

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]
Five minutes is there and when we take it up, then you can ask for extension of time.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:
Is proviso to Rule 29 not applicable?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, but Rule 30 follows. Rule 30 speaks about adjournment.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:
They are contiguous, in juxtaposition—check by jow!

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why I said the difficulty is that it has to get into the ballot. Any way you can move for adjournment.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH:
I move that the debate on the Resolution be adjourned under Rule 340 to the next day set down for this business, i.e., 31st

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the debate on the Resolution be adjourned?

SOME HON MEMBERS: Yes

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The debate is adjourned

15.49 hrs

RESOLUTION RE: CONTINUANCE OF ENGLISH AS ADDITIONAL LINK LANGUAGE

SHRI S D SOMASUNDARAM
(Thanjavur): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House do urge upon the Government to amend the Constitution so as to implement Pandit Nehru's solemn assurance to Parliament that, besides Hindi being the link language, English would continue as additional link language so long as non-Hindi speaking people want it."

This assurance was given by the late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. But from that time in the House as well as outside, non-Hindi-speaking people have been demanding for the Constitutional amendment. I would ask the Home Minister why the assurance was given, when it was given, to whom it was given and under what circumstances it was given. The Prime Minister of the country will not be giving an assurance to anybody at anytime. An assurance is given when there is such a need because of the political atmosphere in the country. Under certain particular circumstances, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave that assurance. We demand that assurance must be given constitutional protection.

It is claimed that Hindi should become the link language of the States, because it is spoken by 42 per cent of the population. If this 42 per cent were to be scattered throughout the length and breadth of the country, from Cape Comorin to Himalayas, the argument would be logical. But this 42 per cent is concentrated in one compact area, that is, the States of Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, if this 42 per cent is taken into consideration, it would be a permanent advantage to the people of this area and a permanent disadvantage to the people living in other areas. If, instead of 42 per cent, even if it is only 20 to 30 per cent, if Hindi is spoken throughout India, say, by 30 lakhs in Tamil Nadu, 30 lakhs in Kerala, 30 lakhs in Karnataka, 75 lakhs in Andhra and 80 lakhs in West Bengal and Assam and soon, then only we can say that Hindi is spoken throughout India.

If the Hindi-speaking people are scattered throughout India, it may be the logical thing that Hindi may be the official language of the States. It can also be the link language.

For Hindi-knowing people the official language of the State is Hindi and the medium of instruction of the State is Hindi and the link language is Hindi. Do you understand how many the advantages for the Hindi region and how many the disadvantages to the people in the non-Hindi-speaking regions are?

Then, again, we are not against Hindi as such. We are only against Hindi alone being made the official language of the State. There is the classical example of how Canada tackled this problem. Canada was created by immigrants from Europe. Canada has both English-speaking and French-speaking Canadians. Though the French-speaking Canadians are in a very small minority, they have accorded equal status and rights to both English and French. In the same way, we demand that English also be accorded the status of the official language of the State.

We, coming from the non-Hindi-speaking States, are sitting here. But some of the members here though knowing English put questions in Hindi and get answers also in Hindi. When we look at their faces, they give the impression "unless you know Hindi, you must keep quiet". This is the way the non-Hindi-speaking people are treated here.

Not only are the students against having Hindi as the only official language, but also the teachers and professors. Not only are the politicians against it, but also the common people, the industrialists and the Judges. Everybody is against Hindi as the only official language. Even the Janata Party in Tamil Nadu and even our hon. Minister, Shri Ramachandran, do not agree to Hindi as the only official language.

In the Janata Party conference held in Bangalore on 21st or 22nd January, 1978, an assurance was given that there would be no imposition of

one language on another and that all the languages would be given full scope for development. This was just before the elections. It was also an election strategy, and so people would not believe it being only an assurance given on the platform or a public meeting. If you want to gain the confidence of the non-Hindi-speaking people, Parliament is the place where you should give the assurance, and that too not by words but by bringing an amendment of the Constitution. Only if the assurance is turned into a protection can you gain the confidence of the non-Hindi-speaking people.

The Nehru assurance was given years ago. After that we requested the Congress people and the Congress Government to incorporate it in the Constitution, but in the House and outside the House the Congress people said: "We have been elected by the people consecutively for three or four terms. You are small parties and you cannot question our right. Whatever we say is correct, whatever we do is correct." Then, the smaller parties came to an understanding and formed themselves into the Janata Party. Now I ask the Government and the Janata Party not to follow the example of the Congress Party.

Tamil is rich in literature. Works like Paripadal, Padithru Pattu, Silappadikaram, Manimekalai etc., were written some two thousand years ago. Tholkappiyam, which is a work on grammar, was written some three thousand years ago. So, you can imagine the richness of the Tamil language. There is also the great work Tirukkural which has been described as: 'kalattal pazhamaiyum karuttal pudumaiyam, i.e., old in time but new in thought. Tamil is rich enough to become the official language of the Union, and if the Government of India accepts it as the official language, it will fulfil the requirements in all directions within a month. But I am not demanding my language; I am demanding English. I plead for

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[Shri S. D. Somasundaram.]
English. If speak for English not because I am enamoured of it, not because I think English ought to be given a higher place than my own mother tongue, but because it is the most convenient tool, most convenient medium which distributes advantages or disadvantages evenly to Hindi speaking people and non-Hindi speaking people. That is why, we are asking for English to be the official language of the country.

16 hrs.

Hindi is the official language of Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Some States have their own languages like Gujarat—Gujarati Maharashtra—Marathi, Punjab—Punjabi, Andhra—Telugu, Kerala—Malayalam, Tamil Nadu—Tamil, etc. 9 small States have English as the State official language, namely, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Andaman, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Laccadives. But in the Central Government Secretariat, they prepare notes and letters in English and then translate them into Hindi and send Hindi version to non-Hindi speaking States. Whichever State wants Hindi translation, the Government may send. But in this way, you are wasting time, money and manpower in sending Hindi version to all States. You are saying both inside the House as well as outside that you are not imposing Hindi on anybody. But indirectly, you are sending circulars, letters to those offices like the LIC office, AG's office and Railway Departments which are in non-Hindi region like Madras, Kerala only in Hindi language and not in English.

People from the Hindi region were saying that after 1965 Hindi would be the official language of the country. But what happened in 1965? There were agitations against the single official language formula and that Hindi should not become the only official language of the country. The ex-Ministers, Shri Subramaniam and

Shri Alegesan had resigned on the issue of Hindi. I say the non-Hindi region people are not prepared to accept Hindi as the official language. It is not only that we are not prepared for Hindi but Hindi itself is not prepared to become the official language. I request, leave it to the people and let them develop their languages in their own time due to the natural process, without the backing of the Government. If the people think that Hindi has to become a link language, it will first have to be the *de facto* link language and then the *de jure* link language. I would request the Janata Government, the Janata Party, to come to a compromise. You should not bring in Hindi like this. Let the people decide it. You should have full confidence that Hindi by itself will become an official language. I think, you are passing a vote of No Confidence against Hindi, against the ability and the capacity of the Hindi region people to develop Hindi, when you want to bring Hindi with the backing of the Government. I would request you to amend the Constitution. Our Constitution is a flexible one. We can amend the Constitution accordingly to implement Nehru's solemn assurance to Parliament to continue English as additional link language so long as non-Hindi speaking people want it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"This House do urge upon the Government to amend the Constitution so as to implement Pandit Nehru's solemn assurance to Parliament that, besides Hindi being the link language, English would continue as additional link language so long as non-Hindi speaking people want it."

Now, Shri Shyamaprasanna Bhat-tacharyya.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY
(Dharmapuri): My name is at No. 2;

it is my ~~turn~~ now to move the resolution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As per the rules, there can be only one mover of the resolution. Being No. 2, you are getting the precedence in the speakers' list. That is all. Shri Bhat-tacharyya may speak after him.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARAN-GAM (Chengalpattu): I have also given my name to speak on this resolution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is a different matter.

Shri Ramamurthi

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHI: Sir, the resolution for the consideration of the House is:

"This House do urge upon the Government to amend the Constitution so as to implement Pandit Nehru's solemn assurance to Parliament that, besides Hindi being the link language, English would continue as additional link language so long as non-Hindi speaking people want it."

16.08 hrs.

[SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU in the Chair]

*Sir, even in the last Session of Lok Sabha this Resolution of mine got a place in the Ballot and it was put on the agenda for the Private Members' Day. Since the resolution of my hon friend Shri Samar Guha got precedence over mine, my resolution lapsed. I am very happy that the Ballot Box of Lok Sabha has considered again this moment as the most opportune for introducing my resolution demanding that Pandit Nehru's assurance on language to the people of non-Hindi speaking States be given constitutional sanction.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru gave this solemn assurance to the non-Hindi

speaking people, because he realised that so long as non-Hindi people do not want a language it should not be imposed on them. He realised that, unless a language is willingly accepted by the people, from whatever section they may come, it is useless to compel them to learn a language. His assurance was that so long as non-Hindi speaking people want it, English should continue as the additional link language. Till recently the people of Southern States were confident that Nehru's assurance would be honoured and they did not bother themselves about the official language of the country. The political transformation that has taken place in the country during the past 12 months, the political climate prevailing in the country now, has made them feel that even Nehru's assurance would go with the winds.

The Janata Party at the Centre is a party of political groups of varying voices and differing hues. It is a conglomeration, which has thrown the entire country in a cauldron of confusion. The Lok Sabha Elections proved that the Janata Party had no roots in the southern States. The people of southern States elected Congress candidates. The non-Hindi speaking people of Southern States have reaffirmed, in the recent elections to the State Assemblies, that they have no faith in the Janata Party, which has no economic policy except the plank of language fanaticism.

