

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]
Durgapur, on the plea that as the present Collectorate Office in Bolpur was located in different houses, there was allegedly inconvenience in carrying out the work of Collectorate.

This is nothing but a specious plea and the proposed move, if implemented, will not only be against public interest but will result in incurring colossal avoidable expenditure of over Rs. one crore, which will totally go waste. I had protested the earlier move to shift the office from Bolpur to Calcutta. Now it seems that instead of Calcutta, it is going to be shifted to Durgapur. When there is adequate rented accommodation already available in Bolpur and when the new Central Excise Complex is going to come up in a few years' time, for which land has been made available by the State Government and other municipal facilities have been provided by the Bolpur Municipality, there can be no plausible reason for temporarily shifting the office to Durgapur and then to bring it back to Bolpur after the construction of the complex. Such shifting will seriously disrupt the proper functioning of the Collectorate and will seriously affect the job potential in the district of Birbhum. The proposed complex, where the Collectorate Office is to be permanently located, according to the present plan, can easily be constructed while maintaining the present office in Bolpur itself. I urge upon the government to desist from implementing the move and to allow the Collectorate Office to remain in Bolpur and to expedite the construction of the proposed complex at Bolpur.

**(v) Demand for Including 'Pahari'
Language In Eighth Schedule of the
Constitution of India**

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR
(Haidarpur): The people of Himachal Pradesh have been consistently pleading for the inclusion of Pahari (Himachali) in the

Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India ever since 1966, when the hill areas of Punjab were merged in Himachal Pradesh to form the present State under the able guidance of Dr. Y.S. Parmar, the architect of modern Himachal Pradesh. The Himachal Academy of Art, Culture and Languages has been striving for the promotion of Pahari language, literature, art and culture ever since it was set up on 2nd October, 1972 following passing of a resolution to this effect by the H.P. Vidhan Sabha on 30th September, 1970. Over 100 writers in Pahari have contributed to the growth of the literature. At present the Academy with Shri Virbhadra Singh as the President, is engaged in preparing a Pahari-Hindi Directory, Grammar and History of Pahari literature.

Scholars and linguists have strived hard to develop the language. The State Government has instituted annual prizes for excellence in Pahari literature in the name of Pahari Gandhi Baba Kanshi Ram, a pioneer Pahari Poet, in whose honour Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, released a commemorative stamp at Jwalamukhi on 23rd April, 1984.

Millions of Himachalis before and after the formation of the present State on the basis of its being Pahari speaking as distinguished from Punjabi speaking Punjab and Hindi speaking Haryana, have been recording Pahari as their mother tongue in various Census Returns from 1891 onwards. The Government of India is committed to the promotion of all such 34 languages including Pahari which is spoken by over one million as per answer to the Starred Question No. 430 dated 24-3-1988.

So I request the Union Government to include Pahari in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution without any further delay and also get it immediate recognition from the Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.