

(3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1979-80 along with Audit Report thereon.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. (Placed in library See No. LT-4250/82)

12.07 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secreary-General of Rajya Sabha:

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1982, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th July, 1982."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 14th July, 1982, agreed without any amendment to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill 1982, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th April, 1982."

PREVENTION OF BLACKMARKETING AND MAINTENANCE OF SUPPLIES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1982, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप चाइनीज समझते हैं । स्वामी जी से पूछो, स्वामी जी से बात करो ।

श्री जटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नयी दिल्ली) : दिल्ली में पावर शैडिंग हो रहा है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं करवा रहा हूँ ।

श्री हरिकोश बहादुर : पूरे कंट्री में पावर क्राइसेस के बारे में बात होनी चाहिए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप बैठिये । इट इज अंडर माई कंसीडरेशन । मैं कर रहा हूँ । एक दिन में नहीं हो सकता है । मुसीबत यह है कि आप जल्दी करने लगते हैं । मिस्टर पाल ।

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

AGITATION ON LANGUAGE ISSUE IN KARNATAKA

PROF. RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of the agitation in Karnataka on the language formula."

12.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND HOME AFFAIRS (HRI R. VENKATARAMAN): Sir, The Government of Karnataka have informed that the Gokak Committee in its report had *inter alia* recommended that Kannada should be made the sole first language and should be made compulsory subject of study from the 3rd standard onwards.

2. During February 1982 demonstrations, public meetings and processions were taken out in several districts of

[Shri R. Venkataraman]

Karnataka for and against the report of the Gokak Committee.

3. The agitation demanding implementation of the Gokak Committee report again commenced in April, 1982. In Bangalore city on 17-4-1982, a procession turned unruly and caused damage to several vehicles and buildings. On the same day at Chitradurga police had to open fire to disperse a violent crowd demanding implementation of the Gokak Committee report as a result of which two persons died.

4. The agitation against the implementation of the report took a violent turn at Kolar from 5-7-1982 to 7-7-1982. Violent mobs indulging in stone throwing and arson against railway station, public vehicles and public buildings repeatedly clashed with the police resulting in the death of 4 and injuries to 24.

5. The State Government after considering all aspects of the matter have decided that while Kannada will be the sole first regional language, students belonging to linguistic minorities can also study their own language and will also be given weightage in marks in the study of Kannada. The decision was adopted by a unanimous resolution in both Houses of Legislature on 24-6-1982. The State Government have further informed that the decisions of the Government have generally been well received by the various linguistic minority groups in the State. The situation is reported to be peaceful throughout the State at present.

6. The Central Government have remained in constant touch with the State Government so that the interests of the minorities may get proper protection. It is unfortunate that there was needless violence and loss of life due to an agitation on this issue.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL: In the statement made by the hon. Minister it has been stated that the decision of the State Government had been generally well-received by the various linguistic

minorities. Any intelligent person, any right-thinking person, will feel that what is happening in Karnataka is something dangerous for the national integration of the country. Because, it is not simply a law and order question; the State Government of Karnataka has succumbed to the chauvinistic and unjust demand of a section of the people, in utter disregard of the rights of the minority linguistic groups there.

Sir, at the time of the formation of the linguistic States and also later on about a quarter of a century ago, there was an understanding reached in the Southern Chief Ministers' Zonal Council meeting where the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, the Chief Minister of Kerala, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu were also present. There an agreement had been reached that in all the four southern States the interests of the minority linguistic groups will be protected and their understanding goes on till now in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh that if there are 10 students in a class or say, 25 per cent of the students in a class and if they demand that they want to be educated, to be instructed, to have their education in their mother-tongue, parallel classes will have to be conducted. Bidding good-bye to all such agreements, bidding good-bye to ~~any~~ ~~assurance~~ ~~or~~ ~~consensus~~ that was reached in the Southern Zonal Council meeting about 25 years back, the present Chief Minister of Karnataka had added fire to the fuel.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): Fuel to the fire.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You must be guided by the Professor.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL: I want to be guided by you only.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are also a professor.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL: But I want to be guided by you.

Sir, the Gokak Committee has recommended that the sole first language as the medium of instruction in Karnataka will be Kannada. But there were misgivings,

agitations and all these things and the Chief Minister had, to some extent, correctly made an announcement modifying the Gokak Committee Report on 30th of April that the minority linguistic groups will not have to compulsorily take up Kannada as the first language, they will have the alternative to have their education in their mother-tongue also. But later on it was pressurised by people and it was all politics. I do not want to bring politics here, but Sir, after 35 years of Independence what is happening throughout India is centering round questions which should have long been solved in any democratic administration—the aspirations of the people of different ethnic groups, of different cultural groups to preserve their identity, to maintain their identity, their linguistic and cultural identity.

