

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Janta Dal is there to take all Members.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Madam, I want to place on record our very strong protest against this blatant violation of financial rules. The Government should revoke the notification with respect to the customs duty and bring whatever proposals they want to bring in the Budget itself. As a protest we are walking out.

[At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber].

### RE. IMPOSITION OF HINDI ON PEOPLE OF TAMIL NADU BY DOORDARSHAN

SHRI C. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, I want to raise a very serious matter affecting the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu. The Tamil broadcasting time on the Doordarshan has been reduced from 9.00 P.M. to 8.45 P.M.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shrimati Sushma Swaraj) in the Chair.]

Madam previously the Tamil news transmitted between 8.40 P.M. and 9.00 P.M. But now what have they done? They have reduced it. Now they are commencing it at 8.30 P.M. and concluding to 8.45 P.M. The argument that has been given by the Director of Doordarshan is that the Tamil TV viewing timing formerly started at 5 o'clock and ended at 9 o'clock. I do not know whether this was his argument or the argument given by the Government. As a matter of fact, he has been broadcasting now from 5.30 P.M. to 8.45 P.M. and in that sense he has increased the time. But what we have been agitating is that the original time was the prime time for the people of Tamil Nadu. As you know, many of the people of Tamil Nadu can neither speak nor write Hindi. They do not know Hindi. So the people have been seeing the programme after coming from their offices. After 6 or 7 o'clock they start viewing to the Doordarshan programme. They

were very happy with that. It went on up to 9 o'clock. After 9 o'clock, as far as the State of Tamil Nadu is concerned there has been no T.V. viewing by the people. So it is agitating the mind of the people that the Government of India has been indirectly imposing Hindi upon the people of Tamil Nadu. In this connection the Tamil Nadu Assembly had also passed a resolution on the 10th January requesting old timings I do not know whether the Congress Members want the imposition of Hindi in Tamil Nadu. As requested by all the parties there the original T.V. viewing timing should be restored. I hope the Congress party will also accept the proposition that the original timing has to be restored which has been pressed by the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

Madam, you know the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu. They do not want imposition of Hindi. Similar resolutions on the two-language formula had been passed during the time of Anna and also during the period of MGR. We personally feel that Doordarshan is trying to impose Hindi on the people of Tamil Nadu.

I wish to stress on this occasion two important things. One is that the Government of India should restore the old timings. The other is that the news should be from 8.40 P.M. to 9.00 P.M. The TV viewing time should be from 5.00 P.M. to 9.00 P.M. I think it is a reasonable request. I do not know why they should resist it.

Madam, in the year 1965 there was an anti-Hindi agitation. According to Nehru's assurance, English should be an associate language along with Hindi. We wish that that the assurance by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in the present context, should also be made as one of the Constitutional provisions.

Madam, I hope that the Government will give an assurance on this matter. Thank you... (Interruptions) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Muthu Mani, you can only associate yourself with

your colleague. All of you cannot speak... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: We oppose imposition of Hindi on Tamils... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam, are you calling me on this issue or another issue?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Do you want to say something on this issue?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: On this issue, I do not want to say anything except to ask what their new ally, BJP, wants to say about this. I want to speak on some other issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Okay, I will allow you afterwards.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, on this issue I want to speak. First of all, I would like to say that the hon. Minister has already given an assurance that there will be no imposition of Hindi on the people of Tamil Nadu. We are all aware of it as is Mr. Swaminathan.

Madam, I also support the demand that the prime time of the Tamil transmission should not be reduced even though the Tamil transmission has been increased by fifteen minutes. I also support the demand that at the prime time there should be transmission of the regional language. But unfortunately this matter is being politicised in a wrong way in the State. I feel that this has created a great deal of difficulty because of the kind of confrontationist stand which has been adopted by certain people. There has been a bomb blast in the office of the Hindi Prachar Sabha. This is inciting passions regarding the language in the State which is creating... (*Interruptions*)... process Madam, it is creating difficulties... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Let her speak... (*Interruptions*)... You please sit down

Mr. Swaminathan, you have already made your point. Jayanthiji, please Mr. Maran. Please sit down. (*Interruptions*). I will allow (*tions*).

