

14.40 hrs.

**MOTION RE REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR LINGUISTIC MINORITIES**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up consideration of the motion to be moved by Shri Datar on the Report of Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Mr Speaker, I beg to move

"That this House takes note of the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for the period 30th July, 1957 to 31st July, 1958, laid on the Table of the House on the 8th May, 1959"

14 41 hrs.

(MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

This report is the first report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. The House is aware of the circumstances under which this Commissioner came to be appointed. About two or three years ago we had the report of the States Re-organisation Commission, popularly called the Fazal Ali Report. In that report certain principles had been accepted, namely, that in the re-organisation of States the question of language should be given due importance and thereafter they had suggested that as after the formation or re-organisation of States certain linguistic minorities were likely to continue in certain parts of these States, especially the border areas, those who belong to the linguistic minorities, that is, those whose mother tongue was different from the regional language, were entitled to certain safeguards. For that purpose they had made certain suggestions, and those suggestions were considered by the Home Ministry, as also by the hon House. We had a long discussion on the States re-organisation and its consequential

problems, including the one of safeguards for linguistic minorities, and, as the House is aware, the Constitution itself was amended and two articles were added, namely, articles 350A and 350B. Article 350A says:

"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, and the President may issue such directions to any State as he considers necessary or proper for securing the provision of such facilities"

Thus, you will find that this was considered as one of the most important safeguards that deserved to be included in the Constitution itself. Therefore, this was included as article 350A of the Constitution.

Article 350B deals with the appointment of a special officer, popularly called the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities on the analogy of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Article 350B reads

"(1) There shall be a Special Officer for linguistic minorities to be appointed by the President"

Here clause (2) of article 350B might be noted, which says

"(2) It shall be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under this Constitution and report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct, and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to the Governments of the States concerned"

Thus, the Special Officer, or the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, has to carry on the functions, as laid down in clause (2) of article 350B. In other words, his functions consist of investigating matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities. That is all that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities is expected, or is enjoined, to do and then the President causes copies of his report to be placed on the Table of both Houses of Parliament.

Taking this circumstance into view, we shall find what the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has done in this respect. I may point out that after the States re-organisation came into force, on 30th July 1957 the Government appointed an officer of the highest status, and the officer was Shri Mullick. He was the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, who had retired from that high post some time before this office was offered to and accepted by him. He took charge of his office on 30th July 1957 and, therefore, his report is for the period 30th July 1957 to 31st July 1958. Thereafter, printed copies of this report have been placed on the Table and supplied to hon Members as well. So, now we have to consider what the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has done in his report.

Now, while appreciating what he has done, we have to take into account the fact that this was a new office altogether, created in terms of the amended Constitution, because it was considered necessary, as there were a number of States wherein there were linguistic minorities in certain numbers, large and small, and so, for them certain safeguards should be laid down. May I also, in this connection, invite the attention of hon Members to the circular that had been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in, I believe, 1956 itself, while the Bill was under consideration? A number of points have been noted in that and that memorandum of the Ministry of Home Affairs, which has embodied the safeguards for linguistic minorities,

has been printed in this Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities as Appendix A. Hon Members will find that therein the Government of India have pointed out the various difficulties and the manner in which these safeguards have to be implemented or enforced by the various States concerned. Therefore, in the light of the constitutional provision, to which I have made a reference, as also the memorandum of the Ministry of Home Affairs the Commissioner had to carry on his work. As naturally this was new therefore, the whole thing had to be properly set up and what the Commissioner did was that he asked to know how the various safeguards that have been referred to in the Constitution were being implemented. Here may I invite the attention of the hon House to certain articles in the Constitution where a language has been referred to and certain safeguards or certain rights have been specifically mentioned. For example, the House can see articles 29, 30, 347, 350 and 350A to which I have just now made a reference. They deal with the rights of people who speak a particular language which may or may not be the regional language of the State. Therein certain rights have been given by the Constitution itself. Therefore, may I point out that it was the duty of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to find out to what extent the Constitutional provisions on the one hand and the various points that the Home Ministry had made in their memoranda on the other were duly carried out by the various State Governments.

In this connection what the Commissioner did was to issue a questionnaire after he assumed the charge of his office. In the various matters that have been mentioned, as I pointed out, in the Constitution itself as also in the memoranda the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities wanted to know from the various State Governments as to what they have done or have not done and the reasons why they have omitted doing certain things

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which had to be done for protecting or safeguarding the interests of the linguistic minorities. So, this was the first step that he took.

It may also be noted that he received a number of representations either from various people or from various associations in the same respect and whenever such representations were received he called for the views of the State Governments also. In addition to this the next thing he did was to make a further enquiry by visiting some of the States. His report shows that during the period under report he had visited as many as seven States, namely, Madras, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Bombay, West Bengal and Rajasthan. He had a discussion with the authorities there. He also received the deputation of persons who were interested in presenting their cases before him.

In this connection one point also may be noted so far as the southern States are concerned. All the southern States had appointed a small committee dealing with certain common questions because you will find that in the State of Madras there are people who speak Telugu, Kannada or Malayalam. Similarly in Andhra Pradesh and Mysore as also in Kerala there are large linguistic groups speaking languages other than the regional language of the State. That committee met. The Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities also had a discussion with them. They have been considering certain problems of common interest because you will find that the questions naturally are of a common nature. In Madras they will have to consider the cases of persons who know languages other than Tamil. In Mysore they will have to consider the cases of persons who know languages other than Kannada. Thus you will find that the problems were more or less of a common nature and it was considered advisable by the four Governments that they should have a small committee at ministerial level

who should go into all these questions and lay down certain common principles for implementation by the four States concerned. That committee has not yet submitted its report. They are considering the matter and that is the reason why the Commissioner has stated that after their report is received he will notice it or will deal with the recommendations in his subsequent reports.

Thus we shall find that after dealing with all these circumstances he has specifically and at some length dealt with certain matters to which I shall make only a very brief reference. After dealing with these preliminaries he has pointed out how on various questions the State Governments have either taken action or are going to take action. In this respect the first point that has been dealt with in this Report is the question of primary education. On that question it is his considered view that the principle that has been laid down in the Constitution as also in our memorandum is generally accepted by all the State Governments. This is what he has stated:—

"Generally speaking, all the States have accepted the view that primary education should as far as possible be imparted in the mother tongue of the child and that mother tongue should be as declared by the guardian."

He has made a reference to the provisions in certain States including the State of Punjab and has pointed out how this matter is receiving the attention of the State Government. I need not go into further details.

Then, he has dealt with secondary education also. His views are that the States are adhering to the principles laid down in the memorandum. Then there were certain difficulties felt by the members of the linguistic minorities regarding admission to or entry into universities, medical, engineering and technical institutions. He received

some complaints in this respect and the complaints related to an alleged charge of what can be called discrimination. He discussed this question with the State Governments also and the State Governments are coming to the view that even indirectly there should be no discrimination at all.

In this connection a reference may also be made to the need for accepting documents for registration by the registration officers in languages other than the principal or the regional language of the State. On that question also he had received some complaints. He had a discussion with the various State Governments. Six State Governments, namely, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Mysore and Madras have reported that such facilities are already available. In Assam, they have pointed out that documents may also be registered either in Assamese or in Bengali or in English. Now this question is being pursued in West Bengal also.

Then there is the question of the residence rules. You are aware, Sir, that in the Constitution some reference was made to what can be called the residential qualification rules. I believe it is article 35 or some such article where it is laid down that it would be open to Parliament to pass an Act dealing with the question of residential qualifications. There were such residential qualifications or conditions in that respect laid down in various States but some conditions were fairly harsh. Therefore this question was taken up with all the State Governments and ultimately the Parliament passed a law dispensing with all these residential qualification rules except in certain cases, where so far as the subordinate services were concerned some local encouragement was allowed. In Himachal Pradesh, for example, or in Telangana area some such recommendation was allowed because at lower levels it was considered proper that the persons who resided in that particular State should be given a chance instead of throwing open recruitment to all the

people. But subject to these small exceptions, in other respects as you are aware this Act applies to the whole of India. There were such restrictions formerly but now after the passing of this Act by Parliament all the State Governments have agreed to come in a line with the principle of complete removal of all such clauses because though we have got different States, ultimately as you are aware citizenship is one. Therefore the idea is that a man belonging to one State should not be prevented by a local discriminatory rule from applying to posts in that particular State. Therefore, so far as that point is concerned things are considerably improving.

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In some cases it was also found by the Commissioner that the degrees, graduates' degrees and others, were recognised only of the university or universities in the particular State, and in respect of degrees obtained from universities outside the State a rule was laid down that the Governor should recognise those universities before the holders of degrees of other universities could be considered for appointment to government service. In this respect also progress has been made and it has been impressed upon all the State Governments that whenever there are statutory universities or universities, which are recognised by Government, then the graduates or the holders of degrees from those universities ought to be eligible for appointment to the posts under any of the State Governments. That question also is being taken up vigorously by the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

Then the question that naturally engaged very prominently the attention of this Commissioner was the one relating to further encouragement to Urdu. Now, different types of complaints were received from certain parts of the country; they had been received by Government also. In this connection may I invite the attention of the hon. House to a memorandum

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or a circular issued by the Home Ministry in this respect? That particular circular has been published as Annexure IV in the Report of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language. Therein you will find that the question of Urdu as an Indian language and the need to encourage it have been fully discussed and the whole realistic position explained properly and authoritatively. Therefore, I should like to make a very brief reference to what has been stated in that circular on Urdu. It has been sent to all the State Governments, and we have reason to believe that most of the State Governments are acting upon the recommendations that we have made to the State Governments.