Sir, in the Eighth Schedule we find 15 languages are recognised, but still there are many other groups. So often in both the Houses there has been demand for recognition of Maithili, there has been demand for recognition of Manipuri, Dogri, Nepalese and all these things. That is a big question about equal status, equal respect to all Indian languages. In the Indian Constitution it has been visualised that English will be replaced by Indian languages. Even now in Karnataka we find that the movement is not against English. Even the sons and daughters of some leaders prefer education in English medium. Such a situation has arisen in Karnataka which bore seal that there is another Assam in the offing. Today they are trampling the rights of the minorities. Tomorrow they will say 'Karnataka only for the Kannadies, jobs for the sons of the soil'. Is it not another Assam in the offing? By leaving it as a State subject, by leaving it to the whims and caprices of the State Government, can Parliament, the Central Government ignore such an important question? What is happening there? After the announcement of 30th April of Shri Gundu Rao, Chief Minister, things were taking a different turn. Recently on acceptance of the Government of Karnataka for implementation of the Gokak Committee Report *in toto* at the cost of the rights and claims of the linguistic min-

orities, you have already seen, more than seven or eight lives have already been lost. You have seen the happenings in Kolar Gold field area. In all this property loss and damage has been there. That is not the end of it.

It has been said here "that the situation is reported to be peaceful throughout the State at present". But Karnataka is a State with border areas—in the northern part are the Marathi speaking people, in the southern part and even in the rural Kolar District there are Tamil and Telegu speaking people. What will happen? Can we check this announcement of the State Government of Shri Gundu Rao—"that everything is peaceful" and "that the decision of the Government have generally been well received by various linguistic minority groups in the State". How can it be true? I am being deprived and my right is being trampled to have education through my mother tongue which is a right given in the Constitution. Will you agree to this decision of the Government of Karnataka? Very serious things are being said.

I have not much time. Therefore, I am reading only one of the letters from the leader of the agitation for implementation *in toto* of the Gokak Committee Report. He says:

"It is our intention that non-Kannada brethren living in the State learn Kannada"

Not only that, he continues to say:

"and mingle with the Karnataka people. If they want to go against our wish, they would have to face consequences."

Will these things be limited to Karnataka? Will it not have re-action in other Southern States? The Karnatakas as linguistic minorities in other States are enjoying the privilege and the right to have their education through their mother tongue. In view of that consensus was arrived at 25 years ago in the Southern Zonal Council. But this Gundu Rao Government is depriving the other minorities—Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Urdu speaking people of their right to have education.

[Prof. Rup Chand Pal]

All this is due to not only (*Interruptions*). It is not simple bungling. There is politics in it. Assembly elections are round the corner. In the factional feud Gundu Rao wants to win over other people. The people have been diverted to faction, and the passions aroused may go astray. He has done this with the idea that he may have a predominating position. This is just the result of faction. I am squarely accusing the Karnataka Unit of the Congress (I) for the present situation. What happened? The first step that was taken was that Sanskrit was elevated to a higher pedestal than Kannada. Naturally, there was a reaction among the Kannada people that they were being deprived of their right to get education through their mother-tongue. Naturally, the movement started and ultimately the movement was diverted to arouse up passion, chauvinistic passion and we have reached such a situation today and naturally there are other reactions in the minority people.

In view of the grave situation, may I know from the hon. Home Minister whether the Central Government would constitute a suitable machinery to safeguard the interests of the linguistic minority as provided in our Constitution and prevail on the Karnataka Government as also other leaders of the pro-Gokak Committee report movement to agree to abide by the consensus that was reached in the Southern Zonal Council meeting of the Chief Ministers, which is still now being respected by other Southern States?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Member has given a very interesting background to this particular problem. Actually, the position in Karnataka is that there is a very strong section which wants the Gokak Committee report to be implemented in full, *in toto*. Karnataka has also a large population speaking other languages than Kannada, Telugu for instance, Urdu for instance, Marathi, Tamil and Malayalam and all these languages.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Every State is a mini-India.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In fact, the constitution of this province is that it

has been carved out from various other States like Madras Presidency and other States and is truly representative of almost all the languages and there is a very strong section which is also opposed to this Gokak Committee Report.

