

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

First Session  
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

*Friday, June 5, 2009/Jyaistha 15, 1931 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

#### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

##### World Environment Day

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Hon. Members today is the World Environment Day. The theme chosen by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for World Environment Day, 2009 is "Your Planet Needs You! Unite to Combat Climate Change."

Let us rededicate ourselves, on this day, to combat the challenges of climate change and to ensure a cleaner and greener environment.

11.01 hrs.

#### NOMINATION TO PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have nominated the following Members as members of the Panel of Chairmen:—

1. Shri Basu Deb Acharia
2. Shri P.C. Chacko
3. Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan
4. Shri Inder Singh Namdhari
5. Shri Francisco Sardinha
6. Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

7. Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh

8. Dr. M. Thambidurai

9. Shri Beni Prasad Verma

10. Dr. Girija Vyas

11.02 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

##### 19th and 23rd Reports (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee of Privileges (Fourteenth Lok Sabha):—

- (1) Nineteenth Report\* regarding the notices of question of privilege by Shri Mohan Singh and Shri Madhusudan Mistry, MPs (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) against S/Shri Ashok Argal, Mahavir Bhagora and Faggan Singh Kulaste, MPs (Fourteenth Lok Sabha), for allegedly committing a grave misconduct by bringing bundles of currency notes in, and displaying them on the Table of the House, thereby disturbing the proceedings and lowering the dignity of the House; and
- (2) Twenty-third Report\* on question of privilege given notice of by Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, MP (Fourteenth Lok Sabha), against Shri Sudheendra Kulkarni for premature disclosure of proceedings/documents presented to the

\*The 19th and 23rd Reports were presented to hon. Speaker (14th Lok Sabha) on 1 May, 2009 under Direction 71A(6) of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha when the House was not in Session and the Speaker was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Reports under Rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

Committee to inquire into complaint made by some Members regarding alleged offer of money to them in connection with voting on the Motion of Confidence, thereby having committed breach of privilege and contempt of the said Committee as well of the House.

11.04 hrs.

### MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : The House will now take up Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Dr. Girija Vyas to move the motion.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Madam, I have given a notice for adjournment. There was a devastating cyclone 'Aila' in the State of West Bengal....(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : I have looked into your notice. It does not merit to be considered as an Adjournment Motion. So, I am disallowing it. You can raise this issue while speaking on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER : Achariaji, we will take up this issue in the evening.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA (Rampur) : Madam, please help us...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Madam, the magnitude of the cyclone is such...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, I will allow you in the evening.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Chittorgarh) : Madam Speaker, I beg to move:

That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 4th of June, 2009."

Madam Speaker, I welcome you. On behalf of all of us I would like to welcome the first lady Speaker of Lok Sabha who has become has icon of a new beginning, a new direction, a new experiment and a new tradition.

Madam, we have once again assembled here after the general elections and the hon. President has been pleased to deliver her views and the views of the Government before both the Houses. We have assembled here to extend our thanks to her. Before I speak further, I would like to recite a couplet before the Houses:

"Wakt ki rah mein humne jalayein hain jo chirag,  
Un ujalon mein kae daur gujar jayenge"

Not one, but many eras would pass by in the light of lamps lit by us and the UPA Government is a live example of it in the sense that they have been once again voted to power for their popular performance. The UPA Government has brought sweeping changes in development and governance so much so that the people had no option but to vote them again to power. This is not only for the next five years but, as I said earlier, for many more years to come during which the congress-led UPA Government will serve the people of this country in the light of their excellent performance. I welcome the congress-led UPA Government in the 15th Lok Sabha. While doing so I am in a fix as to whom should I congratulate first—the hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Manmohan Singh under

whose able leadership development works were undertaken on a large scale keeping in view the interest and upliftment of the common man or to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi who was sensitive to the needs and aspirations of the common man or to Rahul Gandhiji who gave a new direction to the youth or to the workers who worked for the party with great enthusiasm, dedication and a sense of sacrifice or to the people at large who appreciate the breeze of change, the integrity and bonafides of congress Party and the essence of democracy. The most important fact is that no other country can boast of as matured a democracy as ours notwithstanding the fact that it is always being said that this is a democracy of partially literate or illiterate people, yet we stand a witness to the maturity of the people of this country who in a bid to keep democracy alive showed great courage in ousting Shrimati Indira Gandhi who made great contribution for the development of this country and just after 19 months the same people, expressing their faith in the congress as well as in Indira Ji catapulted her back to power for years so that this country could serve the common man and the poor while protecting socialism and democracy.

Madam, this time the electorate has outrightly rejected the BJP's so-called ideology. Here, I find its appropriate to use the word 'so-called' since they gave the slogan of 'India shining' in the last elections to misguide the people and this time they tried to do so once again in the name of Prime Minister-in-waiting in order to divert attention from the achievements and performance of congress Party and the UPA, they have a hidden agenda that is 'Shri Ramjanam bhumi', or religious chauvinism', with which they come out each time in successive elections, but this time they crossed the limits in this regard. While maintaining the dignity of the House I do not want to say anything about a person who is not a Member of this House and I also do not want to say anything about a person who is, of course, a Member of this House, but is not present here at this time. However, the manner in which speeches were delivered in Gujarat and U.P. by a young colleague makes me say that it needs to be

considered seriously in the House as to in which direction are we going today due to some people. This is why the people have totally rejected the NDA Government and thus they gave them a befitting reply owing to misdeeds of the BJP.

Here the focus of Her Excellency, the President is primarily on the preservation of secularism and internal security. She has listed ten points and I think she has given these points keeping in view the times to come. I was reading the statement of Sushmaji. While reading that I felt good since nothing has been left in BJP's kitty. In her statement she has said that the hon. President's Address was based on what they had implemented. However, I would like to say that the common man has been close to our heart for years, centuries and ever since the advent of congress, since the party has been serving the country and its people and made every sacrifice to achieve independence. Apart from the common man, development of the country has also been close to our heart. So, there is no question of hijacking their agenda. It is rather they who have hijacked our agenda, but I am sorry to say that they could not get that implemented properly and they closed their chapter by giving the slogan of 'India Shining'. I think that this chapter has been closed forever. This country showed that the communal forces would not survive for long, because this country belongs to all of us.

While you are occupying the Chair today, I am reminded of an incident of Pune when a reporter asked Mahatma Gandhi immediately after the convention of the Congress Party was over as to what was the meaning of independence. The Mahatma replied that everybody standing in the queue should get equal rights. We will not differentiate in the name of caste, creed or religion. Women were lagging far behind. But today a lady is occupying the office of the President and it is due to the vision of Gandhiji that has come true. I, therefore, would like to congratulate the UPA Government for all their bold decisions which may not have found mention in the President's Address but these have boosted our morale.

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

We will continue our fight at the grassroot level for the sake of democracy. Rahulji, while repeating what his father had said many years ago, said here that out of one rupee allocated from here for the welfare of the public, only 10 paise reach the beneficiary and thus, the total amount never percolates upto the bottom. Last time the UPA Government took it as a challenge and this time, too, taking it as the same challenge, we will continue efforts to plug the loopholes. But, what about the secularism of the country for which Gandhiji once said that he was not so much concerned about the development as he was for the secularism and communal harmony because the former can be stopped for a while but we can never compromise with the latter even for a single moment. His several fasts unto death is a testimony of this thing that he always felt that Hindus and Muslims were like the two hands to him. So we can understand his pain when he saw them separating from one another. How can we forget that night of independence when Pakistan was rejoicing on the one hand and India was rejoicing on the other. Even at that time he was sitting on fast, because his both the hands *i.e.* India and Pakistan had got separated. But it was an act of some people, parties and the miscreants of the society who are still trying to disintegrate the secular structure of the social fabric by spreading poison of communalism among the people. I think, the first responsibility of this Government is to maintain communal harmony. I welcome the Bill which is proposed to be introduced in this regard and the President has also mentioned about it in her Address.

Sometimes, it appears that some people are bent upon or have designated themselves to define Hindutva in their own way. I feel that if such a definition of Hindutva is accepted, the poetic verse of Alama Eqbal- "Kuchh Baat Hai ki hastee mittee naheen hamaree"- composed in the context of our country which exists for centuries, will be falsified. In this country, our religion, culture remained intact only because we have never been narrow-minded like a frog or still water in the well, but continue to go ahead

with our mission. Therefore, the definition of religion has got changed according to time and ambience in the country. Here the definition of religion has also been made compatible with emergency duty. So, it is time to think about it as the same has been mentioned also in the President's Address in consonance with the Government's present status and direction.

I would like to tell the hon'ble Members of the House that today in the world everybody is expecting us to do something. In this regard some efforts, too, have been made during the last few years. We have become so narrow minded that if we introspect, we will find nothing but Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christians. However, we should understand our responsibility. That is why I say that we will have to reconsider the definition of religion and see it as a national duty. I remember a poetic verse of Valmiki's Ramayan that when Laxman asked Lord Rama as to why He sent Sita into exile. This is a different thing that being a lady probably I may not agree with it but at that time Rama said that as an administrator doing so was His national duty, which was his religion also. We can appreciate his statement made centuries ago when Valmiki tried to define Ram's national duty as a religion, then why is it not needed in the present context today.

So, it is time to change this kind of definition. I know and you all have also seen as to what kind of statements were made in the name of Hindutva during elections, but the true Indian is one who gives due respect to all sects- Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian while passing by temple, mosque Gurudwara, Church etc. This indicates the direction of the Act which is likely to be brought in this regard and these communal forces and statement will not be tolerated in the long run. These elections showed us that the people want development, communal harmony and unity. Five fingers are not alike, but we have always taken responsibility and tried to unite all these five fingers. So, the couplet of Alama Eqbal is true:—

"Kuchh Baat Hai kee hastee mittee naheen hamaree".

Madam, the Congress Party went alone in these elections at many places. The reason was that the Congress Party wanted to reap benefits of their performance. Congress Party wanted to become self-reliant notwithstanding the alliance break up for various reasons. Some factions went away too, but despite that, Congress Party became self-reliant. Verdicts of Uttar Pradesh and many other places are the proof that the people do have faith in Congress Party and this faith will remain in future as well.

The new chapter of the history begins with the President's Address. I do not have any doubt that keeping in view the present scenario there is serious challenge of internal security before us. I read some parts of the speeches of hon'ble Advaniji and I definitely associate myself with those parts. I would like to say one thing that the people believe the secularism and internal security for which they voted for Congress. They also believe that if we make collective efforts, then, we will be able to keep our internal security intact. It is none other than the Congress Party that protects unity and integrity.

[English]

I quote:

"The Indian National Congress says what it means and means what it says. The Indian National Congress promises what it can do and will do what it promises. The Indian National Congress is committed to ensuring that the Government functions in the interest of the people for whom it exists and for whom it works. The Indian National Congress has always believed that the correct approach to governance is to address the daily concern of the people and solve their problems."

[Translation]

Under the guidance of hon'ble Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Soniaji, we will continue marching ahead with a confidence to protect secularism. At the same

time, we should be totally committed to the internal and external security. Our sole intention is that whenever someone distribution tridents, we will counter it by propagating our ideology; if they will be decorating their shops and thorns, we will be responding them by distributing flowers there. Congress Party have always tried to maintain this ideology. I was taking about internal security. The President, too, said in her Address that the Government is fully alert towards the internal security. In certain areas, on the one hand, there is terrorists movement on the other ULFA and the third side there are naxalites and due to which these areas have become inaccessible to the people while on other hand there is scary situation in hinter land. However, the power to deal with these forces was only with the UPA Government and this still exists in them. So, the Government has paid all attention towards them formulating multipronged strategies, whether it is mega cities' policy, desert lands and the coastal security.

Madam, at the next level efforts have been made to check infiltration by making complete arrangements for border fencing and flood lighting. 13 intermediate check posts have been put in place to secure our borders adjoining Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Myanmar. 13 immigration check posts have been set up which are equipped with special security equipments. 359 border blocks covering 90 districts and 17 States have been selected. Above all, social security has been guaranteed to the local residents by enabling them to protect their agriculture, social status, infrastructure and border.

Madam, through you, I would like to request the Government to pay special attention to the maltreatment being meted out even today to the womenfolk residing in the interior areas which came to our notice when we visited Assam, Nagaland etc. last year. Through you, I would request the Government to pay special attention to the security of womenfolk, in particular in these areas. We all know, it is difficult to get rid of this problem until we modernize our police forces. That is why the Union

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

Government has evolved a particular scheme for them. 76 districts have been identified which are prone to naxalite attacks. Rs. 2 crore per month will be provided for 5 years to them so that they could fully modernize their force. The Union Government is responsible to augmentation and deployment of para military forces and other forces be it IR or any other. The Government is committed for it and have realized it, for which I would express my gratitude, that unless there is mutual coordination between the State and the Central Government, the problem cannot be resolved completely since many a time State Government express their ignorance for an information already shared by the Union Government. So, I would felicitate the Ministry for the efforts made for sharing of information and intelligence besides mutual coordination; however, we should make efforts to fully utilise these efforts.

The Government took a decision to set up regional hubs of NSG and started them in Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai. It should be started at other places, too.

Madam, the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act gives a comprehensive definition of terrorists and mobilization of funds, etc. which has proved quite beneficial and would be beneficial even in future. Modified bail provision has also been made more comprehensive covering the issues left uncovered so far and so we should also praise it. This Act should not be criticized only for the sake of criticism. We should rather look at its comprehensive aspects which will prove effective for combating all kinds of terrorist activities.

Madam, our next effort has been through the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 whose Director General has also been appointed. We must reinforce our commitment for it. The Government of India is also committed to the bilateral talks going on at international level. Bilateral as well as multilateral talks are going on with the regional groups. Above all, India is fully

cooperating with the United Nations to combat terrorism and such extremist activities.

Madam, I endeavour to imbibe the essence of H.E. Madam President's Address exhorting everyone to partake in this campaign against terror, however, I am of the opinion that after concerted introspection and experience, we find asking ourselves a question as to whether many people, including those of our country, harbour some malafide intention and give shape to them in the form of these activities. May be we are using such elements to score political gains. That is why I am saying "Na idhar udhar ki tu baat kar, yeh bata ki kafila kyon luta, mujhe rahjauno ki fikar nahin, teri rahbari ka sawal hai." It is a serious question which we should ask ourselves. We should ask as to whether we shall divide this country only for votes, whether naxalism would never end, whether terrorism would continue to strike, whether we will indulge in mudslinging and whether modifying these definitions would put an end to our cultural values? The people of the country want to do away with terrorism. They want to breathe freely in an atmosphere of freedom, free of any fear. The U.P.A. Government has made this commitment which gets reflected in H.E. President's Address.

Madam, this Government should be congratulated for the programmes launched during its previous tenure as well as for its future agenda. These have been covered in the President's Address. Even last time a change had been witnessed. There was no change in the India shining, however, I would like to quote hon. Manmohan Singh ji. He said that

[English]

"...A change in the manner in which this country is run, a change in the national priority and a change in the process and focus of the Government..."

[Translation]

This change came about by making common man a medium for it. The Government made commendable efforts

to maintain the growth rate of 7-8 per cent, focused on universal access to quality basic education and health, gainful employment and promoting investment, assurance of hundred days employment and minimum wages to every family was given the shape of a law, progress was made by focusing on agricultural rural development and infrastructure, we not only talked about it but we marched ahead forwards fiscal consolidation and reforms and brought efficient fiscal revolution. I would felicitate the Government for not allowing the economic growth rate to fall below 9 per cent for three years during the last 5 years and to maintain 7.4 growth rate in such a difficult time which is a big achievement. Big efforts were made to raise the standard of living of people and that is why per capita income rose to 7.4 percent per annum. There is a noticeable change in the standard of living of people. It is a great achievement in itself and efforts have been made to realize the dreams of Gandhiji and Nehruji alongwith giving shape to the slogan of 'Garibi Mitao of Indiraji'. It also fulfills the dreams of Rajivji.

Madam, the fiscal deficit of 4.5 percent of the year 2003-04 has been reduced to 2.7 and the revenue deficit of 3.6 percent for the year 2007-08 has been reduced to 1.2 percent. Much improvement was achieved in growth rate after focusing on the direction and conditions prevailing in the country, but, suddenly the world economy were hit as if by a storm. The U.S. and European countries witnessed a huge economic slowdown, it definitely cast its spell on the Indian economy but thanks to the efforts to the U.P.A. Government and Soniaji in particular who showed their far sightedness and came up with a scheme like NREGA. Manmohanji and Chidambaramji showing their economic expertise saved the country from this slowdown. This economic slowdown was referred to by H.E. Madam President in her Address that the pace of growth registered in the last five years got retarded for a few days. We are committed to provide food to poor people. We are committed to provide them employment opportunities in right earnest. We are committed to provide health services to the people, we are committed to give

the agricultural growth a fillip. It cannot be denied that the growth has increased during the past years, whether it is export growth which has reached the level of 26.4% or foreign trade which has risen from 23.7 to 35.5 and it was an achievement in itself.

Madam, the country and particularly the Congress Party knows it because it is the party of the poor, the farmer and the common man. Notwithstanding the numerous efforts of the Government, we have to pass through this phase.

A correct and practical approach is needed in this regard and therefore the decision taken by the Government are important in themselves. I think that the decision taken in regard to taxes with immediate effect is a big achievement. Alongwith it, I would like to say that we have been saved by Nehruji's vision for public sector, Indiraji's vision for ownership of bank and Rajiv Gandhi's vision for private sector. But the most pragmatic of the steps like NREGA, Sixth Pay Commission and our system have saved us. I would like to submit a fact reminding my colleagues from the NDA and the communist parties who constantly complain about our weak economic condition and about the recession as if it were not workable that during the regime of the NDA Government the growth rate did never cross 5.1% inspite of all efforts, while during the tenure of the UPA Government, the growth rate had been above 9 per cent for three consecutive years which is quite an achievement in itself.

Madam, we are having liquidity, purchasing power, will and resolution. As we are resolute enough, we do not just run away on seeing the storm, *i.e.* adverse conditions but wait for sometime to let it settle down and try to move towards a new direction with a new resolution. Today, as the hon'ble President has indicated that we need to have a relook at the textile sector and our other resources, and as well as interest rates by RBI. The UPA Government have gone through a very difficult time. I would like to remind that there was a huge gap between the present prices of crude oil and its prices when the UPA Government had come to power, but despite that, our

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

Government has in a way checked the price rise. I would like to say that repeated mention of price-rise at a time when the entire world is going through a recession would be injustice to us and the country. Presently, we make a fresh start in the new circumstances and I am sure that the vision of our Prime Minister, hon'ble Minister of Finance and the sensible thinking of Sonia Gandhiji will definitely give us a new direction. I would like to quote Sonia Gandhiji:—

[English]

"To be equitable, economic growth has to be sustainable. To be sustainable, economic growth has in turn to be all-inclusive. All-inclusive is no longer the greatest good of the greatest number. It is actually Sarvodaya or the rise of all."

