

करता है। मुझे लगता है कि इस चिंता से यह सदन भी चिंतित होगा, सरकार भी चिंतित होगी, आपको कोई न कोई कारगर कदम उठाना चाहिए। आपको एक्स रे मशीन लगानी चाहिए, उन कंटेनरों में क्या है, क्या नहीं है, इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए, ये सारी व्यवस्थाएं करनी चाहिए। यदि ऐसा नहीं होता है तो इससे इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता है कि कोई बड़ी घटना देश में न घटे।

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूं।

Need to protect the dialects of the country

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. I am instituting a bronze medal for anyone who can pronounce my second name properly.

Sir, through you, I wish to draw the attention of this House, not only the attention of this House but the people of this country, to the fact that this country does not have only the 22 languages that have been recognised in Schedule VIII, but it has 500 other languages and dialects. The UNESCO report has brought to our attention that India. ...*(Interruptions)*.... India heads the list of countries where languages and dialects are going to become extinct. We have 194 languages which are on the verge of extinction. We pride ourselves in the cultural heritage of this country. Who are the repositories of this heritage? It is the tribal India. And, these languages belong to many linguistic streams the Tibetan-Burman, the Austro-Asiatic, the Nicobari and the Andamanese, and a most important linguistic stream, namely, the Mundari, known to the Santhals, the Hoes and other tribes. All these are going to become extinct. Are we at all concerned with the fact that we shall be losing whatever we termed as 'intangible heritage' because that 'intangible heritage' is through oral communication of over 3000 years in this country? These languages and dialects are not recognised in the school system. The Ministry of HRD has taken a step, but a very small but an important step and a welcome step, to recognise some of these languages in the three-language formula of the Ministry of HRD as mother tongue at the elementary school level. But, this is not enough.

A concerted effort is required because it concerns all that we are doing in the field of environment and biodiversity. It is relevant to our fostering of cultural diversity. It is relevant to all that we call 'folk medicine' because who are the holders of the knowledge of this 'folk medicine'? Therefore, I would suggest that a Coordinating Committee should be formed at the Central level comprising of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, the Ministry of HRD, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, and the Ministry of Environment. And, this has to be done at a very quick pace because otherwise these language will become extinct before we realise. Also, the Ministry of Communication should be brought into it. Thank you, Sir.

Expenditure from Government treasury on advertisements

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I belong to media, as I am a practising journalist and I am raising an issue which relates to newspapers and television. I am talking about the wasteful expenditure that is being done by the Government – not only this Government, but also various State Governments, State Government corporations and Government

agencies – on the various advertisements, which have been appearing since the last fortnight every day not only in newspapers, but also on television channels. Sir, in the name of Bharat Nirman, the advertisements are appearing boasting about the work that has been done by various departments. I think, it is the timing of these advertisements which is very important and that is a matter of concern for me.

Sir, when the elections are round the corner and when the Code of Conduct is likely to be implemented in a few days' time, suddenly, there is a crop of advertisements. Today, while I was going through the newspapers, I noticed that two English language newspapers published from Delhi – I would not mention the names – carried twelve full-page advertisements of the Government; twelve full-page, Sir. Going by the rate-card, see, how much has been spent. This is in respect of only one city and only two newspapers. Imagine, how many newspapers are there in this country and how much money is being spent on these advertisements, just to advertise about the Government, the ruling party. I think, it is a * the funds of the public. Sir, we pay for this; the taxpayer pays for this. Sir, I would have agreed to it, had the Government been just and impartial in giving the advertisements. Sir, newspapers and channels which blow the trumpet of the Government are getting huge advertisements, while those which are just and logical and which scrutinise the job of the Government, they are being sidelined. I think, this is not the way the Government should function.

So, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I request you to use your good office and tell the Government that this is not right. These things do not work, and, at the end of the day, people know who has done what, and, therefore, this will not work. After all, we are a poor country. We should not spend like this. This is my request to the House. Thank you.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY (Gujarat): Sir, the hon. Member has used the word * ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: We should actually say, it is a stimulus package by the Government for the friendly media.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): I will make a reference on 'India Shining'. That will be better.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thirunavukkarasar, today, the hon. Chairman has already made a reference from the Chair regarding the Oscar awards.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I will mention only one sentence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Again, mentioning it in the Zero Hour is not in. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will give you time but the Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Sir, I would like to join the hon. Chairman in congratulating. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The entire House has already joined. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Especially, because he is from Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is from India. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Sir, first, he is from Tamil Nadu, and, then, India. He has got global acceptance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Chair has already made a reference and congratulated him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: He is the first Indian to receive two Oscar awards. So, I congratulate A.R. Rahman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, this is not. ...*(Interruptions)*... Someone from Kerala or Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let us not talk about the region. He belongs to India. ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो पी.जे. कुरियन: वह भारत का है।

श्री उपसभापति: जी हां, भारत का है।

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: No problem. No problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, he has added glory to Tamil Nadu, to India and to the Indian film industry. Sir, I congratulate A.R. Rahman and also Pookutty, Gulzar and the Director of Best Documentary Film, Smile Pinky. Sir, a small girl from U.P. has acted in the film, 'Smile Pinky'. She has got some popularity but she hails from a family with poor economic condition. I request the Central Government to give something as award to that girl to appreciate her.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chairman has already made a reference.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: So, I congratulate all of them, especially A.R. Rahman. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. Only to be laid on the Table.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to stabilize rate of interest levied by NABARD on agricultural loans

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी (राजस्थान): महोदय, केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा कृषकों को 7 प्रतिशत दर पर फसली ऋण उपलब्ध करवाने की नीतिगत घोषणा के अन्तर्गत नाबार्ड (NABARD) ने वर्ष 2006-07 हेतु 2.50 प्रतिशत की रियायती दर से 40 प्रतिशत पुनर्वित्त हेतु सहमति दी थी। उनके साथ-साथ यह भी तय किया गया था कि इस दर में