If you look at the incidents the Chitradurga violence was brought about by those who wanted the implementation of the Gokak Committee report *in toto*. The Kolar incident was brought about by those people who opposed to the Gokak Committee Report. Therefore, the Chief Minister of the State is necessarily obliged to find a compromise formula. The compromise formula that he found is that Kannada will be the first language in schools but other people, linguistic minority, who offer Kannada will get a grace mark of 15 in addition to the marks they get in Kannada. That is to say, if a boy gets only 20 marks in Kannada, then he does not pass because he has to get a minimum of 35, and he will get a grace mark of 15 and then he will pass.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Polachi): Excuse me I want a clarification.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, no. Let him complete.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will not allow you.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I know the problem very well.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East): You please allow me; my name is there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is all right.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In fact, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy speaks before his turn and does not speak when his turn comes.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Always out of turn.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The point is about 15 grace marks, as to otherwise how do you expect the Karnataka legislature which consists of other linguistic minorities representatives to accept it? There are not only Kannada people in the legislature. There are other linguistic minorities also. All of them have unanimously accepted it as a compromise. It is not an ideal solution I agree. But then it is a compromise. One has to arrive at a national compromise in these matters. This was a compromise which has been accepted by the legislature and we should do everything to strengthen the compromise which has been achieved.

This is a matter in which passions can be very easily roused. Small differences can be magnified. If you go on magnifying differences and rousing passions, we will never get to any solution. I must say, in view of the very sharp events that have taken place where lives have been lost, the fact that the legislature of Karnataka has been able to arrive at a unanimous resolution acceptable to all the people is itself a very creditable thing for the Karnataka State as a whole. It shows that the people who were totally in favour of Kannada being the sole language have agreed that the other people should get grace marks so that they can make up if there is any deficiency and the other people have also accepted, living in a particular State, that they have to learn that language in addition to their own language.

I, therefore, earnestly appeal to all the members, since some kind of a solution has been found, not to rouse the feelings of the people on this matter. I am willing to answer any question and, if no solution had been found, a debate of this kind would certainly have been welcome. But where some kind of a solution has been found, we should not upset it. This is my earnest appeal to the hon. Members of the House.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL: Is it a solution?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It is a compromise.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR (Trivandrum): Compromise with whom?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Amongst people.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I feel that this matter should have been referred to the Education Minister because the whole matter has arisen out of the education policy of the Karnataka Government. I feel that the Education Minister would have answered the question in a better way because the education policy is involved here. The matter of law and order is within the purview of the State and they are taking care of it. The main question is that of the education policy. Anyway, I feel that Mr. R. Venkataraman is quite capable of answering my questions relating to the education policy also.

Any linguistic minority is always conscious of the interest of their language and their culture. But any linguistic minority has no right to curb the aspirations of the majority community. I think, Karnataka has been late enough to introduce Kannada in its education formula. In our northern States we have made our language, from the beginning, compulsory as the first language. I feel, Karnataka has every right to introduce its language and make it compulsory. But, at the same time, the linguistic minorities should also be provided facilities for their sons and daughters in their own languages. The Karnataka Government has already provided this facility apart from making Kannada compulsory. But, what I feel is that Kannada should not be made compulsory in the schools run by the linguistic minorities. They have a constitutional right to establish their own institutions and to impart education in their own languages. I do not know whether the Karnataka Government's decision to make Kannada compulsory is also applicable to the educational institutions established by the minority communities in Karnataka. I would like to have an answer from the Hon. Minister.

[Shri Zainul Basher]

I do not know whether it applies to the minority institutions or not and if it applies, these institutions must have been recognised by some Board which must have been conducting the examinations. In such circumstances, I feel that it is the Constitutional obligation on the part of the Central Government to safeguard the interests of the linguistic minorities. Instead of forcing the State Governments to do so, the Central Government should come out in a big way to establish Central schools in the minority areas so that the children of the minority communities may get education, according to their choice. This problem is not limited to Karnataka alone. I think this problem is in every State, somewhere or the other. If the Central Government opens the schools in minority areas, I think this problem may be solved to a great extent. I would like to know from the Government whether such a step is contemplated.

I would like to say something about the three-language formula which has been evolved for the purpose of national integration and also for the purpose of linguistic minorities. I was reading the newspapers the other day in the Rajya Sabha. The Hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs said that the Central Government has no control on the States regarding the three-language formula. 'Education' is on Concurrent List. State Government has every power to control the education policy throughout the country. Some steps should be taken for the implementation of three-language formula not only in Karnataka but in all the States of the country because it serves them so far at national integration is concerned.