श्री प्रमोद महानन (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदया, एक मिनट के लिए मैं सदन को यह खुशखबरी दूँ कि भारत ने मुम्बई का तीसरा टेस्ट मैच जीत लिया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज) : बहुत बढ़ाई।

श्री प्रमोद महानन : यह लगातार हैट ट्रिक करके हमारे खिलाड़ियों ने बहुत बड़ा पराक्रम दिखाया है।

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam, please ask him to speak in English.

श्री प्रमोद महानन : हम सदन की ओर से हम सब, भारतीय संघ ने श्री अजहरुदीन के नेतृत्व में जो हुआ है, हम श्री अजहरुदीन को और उनके पूरे संघ को बढ़ाई दें, यह मेरी सदन से प्रार्थना है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज) : पूरा सदन इसमें शामिल है। हम पूरे सदन की ओर से अपने खिलाड़ियों को बढ़ाई प्रेषित करते हैं।

Jayanthiji, please finish now

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I am finishing now. My only point is—I say this on behalf of my party and on behalf of the Congress party in Tamil Nadu—that we are totally of the view that there should be no imposition of Hindi. We have also fought for it in this House. I plead with all the Members, with other Members and with other parties, not to encourage divisive forces. Because of this, a very bad feeling has been created in the State. After the Congress Members were evicted from the Assembly on this ground, after the Congress Members in the Assembly were not allowed to speak, there was a massive bomb blast in the Hindi Prachar Sabha. This bomb culture should not be allowed to grow in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, I also ask the hon Minister to give us an assurance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Maran. (*Interruption*) I will identify you, Mr. Subramanian Swamy, after this is over.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam Vice-Chairman, I entirely agree with Thirumathi Jayanthi Nataraajan that we should not encourage divisive forces. But, you are creating the divisive forces. Who asked you to change the *status quo* regarding the timing of the Hindi national broadcast? A feeling has been created that 'national' means 'Hindi' and 'Hindi' means 'National'. This is not good. When I put a supplementary question to the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting, he assured us that he would respect the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu. Yes, Madam, I thank the hon. Minister. But how many assurances have we got? We have Pandit Nehru's assurance on this language policy; we have Lal Bahadur Shastri's assurance to the non-Hindi speaking people; we have Indiraji's assurance to the non-Hindi speaking people; we have got Rajiv Gandhi's assurance to the non-Hindi-speaking people. Now, this is Singh Deo's assurance. We do not want to believe in assurances any more. It is, after all, a small administrative order. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister, who is here, to respond. Let him not stand on prestige. This is a time when the country is passing through a crisis. You are seeking the support and cooperation of all the parties. All the people must unite together to fight the communal forces. In this context, why are you stirring up a hornet's nest? I would appeal to the hon. Minister to be rational. Let him not stand on false prestige. Let him come out and straightaway say, because he is in independent charge of the I & B Ministry, that the *status quo ante* will be restored. Otherwise, an agitation will come up; the entire Tamil Nadu will go up in flames. (*Interception*)

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Mr. Swaminathan, you have already said enough.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam. I agree with Thirumathi Jayanthi Natara-

rajan that there cannot be any imposition of Hindi because they have learnt a bitter lesson in 1965. Now, that is why they are indirectly imposing Hindi through the Doordarshan. This is on aggression by air. Therefore, I would once again request the hon. Minister to be fair to respect the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu. (*Interruption*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): One minute, Mr. Swaminathan. I will ask the hon. Minister to react. Would the Minister like to react to him?

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: The Tamil Nadu Government, a majority Government there, has passed a resolution in the Assembly. I would request the hon. Minister to give an assurance because the Chief Minister has already written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister. There have been talks on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu with the Government of India. A lot of correspondence has been sent and a lot of discussion has taken place. This is not the first time that we are talking about it here. This is matter which has been taken up by the Government of Tamil Nadu. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu and the AIADMK, I request the hon. Minister for an assurance in this House.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam, I rise to support the matter raised by Shri Swaminathanji.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, I am 'G. Swaminathan' and not 'Swaminathan. G.'