This circular is dated 14th July, 1958. It has been rightly pointed out in this circular—

“Urdu and Hindi are very closely allied and may be considered as basically the same language.”

Then certain other facts have been referred to and then it is stated:

“While Urdu is spoken by and is considered as their mother tongue by a very considerable number of persons in India, more especially in North India, it is not a language used by the majority of people in any State in India or in any large region within a State.”

That is the realistic position so far as Urdu is concerned. Then it is stated:

“In Northern India, more especially in Delhi, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, the use of the Urdu language has been widespread, though it is confined to a minority chiefly living in towns. In the past, the principal cultural centres of the Urdu language have been Delhi city and Lucknow.”

Then it has been pointed out, in Paragraph 5, that certain types of facilities should be extended to those who have Urdu as their mother tongue. They are about five in number. I should make a reference only very briefly to them. It has been stated there:

“(1) Facilities should be provided for instruction and examination in the Urdu language at the primary stage to all children whose mother tongue is declared by the parent or guardian to be Urdu.”

This follows as a natural corollary to article 350A. And then—

“(2) Arrangements should be made for the training of teachers and for providing suitable text in Urdu.

(3) Facilities for instruction in Urdu should also be provided in the secondary stage of education.

(4) Documents in Urdu should be accepted by all courts and offices without the necessity of translation or transliteration in any other language or script, and petitions and representations in Urdu should also be accepted.

(5) Important laws, rules and regulations and notifications should be issued in the Urdu language also in areas where this language is prevalent and which may be specified for this purpose.”

Then they have dealt with Hindi and Urdu so far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned. And it has been rightly pointed out that there could be no rivalry between Hindi and Urdu. It is said there—

“Hindi necessarily occupies the dominant position in such States. But, in accordance with the provision of the Constitution and the

desirability of encouraging an important language of India, spoken and used by considerable numbers of the people, it is desirable to encourage and facilitate the use of Urdu by those who have been in the habit of using it and those who consider it as their mother tongue. This would apply especially to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, as well as to Delhi, which has been, for hundreds of years, one of the principal centres of the Urdu language."

Then a reference has been made to Punjab also and it has been pointed out very clearly in this circular that so far as this Urdu language is concerned, it should be approached only as a language of the people without any communal point of view. That also has been made clear. And from what the Commissioner has pointed out, this question has been receiving the attention of all State Governments.

Something has been stated also about the position of Urdu in the present Andhra Pradesh area so far as Hyderabad city and Secunderabad city and the Telengana area are concerned. There also you are aware, Sir, that at the time of the States Reorganisation Act a particular agreement was reached between the Telugu people and the Urdu-speaking population there and certain arrangements have also been made, certain common formulae have been evolved as regards schools, services and certain cases and a number of other matters relevant thereto. Thus you will find that the question of Urdu has been receiving proper attention from the Governments concerned.

Then one more point may also be noted here. The Commissioner has been constrained to observe that he has not been in receipt of replies, in certain cases he was expecting replies and he had to write by way of reminders to certain State Governments. That is true to a certain extent, and to that extent this report might be *prima facie* called incomplete. But let

us take into account all the circumstances. One is that he was appointed immediately after the reorganisation and a number of reorganisational problems arose there and the State Governments had to deal with a number of matters, including the integration of areas and the integration of services. That is the reason why some of the State Governments have not been able to supply the information as promptly as otherwise it would have been possible for them. All the same, I would appeal to the State Governments to give the fullest importance to this question, because in most of these States there are persons speaking languages other than the regional language. They are also entitled to the same rights, they are to be given all the rights to which they are entitled, especially the special rights. On the other hand, such persons, those who speak a language other than the regional language should also understand—that question also has to be taken into account—that they should try to understand or learn the regional language also. Oftentimes it is true that under these rules and provisions they will be entitled to certain special rights. But, while taking advantage of these special benefits they should also consider themselves as full-fledged members of that particular State and therefore, if they learn the local language, the regional language, it would be convenient to them, not only for the purpose of obtaining services, but for the purpose of carrying on intercourse with other members of the society. Therefore, this question has to be viewed with full sympathy on the one hand, and they should also try to harmonise themselves in the new area wherever they are. On the other hand it is the duty of the State Governments to see that, wherever there are other persons speaking different languages, proper safeguards which have been specified by the Government and by the Constitution are extended to them and all grounds for legitimate complaints are removed as early as possible.

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As I have said, this is the first report. He has dealt with a number of points in the way that he has done. Some hon. Members have put in amendments contending that the report is incomplete and that certain things have not been done by the Commissioner. But, we should take into account the limitations under which he works. He is not an executive officer as such. The work has to be ultimately carried out and his suggestions implemented by the various State Governments. He is what may be called an Investigating officer. After investigations are made, he has to make a report to the President. After the report is received here, copies of the report are furnished to the various State Governments and we request them to inform us and the Commissioner as to what action they have taken, and where it has not been possible to take action as recommended by him, to state the reasons for the delay and the reasons for non-implementation. Here, we have provided for a special machinery which will deal with all such complaints, and which will look into the question whether safeguards have been properly provided or not. This agency will be of great use not only to the Government of India, but particularly to the State Governments for focussing their attention on the legitimate needs, legitimate complaints and omissions so far as linguistic minorities are concerned. Taking all these circumstances into account, I feel that the Commissioner has done his job fairly satisfactorily and I am quite confident that in the years to follow, he will have the fullest material before him from the State Governments and that, as a result of this appointment by the President, the conditions of the linguistic minorities wherever they are not satisfactory will be duly attended to and their grievances fully met.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion Moved:

"That this House takes note of the Report of the Commissioner

for Linguistic Minorities for the period 30th July, 1957 to 31st July, 1958, laid on the Table of the House on the 8th May, 1959"

There are some amendments also

**Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal)** Sir, I move

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely —

"and is of the opinion that—

(a) the Report is an incomplete one and does neither cover the period nor the terms of reference in full, as directed by the President, under article 350B of the Constitution and to that extent is unconstitutional;

(b) the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has failed to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for in the Constitution,

(c) the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has failed to investigate the suppression of cultural and other rights guaranteed to the Oriya minorities in Seraikella and Singbhum Sadar Sub-divisions in Bihar and in the Mahasamund tehsil of Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh" (1)

**Shri B. Das Gupta (Puruha)** Sir, I move

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely —

"and regrets the failure in implementing the safeguards for linguistic minorities, in the case of Bengali and Oriya speaking minorities in the State of Bihar" (2)

**Shri Datar:** How many hours are allotted for this?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are five hours allotted for this debate. Both the amendments are moved. The

motion as well as the amendments are before the House for discussion.

About the time limit: 15 minutes would be all right?

Shri Khadilkar (Ahmedabad): Twenty minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have no objection: as hon. Members desire.

Some Hon. Members: Fifteen minutes.

Shri Mahanty: We have taken the trouble to move amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Fifteen to 20 minutes. Hon. Members normally should try to condense their remarks within fifteen minutes. In some cases, they might go on to 20.

Shri Achar: There are five hours, there is ample time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Tomorrow morning there would be many more.

Shrinati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): May I make a submission? Members do not take the trouble to remain in the House for the debate. The Members who are here today should not be victimised for the sake of those who desire to speak tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would it be possible to exclude all those who are not present just at this moment?

Shrinati Renu Chakravarty: I do not say that. Since there are only five or six wanting to speak, some more time may be given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would she like that I should make it half an hour today and ten minutes tomorrow? That would also be objectionable.

Shri Mahanty.

Shri Mahanty: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I have listened with considerable attention to the speech of the hon. Minister. He has rightly anticipated the criticism that is likely to be levelled against the first report of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner.

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But, I am constrained to say that he has not properly appreciated the background, the circumstances and the genesis and the enormity of the problem and therefore he has talked to this House with that amount of, should I say, lack of seriousness.

What is the genesis of this Linguistic Minorities Commissioner? That is more important in this context, for it will give us an inkling of the enormity of the problem that is prevailing in this country. It is well known that the Indian Constitution has certain provisions which guarantee certain privileges and certain rights to the minorities. For instance, under article 29, a minority is entitled to preserve its own script and language. Under article 30, all minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Under article 350, every person shall be entitled to submit a representation for the redress of any grievance to any officer or authority of the Union or a State in any of the languages used in the Union or in the State, as the case may be. Even though all these rights were guaranteed to the linguistic minorities in the Constitution, these provisions were more observed in the breach than in fulfilment.

The States Reorganisation Commission in their report made a specific reference to it. In para 767 on page 207, they said:

"During the course of our enquiry, the question of reinforcing the existing system of safeguards for minorities figured prominently. It was strongly urged before us that the safeguards for minorities embodied in the Constitution have proved inadequate and ineffective against the cultural oppression of linguistic minorities and their economic exploitation."