I have already mentioned that minorities have Constitutional rights to establish their own educational institutions and to give education to their children according to their choice. I would like to know whether Government is prepared and willing for the minority institutions in all the States, not only Karnataka, to be recognised by the Central Board of Education so that there may not be any hindrance created by the States Boards concerned. I request the Hon. Minister to clarify this point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What would be the medium of instruction in those Central schools which you want?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: That is the choice of students. I am saying that Central Schools should be opened in a big way in those areas. Even the Tamilians or the Maharashtrians cannot force the Karnataka Government not to introduce Kannada compulsorily because we cannot check the aspirations of the majority, but at the same time we have to safeguard the interests of the minority. Both should co-exist.

Though these questions concern the Education Ministry, I hope the Home Minister will be able to give some answers.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: The hon. Deputy Minister for Education is here and since the question fall within the jurisdiction of the Education Ministry, he has very kindly agreed to answer them.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): As the House is aware, so far as the educational policy is concerned, it is quite clear that it was declared in 1968 and a white paper was laid on the Table of this House also. From that National Policy on Education, I would like to read out the extracts pertaining to the three-language formula, for giving clarification to the hon. Member:

"At the secondary stage, the State Government should adopt, and vigorously implement, the three-language formula which includes the study of a modern India language, preferably one of the southern languages, apart from Hindi and English in the Hindi-speaking States, and of Hindi along with the regional language and English in the non-Hindi speaking States. Suitable courses in Hindi and/or English should also be available in universities and colleges with a view to improving the proficiency of students in these languages upto the prescribed university standards."

In respect of implementation, it is a fact that we do not have the machinery for

implementing *in toto* the three-language formula in the States. It is also a fact that Education has been brought into the Concurrent List. But mere bringing it into the Concurrent List is not sufficient. Follow-up actions are being taken to amend certain Acts and, if necessary, to introduce some more Bills to enable us to have control over the States. We are trying to do it.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: My other questions have not been replied to. I wanted to know whether Government is going to open Central Schools in the areas of linguistic minorities so that they can get the education of their choice. I also wanted to know whether the educational institutions established by the minorities are going to be recognised by the Central Board of Education because there may be some hurdles in the State Boards recognising them.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: These are suggestions, but at the same time I would like to say that, during the course of the discussion in the Budget Session, I have said that every year we are going to open 40 schools throughout the country.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: In the minority areas.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Opening of Central Schools is mainly for the children of transferrable Central Government employes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: His suggestion can be taken note of.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: So far as his suggestion is concerned, it is taken note of.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I hope you and the hon. Home Minister are more aware of the seriousness of the language question because both you come from—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As if you do not; you also come from that area.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Both of you come from the State which was once at a burning point so far as the language question is concerned.

But I am astonished to note that the hon. Home Minister has not taken it now seriously. The statement of the Minister itself...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is an expert in mind reading.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: The statement of the Minister placed before the House itself is an eye-wash. It is actually against facts and realities. In the statement the Minister says:

"The decision was adopted by a unanimous resolution in both Houses of Legislature on 24.6.82."

I question this statement. That is not actually the fact. One Member belonging to the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti walked out of the Assembly protesting against this resolution. It is on record and the Home Minister can even verify from the Assembly proceedings. But I think the Home Minister has given this statement which is so irresponsible because he has only acted as a postman for placing some letter before this House. The statement starts:

"The Government of Karnataka have informed..."

No direct information the Central Government is having. The Home Minister is having so many kinds of machinery to assess the situation and to know the things.

Even regarding this Kolar Gold field incident and firing the statement is not based on facts. Actually there was no violence from the side of the agitators. I have personally gone to the place to assess the situation and I can clearly say that there was no violence on the part of the agitators. It was peaceful agitation and deliberately fire was opened on the agitators and the number of persons killed given in the statement is not correct. So many people were killed—about 100 persons.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You were present on the spot?

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: I visited the place after some time. Even the newspapers have not carried the news properly because most of the newspapers published from Bangalore are supporting this report.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Even Tamil newspapers are there.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: But they have reported.

"The situation is reported to be peaceful throughout the State at present."—that is the conclusion of the Home Minister. "The situation is reported to be peaceful..."

—I do not know who has given that report to the Home Minister...

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Gundu Rao.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Gundu Rao might have given but actually the situation is not peaceful. The situation is serious and anytime it may explode. Actually, Mr. Gundu Rao, the Chief Minister himself has created all these issues because the final order regarding this language question on the part of his Government is the fifth about-turn after he assumed power.

