

(vii) Need to ensure that Hindi is given due recognition

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a matter of urgent public importance under rule 377.

According to the Article 343 of the Constitution, the official language of the union is Hindi and the script is Devnagri. It is accepted by the whole nation. The identity of a free nation is its language, literature and culture. A country devoid of its own language, literature and culture will remain in the chains of slavery for centuries. Our country is now free but our heart and mind is still not free from the shadow of slavery. The need of the hour is to unify the country in a bond and thereby make it strong and prosperous. Great thinkers of the country have opined the Hindi is the only language which is capable of uniting the whole country. The famous writer of Orissa Shri Kalicharan Panigrahi went to the extent of saying that "I would love to speak incorrect Hindi rather than English because Hindi is my national languages". A craze for English language is still there in the country and it has crept in all walks of life and it is far away from the language of masses.

The Government should ensure that all the examinations in different states are conducted in the regional languages of those respective States or in the official language-Hindi. During interviews the candidates should be given an option to reply in their mother tongue so that the talented but the neglected candidates of the poor class may also be placed on higher posts to give a new direction to the country. Senior leaders and

intellectuals of the non-Hindi States should be consulted by the Government to ensure the education of Hindi in their States so that no region of the country is left untouched.

I would like to submit to the Union Government that the link-language Hindi should in compliance with the provisions of the constitution be honoured by giving it a proper place to ensure national, social, cultural traditional and emotional unity of the country.

[English]

(viii) Need to improve the Tele-Communication services of Uttar Dinajpur District West Bengal

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Rai-ganj): Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to continuous faulty service in both local and trunk circuit of the telecommunication Department for the last few months in the whole district of Uttar Dinajpur in West Bengal. Telecommunication services are out of order till-date. Attention of the Telecommunication Department was drawn several times but no remedy has yet been chalked out. CGM, West Bengal Telecommunication Department was also informed about this situation. But till now, nothing has been done. Failure to have telecommunication in trunk circuit causes much loss of revenue to the Government, as well as inconvenience to the suffering public.

So, I urge upon the Government to take immediate action in the matter so that telecommunication services of Uttar Dinajpur are restored immediately.