I would like to draw the attention of the House to these very significant words "cultural oppression of

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linguistic minorities and their economic exploitation". I would like to invite the attention of this House to this very ominous phrase which almost sounds as perpetration of genocide in India. From this we know under what circumstances these linguistic minorities are living. These are not my words; these have been written in the report of the States Reorganisation Commission. Its authors are men above 60, I believe men who are not given to exaggeration, men who are noted for their sobriety and for understatement. It is they who had brought to notice that the linguistic minorities were being subjected to cultural oppression and suppression of their economic rights. In this context, it was considered necessary that some safeguards should have to be provided for linguistic minorities. If I remember correctly, in 1956, when the Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Bill was before the Joint Committee, I know how reluctant Government were to amend article 350 of the Constitution by adding article 350B. At this distance of time, if I remember correctly, I happened to be a Member of the Joint Committee, Government had not accepted this recommendation uncritically; with a large amount of mental reservation and hesitation, they had accepted the suggestion for the appointment of a special officer for linguistic minorities.

The hon. Minister has stated that the linguistic Minorities Commissioner was appointed soon after article 350 had been amended. Am I right?

**Shri Datar:** Under that article, he was appointed.

**Shri Mahanty:** Even though that particular Bill was passed, I think, in the month of December or so,—I do not remember the exact date—and even though this Commissioner was appointed on 30th July, 1957, he started his office at Allahabad only from 27th October, 1957, that is long after he had been appointed. We do not know what the Linguistic Minorities

Commissioner had been doing during that period. I take very strong exception to the fact that Government should fish out, maybe, some eminent retired judge from some corner of India, and appoint him to an office from 30th July, 1957 and which office he will not discharge till as late as October, 1957.

15.22 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN *in the Chair*]

I venture to think that Government owes a reply, in this regard not only to us but also to the linguistic minorities, to millions of these people, Government owes them a reply as to why the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner even though he was appointed from 30th July, 1957—I do not know whether he has drawn his salary from July to October or not—was not allowed to function till October, 1957. A friend asks 'Why should he be at Allahabad'. Of course, we know that Allahabad has well known association with Indian history. But that does not mean that the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner should also have his offices located at Allahabad. Allahabad may be famous for other things; Allahabad may boast of other things, but I certainly take exception to the fact that his office should have been located at Allahabad where there are no linguistic minorities, where there are no problems concerning linguistic minorities. I would also like to know what this gentleman had been doing from 30th July, 1957 to October, 1957. Thus, in the process, a sort of support has been produced which is incomplete.

I do not know why Shri Datar is going away from the House, and why the Minister of Transport and Communications is getting himself interested in this.

**Shri Khadilkar:** The minorities problem has become a transport problem.

Shri Mahanty: I hope he will trans-  
port our ideas properly

I was trying to submit that here was the Constitution, and here was this special officer for linguistic minorities who was appointed under the exigencies of the circumstances, or rather the imperativeness of the circumstances, under an article of the Constitution, who assumed his office and then produced a report which is incomplete because even though he was appointed on a particular date, he started his duties long after six months. To that extent, I venture to submit that his report is not only incomplete but unconstitutional. I know there would be no reply forthcoming to all this but, unfortunately we have also a duty to perform.

Let us see what the wording of article 350B is. It reads thus:

"(1) There shall be a Special Officer for linguistic minorities to be appointed by the President

(2) It shall be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under this Constitution and report to the President upon those matters at such intervals as the President may direct, and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to the Governments of the States concerned."

So, what are the terms of reference of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner? They are very clearly delimited in article 350B (2) of the Constitution, that is, all matters relating to the linguistic minorities. Now what are the rights of the linguistic minorities which have been admitted by Government? They can be tabulated as follows. The first is educational facilities; the second relates to facilities for instruction in mother tongue, and recognition of schools established by linguistic minorities and

rendering them financial help, the third is with regard to affording of facilities for learning the mother-tongue. These are so far as educational facilities are concerned. Then, the next is in regard to recruitment to State and subordinate services, there should be no discrimination against any person on account of his language either in trade or in business. Then, another right which has been conceded to the linguistic minorities is that notices and rules etc should be published in the minority language where a linguistic minority consists of 15 to 20 per cent of the total population of the taluk or of the district. These are the few cultural rights, rights which have been guaranteed by Government to the linguistic minorities living in India.

What was expected of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner was twofold, one was that that he should have investigated all matters concerning the linguistic minorities under article 350B of the Constitution in the light of these assurances and guarantees. Therefore, if he submits a report to the House, which does not investigate all aspects, and if he leaves out certain parts of India, then, to that extent, his report is not only incomplete but is unconstitutional and is *ultra vires* of article 350B of the Constitution. We know that Government will rely on their majority and will counter all these objections by their usual reply. But this is not a party question. Here, Government do not stand on a pedestal of their own which is different from ours. We are all anxious to see that a substantial section of our citizens do not live in an atmosphere of frustration do not live under those conditions of genocide, of which the States Reorganisation Commission had given a dear hint. We all want that they should live like full contented, citizens with all their rights and duties. Therefore, here is not a partisan question, here is a question which embraces all of us, irrespective of our party considerations. But what do we find? We find from the report

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of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner that neither does it cover all the aspects of the guarantees which have been given to the linguistic minorities nor does it cover all the areas of our country.

I would like to know why the commissioner did not visit Bihar. We all know that Bihar is a very great State of the Indian Union; we are all very proud of the State, because our President hails from that State.

An Hon. Member: Nalanda is there

Shri Mahanty: And also Ashoka. When he was a *Chandashoka*, before he was converted to a *Dharmashoka*, he also came from there. Therefore, we are very proud of that State because it has got many associations with history, maybe, sometimes of carnage and bloodshed, but notwithstanding that, we are very proud of that State, because our President comes from that State; and we all know how all the Hindi enthusiasts mostly have also come from that State. But is that a sufficient reason why the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner should not visit Bihar? I would like to ask why this report is silent on the Oriya minorities inhabiting Bihar, why this report is silent about the Bengali minorities living in Bihar; we know what kind of genocide is being perpetrated against the Oriya and Bengali minorities in Bihar. We know how one after the other, the primary schools there are being closed down, how the schools founded by the minorities are starving or are being thwarted for lack of funds. We know what type of vindictive measures are being taken against Oriya teachers and those who are connected with Oriya schools. I should say the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner did not dare to visit that State. But does that meet the needs and requirements of the Constitution? I say once again 'no'. To that extent, this Report is incomplete. Therefore, I would urge upon Government—and let this also be conveyed to the President—

that under article 350B the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner should once again be asked to make another report so that the incompleteness of this report may be remedied. Article 350B(2) says that the President may ask for such reports 'at such intervals' as he may direct. So it is not necessary that the Commissioner should be asked to report only once a year. Now that we find that the Commissioner has not reported about these linguistic minorities inhabiting Bihar, he may be directed once again by the President to report to him, and we should expect that that report would also be laid on the Table of the House.

Then I come to another aspect. It was recommended at the Secondary Education Ministers' Conference—which recommendation now practically forms the basis of the secondary educational policy in this country—that there should be a uniform policy regarding secondary education which should be followed in all the States. Herein comes the problem of the linguistic minorities. It has been recommended that not only in primary schools but also in secondary schools if a certain number of pupils want to get education in their own mother tongue, it should be obligatory on the part of the State Government to see that they get their education in their own mother tongue. Unfortunately even though it was expected of Government to have a co-ordinated policy even though it was expected of the President to have issued directives, even though it was expected of the Commissioner to have made recommendations in this regard, nothing has been done. Therefore, we would like to know why the Commissioner has remained silent on this vital point.

Then I come to another aspect which, I think, is more important. It is well and good to say that the Constitution guarantees that there should be no discrimination against any person either in trade or in

business. That forms part of the fundamental rights of Indian citizens in this country. So it is said that since it is a justiciable right, any person who finds his rights ignored, any person belonging to any linguistic minority group who finds that there is any discrimination against him, can go to the courts.

But there is also another aspect to the question. The powers of the High Courts and the Supreme Courts can be invoked only by persons who can afford for it. But where you find that the State is determined and is ever ready to crush all the rights and to practise all kinds of discrimination, it is impossible for any citizen belonging to the linguistic minorities groups to go to the High Court and the Supreme Court to invoke the inherent powers of those bodies for safeguarding his rights. Therefore, we had expected the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner also to have taken note of how linguistic minority groups are being discriminated against.

In this context, I would like to bring to the notice of Government an instance of what is happening in Seraikella and Kherwan in Bihar. According to reports received, Oriya teachers in primary and secondary schools are being transferred one by one outside the sub-division and Hindi teachers are being appointed in their place. Then under the most distressing circumstances, the handful of Oriya teachers who still continue have their dearness allowance slashed from Rs. 22-8 a month to.....

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):** I would like to know where the Oriya teachers are being transferred. I could not hear the hon. Member.

**Shri Mahanty:** I am explaining it. The Oriya teachers are appointed by the State Government. They belong to a particular cadre. Now an Oriya teacher is not necessarily meant to teach only Oriya. He can be transferred to any part of Bihar State, to

anywhere. That is what is being done. By removing these Oriya teachers and by putting forth the plea that Oriya teachers are not available in sufficient numbers, Oriya pupils of the secondary schools of this sub-division are prevented from getting their education through their own mother-tongue.

