

saying that we were creating trouble. That is why, I say that we were prevented from doing our duty as Members of Parliament. We told them that we will help them to solve the problem. Instead of listening to us they were actually attacking us and abusing us. We will be forced to go to same other areas like this. So, it is the duty of this august House to see that our privilege to interfere in such matters is protected and this matter should be sent to the Privileges Committee so that it can be properly investigated. Even now no action is taken. The Hon. Speaker had assured that action would be taken. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): A Judicial enquiry has already been ordered.

MR. SPEAKER: May I request you not to intervene? You have to keep quiet when the hon. Member is speaking.

SHRIMATISUSEELAGOPALAN: Even the Speaker has said, judicial enquiry is separate from the attack on the Members of Parliament of this House and separate action has to be taken. So far no action is taken by the Police officers. In the other House the matter has been referred to the Privileges Committee. I want this august House and the Hon. Speaker to decide and do justice to me by referring it to the Privileges Committee. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Let the Home Minister react about this report *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.B. CHAWAN: Last week, this very issue was raised in this House and I had informed the hon. Home that a judicial enquiry has been ordered by the Chief Minister of Kerala. So, the entire thing is going to be inquired into by a judicial commission. Ultimately it is for the Chair to take whatever decision it deems fit. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, this matter was raised on 9.12.1991. We have asked for the factual information and the factual information is not yet received. We have sent the reminder on 16.12.1991. I shall be waiting for some time to get the factual information. If the factual information is not received then I will see what else can be done.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We will see, after we receive the factual information. I should get it within one or two days.

SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW (Iduki): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this House, through you, a very heinous and violent attack on me at about 2.30 P.M. on 14.12.1991 at Kottayam, Kerala. It is a most reprehensible act of political vendetta committed by a group of Kerala Congress (J) workers under the leadership of its State President, Shri P.J. Joseph, ex-Minister, who unsuccessfully contested against me in the recent Lok Sabha Elections. This splinter group belongs to the LDF.

I was going back to my house after attending the funeral of the Vice-President of Kottayam DCC (I) of which I happen to be the President. A jatha led by Shri P.J. Joseph was coming from the opposite direction. My car was forcibly stopped by them. Then they started abusing me in the most filthy language. They asked: 'would you dare to appose Joseph? We will finish you'. They then began heavily beating my car with sticks and rods. Heavy brickbats were thrown on the back glass of the car continuously. They were aimed at me. Thousands of glass pieces and a stone fell all over my body. My life was threatened. All this time I was sitting in my car, motionless and mute. This assault continued unabated. After about half-an-hour the police came and saved the situation which would have ended up in a terrible casualty.

This ghastly atrocity was an unprovoked horrid eruption of evil which, if unheeded, would leave its legacy in the wreckage of all democratic norms and ideals behind it. What happened was a monstrous progeny of a monstrous design. Such violence would undermine the basis of all civilized life and would produce moral frustration in our polity.

This is a most undemocratic, criminal, brutal and politically ill-motivated assault perpetrated most heinously and in utterly unprovoked circumstances against a Member of this House. This should not go unquestioned. If such dastardly crimes can be committed with impunity, democracy will be reduced to a mere farce, and the hon. Members' functioning will become impossible. This was done by a splinter group belonging to the LDF.

I request the House, through you, to take the necessary remedial and preventive measures in this regard.

12. 35 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

*SHRI C.K.KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Our Union Home Minister Shri S.B. Chavan is reported to have stated that Hindi alone can unite the country when he was addressing a meeting of the All India Bank Officers' Association. I condemn this statement attributed to the Minister. Instead of strengthening the unity and integrity of this country this will only strengthen the hands of divisive forces. We have been following for the past twenty five years the assurance given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru that English would remain a link language as long as non-hindi speaking people want it. It is disheartening to note the Union Home Minister himself disregards it and depart from

this a vowed policy. He has also said that Japan and China have developed only with their respective national languages. We should not forget that we have fourteen national languages. It is also the duty of the Union Government to help and develop the regional languages. Hence I request through you that the Home Ministers should desist from making such statements. (*Interruptions*)

If you insist on Hindi, instead of unity there will be only disunity and secessionists will gain upper hand. (*Interruptions*)

Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Sir, the imposition of Hindi is a menace in the country and thereby our people are affected. Please take note of it.

It should not be carried on further and further like this.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: We also support it, Sir.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the 10th of December, in reply to a question reached to the hon. Ministry of State for Environment, a specific question was asked about the formulation of new environment policy, in reply about the formulation of new environment policy, the hon. Minister of State for Environment informed the House that State Governments, among other agencies, experts, etc., were being consulted in the formulation of this policy. I made certain enquiries and to my knowledge, State Governments have not been consulted. Thereafter I made a specific enquiry from the Government of Rajasthan as to whether there had been any consultation between the Ministry of Environment and the Government of Rajasthan in

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.