

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding importance and significance of a very old and historical tribal festival of Hedaram Sammakka Saralamma Jathara

PROF. A.S.R. NAIK (MAHABUBABAD): Thank you, Madam, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the importance and significance of a very old and historical tribal festival of *Medaram Sammakka Saralamma Jathara*, which is being celebrated since the 12th Century by the tribal *adivasi* people in one of the Assembly segments in my Parliamentary Constituency called Mulugu-Palampet.

Nearly, 1 crore *adivasi* and non-tribals are participating and celebrating this festival on *Magashudda Pournami* in the month of January - February for four days in memory of sanctification of the whole family of *Sammakka-Saralamma*.

I would request the Central Government, through you, Madam, and particularly, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Cultural Affairs to declare and recognize this historical festival as a national festival on par with the *Vanaj* festival of North India. I am asking this because nearly 1 crore devotees from all the States of the country are participating and offering gold in the form of jaggery. So, this is the demand and request of the people of my Constituency and my State. Kindly consider this request. Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER : Dr. Boora Narsaiah Goud is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Prof. A.S.R. Naik.