[Translation]

It means that growth should be faster and increasing. The Government will definitely take action in this regard. Hon'ble President has definitely made such a mention in her address. The Congress has always taken the villages, the poor and the farmer alongwith it and it will do so in future also. By realising 300 per cent of growth, the UPA Government has proved that it wants the farmer to make progress. I would just like to say that the way efforts were made for farmers through National Agriculture Development Scheme or through steps like granting them more credit or waiver of Rs. 65,000 crore worth of loan of farmers and raising of their loan limit thrice of the present limit, raising the minimum support price, making investment of Rs. 25 thousand crore for National Agriculture Development Scheme, exploring new directions for agriculture, setting up Food Security Mission in the country and bringing an Act on it, prove that we will not let people sleep hungry. I would like to tell my colleagues especially from West Bengal that everybody wants that nobody should starve. We also know 'bubhukshita kim na kroti papam', which means that even a sinful act of a hungry man cannot

be considered sin and how can the Congress bear with the people sleeping hungry. The Congress is the party which even before independence had visualized dreams for the poor when they were totally neglected. Procurement has been increased, be it in respect of any kind of production, fertilizer subsidy has been provided up to Rs. one lakh crore and as far as major production is concerned, it has increased. It indicates that Anndata scheme will run and we will progress through the food security mission.

There has been a rise in production of wheat from 68 million tonnes, rice from 83 million tonnes to 96 million tonnes, cotton from 164 million tonnes to 258 million tonnes, soyabean from 68 lakh tonnes to 99 lakhs tonnes and production is increasing further also, we have got buffer stocks as well.

I do not know whether Rahulji is present in the House or not, but he said in this very House:—

[English]

"Freedom from poverty is not a matter of charity or love; it is a right."

[Translation]

The Congress Party has not forgotten it right from the very beginning. Above all, one time settlement has been mentioned in it. Our mission is moving towards providing national food security which will now come in the form of an Act. It will percolate to the people living below the poverty line through the P.D.S. and to the people of the A.P.L. category through Antyodaya Yojana.

Madam, Speaker, rural development is the basic objective behind it and that is why I would like to make a mention about NREGA in respect of rural development. Before that, I would like to submit one thing that there are three examples of how democracy and the governance of the UPA Government have reached the villages. First, about the Prime Minister in waiting. I was in a meeting,

near Begu, which is the old area of Shri Jaswant Singh. A person came there. He said that he would not remain in the BJP, because whenever he reached station to catch a train his ticket never got confirmed and he always remained in the waiting list. He said that he would like to be with them who are in power and would remain in power so he joined the Congress Party at that time itself.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sir, when I went to the interiors of that area, people were asking about you. They said, the Prime Minister himself should have visited that place. The villagers said, Madam, please do one thing, let atomic energy reach our village so that we, small farmers, may progress. Your concept of energy reached there. Before talking about the concept of NREGA, I would like to say one thing. The prices of sugar were increased during the elections, some people tried to vitiate the atmosphere and I would definitely like to make an allegation in this regard. Thirdly the NREGA has given benefit to three crore households, generated employment of 100 days for 3.4 crore people, comprising 49 percent women, 30 per cent Scheduled Castes and 25 per cent Scheduled Tribes. The total expenditure under this scheme has crossed Rs. 41,700 crore till date, 26 lakh projects are going on, due to which there has been reduction in migration. I would like to cite an example of minimum wages which are being provided for 100 days. With due apology to the leaders of the BJP, I must say that they are perfect masters, in spreading rumours and one can learn from them how to do that best. All of you are aware and witness to the fact that two-three BJP members are made to attend every meeting with a view to spread rumours and one of them would get up and say, "what about the prices of sugar"? What will happen if the prices of sugar go through the roof?

In this context, I would like to cite an example. A woman who had returned from the work under NREGA, put aside her basket, moved me a side, took the mike and spoke in my native language which meant 'do you eat sugar for 24 hours? NREGA is paying hundred rupees. So, there is no need to worry even if the prices of sugar

have increased by two or four rupees. They will come down soon.' She told that she purchase half a kilo gram sugar once a week. Then she said that there was no need to vitiate the atmosphere. NREGA has increased the daily wages upto a hundred rupees and thus it does not make a lot of difference if one has to pay two-three rupees extra. A teacher's father standing nearby said about the Sixth Pay Commission as to now his son earns ten thousand rupees. A little rise in prices, which is a general trend all over the world, may affect us but the power to fight it has also been given to us by the UPA Government. For this, Madam, I would like to thank everyone, from you to the hon. Prime Minister.

Even today, I remember some of the comments made by the newspapers on Bharat Nirman saying what Bharat Nirman will take place now?

I remember fingers were raised by the Opposition, some statements were made but Bharat Nirman is like building a nest. 'Need ka nirman' (building a nest) is part of the autobiography by Harivansh Rai Bachchan. People from U.P. understand this very well. The ideology of the Congress Party is based on bringing stability like building a nest. We march ahead with inner vision and deep thinking. While moving forward, we look back to see how far we have progressed. Bharat Nirman is to be developed by formulating a definite scheme. This scheme includes irrigation, rural roads, water supply, housing, rural electrification and rural telephone. Why should the rural areas remain deprived right from irrigation to telecom facilities? Why this discrimination? Why should the urban population enjoy all the facilities while their rural counterparts remain deprived? They do not have irrigation facilities, therefore, we should take steps in this direction. H.E. the President has said that this scheme will prove more effective in the second stage. We do believe it.

The youth is the backbone of the country today. It has been made clear that there is no shortage of work for the youth. There is Prime Minister's Employment Generation

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

Programme in which it has been mentioned that 37.30 lakh additional employment opportunities will be generated. I would like to indicate that employees are being laid off in the private companies. Through you, I urge the Government that women and youth should not be laid off.

Madam Speaker, you are sitting in front of us, Respected Soniaji and Sushmaji are also present here alongwith other sisters. I always feel to make this point whenever the issue regarding women is raised. If we discuss the achievements of women during the last five years, they have attained the highest position in the country and even reached into space. A women has led the passing out parade, a women commission has been constituted domestic violence bill and Inherent Property Right Bill have been brought and a law has been enacted on rape. We have got some constitutional rights also and some special laws have been enacted in the Parliament from time to time. Article 14, 15, 15 (3), 16, 16 (1), 39, 42, 51 (a), 51 (2) of the Constitution intend to protect to women. Besides, special acts like Immoral Trafficking Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, Indecent Prohibition of Women Act, Sati Prevention Act, Prohibition of Women from Domestic Violence Act have also been enacted. Indian Penal Code and ICPr is also there. There are some judgements of the Supreme Court, which have been implemented as laws. I will quote a couplet of mine-"Jane Quon Hum Vanhi Khare Hain, Taize Kadam to Hum Bhi Calain, Aur Dono Bajju Kat Kar Chalthey Ja Rahey Hain." Today there is no law to protect mentally retarded women. Although a scheme has been put in place for the rehabilitation of rape victims but no legislation has been enacted. Through you, I would request the Government to intervene and get it passed immediately. Today, Women from 3 to 80 years of age become victims of rape in broad daylight. Then she is thrown out of her house. That is why UPA Government laid the foundation of the Act last time. The Commission on women was assigned the task to draft or amend the legislations in this regard and send it to the Government. The Government is contemplating on all such acts

including PNDT Act which should be enacted. Five things are required for this:— (i) Stringent law, (ii) a sensitive administration (iii) awareness programmes (iv) role of civil society and (v) role of the media. All these five points should be implemented together.

Madam Speaker, Her Excellency, Madam President has stated at the end of her Address that we shall dream of and look forward to a new India in the schemes coming in the next ten years. We must dream and achieve the same. Be it urban renewal or economic reforms. I would request that social auditing and gender auditing are every important. We had met hon'ble Chidambaramji and requested him to conduct gender auditing since as long as gender auditing is not done nothing else can be achieved. Similarly there is a need for social auditing. Hon'ble Madam President has mentioned about monitoring. I would like to urge that it should be done in case of the states. Rajasthan and almost all the other states are an example of how State Governments misuse the funds allocated to them by the Union Government.

It is necessary to specially monitor those States and particularly the States which are not governed by Congress Party...*(Interruptions)* I would like to convey my ...*(Interruptions)* to the House because Congress Party knows how to run the administration. Congress Party knows how to rule, Congress Party fulfills its commitments and Congress Party know how to reach to the public. These people merely get votes and reach here. Therefore, they should understand the difference between various parties and support the UPA Government. Her Excellency had mentioned yesterday that everyone should support us so that we can build a beautiful India where there will be quality, cooperation, communal harmony, progress and development.

I will conclude my speech with a couplet.

"Yeh chirage jaise lamhe kahi rayaga na jaye  
(kahi khatam na ho jaye)  
Koi khwab dekh dalo koi inqalab lao".

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Thrissur) : Madam Speaker, I second and support the motion moved by Dr. Girija Vyas, expressing the gratitude of this august House to the hon. President of India for Her Excellency's speech to the Members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together, on the 4th June.

Madam, the speech of the hon. President of India is the best compliment to the unflinching faith of the common man of India in the democratic process, and also to the strong resolve of Her Government to change the life of the *āam aadmi*.

The multifarious programmes that are announced in Her speech, which are going to be implemented in the next 100 days and also in the next 365 days, are going to transform the face of the rural India. Indeed it is our bounden duty of this newly elected Parliament and the Government that represent this Parliament to fulfil the aspirations of over a billion people, that is almost one-sixth of humanity.

We are here today because we had a Government which functioned and a Government which performed. I know that before the results of the election were announced, there was a propaganda that India was going to face another crisis and that nobody is going to have a majority. Many were dreaming that they could become the Prime Minister by default. But today, we have to salute the common sense of the common man of India, who beyond anybody's expectations, voted for a strong Government and voted for a working Government for the next five years.

The media was full of news that the Congress was going to meet its end and the UPA was going to be routed; this kind of propaganda was defeated by the common man. Today we are, with confidence, looking at the world; we are introducing programmes by which we can raise the standard of the poor in this country. What we need is an

India where our children can have a better life than what we had.

While discussing about the programmes, it is worthwhile to go back into the history, a little bit reverse, and see what happened during the last five years. In 2004, the 14th General Elections produced a hung Parliament. Nobody had a majority; and the world was looking down upon India, saying that democracy is going to be finished and nobody was going to have a strong Government in the country. It was the statesmanship and the farsightedness of Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the UPA leaders that led UPA to victory and formed the Government in this country. The Prophets of Doom were giving a forecast that this is not going to last.

But today the history will testify that Dr. Manmohan Singh's Government in the last five years was one of the most effective and the most functional Government in the history of this country. Many programmes were implemented which have taken our country to greater heights.

Today, the world is facing an economic crisis. What is the position of our economy and our country? Even during this worst period, our country has attained seven per cent growth rate which is second only to China. In the last five years, the average rate of growth of this country was 8.5 per cent. This is a fact and nobody can dispute that. I would like to remind the hon. Members of the Opposition that during the "India Shining" days also India's growth rate was only 5.8 per cent but during the last five years, India could achieve an 8.5 per cent growth rate and that is the reason why there is a strong Government and working majority today. Without any pressure from any side, this Government can implement the programmes. That kind of a situation has emerged. When the Government came out with its programmes, a lot of pressures were there and a lot of challenges were there before the Government. But today, the people of this country have found an answer to all these kinds of uncertainties. To end this uncertainty, the people have given a clear-cut mandate.

[Shri P.C. Chacko]

While going into the programmes implemented by the previous UPA Government, we could come to the conclusion why people of India have voted for the UPA in this election. In the last five years, the programmes implemented by the UPA Government have no parallel in the recent history. Major achievements of the UPA Government were claimed by many. In fact, we had a Common Minimum Programme in the past. We were having some friends supporting from outside and we were having Parties within the Government. But we believe the basics of the Common Minimum Programme were there in the Congress manifesto in the beginning. Of course, we had discussed it with all the Parties and we had drawn up a Common Minimum Programme. But the major achievements of the Government produced positive results in the country. The Right to Information Act was passed by the last Government. The common man who elects the Government is the super-power in this country. But under the Official Secrets Act, the common man was not allowed to have the information. Now there is a legal provision called the Right to Information Act passed by this august House. As per that law, every citizen in this country is entitled to get all the information regarding the decision taken process in the country.

Like that, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act was passed by the UPA Government. Today, we see its affects in the villages. There is 100 days guaranteed employment and there is 100 days assured wages whether one is male or female. There is no discrimination. On this major Scheme, hundreds and thousands of crores of rupees are being spent. The hon. President has made a very categorical statement in her speech that this is going to be a widespread programme and would spread throughout the country and that the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act is going to be widened. It is going to be implemented throughout the country. The commitment of this Government is that whatever be the

expenditure on account of that, this Government is going to implement it in its full measure.

About the Bharat Nirman project, Dr. Girija Vyas has explained it and I am not going into the details. Mahatmaji had said that India lives in its villages. The development of the rural India as far as infrastructural field is concerned, is well taken care of by the Bharat Nirman project. The National Rural Health Mission is for the poor people of this country. Their health standard is being taken care of. Today, 90 per cent of the programmes which are being implemented by the State Governments are programmes either under the Rural Employment Guarantee Programme or under the National Rural Health Mission. The Sarva Siksha Abhiyan was introduced by the UPA Government. Even for the text books of the primary schools which are being printed throughout the country, money is going from Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.

Funds are provided by the UPA Government through the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan for primary education and facilities are being created throughout the country. If you go through the previous budget, you may find that there is a five fold increase in the provision of funds for this kind of programmes. When you analyse the major strength of our growth rate, you may find that the investment in agriculture has been increased by four-fold. Today, the investment in agriculture and investment in education mean that we are guaranteeing growth rate in this country.

Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission is transforming the face of the urban cities of India. An amount of Rs. 50,000 crore is going to be spent for the urban development projects. A unique scheme is being drawn out under this project. Madam, to add to that, this Government is envisaging and the President of India has made it very clear that we want a slum-free India. Indira Awas Yojana is being implemented more effectively in this country. In addition to this, Rajiv Awas Yojana is going to be implemented to rebuild the slums and provide better accommodation for the slum dwellers in this country.

Very prestigious and immediate steps are being taken by the Government regarding the immediate challenges that we are facing. Today, terrorism is a threat to this country. How are we going to face terrorism? This is the question we asked this Government. Madam, we have no doubt about it and we have made it very clear that internal security and zero tolerance towards terrorism is the policy of this country. I have heard criticism especially from the side of the BJP that this Government is not having a strong will to face terrorism. I have highest regard and respect to our former External Affairs Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh who is present here. But I remember the days when India's Foreign Minister was destined to travel with a terrorist to Kandahar and surrender to the threats of a foreign power. But today, what we find is that our country is targeted by many people and we know that our national leaders were martyrs to this evil of terrorism. What happened in last November in Mumbai? What is the resolve that the Government of India has shown in tackling terrorism? This Government has decided with all its might in command that we are going to face terrorism. It is not in words but in deeds we have shown it very clearly in the last November attack in Mumbai.

The Communal Harmony Bill was passed by the last Lok Sabha. We are going to implement it in full measure. Communal harmony is our greatest target. We have given clear cut ideas for strengthening and modernising the Armed Forces.

For the last many years, there has been a demand that one-rank-one-pension scheme should be implemented and the hon. President in her speech has made it very clear that, at the Cabinet Secretary's level, the matter is receiving highest attention of the Government of India and it is our resolve that we are going to do justice to this demand.

We are today a power in the IT field. How we can make use of our capacity, knowledge and our reach in the IT sector for the improvement of the common man? Today,

a unique identity card is going to be provided for every citizen of this country. It is such an elaborate scheme and this Government has decided to implement it in a time-bound manner.

Natural calamities have to be tackled. Today, Shri Basu Deb Acharia was trying to raise an issue in this House. I think he has missed out the beginning paragraphs of the speech of the hon. President. While starting her speech, the hon. President has expressed her deepest sympathies to the cyclone victims of West Bengal. Madam, it is not only sympathies but she also has very clearly said that the Government will extend all possible succour to the cyclone affected people of West Bengal.

Madam, may I bring to the notice of this House that there were Press Reports even yesterday. . . .  
(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Chacko, I have to request you to stop for a little while. You can resume later. Hon. Prime Minister will introduce his Council of Ministers.

...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

## INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH) :  
Madam, with your permission, I wish to introduce to you and, through you, to the august House the Members of the Council of Ministers.

### Cabinet Ministers

Shri Dayanidhi Maran	Minister of Textiles
Shri A. Raja	Minister of Communications and Information Technology
Shri M.K. Alagiri	Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

**Ministers of State**

Shri S.S. Palanimanickam Minister of State in the  
Ministry of Finance

Shri D. Napoleon Minister of State in the  
Ministry of Social Justice and  
Empowerment

Dr. S. Jagathrakshakan Minister of State in the  
Ministry of Information and  
Broadcasting

Shri S. Gandhiselvan Minister of State in the  
Ministry of Health and Family  
Welfare

12.02 hrs.

**MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S  
ADDRESS – Contd.**

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri P. C. Chacko, please  
continue your speech.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Thrissur) : Madam, even  
yesterday's newspapers reported that in the relief camps  
in West Bengal where the cyclonic-affected people were  
housed, not even drinking water, food and medicines are  
available. I do not know what is happening there. But the  
proclamation of the Central Government and the  
Rashtrapatiji's speech has promised a big relief to the  
people. Our sympathises go to the bereaved families of  
West Bengal. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur) : We appreciate  
that. What we demand is that the Government should  
declare it as a national calamity. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. C. CHACKO : It is true. But at least you try  
to provide drinking water in the camps. It is the  
responsibility of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded except  
what Shri Chacko says.

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you are  
a senior Leader. You can advise your colleagues in a  
situation like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri Chacko, please address the  
Chair.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I wish Achariaji, a senior leader  
of the CPI (M) advises his colleagues there to provide at  
least the drinking water. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except  
what Shri Chacko says

*(Interruptions)...\**

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : If what I have said provoked  
Shri Achariaji, I am sorry. But these are facts and facts  
cannot be suppressed.

Madam, hundred days' programme is clearly men-  
tioned in our Rashtrapatiji's speech and Dr. Girija Vyas  
has aptly explained it. I would like to reiterate only one  
point here. It cannot be over-emphasized about the early  
passage of the Women Reservation Bill in the Parliament  
in the next 100 days. Madam, we have witnessed in this  
House as to how many times at the time of introduction  
of this Bill, this Bill was seized from the hon. Minister and  
it was being thrown away in the well of this House. We  
have seen it a number of times. The whole country was  
watching with great tension and great anxiety as to what  
was happening in this House. Today, we are happy that  
the wisdom of the people of this country will prevail and

\*Not recorded

without any hindrance and without anybody's threat, this House is in a position to pass the Bill.

Madam, 51 per cent of the population is women. If anybody thinks that they can be suppressed and they can be kept at this level always, this country is not going to accept it. The UPA and the Congress has a declared policy. Women's rights will be given back to them. We are extremely happy and grateful to hon. Rashtrapatiji that it is mentioned in the Address.

We cannot but remember late Shri Rajiv Gandhi sitting throughout the night in this House and passed the 73rd and 74th (Amendments) Bills giving 33 per cent reservation to women.

I do not want to mention anybody's name. But some of the so-called progressive parties also did not support Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Bill at that time. But Shri Rajiv Gandhi's determination prevailed and that Bill was passed. Today, 40 per cent elected representatives in this country are women in the Panchayati Raj System. This Government has decided that 50 per cent representation would be given to the women in the Panchayati Raj System. At least, with all the political differences, I wish all the parties in this House join to support this move of 50 per cent reservation in the Panchayati Raj System. We have declared it unambiguously that the Sixteenth General Election in this country would be held with this new legislation passed and 33 per cent of women's representation would be there.