These are facts which the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner can very well investigate. That is exactly my point. He did not visit the State. Then his entire proceedings were carried on in, I should say, an atmosphere of secrecy. 'Secrecy' may not be a very happy word to use here, but I deliberately choose it. I ask: was any communique issued to the linguistic minorities announcing the terms of reference of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner so that they should have made their representations? What was done was merely to issue some kind of circular to the State Governments, to which some of the State Governments did not choose to reply. Obviously, the State Governments are the guilty party. They are perpetrating this kind of genocide. So how can they answer the questionnaire circulated by the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner? Had the Commissioner published, advertised and notified his terms of reference and the questionnaire, possibly more useful material could have been available and he could have made a really worthwhile inquiry. But nothing like that was done. The whole thing took place in an atmosphere of secrecy, as though he was merely discharging a routine duty, whereas it was really a matter connected with the destiny of millions and millions of unfortunate citizens belonging to various linguistic minority groups in this country.

Since my time is up, I do not wish to transcend the line that you have drawn. But before I conclude, I would like to bring to the notice of Government one or two more facts. The first is that this problem is not going to be solved by the appointment of such Commissioners or by the issue

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of directives by the President, if he chooses to do so. If the Government are determined to solve this problem, the best thing would be to tackle the outstanding border disputes between linguistic States with the village as the unit. As they have done in the case of Madras and Andhra Pradesh, let them do so in the case of Maharashtra and Mysore, and Orissa and Bihar. Otherwise, the problem is not going to be solved. I make an appeal to the Government: let them not stand on *zid* or prestige. Let them take into account the condition of thousands and lakhs of linguistic minorities who are languishing in this kind of genocide that is being perpetrated against them.

Secondly, I would appeal to Government to direct the Commissioner to investigate the problem in full and in its entirety. Why has the Commissioner chosen to remain silent about the plight of Oriyas who constitute 53 per cent of the population of the Mahasamund tehsil of Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh? If there is to be any fair criterion, as the Oriya-speaking population there is above 50 per cent, that entire area has to come to Orissa. But that does not happen. That is a different thing. I am not raising that point. But I would like to know why the Commissioner has remained significantly silent on the plight of the Oriyas in the Mahasamund tehsil of Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh.

Before I conclude, I would once again make an appeal to Government to direct the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner forthwith to make further investigations into the plight of Oriya-speaking minorities living in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh make another report to the President for what it is worth.

Shri Khandlikar: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the report that is under discussion, to my mind, is a most disappointing document. I expected the Chief

Justice of the Allahabad High Court, when he is assuming a responsibility of this nature, would devote more time to a problem which has come up as a result of the reorganisation of States. The States Reorganisation Commission has made people language conscious—let us understand that perfectly—and in their report, they have mentioned that unless some proper provisions are made to give adequate protection to the linguistic minorities, it would be difficult to satisfy them because some minorities are created as a result of the reorganisation of States.

For instance, I will refer to a living problem on the borders of Mysore and Bombay. A part of the Kannada State was part of the former Bombay State. More or less culturally and linguistically they were akin to Marathi-speaking people. But to meet the exigencies of the States reorganisation, the party in power thought it wise to put a big chunk in the Mysore State. Then, there is a small area going to Andhra and another small area from the Marathi-speaking area going over to the Hindi-speaking side that is, Madhya Pradesh.

If we see the report, what do we find? It is more or less post master's report. The Minority Commissioner who was supposed to go to the minorities who are likely to be affected as a result of the reorganisation of States, and find out how to meet their requirements and then make a comprehensive survey, instead of doing that, has catalogued certain complaints received from the States and how they were forwarded. Beyond that there is nothing.

I would like to draw a comparison, and let the hon. Minister take a serious note of it. In every area—and the hon. Member who just now spoke, spoke about areas between Bengal and Bihar and between Bihar and Orissa and also between Bombay and Mysore—there is high tension. By introducing a new section in the new constitution you gave an assurance that you

are going to take the consequential responsibility, and unless the functions of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities are discharged in that spirit, this office is no good, so far as protection to the minorities is concerned. As I said earlier, this problem has assumed special significance after the new States have come up as a result of the reorganisation of States. I would like to draw a parallel

After the first World War certain small nationalities were created in Eastern Europe and there were minority problems of all sorts and they had to deal with them. I would like to draw the attention of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner to go through the report of certain conventions that were established and implemented through the good offices of the League of Nations, the international body that was there. There, certain positive conclusions were reached in order to give adequate protection to the linguistic minorities and they were implemented. If the Commissioner were to draw on that experience he would be in a better position to discharge his responsibilities in this country.

What is the position? He received complaints. First of all, he is not supposed to go there directly. He received the complaints and he forwards them to the President or the concerned State Government. As I said earlier, now there is a sort of language chauvinism and every language is trying to suppress the minority, intentionally or unintentionally. The administrative policies of all the States, wherever there is such a problem, are directed in a suitable way to suppress the minority language in every way possible, in trade, in cultural activity, in intellectual life. Even in their primary education and in administrative life they suffer terribly. This is our experience. The Minister of State for Home Affairs knows very well what is happening in his own State, in his own town. I do not know if his conscience is clear, if it were, he would feel that something is wrong there. But high tension is

continuing and people are agitating and agitating for small things.

I will give you instances. There is a reference in this report. Complaints were made by speakers of Marathi in this region that language teachers are not available. At the primary level, it is an obligation on the State, under the Constitution, to see that every language minority in the States gets facilities. But under this pretext that teachers are not available it is flouted.

I went to Belgaum. I saw the Lady Principal of the Training College there and she said that there was discrimination. She said 'We want teachers but no teacher from Marathi area will be taken in or admitted to the Training College and, ultimately, the result is that no teachers are available.' People suffer, this is one aspect.

As I said, there were three areas. One is in Andhra, one is in the Hindi-speaking area of Madhya Pradesh and the third between Bombay and Mysore border. In the Bombay-Mysore border area people do not understand why there is such high tension because it was formerly part of the Bombay State. That chunk was removed, a certain bargain was entered into in order to appease certain interests. That is all. There was no rational basis for that chunk going over there and a chunk of Kannada-speaking people being pushed into the present Bombay State. There is no justification.

There is another thing from the point of view of principle. When they say that Mysore State is built up as a uni-lingual State, they have no justification to keep that large chunk of Marathi minority. I do not know what is going to happen tomorrow. Bombay State is a bilingual State or a multi-lingual State—whatever you call it—up to now. So, this minority ought to have been kept there.

But our major complaint is this. So far as the Andhra area is concerned, there is not that tension. Why? The

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Andhra State Government have taken care and they have not disturbed the local administrative set-up in the Hindi-speaking area, there is no tension. But, so far as the Mysore area is concerned, very high tension is prevailing for three reasons. Formerly, there were Marathi-speaking people—even Circle Inspectors or petty revenue officials. But they have now imposed Kannada-speaking affairs.

I have stated the state of affairs as regards primary education. What is the state of affairs regarding secondary education in the city of Belgaum? It is a border town, a predominantly Marathi-speaking town. Last year, three thousand students wanted to appear for the secondary school leaving examination. Out of them, 2,300—let the Minister correct me if I am wrong—wanted to appear for the examination conducted by the Bombay State Government. Every year, this is happening. No permission is given. Then there are students' agitations, demonstrations and lathi charges and what not. At the eleventh hour, permission is given. Before that, the Mysore State Government have collected their fees, the examination fees. What is the harm if 2,300 out of the 3,000 students want to appear for the Bombay State examination? I do not understand the concept of regional States that have been created. Do they consider themselves as nations? Even if they were to consider themselves as independent nations, as I said earlier, in Europe certain rights were guaranteed. An international body like the League of Nations guaranteed them and saw that they were implemented. Language is a very sensitive element. But here nothing is done. Every year, this is the case. We wrote to the Commissioner sitting at Allahabad. We drew his attention to the agitation going on 10,000 satyagrahis offered satyagraha. Some people died. But the Commissioner never thought of visiting the place. The representative of Statesman thought this problem worth being looked into and so he visited the place and sent his impressions. He has pub-

lished a series of articles in the Statesman. Now, what has he got to say? He has endorsed what I have said. He made enquiries. Apart from the main problem, namely, whether it should go to Bombay or remain in Mysore State, has the Mysore State done its duty towards the minorities as regards language, culture, trade facilities, etc? What has the Commissioner done regarding this? With your permission, I would just quote a few sentences from the report of the Statesman's special representative.

"The crux of the problem, it seems to me, is to provide a powerful machinery for supervision, investigation and adjudication which would give the minorities confidence. Without such an instrument, people will never recover from the effects of linguistic grievances and start thinking in terms of the entire nation."

That is the important aspect because after all some small chunk of territory is bound to remain in some other State and unless whatever is guaranteed under the Constitution is provided for in the day-to-day administration, people are bound to suffer.

