

[Shri Chitta Basu]

of our Constitution. Therefore on this occasion, while supporting the massive march of the State Government employees to Parliament today and while also supporting the rightful and just demand of the State Government employees of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and other States for parity of pay between Central Government and State Government employees.

I would urge that the Government should bring forward an amending Bill for the purpose of deleting these two disgraceful Articles from our Constitution which militates against the democratic spirit of the Constitution under which we are working.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, I would like to associate myself and my party with both these demands, both in respect of the Articles and in respect of the demands of the State Government employees.

REFERENCE TO THE KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN'S CIRCULAR MAKING HINDI COMPULSORY FOR ANSWERING QUESTION PAPERS IN SOCIAL STUDIES AND HUMANITIES

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Madam Deputy Chairman, only a few months ago, Parliament has adopted a new Education Policy and a programme of action connected therewith. But in less than two-to-three months from that time, the Central Government has issued an instruction which clearly violates that Education Policy. I would like to draw the attention of the Government, by quoting the full text of that instruction, issued by the Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ballygunj Maidan Camp, Calcutta-19. This circular has been issued on 12-11-1986—

"Dear parents,

Through this circular I would like to inform you that Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-67, vide its letter dated 11-8-1986, has strictly decided the medium of instruction for teaching Social Studies in all Kendriya Vidyalayas in Hindi in all the classes. It is, therefore, not possible to entertain any request to change the medium of instruction in Social Studies and Humanities subjects from Hindi to English. However, in very deserving and exceptional cases students may be given the option of answering question papers in social studies in English on individual merit of cases by the Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Calcutta Region, only for the year 1986-87. Hereafter the question paper in Social Studies will be set in Hindi only".

Madam, this is atrocious because in this circular it is stated that hereafter the questions will also be set in Hindi only and the students will be required to submit their answer scripts in Hindi only. I would like to quote here from the new Education Policy adopted by Parliament—Para 8.7:

"The Education Policy of 1968 had examined the question of the development of languages in great detail. Its essential provisions can hardly be improved upon and are as relevant today as before. The implementation of this part of the 1968 Policy has, however, been uneven. The Policy will be implemented more energetically and purposively".

You are aware of what the 1968 Education Policy said about language. Yet I would briefly quote it—

"The Policy emphasises the adoption of regional languages as

the media of instruction at the university stage. Vigorous efforts at implementation of the three-language formula, improvement in the linguistic competency of student at different stages of education, provision of facilities for the study of English and other foreign languages, development of Hindi as the link language as provided for in Article 351 of the Constitution...." etc, etc.

Madam, while drawing the attention of the Government to this particular circular with the demand of its immediate withdrawal, I want to make it very clear that I do not belong either to the anti-Hindi lobby or to the pro-English lobby. But I want specifically that all the regional languages, that is, all the languages included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India must be uniformly treated and honoured. All the languages should be given equal honour, opportunity and status, and that was the idea of the 1968 language policy also. But from this circular it is clear—even though this has been issued by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan which is an organisation run by the Government of India through the Department of Education—that it has been issued in clear violation of the Government's policy. So, I do not want to speak much on this. But I want to tell that now in the country fissiparous tendencies are at work and they are raising their ugly heads, and all the forces which want to destabilize our country, from abroad and from inside, want to take advantage of these fissiparous tendencies and they are aiding and abetting these forces in the name of language, in the name of caste, and in the name of certain other things. So, at this time, if this circular is implemented, it would mean that Hindi is sought to be imposed through this circular, and I think that this is fraught with the danger of giving an impetus to these forces. So, I would demand of the

Government to withdraw immediately this circular.

SHRI THANGABAALU (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I also join with him in this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now. Mr. Gopalsamy to associate himself with this.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairman, I am terribly disturbed about the sinister design of the Central Government to thrust and impose Hindi upon the non-Hindi-speaking people.

The struggle started right from the days of the Constituent Assembly. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had warned the Hindi zealots describing their approach as the approach of authoritarianism. Madam, all the national languages, should be given equal status and opportunity. Therefore, we want that English should continue as long as the non-Hindi-speaking people want. But the assurance of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has been thrown to the winds. Even the other day, the present Prime Minister gave that assurance. But what does this circular show? Every day, every Department of the Central Government is trying to impose Hindi through covert and overt means and the Home Ministry, which has become the fountainhead of Hindi jingoism and imperialism, has sent a memorandum on January 28, 1986, which is the most ridiculous memorandum, and I would like to quote a few words from that:

"If our officers in foreign countries and members of Indian delegations visiting other countries use Hindi during their conversation with their counterparts, it will raise the prestige of the country".