Madam, fortunately, in this House, we have the maximum women's representation with 59 Members out of the 543 Members. But, for the next Lok Sabha election, if we are able to witness this Lok Sabha, we can feel happy that this Government is going to give 33 per cent representation to the women. I would fervently request all those who had reservations that our sisters deserve this and we should not stand in the way of this Government's resolve to pass this Bill. Like that, a number of programmes for women's upliftment are there like their share in the

Central Government services, the National Mission for Empowerment of Women for the implementation of women-centric programmes. These kinds of programmes are there for us to implement. This is a pro-poor programme. This Government's thrust is on pro-poor measures.

We have been very badly criticised since 1991. I remember that in 1991 when I came to this House for the first time as a Member, Shri Narasimha Rao was sitting where Dr. Manmohan Singh is sitting now. At that time, Dr. Manmohan Singh was piloting a Bill. In 1991, India was in a debt trap. Nobody was prepared to give us a small loan – whether it was the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank. I repeat nobody was prepared to give a small loan. No country was coming to our rescue. We built brick by brick this country, a country which was in a shambles. Today, think of the position where we are. We do not need anybody's support. We do not want any World Bank Loan or anybody's assistance. We can stand on our own legs. The reforms which have been implemented since 1991 to this day are consistently being opposed. We can understand if anybody is opposing it ideologically. Why should one not think of the necessity, the needs of this country? Those who have reservations about the policies should think of them.

Madam, I want to remind this House of one thing. When this House dispersed last time, there were more than 60 Members in the Left Front. Today, they have come back. They are keeping their flags high; their ideological position uncompromised. They have the right to criticise everybody in the world. But they have come back with 24 Members to the House after this election! Why is this happening? Should we not realise what the people of this country want?

Madam, our foreign policy was attacked like anything especially from the place where I am coming. They criticised that we surrendered the foreign policy. ...(*Interruptions*) India is pursuing a foreign policy not

[Shri P.C. Chacko]

dictated by anybody. It is the legacy of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru; it is his heritage. We have not compromised with it. It does not mean that we should fight with every country in the world. All the Super Powers in the world today are our friends. Not only the Super Powers but all the countries in the world are our friends. We have no enemies. That is what Gandhiji taught us. We have no enemies in the world. We have only friends. Somebody does not want India to progress. We signed the Nuclear Agreement with America. What was the reaction? Those who supported this Government from outside, those who were with us for four-and-a-half years chose that opportunity. They decided that we were going with America and hence they withdrew the support given to us. But the Government did not fall. The people re-elected that Government with a resounding victory. What does it mean? Are they ready to correct their mistakes? Today, we have entered into an agreement not only with America but we have a Nuclear Agreement with Russia, we have a Nuclear Agreement with Germany and we have a Nuclear Agreement with France also. We have more friends in the world today. Friends, do you want India to be isolated in the comity of nations in the world? In the world, if somebody wants India to be isolated, India to be without friends, if that is anybody's dream, he should realize that the people of this country have given a befitting reply for that. I wish, at least, they rethink of it. India will not compromise its interests. Our foreign policy will not be compromised. My dear friends, please understand this.  
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : All the interruptions will not go on record. Please do not disturb the House.

(Interruptions)...\*

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri Chacko, please address the Chair.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I can understand their anxiety.

Those who could not even do justice to the freedom movement of this country, if they feel that they have done some mistakes — mistakes can happen to any party, mistakes can happen to anybody — my only wish is that they correct themselves. The people of this country are giving them an opportunity. If they do not open their eyes and see the reality, it is their mistake.

Madam, India is prospering now. God willing, if we see the future of this country after 10 years, it will be totally different and better. About 70 per cent of the Members of this House are youngsters. So the majority of the Members of this House will see the future after 10 years as to what is going to happen in this country. There will be an India free from hunger, an India free from unemployment and India free from all the problems that we are facing today. That is the pace with which we are progressing now. If anybody is trying to obstruct that, the people will not forgive them. The people of this country are with this Government. This Government, with a strong determination and will, will implement all the programmes announced by the President.

There are various flagship programmes which have been implemented over the last five years. More provision is going to be made for these programmes in the Budget which we are going to have within the next few weeks. So all the flagship programmes will continue. In addition to that, the new programmes announced by the President are going to be part of this progress.

Madam, we have just completed the greatest exercise of our democracy, that is elections to the House of the People. The President has said that this is a festival of democracy. About 70 crore people of this country have participated in this democratic process. This is the largest functional democracy in the world with one billion people. Should they fail? Can we allow them to fail? The history will not forgive those who are standing in the way of progress and those who are trying to throw a spanner in the machine. This cannot be allowed. So, this Government,

with all its determination and all its ongoing programmes and the new programmes that have been announced by the President, will see to it that India marches ahead from what it is today to greater heights.

I would like to say that it is our bounden duty to pass this Motion of Thanks unanimously. I do not know what will be the stand that is going to be taken by various parties here. We have political differences. The BJP always thinks about a narrow communal nationalism, but we are liberal nationalists. So we have differences. The Communists think that they are always right, but the people told them that they are always wrong.

We have a situation where we all have to come together on certain basic things and that is about the development programmes that are going to be implemented for the welfare of the people of this country. If anybody can convince us that any of the programmes announced by the President is wrong, we are ready to admit with folded hands. Otherwise, they should also admit their mistake.

This is a new era which has just started. After the last five years, it is continuity for the next five years. That is what the common man of this country has decided. When all the psephologists, astrologists and political pundits were forecasting doom for the Congress and the UPA, the people of this country brought back the Congress and the UPA. That is the wisdom of the common man. It is much bigger than the calculations and predictions made by the political pundits.

So, the programmes announced by the hon. President will take India to greater heights. They are for our future; they are for our children and so let us not quarrel on small technicalities and try to stop these programmes. This is the beginning of this Lok Sabha and I wish that all the parties, with all their participation, come together to pass this Motion of Thanks unanimously so that we rise to the expectations of the common man of this country who have given a resounding victory to the UPA and the Congress.

They have given a mandate for a stable Government for the next five years, assuring the progress of one billion people of this country.

MADAM SPEAKER : Motion moved:—

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

'That the Members of the Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which she has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on June 4, 2009.'

Hon. Members whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi) : Madam, there are a large number of amendments given by many of us and if you give only 15 minutes for the hon. Members to press and move, I think it will not be a proper time as it is too short a period.

[Translation]

You say something about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : This is according to rules and that is 15 minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar) : Madam Speaker, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on her Excellency, the President's Address. Shri Chacko said in the last line

[Shri L.K. Advani]

of his speech, "I hope that this Motion of Thanks will be passed unanimously". It has been a tradition of the House that the Motion of thanks is always supported even amendment to the address are moved saying that "I regret that there is no mention about so and so issue." But the whole House always supports the Motion of Thanks and that is passed unanimously.

Madam Speaker, today it is the first debate of this Lok Sabha which is being chaired by you. This is for the first time when a lady has been elected as the Speaker of the House which is an unprecedented incident in the history of Parliament and with a single step two objectives of women empowerment and social empowerment have been achieved. As I said the day before yesterday. I can not forget those days when I had an opportunity to work with your late father in the cabinet. We all were impressed with this extraordinary administrative skills. He never made any delay in taking decision. He took quick decisions in the matters promoting the interests of the country, society and the nation.

This is the first session of the 15th Lok Sabha. While delivering my first speech on this occasion, I would like to extend my congratulations to Dr. Manmohan Singh that he has emerged as the Prime Minister of the country in these elections. I would also like to congratulate all, including the leader of the House Shri Pranab Mukherjee, UPA's chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi that the 2009 elections gave them a mandate, which is larger than the mandate of the year 2004. Even though, it was not so clear a mandate due to which some people had expressed their apprehensions about the outcome. However, we should never forget that it was none other than Shri Rajiv Gandhi who perhaps got the biggest mandate in 1984. That was the biggest mandate so far.

I do not remember if ever Paridit Nehru or Indiaji had more than 400 members of Parliament with them, while Rajivji had this majority but despite this fact the results of

the next elections were just the opposite to the previous one. In this manner those elections gave warning signal to each Government that the next results can be different even after securing such a big majority because the people remain vigilant at all times about the performance of the Government. It happens often in India, I am not talking about 1984 and 1989 elections alone.

I always believe that India has presented a unique example in making parliamentary democracy successful all over the world. When we adopted it in 1950, the political analysts and the scholars of that time, particularly from the west, had expressed their apprehensions about the success of the parliamentary democracy saying that India lacked basic required conditions. People are not literate and educated here. They used to laugh at us saying that millions of people are illiterate here who know nothing. People also used to say that practically all other parties are smaller parties in India. Undoubtedly, no party could have the status of a recognized opposition party in this Parliament *i.e.* Lok Sabha for years together because minimum 54 Members are required for a party to become a recognized opposition party, which could not be attained in the post. Despite all these facts, the way India has successfully managed to run the parliamentary democracy for the last 60 years has established our credibility in the whole world and I believe that the 2009 elections have further enhanced this credibility.

Our democracy is worth mentioning not only for the reason that it is the largest democracy of the world having such large number of voters, but also for the fact that it is a live democracy where the people deliver their verdict after giving great thought. I will not use this opportunity for analyzing the outcome of these election. This is not a proper time to do so. In this regard, I had said just one line that it is the verdict of the people, it is the mandate of the people, *[English]* it is a mandate for stability and it is a mandate for bi-polarity *[Translation]* I can analyse it, but now I will talk only about stability. This time it is not such a stability as Rajiv Gandhi Government had got, yet

this Government have got more or less some stability. This trend underlines stability. I wish it to continue.

I believe that the people have apprehensions about the stability of the alliances that are formed in India. That is why people vote for the alliance that seems to be stable and if it does not seem to be stable, people tend to vote for some stable party. Sometimes people ask me as to what is the main achievement of my party in the whole history. I believe that the achievement of my party has been in the sense that the Constitution of India was enacted in 1950, my party was formed in 1951 and the first general elections were held in 1952 in which our party could win only three seats.

Bhartiya Janasangh won only three seats under the leadership of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. Even then, consciously, he formed a National Democratic Front comprising of several parties in the first Lok Sabha. It was the first attempt to constitute my alliance. At that time he used the word-National Democratic Front. Later, when a coalition Government under Vajpayeeji was formed with the support of several parties, we used the word "Alliance" instead of 'Front' and then we called it National Democratic Alliance. The common people remain vigilant about it as to whether we will remain stable or not. I may criticize the Marxists to any extent, but their left front is a fully stable alliance. They work with stability in a proper manner, I believe it. But I have a complaint against them that when they supported the Congress Party in 2004, they did not do so for the reason that they wanted to continue with the Government permanently but they wanted to influence their policies and decisions and at the same, their approach was negative, aimed at preventing the main opponent party BJP from forming the Government. It is okay, but they had never supported like this in the past except in 2004. That is why I told them and their colleagues then that their ally CPI had once made the same experiment earlier in the past and they had to pay for it and now the CPI (M) had to pay for supporting like this. But, it was their negative approach, otherwise, they could have told them at that time

that they would oppose their friendship with US. They could have told Dr. Manmohan Singhji at that time itself.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We had told them at that time itself. We had supported the Common Minimum Programme, and this thing was not included in it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Whatever they said is known to all. The country has given its verdict on the basis of it. But yes, stability has its own importance. That is why, I would like to tell the Ministers sitting on treasury benches *[English]* Stability is not for itself. Stability is for good performance; Stability is for good governance; Stability is for development; and Stability is also for security. *[Translation]* I have used the same three words that we had been using during the whole campaign. *[English]* It is Good Governance, Development and Security. These are the three things. *[Translation]* We have no monopoly, nor we have any copyright on it. *[English]* But these are touchstones which make the voters judge whether we have made this Government a stable Government. Are they discharging their duty accordingly? So, they will be watching it closely.

*[Translation]*

Today on this occasion I would only like to say that we are in opposition. Our number has decreased in comparison to our earlier position. Last time our strength was 138, this time it is 116. However, I would like to say that even 116 is a good strength. It is true that they have got more than 200 seats, but they have not got clear majority. Earlier the Congress Party used to get clear majority. Now this number is nowhere near the majority achieved by Rajivji. Therefore, I would request that.

*[English]*

Let this election and this 15th Parliament be a new beginning of Government-Opposition relations.  
...*(Interruptions)*

[Shri L.K. Advani]

[Translation]

Let a new relationship develop between the Government and the Opposition and it will certainly have bearing on the proceedings of the House. From the indications which I have got, it appears to me that perhaps a new relationship will certainly begin.

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal) : Do you mean only with the BJP? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I mean the 'Opposition'. I am talking of Government-Opposition relations. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Not bi-polar but it should be multi-polar. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Shri Gurudasji, please sit down.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : It is a multiple democracy, multi-party democracy.

But the poles are two. I would say...*(Interruptions)* Just as in West Bengal, there are two poles – the Marxists and the Congress. We are not there. But on the national level, the two poles admitted by everyone are the Congress and the BJP.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : That is your interpretation...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Mr. Dasgupta, please. You can speak, when your turn comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : He should accept this fact, earlier he never accepted it.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Mr. Advani, the election results are against the bipolar system...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Mr. Basu Deb Acharia, you can speak when your turn comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not propose to have a lecture today on the growth and development of the Indian democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*

I have seen the evolution.

I do not know,

[Translation]

it can be Pranabji. I am the member who had participated as a campaigner in 1952 elections. I have taken active participation in elections from the year 1952 to 2009. I have been the evolution of our democratic system. Therefore, as I have said, when Dr. Mukherjee constituted the National Democratic Front, at first, we failed to understand as to how the front would work. Since ours was the 3 member party, we roped in the support of Democratic Front of Orissa and Akali Dal of Punjab and in the course of time entered into an agreement with the Akali Dal, formed a coalition Government of Justice Gurnam Singh.

[English]

All these processes I have known.

[Translation]

Dr. Lohia, Jai Prakash Narayan, Dr. Mukherjee, Deendayal Upadhyay were those great men who had noted that if a single party remains in power for a long time in the country then democracy would not develop. Therefore, we adopted a systematic approach to break the hegemony and monopoly of rule of the Congress Party.

Finally, we succeeded in breaking the monopoly of the Congress Party and that is why bi-polar polity emerged in India. There was a time in 1984 when only two BJP members could make it to the Parliament. However by 1998, we emerged as the single largest party in the House and were able to form our own Government. We ruled the country for 6 long years. I would only like to say.

*[English]*

Let the Government do its duty. The Opposition — my party and the NDA — will do our duty together. My only submission is that together we can certainly see to it.

*[Translation]*

Thus, we may be able to fulfill our ambition — the ambition of all of us including the people of the country — that this century becomes India's Century since the year 2009 is only the beginning of the long century.

*[English]*

That this century becomes India's century. It should be our common goal and we shall achieve it. It is quite possible without any difficulty.

Having expressed my broad approach to the whole issue of the President's Address, I would like to deal with some of the issues, particularly security as security has been a major consideration with us.

*[Translation]*

Recently, an incident occurred and hon'ble Girija Vyasji, while moving the Motion of Thanks said "I read the speech of Advaniji and I agree with it". I felt that the incident which took place on 26.11.2008 in Mumbai was not an ordinary incident, it was not an ordinary terrorist attack.

Madam, we have been witnessing terrorist attacks for last many years. The people of our country after watching 26/11 terrorist incident on television continuously for 3 days, came to the conclusion that this is not an ordinary incident.

*[English]*

This is an invasion of the country. This is a kind of war that we are witnessing.

*[Translation]*

At least we got this impression from the television. We have been constantly saying that Pakistan, after getting defeated in three wars, has changed its strategy and adopted the strategy of proxy war.

*[English]*

Terrorism is nothing else but a proxy war which Pakistan is waging against us after having been worsted in three major wars.

*[Translation]*

After this General Zia decided not to wage war directly rather war should be fought indirectly through terrorism. I feel that this 26/11 incident has made the whole world realize this fact.

We should take notice of the fact that the master-mind of 26/11 incident was Hafiz. It was the result our effort that even UN Security Council, in its Resolution 1267 said that Hafiz has connection with Al-Qaida and Taliban. Pakistan had even arrested Hafiz Sayeed under international pressure however, all of a sudden he was released by the court on technical grounds since the court stated that the evidence provided in this case were inadequate. The Government of Pakistan will say that it is the judgement of the court. The Government of Pakistan will try to escape from the responsibility by saying this. I would not like to make any comment about the functioning and credibility of the courts of Pakistan. However, I would like to say that India should be confident that it has presented all the evidence it had. The Government of Pakistan had no evidence at all. UN Security Council took action again Hafiz on the basis of our evidence, but the way Pakistan presented its case in the court, Hafiz was released.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

Jamat-ud-Dava is a religious political front of Lashker-e-Taiba. The Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Chidambaramji is present in the House, I demand that the Government should share those evidence with the House which have been given to Pakistan about Hafiz and 26/11 incident. The country should also know the details of evidence given to Pakistan on the basis of which they went to court. I am sure the country will also be satisfied. We should continue to exert pressure on them, international community should also continue to exert pressure on them to take action, only then success would be achieved in this regard.

Madam, I would like to know the progress made in regard to the case of Kasab, the only person who could be held alive due to the courage and sacrifice of a police constable during the 26/11 attack. I want that there should be no delay in this case. The action should be taken expeditiously. In regard to what I have said earlier, I would also like to quote a Pakistani journalist, Yahid Hussain, who is a writer also. He has written a book entitled. 'Front line Pakistan' in which he has stated that the Laskher-e-Taiba and ISI are inseparable.

Pranabji said that the Government has achieved success in making Pakistan admit that those who come to attack were Pakistanis, but they called them non-state actors. They said that the state had nothing to do with them, they may belong to Laskher-a-Taiba, which is a terrorist organization, but the State has nothing to do with them. I cannot buy this theory that such an elaborate, dreadful and well planned terrorist attack can be executed without the knowledge of the Pakistani Government where the terrorists made their entry through the sea-route. I suspect that ISI might have planned it and particularly after reading the book written by Yahid Hussain I strongly feel that they are definitely involved in it, but I would like to know and I'm sure that the Home Minister would be able to reply because Maharashtra Government has constituted a two

member committee under Shri R.D. Pradhan to enquire into this incident. R.D. Pradhan Committee has given clean chit to the Maharashtra Government. It has given a clean chit to them and have said that if anybody is at fault, it is the Central Government Perhaps, it has happened for the first time that a committee constituted by the State Government to inquire into such a big incident, has given clean chit to the State Government. If there is any failure it is on the part of the Central Government.

[English]

Not only this Shri Chidambaram, I do not know whether you know, but I have seen a news item in *The Times of India* dated 28.05.2009 under the caption "Centre to blame for 26/11 lapse : Panel". It says:—

"During his visit to Mumbai after the terror attack, Union Home Minister P.C. Chidambaram apologized to the citizens of the State, this itself indicated lapses from the Union Government."

Now, I will not agree with what he has said, but if he has said this, it is very serious. Here is a situation where — I do not know if he is here or not — the Chief Minister of Maharashtra had to resign. The Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, who was also the Home Minister, had to resign.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I think, both of them took moral responsibility, unlike in some previous cases where nobody took moral responsibility.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Right, I understand ...(*Interruptions*) as if in the last five years anyone took moral responsibility for the numerous incidents that happened, for the Mumbai tragedy that happened! Please do not speak in that way.