The leaders of Janata Party speak whatever comes to their mind, which has forfeited the confidence of the people of Southern States that Nehru's language assurance would be honoured by the present Central Government. They are afraid that their rights would be denied and they seek constitutional protection to Nehru's assurance on language.

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri K. Ramamurthi]

Instead of concentrating on resolving the economic problems, the Janata leaders both in the Party and in the Government are spending their energy in slogan-mongering like ENGLISH NEVER HINDI EVER. I know the reason for this. The Janata Party Government is representing only Hindi-speaking States, and it is not a Central Government representing the entire nation. Naturally they want to cater to the palate of Hindi-speaking people only and in this process they do not mind even offending the susceptibilities of non-Hindi speaking people.

With his charismatic personality, Pandit Nehru could have declared Hindi as the only language of India on the dawn of 15th August, 1947 and the people would not have batted their eye-brows; they would not have resented it at all. Why did not Nehru do that? He knew that the language is the heart-beat of the people and he knew that language is next only to life. The future well being of the nation was dear to him. But the Janata leaders, who in a group took a solemn oath before the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, are flouting the elementary tenets of Gandhism. Gandhi said that Hindustani should be the language of the nation. But, much to his chagrin, Hindi was made the language of the country. Now, the Janata Government, in spite of their commitment to democracy, is keen to push down the throat of unwilling people Hindi. I would like to warn them that they are only sowing the seeds of separation in the country with this kind of language chauvinism. In 1956 when the country was aflame in language fanaticism, Jawaharlal Nehru could have stood unmoved by the things happening around him. He could have put down the linguistic fracas. But he had the messianic approach to the myriads of problems faced by the country. He constituted the States Reorganisation Commission for, demarcating the

States on the basis of language. Crooked and narrow thinking, which seems to be the prerogative of Janata leaders, was alien to him.

In the recent Janata Party Conference convened at Coimbatore, the Prime Minister, Morarji Desai claimed that Hindi is being spoken by 60 per cent of the people in the country and hence Hindi should be the link language. I deny this and this claim is not based on facts but merely argument of imagination. I refer you to the 1971 Census Report, according to which, out of 54.28 crores of people only 16,25,77,612 people only speak Hindi. I have taken this figure from the Pocket Book of Population Statistics, 1972 published by the Government. Even this figure of 16.26 crores is not correct. This is an artificially hiked-up figure just to boost the number of Hindi-speaking people. Again in the Census Report, you will find that 47 dialects, from Awadhi to Surgujia, form part of Hindi. The number of Hindi-speaking people has thus been multiplied by adding 47 different dialects under Hindi and Hindi is being imposed on this dubious claim of a language being spoken by majority of the people. The statistics are compiled by the Government, not by me. This is going to lead to an area of strife and controversy.

At the time of piloting the official language Bill in the Lok Sabha, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, the former Prime Minister, said

"Price Minister [Nehru] has suggested in his assurance three things: One is that English should continue beyond January, 1965. The second is there should be no time-limit prescribed for this purpose. Thirdly, the views of the non-Hindi speaking people should be taken into consideration before arriving at any final declaration about having Hindi as the only link language."

Let me inform you and the House that Pandit Nehru had the vision that lan-

guage controversy would lead to the disintegration of the country. While speaking in the Constituent Assembly on 18th September, 1949, on the language, Pandit Nehru stated:

"Is your approach going to be democratic approach or authoritarian approach? I venture to put this question to the enthusiasts for Hindi because in many speeches I have listened here and elsewhere there is very much a tone of authoritarianism, very much a tone of Hindi-speaking area being the centre of things in India—the centre of gravity—and others being the fringes of India. That is not only an incorrect approach, but it is a dangerous approach."

Nehru was in fact prophetic and his approach of 28 years ago is true even today. Perhaps as a statesman he could envision the state of things to come in 1977.

I will refer to what Dr. Singhvi a constitutional expert not belonging to any Southern State has to say on the cooked up statistics showing that Hindi is spoken by majority of the people.

"Whole dialects which have nothing to do with Hindi have been included in Hindi census. Even languages like Urdu, Punjabi and Rajasthani have all been included, filched to make Hindi the language of the largest number of people in India."

Let the Prime Minister controvert him. Dr. Singhvi refers to the 1971 Census figures.

By repeating that Hindi is being spoken by majority of people in the country, an attempt is being made to enslave the majority of non-Hindi speaking people of the country.

Let me quote what Shri B. C. Roy, the West Bengal Chief Minister had to say when a Resolution on Language was passed in the West Bengal Assembly.

"It is a fact that constitutionalists who were discussing this problem were obsessed with the idea of a country having one language, but they forget that India is a polyglot country, that there is a large volume of people who have developed their culture and tradition on the Dravidian languages. The Mongolian language also has got a fairly great and large influence over the language of some people of the country. Therefore in a country which is a 1 polyglot country so far language is concerned, the question of having one language only need not be such a difficult problem and it is possible to have in a country like this more than one language, which may be called the official."

This Resolution has not yet been annulled by the West Bengal Assembly and it is in force.

Day in and day out, the Hindi zealots are engaged in language chauvinism. Insults are heaped upon the non-Hindi speaking people. One Minister sitting in London says that Tamil is a Dasi language and in fact all regional languages are Dasi languages. Fortunately he has said it in London. Dasi in Tamil means Prostitute. If he has guts and gumption let him come to Dharmapuri, my constituency, and say this. His family will not get even shreds for his last rites. It is said that those who do not speak Hindi have no love for the country. The hon. Minister says I will not speak English because my parents were no English. Does he mean that those who speak English have English parentage? What a calumny?

Our Prime Minister says: do not impose English on Hindi-speaking people; similarly Hindi should not be imposed on non-Hindi speaking people. This is just sugar-coated pill. English is not hereby anybody's mercy. It has been there for 300 years and it will continue to be there for ever. By saying this, the Prime Minister indirectly implies that English will be

[Shri K. Ramamurthy]

driven away from Hindi-speaking areas and non-Hindi speaking people will have to correspond with Hindi-speaking people only in Hindi. Similarly, in the recently held Official Languages Conference, Shri Charan Singh and Shri Morarji Desai stated that within two years the regional languages should become official languages of the States. I have no grouse against this statement. But, if it means that English should be expelled from the States, I am opposed to it.

Hindi is the only official language in U.P., Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Haryana. Instead of pulling up these State Governments for acting prejudicially to the integrity of the nation, Shri Morarji Desai took exception to the introduction of two-language formula which has been introduced by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. He says that Shri M. G. Ramachandran should have consulted him before doing so, as if the other north Indian States have done so.

The concept of three language formula was that non-Hindi speaking people will have their regional language. English and Hindi and the north-Indian Hindi-speaking States will have Hindi, English and one of the southern languages. While the Southern States have vigorously implemented this three-language formula the Hindi-speaking States took to Sanskrit, which is akin to Hindi and no South-Indian language has been taken up by any State in the North. Yet the Prime Minister says that Hindi will foster national integrity and the patriotism of Southerners will make them learn Hindi.

The non-Hindi speaking people have lost their faith in the professions of this Janata Government and they doubt whether even the assurance of Prime Minister that Hindi will not be imposed will be honoured. I would like to appeal to the hon. Members of this House, coming from different parts of the country that the language issue can be settled only through under-

standing and appreciation and not in anger, animosity and annoyance. Language is a question of life and death for the people. If you want to use force, it means destruction for both.

If the language tangle is to be resolved amicably, if it is to foster national unity and integration, then this Resolution must be accepted unanimously by this House directing the Government to amend the Constitution by incorporating Nehru's assurance on language.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी (बहराइच) :

मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ।

कि संकल्प में, —

‘करने के लिये संविधान में संशोधन’ का लोप किया जाये। (1)

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ।

कि संकल्प में, —

“पण्डित जवाहर लाल नेहरू द्वारा संसद् को दिये गये इस दृढ़ आश्वासन को क्रियान्वित करने के लिये संविधान में संशोधन करें कि सम्पर्क भाषा हिन्दी के अलावा अंग्रेजी भाषा भी तब तक अतिरिक्त सम्पर्क भाषा बनी रहेगी जब तक अहिन्दी भाषी लोग चाहेंगे।” के स्थान पर “राष्ट्रीय भाषा के बारे में संवैधानिक उपबन्धों को क्रियान्वित करें और यह सुनिश्चित करें कि अंग्रेजी भाषा, जो मात्र 2 अथवा 3 प्रतिशत लोगों द्वारा बोली जाती है, के प्रभुत्व के कारण भारत की अन्य राष्ट्रीय भाषाओं के हितों पर आंच न आये।” प्रतिस्थापित किया जाये। (2)

श्रीमन अभी सोमसुन्दरम जी अंग्रेजी में बोले लेकिन राममूर्ति जी तमिल में धारा-प्रवाह बोल रहे थे। मुझे तो तमिल नहीं आती केवल एक शब्द आता है—बनवकम।

अभी हमारे सामने बोलते हुए श्री राममूर्ति भाई ने कहा कि इस मामले में क्रोध और आक्रोश का वायुमण्डल न हो कर तर्क और शांति का वायुमण्डल होना चाहिए और उसी में यह मसला तय होना चाहिए। इसके अलावा उन्होंने और भी बहुत सारी बातें कहीं जिनका उत्तर देना मैं आवश्यक नहीं समझता और न यह अपेक्षित ही है। लेकिन मैं इतना अवश्य कहूंगा कि भाषा का प्रश्न एक संवदनशील प्रश्न है और इसके सम्बन्ध में सचमुच में विचार होना भी चाहिए।

आपने कहा कि हिन्दी केवल 42 प्रतिशत लोगों की भाषा है।

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Sorry for a small intervention, Sir. He is quoting, but I have given statistics—these are Government figures. Out of 58.3 crores population, only 16 crores of people are Hindi speaking population.

