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Title: Regarding need to include Tamil and other languages enshrined in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution as a medium of examination in the UPSC.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): Madam Speaker, for the last few days, there is a raging controversy about the CSAT examination conducted by the UPSC. The aspirant-students are undergoing severe mental agony because in another two week's time, they have to undertake that examination.

Our forefathers taught us 'unity in diversity'. When India is having a federal set up, all the languages and cultures must be respected and regarded equally. Recently, in the newspapers we have read that the Government is going to call an all-party meeting to discuss this issue.

At present, the exam is held only in Hindi and English languages. What about other languages? Therefore, we are demanding that the examination must be conducted in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Bengali and all other languages, which are included in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution.

The Government has not come forward with a clear statement in this regard. The students are suffering a lot. That is why we are demanding it. Let the examination be conducted in all other languages. Then only there will be a level playing field.

Madam, I urge the Government to make a statement assuring the House that they will consider our request that all the languages included in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution would be treated as medium of the all-India UPSC examination. I want the Government to respond on this issue.

HON. SPEAKER:

S/ Shri Rajesh Ranjan,

Ranjeet Ranjan,

N.K. Premachandran,

K. Kamaraj,

B. Senguttuvan,

J.J.T. Natterjee,

M.B. Rajesh,

P.K. Biju,

P. Karunakaran,

Dharmendra Yadav,

A. Sampath,

P.K. Shreemathi Teacher,

Adv. Joice George and

Md. Badaruddoza Khan are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Thambidurai.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Those who want to associate, can send a slip.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: All of you may please associate, but this is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You send a slip to associate.

Adv. Narendra Keshav Sawaikar.

ADV. NARENDRA KESHAV SAWAIKAR (SOUTH GOA): Madam, in the year 2011-12, the State of Goa used to get kerosene quota of around  
...(Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कोई माननीय सदस्य इस प्रकार नहीं बोलेंगे। कृपया मंत्री जी की बात सुनिए। You can associate. ऐसा नहीं करें। उन्होंने नोटिस दिया था, इसलिए उन्हें बोलने की अनुमति दी।

â€¦(लवणान)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Hon. Speaker, this matter was raised earlier also in the House. The Minister had made a statement  
...(Interruptions) A statement was already made by the Minister. Subsequently, some Members had raised certain apprehensions and they were also clarified, but still there are some apprehensions in the minds of some of Members. And there are divergent views. That is why ... (Interruptions)

These changes were made in 2011, 2012 and 2013. Now, we are in 2014. ... (Interruptions) Please do not make running commentary, Shri Rajesh Ranjan. You are very experienced also. ... (Interruptions) I will deal with it. There is no problem. Nobody should make running commentary from this side or that side, or from any side for that matter. ... (Interruptions) You want me to look at that side. Normally, we look at the Speaker. There are pretty faces in front of me. So, I am looking towards you also.

Madam Speaker, three years – 2011, 2012 and 2013 – have passed with that particular system. This year suddenly, some sections of students started raising certain apprehensions about the CSAT examination. Subsequently, after hearing the Members, some small suggestion has been made to delete those 22 marks for the grading purpose. Subsequently, Members are saying that there are other aspects also.

Madam, it is a Civil Service Examination and changes cannot be done overnight. That is why, I myself have taken the initiative. Even I have, in front of the hon. Speaker in the Business Advisory Committee, made a fervent appeal that there is a force in what our friends are saying about different national languages – I do not call them regional languages - or Indian languages, and that is an issue to be debated and discussed with all the people concerned, including the UPSC. This cannot be done in 10 or 15 days. It requires time.

Keeping that in mind, my appeal is that this examination is on 24<sup>th</sup> August and children are studying seriously. In-between, some unfortunate incidents have happened – other Members have raised those issues - of lathicharge, agitation etc. Now they are peacefully studying for the examination. Let us not deviate their attention. Let the examination be over. I assure you that I will take the views of all concerned in this matter and have an in-depth discussion. Then, all of us will join together to formulate an approach for the future. That is why, I make this request.

HON. SPEAKER: Adv. Narendra Keshav Sawaikar.