

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

First Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. I contains Nos. 1 to 11)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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[ORIGINAL ENGLISH PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN ENGLISH VERSION AND ORIGINAL HINDI PROCEEDINGS INCLUDED IN HINDI VERSION WILL BE TREATED AS AUTHORITY AND NOT THE TRANSLATION THEREOF.]

PREFACE

This is the first Volume of the Lok Sabha Debates for the Eighth Lok Sabha. Upto the end of Seventh Lok Sabha, two versions of Lok Sabha Debates were brought out, viz., (i) Original Version containing the proceedings of the House in the languages in which they took place except that in the case of speeches made in regional languages, their English/Hindi translation was included and the Urdu speeches were put in Devnagri script and their Persian script was also given within brackets, and (ii) Hindi Version containing the Hindi proceedings, Urdu proceedings in Devnagri script and Hindi translation of English proceedings and also of speeches made in regional languages.

2. With effect from the First Session of Eighth Lok Sabha, in pursuance of a decision of the General Purposes Committee of Lok Sabha, two versions of Lok Sabha Debates are being brought out, viz., (i) English Version containing Lok Sabha proceedings in English and English translation of the proceedings which take place in Hindi or any regional language, and (ii) Hindi Version in its present form except that Urdu speeches are being put in Devnagri script and their Persian script is also being given within brackets.

3. In addition, Original Version of the Lok Sabha proceedings is being prepared and kept in Parliament Library suitably bound for purposes of record and reference only.

4. In both the English and the Hindi Versions, an appropriate indication is being given to specify where a particular part of the proceedings is original in English/Hindi or a translation,

5. It is hoped the two independent Hindi and English Versions will be found useful by Members and others interested.

NEW DELHI ;
January, 1985

SUBHASH C. KASHYAP,
Secretary-General.

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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2

LOK SABHA

*Wednesday, January 16, 1985/Pausa 26,
1906, (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[THE SPEAKER *pro tem* (SHRI
JAGJIVAN RAM) *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Secretary-General may call out names of members who have not yet taken the oath or made the affirmation.

MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Arif Mohd. Khan (Bahraich)

Shri K.P. Singh Deo (Dhenkanal)

Shri Ramdeo Rai (Samastipur)

Shri Daulatsinhji Jadeja (Jamnagar)

Shri Dalbir Singh (Sirsa)

Shri T.V. Chandrasekharappa (Shimoga)

Shri G. Devaraya Naik (Kanara)

Shri Martand Singh (Rewa)

Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria (Jhabua)

Shri D.B. Shingda (Dahanu)

Shri Giridhar Gamango (Koraput)

Shri Nar Bahadur Bhandari (Sikkim)

Shri Harish Rawat (Almora)

Shri Manik Sanyal (Jalpaiguri)

Shri Manoranjan Halder (Mathurapur)

Shri B.V. Desai (Raichur)

MR. SPEAKER : Any Member who is present and has not taken his oath may now come and take the oath—There is nobody.

We go to the next item.

11.11 hrs.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

[*English*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : I beg to move :

“That Shri Bal Ram, a Member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House.”

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHA-
GAT) : I second the motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shyam Lal Yadav may now move the Motion standing in his name.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV
(Varanasi) : Hon. Speaker, Sir I beg to move :

“That Shri Bal Ram, a Member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House.”

[*English*]

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
(Alleppey) : I second the Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved by Shri Rajiv Gandhi :

“That Shri Bal Ram, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of the House.”

Motion moved by Shri Shyam Lal Yadav:

“That Shri Bal Ram, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of the House.”

SHRI SUDINI JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : Which is the motion which we are voting—the motion moved by the Prime Minister or the Motion moved by Shri Shyam Lal Yadav ?

MR. SPEAKER : Both the motions are before the House. I shall now put the first motion, that is, the motion moved by Shri Rajiv Gandhi and seconded by Shri H.K.L. Bhagat to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“That Shri Bal Ram, a member of this House be chosen as the Speaker of this House”.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : I declare Shri Bal Ram duly elected as the Speaker of the House. Now, I have great pleasure in inviting Shri Bal Ram to occupy the Chair.