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर): यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि वे हिन्दी को समझते हैं। अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कह रहा था कि उन्होंने कहा कि हिन्दी को बहुत सारी भाषाएं हैं। भाषा विज्ञान के विद्वार्थी जानते हैं कि प्रत्येक भाषा की उपभाषाएँ होती हैं और हिन्दी की बहुत सारी उपभाषाएँ हैं लेकिन फिर भी सब मिलाकर 42 प्रतिशत की बात की जाती है। लेकिन मैं पूछता हूँ कि भारतवर्ष में अंग्रेजी बोलने वाले कितने हैं? शायद दो या तीन प्रतिशत होंगे। इस पर भी हम कहें कि वह हमारी राष्ट्र भाषा हो। आपने यह भी कहा कि हिन्दी के कारण दक्षिण भारी के लोगों को घाटा होता है। हमने तो प्रावधान किया है कि तमिलनाडु में तमिल में काम हो, आंध्र में तेलुगु में, कर्नाटक में कन्नड़ में और कर्नाल में मलयालम में काम हों। इसमें कुछ बिगड़ता नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह भी कहा गया कि तमिल एक समृद्ध भाषा है। एक भारतवर्षीय होने के नाते मुझे तमिल के साहित्य पर गर्व है। अभी तो मैं कह रहा था कि जिस भाषा में त्याग राजे हों वह तो भारत की समृद्धि का द्योतक है।

सभापति जी मैं कहना चाहता हूँ महात्मा गांधी ने कहा है कि जिस भाषा में संत तुलसीदास पैदा हो वही भाषा भारत की राष्ट्रभाषा हो सकती है। अभी नेहरू जी और महात्मा गांधी का बहुत स्मरण दिलाया गया है, हमने बापू की समाधि पर कसम खायी है, मैं ज्यादा तो नहीं कहना चाहता, लेकिन बापू के भाषा के सम्बन्ध में दो शब्द आपकी सेवा में जरूर उपस्थित करना चाहूंगा। उन्होंने कहा था :

"If I had the powers of a despot, I would to-day stop tuition of our boys and girls through a foreign medium and require all the teachers and professors on pain of dismissal to introduce the change forthwith. I would not wait for the preparation of next books. They will follow the change. It is an evil that needs a summary remedy."

यह गांधी जी ने कहा था। आप पंडित नेहरू की बात कहते हैं। पंडित नेहरू ने सचमुच में इस देश को बचाया जब भाषा की सामप्रदायिकता एवं संवेदनशीलता के कारण भारत में तनाव था तो पंडित नेहरू ने एक आश्वासन दे कर के सचमुच में देश की रक्षा की, हम इसको स्वीकार करते हैं। लेकिन नेहरू ने क्या कहा, वह मैं आपकी सेवा में रखना चाहता हूँ :

"Hindi now has completely assumed the role of national language and most of the work of the congress is being done in Hindi. It is gratifying to learn that Hindi is increasingly spreading in Tamil Nadu."

SHRI RAGAVALLU MOHANARAN-GAM: It did not happen at any time. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, Hindi never spread in the area of Tamil Nadu.

श्री रामजी सिंह : मैं चाहता हूँ कि व्यवधान न हो। आपको उत्तर देने के लिये अवसर मिलेगा। जब संविधान सभा में राष्ट्रभाषा के सम्बन्ध में विचार हो रहा था तो 13 सितम्बर, 1949 को पंडित नेहरू ने कहा जो बातें कही, मैं उन्हीं के शब्द आपके सामने रख रहा हूँ

"It is perfectly right to say that English has done us a lot of good and we have learnt much from it and progressed much. But normally no nation can become great on the basis of a foreign language. Why? Because a foreign language cannot be the language of the people."

Father of Nation said that national language should represent the composite culture of India

सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने मित्रों से कहूँगा कि जब राष्ट्रभाषा के सम्बन्ध में संविधान निर्मात्री परिषद् में सारा कानून पास हो गया तो अन्त में अध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा था, जब हिन्दी को राष्ट्रभाषा का स्वरूप दिया गया था

We have done the wisest thing possible and I am glad, I am happy and I hope posterity will bless us for this

सचमुच में हिन्दी तो ब्रह्मिन्दीभाषियों की देन है। हिन्दी को पंडित दयानन्द सरस्वती ने बताया, सुभाष बोस ने जब भारत के बाहर जा कर के आजाद हिन्द फौज की स्थापना की थी तो कहा कमाल अंग्रेजी में नहीं बल्कि हिन्दी में चलते हैं। श्री राष्ट्रपिता बापू गुजराती थे, उनकी भाषा हिन्दी नहीं थी। तो हिन्दी को तो ब्रह्मिन्दी भाषियों का प्यार ही मिलता रहा है, उसीसे मिलता रहा है। इसीलिये हम तो चाहेंगे कि तमिलनाडु के लोग सचमुच में हिन्दी की आशीर्वाद दें और उसको समर्थ बनायें।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि गोपाला स्वामी धायगर ने जब भाषा के सम्बन्ध में क्वेस्टी-ट्यूएंट थसेम्बली में कहा था, इस पर 300 सभोचन आये थे। बहुत सारी बातें नहीं कहा चाहता लेकिन उन्होंने कहा था ना :

English should continue to be used.

लेकिन कितने दिन के लिये और उन्होंने माना था कि

Common language of the whole of India can be Hindi

इतना ही नहीं दक्षिण के बड़े-बड़े विचारक जिनमें पट्टाभि सीतारमैया, जो कांग्रेस के अध्यक्ष थे श्री गोपाला स्वामी धायगर, प्रोफेसर रंगा, श्री अल्लमेशन, श्री यिरुमल राव, श्री अनन्तशयनम् अय्यंगार और श्री कला वैकट-राव, इन्होंने एक संयुक्त वक्तव्य दिया था कि—

We support the view that the Union Constitution should lay down that the national language and the script shall be Hindi and Devnagri respectively, that in the Federal Parliament business shall be transacted in Hindi written in Devnagri script

मैं चाहूँगा कि थोड़ा सहें। हम लोग तो कहते हैं कि उत्तर भारत और दक्षिण भारत का सवाल नहीं है। भारतवर्ष की संस्कृति इस बात की साक्षी है कि जैसे क्रिकेट इंग्लिश चलती है, उसी तरह कभी उत्तर से राम, कृष्ण और शिव चले हैं, लेकिन उसके बाद दक्षिण से श्री शंकराचार्य रामानुजाचार्य, निम्बकाचार्य और माधवाचार्य आये। तीसरी इंग्लिश उत्तर की थी और अब चौथी इंग्लिश दक्षिण की है। तो आप सम्पूर्ण भारत-वर्ष में छावेंगे।

इस बार जनता पार्टी ने दक्षिण से न केवल राष्ट्रपति को दिया है, बल्कि लोक सभा के अध्यक्ष को भी दिया है प्रज्ञान संजी श्री ब्रह्मिन्दी

भाषी प्रदेस के हैं। यह जनता पार्टी की जीत है कि वह किस तरह से देश को एक करना चाहती है। लोगों का कहना है कि यह भय और भ्रान्का है। मैं कहता हूँ कि भय किस से है और क्या है। अभी मैंने प्रमाण दिया कि जनता पार्टी की सरकार दक्षिण और उत्तर के भेद को भुला देना चाहती है। प्रश्न यह है कि समूची दुनिया में अंग्रेजी कहा कहाँ है? किस दृष्टि से हम चाहते हैं कि अंग्रेजी हमारी राष्ट्र भाषा रहे?

शिक्षा शासन में मैं 25 वर्षों से पढ़ा रहा हूँ। शिक्षा शास्त्र में अपनी मातृभाषा के माध्यम से शिक्षा सरल होती है। अंग्रेजी एक प्रकार का व्यवहार है विद्यार्थी के साथ, यह शिक्षा शास्त्र कहता है।

श्रीमती विजयलक्ष्मी पंडित ने एक बार रूस में अपना प्रमाण-पत्र अंग्रेजी में उपस्थित किया था, तो उसको लौटा दिया गया था। जिस राष्ट्र की अपनी राष्ट्रभाषा न हो, उसकी राष्ट्रियता नहीं खिल सकती है। हम सारे दक्षिण भारत में भी जाते हैं तो देखते हैं कि सामान्य लोग टूटी फूटी हिन्दी समझते हैं। इसलिये जनता के दृष्टिकोण या समाजवादी दृष्टिकोण से भी हमें तो हिन्दी का ज्यादा प्रसार है।

यह हिन्दी के प्रसार का सवाल नहीं है। हम यह नहीं चाहते कि तमिल, कन्नड़ और मलयालम का विकास न हो, हम यह चाहते हैं अंग्रेजी जब तक रहनी तब तक प्रायः ज्यादा प्रेम, समय और शक्ति तमिल और तेलुगु के लिये नहीं लगा सकेंगे। अंग्रेजी जो लार्ड है, जमींदार है वह जब तक रहेगी तब तक देश के बच्चों का विकास नहीं होगा।

रूस में बहुत सारी भाषाएँ हैं, लेकिन वहाँ की सबसे प्रायः लैंग्वेज है, फिर भी रूसी भाषा को मुख्य स्थान दिया गया है। चीन में भी बहुत सारी 28 डायलेक्ट्स हैं लेकिन चीनी भाषा को स्थान दिया गया है।

समापति महोदय, जब हिन्दी के विषय में हम कहते हैं तो हमारा निवेदन है कि हमारे दक्षिण के भाई हृदय से सुन लें कि हम तमिल, कन्नड़, मलयालम या तेलुगु के खिलाफ नहीं हैं, हम तो चाहते हैं कि अंग्रेजी हट जाये और इन भाषाओं का ज्यादा ज्यादा विकास हो। भारतवर्ष की केवल एक ही राष्ट्रभाषा नहीं है, जितनी भी भाषाएँ यहाँ हैं, वह सब राष्ट्रभाषा हैं और सब पर हमारा गौरव और सम्मान है।

SHRI RAGAVALLU MOHANARAN-GAM: This is a matter of importance to the non-Hindi speaking area. It is a very important issue for them. We should be given more chance. We should be given first preference.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Now, Shri S. P. Bhattacharyya.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA (Uluberia): This is a very delicate question. This is a very important matter also. Here we have got to consider the question of national integration.

