

(ii) NEED TO GIVE PROPER PLACE TO SANSKRIT IN THE PROGRAMMES OF AKASHWANI AND DOORDARSHAN

श्री प्रताप भानु कर्मा (बिदिशा): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, संस्कृत हमारे राष्ट्र की प्राचीन एवं सर्वश्रेष्ठ भाषा है और इस भाषा की अमिट छाप भारतीय इतिहास तथा संस्कृति पर हजारों वर्षों से पड़ी है। अतः केन्द्र सरकार का इसके प्रचार एवं प्रसार के लिये अधिक से अधिक उपाय करने चाहिये। संस्कृत भाषा देश की सभी भाषाओं की जननी होने के कारण हममें राष्ट्र भाषा बनने के सभी गुण विद्यमान हैं। अतः सरकार को इस ओर सक्रियता से विचार करना चाहिये।

विगत मप्ताह संसदीय संस्कृत परिषद् के तत्वावधान में मसद-मदम्यों एवं संस्कृत प्रेमी विद्वानों की एक आवश्यक बैठक संसदीय मंथन में हुई थी, जिसमें राष्ट्र एवं संस्कृति के हित में कई महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर चर्चा हुई, परन्तु संद के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि आकाशवाणी एवं दूरदर्शन प्रसारणों में इस कार्यक्रम को कोई स्थान नहीं दिया गया। संसदीय संस्कृत परिषद् के अध्यक्ष द्वारा इस कार्यक्रम को पूर्व-सूचना भी आकाशवाणी एवं दूरदर्शन केंद्रों को दी गई थी, परन्तु फिर भी यहां से कोई प्रतिनिधि नहीं पहुंचा था।

सूचना एवं प्रसारण विभाग का यह उपेक्षापूर्ण रवैया दुःखद एवं आश्चर्यजनक है। अतः इस सदन के माध्यम से मैं सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि वे आकाशवाणी एवं दूरदर्शन दोनों को यह निर्देश दें कि भविष्य में संस्कृत के प्रचार एवं प्रसार और साहित्यिक एवं सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों को बराबर स्थान मिलना चाहिए। जिस प्रकार आकाशवाणी से प्रतिदिन संस्कृत में बुनेटिन प्रसारित किये जाते हैं, उसी प्रकार दूरदर्शन से भी मप्ताह में कम-से-कम 30 मिनट का एक संस्कृत कार्यक्रम अवश्य प्रसारित किया जाना चाहिए ताकि राष्ट्र की प्रतिभावों को अपनी योग्यता दिखाने का अवसर प्राप्त हो सके। यदि संभव हो तो आकाशवाणी एवं दूरदर्शन से संस्कृत भाषा को सिखाने के

पाठ्यक्रम भी प्रसारित किए जाने चाहिए। आशा है सरकार इस दिशा में शीघ्र ही आवश्यक कर्मवाही करेगी।

(iii) REPORTED HIGH PRICE OF GAS STOVES

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur):— Sir, a large number of manufacturers of gas stoves are adopting a novel method to push the sales of their high. They which are priced rather high. They are offering incentive to the dealers of the liquified petroleum gas stoves from a wrist watch to a two week free trip to the United States. The customers are coerced into buying a particular expensive stove from the dealer and due to which the dealers are selling only those stoves by which they are getting maximum commission. The price of each gas stove is sky-rocketing and there is no control on the price of the gas stove. Due to this dealer's manufacturer manipulation, the general public and customers of the gas stoves are suffering at large.

A study of the double burner hot plates which are common in the market will show that there is practically no difference between one manufacturer and another in the thermal efficiency, lasting values are the looks of the LP gas stoves but the prices charged to the consumers vary considerably.

A consumer who is waiting for a long years to get the stove is easily influenced into buying most expensive gas stove from the dealer. Therefore, the dealers interest in canvassing a more expensive hot plate is very evident because of the price percentage commission formula.

Originally, the formula was evolved by oil companies in early 1970. The Indian Oil Corporation particularly used to strictly scrutinise and approve the quality and the price of the stove to prevent this exploitation. No manufacturer unilaterally increased the price of LP gas stoves and this was done by the oil companies to protect the interest of the consumer. Today, when there is no derth of manufacturers to fulfil the total requirement of the entire country

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

gas stoves there seems to be no reason why a control on the consumer price of LP gas stoves is not made operative as was being maintained in the past.

There is a difference of Rs. 130/- on an average per gas stove between the lowest and the highest prices. The consumer has to buy more expensive stove since 14 lakh connections are going to be released this year out of which 8.5 lakhs may go for the purchase of expensive gas stoves. This means, Rs. 11 crores will be paid by the public in excess because of the greedy manipulations of hot plate manufacturers.

This huge profit margin has been deliberately kept by some manufacturers to themselves in order to indulge in unhealthy market practices by giving tempting offers to LP gas dealers in the shape of air-conditioners, refrigerators, motorcycles and package tours abroad which is solely at the cost of consumer and general public.

Even though the Government is meticulously careful while increasing petroleum price in general and kerosene oil and LP gas prices, in particular, because these two products affect the poor middle class, the Government oil companies do not seem to bother about this item which is affecting directly expansion and marketing of LP gas stoves. This is mainly used by housewives for cooking with LP gas. If the Government is really keen in replacing kerosene consumption by encouraging LPG as a substitute, it will be the most appropriate thing to regulate/standardise the price of LPG equipment like LP gas stoves, etc. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take stock of the overall situation and investigate the entire situation and take suitable prompt appropriate action to save the consumer being strangled by such price increase.

(iv) CONVERSION OF DELHI, AHMEDABAD METRE-GAUGE RAILWAY LINE INTO BROAD-GAUGE LINE

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar):
Sir, Delhi-Ahmedabad Metre-gauge railway line is one of the oldest metre-gauge

railway lines in the country. This railway line connects two State capital cities of Jaipur and Ahmedabad to national capital Delhi. This railway line passes over the boundaries of Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat States. That area of the aforesaid States has remained since long a backward area. But now it is developing in the field of industries. Area of district Alwar, Rajasthan State has been identified as industrially backward district and it has gradually developed into an important industrial complex. The Ashoka Ley and Truck Engines Manufacturing Plant, Alwar would be giving production within two years. Modi's Soda-Ash Complex at Alwar, Rajasthan would be a praiseworthy project. Vishwa-Karma industrial Area, Jaipur is one of the largest industrial areas of India. Rajasthan State is very rich in minerals and it supplies raw materials to the industries of cement, mica, fertilisers, gwar-gum, glass-wares, etc. to all parts of the country.

Keeping in view the principle of maintaining second line of defence, it is very necessary that there should be a broad-gauge railway line from Delhi to Bombay via Rewari, Alwar, Jaipur and Ahmedabad.

Delhi-Ahmedabad metre-gauge railway line's conversion into broad-gauge railway line is *bona fide* demand of the people of that area which should not be ignored now. Percentage of broad-gauge railway line is much lesser in the Rajasthan State region in comparison to other States.

A provision of a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs in the Union Budget of 1977-78 was made for the project of conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad metre-gauge railway line into broad-gauge railway line. The length of this railway line is 925 kilometres and the estimated cost of this project would be Rs. 300 crores only. The project report is said to be lying with the Planning Commission.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to take up the project in hand immediately and give priority to it at the national level.