I will give you another instance. In Belgaum, there is a well-known institution—Parvati Devi College. The safeguards to the minorities include the question of affiliation also. If an educational institution, teaching in a particular minority medium, finds that it could not be affiliated beneficially to a particular University in that State, it should be permitted to affiliate itself to the adjoining State, if it would satisfy the academic standard, language and other requirements. This college used to get funds from the former Bombay State and it was part of the Bombay State. Today, it is difficult to get aid. It is laid down that there should not be a step-motherly attitude towards these educational institutions. But it is not getting enough aid. It is clamouring for affiliation to Poona University or Bombay University but no permission

is granted to do so. People are sitting tight and the Chauvinistic, fanatic people on the other side of the border are not even prepared to look to the future of the younger generation. They feel that heavens would fall if this small institution, the Parvati Devi College, is allowed to affiliate to the Bombay or the Poona University. Is this democracy? I want to know from the Home Minister. The post of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities is created to see that where adequate protection is given at all levels regarding culture, education, language etc and to allow freedom to the educational institutions to be run according to their liking. Not only that Monetary help should be forthcoming for some special institutions. Now, is it not a violation of the solemn promise given to this House when the States Reorganisation Act was passed? I would like to know from the Home Minister. This is what is happening and tension is maintained.

Of course, as the hon Member who spoke earlier has said, these pockets must be allowed to go and some rational boundary must be drawn. I would be extremely happy if it is done. Andhra and Madras have done it. Let this Mysore border problem also be referred to some arbitration and let it be solved. The Bengal-Bihar problem or for that matter the Oriya-Bihar problem could be solved rationally without bringing in certain other considerations as were brought in when the States reorganisation problem was tackled. I would appeal to the Home Minister. Let him forget for the moment his home land, his local patriotism and the parochial approach to the problem. Has the Commissioner ever visited this place where people have been killed? Thousands have gone to the jail for the simple reason that they wanted to appear in a particular examination. No. He is supposed to sit at Allahabad, receive the application through the State Government and then forward it to the President. I do not know why this post-office of a Com-

missioner is created in this democratic set-up and what useful purpose this office has served. This type of office will not serve the purpose. All the pockets like the pocket on the border between Mysore and Bombay, Bengal and Bihar or Orissa and Bihar—wherever they are—must be adjusted. I am not saying that we are giving all the facilities in Bombay State to the minorities. But there are no grounds for complaints. If any State is not doing that job properly, you have a right to pull it up. But you are implementing power must be exercised here. Now, there are zonal councils. Let the zonal councils take immediate action on the report of the Commissioner. If it is left to the mercy of the State Governments, today no State Government is in a mood to look to the genuine grievances of the minorities. They feel that these minorities are elements who are not quite loyal to that State and the glory of the States over which the new Chief Ministers have come to preside. This is the general approach.

Now, as regards the trade facilities—he knows it probably—there is a small place known as Nepani, which is the centre for tobacco trade in India. Now, that place has been pushed into the Mysore State. The local traders find it so difficult—they did not originally belong to Maharashtra; they have come from outside—that they have built up a market six miles from that place in the Bombay territory. Why? Because they find that in every way some obstacle is placed in the normal channels of trade, carried on by the minorities. That is the experience. Therefore, I would appeal to the Home Minister to leave aside the other problems. Is it not his duty to remove the tensions wherever they prevail? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that the minority languages including Urdu—because I find a reference was made to that—get adequate protection for their development and teaching in the established institutions of higher learning? If we claim we are building a democracy, adequate provision

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must be made for the protection of minorities. Mere creation of office and office paraphernalia with post-office-like powers is not going to serve the needs of the present situation. In conclusion, therefore, I would say this. He must have powers just like the Commissioner for Scheduled Tribes. There, the inspectors or officers are from the local people and they see the condition there and their actual grievances and try to remove them. Unless such an atmosphere is created, I am afraid it will be difficult to solve this problem. The States reorganisation has made people language conscious. Language has become a political instrument, perhaps more powerful than religion, at this juncture.

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Therefore, in order to remove a certain amount of division, a tendency of aloofness and separatism that exists between minorities and the Government majority or the majority in that area, all these requirements must be met and must be met without delay. This alone would pave the way for emotional integration. I hope that the Home Minister will take note of it, and next time I will see a little better document than the post-office report that has been presented, a document that would give the real problems and how they need to be tackled in a proper perspective in order to safeguard the minorities in respect of language and in every aspect of their life.

Mr Chairman: Shri B Das Gupta. I would suggest that no hon. Member should exceed the limit of 20 minutes. This is rather a controversial matter, one State accusing the other, and therefore, the representative of every State would like to participate in the debate.

Shri Khadilkar: I am sorry, Sir, that I exceeded 20 minutes.

Shri B. Das Gupta: Mr Chairman, Sir, I will try to finish within 20 minutes. Sir, sometimes language is the cause of emotional integration, no doubt, but sometimes it becomes the cause for emotional disintegration.

also if it is misapplied. That is the case with Bihar. I am sorry I have to bring in that problem before the House now after the recommendations of the States Reorganisation Commission and after the passing of the States Reorganisation Act by this House.

The most crucial thing is this. The Bengali-speaking minority in Bihar are suffering for the last 10 years. That is still going on. I do not know when these minorities are going to see the happy day when they will be able to feel that they are enjoying the fundamental rights in the country in which they live.

The States Reorganisation Commission recommended that the whole of Purulia Sub-Division should be transferred to Bengal except two police stations. The Central Government in their final decision deducted three more police stations comprising about 2,12,000 people and that area was retained in Bihar. That has now become part of Singhbhum District in Bihar. The condition of those people in Bihar, I would say, has become pitiable. I would like to place one instance before the House. The Revisional Survey Operation is going on in that area. I may say that the population there is cent per cent Bengali-speaking. I am not speaking of the 1951 census, but even if I take the 1951 census 55 per cent of the population is Bengali-speaking. The actual position, according to me, is that the population there is hundred per cent Bengali-speaking. You may go throughout the length and breadth of that area, but you will not be able to find a single piece of document written in any other language than Bengali. Their script is Bengali, their culture is Bengali. They are fully Bengali-speaking in the truest sense of the term.

Now, Sir, the Revisional Survey Operation is going on. It has been decided by the Bihar Government that all their record of rights would be prepared in Hindi and Hindi script only. Just imagine, Sir, if the entire settlement records are prepared in

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Hindi only, what will be the condition of the peasants and ryots there. Take, for instance, a Sub-Division in Mirzapur District, Roberts Ganj in U.P. The population there is something like 2,12,000. If the U.P. Government declares that all their documents, all their record of rights would be prepared in Bengali and only those who apply for a copy of it in Hindi would get them, what would be the position of the people there? This is the way, Sir, safeguards for linguistic minorities are being implemented in those areas

I ask the Home Ministry to take proper and speedy steps to avert these things. If these things go on, the result will be that the people there will be repressed like anything and their economic life will be in jeopardy. They must be saved from this catastrophe. I appeal to the House—I think the House is competent enough—to save them from this catastrophe, from such miserable state of affairs.

Sir, after writing to the Chief Minister of Bihar again and again, the Chief Minister of Bihar has only agreed to this extent that those persons who would apply for a copy in Bengali will be supplied with the same. This is what the Chief Minister has said.

"Script of the settlement records in Chandil, Ichagarh and Patnada, Thanas of the District of Singbhum—the records of the Revisional Survey operations in the District of Singbhum will be prepared in the official language of the State, namely, Hindi. To those, however, who wish to have the Record of Rights in the Bengali or Oriya language will be supplied copies in those languages."

Now, it is not possible and feasible for every individual to apply for a Bengali copy either individually or collectively. These things should be taken note of and speedy steps should be taken regarding these.

As regards education in that area, the arrangement for education etc.,

the less I speak about it the better. I can challenge anybody. Let anybody go to that area. There are so many junior basic schools in that area started by the Government.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra (Bagaha):  
Mr. Chairman, I want to know from the hon Member the total number of Biharis in West Bengal, the total number of Bengalis in Bihar, the total number of schools there in Hindi and here in Bengali.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri) The Commission will supply that

Shri B. Das Gupta: That is a different argument. If the Chairman is prepared to give me time, I can explain the whole thing. But I am sorry that I have no time. The first line in the resolution which was passed at the last Education Ministers' Conference and accepted by the Government says.

"The medium of instruction and examination in the junior basic stage must be in the mother-tongue of the child and where the mother-tongue is different from the regional or State language arrangements must be made for instruction in the mother-tongue" etc.

I would request the Home Minister to have an enquiry into that area and find out whether there is any single junior basic school in that area where instruction is given in the mother-tongue of the students. If I say all this in this House, there is every likelihood of the Home Minister saying in his reply, "No, no; these are not correct. Ask the Bihar Government." I would request the Home Minister to convey these points to the President and request him to instruct the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to go there and investigate thoroughly into the conditions of the linguistic minorities there.

This is the condition throughout the whole length and breadth of Bihar. Go to Dhanbad; go to Dhalbhum; go to Santal Parganas. Go to all these

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border areas and everywhere you will find that the same story is repeated. What is the position of Singhbhum district, for instance? The linguistic position in the whole of Singhbhum district is as follows: Oriya, 20 per cent; Bengali, 18.15 per cent; Hindi, 14 per cent; Ho, 28 per cent; Santhali, 16 per cent. See the position of Hindi there. Is there any reason or is there any logic behind the present scheme? Can there be any ground behind it to convert all the documents of the population into Hindi? That is basically wrong.