India is a country where so many people speak so many languages, each one learns his own language. But, as the days pass, new languages are also developing. Take for example Nagalese. That is coming to the field. They are also demanding their right for this language. If we love our country, we must love integration, we must respect everyone in this country. We must not differentiate in this respect.

National integration and the preservation of unity is the basic task of every citizen of India. We must take it for granted that everyone must learn his own language with equal respect. We must not forget to show that respect to other languages. We must proceed firstly on the basis of equality of respect to each language as a citizen of this country. That is the principal premise on which we should proceed. It must also be

[Shri Shyamaprasanna Bhattacharya]

understood that English language has come to us as a colonial heritage because they ruled over us in this country for more than two hundred years and so we have been compelled to learn their language for service, for our existence and for our education. So, we must not forget that too. It is remaining in us as a colonial heritage. A free Indian citizen must know that this cannot be denied. We learn other country's languages as a cultural requirement and, as an academic interest, we also learn Chinese, Russian, French and German languages. Our scholars are compelled to learn those languages. That also must be accepted as a fact. Moreover that is not our mother-tongue. English is not our mother-tongue. We must realise this. Let us first realise that the first thing is as to which one has to take its place—English or any other language—in our country. The fact of the matter is that there is a lot of change taking place in our country. Hindi population is highest in our country and so Hindi is used by a maximum number of people of our country. This must also be taken into account. But, we must not impose Hindi by force or by anything else. We should not go against the sentiments of the people. Otherwise those who are habituated in English-speaking—not in Hindi—may react. Maybe, very small percentage of people only know English in this country and it is with them that we are corresponding with or with whom we come across. We must realise this also. It is not a question of the number but it is a question of sentiment, the feeling. So, our Hindi-speaking people must have patience so that English can go away, wither away from here and Hindi can take its place as a link language position in our country and afterwards it becomes the national language in its natural course. But kindly do not impose it on any person whatsoever. Only a few persons may remain who will be sticking to English for a long

time. Let them. But afterwards they will learn Hindi. Hindi is not a difficult language to be learnt. It is easily spoken.

Sir, I come from West Bengal. West Bengal has a majority of Bengali speaking population. Still we have accommodated Hindi language. It is natural for us. People from Orissa come to us. We have not yet accommodated Oriya as Hindi. That is a fact. This must be realised. Now, Nepalese and Santhalis are coming out. They are trying to have their script. We are welcoming them. Forcing and imposition of a language is a bad thing for our national integrity and national development. Our Hindi friends must have patience. When ultimate thing is assured why should there be haste or impatience. Try to be patient.

Sir, India is a very big country from Cape Comorin to Kashmir. Each one of us must respect all the languages. Let us proceed with this attitude. If this attitude is adopted, I am sure, we must be able to solve the language problem and will come closer and closer day by day. So, Mr Chairman, I want to make an appeal that with a sober mind we should proceed on solving this most sentimental question. With this appeal I resume my seat.

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by my friend, Shri Somasundaram. Sir, when my friend moved this Resolution, I was quite happy because this is the burning issue of the day in our country. When this Resolution was tabled, I sincerely felt that my friends opposite would join us in passing this Resolution unanimously but, Sir, from what my friend, Dr. Ramji Singh spoke... My hopes were shattered. Instead of having a regional approach, an approach which will solve the problem his speech has only ignited the problem. I am sorry to say this. Since independence, we have been

facing many problems in the country. There are many issues. Priorities are not given to those issues which call for urgent action but priorities are given to those issues which are non-issues. Ever since the Janata Government came to power, this issue has assumed a very dangerous proportion (Interruptions) Sir, in 1956, a formula was evolved. That was the three-language formula. The idea was that the people in non-Hindi speaking States shall learn Hindi and friends from Hindi speaking States shall learn one of the South Indian languages. With all the zeal, with all the sincerity, people in the South through Dakshin Bharat Hindi. Prachar Sabha, started learning Hindi. But I do not know whether any University in the Northern-part of India or whether any school in North has even cared to teach any of the South Indian languages. There may be some schools here and there teaching a South Indian language. This only shows the utter contempt they have for South Indian languages. That is why in 1965 when the people in South realised that Hindi was being imposed on them the D.M.K. gave a call to the people. Some thought that it was a political call. But what happened was that the moment they started their agitation, one and all, irrespective of the parties they belonged to joined the agitation. The entire Tamil Nadu was in turmoil and many lives were lost their lives. Even in 1961 Conference, a formula was worked out. I would like to know what harm will be done if we have many languages as our national languages. Small countries like Switzerland has adopted 4 languages as their national languages, Canada has adopted 2 as its national languages, Belgium has adopted 3 as its national languages and the Soviet Union has adopted 16 as its national languages. Here even the Gazettes are published in all the 16 languages.

Therefore, Sir, to say that we should learn only Hindi is not reasonable on

our part. If you say English is foreign, yes we also feel that Hindi is foreign to us. Our friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, has declared that it is a colonial heritage that we have acquired. It is not our intention that English should continue for ever. We must have a language of our own. But the question is: what language? Sir, the Prime Minister says since the majority of the people speak this language we must speak this language. If you talk about the majority, in our country if you take bird, population, cows are in majority. But what is our national bird? Majority of animals were pigs, donkeys and monkeys. What is our national animal? When you talk about giving protection to minorities, for God's sake please do not throw this argument at all. My friend who spoke earlier gave statistics that Hindi is not spoken by 60 per cent or 70 per cent of the people of our country as claimed by the Prime Minister. Recently in Coimbatore, in a Janata Party Political conference, the Prime Minister is reported to have said that he refuted the charge levelled against him and his party that they wanted to impose Hindi on non-Hindi speaking people. He said:

"I cannot say anything more than that this is not true at all. There is no question of imposing Hindi on anybody. But we must also see that the country has to be one and in a country with 17 national languages we have got to live together and understand each other."

The spirit behind this resolution is good but any amount of ministerial assurances, any amount of talks in public meetings and political conferences is not going to satisfy us. What do we lose by incorporating Pandit Nehru's assurances in the Constitution? That is what we want to say. Mr. Desai went on to say in that conference that he considered all the 17 languages as equal and he was always pleading that the work in the States either in Government, education or in courts must be carried on

[Shri K Gopal]

in the languages of the States ...
He said further

"If another language other than Hindi was understood by more than 15 or 20 per cent of the people then its claim to be the sole official language of the country could be considered. But only Hindi was understood by more than 50 to 60 per cent of the people in the country whereas English was understood by only two to three per cent of the people. As English was not part of the 17 languages, Hindi had been made the official language under the Constitution.

While conceding that there were some people who were fanatical about the introduction of Hindi the Prime Minister asked if it was not true that the same type of fanaticism was exhibited by those who pleaded for English which was understood by a few."

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Here I should like to tell him that it is not out of any love for English that we plead for this thing. If you say that English is foreign I completely agree with you. But as far as the people of the South is concerned, Hindi also is as foreign as English. That is the reason why we oppose the imposition of Hindi tooth and nail. Let us not forget the fact that the people of the south especially are very sensitive about it and any attempt to impose Hindi will be dangerous to the integrity of the country. We charge you, gentlemen that if there is danger to the integrity of the country it is from you. We are not asking for any division of the country. But on this issue one has to consider well. What is happening today? Take the P & T Department directory, it comes only in Hindi you take the TV coverage in Madras, only Hindi commentary. If I go to Connaught place on my dhoti I am being

called a Madrasi and there is a slang which I do not wish to use in this House. It only shows the utter lack of understanding and lack of consideration on your part towards us.

Therefore I request you not to be carried away by emotion. If you are carried away by emotions, we have every right to be carried away too. If you have love for your language, we have also love for our language. Therefore, the only way to solve this problem is this. Please, for God's sake, accept this Resolution and let our friends who speak after Ramji, not speak in the way he did. There will be a flare up. With these words I appeal to the hon. Minister to accept this resolution let us pass it unanimously and we will be creating history in the Parliament of India by doing so.

SHRI RAGAVALLU MOHANARAN-GAM (Chengalpau) Mr. Chairman, I am very glad that you gave me an opportunity to speak on the language issue, on the resolution for the continuance of English as an additional link language, along with the Hindi language. First of all should like to request the hon. Members who belong to that side, especially those who belong to the Hindi speaking areas to remember one thing. This is not a problem of Hindi versus English but it is a problem of South Indian languages versus Hindi, this is a problem of non-Hindi speaking people versus the Hindi speaking people. Whenever we speak in English they say to us you have affection towards English language whereas you have no affection towards Hindi language which is the national language that is the opinion expressed by our friends here. I should like to ask them two questions. What do we mean by the word 'nation' and what do we mean by the word 'language'? Nation, according to me, means a territory consisting of different types of people belonging to different regions, having different conventions, customs and practices.

but all should belong to a particular culture. Language is the source through which we express our ideas to other individual. If this meaning is considered to be correct, we cannot call our country as a nation; put it is a sub continent. Only on this basis I want to say something about the language issue.

