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Title: Need to use Tamil Language as official language in Madras High court.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Union Minister of Law and Justice to a very serious issue concerning Tamil as a language to be used in Madras High Court.

Tamil is one of the oldest languages and it is recognized by the Union as an Official Language. It is also included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. Article 348 (2) of the Constitution as well as Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 envisage the usage of the State's Official Language in the judgments, decrees, and proceedings of the High Court with prior concurrence of the President of India. Accordingly, this practice of using the Official Language of the State in High Courts is already adopted in four States of the country. But Tamil Nadu's genuine, fair and repeated requests for using Tamil in the Madras High Court has been turned down and declined.

In this connection, our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr. Amma had urged the Union Government to reconsider its stand on the issue of allowing the usage of Tamil in the Madras High Court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN : If the Government is really interested in taking the administration of justice genuinely closer to the people of this country, then it is absolutely essential that the local language is allowed to be used in the High Courts as is being done in the State Governments and State Legislatures.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly conclude.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN : Hence, I would urge the Government of India to look into this matter and make necessary recommendations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri P. Lingam is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri C. Rajendran