If we take the linguistic position in the Dhalbhum sub-division, we find that Bengali is 30.8 per cent; Oriya, 21.3 per cent; Hindi, 21.1 per cent; and Santhali, 17.4 per cent. I think the Home Minister should urge the State Government to declare Bengali as the regional language in Dhalbhum and in those areas which have been retained in Bihar, because such a thing has been done in other States. Take, for instance, Andhra Pradesh. There is a district in Andhra Pradesh, called Adilabad. That district contains Marathi-speaking population, the percentage of which is only 20. There, the Andhra Government has accepted and recognised Marathi as the regional language. When that can be done, why not Bengali be declared, recognised and accepted as the regional language of Dhalbhum sub-division in the Chandil, Ichagarh and Patanda area and also in Dhanbad where the Bengali-speaking population is more than 20 or 25 per cent.

According to the provisions made by the Government, Government notices, etc., should be published in the minority language also where the percentage of minorities is more than 15 to 20. I would appeal to the authorities to go to Bihar and visit those areas. They will find that even in those areas where the presentage of the linguistic minorities is more than 50, not a single copy of Government notices is published in the minority language which may be Bengali, Oriya or any other language.

The result is that the receipts of Malguzari are issued in Hindi and the Bengali ryots and peasants run from village to village just to find out if there is any person who can read those receipts, so that they may be sure that the entry has been made correctly. This is the condition.

These safeguards are not being implemented. For the last ten years, our experience is that the safeguards for the linguistic minorities are only adorning the pages of the Constitution and nothing else. I do not want that the safeguards which have been now provided by the Central Government, by Parliament, for the linguistic minorities should also be only in the Constitution; I want that they should be implemented rightly, accurately and properly.

In conclusion, I would just invite the attention of the House to one thing. To the questionnaire issued by the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, all the States have replied except Bihar, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur. The Commissioner has said that in spite of repeated reminders, no reply has come from Bihar at all. What are the reasons? This is the reason.

Lastly my request to the hon. Minister is this. There is no room for complacency now. If we say there is no alternative for the people, the people are disgusted. We are dissatisfied and disgusted and our feeling is that our life is in jeopardy. When there is no other alternative, if we say that those portions should be amalgamated with West Bengal or Orissa, then we will be branded as provincialists. Our idea will be branded as linguism, provincialism, parochialism and what not. If there is no other alternative, the last alternative to save these linguistic minorities from oppression and from the sufferings they are now undergoing will be just to have another arrangement to merge them in their mother States.

Shri Manasa (Darjeeling): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a study of the report

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of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities indicates that much importance has not been attached to the job of preparation of this report. The report does not seem to add anything new or more to what has already been said in the recommendations of the States' Reorganisation Commission or in the memorandum of safeguards for linguistic minorities. Going through the report, it appears that it is a mere catalogue of memoranda, questionnaire, answers, etc. Of course, I find that an effort has been made to make a survey very briefly and not completely of the linguistic minorities in various States. And when I say this I am not entirely unconscious and unaware of the fact that the problem of linguistic minorities is a complicated one and that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, as the hon. Home Minister pointed out, had to work under certain limitations.

It was obvious that a number of distinct language groups, people speaking distinct language or belonging to distinctly separate culture live in different parts of the country and the States Re-organisation Commission noticed it. A linguistic minority can be defined as a group of people which, although a minority in a State, forms about 70 per cent of the population of a district of that State and it speaks a distinct language other than the regional or State language. Within the existing States or within the States emerging from the recommendations of the States Re-organisation Commission, there are many groups of people speaking different languages, having different cultures, and yet separate States could not be carved for them. And at the same time, the interests of those people, their language and culture, could not be sacrificed at the altar of the larger sections of the people. Article 29 of the Constitution has given adequate safeguards to these minorities.

The confusion and madness which came in the wake of boundary re-

adjustment is still very fresh in our memory. If the numerous linguistic minorities also had chosen to join in the orgy of violence and disorder things in this country would have taken a very serious and very unwholesome turn. But the minorities of various groups chose to wait and see, and the States Re-organisation Commission in their prudence and in their wisdom did not choose to throw the case of the linguistic minorities into the wind. The Commission interviewed numerous groups of people speaking different languages and different dialects. And I may point out that Nepalese were one such community which was interviewed by the States Re-organisation Commission. Also, in reply to my Starred Question No. 2290 dated 7-5-59 the hon. Home Minister was pleased to state that Nepalese did form a linguistic minority in the district of Darjeeling in West Bengal. But, strangely enough, the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities does not seem to be conscious of this fact. All that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities appears to have done in West Bengal is to go to Calcutta and interview some representatives of Urdu-speaking Minorities, hear their grievances, meet the representatives of the Government of West Bengal and come back. There are Santhalese, Nepalese and Hindi-Speaking minorities scattered in various parts of West Bengal who could have been interviewed by the Commissioner, and the Commissioner could also have gone, besides Calcutta, to these places where the linguistic minorities are settled in a composite manner.

While going through the report I find that the idea behind the appointment of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities is in the pattern of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Sir, it can reasonably be expected that the report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities would also be in the pattern of the report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes

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and Scheduled Tribes. Sir, I would submit in all humility that the Ministry of Home Affairs should see that the next report of the Commissioner would be more realistic and more comprehensive. Primarily I feel—and if I am wrong in my statement the hon. Home Minister will correct me—that a comprehensive list of all the linguistic minorities in various States will have to be prepared and there should be no difficulty in preparing such a list as the formula for linguistic minorities has been clearly laid down. Then the Commissioner should proceed to visit such of those areas where linguistic minorities are settled, meet them or their representatives and make spot enquiries as to whether or not the safeguards provided are adequate or are properly enforced.

The SRC had recommended that the services of the State Governors should be utilised for enforcing the safeguards for linguistic minorities. The States' Re-organisation Commission had also rightly pointed out that the Governors should not have any discretionary powers because the discretionary power may give rise to divergent pulls between the Governor and the State Ministers in the matter of safeguards for linguistic minorities doing more harm than good to these smaller groups.

As far as the question of safeguards of linguistic minorities in the State of West Bengal is concerned, I must say that they are doing fairly well. By and large the linguistic safeguards for Nepalese in educational institutions are adequate. The question that the Nepali language should be an official language in the district has often been brought to the notice of Government. The Government of West Bengal have given patient hearing to the legitimate demand of the people and it is hoped that the administrative difficulties that may come as a result of introducing the Nepali language as official or court language in the hill areas of Darjeeling would soon be overcome.

Incidentally it may be pointed out that the Resolution of the AICC on safeguards for linguistic minorities passed in June 1956 also mentions that "recognition of minority languages for prescribed official purposes" is desirable. I may add for the information of hon. Members of this House that English is still used as a court language in the subordinate courts of Darjeeling. Hon. Members can imagine the difficulties that the simple village folks who come from the interior of the district have to face. Giving a few more instances I may mention that the notices, rules and proceedings of various local bodies are still written in English in my part of the country. The more surprising fact is that even the proceedings of the advisory body for NES and CD blocks, which function absolutely in the villages, are also in English. I am surprised how the members of the advisory bodies, who are hardly literate.....

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member's time is up.

**Shri Manaen:** I will be very grateful if you will give me a few more minutes. I have not covered the main points. I will try to be very brief.

I am confident that wherever possible gradually the change in the right direction will be made. I can say that the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities can play a very constructive role in helping to bring about changes wherever they are necessary or advisable.

The Commissioner also discounts in his report the question of Nepali language being included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. I presume the Commissioner is right when he says in his Report that it is not a matter for the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to decide but he is definitely wrong when he says on page 38 "that the inclusion of a language in the Eighth Schedule is of very little significance and does not in any way affect the linguistic minorities or their rights and privileges." The current debate on this report may not be a

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very opportune or a very suitable occasion to discuss the question of including a language in the Eighth Schedule but this I must say that as many languages as are developed or have the potential of being developed into a vigorous language should get their due recognition and no recognition could be better than including such languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution I may respectfully submit that the Nepali language is such a potential language and it has been the aspiration of the Nepali-speaking people of India to have this language enshrined in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution Linguistic minorities will not live by linguistic safeguards alone They will need some other safeguards also and no safeguard can be paramount for the survival of the linguistic minorities and for that matter for any other community in India, than the economic safeguard and the safeguard of service Dr B C Roy, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, is increasingly trying to absorb the hill people in all the State services in the district of Darjeeling The Government of India will also do well to emulate our State Chief Minister in the matter of safeguards in services for Nepalis and appoint Nepalis in all the services

One more point, Sir because this is important and I will conclude with this The shifting circumstances in the borders of our country have imposed a new responsibility on the people of the country and also on the people in the border Nepalis living in Darjeeling and also in Sikkim—and I may point out here that more than sixty or seventy per cent of the population of Sikkim consists of Nepalis—and also in Bhutan where a very large section of the population—perhaps hon Members are not informed about it—are Nepalis, are alert to this newly acquired responsibility And the changed circumstances have also imposed a new responsibility on the Government They should be more alert to the grievances of the people whether minority or majority or whatever they are, and particularly

of those who live in the border areas I am more concerned about the forces within than the forces without Generally the forces within exploit the grievances, the real or imaginary grievances, of the people And the simpler and more gullible the people, the more likely they are to be confused