(Shri Bal Ram was conducted to the Chair by the Prime Minister, Shri H.K.L. Bhagat, Shri C. Madhav Reddy, Shri Erasu Ayyapu Reddy, Prof. Madhu Dandavate, Dr. Saradish Roy and Shri P. Kolandaivelu)

[MR. SPEAKER (SHRI BAL RAM) in the Chair]

11.17 hrs.

FELICITATIONS TO THE SPEAKER

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, recent

months have been very eventful, but out of horror and turmoil has risen a new stronger India. Sir, before you, you see a new House, many different faces and a much smaller Opposition. We would like to say that although our party has won by an overwhelming majority, we would not like to use that majority as a club to hit the Opposition with. But we will forcefully argue our points of view and bring them home.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have shown your mettle as the Speaker during the past five years in handling very difficult situations at times and we are very glad that you are with us for another five years. Your grass-root-sense of the pulse of the people from your background as a farmer will be useful to the House. Your association with the farming community which is our largest community will help guide this nation. I would welcome you once again and congratulate you.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY (Adilabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate you on behalf of Telugu Desam Party and on my own behalf on your being elected unanimously as the Speaker of this august House.

As I stand here to felicitate you, I am reminded of the great days of Shri Mavalankar, when he was the first Speaker, a great Speaker, who laid the foundations of the practices of this House. I had the good fortune of being a Member of this House during those days and I had seen Shri Mavalankar conducting this House with dignity and laying the foundations of the practices and the procedures of this House. Thereafter, Speaker after Speaker who have been succeeding Shri Mavalankar walked in the footsteps of Shri Mavalankar and I am sure, you, as a very able Speaker, would keep up the traditions and conduct the House in the same old traditions.

DR. SARADISH ROY (Bolarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of my party, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) congratulate you on being elected for the second term as Speaker of this House. We in the opposition, though reduced in number, yet command about 50 per cent of the popular votes polled during the last election. We expect and hope that you as well as the

ruling party, will give proper respect to the opposition, which represents almost 50 per cent of the voters of this country.

In this connection, I might mention that in the past, very often important policy statements used to be made outside the House. This should not persist at this juncture and I would appeal that you will see that such announcements are not made outside the House, but only inside the House.

We in the opposition will render all co-operation to you and the House so that the business of the House is conducted in a proper and healthy manner.

With these words, I again felicitate you on this occasion on behalf of my Party and on my own behalf.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Respected Speaker, Hon. Members, on behalf of All India Anna DMK Party and on behalf of our Chief Minister, MGR, we wish you godspeed..... (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER : He can congratulate on behalf of the party, he cannot congratulate on behalf of the Chief Minister(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : Order please.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : You are occupying this seat as Speaker after having been unanimously elected by this House, the supreme body of the legislature. You are a scholar, we know fully well ; you are a stalwart in so many fields and we know and the House knows.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt with regard to your leadership here because you had been impartial both to the Treasury Benches and also to the Opposition. Your personality looks like a bridegroom today. That is why you are wearing a turban.

MR. SPEAKER : Not a bride !

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, your turban reminds me of my young days. On

behalf of the All India Anna D.M.K. we wish you a successful career and you have to celebrate your silver jubilee year, as the Speaker. Under the able, active and dynamic leadership of the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the whole of India will flourish like anything rapidly and we wish you all success in each and every effort of your life.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, I join the leader of the House and other opposition leaders in congratulating you on your unanimous choice as the Speaker of this august body. Sir, you are sitting on a chair that carries with it a great heritage and a number of precedents. Sir, I may be permitted to point out to you and remind you that just in front of you hangs the shining image of Vithal Bhai Patel, who had created great precedents in this House and had always protected and defended the supremacy of the Legislature over the Executive. So, it will not be out of place to remind you about a great event, a historic event, in this very House.

Sir, on 8th April 1929, a great revolutionary Bhagat Singh, threw a fake bomb from the gallery of this House just to rouse the conscience of the people and the Parliament. The House adjourned and when it met again, Vithal Bhai Patel found that the visitors' gallery was occupied by a police official in uniform, who happened to be an Englishman. He shouted at the situation and said, "How the hell, could an officer come to the gallery of this House without my consent and permission?" The Home Member in the House occupying the Treasury Benches, who again happened to be an Englishman got up from his seat and arrogantly told the President—as he was called then and not the Speaker—, "Mr. President, with my permission, that officer has come here." The President shouted back at the Home Member and told him, "Take your seat, restrain yourself, otherwise, I will have to send you out of the House." The Home Member took his seat, the officer fled away from the gallery and the Speaker asserted his authority and established the supremacy of the Legislature over the Executive. These are the traditions that you carry, Sir.