First of all, I think in 1980, Mr. Gundu Rao altered the school curricula to enhance the importance of Sanskrit. Then, he appointed a Committee consisting of Sanskrit experts to uphold his decision on Sanskrit. After receiving the report from that Committee—Gokak Committee—with-out going into the details of it and reading that, the Chief Minister issued a statement that he was going to implement the report as it was. And then, the linguistic minorities people continued so many demonstrations against that. Then only the Chief Minister had taken pains to read that report. He issued a statement after that saying no, no; he will take into consideration all the linguistic minorities' mind and only after that the report would be implemented. Sir, one-fifth of the population in Karnataka constitutes linguistic minori-

ties, Marathas, Urdu-speaking people, Tamil-speaking people, Telugu-speaking people, Malayalam-speaking people and there are some other Konkani and other dialect speaking people. As Prof. Pal has pointed out though this is not part of the Karnataka politics even then it has become a part of the politics within the Congress (I) Party there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Put your questions.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Without consulting the linguistic minorities, the Karnataka Government although the Assembly's Resolution was also there—I do not dispute it—this is not a unanimous resolution—has taken a decision to implement the Gokak Committee Report *in toto*.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: No.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: The Hon. Minister stated that 'this is a compromise statement; do not try to create an issue'. That was his statement. This was a compromise statement; the linguistic minorities were not consulted before taking a final decision. This is not a question concerning only Karnataka because, as we all know, this linguistic minority question and other things have created the issues. Even the present Chief Minister has asked the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra to give protection to the Kannadigas in Maharashtra; he has written to the Central Government also about the attack on Kannadigas and other South Indians which they had to face in Maharashtra. Even while in Madras once, the present Karnataka Chief Minister has asked the Tamilnadu Government to treat the Kannadiga schools there in Madras as minority schools and provide them all amenities.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI: Already provided.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Yes, already provided. The present Chief Minister, in a public meeting, said that. So, this is a question even in Kerala. All of you may be knowing

that Kannadigas are there in Kasargod. The Kasargod Kannadiga Association has passed a resolution against the implementation of the Gokak Committee Report and said that if the Kerala Government also follows the Karnataka Government policy, then, the plight of the Kannadigas in Kerala will be very dangerous. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why I said that every State in India is a mini-India. We will have to be very careful.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Sir, the Home Minister is saying this—I do not know from which report—that the situation there is very peaceful. I think this is a serious question and it should be taken note of. It is a serious question which should be seriously taken into account because there are also other issues connected with this. Even in Gudajur there is an issue regarding Malayalees staying there. That question has also been brought before the Prime Minister and the Government. Already in Bombay there is harassment of South Indians. I urge upon the Home Minister through you to constitute a committee of this House to go into all the details. As Prof. Pal has already pointed out there was a decision in this regard at the meeting of the Southern Chief Ministers. Something should be done to get that decision implemented. Similarly, in regard to Karnataka question the Central Government should not take it easy by merely receiving some report from the State Government. The Central Government should take it seriously a conference of the representatives of the linguistic minorities along with the Kannada-speaking people should be convened, if possible, including the Members of Parliament from the concerned language-speaking areas also. Till this is done, the present decision should be kept in abeyance.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir the positive suggestion made by the hon. Member is that we must constitute a committee of the House to go into this question. I do not see any reason why a committee of this House should be constituted. There are Constitutional provisions in our

statute which give protection to the minorities, viz., Articles 29, 30 and so on. If any violation takes place certainly it can be brought to our notice and action can be taken. No such thing has been brought to the notice of the Central Government. The only question which has been raised is that the new formula is not strictly in accordance with the three-language formula. But this is a matter in which there has been some kind of understanding in the legislature. This also provides for the study of the other two languages. It may be a slight variation but still it is within the broad principles of the three-language formula. Therefore, I do not see any reason why a committee is necessary at all.

Then the hon. Member contested the statement that the Resolution was passed unanimously in the legislature. I have the telegram from the Government of Karnataka State that the Resolution was passed unanimously in the Legislative Assembly.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Some Members walked out.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I am going to comment on this. They made the mistake of walking out and thus enabling the Government to see that it is unanimously passed.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Members raised the protest and then walked out.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: In a democratic procedure the way to register your protest is to stay in the House. If you run away then your protest cannot be registered. (*Interruptions*). Sir, I do not want to enter into any argument on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister can place before the Parliament what he has received from the Karnataka Assembly.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, then Mr. Nadar said that I was acting as a postman and only giving information that has been received by me. Sir, does he want me to prevaricate? As a Home Minister I cannot add or subtract from the information I get from respective authorities.