The language issue has been discussed for the past forty years in our country, not from 1947 or 49, not today or yesterday. We are passing through a very swift period of translation and what we do today may not be wholly applicable tomorrow. What have we done? Can Hindi only be our official language in the whole country from Kanya Kumari to Himalayas? What they have done 25 years before will not be applicable in 1977 or 1978. I am coming from the deep southern part of this country. My mother tongue is Telugu. I speak Tamil; but here I am speaking in English. Tamil is spoken by 4.5 crores of people in Tamil Nadu. It is a heavy language; it is an old language. But on that ground I am not saying that Tamil should be the role official language in the whole country.

The persons who have Hindi as their mother-tongue—which was born only two hundred years ago on the banks of the river Ganges, without having rich literature—they have only Tulsi Ramayana in Hindi—want Hindi to be the official language for the whole of this country from Kanyakumari to Himalayas consisting of 80 crores of people. We speak Tamil, nearly 4½ crores of people are talking Tamil, we speak Telugu, nearly five crores of people are speaking Telugu. Do you think that our country is a chota country, small country. No, our country is a very very big country consisting of sixty crores of people. A particular language is spoken by three to four crores of people. How can you expect that all persons belonging to our country should adopt one language, that Hindi should

be the sole official language of our country, leaving other languages which have rich literature, heritage and culture.

May I ask a question? The Hindi-speaking people say that Hindi should be the sole official language and for that they give a particular reason viz., that it is spoken by the majority of the people of our country. What is majority? I am not a student of Mathematics. I am a student of History. I do not know anything about mathematics, not even elementary mathematics. I feel that 51 per cent is considered to be a majority. Not even sixteen per cent of the people in our country speak Hindi, not even five per cent can write Hindi. The Hindi language is spoken in only three to four States viz., M.P., U.P., Himachal Pradesh and so on, and it is not spoken through out the breadth and length of this country.

We have a language called English, which is a gift of the Goddess of Education, Saraswati. This is not what Mohanaragam says. This was said by an eminent scholar Shri C. Rajagopalachari, who had opposed English, who wanted Hindi to be the official language in the year 1938. Such a great man, such a scholar, Shri Rajagopalachari, who said that Hindi should be the official language in the year 1938, came forward in the year 1965, after seeing the attitude of the Tamillians, the attitude of the non-Hindi speaking people, and said: "No, No, Hindi should not be the sole official language. We should treat all the languages as equal." I want to ask a question. Who are we? Are we the last generation of this world? Who are we to determine as to which language should be the official language of the country? Are we the masters of our future generations? Are we the masters of our posterity? Let us think something about the economic development. Let us think about the developmental activities of your country. Why should we un

[Ragavalu Mohanaramgam]
necessarily talk about this language policy? Of course a very complicated issue.

On the other day, I asked a question in English and the Answer by the concerned Minister was in Hindi. I would like to ask a question: Is it not the convention of this Parliament that when a Member asks a question in English and if that language is known to the concerned Minister, the Minister should reply in English. Then it was said, the Minister can speak in either one of the two languages, viz, English and Hindi. Today when an hon. Member asked a question in Hindi and the Minister started answering in English, he was asked to speak in Hindi and he spoke in Hindi. Why? Why was he surprised to speak in Hindi?

I would like to ask a question. You agree that I am the citizen of this country. I do not know English; I do not know Hindi. Do you mean to say that I should not become a Central Minister? When you say that a Minister can speak in one of the two languages that means only persons, who know either English or Hindi, can become a Minister in the Centre. Where is justice? Where is the language issue?

Our Doctor here has pointed out: "We have liking towards Tamil, towards English and towards all the languages."

Touch your heart, think about it for a flicker of the moment—I am asking the Hindi-speaking people—please stand up, touch your heart and tell me. We say that Tamil is the richest language in this country. Do you adopt Tamil as the sole official language of this country? No. You will not accept. I will say, Telugu is the sole official language of this country. But you will never accept that. Similarly, if you say that Hindi should be the official language, we will also never accept that.

My friend, Mr. Gopal said: you are creating a way for the Balkanisation of this country. If you say that Hindi should be the official language of our country, I want to tell you that our country will be broken into pieces. But I do not want that. I am for the unification of the country, I am for the unity of the country. My father was a perfect Congressman; he had been to prison thrice, he had been to prison in 1942; he was in jail for six years, he has worked along with great people, eminent personalities during our freedom struggle. I am his son. I want unification of this country. I do not want this country to be broken into pieces. Why do you unnecessarily create some complications? Why do you unnecessarily say that Hindi should be introduced?

I will tell you one thing. We have our Tamil in Madras. You have Hindi here.

(Interruptions)

I do not know what exactly he is speaking because I am not in a position to understand. Our country is so big that even to come from Madras to Delhi, it takes two hours by plane. It is a very big country. Don't think of your own constituency first. Thinking about your constituency, do not talk about the language policy. Think about this nation, think about Kanyakumari, think about Himalayas and then come forward and talk about this language issue. You forget everything. We are not asking anybody here to adopt our language—Tamil language—to be the official language, whereas you are asking us to introduce the three-language formula. You ask me to read Tamil, you ask me to read Hindi....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARAMGAM: Sir, this is a sentimental issue I have been to prison twice....

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are so many hon. Members in the list to

speak. There should be some time-limit for every Member.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARANGAM: I come from that particular part of this country where we are opposing Hindi vehemently.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): You allow him some more time.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARANGAM: Sir, this is a sentimental issue. We are asked to study three languages. I have already crossed 40, I hope you might have crossed 50 or 55, and our Prime Minister has already crossed 80. We should not worry about the language issue.

You are asking the Hindi-speaking people to study only one language, whereas our children are expected to study three languages—Tamil, Hindi and English, Tamil for the region, Hindi for our nation and English for the international field. You ask us to study three languages. Whereas a cowboy from Bihar, or a cowboy from Madhya Pradesh or a cowboy from Uttar Pradesh can become a Collector in Tamil Nadu, because of our English, because of our Tamil and because of our knowledge in so many languages we cannot become Collectors in any district in the northern part of this country. Robert Clive came to our country and became the Head of our State without knowing the ABC of the administration. Hindi-speaking people without any degree in administration, just knowing Hindi, may come to Madras and become Collectors and boss over our children. Do you mean to say that we have to tolerate it? No, no. Advantages and disadvantages should be equally distributed. All the 60 crores of our people should be treated equally and all languages should be treated equally.

You can ask me a question 'What is your suggestion?' I will suggest one

thing. Who are you to decide this issue? Let this issue go to our posterity, let our future generation decide this case. Let us not worry about this issue. Let us worry about our economic freedom, let us worry about our political freedom, let us worry about so many problems which are confronting us and which we are facing. Why should we unnecessarily drag this language issue? I know fully well that our hon. Law Minister, Mr. Shanti Bhushan, can deliver his speech at 120 words per minute in English. I used to be here only to listen to his English, not for any other thing. Whenever I came to know that the Law Minister was speaking, I used to rust to the House to listen to him. Even that gentlemen was asked one day to speak in Hindi. Really, I admire his English and he speaks much better in English than in Hindi. If such an eminent lawyer was asked one day to speak in Hindi, what about the persons who are not at all knowing ABC of Hindi being asked to speak in Hindi? That is why I request Members from the Hindi-speaking areas not to give so much of attention to language issue. After all, it is a trivial matter. Let our future generation solve this language problem. We are not the masters to solve this problem.

With these words, Mr. Chairman, I feel that there should be an amendment to our Constitution that not only Hindi should continue as additional language, but also English should stand permanently. Otherwise all the 15 languages should be treated as equal, should be the official languages for the whole of this country and not a particular language.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश स्वामी (बहराइच): सभापति महोदय, यह प्रश्न बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है और मैं अपने सभी साथियों से निवेदन करना कि वह भावुकता में आकर इस प्रश्न को न लें और अपने स्वार्थ से ऊँचा उठ कर देश हित में विचार करें। मैं अपने प्रस्तावक महोदय से कहना

[श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्वागी]

चाहूँगा कि मैं उनके प्रस्ताव के इतने भ्रष्ट नक तो सहमत हूँ कि इस प्रस्ताव में जो कि नेहरू जी ने आश्वासन दिया था वह मेरी सरकार ने भी आश्वासन दिया, उसको क्रियात्मक रूप दिया जाय उसे तेजी के साथ लागू किया जाय। परन्तु सविधान में सविधान किया जाय इसने मैं सहमत नहीं हूँ क्योंकि सविधान का जो निर्माण हुआ वह उत्तर भारत के लोगों ने ही नहीं बल्कि समस्त भारतवर्ष के लोगों ने मिल कर जो बुने हुए प्रतिनिधि थे उन सब ने सविधान सभा में बैठकर यह निर्णय लिया और निर्णय लेते हुए उन्होंने हिन्दी को राष्ट्रभाषा नहीं सम्पर्क भाषा के रूप में स्वीकार किया यही सबने बड़ी भ्रान्ति हो रही है कि हिन्दी राष्ट्रभाषा क्या? यह राष्ट्रभाषा स्वीकार नहीं की गई बल्कि सम्पर्क भाषा स्वीकार की गई है, और सविधान के अनुसार जो मुख्य प्रान्तीय भाषाये हैं वह सभी राष्ट्रीय भाषाये हैं जिनमें तमिल तेलगु बंगला उडिया आदि सभी भाषाये हैं उन्हीं में है यह सब राष्ट्रीय भाषाये हैं। 14 भाषाये राष्ट्रीय भाषाये मानी गई हैं। इसलिए जो लोग हिन्दी का राष्ट्र भाषा कहने की बात कहते हैं वह भी मैं समझता हूँ कि हिन्दी का हित नहीं करते हैं, और जो विरोध करते हैं वह भी अपने का भ्रान्ति में रखते हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम तमिल भाषा और अन्य भाषाओं को लिये बहुत बड़ा सम्मान है और होना चाहिये।

