

In the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Tirunelveli and Salem the drought conditions are the worst. Now there is no water in the Mettur reservoir. Our kuruvai and samba crops are suffering for want of water. Due to the failure of the monsoons we are forced to make a power cut of 30 per cent. So there is no electricity to install tube wells or pump sets to get underground water. Will the Central Government arrange for the necessary power in the interest of production since our Prime Minister has a number of times declared this year as a Productivity Year? Not only in Mettur, Sir, but other reservoirs like Bhawani, Parambikulam and Aliyar are also suffering from insufficient water supply. Hence, this urgent request to the Centre. Why does not the Central Government depute the necessary team to assess the drought situation in Tamilnadu?

My AIADMK Party as well as other affiliated parties have called for a Tamilnadu bandh to-day since the matter requires the urgent attention of the Centre. I request that the Centre should persuade the Karnataka Government to release an additional 36 TMC of water from Karnataka with immediate effect. Otherwise the drought conditions cannot be faced with success.

(vii) NEED FOR INCREASE IN THE DURATION OF REGIONAL CHITRAHAR BY DOORDARSHAN

SHRI NARSINGH SURYAWANSHI (Bidar):* 'Regional Chitrahhar' is an important programme of Delhi Door Darshan. In this programme songs and sequences of various regional language films are telecast. But unfortunately some regional languages like Kannada, Assamese, Oriya, Gujarati, Marathi, Sindhi, etc are not getting adequate representation in this programme.

As you are aware, Sir, a considerable percentage of Kannadigas, Assamese, Gujaratis, Marathas, Sindhis and people of

other States are residing in Delhi. It is quite obvious that they will be very much interested in having such programmes like regional Chitrahhar. There are a good number of films in Kannada which have won national and international awards and are known for their brilliant musical score, but for months together there are no songs in Kannada over Delhi T. V.

At present eighty minutes have been allotted for Hindi Chitrahhar in a week. But for the 14 regional languages the time allotted is only 30 minutes. Unless some more time is allotted to the regional Chitrahhar the fate of the regional languages like Kannada, Assamese, etc. in this programme would remain the same. Sometimes, two to three songs of the same language are telecast and on the other hand some of the languages are neglected mercilessly. Some languages have to wait even a year to get a single chance. There must be some kind of parity between regional languages. Enhancement of the duration of regional Chitrahhar will not only be a good entertainment for the public at large but it will also prove a boon to the music lovers of Delhi. Therefore, I urge the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to increase the duration of regional Chitrahhar from 30 minutes to 80 minutes at least.

15.20 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FIFTIETH REPORT

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up the Private Members' Business. We start at about 15.22 hours. Prof, Rup Chand Pal.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL (Hooghly): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fiftieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 13th October, 1982."

*The Original speech was delivered in Kannada.