

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

is the modern technique throughout the whole world, and in fact, the best technique for India or the next decade or the next century will be to link up the waters so that the rivers with surplus water could be linked up with rivers with less water which supply deficit areas and thus there could be exchange of water from one river to the other. This is the main thing. The Brahmaputra is one river whose waters are not used at all. Practically no water from that river is used. So, it will be a great source of water for us. It will be, therefore, our endeavour to use its waters. Almost all the modern techniques will be used and will be pressed into service to see that we are able to use the waters of the Brahmaputra to the maximum extent for the service of India.

The hon. Member had suggested the setting up of a control board. There are already the zonal councils at which these are discussed. Any way, the hon. Member's suggestion is a very good suggestion, since West Bengal belongs to one zonal council and U.P. belongs to another. So, we can create a body where the whole Ganga basin could be represented. We shall consider this suggestion.

13.39 hrs.

RE. PRESENTATION OF TAMRA-PATRAS TO FREEDOM-FIGHTERS

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up the next item of business.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon) : I seek your permission to raise an important matter, and I have already written to you also seeking your permission to raise the question about the Tamra-patras which have been presented to the freedom-fighters. Tamra-patras have been presented to those people who have never seen the inside of a prison. I want to raise this question, because as you would agree, it is a question of national importance. It is an insult to the freedom-fighters on the one side that these Tamra-patras should have been given to persons who have never been inside a prison, and secondly it is an insult to the other regional languages which have been listed in the Constitution, to have the inscription only in Hindi and then give it.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN (Madras North) : Please permit me to say a few

words on this matter ? I shall conclude within a minute, after saying something regarding the issue raised by my hon. friend Shri N. Sreekantan Nair.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN : On behalf of my Party, we offer our felicitations to the freedom fighters. That is one thing. The second is that they have come from all over the country, from all the States. But the *tamra patra* given to them is inscribed only in Hindi, which is against the Constitution. The Constitution has recognised two languages as official languages, one Hindi and the other English. Unfortunately, the freedom fighters from Tamil Nadu, from Orissa and from Bengal cannot read anything inscribed on it. I think this is an indirect way of encroaching upon the domain of the non-Hindi-speaking areas. The freedom fighters from these areas are insulted... (*Interruptions*), absolutely insulted.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. There should be no controversy over this. I had no intimation from him about this.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN : I say, this is a calculated and cunning move to infiltrate into the non-Hindi-speaking domain. I warn the Hindi-speaking people that if they systematically adopt this attitude, history will later call them as people who are disintegrating this great country. This matter should not be taken very lightly. You in your wisdom have already given directions to the House so many times that both Hindi and English should be used.

MR. SPEAKER : I should have had some intimation that he wanted to raise this matter.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN : I would request you at least to convey our feelings that if this is allowed to continue in future, I do not know what will happen. This is my warning.

13.42 hrs.

RE. BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER : The call attention motion has already taken one hour. I am very sorry that the Ministers who have to lay papers on the Table, a formal business, have to keep sitting for such a long time.