Sir, you are presiding over a House, which is not, anymore only a House of parliamentary talent, but fortunately this also happens to be a House of glamour with the induction of art and beauty into the House. Sir, I am happy, but I am afraid that you with your aesthetic sense and taste might provoke such members to catch your eye, rather than allow us to catch your ear. We hope your aesthetic sense will not come in the way to remove this discrimination and I have the confidence that you will not have such discrimination.

I was carefully listening to the leader of the House. Sir, he moved the Motion—

“That Shri Bal Ram, a member of the House be chosen as the Speaker of this House.”

Not only in this House, but in the comity of nations and in Inter-parliamentary Union, you are known as “Bal Ram Jakhar”. Sir, I find that our young Prime Minister in his zest to cut everyone to his size has also cut your name to size. But Sir, that is also an injustice to you because cutting to your size also cannot reduce your name, because you have a tall stature.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Sir, I might like to remind Prof. Dandavate that in English he can catch your ear but in Hindi—

[*Translation*]

—*Kaan Nahin pakadne chahien* (It connotes that one should not catch anybody by the ear). And Prof. Dandavate should know that in the nomination papers, the name is not Bal Ram Jakhar, it is Bal Ram only.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him have that satisfaction.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Our Prime Minister has a great sense of information, but I wish he had the sense of humour also. I wish to point out to you that as far as this House is concerned, you would defini-

tely be concerned about maintaining quorum in this House. We will assist the Leader of the House and the Speaker also in maintaining not only the quorum in the House but, I assure you, also the decorum in the House. That will be our concern.

In the last Lok Sabha, our Speaker was Bal Ram, and our Deputy Speaker was Lakshman; and we had really Ram Rajya in this House. Lakshman has not yet reached the House and, therefore, Lakshman will be missing. But I have a concrete and a constructive proposal to you. In order to make up the loss of Lakshman in this House, I would suggest that since you have the power to appoint the panel of Chairmen you, with your chivalrous attitude, should see to it that in appointing the Chairmen, there should be one Sita appointed, so that Ram Rajya will be ushered in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: No Lakshman any longer?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I once again congratulate you on behalf of the Janata Party, with an assurance that we will give you full assistance in conducting the proceedings of the House; and in conclusion, I wish you all peace and tranquillity during the Zero Hour in the House.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): On behalf of my party, the CPI, I congratulate you on being re-elected as the Speaker of this august House. I note that our new Prime Minister has assured that he would not make use of his majority to subdue the minority which is, in his opinion, not so big. I would like to remind you that this House to-day is not the House as it was in 1980. People from the Punjab have not come to this House. Neither have the people from Assam come. I do not find those great Sikhs in their turbans sitting over here. So, it is a misfortune for us in this House; and I hope that very soon we will find the representatives of the Punjab and Assam in this House. Anyhow, I would like that you, as the Speaker of this House, would look to the interests not only of the Opposition, not only of the people sitting opposite to me, *viz.*, the ruling party, but also of the people who serve this Lok

Sabha—I mean the employees of the Lok Sabha.

I again congratulate you for being re-elected as the Speaker of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARADCHANDRA GOVIND-RAO PAWAR (Baramati) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to congratulate you. You have assumed a prominent place in this *Sanctum Sanctorum* of democracy. You are shouldering this responsibility for the second time. I feel that you have a greater responsibility this time. In this House, the ruling party has overwhelming majority and the Opposition has been reduced to an insignificant low. In this situation, you have a responsibility to infuse confidence in us, the Members of Opposition, so that we can raise the problems of the people in the House without having to go to the streets. You should not, therefore, lose sight of the Opposition and I am sure you will always keep us in mind.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, your decisions are watched by the whole country. At times when there is a procedural crisis in a State Legislature, they refer to the decisions taken in Parliament. Thus your decisions become a guiding star for all the State Legislatures. I am sure that you will always keep this aspect in mind. It is our responsibility to extend cooperation to you and we assure you of it since we all have faith in democracy. We shall always cooperate with you. You hail from a village and here we want to raise the problems of the seventy percent people of India who live in villages. We hope that in this regard too, you will help us. I am sure of your success because your name itself is "Bal Ram". "Bal" signifies that you personify the strength that will strengthen our democracy and "Ram" signifies that you will inspire the people of India to become Rama (an ideal man).