SHRI V. NARAYANA SAMY: Sometimes, we add the initials behind the name.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Only in directories.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: He is not interested to take a respectable word in Hindi.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Only in telephone directories, we do like that, not in Parliament.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: As far as you do not call him 'Swamyji', it is okay. In the prime time we had the

Tamil news bulletin which was well received by the people of Tamil Nadu and also by the people in the southern region. This time was minimised and the Hindi news bulletin was imposed from 8.45 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Though they reduced the time from twenty minutes to fifteen minutes the people of Tamil Nadu have to see this programme right from January 1st. I would like to know from the hon. Minister who made such an arrangement when there were clear instructions from the Information and Broadcasting Ministry that regional news bulletins will be there and thereafter the English news bulletin will be there. The timings were changed from 9.35 p.m. to 9.45 p.m. Madam, the point is very simple. Time and again, the people from Tamil Nadu and other regions, where regional languages are being spoken, have been requesting the Government of India that there should not be imposition of Hindi either directly or indirectly. But we find that not only the Ministry of Home Affairs... (Interruptions) I am expressing the sentiments of the people of my State.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: But he is not from Tamil Nadu. He is from Pondicherry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Don't interrupt.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Though a clear-cut policy had been announced by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi, right from the Home Ministry to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, they are trying to impose Hindi by one way or the other.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Let the Minister react.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: How can the Minister react without hearing me? This has hurt the sentiments of the people. There cannot be any objection about those people who would like to read Hindi voluntarily. But the Government of India and the Minis-

try of Information and Broadcasting should not impose Hindi by visuals, by speeches and by discussions. After 9 o'clock, the people in Tamil Nadu are not viewing TV at all. They have to do like that because except the English bulletin, the entire programme is in Hindi. Therefore, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry should specifically see that during the Prime time, after 9 o'clock, right from 5.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., regional programmes should be given complete freedom. We do not have any objection to whatever programmes they bring in Hindi or in any language they want. But I am telling the sentiments of the people. I hope, the hon. Minister will respect the sentiments of the people of the southern regions of the country and will accept our demand.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam, before the Minister speaks; I have a suggestion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): What suggestion do you have? When I asked you to speak on the issue, you said nothing.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: I have only a one-line suggestion that there should be one all 100 per cent Tamil channel for Tamil Nadu so that this problem does not arise frequently.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): Madam Vice-Chairman, at the very outset, I must say that I agree with the sentiments expressed in this House by G. Swaminathan, Murali Maran, V. Narayanasamy, Shrimati Jayanthi Nataraajan and Subramanian Swamy. This decision to change the timings was taken on the 1st January 1993. It was based on the recommendations of the Committee which had been set up because various views had been expressed earlier on that. We must meet the challenges from the sky and from the cables and I must say that we have an open mind. A lot of misgivings and a lot of apprehensions have appeared in the press as well as in Parliament. I can assure you that we will go into the depth of it and we will come back to the House

[Shri K. P. Singh Deo]

