

का आश्वासन दें। अंग्रेजी की प्रतिवार्थता हर कीमत पर समाप्त होनी चाहिए। इसके लिए हम सबको एक जुट होकर अंग्रेजी की दाक्षता का विरोध करके हिन्दी का उच्च सम्मानित दर्जा दिलाने के लिए संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के बाहर बैठे हिन्दी पुत्रों को पूर्ण समर्थन देना होगा।

मैं इस सदन द्वारा सरकार से अपील करती हूँ कि हम हर संभव प्रयास करें कि हिन्दी भाषियों का नीतिगतों में और न ही जीवन के किसी क्षेत्र में हीनता महसूस करें, अंग्रेजी भी लोम पड़े लिवें। किसी भी अन्य भाषा से हिन्दी का विरोध नहीं है। लेकिन हिन्दी जानने वालों को हिन्दी में प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं में भाग लेने के अवसर तो हर हाल में मिलने ही चाहिए। कानून हो या विज्ञान, सब स्थानों पर हिन्दी भी जरूर हो और हिन्दी भाषियों को अंग्रेजी में लिखने, बोलने या परीक्षाएं पास करने की बाध्यताएं न हों।

मैं सदन के सभी माननीय सदस्यों से भारतीय भाषा संगठन के कार्यकर्ताओं द्वारा भारतीय भाषाओं को उनके गौरवपूर्ण स्थान पर प्रतिष्ठापित कराने के सत्माग्रह के लिए नैतिक एवं सक्रिय समर्थन देने की मांग भी करती हूँ।

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदया, यह राष्ट्र का भनाल है। मैं भी इसका समर्थन करता हूँ... (व्यवधान)

श्री बीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं भी इसमें अपने आपको एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE (Maharashtra): He is associating himself with this. I am also associating myself with this.. We both have associated.

Dharna by MLAs from Kerala in front of Parliament

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN (Kerala): Madam Deputy Chairman, my

Special Mention relates to an important incident which is going to take place in Delhi tomorrow.

Members of the Kerala Legislature belonging to the ruling Left Democratic Front and Members of Parliament belonging to the Left Democratic Front are offering *dharna* tomorrow before Parliament to protest against the discrimination against Kerala by the Government of India.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): This is a publicity stunt. One day in advance.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: My State has been discriminated against since its inception in 1956. It is a long story of neglect, a long story of discrimination in respect of the demands of the people of Kerala. Even in Delhi, Madam, people from Kerala are getting a raw deal. Only a couple of days ago, my esteemed colleague, Mr. Baby, was beaten up by the security officials of the Tihar Jail. It is a glaring example how we are treated when we reach the capital of India.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY (West Bengal): Are you referring to the incident of Mr. Baby or to the incident of Mr. Vijaya Raghavan also?

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: I am coming to the assault of Mr. Vijaya Raghavan also. I have stated that on the floor of this House in a special mention. Whether it happens in Kerala or in Delhi, it is intolerable and it should not be condoned.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: You are condemning that assault also.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: I said that. If you do not understand English, it is not my fault. Why don't you go to High School and study English? Madam, I am not going to quote every instance of neglect from Kerala. I will confine myself to a few of them which are vital and important.

[Shri Arangil Sreedharan]

The most vital sector of our economy is Central investment. If you look at the story, the Central investment which was 3.28 per cent in 1974 has come down to 1.62 per cent in 1987. This has affected our industrialisation, employment generation, balanced regional development, ancillarisation and also overall economic development of Kerala. When calculated by the population ratio, the Central investment in Kerala should be Rs. 2484 crores but the actual investment, Madam, is only Rs. 1074 crores. The credit deposit rate: Every other State gets 90 per cent of credit deposit permission for withdrawal. Even now the neighbouring southern States are given that facility. The credit deposit ratio of the scheduled commercial banks in Kerala, when compared with other neighbouring States, has declined from 70.3 per cent on 31st December, 1981...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you talking about? Are you talking about the dharna?

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: The dharna is based on this. I am trying to prove that Kerala has been discriminated against. That is the purpose of this special mention.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY (Kerala): In Kerala your people have lathi-charged our MPs and three MLAs and hundreds of workers. Your *Dharna* is a diversionary tactics.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: What has lathi-charge to do with this? (*Interruptions*) When your party was in power they lathi-charged several of our members. (*Interruptions*).

When Mr. Karunakaran was the Home Minister, I was beaten upon the roads of Calicut. Did you protest at that time, where was your conscience, Mr. Antony? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A. K. ANTONY: That is not the point. (*Interruptions*)... You are trying to create publicity stunt here.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY (West Bengal): Madam, ask him not to derail the discussion.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Madam, he has raised an important matter. When his Government beat me up, he did not raise any protest. Now with a flexible conscience he is going to mention all these things.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You confine yourself to the dharna by MLAs from Kerala in front of the Parliament.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Dharna against discrimination. That is the subject I have to deal with. Am I to say that the MLAs beat me so much? Kerala is the only State in South which is without a thermal power station. We have been asking for it but we have not been getting it. The import policy of Government of India is against our agricultural economy. Import of coconut oil, rubber and other things are not getting encouragement. Remunerative price is being denied.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are going to discuss the Centre-State relations. You can mention all these things...

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: I am not going to get an opportunity. If you assure me an opportunity, certainly I will avail of it.