[Shri R. Venkataraman]

As I have stated, the situation is peaceful and I would not like anything to be done to disturb it.

SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: He says, 100 people died. That is what he said.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I have a statement in which I have stated the correct position.

SHRIMATI SUSHEELA GOPALAN (Alleppey): Sir, I am very much surprised to hear the Home Minister saying that a 'Compromise solution' is there. What is this 'compromise solution'? Has the State Government got any right to compromise on any constitutional provision? That is what I am very much worried about. You cannot certainly compromise on an important constitutional provision. You just can't do that. A specific provision is there. Article 350A says like this:

'It shall be the endeavour of every State and of every local authority within the State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups'....

What will happen to that? 25 Years back what has happened. There was an agreement arrived at in the conference of the Chief Ministers of the Southern States. It was decided that all facilities for the linguistic minorities will be given for getting education in their mother tongue. There is a constitutional right also. Now if you say that there is a compromise formula, how can there be a compromise formula on this? Because, now the question is this. I fail to understand whether the Congress-I Party in power have got any policy of their own. Day in and day out you are talking about national integration and all that. Instead of fighting for national integration you are creating all chauvinistic troubles in the country. You will be in the forefront increasing troubles everywhere. How has the whole thing started in Karnataka? You have no language policy there. I ask: What was your policy? Three language formula was im-

plemented in such a way that Kannada, the mother-tongue of the majority of the people was nowhere in the educational policy. Naturally, passions were roused and then gradually the reverse thing took place namely, all importance to Kannada, no other linguistic minorities will be given facilities to study in their mother tongue. That is the problem. So, the question is: Have you not got the right to protect the rights of the minorities to study in their mother tongue? That is the major problem. For that you have not replied. I am very much afraid because if the other three Southern States adopt such a stand, what will happen? Of course, I understand, they are not fools to do that, but anyhow, if they also declare that we will do like that, what would happen? And the suggestion comes from the other side that Kesergode should go to Karnataka. So, you are the trouble-makers. You have no policy. The Congress party in power have no policy. Our party in Karnataka has taken a very good stand. We are very proud of the stand we took. In all the Southern States we are taking a very good stand because we are always for the national integration and all that. You know what is happening in Assam and everywhere. We are taking the correct stand. What is happening in Punjab? Ours is a party which always works for national integration. Everywhere we are doing it. We are proud to say that. What is your party doing? What is the policy of the Congress? Mr. Gundu Rao is bound to implement that. When a Government declares a policy, at least, the Congress Party is bound to implement the constitutional provisions. Will we get these things? What are you doing? You are actually trying to disintegrate the people. Anything and everything can happen in this country. So I want to know whether the linguistic minorities could have the right to study in their mother tongue.

13 hrs.

On April 30, there was a proclamation that Kannada will have 150 marks. Now, it has been changed to 125 marks. Again, the grace marks are not for study of their mother tongue, but for studying Kannada. That means, they have no right to study

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their mother tongue. What is the remedy for that? Will the party in power at the Centre give a guarantee for this?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I am sorry for the hon. Member's lack of knowledge of the formula. The formula is—Kannada is the sole first regional language of the State with 125 marks. The other two language papers to be studied which carry 100 marks each include Urdu, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian etc. Therefore the hon. Member. . . . (*Interruptions*). I do not disturb you; I never disturb anybody. Kindly extend me only that much facility.

If you wax eloquent that they are not allowed to study their language it is beside the point. It appears to have been based on some misinformation and misconception. . . . (*Interruptions*). This is not the forum to debate your policy or my policy. We have done it in 1980 and we will do it in 1985 again.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, he is prompting me to speak about Belgaum; I am in a terrific dilemma. I am a Tamilian, whose parents are living in Bangalore and who has been elected from Maharashtra. . . . (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are yourself a mini-India.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I am stateless.

The Minister has said very rightly that passions can be excited on this subject very quickly, and I must tell you after knowing a little bit of what happened in Karnataka that the passions have been roused unnecessarily.