मेरे मित्र ने बर्ण महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न उठाया है कि यहाँ हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी के प्रयोग की अनुमति है तमिल तेलगु क्यों नहीं बोल सकते हैं? मैं उनसे सहमत हूँ सरकार को ऐसी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिये कि जितनी राष्ट्रीय भाषाय स्वीकार कर ली गई हैं उन सब में बोलने का यहाँ अधिकार होना चाहिये और उसका ट्रांसलेशन यहाँ होना चाहिये। सरकार ने ट्रांसलेशन की व्यवस्था की है कि पहले बता दीजिये तो आपका ट्रांसलेशन अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में होते हुए चला जायगा। मैं सरकार

की इस व्यवस्था से सहमत हूँ। लेकिन 14 भाषाओं में होना कठिन होगा इस लिये यह व्यवस्था कही गई है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हिन्दी को ही सम्पर्क भाषाओं क्यों बनाया गया? इसलिए नहीं बनाया गया कि यह बहुत उन्नत भाषा है, इसमें बड़ा साहित्य है। इस विशेषता के कारण से हिन्दी को सम्पर्क भाषा नहीं बनाया। बल्कि इसलिए सम्पर्क भाषा बनाया गया क्योंकि यह ज्यादा लोगों के द्वारा बोली और समझी जाती है। प्रश्न उठा कि तमिल और तेलगु को क्यों नहीं गुजराती बंगाली को क्यों नहीं? यह प्रश्न ठीक है। प्रश्न यह है कि हिन्दी को इसलिए बनाया गया कि राष्ट्र की एकता ज्यादा आवश्यक है। अगर राष्ट्रीय एकता नहीं रही तो हमारी योजनाये सब समाप्त हो जायेगी। राष्ट्र समाप्त हो जायेगा, यह देश टुकड़ों में बंट जायेगा देशभक्ति घुमिल हो जायेगी। राष्ट्र की एकता की सुरक्षा के लिए एक लिंगुएज, सम्पर्क भाषा होना बड़ा अनिवार्य था। इसलिए प्रश्न यही था कि हम विदेशी भाषा को लिंगुएज बनायें या हिन्दी को बनायें?

समापति महोदय, समूचे भारतवर्ष में अंग्रेजी के लगभग डेढ़ दो सौ वर्षों के अन्दर अपने स्कूलों और कॉलेजों के प्रयत्नों के परिणाम भी सिर्फ 2 प्रतिशत अंग्रेजी जानने वालों की संख्या पैदा हो पाई है। अगर अंग्रेजी लिंगुएज बना दी जाये, सम्पर्क भाषा बनाई जाये तो मुश्किल से ये मुट्ठी भर 2 प्रतिशत लोग 3 प्रतिशत या 5 प्रतिशत हो जायेंगे, लेकिन यह राष्ट्रीय एकता के लिये योग्य नहीं बन सकेगी, सम्पर्क भाषा नहीं बन सकेगी।

यह पड़े-लिखों का प्रश्न नहीं है। अगर प्राचीण बेपड़ा आदमी भी तीमलमाडु में चला जाये या तमिलनाडु का बेपड़ा आदमी यहाँ आ जाये तो वह किस प्रकार आपसे मे बात करेंगे। क्योंकि हम जुड़े हुए हैं एक दूसरे से

हुम बहुत बेध्टा करें बांटने की तो भी यह बात बनती नहीं है। उत्तर भारत से लोग सीरियावा के लिए दक्षिण भारत में रामेश्वरम, कन्याकुमारी, बंकराचार्य जी के धाम पर दर्शन करने के लिए जाते हैं। यही नहीं, दक्षिण के लोग भी यहां पर ब्रह्मनाथ, केशरनाथ, अमरनाथ, ठाररिकापुरी और गया वगैरा में यात्रा करने के लिए आते हैं। लेकिन प्राज भी जो लोग आते जाते हैं, उनकी सम्पर्क भाषा हिन्दी ही है और इस सदन में पास होने के पहले भी हिन्दी ही थी। आप मानें या न मानें, हिन्दी अपने आप ही स्वतः सम्पर्क भाषा बनी हुई है और रहेगी। इसलिए इस प्रश्न को भावुकता के साथ लेने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

उस समय मंत्रिघान बनाने वालों के सामने यह कठिनाई थी कि हिन्दी को प्रचलन नहीं लाया जा सकता और अंग्रेजी को हटाया नहीं जा सकता, आफिशियल लैंग्वेज के रूप में, इसलिए उन्होंने 15 साल का अवसर इसे दिया। मैं उनके वह शब्द पढ़ देना चाहता हूँ :—

"The official language of the Union will be Hindi in the Devanagari script for a period of fifteen years from the commencement of this Constitution. The English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before such commencement."

उन्होंने इस प्रकार की बात कही कि अंग्रेजी 15 साल तक रहेगी, इसे भी चालू रखा जायेगा। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह प्रस्ताव पास हुआ तो उसमें दक्षिण के लोग भी थे और उत्तर भारत के भी थे। सम्पर्क भाषा का प्रश्न सर्वसम्मति से पास हुआ। उसके पश्चात् विरोध कब आरम्भ हुआ ?

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसके समर्थन में सबसे पहले स्वर्गीय अठ्ठेय राजगोपालाचार्य जी ने सभा उठाया और दक्षिण भारत में जहां प्राज हिन्दी का सबसे ज्यादा विरोध चल रहा है, वहां उन्होंने हिन्दी को अनिवार्य शिक्षा बनाया और दक्षिण भारत हिन्दी का सबसे बड़ा प्रचार केन्द्र बना। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से उसके बाद क्या हुआ ?

सियासत, पोलिटिक्स और राजनीति इसमें घुसी। उसके दो कारण थे। एक कारण में कुछ दम था कि अगर हिन्दी सम्पर्क भाषा आफिशियल लैंग्वेज बना दी जाये तो सेंट्रल सर्विसेज में नौकरी करने वालों के जो परीक्षाएँ होंगी, अगर वह हिन्दी में होने लगीं तो नौकरियों में उत्तरभारत के लोग ज्यादा आ जायेंगे और दक्षिण भारत के पीछे रह जायेंगे। उनकी इस बात से मैं सहमत हूँ। मैं अपनी सरकार से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि यह कठिनाई दूर होनी चाहिए। जो केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिये परीक्षाएँ हों वह सब राष्ट्रीय भाषाओं में हों। विद्यार्थियों को छूट होनी चाहिए कि वह किसी भी भाषा में परीक्षा दें। ताकि अंग्रेजी का अन्त बिदेशी दासता का प्रतीक हमारे सिर पर न रह जाये।

अभी हमारे डी० एम० के० के मेम्बर बहुत उत्साह और जोश के साथ बोल रहे थे। मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उन्होंने ... (अवधान)

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry): There is only one Member from DMK who is conspicuously absent. We are from All India Anna DMK. If you cannot understand this, how can you understand our language?

श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : माननीय सदस्य की यह बात ठीक है कि डी० एम० के० के सदस्य नहीं बोल रहे थे।

[श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी]

जब तामिलनाडु में डी० एम० के० बनी और श्री राजगोपालाचारी को हटाने और अपनी गवर्नमेंट बनाने का सवाल था, तो उन्होंने इस प्रश्न को उठाया। मैं भी नेहरू के इस आश्वासन से सहमत हूँ कि जब तक अहिन्दी-भाषी लोग हिन्दी को स्वीकार नहीं करते हैं, तब तक अंग्रेजी भी चलती रहे।

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARAN-GAM: We never wanted. (Interruptions)

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी नेहरूजी के शब्द यही हैं कि हिन्दी के साथ अंग्रेजी भी एडीशनल लैंग्वेज—एम्प्लोयड लैंग्वेज—के रूप में रहेगी। मैं इस से सहमत हूँ। अंग्रेजी एडीशनल लैंग्वेज के रूप में रहेगी। मेरा और माननीय सदस्यों का कोई विरोध नहीं है। अर्थात् सम्पर्क भाषा हिन्दी के साथ सहयोगी भाषा, अतिरिक्त भाषा, अंग्रेजी भी रहेगी—हिन्दी ही नहीं, अंग्रेजी भी रहेगी। सम्पर्क भाषा तो हिन्दी ही रहेगी, लेकिन अंग्रेजी भी रहेगी। माननीय सदस्य “भी” को “ही” बनाना चाहते हैं। मतभेद केवल यही है? (व्यवधान) जब उधर के माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे थे, तो मैं शान्ति के साथ सुन रहा था। नेहरूजी ने यही कहा कि देश में हिन्दी भाषा के साथ अतिरिक्त भाषा अंग्रेजी भी चलेगी, जब तक कि अहिन्दी-भाषी लोग हिन्दी के बारे में सहमत नहीं होते हैं। मैं इस से सहमत हूँ। उन के आश्वासन वासन के अनुसार ऐसा ही हो रहा है।