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka): You ask your party to give you time.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If your party wants to give you an opportunity, the Chair will comply with it. I assure you this much. But please make your speech short.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Madam, I want only three minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, you have already taken much time.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: The State has lost several lakhs in sales tax revenue consequent upon the amendment.

made in the CST Act. The total loss suffered so far amounts to Rs. 500 crores. Mrs. Gandhi's assurance that the State Government would be compensated for this loss has not been implemented.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Punjab): Is this a memorandum?

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: No, this is not a memorandum.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. SREEDHARAN, please take your seat.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Regarding financial assistance from the Centre, when Mr. Karunakaran was in power, the Centre was very liberal.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sreedharan, just a minute. Perhaps you do not know that Special Mentions are confined to two or three minutes only and if you are going to make a whole debate and discussion...

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Madam, I have heard and seen people continuing their Special Mention for ten minutes. I know I am from Kerala, a South Indian State. I am being discriminated against.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Two wrongs never make a right. So you should confine yourself. Otherwise I am calling another person.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: The State has not received a legitimate deal from the Ninth Finance Commission. The Ninth Finance Commission has gone completely against us. Every time we have to come to the Centre with a begging bowl.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sreedharan, I am calling Mr. Bansal for his Special Mention... No, you cannot have a chance. He has spoken for the rest of you.

SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Finally... I am closing, Madam, just one sentence please. This discrimination has been going on for quite some time. The Prime Minister, when he came to Kerala

during the last elections, made liberal promises. But nothing was implemented. And again he comes and like a headmaster gives a progress report that the State has not prospered.

I close, Madam, with the hope and trust that Mr. Antony will associate himself with my Special Mention.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat, Mr. Balaram.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM (Kerala): I told you, Madam...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you told me... Please sit down. You see, he took so much time, if he had taken two minutes or three minutes... (*Interruptions*) We do not need your help. We can run the House. आप कृपया अपना मशिवरा अपने पास रखिये जब जरूरत होगी खुद मांग लूंगी (व्यवधान)

All right, Mr. Balaram, I will allow you only and nobody else.

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala): Madam, you are violating your own promise. You should be indulgent towards me also.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, he has given his name to the Chairman. Please sit down.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Madam, I will not take much time.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You said you will speak only two sentences.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: I fully associate myself with my friend, Shri Sreedharan.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): One sentence is over.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Tomorrow our Ministers, M.L.As. and M.Ps. belonging to the Left Democratic Front are coming to stage a demonstration and dharna at the Boat Club. Somebody was saying that it is a publicity stunt. No,

[Shri N. E. Balaram]

Madam, it is not a publicity stunt. They have got certain serious problems and these have been brought to the notice of the Central Government repeatedly over the last two or three years. These problems are there for the last so many years. They want a solution. For a solution they are approaching the Central Government. And they also want to draw the attention of the entire House that in the southern end of our country, there is a part called Kerala. The Central Government is not paying sufficient attention. Even on the question of railways, Madam we have been repeatedly requesting....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are going to discuss it for two days, Mr. Balaram.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Don't you want to come to Kerala? Where is the train? I am asking, where is the plane?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you finish your speech.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: The point is that a part of this land is being completely ignored for the last many years. I want the Central Government to correct that mistake and take certain vital steps to improve the situation of Kerala. That is the only problem they are raising. Thank you.

SHRI M. A. BABY: Madam, if Mr. A. K. Antony wants to associate himself with this, please allow him.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY: They are in difficulty in Kerala. People are against them. So they want a publicity stunt... (Interruptions).

March by Delhi Journalists protesting Against Reported cruel onslaught against the Press in West Bengal

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Punjab): Madam Deputy Chairman, it was in November, 39 years back, that we adopted the Constitution which guarantees freedom of speech and expression. Twenty sixth November, accordingly, is observed as Press Day in the country. As 26th

November was a holiday this year, Madam, I have sought your indulgence for permission to make this Special Mention today.

Incidentally, today, at this moment, the journalists in Delhi are taking out a procession to protest against the cruel onslaught on the press in West Bengal. I do not know, Madam, whether this action of theirs would prick and stir the conscience of these self-proclaimed protectors of freedom of the press who have now aided and abetted a series of assaults on the employees and the property of a popular daily, the *Uttar Banga Sambad*, encouraged the looting of its packets and ransacking of stalls selling this newspaper so that its reports exposing a major scandal in cooperative societies do not reach the people. However, Madam, the attention of the people is already drawn to the reprehensible orgy of violence on 24th November at Siliguri which claimed the life of Shri Dibakar Mandal and injured 20 others including a woman journalist. An FIR was lodged naming 39 persons therein, but no action inspiring confidence has been taken so far. Earlier, all the appeals seeking protection fell on deaf years. The Readers Forum, which is a non-political association there, also took out a peaceful procession but, unfortunately, the Chief Minister declined to meet them. Rightly, therefore, all the dailies in West Bengal have decided to stop publication for a day in protest against the assault on the press. This, surely, will make the people aware of the hypocrisy of the powers-that-be in West Bengal. Nevertheless, Madam, it is our duty today to reaffirm our faith in the honour and freedom of the press, and I take this opportunity to make this request to all the honourable Members here.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY (West Bengal): Madam, thank you very much for permitting me to speak a few words on this issue.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not a long speech.

SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Madam, on the 18th November, on the floor of this House I raised this issue, I drew