I shall be absolutely incomplete and I shall not be doing justice to the opportunity you have been pleased to give me, Sir, if I do not mention the basic principle on which are based the recommendations for the safeguard of linguistic minorities In page 1 of the Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities it has been stated that the States Reorganisation Commission has laid down this principle, namely, that "while minorities are entitled to reasonable safeguards to protect their educational, cultural and other interests it has to be borne in mind that such safeguards should not so operate as to perpetuate separatism or to impede the processes of natural assimilation"

I am grateful to you for giving me a few more minutes and I shall conclude by saying one sentence with regard to the Nepalis in Assam whose case has been absolutely neglected I may point out that a very large percentage of the population of Assam constitutes Nepalis In this report, in the answer given by the Government of Assam to the questionnaire of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner no mention has been made about them I may say that the Government of Uttar Pradesh have very rightly analysed the question and problems of Nepalis in that State

Sir, I thank you for the opportunity you have given me

Shri Ansar Harvani (Fatehpur)  
Mr Chairman, I wish I could congratulate the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities for his report Fortunately, a very senior jurist from my State was appointed as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities And under the Constitution he was entrusted not only with the job of issuing a questionnaire to the States and tabulating

(Shri Ansar Harvani)

their replies, but he was entrusted with the task of investigating the difficulties of the linguistic minorities in various States. Unfortunately, for reasons not known, what we find from the report is that he has just tabulated the replies which he has received from the various States, with minor comments from himself. This task could have easily been done by one of the junior Under Secretaries of the Home Ministry who could have issued a questionnaire, received the replies from the various States, tabulated them in a report, circulated them among the Members of the House and given an opportunity to them to make their remarks about it.

Let me confess at the outset that there is a tendency in this country and whenever the cause of any language is championed, some people feel it is an attack on our national language, Hindi. Let me assert at the very outset that the moment the Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi as the national language of this country, every man and woman of this country accepted it as the national official language.

Let me assert at the very outset that as far as I myself am concerned, my love for Hindi is not less than that of any one in this country. But, at the same time, I feel that this tendency to feel that when the case of any other language is championed, it is an attack on Hindi is derogatory to the Hindi language itself. I want to bring to your notice the conditions of a linguistic minority in my own home State of U.P.

A questionnaire was issued in that State. A reply was received from that State. That reply has been given in this report. But, I feel that the reply has been most unsatisfactory. Living as I do in that State, I feel that justice is not being done to the Urdu language there.

In defence, it is often said that Urdu is a part of Hindi. I quite agree that there is very little difference between Hindi and Urdu, very little difference as between that Hindi which was in

the minds of the framers of the Constitution and Urdu. That Hindi which is spoken in the streets of Lucknow, that Hindi which is understood in the streets of Allahabad, the Hindi which is spoken in the streets of Delhi is very much like Urdu and there is hardly any difference between them. But, in the last 10 or 12 years, the Hindi which has developed in this country, which is beyond the reach of even Hindi-speaking people and Hindi-reading people is very much different from the Urdu language. An artificial language has emerged out in the last 12 years, created by the Hindi fanatics. When we look at that language, we feel that there is a lot of difference between that language and Urdu.

It is often pointed out that a circular has been issued by the Home Ministry to the various States and the various States have been asked to give due facilities to the Urdu-speaking and Urdu-reading people. I quite admit that as long as our great Prime Minister is at the helm of affairs, the rights of not only the linguistic minorities, the rights of not only the religious minorities, but the rights of every minority are completely safe. I have known the towering personality of our Home Minister who, throughout his own life, has stood for the rights and privileges of minorities. I still remember with pride the way in which he stood in those days after the Partition when Punjab was in flames, when Delhi was burnt. When the fires had reached Dehra Dun and Meerut, the towering personality of our Home Minister stood out. If he had failed, India would have failed. India would not have been a secular democracy; a dark age would have been written in our history. I quite admit that so long as these personalities are there, the rights and privileges of linguistic minorities are safe. Circulars are issued from here. But, these circulars have been mere pious words.

I wish I can say the same thing about the people who are at the helm of affairs in the various States, which

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I have said about our great Prime Minister and our Home Minister. Circulars are issued. They go to the secretariats of the various States. They are just filed. Nothing is done. For instance, there is a provision that if in any school, more than 40 children are there wanting to read Urdu, or if in any class, ten children are there who want to read Urdu, there should be provision for that. That is a very nice thing. But it was the task of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to find out whether this principle is being adhered to or not. I know that if ten children assemble together and jointly make a requisition, arrangement has been made and if 40 children assemble together a joint requisition, only then, arrangements are made. You can imagine the difficulties of the children and their guardians in getting together, making joint requisitions and waiting for years and years for financial sanction to the schools for the appointment of the teachers. It was the task of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner to have gone to the U P. His headquarters are in Allahabad. He knows very well how Urdu is being treated. He ought to have gone to the schools and seen what arrangements are made. This could have been judged by the fact, how many training schools and training colleges exist in the U P where Urdu teachers are being trained. Nothing has been mentioned in the report.

The same thing about official documents. We know it very well that in most of the districts of U P, Urdu was used for purposes of documents. We know it very well that with the exception of a few districts in Eastern U P, in the other districts, most of the documents were preserved in the Urdu language. Today, even in those districts where, according to the Census, there are more than 30 or 35 per cent of Urdu-speaking people, I know instances where Urdu documents have been refused in spite of the instructions of the Government. It was the task of the Linguistic Minorities Commissioner to have

found out these facts and to have investigated into them. I would like the hon. Minister to come with me to any of the districts in U P. What will he find there? The poor document-writer prepares the document in Urdu, then, it is transcribed in Hindi, and then it is presented to the court and it is accepted. Then, I would like my hon. friend to visit any police station in U P, he will find that the poor head constable writes the first information report on rough paper in Urdu, then, it is transcribed in Hindi, and that is written in the book. That is the condition there.

Even then, it is said that all is being done for developing Urdu. I would like to point out that it has become almost impossible for me to understand it. I assert that from any standpoint, I am quite an educated man when I go to the other States. But in my own State, I find myself uneducated. I know Hindi, and I can read Hindi, but the Hindi documents which are given to us, the Hindi circulars that we receive from Government, the Hindi papers which I receive from Government are all above my head, I cannot understand head or tail of it. When that is the plight of a man like me who has tried to learn Hindi, who has been a member of the All India Hindi Sahitya Sammelan for the last fifteen years, I can imagine the plight of the other Urdu-speaking people and Urdu understanding people in my own State.

The Home Minister has read out a circular and has said that Delhi is the centre of Urdu. Pious words! Great words! There is no doubt about it that Delhi has been the centre of Urdu. Delhi has produced great poets, Delhi has produced great writers, Delhi has been the centre of the cultural heritage of all the religious minorities who accepted Urdu as their language, and as their mother-tongue, who spoke in the Urdu language, who sang in it, and whose cultural heritage was in Urdu. But what is the condition in Delhi?

[Shri Ansar Harvani]

I would like the Home Minister to come with me and show me one single sign-board on any of the offices which is in Urdu today. I find many Punjabi friends, hundreds of them who today dominate the population of Delhi, feeling themselves as illiterate. Their newspapers come in Urdu, Pratap, Milap and other papers which have huge circulation, they read these papers in Urdu, they indulge in their controversy between Hindi and Punjabi in Urdu posters, and you will find Urdu posters of big sizes claiming that Hindi should be the language of Delhi. You will find that when the Jan Sangh people hold meetings, their posters, their leaflets and their pamphlets are all in Urdu.

But what is the official attitude? Today, the road marks are in English, and they are being gradually eliminated and Hindi is taking the place of English. The sign-boards are in Hindi. Efforts are being made in the corporation and in the Delhi Administration and everywhere to make it Hindi. I do not object to it. Hindi is the national language, Hindi is our official language, but along with Hindi, Urdu which is considered to be a part of Hindi should be allowed to have full development, and fuller development, if we are to build up a real democracy of the people where people have the opportunity to express themselves in their own language.