In conclusion I congratulate you once again.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the National Conference I congratulate you on your occupying this august Chair.

As regards the present position, the Opposition has been reduced in number but I am sure that you and the Hon'ble Prime Minister will uphold the basic aim of democracy in which the Opposition is to play an important role. In spite of the reduced strength, I hope the Opposition will have its due position and respect to which the Hon'ble Prime Minister has referred in his recent speeches. In his talks with the Opposition leaders, he has given the impression that Opposition will have its due respect and their views will be heard and the Government will always take them into consideration. I hope that as a Speaker, you will safeguard our interests.

As regards the regional parties including Telugu Desam, National Conference, ADMK, and DMK, they also represent the sentiments and aspirations of the people and the people too have affection for them in spite of the fact that the Opposition has been reduced in number. This fact should also be clearly understood that as compared to the big national parties, the National Conference whom I represent here is not less honest and sincere. It is equally loyal to this country and will give its fullest cooperation to you and to the Government in the development, progress and marching ahead of the country.

On behalf of the National Conference, I congratulate you and on the occasion of the commencement of this session of 8th Lok Sabha, I pray to God to kindly help us in building a strong and great India.

SHRI CHANDUPATLA JANGA REDDY (Hanam Konda) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Bhartiya Janata Party and on my own behalf, I congratulate you on being chosen as the Speaker of the 8th Lok Sabha.

Not only Parliament but Delhi too is a new place for me. I have been a Member of the Legislative Assembly. The problems of the people are innumerable and the number of the Opposition Members has dwindled. I, therefore, request you to pay special attention and allot more time to us. This becomes necessary all the more as we want to raise the problems of the people in Lok

Sabha. Since we are less in number and the problems are many, it is possible that we may sometime express our anger, but I hope you will not mind it but like a patriarch forgive us. In this Lok Sabha, fifty per cent of the Members are new and the number of Opposition Members is less. We, therefore, request you to give us more time for the safeguarding of the democracy and for raising the problems of the people in Lok Sabha. We hope that you will concede this demand of ours. On behalf of my party and myself I once again congratulate you on your being chosen as the Speaker of this House.

[*English*]

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri) : I rise to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, on your unanimous election as the Speaker of this august House. All those who were with you in the Seventh Lok Sabha know full well that you had conducted the proceedings of the House in the past in an admirable manner and also handled the situations whenever they arose in the Seventh Lok Sabha in a very admirable manner. Your unanimous choice once again is an acknowledgement of your capacity and impartiality. I hope that a weakened Opposition will get a greater consideration from you in future and you will keep up the healthy traditions set up by your great predecessors in this House of Parliament.

I congratulate you once again on my own behalf and on behalf of my party, the Muslim League. I wish you all success in the days to come.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party, the Forward Block, I rise to join the Leader of the House to congratulate you on this great occasion when you have been elected as the Speaker of this august House for a second time.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are an experienced man. I know you will spend your time in such a manner that the Opposition will get a chance, particularly in the Zero Hour, because this time, according to the Leader of the House, we may be in minority in number, but we are not weak. Because, we

are sufficient enough to ventilate the grievances of this country.

Sir, I know that so long, till a few minutes ago, you have been a member of a particular political party, who are in a brute majority here, but henceforth you will belong to no party.

AN HON. MEMBER : It is unparliamentary. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : It is fully parliamentary. Mr. Speaker, I can assure you that you will get our fullest cooperation to uphold the prestige and position of this august House.

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL (Muvattupuzha) : Mr. Speaker, I congratulate you on behalf of my party, the Kerala Congress.

For the last five years you served this House honestly and efficiently. You are very tall and hefty ; so also your ideals and principles. I had the opportunity to travel with you in two delegations to foreign countries. You have risen to the occasion and upheld the dignity and prestige of the House. You are a leader among international Speakers.

