

INDIA'S NATIONAL LANGUAGE

Premier's Statement In Assembly

From Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Sept. 13.

At the end of the second day's battle over language in the Constituent Assembly, indications are that the formula sponsored by Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar yesterday, and vigorously supported by the Prime Minister, and two other Ministers, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and Mr. N. V. Gadgil, will be carried at tomorrow's session, even if a division is pressed.

Pandit Nehru, pleaded for the acceptance of the Ayyangar formula from the international, secular and sentimental points of view. He thought that there was a tone of authoritarianism in the Hindi-speaking group, which was dangerous to the peace and good of India.

Pandit Nehru thought that English would have to continue inevitably to be the State language for at least 15 years as it was the nearest approach to an international language.

Both Mr. Gadgil and Dr. Mookerjee appealed to the house to accept the Ayyangar formula and not divide itself over the issue.

PANDIT SHUKLA'S STAND

The Hindi group's view was ably presented by the C. P. Premier, Pandit Ravishankar Shukla, who said that whereas their plan was to make Hindi universal as early as possible, the formula proposed and the views expressed by the non-Hindi-speaking people suggested that as many obstacles as possible would be placed against its consummation.

Dr. P. Subbarayan advocated the cause of Hindustani in Roman script, while Mr. Frank Anthony, the Anglo-Indian leader, urged adoption of Hindi in Roman script.

Lobby circles suggest that efforts are now being made to persuade Mr. Purshottamdas Tandon, leader of the Hindi group to accept the Ayyangar formula as a gesture of goodwill to non-Hindi-speaking people.

(Details on page 5)