I would only say that here is a situation where a formal Committee is set up by the Maharashtra Government and

this is what it says. Furthermore, not only that, it says formally:—

“The panel was approached by many of the non-official persons, but we decided not to meet any of these people. The report does not include version of the non-officials, but is based on the enquiry conducted of over 50 police officers.....”

Then, Shrimati Vinita Kamte, wife of Ashok Kamte, the police officer who was killed, has said, 'I had sought permission from the Pradhan Committee to give my evidence. I was not permitted and it has now given a clean chit to the Mumbai Police and Government.' Not only that she wanted to depose before the Committee but was not allowed to do so, she has also alleged that certain portions of the call records of the Police Control Room of November 26th were deleted.

Therefore, I come to my fourth demand which I had made earlier also, after the incident when I spoke in the House. I had said that after 9/11 in America, a Commission of Inquiry was set up and that Commission of Inquiry gave a voluminous report as to what happened and how it happened.

Most of the recommendations of that Commission of Inquiry were implemented. I would not say that there has been no terrorist incident in America only because of the implementation of those recommendations. But I would once again demand this, particularly, after the Pradhan Committee's Report and the allegations it has made against the Central Government. We know this much that the Central Government including the Prime Minister; including the then Home Minister; and including the National Security Advisor had indicated that the next terrorist attack may be from the sea. They had said it in the Parliament, and they had said it publicly. It is all the more reason that the country and the Parliament must know as to what went wrong where. How did it happen that despite these apprehensions of the Government nothing happened, and necessary steps were not taken?

A Commission of Inquiry is not against anyone. But a Commission of Inquiry is in order to find out the truth and take action for the future so that such events do not recur, and from that point of view also.

*[Translation]*

We have not taken any action in this regard so far. On this occasion when we are meeting for the first time, Chidambaramji should himself say that he is in agreement with it and recommend to the Prime Minister to constitute a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the incident in a comprehensive manner and it should also take into consideration the report of R.D. Pradhan Committee and the panel report, because on this issue the Minister of Home Affairs has to resign, the Chief Minister of the State and his colleague had to resign. My fourth demand is that it should be done.

While talking about security forces, I would definitely like to mention that I am very happy that the longstanding demand of 'One rank One Pension' of the security forces has found a mention in the President's Address. I hope that the concerned committee will submit its report by the month of June and this demand would be accepted, though it has not been mentioned that this demand has been accepted. Probably, it was not in their manifesto this time, but it would be a nice gesture if this demand is accepted and this issue is settled.

Now, I would like to talk about developmental issues which have found mention in the Address. A very nice thing has been mentioned in the Presidents' address.

*[English]*

“While male literacy went up to over 75 percent in the last census and is expected to be higher now, female literacy was only 54 percent in 2001.”

She further said:—

“My Government will recast the National Literacy Mission as a National Mission for Female Literacy to make every woman literate in the next five years.”

[Shri L.K. Advani]

*[Translation]*

I welcome this announcement. It would be appropriate because Gandhiji always used to say that educating a boy means, adding one more member to the educated class in the country, but educating a girl means adding one more family to the educated class of the country. Therefore, I welcome this declaration. Many States have taken action in their own way in regard to this. I know about those States where my colleagues are doing this work. This work requires cooperation between the Union and the States Governments. One should not care too much about who gets credit for the developmental works. It is good if a work is done, no matter whether it is done by the Union Government or the State Government. If Union Government does the work, the Centre gets the credit. If State Government does it, the State gets the credit. But no decision should be taken on the ground, as to who will get the credit. My submission is that good works must be undertaken.

After the perusal of 'Ladli Lakshmi Scheme' of the Madhya Pradesh Government, I felt that the mere mention of literacy is not enough. The girls get admitted to the school, but after that drop out rate continuously goes on increasing. 'Ladli Lakshmi' scheme was formulated to check the drop out rate. Its main purpose was to provide periodic assistance to the family in which a girl child is born right from her birth till she passes XIIth standard. They get one lakh twenty thousand rupees on her passing the XIIth standard. This scheme has given very good results. I want that the Government should implement this scheme in the entire country. It would be better for our nation. Many other States have also worked in this direction.

There is no doubt that all women are happy since you have assumed the office of the speaker. I am also very happy. When we met the hon'ble Speaker last in her

chamber, we were hopeful that the Women's Reservation Bill will be passed now. Sometimes, I feel that though this Bill had been introduced long back, but it took so many years probably because it had to be passed only after the offices of the hon'ble President and the hon'ble Speaker would have been assumed by ladies. That is why we waited so long. In regard to Women's Reservation Bill, I would like to reiterate the stand of my party that whenever the Government brings this Bill we will support it wholeheartedly. I am happy that my party has implemented this. I do not know what the Government would do in this regard but we have implemented this in our party in our own way at the level of office bearers, party units, committees etc.

The issue of education was being discussed here. In connection with education, I would like to reiterate that there was a time when literacy meant making people familiar with alphabets. Now we should understand that the concept of literacy has changed.

*[English]*

It has to be not only a familiarity with the alphabets, but literacy has also come to mean IT literacy, has to mean computer literacy.

*[Translation]*

It means acquainting every child, every student with a computer in the school. We are all aware that children in our families are more techno-savvy than ourselves. This is a fact and a welcome fact because literacy has come to imply this wider sense and this should be formally introduced in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The country will benefit if we can propagate this concept far and wide across the country through the medium of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. However Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan also finds a mention in it though it was introduced by Dr. Joshi during the NDA Government. I welcome the fact that 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' has been mentioned. I would like to

suggest that schemes should be formulated for making optimum use of information technology in every field, be it e-governance, health-care, security and so on and so forth. We have made an effort to draft a document regarding I.T. vision of our party which can also be put to practice.

In the Address it has been mentioned that a unique identity card will be provided. This point was in my mind for a long time. However, in the Address it has not been clarified as to in what manner it will be unique. I would like to say that though it may be unique but it should be a multi-purpose card.

*[English]*

We should not have to carry separate cards for every thing.

*[Translation]*

We should not have separate cards for everything like ration card, voting card, Pan card etc. My request is that there should be only one card for everything which should be unique and multi-purpose.

This identity card is very useful particularly, from the point of view of security. This is already in vogue in many prominent countries of the world. Earlier, after seeing other countries I used to think how difficult it is to make identity card compulsory and issue it to everyone in a country having a population of more than 100 crore. Even the people will face difficulty. However now due to the invention of computer this problem has been solved. People consider wheel and electricity as first two inventions in the field of science but I feel that the third biggest invention of history is internet. Hence, it should be fully utilized for the development of the country. Not only in English it should be developed in other Indian languages also. Internet based education should be introduced at all levels.

Dr. Girija Vyas has emotionally said that the Congress Government will not tolerate that any citizen of the country sleeps on an empty stomach. It is a welcome feeling if she thinks so but according to report of the UNICEF.

*[English]*

The number of hungry in India increased from 209.5 million in 2005-06 to 230 million by the end of 2007-08.

*[Translation]*

I am not blaming anyone for this. However, I would definitely like to say that it is a matter of concern. The Union Government and all State Governments should accept this fact and ensure that no child or a person of the country goes to the bed on an empty stomach.

Madam Speaker, I remember how I had been criticised when during elections I raised the issue of black money deposited in Swiss Banks. A person who is not here, wrote a letter to me in which he alleged that I am a liar and am not telling truth. I tolerated it and also took it in my stride. Then I said that,

*[English]*

It is not a question of dimension of the loot.

*[Translation]*

However, they deposited money in foreign banks as they did not want to pay tax. It was due to the tendency of tax evasion that money was deposited there. That was illegal money and was earned by adopting corrupt means. Now what is the quantum of such money. However, the fact remains that this is an undisputed issue. I am happy that the Government has accepted this undisputed fact and filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court stating that steps are being taken to bring back that money. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER : Please sit down. It will not go on record.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The Government has accepted this by filing an affidavit in the Supreme Court. 78 thousand crore rupees of I.T. Department is outstanding against a person who is engaged in Hawala transaction in Pune.

13.00 hrs.

I am happy that many parties have supported this issue. Both C.P.M. and JDU have supported it. Not only political parties but many religious leaders having a mass following have also supported this issue. We are aware that Swami Ramdevji, who is an ace yoga practitioner, misses no opportunity to mention the issue of Indian money deposited in Swiss Bank everytime he makes a speech before thousands of his followers attending his yoga programmes. My only complaint with this Government is that though there is a mention that action will be taken in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* I came to know it yesterday. He said:

*[English]*

"My Government is fully seized of the issue of illegal money of Indian citizens outside the country in secret bank accounts; it will vigorously pursue all necessary steps in coordination with the countries concerned."

*[Translation]*

I welcome this, however, I would like to remind what the hon'ble Prime Minister stated before the journalists. I read it in the "Times of India" dated 25th April that.

*[English]*

He would include the matter of bringing back the black money salted away in tax Heavens abroad, in his 100-day action plan.

*[Translation]*

But I was surprised to see that the matter of bringing back

this back money has not been included in the Government's 100 days action plan. I said that the hon'ble Prime Minister himself said this, however, it has not been mentioned in the Government's 100 days action plan. There may be some difficulties before them. I do not know. But such difficulties are invariably faced by the Government; however, there should be some clarification in regard to that.

*[English]*

What do you propose to do? How do you propose to do it? How vigorously are you going to pursue this matter? I regard it as important. Having been responded to by the Prime Minister himself, so far as the country is concerned and having made a formal affidavit even in the Supreme Court, I am sure that this question would be addressed.

*[Translation]*

In this very context, I would like to make a mention that it has covered a number of issues but, there is no mention of corruption. Issue of terrorism has found a mention. Chackoiji has mentioned about Zero tolerance approach in regard to terrorism. He has well said that.

*[English]*

I wish that this zero tolerance approach had been adopted in respect of corruption also.

*[Translation]*

There must have been a mention of corruption with reference to reforms in governance mentioned by you. The record majority that the Congress Government attained under the leadership of Rajivji vanished in the successive elections because one of the issue was of corruption. Bofors was one of the issues on which the Government lost its mandate and then one of the Cabinet colleagues of that time deserted them to join the opposition.

I would like to discuss something about the foreign policy. The whole country is concerned about the developments in Australia. It is a matter of great concern why situation like this is emerging in Australia and why such atrocities and attacks on Indians are continuing there. One day I was watching on Television that the police were committing excesses on the demonstrating students including girls and women who have gone therefor education. The manner in which they were treated brutally, lifted and pushed is really a matter of great concern. Therefore, the country is greatly concerned over this brutality. You have expressed your concern about them. They have responded, too. But I feel that someone should go there. It would be better if a delegation, preferably, a Parliamentary delegation is sent there to take up the matter. They would be able to understand the gravity of the situation. A message will also go that the country is concerned about these development.

Our neighbourhood has been mentioned. During the last few days the situation in our neighbourhood has country deteriorated. It is fine that a new Government has been formed in Nepal. I congratulate Madhavji who has been elected the new Prime Minister of Nepal. I have personally congratulated him. I hope that it will herald the beginning of a new chapter and we will move ahead on the basis of the traditions with which Indo-Nepal relations have developed since ages. In the last few days it was felt that influence of China has been increasing. That situation was a matter of concern.

I hope this situation will change with the new Government coming to power. I have a grievance that in the Address there is no mention of unabated illegal immigration from Bangladesh. We have been keeping our eyes closed to it for years. The Supreme Court strongly condemned the Government with regard to IMDT Act; it said

*[English]*

you are in a way collaborating with foreign aggression.

*[Translation]*

Even then no steps have been taken. A new Government has been formed there and we have more friendly relations with this Government Process to normalize relations with China should continue and while doing so, it should never be felt that.

*[English]*

We are bending backwards to satisfy them.

*[Translation]*

A few days back its was reported that China is giving further assistance to Pakistan's nuclear programme. That was an alarming situation for India. Chinese very often make statements about Arunachal Pradesh. So, these are the things about which we should not remain silent. We should give a strong and befitting reaction on every issue. That is all I have to say about external affairs.

While extending my congratulations once again to Dr. Manmohan Singhji, Pranab Mukherjeeji and Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji, I would like to say that the whole country will watch how you perform in consonance with the hopes your Government have generated among the people. The country and the Parliament too, will continue to monitor all these works. I once again support this Motion of thanks.

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 14.10 p.m.

**13.07 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.12 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twelve Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) :

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about declaring Orissa as a special category State." 1

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound action plan to root out increasing moist violence in the country." 2

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about review of relations with Australia in the wake of recent attacks on Indian students in Australia." 3

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing security to Indian student who are studying abroad." 4

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about any concrete action plan to check population growth." 5

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring safety of senior citizens, women and girls in the country." 6

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting a complete check on religions conversions allegedly being carried out by allurements." 7

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about ensuring effective check on the rise in the prices of essential commodities." 8

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to ensure adequate supply of electricity to the farmers and people living in rural areas of the country." 9

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any time-bound scheme to eradicate unemployment in the country." 10

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check rising incidents to female foeticide in the country." 11

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any plan to check spurious  
drugs being manufactured and sold in the  
country." 12

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the policy guidelines for increas-  
ing the agricultural produce." 13

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time-bound plan for  
providing irrigation facilities for the agricultural  
land." 14

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any plan for providing potable  
water for all in a time-bound manner." 15

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme for modernisation of  
Police Force in the country." 16

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about modernisation of sea ports  
of Paradeep and Gopalpur in the State of  
Orissa." 17

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to deal with national  
calamities." 18

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time-bound plan for  
deportation of Bangladeshis illegally staying in  
India." 19

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to check increasing  
cases of suicide by farmers in the country." 20

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time-bound scheme to root  
out increasing terrorism in the country." 21

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to make the  
newly created National Security Agency more  
effective." 22

[*Translation*]

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about a new defence policy for the  
security of the borders of India." 32

[Dr. Bhola Singh]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the initiative taken to stop the  
heinous racial attacks on Indian students  
studying in Australia." 33

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the likely imbalance of power in  
the Indian sub-continent due to provision of  
military aid to Pakistan by America." 34

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about completing the Munghyr-Sahebpur  
Kamaal Ganga Rail Sadak Yozna in Bihar." 35

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about according a special status to  
Bihar." 36

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about providing Rs. 14 thousand  
crore for the rehabilitation of about 40 lakhs  
people displaced due to the flood in the river  
Kosi." 37

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about giving BPL status to the one crore

twenty one lakh population living below poverty  
line in Bihar." 38

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about providing kerosene oil also to the  
APL families in Bihar." 39

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about opening Barauni Petro Chemical  
factory in Bihar." 40

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the loss of crores of rupees every  
year due to floods caused by the rivers Kosi and  
Ganga Adhwar flowing from the tarai regions  
of Nepal and to construct dams over these  
rivers." 41

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about declaring the floods in Bihar as  
national calamity." 42

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about granting the economic package  
of rupees one lakh crore to Bihar." 43

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about implementation of the plan  
to install a nuclear power plant at Rajoli in  
Bihar." 44

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to re-introduce the drought relief schemes to deal with the perennial drought being faced by Bihar particularly Navada District." 45

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about slow pace of implementation of the "Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme." 46

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any proposal by the Ministry of Railways to lay double line upto Gaya-Navada-Lakhi Sarai Kyul Junction in Bihar." 47

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about situation arising due to non purchase of paddy from farmers by the procurement centres of the FCI, non payment for paddy procured corrupt procurement practices adopted by the middlemen in purchase of paddy which has forced the farmers to burn their produce in Bihar." 48

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about putting in place an effective system for paddy procurement, to ensure timely payment to farmers and to curb the illegal, arbitrary and unfair procurement practices." 49

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any Central initiative to facilitate an agreement between the Government of Bihar and Jharkhand for implementation of Upper Sakari Reservoir Irrigation Scheme." 50

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according a Central Agriculture University Status of Pusa Agriculture University, Bihar." 51

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to accord status of a Central University to Patna University." 52

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for opening up a Rail factory on the Railway land located to Garhara Yard, Barauni Junction, Bihar." 53

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about speeding up the implementation of 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sampark Sadak Yojana' in Bihar." 54

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing loan to farmers from nationalized banks at a rate of 4 per cent per annum." 55

[Dr. Bhola Singh]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to provide a pension of Rs. 200 per month to the farmers of the country." 56

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing power from the central pool to Bihar which is facing severe power shortage." 57

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to continue the foreign policy of the country which has withstood the test of time." 58

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about tackling global economic melt down affecting Indian industries and loss of jobs of lakhs of workers and employees." 59

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for affective participation by the Government in strengthening the Non-aligned Movement." 60

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to play an effective role in the United Nations." 61

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to protect Indian citizens from racial attacks in various countries." 62

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to release Indians languishing in jails in various countries." 63

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about loss of one crore jobs in India during the last one year." 64

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the guidelines for the Government in regard to liberalizing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)." 65

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to universalize Public Distribution System in the country." 66

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about the need to provide adequate food the poor people in the country." 67

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to adequately identifying the BPL section of the population." 68

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to re-define poverty line." 69

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to tackle the huge unemployment problem in the country." 70

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to pass Women Reservation Bill." 71

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to review the Centre-State relations as per the demands of the State Governments." 72

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to allot six per cent of GDP in education." 73

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to invest enough money in public sector and social sector to face the ongoing economic melt down." 74

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about amending the relevant provisions of the Unorganised Worker's Social Security Act, 2008 because of which 95% of the 43 crore unorganised workers will not get any benefit of the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 owing to conditionality of BPL attached to the related social security schemes listed in the Act." 75

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the put check on the procurement of obsolete ammunition." 76

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the urgent need for drastically revising and/or correcting the official definition of 'poverty line' which has turned totally obsolete." 77

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the innumerable cases of suicide by farmers during last few years in the 'rural India' for whom 'a new deal' is promised." 78

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to contain unprecedented rise in prices of essential commodities, vegetable and edible oil, tea and pulses in particular." 79

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about dealing with the alleged irregularities leading to huge financial loss to the Government exchequer in granting 3G spectrum." 80

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take serious steps on the disastrous impact of global show down on millions of workers who have lost their jobs, livelihood and earnings due to closure, lay off, wage-cuts, retrenchment, etc. across the sectors and also the alarming trend of sharp decline in index of industrial production." 81

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the cases of job loss of lakhs of workers engaged in diamond polishing industries in Gujarat and reported suicide of some workers in Sourashtra alone." 82

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the biggest corporate scam in independent India involving more than 7000 crores, by Satyam Computer Services." 83

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing the share of States in the Central taxes from 30.5 per cent to 50 per cent in a phased manner." 84

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any special package for the special category States to enable them to narrow down the regional disparities." 85

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a one-time Debt Relief Package by writing off all the outstanding Central Government loan including interest thereon of the North-Eastern States." 86

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for employment of unemployed youth of the Special Category States." 87

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers in the country." 88

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about illicit outflow of money to Swiss and other foreign Banks." 89

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any concrete step to control  
unabated suicides being committed by the  
farmers in the country." 90

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the need to expedite land reforms  
in the country." 91

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about universalisation of Integrated  
Child Development Scheme." 92

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about realignment of the proposed  
Trans-Asian Highways and Trans-Asian Rail-  
ways to pass through Tripura." 93