I want to know whether Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru delivered his speech in the Bandung Conference in

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Hindi, whether Vivekananda spoke in Chicago in Hindi and whether Nehru's book "Discovery of India" was not written in English. It was written in English (Interruptions) ... You please keep quiet. This is a Chamber to ventilate our grievances. You never understood our feelings. (Interruptions). Now, Madam, this is a country not for the Hindi fanatics alone; it is not a country of the Hindi belt alone. You can have unity only when you understand the philosophy of diversity. Unity can be maintained only when you recognise and when you safeguard the individuality of the different languages and linguistic groups.

If English is a foreign language to the people, as some people are trying to say and shouting here, I want to tell that English is the mother-tongue of the Anglo-Indians. I would like to know whether the Anglo-Indians are citizens of this country or not. English is the official language of the North-Eastern Region. Have you got the guts to go there and say that English should be deleted from there?

I tell the Home Minister and the Central Government that if English is a foreign language to you, Hindi is a foreign language to me. That is why we opposed it right from 1938. Then Pt. Nehru gave an assurance. Don't forget the year, 1965, when your Army marched into our State. Our valient Tamil youths faced the machine guns of the Indian Army, on the banks of the rivers of blood. Eight Tamil youths embraced the flames of death. Even a week ago, a Tamil youth in Coimbatore immolated himself. He faced death just to oppose imposition of Hindi. The Tamil Nadu Assembly has passed a unanimous Resolution. It was a unanimous Resolution to give constitutional guarantee for the assurance of Nehru. That is what we demand. Article 343 of the Constitution which

says that Hindi shall be the official language of the Union in Devanagri script should be deleted... (Time bell rings). That is what we demand. That is why our party has launched an agitation. Even today, four thousand people are languishing in jails. We are prepared to go to prison. You cannot impose Hindi and you cannot protect the unity of this country if you impose like this. The unity will be in jeopardy. We will oppose Hindi menace inch by inch. That is the voice of Tamil Nadu. Have you got the guts to come and say: In Tamil Nadu we will impose Hindi? Then it shows it is an act of cowardice. You are assuring something; you act differently. It is nothing but an act of cowardice. Unless you change this attitude, the unity of this country will not be protected.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): I associate myself with Mr. Dipen Ghosh, and I thank Mr. Gopalsamy...

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): At least on one point.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: I thank him for bringing this matter to the notice of this House. The mother language alone must be the medium of instruction at all levels in our all institutions. It was not only the policy of Gandhiji but it is also the policy of almost developed countries in the world. Madam, we are aware of the fact that Parliament itself has passed a Resolution that the medium of instruction must be the mother language. Therefore, imposition of Hindi as a compulsory medium of instruction in the Central Schools is a blatant violation of the assurance given by the Prime Minister. It is an aggressive transgression into the rightful place of other national languages like Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Bengali, Kannada, etc.

AN HON. MEMBER: Marathi also.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: All languages. That is why we strongly condemn the policy of the Government, and I earnestly request the Government to withdraw this circular.

REFERENCE TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM UNION CARBIDE FOR PRIME MINISTER'S RELIEF FUND

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, I rise to express my shock and dismay at the report that the Union Carbide Corporation, against whom the Government of India has filed a suit, holding the Corporation responsible for causing the death of more than two thousand people and disability to many more, donated ten thousand dollars to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund after the tragedy, and the donation was accepted. The report is based on the statement filed by the Union Carbide before the court in Bhopal. The acceptance of the donation for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund has not only weakened India's case against the Corporation but also strengthened the impression that some high-ups in the Government have been hand in glove with the U.C.C. and have been working to help the Corporation in dubious ways to save it from exposure.

I demand that the Government should come out with full facts about the donation made by the Union Carbide to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and to other Union organisations, a reference to which has also been made in the report.

REFERENCE TO A UNION MINISTER'S ALLEGED LINK WITH TERRORISTS

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to draw the attention of the House to four very disturbing news reports that have appeared in different newspapers last week. I think that this is a fit occasion for the Government to clarify the Government's stand on these allegations. The allegations relate to links of Central Ministers with terrorists. It is something very serious. I was myself disturbed to read these reports. Till now we had been hearing about terrorist violence in Punjab and despite flamboyant claims made by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister and various spokesmen of Government, there is no abatement in that violence. One reason given in New Delhi has been that the Government of Punjab lacks the will to deal with the terrorists because within the Government itself, there are Ministers who have a soft corner for the terrorists and who are mixed up with the terrorists. This of course cannot be disputed. We have seen public statement by a couple of them in which there is virtual support to the terrorists' cause. Only the day before yesterday, the Statesman published a report which stated that the Delhi Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee has been financially assisting at least four persons who have links with terrorists. This Executive Committee of the S.G.P.C. has been reorganised at the instance of a Union Minister. Since then, the Gurudwara Committee has been financially supporting some undesirable elements. A full-scale enquiry would reveal that some of the persons receiving about Rs. 2000 a month were fictitious and that the money had actually been going to know terrorists. The report goes on to say that Karamjit Singh arrested for his attempt on the Prime Minister's life at Rajghat on October 2, also got shelter in the Sisganj Gurudwara after the