किसी पर हिन्दी लादने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है। जिन माननीय सदस्य नै यह प्रस्ताव रखा है, उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ राज्यों को हिन्दी में पत्र जा रहे हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने ए, बी, सी स्टेट्स बनाई हुई हैं। जो हिन्दी-भाषी राज्य हैं, केन्द्र से उन को हिन्दी में पत्र जाते

हैं। जो राज्य ए कॅटेगरी में नहीं आते हैं, बी में आते हैं, उनको हिन्दी के पत्र के साथ अंग्रेजी की कापी भी जाती है। बाकी राज्यों को, जो सी कॅटेगरी में हैं, अंग्रेजी में पत्र जाते हैं, हालाँकि वे जो अंग्रेजी से ही जाते हैं, वे नेहरूजी के आश्वासन के खिलाफ जाते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी उस पर आपत्ति नहीं है। अगर अंग्रेजी में जाते हैं, तो भी ठीक है। दोनों में जाने चाहिए—अंग्रेजी में भी जाने चाहिए और सम्पर्क भाषा में भी जाने चाहिए। लेकिन ठीक है, हमें आपत्ति नहीं है। जब तक वे पसन्द नहीं करते हैं, इसमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। हिन्दी उन्नत भाषा नहीं है और यह सम्पर्क भाषा बनने के लायक नहीं है, मेरे बन्धुओं ने यह सवाल उठाया है। मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दी संस्कृत भाषा के पैट से निकली है और संस्कृत भाषा वह भाषा है, जिसमें से ससार की अधिकांश भाषाओं ने जन्म लिया है। संस्कृत भाषा ही ससार में एक ऐसी भाषा है जिस में ससार की प्रत्येक वस्तु के लिए और प्रत्येक बात के लिये शब्द बन सकते हैं और उनको प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। इस लिए हिन्दी को उन्नत भाषा न कहना और इस को असमर्थ भाषा कह देना, यह आक्षेप मानने के लिए मैं तैयार नहीं हूँ। जब तक इस की मा संस्कृत जीवित है, तब तक हिन्दी भाषा, अंग्रेजी ही नहीं, ससार की किसी भी भाषा के स्थान पर अपना स्थान बना कर खड़ी हो सकती है।

दूसरी बात आपने हिन्दी को लादने की कही। मैं कहना चाहूँगा—मैं इस बात के पक्ष में नहीं हूँ कि हिन्दी थोपी जाय। अगर कोई मेरे हिन्दी भाषी बन्धु ऐसा बोलते हैं, हिन्दी किसी पर थोपी जाय, तो वे हिन्दी का हित नहीं करते, वे हिन्दी के विरोधी हैं। लेकिन मैं अपने उन बन्धुओं से भी प्रार्थना करूँगा कि भारतवर्ष के किसी भी प्रान्त के किसी भी व्यक्ति पर अंग्रेजी थोपने की चेष्टा भी नहीं की जानी चाहिए, अंग्रेजी नहीं थोपी जानी

चाहिए। जो उस में बोलना चाहें, वे बोलें। जो दक्षिण के भाई हैं, उन के लिए भी मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि मां की गोद से वे अंग्रेजी ले कर नहीं आते हैं, अंग्रेजी उन को पढ़नी पड़ती है। लेकिन मैं इतनी बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि अंग्रेजी भाषा को हम रखें तो इस में हानि क्या होगी? उस में सबसे बड़ी हानि यह है कि अंग्रेजी के जो प्रेमी हैं उन के बच्चों को अतिरिक्त भाषा पढ़नी पड़ेगी....

17.32 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARAN-GAM: Can you suggest me an alternative way? We do not want English. But you say, Hindi should be adopted.

श्री शोम प्रकाश त्यागी : आल्टरनेटिव बता रहा हूँ। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि अहिन्दी भाषी लोगों के लिए हिन्दी अनिवार्य हो, वहाँ हिन्दी भाषी लोगों के लिये दक्षिण की एक भाषा अनिवार्य होनी चाहिए और तब तक वे परीक्षा में पास नहीं माने जायें, जब तक कि वे उस भाषा में पास न कर लें...

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Right from 1956, you have not adopted that. What is the use of saying it?

श्री शोम प्रकाश त्यागी : मैं ऐसा क्या बोल रहा हूँ? दक्षिण भारत और उत्तर भारत की भाषाओं में कोई होड़ की बात मैं नहीं मानता। मैं सभी भाषाओं का आदर करता हूँ, अंग्रेजी का भी आदर करता हूँ, वह भी अच्छी भाषा है। संसार की सभी भाषायें अच्छी हैं, एशियन भी अच्छी है, फ्रेंच भी अच्छी है, जर्मन भी अच्छी है, लेकिन अंग्रेजी भाषा हमारे यहाँ की सम्पर्क भाषा नहीं बन सकती। क्यों? मैं एक खेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर अंग्रेजी का मोह हमारे साथ लगा रहा और यह

बनी रही तो कल हिन्दी ही नहीं अपितु जितनी प्रांतीय भाषायें हैं, यह उन की सीत पैदा करेगी और वे मर जायेंगी। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश से आया हूँ, हमारे प्रान्त के बच्चों ने हिन्दी पढ़नी शुरू कर दी, लेकिन जब यहाँ अंग्रेजी; इम्तिहान होते हैं—दफ्तरों में और यहाँ अंग्रेजी बोली जानी है, तो अब फिर हमारे स्कूलों में, हमारे बच्चों पर अंग्रेजी बोधी जा रही है। यही हास तमिलनाडु में हो रहा है, यही प्रान्त में होगा, यही कर्णाटक में होगा। उनकी प्रांतीय भाषायें समाप्त हो जायेंगी, लड़ खड़ा जायेंगी। अगर भाषा लड़खड़ाई तो मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ—अंग्रेजी से कोई दुश्मनी नहीं है, परन्तु संसार में जो भाषा विशेषज्ञ हैं वे इस बात को मानते हैं कि भाषा का सम्बन्ध केवल भावुकता से नहीं है, भाषा का सम्बन्ध उस देश की संस्कृति से है, भाषा का सम्बन्ध उस देश के इतिहास से है, भाषा का सम्बन्ध उस देश के साहित्य और धर्म से है। अगर किसी राष्ट्र को मारना है तो उस देश की भाषा छीन लीजिए। इससे उस देश की संस्कृति मर जायेगी, उस देश का इतिहास मर जायेगा। और वह राष्ट्र राष्ट्र नहीं रह जायेगा। अगर तमिलनाडु में तमिल मर गई तो वहाँ का ढाँचा लड़खड़ा जायेगा। इसी तरह से दूसरे प्रान्तों की भी बात है। हम किसी भाषा को समाप्त नहीं करना चाहते सभी भाषायें बढ़ें और सम्पन्न हों। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि आप अंग्रेजी के बारे में एक ही बात को ध्यान में रख लीजिए, मुझे विदेशों में जाने का मौका मिला है, आप मुझे यह कहने के लिए माफ करेंगे कि अब अंग्रेजी में बोलने की ह्यात हुई तो लोग मजाक उड़ाते हैं। दूसरी भाषायें हैं बहुतो ठीक है लेकिन अंग्रेजी हमारे यहाँ मालिको की भाषा बनकर रही है, और यह हमारी दास्ता का बिगड़ बन गई गई है। इसलिए जितनी जल्दी इसको हटाया जा सकता है, हटाया जाना चाहिए।

[श्री श्री प्रकाश त्यागी]

इन शब्दों के साथ जिस रूप में यह प्रस्ताव है उसका समर्थन करने में मैं असमर्थ हूँ। इस बात का मुझे खेद है। जो संशोधन मैंने दिया है उसको सदन स्वीकार करे।

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pradhan.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): I want to speak for two minutes.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): After him, I will speak.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: If you do not want Government to say anything, I do not have any objection.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pradhan.

SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN (Sambalpur): (Spoke a few words in Oriya) व्यवधान

AN HON. MEMBER: There is no translation. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I was given to understand.....

श्री उद्यत्तेज (देवरिया)। आप उनको अपनी मातृभाषा में बोलने दीजिए।

MR. SPEAKER: There is no translation.

SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: (Spoke a few words in Oriya)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pradhan, there are some practical difficulties. There is no shorthand writer who can record it. There is no provision for an interpretation. We are trying to get an Oriya man for interpretation. Either you speak in Hindi or in English. (Interruptions).

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): With your permission, Mr. Speaker. I want to say a few words. Previously, when Mr. Sanjiva Reddy was there, I raised this issue; I raised this simultaneous translation issue. (Interruptions) you allow me to speak so that I will resolve this....

MR. SPEAKER: We are trying to get an interpreter in Oriya, but we are not able to get. (Interruptions)

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR: Let him speak in Oriya.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no translation. (Interruptions) Mr. Pradhan, the difficulty is that your speech will not be understood by anybody. It will be taped, no doubt; but there is no facility now for translation.

श्री गजनाथ प्रधान : इन्टरप्रेशन करने के लिए आप ने अभी तक व्यवस्था क्यों नहीं की है ?

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Let him speak in Oriya, Sir. What is the harm? We will understand. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: All right, Mr. Pradhan, if you want to speak in Oriya, you may go ahead.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Indukki): I would suggest that Mr. Biju Patnaik may translate it.

MR. SPEAKER: No.

Mr. Pradhan.

SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN. (Spoke a few words in Oriya).