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about declaring Aila cyclone that swept  
West Bengal as a National Disaster." 94

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI (Samastipur) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about imposing ban on obscenity and  
vulgarity being published and telecast by the  
media in the country." 95

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time frame to make the  
country flood and drought free by evolving an  
effective system of Water Management." 96

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any announcement to make the  
fuels cheaper by making them tax free." 97

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time bound action plan to  
increase the share of industrial sector in the  
G.D.P. in comparison to the share of the service  
sector in the country." 98

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any policy for the economic  
growth of the weakest sections in the  
country." 99

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any policy to accord priority to  
self reliance by stepping up production based  
on indigenous development of resources in the  
country." 100

[Shri Maheshwar Hazari]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any provision of compensation to farmers for losses suffered by them particularly in Bihar due to non availability of procurement system despite fixation of support prices of food grains." 101

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about target to increase constantly declining share of agricultural sector in G.D.P. of the country in a time bound manner." 102

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about target oriented action plan at the national level for renewal and revival of conventional water harvesting system in the country." 103

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to bring comprehensive reforms in educational system to the country aimed at incorporating moral values in the curriculum." 104

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about measures to check increasing commercialization of social sector like education, health care and sanitation." 105

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address a uniform industrial policy for all industries to overcome the problem of division of industries into the SEZ and Non-SEZ areas in the country." 106

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking concrete steps for providing reservation in jobs to the handicapped people in the Government and Non-Government institutes." 107

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about making provision for unemployment allowance to the unemployed educated youths." 108

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to ensure proper implementation of Central Governments welfare schemes." 109

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about redefining the eligibility under BPL scheme so that more number of people in rural and urban areas of the country can avail the benefits of the Government's various welfare schemes." 110

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any policy for providing clean  
drinking water in the rural areas." 111

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about ensuring the supply of electricity  
in the rural areas for at least 12 hours a  
day." 112

SHRI GOVIND PRAŞAD MISHRA :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be  
*added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about details of steps taken for security  
of Indians residing abroad particularly in  
Australia in order to stop racial attacks on  
Indians." 157

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to check increasing  
terrorist/separatist activities in North-Eastern  
States." 158

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time bound scheme to  
eliminate growing terrorism in the country." 159

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any concrete scheme to provide

potable water to all the people of the country  
within a fixed period." 160

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any concrete action plan to  
control population." 161

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time bound scheme to  
modernize border posts." 162

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to prevent suicide  
being committed by farmers." 163

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about implementation of recommenda-  
tions made by Farmers' Commission for reforms  
in agriculture sector." 164

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about increasing support price of agro  
products." 165

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about opening up of new courts  
keeping in view increasing numbers of cases in  
courts." 166

[Shri Govind Prasad Mishra]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a scheme to fill the vacant posts of Judges keeping in view the shortage of Judges in courts." 167

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effectively checking the steep price rise of essential consumer goods." 168

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a time bound scheme to reduce or eradicate unemployment in the country." 169

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about efforts of the Government to check lay-offs of people engaged in private sector." 170

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about laying of Lalitpur-Singrauli Rail line." 171

[English]

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the establishment of new IIT at Dharwad in Karnataka." 201

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive change in the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme to make it more farmer friendly." 202

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a comprehensive agricultural produce support price policy to include more and more agricultural produce to help the Indian farmer." 203

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any stern measures against those allegedly responsible for misuse of huge funds in NREGA." 208

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the provision of NSG Unit to State of Karnataka which is demanding the same since long." 210

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any comprehensive scheme for adequate LPG supply as per demand." 213

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide special category status to Orissa." 239

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about opening IIM in Orissa." 240

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about providing adequate funds for the  
development of infrastructure in backward areas  
of various States including Orissa." 241

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about resolving the Inter-State Water  
disputes arisen due to unilateral actions taken  
by the some States in implementing irrigation  
projects which resulted in litigations in the courts  
of law." 242

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the need to check unabated  
increase in unemployment in the country in  
general and Orissa in particular." 243

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about immediate commissioning of six  
Regional Institute of Medical Science at  
Bhubaneswar and in other States to provide  
quality health services to the suffering people in  
the country." 244

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about commissioning of oil refinery by  
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. at Paradeep." 245

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about sanctioning of sea wall project  
in the coastal States including the States of  
Orissa to prevent Tsunami type of natural  
calamity." 246

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about immediate completion of four  
laning of the National Highway No. 5 in  
Orissa." 247

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the specific action plan to contain  
the growing menace of Maoism in different parts  
of the country and particularly in the ten districts  
of Orissa States." 248

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about specific steps to address the  
issue of uneven economic growth in different  
States." 249

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address to accelerate the pace of irrigation  
facilities in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh,  
Orissa, etc. and sanctioning of 90 per cent  
grants under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit  
Programme (AIBP) to help completion of the  
ongoing projects in these States." 250

[Shri Pralhad Joshi]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing financial package to the State of Orissa in view of impoverished State finances and economic backwardness caused due to frequent occurrences of natural Calamities in the State." 251

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing financial stimulus to the Archeological Department to maintain and protect the rare monuments in the States of Orissa such as Konark and Sri Jagannath temple to promote tourism." 252

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about development of waterways by providing adequate and immediate funds to the State of Orissa. West Bengal and Assam. 253

DR. M. THAMBIDUARI (Karur) :

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the new textile policy to protect the Textile Sector." 254

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Rain Water harvest Scheme to preserve the Ground Water level to provide potable drinking water to all." 255

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the new Agricultural Policy to protect the lives of the starving agriculturists." 256

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the new textile policy to protect the Textile Sector." 257

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore) :

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about exclusive legislation covering every aspect of Agricultural Workers' lives." 258

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking any steps regarding the large scale farmers' suicide in various States." 259

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about effective measures to contain the sky-rocketing price rise of essential commodities." 260

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps against large scale re-trenchments." 261

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about large scale closure and lay offs  
in the country and effective steps to be taken to  
address the problem." 262

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about attacks and harassments of  
Indian students studying abroad particularly in  
Australia." 263

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about steps for improvement of rela-  
tions with Iran." 264

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about steps to be taken on Iran-  
Pakistan-India Pipeline." 265

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about special plan for development of  
backward districts of Purvanchal of U.P." 272

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about action plan for inclusion of 16

backward Castes of U.P. in Scheduled Castes  
list." 273

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about special economic package for  
development of naxal affected districts of  
U.P. such as Chandauli, Mirzapur and  
Sonabhadra." 274

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about uniform, compulsory and free  
education to the children between the  
age groups of 5 to 18 throughout the  
country." 275

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about filling up of back logs of posts  
belonging to backward Castes to give them  
proper place in jobs." 276

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about increase in the number of BPL  
cards in the country for the families living below  
the poverty line." 277

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about scheme to provide clean drinking  
water to common people living in rural areas  
immediately." 278

[Shri Ramkishun]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about schemes for strengthening and  
renewal of canals for irrigation of farm lands of  
farmers." 279

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about special economic package and  
security arrangement for the development of  
naxal affected districts in order to check growing  
naxal activities." 280

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about effective scheme to protect life  
and property of people against rising accidents  
on National Highways." 281

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about making the laws regarding  
control on pollution caused by factories set up  
in industrial areas more stringent." 282

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme for balanced  
regional development keeping in view the  
growing regional imbalanced development." 283

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about re-implementation of Rashtriya  
Vikas Yojana which was initiated by the  
Government of India earlier for the development  
of backward districts." 284

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about proper arrangement for irrigation  
of land in backward and naxal affected districts  
of Uttar Pradesh." 285

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about overall development of ancestral  
villages of freedom fighters any martyrs." 286

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about construction of rail over-bridges  
on Mughal Sarai-Patna rail section and Mughal  
Sarai-Gaya sector under Chandrauli district of  
Uttar Pradesh." 287

SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA (Jahanabad) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about introduction any reform in the  
system of stock market to monitor unexpected  
loss-profit due to sudden fluctuation in the stock  
market because of huge capital investment by  
foreign financial institutions." 300

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the steps to increase the

participation of agricultural sector in Gross Domestic Product of the country which is continuously declining." 301

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete action plan for modernization and renovation of traditional water-storage system in the country." 302

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any measure to check the incidents of deaths starvation in the country." 303

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any economic package for establishment and development of domestic cottage industries in rural areas and to check the migration of labourers in search of employment opportunities." 304

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about increasing the percentage of loan amount from 40 to 60 percent of the loan requirement to be given by the Nationalised Banks in primary sectors." 305

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the implementation of concrete action plant to increase the production of

foodgrains especially wheat, paddy, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane and cotton in the country." 306

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to impose ban on telecast of programmes and publication of articles which are vulgar and against our cultural ethos." 307

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan for controlling flood and drought situation in the country by way of suitable water-management." 308

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to make available fuel at cheap rate by exempting it from taxes." 309

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about introducing extensive reform in the school education system and to include moral education in the syllabus." 310

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any measure to be taken to stop commercialization of social sector such as education, health and sanitation services in the country." 311

[Shri Jagdish Sharma]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to curb bifurcation of industrial sector due to implementation of Government schemes regarding Special Economic Zone in the country." 312

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any specific economic policy meant for the development of weaker sections of the society in the country." 313

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy which empathises on promotion of self-employment by generating and developing production of indigenous resources in the country." 314

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any measures to streamline the distribution, transmission and production of electricity for increasing agricultural and industrial production in the country." 315

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reasons for delay in completion of the projects started in the year 2004-2005 in the State of Bihar under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana." 316

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to compensate the loss incurred by the farmers due to non-procurement of foodgrains by the Government especially in the State of Bihar in spite of the fixation of support price of foodgrains." 317

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any specific action plan formulated by the Government for over all development of downtrodden people in Naxal affected regions of the State of Bihar in a time bound manner." 318

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan regarding development of tourist spots like Vanavarga mountain, Rajgir, Bodhgaya, Tapovan, Nalanda etc. situated in Central Bihar." 319

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any reason for delay in completion of the project of doubling of Patna-Gaya line started five years ago." 320

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan for modernization of Maurya period historical sites including traditional pond and canals located in the districts of Central Bihar." 321

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan to extend the benefits of 'Farmer Debt Relief Scheme' to those farmers who have partially paid their debt." 322

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to present the youth from joining naxal cadres by way of implementing the schemes for overall development in the Naxal affected violence in the State of Bihar." 323

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any immediate economic support for maintenance of National Highway No. 110 Bihar Sharif — Arwal via Jehanabad in the State of Bihar." 324

SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to counter racist attack on the Indian students in Australia and protection of Indian students living there." 391

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the attempt being made by the Government of India for resettlement of Tamils in Sri Lanka." 392

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the plan formulated to counter the increasing atomic capacity of Pakistan." 393

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any plan to check the intervention of China in the affairs of neighbouring countries (Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan) of India." 394

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about checking illegal infiltration of Bangaldeshi's in Assam and other States." 395

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about imposing effective ban on heavy increase in the prices of essential commodities." 396

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about incoming fake currencies in the country through Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, etc." 397

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any concrete plans to check increasing female feticide in the country." 398

[Shri Jagdish Sharma]

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about making any legislation regarding  
Cow progeny." 399

[English]

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the farmers issues of suicides,  
remunerative prices, crop insurance, weavers  
and artisans suicides etc." 400

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about increasing attacks on Indian  
students/employees abroad." 401

SHRI S.K. BWISMUTHIARY (Kohrajhar) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about maintaining internal security  
across the whole country with special reference  
to Mumbai in Maharashtra, Bodoland Territory in  
Assam, North Cachar Hills, Autonomous District  
in Assam and other vulnerable places in the  
entire North Eastern Region/States and also to  
the left-wing extremism affected State of the  
country." 402

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the need of transferring the

Police, Law and Order and Political Department  
to all the Autonomous District Councils created  
under the provision of the Sixth Schedule to the  
Constitution of the country like 'Bodoland  
Territorial Areas District' in Assam, North Cachar  
Hills and Karbi-Anglong Autonomous District  
Councils in Assam and the like many other  
Autonomous District councils working in  
Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram in the North-  
Eastern Region. 403

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the need to the unabated infiltra-  
tion of illegal foreign nationals from different  
neighbouring foreign countries, particularly from  
Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal and also about  
the need of clear cut policy approach and time-  
frame action plan to identify and deport all the  
illegal foreign nationals." 404

Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar (Supaul) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about the problem of massive flood in  
Bihar which is caused by the river originating  
from Nepal." 442

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about racial discrimination due to which  
thousands of citizens are being subjected to  
harassment abroad." 443

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about Indian being expedited from

Sri Lanka in the name of being Tamil rebels." 444

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the solution to the problem arising out of shortage of fertilizers and rise in the prices of fertilizers faced by the farmers." 445

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according special status to Bihar." 446

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi) :

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about taking administrative steps to remove the reasons of unprecedented ups and downs in Indian share market due to uncertainty." 447

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken by the Government to reduce the steep rise in the items of daily use." 448

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any special package for economic and technical development of very backward Poorvanchal region of Uttar Pradesh." 449

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of schemes for economic development of the backward State of Bihar by providing it a special status." 450

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reasons for delay in giving approval to a policy for production of ethanol in Bihar." 451

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about overcoming the delay in providing coal linkage to the sanctioned rural power projects in Bihar." 452

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan to check traffic related mismanagement in the cities with a population of 5 lacs and above." 453

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of any time-bound action plan to maintain the natural purity of Ganges water and to maintain its continuous water flow." 454

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme to improve the

[Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi]

economic condition of poor weavers in various regions of the country especially those living in Varanasi and adjoining districts." 455

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of time-bound central programmes for streamlining traffic related problems in various cities, especially for Ring Road in Varanasi." 456

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according the status of All India Institute of Medical Sciences to the Medical Institute of Kashi Hindu University for providing medical facilities to all and for treatment of fatal diseases." 457

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing necessary legal, administrative and financial support for providing the status of I.I.T. to the I.T. of Kashi Hindu University." 458

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about framing a time-bound programme for making the capital of India, Delhi a crime free city, particularly in the wake of rising incidents of crimes especially against women." 459

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the

Address about providing the status of a full fledged State to Delhi." 460

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing subsidy for Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage to make it affordable for poor pilgrims of the country." 461

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any scheme for mobilising international public opinion against racism in various countries of the world and for wiping it out completely." 462

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about concrete action plan for providing free healthcare, drinking water, nutritious foods to the citizens of country to achieve objectives enshrined in article 47 of the Constitution." 470

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy for protection of life, liberty and other interests of Non-Resident Indians abroad." 471

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about formulation and implementation of any action plan to counter external threat on the security of the country." 472

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about implementing a scheme to  
provide free education upto higher secondary  
level to all children." 473

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about giving priority for development  
indigenous resources of production over foreign  
resources for overall development of the  
country." 474

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any specific action plan to  
provide benefits of economic development to the  
weakest section of the society." 475

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about announcement to promote re-  
search institutes to carry out Research and  
Development in the field of agriculture in order  
to put an end on uncertainty of agricultural  
production." 476

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any time bound action plan to  
convert barren land into *arable* land in the  
country." 477

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about making agricultural loan

available at interest rate of 4 per cent to the  
farmers." 478

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about implementation of measures  
to reduce the agro production cost in the  
country." 479

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about announcement of policy to  
provide agricultural subsidy directly to produc-  
ers." 480

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about banning of sale of substandard  
seeds and pesticides in the country" 481

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any scheme to provide for  
harvesting of rain water and diverting river water  
for use in the agriculture." 482

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about any policy of fixing the rate of tax  
to not more than 10 per cent in all from  
production to consumer selling stage in order to  
make the sources of fuel cheaper." 483

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the  
Address about providing special package to

[Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi]

encourage creation of capital through small savings." 484

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy regarding recirculation of black money as investment in production sector through comprehensive amendment in taxation regime." 485

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formation and implementation of uniform fee structure in educational institution for same course of education in different institution." 486

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of scheme to provide cheap electricity through small hydropower projects in rural areas of the country." 487

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy to increase toll tax periodically from users of the National highways." 488

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan to extend the forest cover in the country upto 33 percent of total geographical area in a time-bound manner

in densely populated states of the country for environment protection." 489

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about announcement of any action plan for bringing back illegally deposited money in bank of foreign country particularly in Swiss Bank and to invest the same in production sector in India." 490

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about doing away with or reducing the cess on Diesel and petrol to encourage private sector to construct National Highways." 491

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about use the using of a cess collected from common man for development of various sectors particularly education, sugarcane, petroleum etc., within a stipulated time frame." 492

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about special economic packages for encouragement and assistance of artisan in the rural areas of the country." 493

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according special status to States which have low growth rate than the national average rate of growth in order to ensure their overall development." 494

[English]

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT (Kangra) :—

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about according special Status to Himalayan States particularly Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and providing special economic packages to these States." 498

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing financial assistance to the States of West Bengal and Himachal Pradesh to compensate the loss due to national calamities in the States." 499

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of 'one Rank one Pension' policy in the Armed forces of the country immediately." 500

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about waiving of all types of loans giving to farmers." 501

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about establishing independent monitoring and complaint redressal mechanism at district level under NREGA under supervision of respective member of Parliament." 502

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about regularization of services of Anganwadi workers and helpers and incoming minimum wages to them." 503

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing rights over forest land to the people residing and farming in the forests areas of the Himalayan States for the last many years." 504

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing pension to handicapped persons, widows and all those persons who have attained the age of sixty years." 505

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about connecting and developing tourism spots on the priority basis in the area of Himalayan States particularly in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir." 506

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about including 'Rashtriya Nadi Jodo Mission' (National River Connecting Mission) in the country." 507

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*,  
*namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing unemployment

[Dr. Rajan Sushant]

allowance to all unemployed youths in the country." 508

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about implementation of unique identification scheme either one year in place of three years." 509

That at the *end* of the motion, the following be *added*, *namely*:—

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about inclusion of special provision to make the voting compulsory for all Indian voters." 510

14.12½ hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House may now continue the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

Shri Sharad Yadav.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the President's Address. I fully support her Address. In her Address, hon'ble President has touched upon all the issues keeping in view the economic imbalance or social disparity prevailing throughout the country. The Address does not contain the personal opinion of the hon. President per se, but, is a statement of the policies of the Government.

Sir, I was first elected to this House in the fifth Lok Sabha, and now its fifteenth Lok Sabha. Every Government

elaborates its policies through the President's Address. It is in the fitness of things, but before beginning my speech. I would like to mention a very old incident. After the formation of interim Government in India in 1943, Mahatma Gandhi made a written statement in which he stated, Remember, independence is near, it will come in Lucknow, Ahmedabad and Delhi. The Governments will try to count on its achievements. I am not an economist, but no less pragmatic than one. He cautioned against going by the word of the Government which will come to power after the independence and advised rather taking a walk within one kilometre radius in any vicinity of the country to gauge what difference has been made to the life of a helpless, daily wager of the country. If the Government did not bring any change to his life irrespective of whether the Government is of Delhi, Ahmedabad or Lucknow, as mentioned earlier, independence is meaningless.

62 years have elapsed. I am not saying that this Government is responsible for all kinds of miseries and poverty. We have also been in the Government, we have given five Prime Ministers to the country, but they held office for 11 months, 8 months or 9 months only. NDA Government too had been in power. Now, the UPA Government has been in power in 2004 and 2009. But I would like to say that since the victory cast its effect everywhere in the world but it is far more visible in this country. There is no scope for any kind of discussion on any subject after the victory. Victory does not create this kind of exuberance anywhere across the world as is felt by victors in our country. It is natural that one feel happy after gaining victory, but if it goes to one's head, it is a sure recipe for pushing the country backward, it cannot lead to progress.