In 1956, when we had the linguistic reorganisation of States, it was assumed that the linguistic States would promote a language of that State with due protection to the minority languages, but unfortunately in Karnataka the importance that should have been given to Kannada was not given. In fact, it was put on par with Sanskrit since one could score marks easily in Sanskrit, and as a consequence Kannada

did suffer quite a bit. Ultimately, some correction was made, in fact, in October, 1979 when Shri Devraj Urs was the Chief Minister. He tried to change that. And when Shri Gundu Rao came to power, he did not want to be undone in this matter and he also started meddling with this. Unfortunately without their being a national policy on languages, this three-language formula is a very good formula, but it is not being properly implemented. This situation has arisen largely because of unthinking meddling in the whole process.

The Gokak Committee report has been grossly misunderstood by the minorities. I do not think, it ever advocated the kinds of things that are said against it. For example, one of the things being alleged about the Gokak Committee is that it recommends that people should have Kannada as the medium of instructions. Now here in the report it says that Kannada should be the medium of instructions. The other thing that is being said in the regional press is that if the Gokak Committee report is implemented, the peoples' mother tongue will have to be changed, which is like the anti-Hindi agitation in Tamil Nadu, when lot of false impressions had been spread and passions had been roused. Actually, the Gokak Committee report is very straight-forward. They say that all children will have to learn three languages; one of them will be compulsory, that is Kannada. And this will be called the first language, and then the 300 marks for three languages will be distributed. . . . (*Interruptions*). I know what the problems are of minorities. It is not a simple thing. But the distribution of marks was put 150, 100 and 50. This is the ratio—3:2:1, and that too after the 8th standard. And the policy was to come into operation in 1986-87, from then on. So, the report as such is not bad. But what happened is that Mr. Gundu Rao, in his usual flamboyant way, announced that we have decided to accept the Gokak Committee Report *in toto*, without explaining what the Report was. And, Sir, unfortunately the Report was written in chaste Kannada. So, everybody made his own translation of what the Report said. Tamil papers wrote in one way; Urdu papers in ano-

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I am the way, Gujarati papers in another way and Marathi papers in another way and all kinds of false impressions were given and passings were aroused that you will have to give up your language now. You are a second-class citizen. You are finished. This kind of thing was done. This is because of Mr. Gundu Rao's inability to understand the language. It is a very very delicate issue and it has to be handled with a great deal of care.

Unfortunately in this language matter, there is lot of hypocrisy which everybody propagates. Even in Karnataka, the Minister for Public Works and Housing, his name is Thimappa, if I am not wrong, he propagated Kannada in a very big way. But when somebody asked him to which school your children go he had to admit they go to English-medium schools. Similarly the children of the film actor of today, Dr Raj Kumar, also go to English medium schools.

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: That is what came in the Press. Now, I will take his words. Which school do your children go to?

So, it is an attempt to seek popularity by this kind of propagation. That is the root cause. There is no doubt that in Karnataka Kannada must be learnt and it should be a compulsory language. There cannot be any two opinions on that.

AN HON. MEMBER: And it should be primary language.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: And there have to be two other languages to be learnt. The right shall be to learn in mother-tongue. That is not denied. Even in the Gokuk Report, it is not denied. Nowhere in the Gokuk Report it is said that the medium of instruction has to be in Kannada. It says it has to be in the mother-tongue.

Therefore, if your question was to explain all this in the Constitutional provisions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have done the job of the Minister very well.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Yes, Sir, I am preparing for the next election. We have to sit there very soon.

However, Mr. F. M. Khan, who is a close associate of the Chief Minister, started launching an agitation. And then naturally the Kannada people also got excited. What happened in Kolar Gold Field? The brutality of the police there is unbelievable. Mr. Gundu Rao says Naxalites are responsible. But I have got hold of Tamil papers published from Bangalore and they have given such photographs which clearly show that ordinary, common people, young boys have been shot at and four of them have been killed. So, I would ask the Minister in conclusion the following things:

First of all I think it is the job of the Central Government—if the State Government is incompetent—to at last propagate the truth. What is this three-language formula? Even this compromise formula has not been properly explained. I would have expected the Minister that in his opening statement he would have said Gokuk Committee Report has recommended this. We, in the House do not even know what the Gokuk Committee report has said. This should have been brought out that we never meant to replace other languages.

Sir, I would ask him whether he has seen Article 350(b) of the Constitution—Not 50(a) or 29 or 30—which deals with the rights of the minorities? It says:

“There shall be a special officer for linguistic minorities to be appointed by the President.”

Sir, Mr. Zail Singh has become President-elect. The first question that could be put to him is this that:

It shall be the duty of the special officer to investigate matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution and report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct and the,

President shall cause all reports to be laid before each House of Parliament and send to the government of the State concerned. We have a Linguistic Minorities Commission; but in this particular case, for the implementation of this three-language formula in Karnataka, there should be a Special Officer appointed by the President, so that the minorities feel secure, and do not feel that their rights are being taken away. Explanations through radio and T.V. should also be done.