I congratulate you once more, as you are a farmer and our party is standing for the interests of the farmers.

May God help you with good health for the next five years to guide us properly ! Once again, I congratulate you.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated—Anglo Indians) : Mr. Speaker, I hope the last will not be the least. Allow me to welcome and to congratulate you, as I believe, still, with due respect to my friend Babuji, that I am senior and I have the privilege of being the seniormost Member of this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, your office has always been one entailing the highest of responsibility, but today it is not only one of responsibility but it is a critical office. I have seen the scroll of Indian parliamentary

history unfold from before Independence because I happened to become a Member of this House in 1942—perhaps the period between 1942 and 1946 will not be regarded as a part of our parliamentary history. May I say with great respect that the standard set both in behaviour and in the quality of debate was very hard to beat ?

Today, Mr. Speaker, the House marks a watershed in India's parliamentary history. Landslide victory of the Cong(I) led by Shri Rajiv Gandhi marks a historic occasion. Before this, if it was a two-third majority it was regarded as a massive victory. Today, Cong(I) has achieved a majority which is unprecedented. They have got a four-fifths majority. Actually it is a mind-boggling majority and I think, the basic catalyst was the mind-boggling bestial murder. That was the catalyst which entered determinatively into this mind-boggling four-fifths majority. What I am trying to say is this that this was an unprecedented historic challenge to the people of India. I am among those who have said for some time that India is faced with enemies both external and internal. And the people of India today have demonstrated in a historic way that they will not accept any attempt from any person or anybody or any authority outside or inside to erode or undermine the strength and unity of India.

In this historic setting, Mr. Speaker, may I say with great respect, that you face a historic challenge? It will not be easy to hold the balance. You will hold in your discretion between the overwhelming serried ranks with a four-fifths majority and a completely decimated Opposition.

I have sat for over 30 years in the front rank as an independent. May I say with great respect without wanting to give offence to any of the opposition parties as such, that we never really had except perhaps during two-and-a-half year Janata aberration, a democratic opposition. Some regional groups, yes.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You call it aberration ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Syco-phancy unlimited !

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY : I have only paraphrased what, in fact, happened that these people proved to the whole of India that they were an utterly non-viable impossible alternative. (*Interruption*) I do not know who is making noise behind me. Let me tell the gentleman behind me if he lives for several incarnations he will never remotely hold the elective position I hold as the unchallenged leader of my small recognised community. May I end on this note too ?

May I say this? We never had a recognised party in the opposition except during the two and a half year period. You have to be 54 Members to be recognised as the opposition party. You have not got that. There has never been a recognised party. Now, we have something unusual. For the first time, we have an avowedly regional party as the largest group. I can only plead with them not to compound divisive or regional issues in this House.

May I say that my friends know nothing about my not negligible performances in this House ? I led the attack against the Government after the Chinese debacle. Durgadas, the doyen of the journalist fraternity, paid me the tribute for speaking not only for the Opposition who, really speaking, could not speak as I could and I can, and I spoke also for the Congress Party which could not say what it wanted to say. And it was because of that speech of mine that the Defence Minister at that time had to resign. I led the attack on the Government during the supersession of three of the Supreme Court Judges. Ten of us, including myself, during the period when Jawaharlalji was absolutely dominant—because of our capacity and our work—earned the respect of Jawaharlalji.

May I lastly make a plea to you, with the greatest respect, that please don't repeat, Mr. Speaker, I beg of you, this fairly recent ritual because in the House, as I said, there may be three or four regional parties. There were 22 so-called parties in the House, now the number has been reduced to 16.....(*Interruptions*).

They may not be aware of the traditions of this House. What used to happen was the Speaker, in his discretion, called the Members, not because of their lung or muscle capacity—they will hear from me a great deal in future—but I am only pleading with you that please don't go down the line, according to a ritual and according to the so-called number, because what you do, you do with great respect. The previous ritual is that you have full discretion. There is not a single Opposition party in this House. The previous Speaker, I do not want to mention him by name, used to call Members from the Opposition when he felt could set some kind of standard, some kind of tone in debate. If you ritualistically go down the lines, very often the debate is killed at its very beginning, then you do great injustice. There are about twenty Independent Members in this House and you will give them an opportunity, but if you go down the line to shavings and sub-shavings, there will be about 16.....
(*Interruptions*).

