained. This is not only an infringement on the rights of the citizens to know the news, but also a brutal attack on the journalists.

Sir, I would like to submit that the matter has to be taken seriously. I would also like to urge upon the Home Minister, who is present here in the House, to take note of this that the CRPF has been acting *ultra vires* to the powers which they have...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have already made the point, please do not repeat. There is no good in repetition.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : They have been acting brutally against the journalists.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri K.S. Manoj, please be brief. Please do not go on reading out a long statement.