I agree that they have got majority, it is required. Now, their strength has gone upto 206, but these people behave as if they have got two-third majority, there are many colleagues among them who behave in a arrogant way, it reflects in the way Shri Chidambaram rose and interrupted Shri Advaniji's speech. Remember, the one

who is, the Government has all resources at his disposal and when he gets angry, it reflects nothing but arrogance. They need not be too arrogant because they are only 206 in number, and the number of 272 is required to run the Government, they need support of 80 more Members to achieve this number. Those 80 are not any different from the Congress party. Barring my party, BJP and Left parties, no party support the Government without sharing power in the country. Last time the Government had outside support of 62 Members. This time they need the support of 80 Members, and those 80 Members had also worked with us for many years. The Congress knows them, we too know them very well. The Government have support of 80 Members, other than Congress party, therefore, they know what kind of majority they are having. They too had felt that they will not get more than 140 seats, as predicted by the media. Nobody was saying that the Congress party will get so many seats and it will cross the figure of 200 seats, we too did not accept the fact. This does not mean that they should be arrogant, because this House consists of 540 Members.

Girija Vyasji is not present in the House and Chackoji my old friend from Kerala has expressed his views key eloquently. Girijaji was lucid and poetic in her speech. They gave all the possible arguments in favour of the Government, but the point is that inventions cannot be made through translation of the foreign languages. We have not invented any of the things installed in this Parliament House of India, where I am standing, whether it is multiple voice system, electricity or R.C.C., somebody else invented these facilities for us. No invention has been made in this country for the last thousand-two thousand years. For the last 100-150 years, the country has been relying on translation alone for inventions.

Friends, I am myself an engineer, if there had been no constraint of language, I would not have been in this House. I too have been working in a laboratory. But I was impeded by constraint of language in adopting it as

profession. I came from a village school, therefore I faced a lot of problem in understanding the English language. No language is bad, but knowledge of language is one thing, and invention and mention of it is another thing. We are so elated with the progress made by a handful of people that we do not want to look around and acknowledge the reality.

The standards are set through elections, but in this case standards cannot be set fully. I have been elected as Member of Parliament of India for ten terms both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. I am not saying that our Government was able to solve the problems, which are being mentioned by me. I sometimes feel if we do not make sincere and honest efforts, occupying a seat in this House holds to meaning. While we may be leading a comfortable life, the life of a common man going through sweat and tears has gone from bad to worse during the last 60 years. I am not saying that your Government is responsible for it.

Friends, I rise to express my disappointment in the House. Sometime, it becomes our duty to express disappointment to expose the truth. This is a strange country. For thousands of years truth and honesty have not been allowed to come to the fore in this country. One month back elections were held. All of us distributed tickets on the basis of caste, we too did it, we are accepting it, but they have not been able to accept this truth for the last 60 years. There is a divide in the Indian society. There is a no cohesive bond in the majority community and it is totally divided. When we go outside this House, we do castiest politics, and when we enter in this House, we make hypocritical statements. If we distribute tickets on the basis of caste, it is not wrong. Caste is a reality, it works in its own way. It is a third time, that I have been elected to the Lok Sabha. Can a man of lower caste win the elections? Indiraji won the elections, Atalji won the elections. Would any blacksmith, carpenter or potter ever be able to win the elections? We are turning blind eye towards fifty per cent population of the country.

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

Social disparity is the biggest malice, which has killed the knowledge and progress for thousands of years. You are running the country through foreign language. At the time of oath taking ceremony, I got surprised to see the people trying to match the American and European accent. One should know the language. Shri Jaipal Reddy knows English. But the employment opportunities have shrunk during last 60 years for 90-95 per cent youth knowing Indian languages, whether it is Telugu, Tamil, Bengali, Marathi, or Hindi. They have been pushed back for the comfort of handful of people. This address has made no mention of them. How unemployment will be curbed? How will they do it? Did they curb it in five years? The Arjun Sengupta Committee was constituted by this Government. Mr. Chairman, you know he belongs to your State. The Planning Commission has ascertained the percentage of poverty at 23-24 per cent. Shri Arjun Sengupta says that there is a cap of Rs. 20 for 78 per cent to be termed above BPL in the unorganized sector. Many of them are earning only Rs. nine or Rs. twelve per day. Even after 62 years of independence the country is poverty stricken. This independence is for whom. What about the minority community in India. There are ten different systems kind of education in this country. There is time constraint. One education system that prevailed in my hometown when I studied was that there was not even blackboard and carpet in our school. I had to cross the river to reach my school. Whereas the school of my children is only a kilometre away. There can be no comparison between me and them. To my mind the environment in which one is brought up does not make him a privileged person. They are very privileged people. They say that the generation has changed. But friends, crops cannot be cultivated in pots. What we are speaking of generation change is like trying to cultivate crops in pots. After winning the elections by a clear majority, they stifle the spirit of discussion in the country. This has happened not once but many a time. However, my contention is that the scourge of unemploy-

ment is more related to the language one speaks. I thank the hon. President for her address. When a Maharashtraian speaks Hindustani his words come as music to the ears. But there is a trend of tokenism in our system and I am at a loss to understand the Hindi tokenism. What will be the Hindi synonym of tokenism. 'Totka' is perhaps the nearest meaning of tokenism. In rural areas people adopt what is called 'Totka', as stop gap arrangement in the absence of proper medication. They are also resorting to 'totka'. There are examples when a Member of the Government is not fully conversant with the language of officialdom, yet, he struggles to speak in the desired language since he knows that the language can make or mar his career and this is pervasive in the Congress, though, it has also percolated into the BJP in the recent past.

As I have already stated that translation is not the mother of invention. You may cite the name of just one invention if any, made by us during the last century. Our forefathers who thought in their own language were able to discover the numerical group and invent the zero. It were our forefathers who laid the foundation of science thousands of years ago. But where do we stand today? Many things have found mention in the President's Address. I appreciate the point raised by the leader of opposition Advaniji, which could stand the test of consensus. One can generate a consensus only if the facts are covered in totality. Since one treads cautiously towards consensus lest one should get trapped in ones own agreement with things. Without commenting on all the aspects touched upon by Advaniji, I would only like to associate myself with what he said about the gravest malady inflicting our country. He raised the issue of the black money with Indian bureaucrats, corporate bigwigs and political class stashed in foreign banks. May be we do not have the exact figures; may be Advaniji did not present the correct figures. It will not be in the fitness of things, if we possess the correct figures since we are in the Opposition benches. We have limited resources at our

disposal, whereas the jurisdiction of the Government is extended one. A year and eight months have since elapsed. Their contention is as to why did not the NDA take cognizance of this fact and do the needful whereas the same laws were in place then as well. The secrecy Act of the Swiss Government governed the regulation of revelation of foreign money in Swiss banks during the reign of their Government. We were asked to bring such people to book when it was our Government. However, that Act is cited as an alibi for inaction for that time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this country the sinners and sinned against are being weighed in the same balance. A misinformation campaign has been launched in the country to malign the politicians and portray them in bad light implying that all the politicians are bad. No worthy man joins politics. This view has gained momentum especially with the rising economic clout of our country. It is the same House which boasted of having such great personalities and political ideologues like Shri Madhu Limay, Shri Jyotirmal Basu of the Left front, Shri Atalji, Shri Shyama Nandan Mishra and Shri Madhu Dandwate and I have been fortunate enough to be in the company of these towering personalities in the 5th Lok Sabha. In the matter of sacrifice and dedication, Indian politics is without parallel. I am not raising this issue since I am a politician myself. However, a malafide campaign against politicians is picking up throughout the length and breadth of the country. Market oriented economy is the driving force behind this campaign. Market is not something new and has been in existence for thousands of years. It is not something to be frowned upon at but what will and has already added to the fallacy is the belief that it will become a panacea to all problems ranging from those related to food, clothing and shelter and unemployment. It has been two years since Swiss Bank made this revelation. What Swiss Bank revealed should be made public. This should be included in the 100 days agenda of the governance. The list should be made public so that truth comes to the surface and it can be ascertained as to who has looted

the country. We may try to bring back the money later but for now the names can be made public.

This work can not be accomplished by any Commission. The greatest malice India is suffering from is proclivity to loot. There is an old saying 'Man changa to kathoti mein Ganga' which means that if intentions are bonafide one does not need any pilgrimage. There is truth in it. Neither a rickshaw puller nor a labourer is happy. The meaning of this adage is as simple as that. Let me allude it by saying that the Government had fixed its hundred days agenda to perform but large-scale corruption and loot is rampant in all those works. During the NDA regime we had committed to earmark Rs. 23,000 crore for providing food to the people living below the poverty line. But so far as my constituency is concerned, I know that there is loot. The foodgrains do not reach the real beneficiaries. That is sold in the back-market. Even kerosene oil meant for poor people is not distributed among the poor in accordance with the norms of quota. I know this fact since I had been the Minister of Food in the NDA Government. We convened the meeting four times and many hon. Members from the Congress Party who are concerned about the poor and acquainted with the ground reality of the country approached me. I am talking about the poverty in the country. The real India comprises 80-85 per cent rural populace of this country. We are in the habit of patting our own back and exaggerating our petty achievements based on copy cat technical know-how. We have made no significant contribution to scientific invention. Imitation, per se is not a bad thing. China and Japan have not advanced solely on the basis of original invention. There is also copy cat kind of advanced but the one aided by their national language. China is our immediate neighbour but we seem to be wary of following its path.

MR. CHAIRMAN : One more hon. Member from your party is yet to speak.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Sir, time allotted to me is not one yet.

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

Sir, if we make a comparative study we will come to know the quantum of iron ore produced by India in comparison to China. We have recently entered into a nuclear deal whereas China has signed no such deal and still that country generates 8,40,000 megawatts of power whereas we have merely been able to achieve a far lesser power generation capacity of 1,47,402 megawatts after 60-62 years of independence. So, there is a need to assess where do we stand.

They always give emphasis on tokenism. Many people have spoken on reservation for women. While concluding my speech, I would like to say that in this very country we revere Durga, Sita, Kali and Savitri, so who oppose women reservation? I say, make it hundred per cent. But, can we do it, ignoring the ground reality in India and seek false consensus on it? If we talk about bureaucracy, media, Government in this country, it is only the legislature alone which is reflective of some change. Voting power has come in the hands of the poor, due to which common people belonging to every community and section of society come here as public representatives. They are making provision for 183 seats. They are providing reservation from Delhi. I would like to highlight that quite often examples of legendary women from Sita to all others are quoted before the women. Mother India is in bondage due to its caste system. Mother India can move out of this bondage and it can be purged of all ills by abolishing the caste system and we are ready to bid adieu to all kinds of reservations. Abolish this caste system. A handful of people have been ruling this country for thousands of years through this caste system. In this democracy, we have managed to get some representation in this House. You have pain in your heart, may be not in your mind, but this women reservation bill has been brought to bring down the representation of 'Shudras', 'ati-shudras' in this country. Sharad Yadav is facing difficulty in speaking about it. There should have been some movement from grass-root level like the one launched by Shri Jai Prakash.

Had there been some movement like the one led by Jai Prakashji or any other movement, at grass root level, it certainly would have been worth its salt. But without any movement some women will come together and demands reservation for women. We may be lacking in number but I would like to say that like Socrates who was poisoned to death for upholding his ideals I am prepared to fight unto death for the sake of principles. The fact of the matter is that they want to bring women reservation bill by sacrificing the interests of 80-90 percent deprived women of the country. That is why I would say that though Sita and Savitri have been portrayed as ideal women in this country, however, there is no one to mention the name of Draupadi, the most virtuous of them. I would say that it is the caste system as well as the gender based mindset which is responsible for their enslavement. So, abolish the caste system, and then the objective of women reservation will be achieved automatically. They virtuous women like Draupadi never bowed her head before any injustice, nor did she compromise with any barrier or at any place, even then she is not considered the symbol of womanhood. Draupadi possessed 99 virtues, only that she did not possess the virtue of loyalty to single husband; she had five husbands. The woman of India should be faithful and at the same time, devoted to her husband. It is right but such a devotion that renders half of India's mothers and women enslave and bounded in chains is of no use and providing reservation to women without breaking these shackles to get them liberated is nothing but mere facade. It is not a reality. Merely making Women Speaker or President will not do. This is just a facade. I will never agree to it. The Women of India are usually labelled as 'Shudras'. They are harassed by their drunkard husbands and get tortured by them. So, first they should be liberated from these evils. We talk about Common Civil Code. Why do not we give opportunity to Muslim Women? What can be a more opportune moment than this for us to give them this opportunity?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will put my views on this matter when the discussion is held on this subject. At this time,

I would just say what Narayan Swamyji has written about it that it is nothing but a 'Bhajan'. One does not know if that chanting it paves the way for heaven or hell. But, I must say that the country cannot be run with the 'Bhajan' alone. It can be run only with the right and honest conduct. Gandhiji is not merely a statue; Ambedkarji is not a statue; but it does not seem plausible that we would be able to take the country on the path of progress by brushing aside their ideas. We have forgotten them, we have let them down and burying them in the ground. We are not following the views of Gandhiji, Lohiyaji, Jai Prakashji, Charan Singhji, and Kabir. I would say that it is not easy to find parallel to Kabir in the world. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the party to which you belong needs a plethora of writings in 'Das Capital' to make one understand Marxism. But Kabir sums it up in one sentence:—

Saaeen itna dijiya jamein kutumb samaye  
Na main bhookha soun na sadhu bhookha jaye

The same thing has been stated in Das Capital. So, the country cannot make progress if we sing the views of these great people simply as 'Bhajan's or create their idols only. If we are to bring their views in practice, all will have to have upright conduct.

I would only request the Government that when they have got the opportunity, they should not tinker with the matter; otherwise incomplete message will be transmitted bringing them to doom. Running this Government is like riding lion, so I advised them to tread cautiously. I am in opposition, so I will go on opposing it to the hilt.

With these words I support the Vote of Thanks on the President's Address. This time she has delivered her address in Hindi. Last time it was in English. I would like to make a humble suggestion that she speaks well in Hindi, so it would be better if she always speaks in Hindi. While extending my thanks to her, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to participate in this discussion relating to the Vote of Thanks on the President's Address.

Hon. President's Address to both the Houses of Parliament quite understandably reiterates the UPA Government's commitment to the pursuit of the same set of objectives, policies and programmes pursued since 2004. After all, every Government that gets re-elected, a rare phenomenon in Indian politics in recent decades, believes that electoral success is due to its performance.

Hon. President has laid down an agenda for 100 days and the next five years. It is an impressive wish list. If half of its ambitious charter is fulfilled, it will definitely change the Indian society. The test, therefore, will lie, of course, in its implementation. The welfare programmes will be expanded. But it necessitates a Budget that can only come from the surpluses generated by high growth.

There were many plans and programmes, which were not translated into work during 2004 to 2008, be it in the finance sector or the National Knowledge Commission. Again, all these find mention in the President's Address. Again, the Government has focussed on areas such as urbanisation and administrative reforms including improvement in delivery of public services.

Hon. President has laid stress on institutionalising transparency and public accountability. There would be independent Evaluation Office. There would be Annual Reports to the people on education, health, employment, environment and infrastructure. These are proposals, which everybody would welcome. Perhaps, the Government realises where its real stumbling block is. Recently, a Hong Kong based consultancy has placed India among 12 countries in terms of quality of bureaucracy.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

The Government is one of the target areas that has been listed in the President's Address. But the plans outlined are suitably very vague. Unless the hon. Prime Minister overcomes his hesitation in carrying out deep reforms in the bureaucracy, nothing much can be expected.

A lot has been said to strengthen existing schemes for the poor by creating a new Food Security Scheme that would guarantee every poor family 25 kilogram of rice or wheat per month at Rs. 3 per kilogram. The cost, some says, may exceed Rs. 50,000 crore *per annum*. But what is the delivery mechanism? Within 100 days, 25 specific measures are going to be taken, and one of it is to have target identification cards, that would substitute and replace the Below Poverty Line cards list. But what mechanism does the Government have in place today to complete it within 100 days? One job card is there for the NREGA. The proposed Food Security Act would also create another new card. How many cards the poor would have? These goals are not bad by themselves. But there would be two subsequent problems. First, how will a deficit ridden Government fund them? Second, how will a corrupt and rank-sitting lower bureaucracy implement them?

Hon. President has mentioned 25 things that the UPA Government would do in its first 100 days. Not one has anything to do with economic reforms. Most reforms that now need to be done, require hard legislative work and working with the States. Past few years have seen India rid itself of its many ancient cobwebs.

I am reminded of two letters, which have been written by our Chief Minister, Mr. Navin Patnaik relating to the floods situation that arose in 2008.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Lajuji, what are you saying?

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran) : Sir, I am speaking while sitting.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the speech of the hon'ble Member while sitting peacefully.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Sir, a time will come when senior Members from Bihar also will be talking about Kosi river and its devastation. I am mentioning about the devastation that was caused by river Subarnarekha and also by the Mahanadi system in the year 2008 during the month of July and also in September.

Attentions were drawn of the Government by no less than the Chief Minister of Orissa. The then Union Home Minister rushed to Orissa, made certain commitments before the media and also before the public. Subsequently, by coming back to Delhi, it was followed by a letter confirming that an amount of Rs. 500 crore will be provided to the flood-affected victims of the State of Orissa. But, I am constrained to say, it really pains us, it really hurts us that on 27th April, 2009 – on 23rd April, 2009 the second phase of voting was completed in Orissa – a letter was written by the Union Home Ministry. On 27th April, 2009 a letter has gone from this Government and I quote : "The amount eligible for release from NCCF has been calculated as NIL for the instant calamity."

It was in June and September, 2008 that Orissa faced serious floods in river Subarnarekha and subsequently in the Mahanadi system. On 23rd September, the hon. Union Home Minister announced a financial assistance amounting to Rs. 500 crore for Orissa. This was subsequently confirmed by his letter on 29th September, 2008. But, in reality an amount of only Rs. 98 crore was released from NCCF. ...*(Interruptions)* On 27th April, 2009 the Ministry of Home Affairs has sent a letter and has calculated the release from NCCF as NIL for the instant calamity.

Further, to add salt to the injury, another amount of Rs. 80.899 crore is sought to be recovered from Orissa

Government against the release made from NCCF which includes Rs. 25 crore released from NCCF during the flood of 2006.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in 2006 the hon. Prime Minister had visited Orissa after the State of Orissa faced devastating floods. There, the hon. Prime Minister had announced Rs. 500 crore and we received Rs. 25 crore and on 27th April, 2009 the Government is asking us to pay back Rs. 80 crore which was spent in 2006. This is the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a similar letter has been sent to the Government of Bihar. They said that Koshi was a devastating river and the same letter, as the hon'ble Member was reading, has been sent to the Government of Bihar. They have also announced to provide Rs. 14,800 crore for reconstruction. This responsibility is theirs. The same thing has happened to Bihar as Shri Mahtabji is speaking about Orissa.

*[English]*

SHRI B. MAHTAB : This is indeed not only appalling, but this also makes a cruel joke of the announcement made by the Union Home Minister and the Prime Minister of this country, which was subsequently confirmed by written letters. On November 19, 2008, Orissa Government had submitted a memorandum.

