

Bazar and therefore no paper could be purchased by the Super Bazar from them.

(c) These three cooperative organisations have no objection in purchasing the paper from M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. or their authorised distributors in Delhi, if specific requirement are received by them from the purchasing Departments and M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. agree to abide by the purchase policies of these organisations.

Implementation of Official Language Act

2712. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the arrangements made for effective implementation of the official Language Act in Government Departments;

(b) the reasons for failure in implementation of the Official Language Act despite several ambitious programmes;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to constitute an Official Language Commission to implement the Official Language Act and to monitor its proper implementation alongwith the features of the Commission proposed to be set up in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government have formulated any special scheme for the promotion of Hindi in the State of Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details in regard thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Hindi Salahkar Samities under the Chairmanship of Ministers concerned of various Ministries/Depts. review the progressive use of Official Language Policy in their respective Ministries/Depts. and suggest measures for progressive use of Hindi in Official work and for implementation of Official Language Policy, Departmental Official Language Implementation Committees have also been constituted to review quarterly progressive reports of Official Language and to suggest measures to achieve the targets fixed in Annual Programme.

In addition, Hindi Posts of various categories have been created by the Ministries/Depts. Various awards and incentives scheme are being run for implementation of Official Language Policy.

(b) Implementation of Official Language Policy of Union is done through motivation, incentives and goodwill. Accordingly, all Ministries/Depts. are implementing the provisions of Official Language Act and Official Language Rules and use of Hindi in Official work is increasing gradually.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Central Government gives grant to the voluntary organisations, engaged in propagation of Hindi in other non-Hindi speaking States including Maharashtra.

At present nine such voluntary organisations are functioning in Maharashtra.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Item No. 10 - statement by the hon. Prime Minister .

12.00 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Re : Bilateral Talks With United States

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Sir, since the May 11 and 13 tests, the Government has, from time to time, taken the House into confidence and sought views of the hon. Members. This was done through statements and discussions in the House on 27-29 May, 8 June and on 3-4 August. Nevertheless, I wish to re-emphasise some salients of our policy.

I take this opportunity to reiterate that India's commitment to global nuclear disarmament remains undiluted. As hon. Members are no doubt aware, India had consistently maintained that a nuclear-weapon-free-world would enhance not only our security but the security of all nations. That is why numerous initiatives in this direction were taken during the last fifty years; such steps as would encourage decisive and irreversible measures for the attainment of this objective. Regrettably, the international community, particularly countries that have based their security on nuclear weapons or a nuclear umbrella, have been reluctant to embrace this objective. Keeping open our nuclear option, therefore, became a national security imperative three decades ago, an imperative equally valid for India in the post-Cold War period. The option that was exercised in May, 1998 was thus a continuation of a decision taken nearly 25 years earlier; during which period India had demonstrated an exemplary nuclear restraint, given the exceptional security related complexities of our region. I wish to place on record that successive governments continued to safeguard this option, demonstrate our capability and take such steps as were necessary to ensure the viability of the option through weaponisation.

Just as our conventional defense capability has been deployed in order to safeguard the territorial integrity and sovereignty of India against any use or threat of use of force, the adoption of our nuclear deterrent posture has also followed the same logic. We have announced our intention to maintain a minimum nuclear deterrent, but one that is credible. Mindful of our global and enhanced responsibility to address concerns of the international community, and in order to reassure all countries about the defensive nature of our nuclear capability, we have engaged in bilateral discussions with key interlocutors. In international forums, like the United Nations, India is the only country possessing nuclear weapons to raise a call for negotiating a gradual and progressive elimination of all nuclear weapons, within a time-bound framework.

We also have an established tradition of consultation with friendly countries on all important international issues. Successive Governments have pursued an open, positive and constructive approach in our foreign relations. This is in keeping with our national ethos. It is