

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