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Bara-mulla) : Sir, this is a debatable point.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I know what to do, Mr. Soz.....

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : He can come to your Chamber and discuss there. It is a debatable point.....(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : What are you trying to prove to me ? Please sit down.....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY : I only wanted to congratulate you on something which has not been done before, namely the unprecedented honour done to you, because you are the first Speaker to have been re-elected as Speaker.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAR BAHADUR BHANDARI (Sikkim) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Sikkim Sangram Parishad and on my own behalf, I congratulate you. Our Sikkim Sangram Parishad is just like other regional

parties in the country. I have been elected by the people of Sikkim as a Member of that regional party, that is, Sikkim Sangram Parishad.

India has many problems and to solve all those problems, the people of the country have voted the Congress to power with a massive majority. Today, the people are hopeful that their problems will be solved.

Today, we find that the Opposition has been much reduced but we know that the nectar is always very small in quantum and the Opposition has to discharge the functions of nectar.

There may be many parties but we are all Indians ; we have been elected and sent here by the people of the country. It is, therefore, necessary that the ruling party and the Opposition have to find out the solution of all the problems of the country jointly.

AN HON. MEMBER : Would you speak in Rajasthani ?

MR. SPEAKER : *Han, Rajasthani to men maang to lyani koni, apni Gharri hay, koyi baat to aesi hay konyi, par thari samajh men koni aaway.*

[*English*]

Hon. Members, I am deeply grateful to all of you for unanimously electing me to this high office and conferring on me the honour and privilege of shouldering heavy responsibility for a second successive term. Very kind and generous references have been made to me, which have touched me deeply. I shall endeavour to discharge my duties to the best of my ability in accordance with the finest traditions of our parliamentary system and do all I can to safeguard the Constitution and the rights and privileges of the hon. Members of this august House.

In my previous term as Speaker, it was my good fortune to enjoy co-operation of the House from all sides. My experience of five years convinced me of the sincerity of purpose, purity of motives and the genui-

ness of the demands made by the Members. This strengthened my confidence and developed in me a spirit of mutual respect and trust and a common sharing of goals and objectives, with a fair amount of give and take on both sides. The Members did differ and had divergent views on various matters, but the final aim and goal had always been to serve the nation and to lead this great country to progress and prosperity.

Friends, much remains to be done to establish an egalitarian socio-economic order, "Destination Common Man", as spelt out by our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. That must ever remain central to whatever takes place in this House. To this I might add, of my own, Destination Common Man plus Destination of the spirit, Destination of our own great nation, because we have to uphold the dignity, the integrity and unity of this great nation, which the people have entrusted to us. Let us remember that we have to preserve the unity and integrity of our land and the secular character of our polity. That is of prime importance. We have to let people see and also make them believe that, irrespective of anything, man is man, he is an Indian first and Indian last. This will be our paramount guiding force. If the Parliament is effectively to play its guardianship role in the polity, it has to be continuously aware of the country's objectives, as enshrined in the preamble to the Constitution. These fundamentals are the bed-rocks of the Constitution, which we have given to ourselves. We have today the same priorities and commitments.

12.00 hrs.

Therefore, we must rise above narrow considerations of caste, creed and parochialism to prove worthy of the selfless sacrifices by great martyrs like Sardar Bhagat Singh, Madan Lal Dhingra, Isfaquallah, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose and numerous other Heroes of freedom struggle who laid down their lives for the freedom of this great country. The ghastly tragedy that shook the nation on 30th January, 1948, when the Father of the Nation

Mahatma Gandhi was shot dead, was again repeated on 31st October, 1984, with the cruel assassination of our Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, another colossus, who always fought the forces of disruption, disintegration and communalism with courage and determination for the unity of our great land. There can be no let-up in the pursuit of these ideals which should always receive precedence over all other matters.