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Sir, I am on a point of order. I have got all the respect for the Member. He wants to express himself in his own language and the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution says that all the languages should be respected; but, about simultaneous translation, in 1967, when I was a Member, I raised this issue and then the Speaker agreed that simultaneous translation in all the languages should be arranged here in the Parliament. Now, here is

a Member who wants to speak and express himself more eloquently in his own language, but no arrangement for interpretation has been made. I would like to know how Members of this Parliament can understand a language they do not know. There should be simultaneous translation for the languages of all the States. When the Schedule says all these languages should be respected, will it not amount to a breach—that we are not enabled to understand such a beautiful speech he is making.... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

We have called for applications and some applications have come so far. We are selecting the persons concerned, for the purpose, but they will have to undergo some orientation course first.

In some of the languages we have been able to provide Interpreters, but for some we have not been able to do so.

*SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Sir, I am sorry to say that English language is still continuing to rule to the detriment of other Indian languages. English language in the Indian context which is understood by 2 per cent of the population has been imposed on the Indian people. During the 30 years of independence, the English language is considered as the queen whereas the Indian languages have been reduced to the status of maid servant. I am of the firm opinion that in order to raise the mass consciousness in the country English language should be abolished from public use immediately and Indian languages in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution should be used in the courts, in Secretariats, in schools and fields and factories. We have signally failed to de-

velop India's agriculture and industry due to the fact that English language which is understood and spoken by only a microscopic minority in the country has been used for the purpose. Our developmental activities have come to a stand-still due to the exclusive use of English as one of the public media. Those in India who are espousing the cause of English are not the true successors of Mahatma Gandhi but the successors of Robert Clive and Milton. Hence I stand for abolition of English from public use here and now, and suggest that there should be revolutionary changes in the structure of our administration as a result of which our IAS and IPS officers would be in a position to communicate with the vast masses of peasants in their own mother tongue. Sir, I am speaking with a feeling of anguish when I see in the villages that our villagers have not yet tasted the fruit of freedom as they have been deprived of communicating with their officers in their mother-tongue. (*Interruptions*) Sir, I had a chance to visit Japan before I was detained under MISA. I found Japanese to be a proud people who have the courage of conviction to speak in their mother tongue, Japanese even if they know English. On the other hand, the IAS officers love to speak in English rather than in their mother tongue. The main reason why Japan has progressed in Asia is that they have conducted their affairs mainly in the field of agriculture, industry and mass communications in their own mother tongue. On the other hand, corruption has become rampant in India due to the continuous use of foreign medium like English in our public transactions. Our planning has failed. We have neglected our Indian languages by not using them in various departments of public life. We should be grateful to men like Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Lohia who have exhorted the Indian people to forsake their inferiority complex once and for all by using Indian languages in all public

*The original speech was delivered in Oriya.

[Shri Gananath Pradhan]

transaction; instead of English. Then alone we can be true successors of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Lohia. India would be a great country when its ancient languages would throb with vitality as a result of their continuous use in public life.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK Sir, is the House going to adjourn at 6 00 O'clock?

MR SPEAKER The time for the debate on this Resolution expires at 5 50.

PROF P G MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar) The time may please be extended by two hours. (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER I have asked the Home Minister to make a statement at 6 00 O'clock.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola) Extension of two hours would mean that it would go to the next day.

श्री बाबुलाल इल (जोनपुर) इसका टाइम बढ़ाना आवश्यक है, अभी इस पर लोग बोलना चाहते हैं। इसलिए अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं श्री मावलकर जी के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

MR SPEAKER If you want the time to be extended, it will go to the next Private Members' Resolution day.

I want to have the Government's point of view, because they have to find the time.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY We are not encroaching on the Government's time.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK The time can be extended by two hours on the next Private Members' Resolution day. (Interruptions)

SOME HON MEMBERS: It may be extended today.

MR SPEAKER There seems to be a difference of opinion. Those who are in favour of the time being extended on this Resolution by two hours not today, but on the next Private Members' Resolution day may please stand up in their seats.

SEVERAL HON MEMBERS rose—

MR SPEAKER As it is the sense of the House that the time should be extended, the time is extended by another two hours for this Resolution.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY Mr Speaker Sir, I will speak for five minutes today and then continue on the next day.

Sir, I have the honour to speak on this Resolution which Shri Somasundaram has brought forward in this House. I think, this resolution which embodies the assurance given (Interruptions)

SOME HON MEMBERS Please speak in Bangla.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY Sir,

MR SPEAKER You cannot force any Member to speak in a particular language.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY Bangla is my mother tongue and I am very proud of it. It is a language for which a new State was created and the nation of Bangladesh was created, but in this Parliament we should not raise the language issue in this way as it would create differences in the Members. I know, all the Members do not understand Bengali, much as I love my language, much as I am fond of my language, I will not speak in Bengali, I will speak in a language which is intelligible to all the Members. I again say that this language chauvinism these strong feelings of language is something that should not be encouraged in any way. We

are striving for rational integration and here, language is an issue which we should always discuss in a dispassionate way, free of emotions and free of all passions. Unfortunately, we have not been able to do that.

Sir, while I support the resolution, let me make my point absolutely clear. I am not a Hindi-speaking person nor is my mother tongue Hindi. But I do feel while supporting this resolution, that Hindi should have become the link language of India. But it is a tragedy of history that the people who were in charge of affairs....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY
(Bombay—North-East): Like Pandit Nehru.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY:....could not reach Hindi to the non-Hindi speaking people in a way acceptable to them. And this resolution is very simple in as much as it does not say that Hindi will never become the link language but that till such time as the non-Hindi speaking States accept Hindi, English should continue as the additional link language. I do not understand why passions are aroused on this simple question. Do you want the integrity of the country, do you want the unity of the country to be preserved? If you want that, then I think the solemn assurance of Pandit Nehru should be continued.

We have seen the history of this language debate. It was there in the Constituent Assembly and you remember, Sir, that in the Constituent Assembly, this resolution to make Hindi the official language was passed by one vote only. In 1965 when the date schedule expired, then Hindi automatically became a link language. What happened? The South was up in arms because the South felt that Hindi was being imposed on them. As it is, the southern people have no objection to Hindi and they were starting to learn Hindi. In my State, Hindi is not our mother language but we all learn Hindi as a matter of course because there are so many

non-Hindi speaking people in my State; to communicate with them we have to speak in Hindi. But once the sense of imposition is there, these people revolt. When dictation is there, people will revolt. I only want to appeal to those Members who want to support Hindi, that they will only be harming the cause of Hindi by supporting Hindi chauvinism. This is not what Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru would have supported. If you really want to propagate Hindi and if you really want to make Hindi a link language, you should do it in such a way that the sentiments of people whose mother tongue is not Hindi are not hurt. You cannot hurt the sentiments and then ask him to learn the language.

In 1969 Chief Minister's Conference under the chairmanship of Pandit Nehru the three language formula was adopted. What was the three language formula? English should continue the link language. Then every person will learn his own mother tongue and, in addition to that, those whose mother tongue was not Hindi will learn Hindi and those whose mother tongue was Hindi will learn a South Indian language or any other Indian language. This can only be the way to real integration. But, unfortunately, this could not be implemented in full and to-day, those who say that only Hindi should be the link language, are not strengthening the integrity of this country. How would one feel whose mother tongue is not Hindi when you tell him that Hindi will be the official language? He feels that he will become a second-class citizen....

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR: We have already become.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY:....in a country where English will be the link language and Hindi will be the official language....

I may continue on the next day but I again want to say that this is not subject which we should deal with,

[Shri Sugata Rai]

with full of passions or emotions. I can understand the love for Hindi of those people who speak Hindi, just like in Bengal we are proud of our Bengali language. We are proud of our language, we are proud of Rabindranath Tagore and the Bengali literature and culture. But for that matter, I do not ask anybody to learn Bengali by force. Of course, many learn it out of love. So also, if they are not prepared to learn Hindi by love, you cannot do it by force. In this country you cannot..

MR SPEAKER: The hon. Member may continue on the next day.

18 hrs.

RE INCIDENTS AT LUCKNOW

SHRI K LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I have sent you an adjournment motion on the issue of the incidents at Lucknow. There are large-scale firings and lathi-charge on peaceful demonstrators. Members of Parliament are involved and Congress Members were arrested.

MR SPEAKER: No adjournment motion please. You must give notice before 10 O'Clock in the morning.

Please see Rule 57—

"Notice of an adjournment motion shall be given before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which the motion is proposed to be made to each of the following:" This is mandatory. I have no right.

SHRI C M STEPHEN (Idukki): Before the Home Minister takes the floor, I just want to bring to his notice, for whatever comments he may be capable of, and to the notice of the House, a very serious development which has taken place in Lucknow in the course of the day. That statement.

(Interruptions)

I will take only two minutes time. I bring to your notice a very important.... (Interruptions) With a heavy heart.... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Under what rule? (Interruptions)

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Under the same Rule Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta raised the issue this morning.

MR. SPEAKER: Between 12 and 1 P.M., following the normal practice, some Members have been raising the issue in Zero Hour.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: A Member of this House was beaten up.

(Interruptions)

This is that matter which concerns cane growers. There was demonstration. Firing took place. Lathi charge took place. A member of this House was beaten up. Mr Goel, an elected member was shot. He is in serious condition in the hospital. Mr. Kamla-pati Tripathi, Shri Uma Shankar Dixit, former Speaker of the Assembly, all of them have been arrested. Their bail.... (Interruptions)

You will not hear me. What is this intolerance, you all understand.

Then, Sir, we listened to Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta because we knew there was something serious.

(Interruptions)

I would, therefore, appeal to the Home Minister, when he makes a statement, he may refer to this also. He may make a statement on this matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): There is an important matter. Shri P. Rajagopal Naidu, a member of this House has been beaten up.

(Interruptions)

The hon. Home Minister may make a statement.