

**COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND (AMDT.)
SCHEME AND EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT
FUNDS (NINTH AMDT) SCHEME AND
STATEMENTS.**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND RE-
HABILITATION (SHRI G VENKAT-
SWAMY) I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Coal Mines Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No GSR 1187 in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 1972, under section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Family Pension and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above notification [Placed in Library. See No LT-4506/73]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Employees Provident Funds (Ninth Amendment) Scheme 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No GSR 1548 in Gazette of India dated the 21st October 1972, under sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act 1952
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notification. [Placed in Library See No LT-4507/73]

13.36 hrs.

**RE. DEMAND FOR INCLUSION OF
NEPALI IN THE EIGHTH SCHEDULE
OF THE CONSTITUTION**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore)
Sir, I sought your permission just to draw the attention of the Prime Minister to a very urgent matter. At her

invitation, a very representative deputation, an all-party deputation representing the hill people of Darjeeling was in the capital yesterday to have talks with her regarding their demand for the inclusion of the Nepali language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. We are not aware of the outcome of those talks. This is the third occasion within a few months when the Prime Minister at her own initiative had a talk with them. I am glad that she is going on with this dialogue with them once in Darjeeling once in Calcutta at the time of the Congress session and now again in Delhi she has invited them to come for talks.

I only wish to bring out this point, that so far as I know nothing has been decided in this matter yet. As she knows very well this is the time of tensions, regional tensions, linguistic tensions and such tensions in various parts of the country. I would say that in the interests of national unity and national integration, and before the situation gets, shall I say, hotted up it is better that we should try to come to some settlement across the table with those people. They are undeveloped people of the hill areas who feel very strongly about the Nepali language. All parties without exception—the ruling Congress party, the Gurkha league, the CPI, the CPM—everybody is united on this issue. This issue is not confined to Darjeeling. Of course, Nepali language is spoken by lakhs of people. But I would request the Prime Minister, she can have consultations also, if she likes, with the representatives of the different parties in the House, but some positive initiative should be taken in this matter. Otherwise, we know how in these conditions these questions can get blown up into major issues and tensions, and thus lead to undesirable developments, particularly in an area on our border. Therefore, I would re-