As you are aware, Mr. Chairman Sir — this House is also aware — Orissa has been repeatedly devastated by natural calamities, be it flood, be it cyclone or be it drought. But what is the response of the Union Government? This is how you respond to a State which finds itself in the comity of this federal structure! This is how the Government has to respond! This is how the Government has to uplift a backward State! It was in the early nineties — you are a witness, Mr. Chairman Sir — that a large section of Southern Orissa, which is very well known as a KBK district

and which had been subsequently converted into 10 districts and which has geographical area quite similar to that of the State of Kerala, had a Special Plan for ten to twelve years. The idea was that the absorbing capacity of that area should increase. In 2006-07, when the Plan was coming to a close, we had pleaded frantically before the Prime Minister, before the previous Government, to allow this programme to continue for at least another Plan period and we were told that money does not grow on trees. Of course, money does not grow on trees, but for that drought-ridden area of KBK, when the Central Government did not come to our rescue, rescue of the poor, where migrations still take place, where some irrigation project has come up, absorbing capacity was slowly built up. Orissa Government was forced to, from the paltry sum of its revenue which Orissa Government had generated within the last five to six years, start a programme. A Special Programme was done by the State Government, by Shri Naveen Patnaik as Biju KBK Yojana.

You thrust upon us, upon different States a number of programmes. Now also certain programmes will be thrust upon us, as has been indicated, but what is the absorbing capacity of the respective States? That is why, Orissa has been demanding to grant it Special Category Status. What is the Special Category Status? It is that whatever programme you are going to implement, especially pro-poor programme, the Centre will provide 90 per cent of the fund and 10 per cent will be provided by the State. Certain specific programmes are being implemented in different districts of this country, but Orissa being a backward State requires special attention.

14.59 hrs.

*[SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair]*

I am reminded, while making my deliberations here, about hon. President's announcement that this Government is going to provide 25 kilograms of rice or wheat at Rs. 3 per kilogram in a month. Orissa has been doing it since last August at Rs. 2 per kilogram for 25 kilograms

[Shri B. Mahtab]

per month. ...*(Interruptions)* Many States are doing it. Tamil Nadu is doing it. Andhra Pradesh is doing it. Chhattisgarh is doing it. But Orissa has been doing it since last August. My point here is that success of this programme can only happen if we follow what we have done in Orissa. In Orissa, four specific dates have been specified, giving duration of ten days in-between — 11th, 12th, 20th and 21st of every month.

15.00 hrs.

So, the capacity of the poor will be there to purchase rice or wheat. The family may not be in a position to purchase 25 kgs of it in one go. Therefore, they should be allowed to purchase it either in two lots or three lots or four lots. However, it has to be ensured that rice or wheat should be available in those shops. Shri Naveen Patnaik's Government has ensured that within these four days the food grains will be available, and whoever higher or mightier he may be, if there is some discrepancy somewhere, then stringent action is to be taken. I do not see any mention in the speech of the hon. President about the mechanism — which will be the carrier to provide this to the poor — being in place or is going to be rejuvenated.

As regards the money aspect, we have to depend on the respective State Government. If we have a world view of the Public Distribution System (PDS) in different parts of this world be it Brazil, African countries or even in South Asia, then we find that our PDS is the largest distribution mechanism, but it is the worst and corrupt mechanism. Jammu and Kashmir has a different system.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Mahtab, please conclude your speech.

SHRI B. MAHTAB : Several States have different systems. I would insist on calling the Food Ministers and having a uniform mechanism and a proper monetary system, which can actually deliver this.

Today, I am reminded of the UNICEF Report, which has, in a way, compelled all elected representatives and elected Governments to think in this line. The UNICEF Report clearly says that the impact of global economic crisis has added 20 million Indians into the battle for hunger for each night. Today, the number of hungry in India has increased from 209.5 million in 2004-2006 to 230 million by the end of 2007-2008. This is a Report titled 'Impact of Economic Crisis on Women and Children in South Asia'.

I would conclude my speech by saying this. There is a need to use the crisis as an opportunity. Spend more for the poor; spend more in those States that are backward; and spend more for the large sections of population of this country who have elected us. Many of us are millionaires or crorepatris or even more than that and comparatively rich, but we represent the poor masses who have belief in democracy and who have belief in this Republic.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you, Mr. Mahtab.

All the hon. Members are requested to please confine to their time limit. The next speaker is Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur) : Respected Chairman, it is a proud privilege and great honour for me to participate in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address that she delivered to both the Houses of Parliament on 04 June, 2009.

At the outset, I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to my Leader, the General Secretary of my Party, namely, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for reposing faith in me, and making me the AIADMK candidate for the Karur Parliamentary Constituency.

I would also like to thank the people of Karur constituency in particular, and the State of Tamil Nadu in

general, for giving me this opportunity to represent their interests in the highest people's forum of the country.

I have the following reservations on the Address that the hon. President had delivered. Some of these issues have found an oblique reference in Her Address and many of them did not even find a mention. I would like to pick up the issues one after the other.

India is the largest democracy in the world. Understandably, conducting an election here is an extremely difficult task. It is the expectation of the people that the electoral process is transparent and it is 'seen and perceived' to be free and fair. In this context, I regret to say that at least as far as Tamil Nadu was concerned, the just concluded Lok Sabha elections were neither free nor fair.

The AIADMK General Secretary, Puratchi Thalaivi Jayalalithaa, hon. Amma, had expressed reservations about these EVM machines several times in the past. During the recent parliamentary elections, we strongly believe that there had been large-scale tampering of voting machines.

Several advanced countries have tried out EVMs and then reverted back to paper ballots after finding them unreliable. Does the voter have any means to find out to whom his vote has actually gone? No. After a person casts his vote, there is a beep sound and a red light glows next to the symbol of the candidate for whom he had voted. But has the vote actually gone to the person he voted for? There is no means of knowing it. Contrary to this, in a paper ballot, one knows exactly whom one had voted for, by stamping his choice.

Unless such transparency is ensured, EVMs cannot be considered infallible. On behalf of the AIADMK, I urge all parties that are genuinely concerned about democracy to analyze the Indian voting machine to ensure that there are no misgivings in anybody's mind. It is not right for this

House to sit back complacently, while democracy is being murdered outside.

A large number of names of genuine voters were found to have been deleted from the electoral rolls. Many people who came to vote carrying valid Voters Identity Cards were simply told that their names were not there in the voters' list. If large chunks of genuine voters are deprived of their basic right to vote, then we could safely say that democracy is being murdered. If something is not done on this issue, then the world's largest democracy would be looked upon as a joke.

The House will be shocked to know that a few days before the Lok Sabha elections, that is, on 8.5.2009, my residence at Karur was raided by the officials of the Police Department of the State Government and the Revenue officials. My house was raided during my absence from night 9 o'clock till 3 o'clock next day morning. Perhaps, I am the only candidate in the whole of India to have undergone such a trauma before the elections. They could not find anything at my residence, but the State Government created terror and threatened me with such hurdles during electioneering, but it could not succeed at least in my constituency. The administration gave me a receipt which is a proof of having raided my residence and found nothing. This shows the State Government's ulterior motives.

My Party wants to see that there is good democracy in the country. One family cannot control the whole arena. Our Party strongly feels that there should be an end to the 'family rule'. See what is happening in Tamil Nadu. Perarignar Anna transformed the DMK Party into a family, and in direct contrast, the present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is converting his family into the Party. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHI SANKAR (Kallakurichi) : Sir, he should speak on the President's Address, but he is not speaking on the President's Address. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : His younger son is the Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the elder son is a Cabinet Minister at the Centre, his grandson is again a Cabinet Minister at the Centre, and his daughter is an MP in the Rajya Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, he is not at all speaking on the relevant points of the President's Address. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you not take your seats?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Thambidurai, you are a senior Member of this House. So far, the Chair did not want to interfere with what the hon. Members were speaking about. Whatever you have said so far has nothing to do with the President's Address. Please come back to the subject. Otherwise, I will have to give a ruling. In your case I am not giving a ruling; I am not expunging what you have said. But please do not continue with what you are saying. You have to come back to the subject.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : Sir, in the morning, the Leader of Opposition Shri Advani referred to corruption not being mentioned in the entire President's Address. Utmost and immediate steps are required to eradicate corruption that is expanding in leaps and bounds in the Indian economy. This was also stated by the C&AG in his reports which squarely blamed the Government for tardy implementation of several programmes. Drastic and immediate steps are required to bring back Indian money lying unproductively in international tax havens. We should review unwanted legislations. We should review the practice of issuing Participatory Notes. We need to come down heavily on tax

evaders, black-marketers, hoarders and speculators. The issue of fake currency is to be tackled on a war-footing.

On the 3G spectrum issue the country wants the new Government to address the different aspects involved in the auctioning process. Though mobile penetration saw tremendous increase with galloping tele-density, allocation of spectrum is shrouded in mystery. The Government has to come clean on this. Initially the Government was anticipating a revenue of Rs. 30,000 crore to Rs. 40,000 crore. But later on it fell down to Rs. 20,000 crore. It has created a lot of controversy and the Government was accused of malpractice. Now that the same Minister is back in charge of that Ministry, the country is at a loss to understand how the Prime Minister is going to handle the situation. Allocation of 2G spectrum by Telecom Minister is considered as the mother of all scandals. Without taking Cabinet approval, the Minister allotted spectrum on first-come-first-served basis to real estate companies like Swan and Unitech. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, these things are not allowed in the discussion on President's Address.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Be patient please! Speak when your turn comes. Please do not interfere like this.

SHRI ADHI SANKAR : Sir, you cannot allow this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot decide that. You take your seat. You cannot decide that the Chair will give a ruling. I have already told him.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : The country lost revenue of nearly Rs.1 lakh crore in this shabby deal. The Chief Vigilance Commissioner has already confirmed these irregularities.

On May 29th, the Delhi High Court observed that the spectrum allocation was done on the lines of 'sale of cinema tickets'. The Minister misled the Parliament on an earlier occasion also. In view of all these shabby

irregularities, the Prime Minister should intervene and cancel these 2G licences.

I fail to understand why the President's Address did not mention a word about the crude oil, petrol, etc. The prices of petrol and kerosene affect the common man severely and that is the main cause of rise in price of vegetables and other essential commodities. Though the price of crude oil has come down in the international market, there is no corresponding reduction in its price nationally. The Government has conveniently omitted referring to that.

India has been witnessing in the past decade, more so now due to recession, growth in employment. The alarming fact is that more than 55 million people have been pushed below the poverty line now. So, there is a need to fill up six lakh vacancies in defence and Central services. There is also need to regularise five lakh casual workers in the Central services. There is again a need to regularise three lakh extra-departmental workers in the postal services.

Frequent power cuts lead to closure of many industries, which also leads to unemployment. Though the President's Address mentions about addition of 13,000 MW each year, it is not sufficient. Each State requires as much as that for itself. There is also no proposal to provide employment to the educated unemployed. There is no mention in the President's Address of tackling this problem. Unemployment leads to frustration among the youth. As you know, a frustrated youth takes to violence and other forms of crimes. There has to be a concrete and coordinated effort between the Centre and the States. The Government has to pay attention to this problem.

The biggest problem confronting India today is terrorism. We had repeated incidents of terrorism targeting hapless public which had claimed several thousand innocent lives. At a time when developed countries like the USA and the UK enacted stringent anti-terrorism laws to tackle the problem of terrorism in their own countries,

the Indian Government chose to repeal even the existing law thereby opening the country to repeated terrorist attacks from inside the country and outside.

The 26th November Mumbai attacks had claimed 164 lives and brought international focus to the problem of terrorism in India. The lack of political will in bringing terrorists to book is apparent from the fact that in the last five years, though nearly 20 major incidents of terror strikes have taken place in India claiming over thousand lives and injuring several others, there has not been a single conviction in a terror trial.

We demand a stringent anti-terrorism law with adequate safeguards. We also demand that there may be a chip-embedded National Citizen Identity Cards for all citizens. Commando units may be set up in every State to handle terrorism-related activities.

We also need to modernize the police force and the armed forces. There is an urgent need to increase the Defence Budget to 3.5 per cent of GDP from the present level of 2.5 per cent. We need to take better care of the police and armed forces personnel so that it becomes an attractive destination for the talented youth in this country. The existing vacancies in the Services should be filled up expeditiously.

The power-cuts have affected farming operations. Farmers are burdened by the absence of subsidies, high cost of labour, non-availability of fertilizers, poor procurement prices, bad irrigation facilities and a host of other problems. What the farming community needs at this juncture is not just loan-waivers that benefit a few rich farmers but a comprehensive rehabilitation package addressing all their problems. If this is not done urgently, then agriculture will become a totally unviable proposition, and, more and more farmers will move to other occupations. India will have to start importing even those agricultural products in which we had surplus once. On behalf of the AIADMK Party General Secretary, J. Jayalithaa, hon. Amma, we earnestly request that all

[Dr. M. Thambidurai]

existing farm loans including those with the non-nationalized commercial banks should be waived off.

Farmers' Commission should be set up to fix remunerative procurement price. I demand that the procurement price of sugarcane must be fixed at Rs. 2000 per tonne and that the procurement price of paddy must also be raised adequately.

Karur is famous for its textile industries, but it was affected because of many factors, mainly due to frequent power cuts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. Your time is over.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : Many shifts in those industries are shut down, leading to widespread unemployment in Karur and adjoining areas. The export of textiles was affected. There was a circulation of money, in this industry, to the tune of Rs. 3,000 crore, which has come down to Rs. 1000 crore.

The gifting away of Kachchatheevu to Sri Lanka under the agreement of 26th June 1974 was not only flawed under constitutional law, but also created myriad problems for Indian fishermen operating from the Rameswaram coast. Secession of Katchatheevu was unconstitutional. In Berubari case of 1960, the Supreme Court decided that an agreement involving the ceding of a part of the territory of India in favour of a foreign State can be effected only through an Amendment to the Constitution of India which has to be ratified by Parliament. Indian Government should rescind the agreement with Sri Lanka. Even the General Secretary of our party had insisted for this.

On the Inter-State River Water disputes, I want to say these things. Mullaperiyar dam controversy is far from seeing the end of the tunnel. We need to raise the reservoir level, which will benefit Theni, Madurai, Sivaganga, Ramanathapuram and Dindigul districts.

I will say a word about Palar river water and conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. I am calling the next speaker, Shri Arjun Meghwal.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : I will just finish in a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You have taken more time.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : I will conclude by saying only one more point.

This House is well aware of the feelings in Tamil Nadu about the plight of the Tamil people in Sri Lanka. Every day, we get alarming information from the Media, about the plight of nearly 3.5 lakh Tamil people confined to camps in Sri Lanka.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : I will deal with this issue only and conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon's visit to the war ravaged regions of the Island has revealed some startling facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You cannot do like this. You cannot go on like this.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : After touring the area, Ban Ki Moon was moved to the extent of saying that the trapped civilians must have undergone the most inhumane suffering.

What is required now is a huge relief operation. The Indian Government should step in before an entire race is wiped out by starvation, disease and deprivation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. You cannot go on like this. Will you please take your seat?

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : We demand that an amount of Rs. 10,000 crore may be provided for rehabilitation and relief work of the Tamils in Sri Lanka. The Sinhalese and the Sri Lankan Tamils must live in peace; both should get equal rights and equal status.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seat? Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever Dr. Thambidurai says will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)...*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may please take your seat. Shri Meghwal may start his speech.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Senior Members are behaving in a very unbecoming fashion. Dr. Thambidurai, you are a very senior Member.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the motion of thanks has been moved to support the President's Address. I am putting my views on it. In her Address, Her Excellency the President has touched upon some subjects towards which the Government has not paid any attention. I want to get their attention drawn towards these issues. In the Address there is mention about Women Reservation Bill. I support it but there is no mention about prevention of female foeticide, while the female foeticide is going to be a very serious issue in the country. The gap in sex-ratio is widening. There are some States where sex ratio is getting imbalanced which is a matter of concern. I want to draw the attention of the House towards this issue.

Sir, there are mega highways which are being constructed by National Highway Authority of India. While getting the roads constructed through this authority, a major work is being undertaken for the development of the country, but in the case of deaths due to accidents, compensation that is given is not sufficient. In some States, compensation amount is paid through 'The Chief Minister Relief Funds'. The centre also gives compensation through 'The Prime Minister Relief Fund'. I know so many families that have been ruined completely as no one is left to support the family and since no other family member is employed, the whole family gets ruined. Some compensation is given by insurance companies under 'Hit and Run Scheme'. No special assistance is given even in the case when it is detected that a particular person has caused accident and thus, the whole family gets ruined. So, there must be some scheme for such cases also.

Sir, at the same time, I would also like to say that we find phenomenal increase in the population in cities, yet there is no national level traffic policy. So I wish that there should be a traffic policy on national level. Traffic jam takes place even in smaller cities of the country. Traffic control system has totally failed there. There is traffic jam in every place, whether they are smaller cities or the bigger ones. There is always heavy traffic jam in big cities like Delhi and Mumbai. Even the place like Bikaner, from where I come witnesses traffic jam. People get stuck in traffic. I request that a national level traffic policy should be framed. A study should be conducted by some professional group in big and small cities and categorization of cities should be made on the basis of their population and there should be separate traffic plans for the cities having population more than 10, 20 and 50 lakh. Thus, a national level traffic plan should be framed.

Sir, I would like to say something very important about National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. It is a fact that the scheme is very good, but it needs some amendments. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the implementation part of the

\*Not recorded.

[Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal]

scheme. With this scheme the country is witnessing a period of change. I have seen at many places, even in my constituency that the work measurement process is not displayed. Work site arrangements are also not implemented properly. Even the labourers engaged under NREGA do not know the amount of wages they will get.

It is a fact. This morning Dr. Girija Vyasji mentioned about NREGA and she raised the issue of sugar also. May be some persons get Rs. 100, but in my constituency when I inspected some works of NREGA as an MP after elections, I found that they were getting Rs. 9 at many places and somewhere they were getting Rs. 12 and at another place they were getting Rs. 15. So, I would like to say that if they NREGA workers get only Rs. 12-15, how they will manage their livelihood. When I asked why it is happening like this — they told me that the adhoc. J.Es who had been empowered to take work measurement did not come during working hours. Sometimes they came at night or early in the morning to take measurement. If it is ensured that the measurement will be taken in the presence of labourers, then there will be no problem and the labourers will also know how much work they have done and whether the proper work measurement has been done or not. At the same time, I did not see any measurement board nor any display board, so, there should be proper implementation of this process. I noticed many lacuna in work site arrangement also.