with full information. At the moment, I do not have the information. One Committee had gone into it. I do not want to take a unilateral decision on the spur of the moment and create more problems. (*Interruptions*) I would like to respect the sentiments of not only Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, but as I said in the Question Hour, I would like to reiterate, of all parts of the country. We would like to give respect to the sentiments of the people of all regions of the country and I will come back to the House with full information.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Vice-Chairman, the President in his Address referred to the crisis in the Country. It is his words that there is a crisis in the Country in which all of us should get together to see that communal propaganda is not disseminated against. Communal propaganda meetings are now being banned in the country but we find that in one part of India this communal propaganda is going on in full speed and permission is being given by the State Government to hold such meetings. Recently in Coimbatore Hindu Munnani held a meeting in which a most vicious propaganda was let loose and the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh's top leaders attended and addressed the meeting. Now I would like to know whether the Tamil Nadu Government respects this sentiment of the nation that communal meetings should not be allowed and if the Government of Madhya Pradesh can be dismissed for allowing communal propaganda, I don't understand why the Tamil Nadu Government should not be similarly dismissed... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Do you want to associate yourself, Mr. Maran?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Tamil Nadu): No, no; in a different way... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): This is not a banned organisation. You don't know... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam Vice-Chairman, I am not the one to curb the civil liberty activities. I am not for that. I am not for banning any procession, either in Delhi or in Coimbatore because I believe in upholding civil liberties but what I want to point out is the double standards adopted by the Government of India. You are banning a procession here, you are banning a rally here but in a State where you are an ally, so-called ally—I don't know whether allied any more or not—your State Government is permitting the Hindu Munnani, that means Hindu front, another front organisation of R.S.S. to hold the meeting. This is a double standard... (*Interruptions*)... I am not finding fault with anybody. I would like to know the reaction of the Home Minister. What does the Home Minister want to say? Why should be adopt double standards? Why is he banning a rally here? You are allowing a rally at Coimbatore. I want to point out the double standards adopted by the Government of India... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, on this issue I want to make a submission... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, Tamil Nadu Government is a democratic Government. In Tamil Nadu there is democracy and Hindu Munnani is not a banned organisation and we are not taking action... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): On that point you have already spoken, Mr. Swaminathan. I have given her permission to speak.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, on this issue... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: How can we ban a front organisation. There is no necessity for it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Your views have been recorded. Now please sit down... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Whenever there is a democracy, allow the democracy to function.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I am surprised I am sure, Mr. Swaminathan is not aware of what happened at that rally. Very bad communal sentiments were voiced at that rally. It is a shame that Mr. Swaminathan is trying to support... (Interruptions)... Madam, only one word. I remarked that after this meeting... (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: I am not aware, Madam... (Interruptions)... If anything untoward happens, the Government of Tamil Nadu will take suitable action in the matter... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Just one sentence, Madam. They were not allowing me to speak. I call upon the Home Minister of India to ban Hindu Munnani immediately. Madam, Hindu Mannani should be banned.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Your demand has been recorded.

श्री जगदीश प्रताप माथूर : यह सारा प्रश्न सरकारों का है । तमिलनाडु सरकार ने प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगाया, यह अच्छा ही किया है। (व्यवधान) जो लोग यह समझते हैं कि रेलियों पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा कर आवाज का गला घोट सकते हैं, नहीं होगा मैं तमिलनाडु सरकार को बघाई दूंगा कि उन्होंने लोकतन्त्र का झंडा बलन्द किया है और केन्द्र सरकार के अनाधिकृत आदेशों को नहीं माना है, उचित किया है। केवल वह लोग जो तानाशाही चाहते हैं वह भले ही आज तमिलनाडु सरकार की बुराई करें लेकिन तमिलनाडु सरकार ने लोकतन्त्र के सिद्धांतों को स्वीकार किया है (व्यवधान) :

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: You are supporting it... (Interruptions)...

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: The cat is out of the bag. They are supporting it... (Interruptions)...

श्री जगदीश प्रताप माथूर : लोगों को फोबिया हो गया है, जहाँ हिन्दू का नाम आया उसे अराष्ट्रीयता कहते हैं (व्यवधान) यह फोबिया है (व्यवधान) ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Now Zero Hour is over. Now we will take up Special Mentions, Shri Sunil Basu Ray... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY... (Interruptions)

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: Don't bother about that. As she was saying, I am saying... (Interruptions)...

1.00 p.m.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): Shri Sunil Basu Ray... (Interruptions)... Please, sit down. Keep order in the House. (Interruptions)... Please sit down. Shri Sunil Basu Ray. Speak on your Special Mention. (Interruptions)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, they want us to break from the Congress party. Mr. Subramanian Swamy's intention is different.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): I am not allowing anybody; neither Mr. Swaminathan nor Mr. Subramanian Swamy. Yes, Mr. Sunil Basu Ray. (Interruptions)...

### SPECIAL MENTIONS

Destructive consequences of mining methods and policies being pursued in respect of mining settlement areas specially of Raniganj, Jharia, Hazari Bagh Coalfields

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY (West Bengal): Madam, I have risen to draw the attention of the Government to a very special problem facing the people in the mining settlement areas in Raniganj, Jharia and Hazaribagh coalfields, that is, the destructive consequences of the mining methods and the policies being pursued causing widespread land subsidence.