SHRI ABDUL WAHAB (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Death of pigs due to African Swine Fever (ASF) in Mizoram

SHRI K. VANLALVENA (Mizoram): Mr. Chairman, Sir. I want to mention about the death of nearly thirty thousand pigs and piglets in the State of Mizoram due to African Swine Fever (ASF) since 2020 till date. According to the AH & Vety Department, Government of Mizoram reports, the African Swine Fever spread throughout the State of Mizoram covering 271 villages in all eleven districts. According to the Department reports, 29,800 pigs have died due to ASF, and 10,380 pigs have been killed due to suspected infection of ASF during these two years. The market value of the lost swine throughout the State is roughly calculated to be about Rs. 80 crores. As we all know, the loss of such a huge number of domestic animals during this pandemic period for the poor farmers is a kind of disaster and natural calamity.

So, I request the Central Government to kindly provide the Central assistance to the victims of ASF in the State of Mizoram. Thank you for the opportunity.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need to give official language status to all the languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the non-Hindi speaking States have been assured by no less a person than the former Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who was a democrat to the marrow, that as long as these States desire, English should continue to be the official language in addition to Hindi, and Hindi will not be imposed on unwilling people.

Recently, in Varanasi, the hon. Home Minister has declared that Hindi alone is the national official language and all file works and correspondence are taking place in Hindi only. In fact, letters and communications are sent in Hindi only from the Centre to the non-Hindi speaking States. MPs from the South are also receiving replies and letters in Hindi. This is nothing but the high handedness of the Union Government to impose Hindi on the non-Hindi speaking people.

Similarly, of late, the names of all the schemes and programmes are being given in Hindi and no English translation is provided. With the result, the people from non-Hindi speaking areas, in fact MPs also, are confused about the purpose of schemes and they are not able to explain to the people about the aims and objectives of these schemes, though the Centre is spending crores of rupees on these schemes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

SHRI VAIKO: Only one minute, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Make your point. You are reading. You are not supposed to read during Zero Hour.

SHRI VAIKO: Only, one minute, Sir. We take strong objection to the naming of schemes in Hindi as against English, which was the practice earlier. There is a demand for including all the State official languages as the national official language... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. Whoever reads, it will not go on record. I am saying it in English, for your convenience.

SHRI VAIKO: The Punjab Assembly has passed a Resolution .. (Interruptions)...

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANTHIYUR P. SELVARASU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGOVAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, he is .. (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That has to be discussed. For now, you know the procedure that we can't read in Zero Hour. Special Mentions, yes, you can read. ..(Interruptions).. All the languages of India, they should be respected, they should be promoted and they should be encouraged. No imposition, no opposition to any Indian language. Now, Shri Prasanna Acharya.

Stoppage of procurement of par-boiled rice from the states like Odisha

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Odisha): Thank you very much, Sir, for allowing me to raise a subject pertaining to the interests of the farmers of the country. ..(Interruptions)..

SHRI VAIKO: I would .. (Interruptions)...