Democracy is not new to India as many erroneously seem to believe. In fact, the history of our democracy goes back to very ancient times—The Rig Veda speaks of the 'Sabha', a People's Assembly, as a part of the Constitution of the State. All good citizens were expected to take active part in the Sabha or Assembly and cover themselves with glory. "Sabha" etymologically means a place where all shine together. I am quoting from the Rig Veda :

*Sarve Nandanti Yashsagten
Sabha Sahen Sakhya Sakhayah.
Kitwish Sprit Pitushnir Hayesham
Aram Hito Bhawati Vajtnay.*

The translation is :

'All people rejoice in the friend who comes with glory, having triumphed in the Sabha. He saves them from evil, provides food. He is ready and apt at contests.' That is what 'Sabha' is. Parliamentary democracy provides for rule or government by discussion, debate and consensus. Its essential pre-requisite is effective and meaningful participation by all sections of the House. The Opposition is as much a part of the system as the majority party, which forms the Government. It has an equal responsibility in helping to ensure a good Government. Its job is not merely to oppose for the sake of Opposition. It has a constructive role to play in the best interests of the country. Freedom of speech in the House is assured to one and all. At the same time, the Hon. Members have to remember that liberty of speech is guaranteed to their opponents as well. Every Member has a right to be heard. Dissent is an inseparable part of democratic process. The democratic traditions have taken strong roots in our country. We have today a vibrant Lok Sabha brimming with youthful enthusiasm,

goodwill and a strong desire to go ahead with the task of nation-building. All of us have been sent by the common man to this exalted national forum to protect his rights and guard his interests. We must, therefore, see that their aspirations are taken care of, to the best of our ability and capacity.

We are passing through trying times. 'The Old Order Changeth yielding place to the new'. We have today in office a new Government which has behind it a record majority. However, the *raison d'être* of the Parliamentary system are its checks and balances and accountability. The Government is answerable to the people for every action it takes and every decision made. It is thus, vital and essential for the recently elected Member to be alert, well-informed, thoroughly disciplined and vigilant. The spirit of accountability has to be carefully nurtured and preserved. This House has given to itself a certain set of norms, conventions, rules and procedures, which would be respected and obeyed by both sides. We have to play the game according to its rules. If these rules come in the way, the House is at liberty to change them. But they are sacred until changed because I am only to be guided by the rules laid down by you; I have not got the authority to change them; I can only interpret them. This sort of authority for changing lies with you, the Members. Whenever you think fit, you can do that. I would, therefore, seek the cooperation of all sides in making it possible for the House to function with dignity and decorum and in accordance with the rules.

I may caution all my new Members, who in their enthusiasm, may try to take some line which might not be conducive to good working of the House. They have to be very vigilant at the outset. The exuberance should not show itself in unparliamentary and undignified sort of eruptions of their feelings. It should be a very cohesive thing. They must try to learn. The more you learn the more you will realise how less you know. And then again try to know more and more. That is the way we all learn and try to uphold the principles and the aspirations of the people, which have been confided to us.

It is on the floor of the House that the

interaction of the entire society takes place and diverse interests and forces in our polity have to meet for a meaningful national dialogue so as to obtain optimum functional dynamism. The new Government has to keep itself continuously in touch with the Opposition. For, it is the Opposition that will act as eyes and ears of the Government. Parliament is like a Kaleidoscope with the Speaker keeping an eye on its ever changing spectrum.

I have been deeply moved by your warm and generous feelings. I hope I can also count on your cooperation in equal measure in successfully shouldering the heavy burden of my office. This can only be done if you cooperate with me. This Chamber is not mine, it is yours. My ears and my eyes are all attuned to you. (*Interruptions*). Yes, don't catch them because it might hurt you.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They are nationalised.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, they are nationalised; right you are! But I will like you to confer with me on any subject. Time and again, all Members might be knowing here that on this floor of the House I have always assured them, 'Gentlemen, any subject which is of national interest or which you think is important will be discussed, but let us sit here first so that we can do it particularly according to rules and regulations.' And we might not have to do the other way. The other way, that is, the 'zero hour,' you see, we can do without that because I am open to suggestions and I am ready to confer with all Members of the House at any given time and the options are always open.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You yourself are speaking during the 'Zero Hour', Sir!

MR. SPEAKER : I shall not, Sir, because there is no 'Zero Hour', and I am going to adhere to the rules.

