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Title: Need to declare 'May Day' as a paid holiday for working class throughout the country

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): Sir, I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance regarding the welfare of working class and the need to declare the day which was marked by struggle and sacrifice throughout the world, as a paid holiday.

May Day is being celebrated in the entire globe as a labour victorious day and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May every year is declared as a holiday by the Government under the Payment of Wages Act. In Tamil Nadu, during the period of Periar, Annadurai and Dr. Kalaingar, May Day was declared as paid holiday. During the tenure of Shri V.P. Singh, as the Prime Minister, our leader, Dr. Kalaingar took the initiative and requested the then P.M. to declare May Day as a paid holiday throughout India, at par with Tamil Nadu. However, at that time, it was declared as a holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act by the Centre.

Now, after so many changes having taken place globally, still the Government of India has not come forward to declare May Day as a paid holiday. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government and the Hon'ble Prime Minister to declare May Day as a paid holiday which would give proper recognition of the right of the working class.