As I said at the very outset, this claim which has been made in the commissioner's report and also in the reply of the UP Government that, after all, Hindi is a language which is allied to Urdu is absolutely correct, I do not deny it. But as I said at the very outset, it is that Hindi which is spoken and which is written and which is understood by the people which is allied to Urdu, not the new language which is emerging out, which is being created, and which is being manufactured, that new language is not allied to Urdu.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र (बगहर) . उर्दू की बात आप अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से कह रहे हैं।

श्री अन्सार हरवानी . उर्दू के बारे में अंग्रेजी में अपनी बात इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि बदकिरमती, से ज्यादा तर मन्बर साहिबान ऐसे हैं, जो कि न उर्दू समझते हैं और न ही हिन्दी समझते हैं। वृ कि मैं चाहता हूँ कि वे भी समझ सकें, इस बास्ते में अंग्रेजी में बोल रहा हूँ।

श्री बजर्राज सिंह . यह आपकी धारणा गलत है।

श्री अन्सार हरवानी मद्रास के भाई बैठे हुए हैं ज कि न हिन्दी समझ सकते हैं और न उर्दू समझ सकते हैं, अगर वे समझ सकते हैं तो मैं उर्दू में या हिन्दी में भाषण करके उनको समझाने के लिए तैयार हूँ।

श्री प्र० ना० सिंह सब समझते हैं।

Shri Ansar Harvani I was developing the point that the language which is being created is not a lied to Urdu

For instance, I can give my own experience. One fine morning, I came out from my House. I went to the taxi stand. I asked the taxi driver to take me to *sansad*, he was aghast. I asked him to take me to *sach valaya* he was aghast, I asked him to take me to *bada karyalaya*, he was aghast when I asked him to take me to *bada daphtar*, he said "Oh you mean secretariat?" When I asked him to take me to Parliament, he knew the place. So people will take time to understand these words. These words have got to be popularised. Overnight you cannot impose these words on the people. I do not object to these new words, we should have in Hindi as many words as possible derived from our ancient civilisation and from our ancient things. But that will take time, and people should get time to learn it. For instance, in my own home, my little children read Hindi fluently. They go to schools where there is no opportunity to learn Urdu. In Delhi schools, there is no oppor-

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tunity to learn Urdu. Let us confess it freely. They are trying to learn Hindi. Of course, they will forget their heritage of Urdu after some time. They will learn Hindi. But to impose it on a poor man like me at this stage of my life, when I have completed my education in Urdu, and say that I should carry on all my activities in Hindi is a thing which is not possible.

Therefore, I appeal to the Home Minister not to issue mere circulars, not to issue mere pious words, but to realise that there is a considerable population in UP, and Bihar and there is a huge population in Delhi whose mother-tongue is Urdu, who write in Urdu, who speak in Urdu and who understand Urdu, whose heritage is Urdu, who stand by Urdu, irrespective of religious minorities and religious majorities among the common people of these areas. Therefore, the time has come when there should be some legislative sanction by which Urdu should get protection. Hundreds and thousands of people headed by the great Member of the Rajya Sabha, Pandit H N Kunzru have submitted a request to the President that Urdu should be declared as a regional language in the various areas. All glory to the Chief of Andhra Pradesh who has accepted this position. It will be all glory to the Government of Uttar Pradesh and to the Government of Bihar and to the Delhi Administration if they, with the efforts of our Home Minister and our President, agree to declare Urdu as a regional language of those areas. With these words, I conclude.

**Shri Panigrahi (Puri):** Mr Chairman, I feel the Report which is under discussion today is quite a disappointing one. In the beginning, the hon. Minister stated that the Report had been submitted under certain limitations. I think he should have narrated what those limitations are and whether he proposes to remove them so that in the near future the report, when submitted will really keep in safeguarding the interests of the linguistic minorities living in different States in India.

During the course of the debate, unnecessary heat has been brought in and questions of boundary disputes were also discussed. My hon. friend, Mishraji, always gets impatient when the question of Bihar comes in. When this question was being discussed, he asked how many schools were there in West Bengal which imparted education to its minorities in Hindi. It is here that this Report is lacking in. That explanation should have been asked from the Commissioner and from the Minister.

When you go through the Report, you will find that as the hon. Minister stated a questionnaire was issued to all State Governments in 1957. How many State Governments have replied to the questionnaire? You will find that the prominent State which has failed to reply, and failed to reply after repeated reminders, is Bihar. What is the reason? You have heard my hon. friend Shri B Das Gupta, saying that the Bengali-speaking minorities in Bihar are suffering hardships. He also mentioned the fact that the Oriva-speaking people living in Bihar are suffering hardships.

**Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada):** Also Andhras in Orissa are suffering. Let him please deal with that also.

**Shri Panigrahi:** I am coming to that. I am glad that Shri Thirumala Rao has said that the Andhras in Orissa are also suffering from hardships. I am very glad.

**Shri C D Pande (Naini Tal):** That they are suffering?

**Shri Panigrahi:** No, I am glad that he said it.

I believe the Commissioner should have investigated all these allegations. I hope that Shri Thirumala Rao, a prominent member of the Congress Benches will urge upon his Government to direct the Commissioner to go into those questions in detail and submit a report so that we can form a better judgment of things as they are continuing in the different States.

[Shri Panigrahi]

What are the difficulties as the hon. Minister has stated, which the Commissioner wants to safeguard? The States Reorganisation Commission has suggested certain measures to safeguard the interests of the linguistic minorities who will be living in the different States after the States are reorganised. The hon. Minister has tried to state a few of them. The States Reorganisation Commission has stated that primary education should be given to the linguistic minorities in their mother tongue. Secondly, there should be no discrimination in matters of grants-in-aid to those educational or cultural institutions which are functioning or are proposed to function in those areas, where the linguistic minorities are living. Thirdly, whether the linguistic minorities are having an adequate number of schools to educate their children and whether there are adequate number of teachers to impart education in the educational institutions of the linguistic minorities. It should be seen whether equal opportunities are afforded to the linguistic minorities to enter into the services of the State; whether secondary education is also being imparted in the language of the minorities—in their mother tongue; whether there is recognition of the minority languages as medium for the examinations conducted for recruitment to services; whether there is any restriction on the linguistic minorities so far as their trade and their private business is concerned and so on.

These are the safeguards which the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities is to look after. He must have gone into these and seen whether these have been adequately safeguarded by the States concerned. But it is quite disappointing that the Commissioner, in his report, has not gone into all these problems.

The Commissioner has sent questionnaires to the different State Governments. The State Governments have replied. Some State Government did not care to reply.

With regard to the replies received from certain States, the Commissioner has not cared to verify whether they are correct and whether they are being implemented. Whatever report is submitted by the State Government is forwarded by the Commissioner to the President and the report is submitted to the Houses of Parliament. Can the rights of the linguistic minorities be safeguarded in this way if the Commissioner does not go to these places and look into the actual difficulties which the linguistic minorities are undergoing?

I will just mention some other points which the hon. Minister has stated in his preliminary observations. The question of linguistic minorities is really a question which involves millions of people. It is not a question whether a certain pocket in Bihar or a certain pocket in Orissa or a certain pocket in Mysore or a certain pocket in Andhra or the Bombay border is affected.

Has the Commissioner gone into the question of what is the problem of the linguistic minorities in Delhi itself? There are Oriya-speaking people, there are Malayalees, there are Urdu-speaking people living in Delhi and there are other minorities speaking other regional languages also living in Delhi. Are there enough schools for the education of their children? Does the Government give enough grants to them, to these institutions? These are the questions which the Commissioner was required to go into and submit a report so that we can have an idea as to whether these problems are being solved. Now, what about the new townships, industrial townships which are growing in India? Take the case of Rourkela or Bhilai. Or take the case of Calcutta, Bombay, or Madras. You will find a large number of linguistic minorities are coming to these towns and townships. It is here that a new India is growing where all the linguistic minorities get a chance to mix together . . .

**An Hon. Member:** And speak one language.

**Shri Panigrahi:** . . . and retain their language and culture. What has the Commissioner done to them? You can go into this question as to whether a sufficient number of educational institutions are provided in these places so that the linguistic minorities coming from all over the country and living in one place may feel that they really belong to one brotherhood and all their languages, culture, etc., are given scope for improvement. My hon. friend spoke about the Nepalese language. In the hill districts of West Bengal, Darjeeling, there are a large number of Nepali-speaking people and I am told that they form ninety per cent. Have facilities been provided for providing education to their children in their mother tongue? Is there any indication of that in the report?

Almost all the safeguards which the S.R.C. suggested and which the hon. Minister has stated as have been provided in the Constitution, are not being implemented in practice. The safeguards have been guaranteed and provided. But the hon. Minister should devise ways and means to see that whatever safeguards have been guaranteed are really implemented and not violated. I was referring to all these ten items of safeguards for the linguistic minorities. I think Pandit Tiwary would not mind it if I say that in Bihar the linguistic minorities, Bengali and Oriya-speaking people are deprived of all these ten safeguards which have been guaranteed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many schools are run to give educational facilities to the children of linguistic minorities like the Bengali and Oriya-speaking people living in Bihar? Similarly, how many schools are run, say, in Orissa, or Andhra or other States giving facilities to the particular linguistic minorities living in that particular State? The report does not contain anything about it. We must know from the hon. Minister about the facilities that have provided so far as the text-books are concerned.

so far as the training of teachers is concerned.

**17 hrs.**

The report should have contained all these things. It should have mentioned whether the different States have provided these facilities or not. But the report does not contain any of these items in detail. It only shows that the Commissioner did not go into all these questions in detail, did not really investigate. Under article 350(b) of the Constitution the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has been given the power to investigate matters. "Investigate" does not mean just to write a letter to a State, get a reply and then send it on to the Minister here to be quoted. "Investigation" means ascertaining full facts, finding the causes of delay and negligence, fixing the responsibility and suggesting suitable measures to redress genuine grievances. Is there anything in the report to that effect?

**Mr. Chairman:** Does the hon. Member want to continue tomorrow?

**Shri Panigrahi:** Sir, I may be given 5 to 7 minutes tomorrow.

**Mr. Chairman:** All right, he may continue tomorrow.

Shri Rane will now present the Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

#### BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORTY-THIRD REPORT

**Shri Rane (Buldana):** Sir, beg to present the Forty-third Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

**17:02 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, September 9, 1959/Bhadra 18, 1881 (Saka).*