I shall also try my best to uphold and enhance the dignity of the House by remaining fair and impartial. I once again express my deep gratitude for the trust this House has so graciously reposed in me. Great

tasks, as I said earlier, await us. These can be tackled only through constructive, purposeful cooperation. Together, let us pledge to serve our people with dedication and devotion and to work for the greater glory of our motherland.

Thank you once again for what you have said.

12.08 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I would like the Prime Minister to introduce the Members of his Cabinet.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to introduce the members of my Cabinet :

Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao	Minister of Defence
Shri S.B. Chavan	Minister of Home Affairs
Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh	Minister of Finance and also to hold temporary charge of Commerce and Supply.
Shri Abdul Gafoor	Minister of Works and Housing
Shri Asoke Sen	Minister of Law and Justice
Shri B. Shankaranand	Minister of Irrigation and Power
Shri Bansi Lal	Minister of Railways
Shri Buta Singh	Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development
Shri H.K.L. Bhagat	Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
Shri K.C. Pant	Minister of Education
Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai	Minister of Health and Family Welfare
Rao Birendra Singh	Minister of Food and Civil Supplies
Shri Vasant Sathe	Minister of Steel, Mines and Coal
Shri Veerendra Patil	Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers and also to hold temporary charge of Industry and Company Affairs

Now, Ministers of State holding independent charge :

Shrimati Maragatham Chandrasekhar	Minister of State of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare.
Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma	Minister of State of the Ministry of Petroleum.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha	Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications.
Shri T. Anjiah	Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour.
Shri V.N. Gadgil	Minister of State of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
Shri Z.R. Ansari	Minister of State of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport

Ministers of State are :

1. Shri Arif Mohd. Khan
Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Company Affairs.
2. Shri Arun Nehru
Minister of State in the Department of Power.
3. Shri Ashok Gehlot
Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.
4. Shri Bir Sen
Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
5. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar
Minister of State in the Department of Rural Development.
6. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad
Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
7. Shri H.R. Bhardwaj
Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice.
8. Shri Janardhana Poojary
Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.
9. Shri Khurshid Alam Khan
Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
10. Shri K.P. Singh Deo
Minister of State in the Departments of Personnel and Administrative Reforms and Culture.
11. Shri K.R. Narayanan
Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning.
12. Shri Madhavrao Scindia
Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.
13. Shrimati Margaret Alva
Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
14. Shri Natwar Singh
Minister of State in the Department of Steel.

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| 15. Shri P.A. Sangma | Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Supply. |
| 16. Shri R.K. Jaichandra Singh | Minister of State in the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports. |
| 17. Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha | Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. |
| 18. Shri Shivraj V. Patil | Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology and in the Departments of Ocean Development ; Atomic Energy, Space and Electronics. |
| 19. Shri Yogendra Makwana | Minister of State in the Department of Health. |

We have two Parliamentary Secretaries. They are :

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri Oscar Fernandes | Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister. |
| 2. Shri Ahmed Patel | Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister. |

SHRI ERASU AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a Point of Order on a Constitutional question. We saw the other day that oath was being administered not individually to the Ministers but it was administered simultaneously. Is this permissible under the Constitution ? Even in this august House, here, oath was not administered like that. It was not permitted ever since 1952.

MR. SPEAKER : No. Hon. Member, you must realise that what concerns us is what happens on the floor of the House and whatever we have conducted on the floor of this House has been according to the rules and regulations. Don't worry about it.

SHRI ERASU AYYAPU REDDY : It is a constitutional question.

MR. SPEAKER : No. We are not. We are concerned with what happens in this House.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : That is not correct. We can discuss it separately. We have to discuss it separately. So, please do not say like that.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, separately it can be. With whatever we are concerned, we can discuss it later on. But I am concerned only with whatever takes place here.

SHRI SUDINI JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : Let us discuss it later on.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can give me anything in writing. We shall see.

SHRI SUDINI JAIPAL REDDY : They could have been introduced *en masse* to the House. Why have they been introduced to us separately ? That is my point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Is this a point of order ? You must learn, you see. 12.14 hrs.

Now the House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow the 17th January, 1985 half an hour after the President's Address.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till half an hour after the Address by the President on Thursday, January 17, 1985; Pausa 27, 1906 (Saka).

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