Secondly, even the implementation of the first language of Karnataka would require a large number of teachers of Kannada. I have got the figures; there are 35,000 primary schools in Karnataka. Do they have teachers for all these primary schools? According to newspaper reports, they have not made an adequate provision in the Budget, and in the State Plan, for the training of Kannada teachers. In fact, Kannada teachers are paid very poorly. In fact, many of them try to go away. So, this is another thing. It is easy to say that we must have this, but have you made the financial allocations? No. This is the job of the Minister to find out.

Thirdly, it is not only the Karnataka Legislative Assembly which has passed a resolution. The Maharashtra Legislature has also passed a resolution. So, I would like to ask him whether, in view of the general situation and in the interests of law and order, in respect of those areas which are disputed, the Government has considered any special measures to see that passions do not get out of hand, particularly in terms of implementing the formula.

I would like the Minister to come forward and say that he would urge upon the State Government to have a judicial enquiry in respect of Kolar Gold Fields, because that will go a long way to assuage the feelings of the Tamil minorities in Karnataka.

Finally, I do not understand what this grace mark of 15 is. Is it only for those who fail, or for anybody and everybody? Then why not add on from 110 to 125 and so on?

I would like to conclude by saying that the Gokuk Committee report is not as horrible a report as it has been made out to be. In fact, it is a very reasonable report. If, instead of Mr. Gundu Rao we had a sensible Chief Minister there, it could have been implemented with the cooperation of all the people *in toto*, in fact; and the rights—of the minorities protected. But, unfortunately, the incompetence of their Government is being demonstrated over and over again. And in the case of Mr. Gundu Rao, it is another explanation.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: There is a story in Sanskrit. A man who wanted to kill a tortoise, was beating its back. It did not die. The passer-by was very kind. He said: "Oh! What a fool he is! He is hurting the tortoise like this. If only he turned the tortoise on the other side, and gives one beating, it will die!" Dr. Swami is now using the same tactics. Just to criticize the Gundu Rao Government, he is pretending to be a great champion of the Gokuk Committee report. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI: He is going to Bangalore to-day.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: I do not want to go into all the matters. I only want to say that the Karnataka Government itself has said that a high-power committee will be appointed by the Government for the effective implementation of this formula which they have made. So, whatever Dr. Swamy wanted, would be done by this committee. It will examine the question of the teachers required, and the various aspects of implementation.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Why not have a Special Officer appointed by the President?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: You said that there were not teachers available, and no sufficient steps taken. I said that they were appointing a high-power committee, which is well within the competence of the Karnataka State; and they will attend to it.

[Shri R. Venkataraman]

Next you mentioned that the Central Government must have an officer. Already, we have a Commission, and anything relating to linguistic minorities can be brought before that Commission. Merely adding a number of officers, does not add to the service to the community. I don't think it is necessary when we already have a Linguistic Minorities Commission.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: In that case, was the Linguistic Minorities Commission consulted in this implementation?

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Why should they be consulted? Only if there is any dispute, it will come to them. Unfortunately, Mr. Nadar is disputing. The people of Karnataka do not seem to be disputing. The point is that Mr. Nadar's dispute cannot be taken up. It is the people of Karnataka who must dispute. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: We are here to protect the interest of the linguistic minority. That is why we are disputing.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Then they were commenting on the compromise formula and said that how 15 marks are to be added. To the people who are not Kannada speaking, in the first language Kannada which they offer, whatever marks they get, 15 more marks will be added to them in order to equate the handicap which they suffer.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: For everybody!

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: It is for the non-Kannada speaking people. Non-Kannada speaking will be given a grace of 15 marks for a period of 10 years to make up the handicap which they suffer; and therefore this seems to be a very fair one. After all, everybody cannot have his way all along the line.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: If a person submits a blank answer paper, will he get 15 marks.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Yes, (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: One clarification. This is a very important issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No clarification. The House stands adjourned to meet at 2.15 p.m.

13.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twenty-four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today it is the record time. The quorum bell rang for ten minutes.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 19th July, 1982 will consist of:—

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

2. Consideration and passing of:—

(a) The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill 1982.

(b) The Chaparmukh-Silghat Railway Line and the Katakhal-Lalabazar Railway Line (Nationalisation) Bill, 1981.

(c) The Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1982.