I am making my speech a little bit lengthy. NREGA labourers have been provided tarpaulin. Many among you might have seen that there was no tarpaulin available at work site. There were five children above 5 yrs. at one site. Cradles should be provided over there, but the same were not available. Medicines should be made available there, but these were also not provided. When I enquired about availability of medicines, they told me that no A.N.M. had ever visited them. [English] The Scheme is good but the implementation part of the scheme is weak. So, I

request the Government [Translation] that they should consider its implementation part also. All the work site arrangements, be it providing tarpauline, carpets, proper water facility, medicines or cradles, these should be made available at the worksite. Many a time it has also been seen that there is no display board at the site displaying work details. One is not able to know as to what kind of work is going on and what is the cost of the work and when it is likely to be completed. All the hon'ble Members would agree that there is a big lacuna in NREGA's plan. Once a plan is formulated even haste the sarpanch, then if it requires certain changes, they say that no changes can be made. Once a plan for 2009-10 is prepared and if we need to make even a minor amendment to it, we are not able to do so. In this regard my suggestion is that there should be some admissibility to make amendments to this scheme, there should be provision of at least 5 percent, on the lines of weight and measurement Act's plan in which five percent plus minus is admissible, if some items have been left out while preparing any plan under NREGA. First, the plan is formulated by Gram Panchayat and then it is sent to Panchayat Samiti followed by Zila Parishad where it gets final approval. Even then if some important items are left and Gram Panchayat receives proposal of amendment, it says that it cannot make any amendment now notwithstanding the importance of the works left out. It does not matter whether they are worth Rs. 5 lakhs or 10 lakhs. So my request is that there should be provision to make one amendment to this scheme. There cannot be any amendment even at the request of M.P. Once a plan is approved, it is final. It does not matter whether the State level body or the Central level body is empowered for this purpose, but there must be some provisions under which amendment upto the limit of 5-10 per cent amount is admissible even if the plan is once approved. This is one suggestion that I would like to give about NREGA. ...*(Interruptions)*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur) : You yourself are the Chairman of NREGA. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruptions please. This is not the time for interruption. This is not the way to speak.

Shri Meghwal, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL : I am giving this suggestion that there are some lacuna in NREGA that if a plan is once approved, it cannot be amended. No committee has been empowered to make any amendment.

Neither district level committee nor State level committee has the right to do so. Even the Central level monitoring committee of the Ministry of Rural Development constituted under the Chairmanship of the hon'ble Minister does not have such power. If any Member, Sarpanch and social worker desires to add any proposal to NREGA, it is stated that there is no such provision in the scheme. They cannot make any amendment. I, therefore, want to suggest that there should be a provision of amendment wherein certain limit from 5 to 10 percent should be fixed. It will be a good amendment through which the Government can properly implement this scheme. I am not making any concrete suggestion. I am not criticizing the scheme, however, I am giving suggestion to remove the shortcomings in this scheme.

Sir, the next thing is about APL-BPL and kerosene. It is correct that it should be reviewed. Hon'ble Sharad Yadavji has left. The distribution of kerosene oil is not fair. I feel that there are many irregularities in it and the distribution process of kerosene oil under the Public Distribution System should be reviewed to detect the irregularities. Whether this issue is raised from any forum or not but I was concerned with this and have seen this. It may be possible that some people may oppose that it should be in the system, however, it is a fact that kerosene oil is not properly distributed. There is possibility

of improvement in it. How can it be improved? A Parliamentary Committee should be constituted for this. So much amount is being spent on the distribution of kerosene oil, however, those who should get kerosene oil are not getting it. So, there is a need to ponder over it.

Sir, regarding the President's Address I would like to submit that there is no mention about future trading. It is becoming a peculiar thing in the Indian agriculture system. The commodities in respect of which prices are increasing, it is because of the future trading, so, the discussion should be held on this issue too in the House. If we feel that exchange commodities are good then the Government should continue it and if we feel that Indian traders and farmers are feeling disappointed on account of this, then it should be amended by way of monitoring in it.

Sir, on this occasion, I would like to say one more thing about the review in NREGA. There is a provision of construction of water tank for providing employment of BPL people under this scheme. APL people in the desert regions like ours are also poor, so, I would like that along with BPL people if APL people are also employed in the construction of water tanks then the implementation of this scheme can be more fruitful.

With these words, I conclude and support the Motion moved on the President's Address with these amendments.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Right at this moment, I feel exalted in participating in this discussion. It is a galactic moment for me. As we observed yesterday, the Address was delivered by a woman of our country. The exalted Chair of Lok Sabha to which we are addressing all our speeches is also occupied by a woman. Furthermore, the brain child behind all the landmark legislation brought by the UPA Government is Madam Sonia Gandhi who also happened to be a woman.

[Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury]

Sir, next to God, we are all indebted to women for our lives and then for making our lives worth having. Throughout the history, we find that all the great changes have been brought about by women at the beginning.

Sir, the Presidential Address is a harbinger of women empowerment and poor people's entitlement. The Presidential Address is a precursor of social revolution in our country. Sir, I found in our UPA Chairperson, Madam Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, the spirit and virtue of legendary figure *Bhagini* Nivedita, whose heart always bleeds for the sordid plight of destitutes, for the vulnerable and the unprivileged sections of our society. She created a precedent by refusing to assume the berth of Prime Minister. She simply nodded in the negative when the people of our country were desperately seeking her for that berth. But, at that time, still I remember that who, I think, would be the Leader of the Opposition, has pronounced for tonsuring her head out of envy. But the quiet and composed lady, our beloved leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, renounced by the call of her inner voice. This is the distinction.

Sir, here Shri L.K. Advani, while deliberating on the Motion of Thanks, was narrating the vision of our India. What we have observed before the election? We have observed before the election that a vitriolic campaign was engineered by the Leader of Opposition by depicting the man like Dr. Manmohan Singh as a weak Prime Minister of India. Who is weak and who is strong? What is the distinction between weak and strong? We need to analyse it. It is ludicrous to note that before election, Shri L.K. Advani, visited one gymnasium and he lifted the iron bar to prove his mettle that he can become the Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Why do you interfere like this? Let the Member speak. It is his time.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY : Sir, I just quote a few lines from a great thinker that the exhibition of real strength is never grotesque.

Distortion is the agony of weakness. It is the dislocated mind whose movements are spasmodic. It has been proved that the hot pursuit and zero-tolerance Prime Ministerial aspirant was sunk in the hour of trial. In the hour of trial, it has been proved that the people of our country have elected Dr. Manmohan Singh as a competent person to run the country. This is the distinction.

Sir, it is the moral fortitude.

It is the moral fortitude, it is due to the moral rectitude of a quiet man like Dr. Manmohan Singh that India has been able to retrieve itself from the isolation of the world. Without signing the Indo-US Nuclear Deal, we would have not been able to get rid of ourselves from the nuclear apartheid that we had been facing for the last three-and-a-half decades. It has heralded a new era for our country. Actually, Sir, this time, we had observed that there was a mushrooming of Prime Ministerial aspirants in India which we have never seen earlier. However, all their hopes have been dashed and the people, by their prudent mandate, have given us this opportunity to run the great country that is India.

The salient features of the President's Address are an inclusive society and an inclusive economy. This Government, since its inception in 2004, has been continuing its endeavour to the direction of the poor and the vulnerable sections of our society. We are not the preachers of Shining India rather we are the preachers of the Shining Bharat. Here, Members from the Opposition are simply picking up the gloomy side of our economy, the seamy side of our country. They have every right to do it. But, in our Constitution, powers have been separated. In our Constitution, duties and responsibilities have been clearly demarcated. Here, we are confusing between the Union List, the State List and the Concurrent List. There lies the main problem. Being Indians, we should be proud that we

have been able to launch the *Chandrayaan* by virtue of our scientists and the technologists. It was built indig- enously. We should be proud of knowing it that it is the constant endeavour of our scientists and the technologists that we have been selected in a club of a few countries which possess the intermediate range ballistic missiles. We have successfully test-fired it in the year 2008. We should be proud that India is such a country that it has been enlisted in the club of five by possessing the K-15 submarine-launched ballistic missile. We have been able to unleash the interceptor to kill the hostile missiles. For what? It is to defend our country, to defend our sovereignty and to defend the freedom that we have acquired by the sweat and blood, by the sacrifice of the freedom fighters of our country.

In the President's Address, ten broad areas of priorities have been earmarked for the next five years. Special emphasis has been laid on internal security.

Shri Advani was telling that we should constitute one Commission of enquiry. *[Translation]* I would like to ask them about the attack on the Parliament. I feel that the incident of terrorist attack on Parliament was no less serious than the Mumbai attack. We can easily understand what would have happened to India, had the terrorist entered inside the Parliament House that day. That day a lady member of Watch and Ward Staff of parliamentary security, who had no arms, laid her life while protecting the dignity of the Parliament. Why did not the NDA Government set up any Inquiry Commission that day? We have set up National Investigation Agency, have set up MAC, so that, our security may be strengthened. We know that when the Parliament was attacked, a slogan was given that now the war would be decisive. Was there any such war? Crores of rupees were spent and lakhs of military men were deployed along border, then what happened? Nothing came out of it. They only indulge in rhetorics but do nothing, this is their main weakness.

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur) : However, till day he has not been hanged.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY : During the removal of mines 750 persons were killed, then what did they do?

*[English]*

Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to the UPA Government as they are going to introduce a legislation for giving right to food. This is also a historic legislation like NREGA. I would also propose to this Government that in tandem with the right to food, the right to work, Government should consider the right to health. If it is considered, then, I think, most of the people of our country will get benefit.

Sir, our Government is pressing hard to harness the talent of our country. Educational loan to the tune of Rs. 26,000 crore have been disbursed to 16 lakh students of our country because, without knowledge India cannot prosper further. Now, this Government should make further endeavour to harness our demographic resources because it is a golden opportunity for us. If we invest more and more in the educational sector and the skill development sector, then the coming generation will have a great opportunity because we are enjoying the demographic dividend in the world.

Sir, the President's Address has laid stress on small and medium scale enterprises. As we know, crores of unemployed youth of our country could eke out their livelihood if small and medium sector is revived and is given more teeth. Therefore, small and medium sector industries can play a very contributory role in the economic development of our country.

This Government has put in place three major instruments. First of all, an amount of Rs. 25,000 crore has been earmarked for the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. The second is the National Food Security Mission and the third is the National Horticulture Mission. All these instruments are very much in the direction to make further growth in our agriculture.

[Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury]

Sir, this Government again is putting emphasis for the universalisation of secondary education. Not only that, for higher education also the Government is taking special care and therefore the Government is stressing for excellence, inclusion and expansion.

Sir, another thrust area should be rural water supply. I come from the State of West Bengal. Water of eight districts of the State of West Bengal has been contaminated by arsenic. We are simply sitting on arsenic bomb, but there is no infrastructure which can deliver any remedy to the arsenic affected people of our State of West Bengal. I know that other States are also suffering from contamination of water with arsenic, fluoride, etc.

Sir, the State Government of West Bengal has become financially bankrupt so they cannot provide the requisite sum which has to be put as a matching grant. All the funds which have been flowing from the national exchequer are lying idle in the State of West Bengal. Therefore, I would request the UPA Government to vigorously monitor the implementation of such schemes so that the funds meant for drinking water and for other public welfare measures should be used in an optimal way.

Sir, I must thank this Government for ushering in a new hope for the minority people of our country. The Government has already declared a 15 point programme for the minority community of our country in pursuance of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee. I hail from the district of Murshidabad which has been recognised as the highest minority dominated district in the country. It is a totally backward district. The entire border is porous. We do not have any infrastructure. We do not have any industry. Erosion has become a perennial problem. The geography of Murshidabad district has been altered by the severe erosion which is continuing there for years together. Therefore, the Government should think over the erosion problem, the flood problem, and the arsenic problem of

my district in particular and the State of West Bengal in general.

Sir, now I would indulge in deflecting into other aspects. We are all aware that the frequent piracy off the coast of Somalia and the Mumbai attacks which were through the Indian Ocean clearly indicate that the world's third largest water body Indian Ocean is becoming vulnerable day by day. About 50 per cent of the world container traffic passes through Indian Ocean. The Ocean stretches to the seven time zones from Sahara to Indonesia. It serves as a network of trade alongside the web of drug smuggling, piracy and terrorist activities. Therefore, I think, it is a challenge to our country in the 21st Century to secure Indian Ocean as a region of peace and tranquillity.

Sir, there are two immense bays, Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal and on top of it situated are two of the least stable countries, one is Pakistan and the other is Myanmar.

We are all aware that we are dependent upon oil. Sir, 33 per cent of our energy needs come from oil; and 65 per cent oil is imported through the Indian Ocean. The principal oil shipping lanes are Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman; and the commercial choke points are Bab el-Mandab Strait, Hormuz Strait, and Malacca Strait. It is a matter of great concern that our neighbour China, which is also an emerging power in Asia, is adopting a 'String of Pearls' strategy. It means that along the northern seaboard of Indian Ocean, they are developing ports, surveillance centres, listening points along the coast of Indian Ocean countries. We are facing a 'Hormuz dilemma' because it is the lifeline of our trade, of our commerce. Strait of Hormuz, is close to the shores of the Makran coast of Pakistan where China has been building up a deep seaport in the Gwadar area. Naturally, in the coming years, it is our duty to secure the Indian Ocean region.

Sir, I know that time is going to be shortened. I would like to invite your attention to the grim situation prevailing

in West Bengal. You have also referred to the cyclone storm Aila. The cyclone storm Aila has devastated a great swathe of West Bengal taking a toll of 80 people, and already more than 53 lakh people have been rendered homeless; they are living simply under the open sky. The State Government of West Bengal is totally indifferent, is totally appearing lackadaisical to the plight of those poor victims.

You know that Sunderbans is recognised as a biosphere reserve in the world. Now, the map of Sunderbans has been totally altered. There is no map at present of Sunderbans. The lifeline of Sunderbans area was the embankment. Sir, 400 kilometre stretch of embankment in the Sunderbans area has been washed away. Villages there are situated lower than the tide level of the river. Now there is no embankment. The entire area got inundated. All the sweet water lakes have been inundated; ponds have been inundated; and the stagnant saline water has created a greater problem for the villagers, for the agriculturists, for the farmers of that area. All the farmlands have been inundated by saline water. It will take years together to restore the farming capacity of that land.

The State Government has not been able to provide the minimum relief materials to those cyclone-affected, flood-affected victims of that area. Epidemic has already been started there because in the entire area, the carcasses of cattle are floating. All the fishes are dead. Naturally, there is shortage of drinking water. Naturally, shortage of medicines will aggravate the situation.

**16.00 hrs.**

The Government is totally apathetic. The Government is totally indifferent to the plight of those victims. Even the fume and the rage of the local people have gone to the that extent that one MLA belonging to the CPI(M) party had been beaten black and blue by the local people of that area.

After the storm 'Aila' struck the coast, the BSF and Army jawans were deployed. But without any rhyme or reason, the State Government relieved the BSF and Army jawans. What is the intention of this Government? The Central Government on its own capacity cannot provide relief. But when the BSF and Army jawans were deployed there to provide succour to the victims, the State Government of West Bengal relieved those jawans! That is why I would request the Government to take very special measures for the rescue and rehabilitation of those flood victims because without rehabilitation, there is no sense of any relief.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you would be surprised to note that already tigers from the Sunderbans areas have been straying in the local villages. Even crocodiles are swimming through the local villages. Snakes are coming to the villages through flood water. The situation is very grim there. We know that the State Government is effete to deal with the situation. They do not have honest intention also. They do not have any resources. They do not have any compassion to flood-affected people. Now, they are busy in resorting to violence only to suppress, to throttle the democratic aspirations of the people of West Bengal because in the last elections, the Communists in West Bengal have bitten the dust. Therefore, now, after biting the dust, they are trying to resort to violence. Violence has already started there.

Sir, the State Government of West Bengal is in league with the CPI(M) party cadres, who are launching violence afresh. Only day before yesterday, three to four Trinamool Congress workers were lynched. Their houses were put to arson by the CPI(M) goons, who are in cahoots with the local police administration and who are perpetrating the reign of violence only to retaliate to the poor people, poor villagers, who this time exercised their franchise in favour of the Opposition parties there, namely, the Congress and the Trinamool Congress.

[Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury]

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier they were with us. They thought that we would accept whatever they demand. They were under this impression that they would be able to manoeuvre the UPA Government like handling a puppet and that they can topple the Government at will, however, fact is that it was the Communist Party who had to bite the dust in Bengal. The common people of Bengal taught them a lesson that they should not take the people of Bengal for granted.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY : Sir, I am on my last point.

[*Translation*]

Sir, I have to say one thing that in course of life many friends came and many of them part with us. Some of them come for a short period and after few steps show reluctance to accompany further but the life is like a river. It will continue to flow whether it faces flowers or stones on its way. They should remember that the Congress Party is a like a river that will continue to flow and if somebody thinks that they can play with it like a toy, that will be wrong a their part.

[*English*]

Nobody should take the Congress party for granted. This is the message of the last verdict of our country.

With these few words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY (Alipurduar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to extend my thanks to you that you gave

me time to speak as a new Member. I would like to welcome all the elected Members on behalf of my party RSP. The President's Address has mentioned about the development, Foreign policy, education policy of the country and the redevelopment of every sector. The President's Address reflects the policies of the Government. I am pleased to submit that the Address mentions about the development and prosperity of the people of the country through new methods, eradication and alleviation of unemployment and poverty, progress of tribal people and the development of several other areas. Since independence, Congress Government has been in power most of the time in the country. I am very sorry to say that, despite this, there is poverty, unemployment and illiteracy in the country. What policy is responsible for the backwardness of our country? Some are very rich but most of the people are poor. It is due to this inequality that the country is not developing and on account of this discontentment is rising. Somewhere in organized form and somewhere in unorganized form efforts are being made to spread disturbances in the country under the influence of foreign forces. We should pay attention towards the development of the country. We should pay attention towards the development of the country irrespective of the fact whether we belong to upper caste or lower caste.

16.07 hrs.

[DR. GIRIJA VYAS *in the Chair*]

The area from where I have been elected have Butan, Bangladesh and Nepal on the one side and Assam State on the other side. I would like to say something about my constituency about which other hon'ble Members have also mentioned that several houses were destroyed in the devastating cyclone that had occurred there. It is not that the State Government is not working in this field, however, it is not fully capable of tackling this problem. So, I want that the Central Government should come forward and provide assistance to the State Government because the

availability of resources with the State Government is not sufficient. So, I want that the Central Government should send a team there to inspect and conduct a survey there and provide assistance at the earliest. It is a natural calamity. It is not man made. Hon'ble Member Adhir Babu said that parties are not working properly. I would like to tell him that they are doing good work because the cyclone had occurred earlier also and we had unitedly worked to overcome the crisis. The people of that area have allowed the leftists to rule for 32 years because we work with them. Certain mistakes do happen, however, it is difficult time, so we should make concerted efforts to help people by rising above the considerations of political gains or political mileage. The Union Government and the State Government should cooperate in helping the people.

I have already stated that I have been elected from a border area. Bhutan is a border country. We help them with funds and development is taking place in Bhutan, however, we are affected by floods and soil erosion every year. All the rivers flowing here flow through Bhutan. Illegal mining and deforestation is taking place in Bhutan leading to floods and devastation in our area during incessant rainfall. Indo-Bhutan River Commission was constituted. It is requested that more funds should be allocated for that area and efforts should be made to check soil erosion.

H.E. President's Address was quite comprehensive. We earn heavy foreign exchange from the tea gardens. Tea is grown in Assam, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala. Crores of workers are engaged in tea gardens, however, tribals are there in larger number. They have poor living conditions. The owners of tea gardens are very rich. The process of economic liberalization had positive impact in urban areas.

Many cities and other areas have benefitted from economic liberalization however, it has adversely affected villages and rural areas. Many factories have closed down. Tea Gardens are suffering losses due to liberalisation, people are not getting salaries. 34 tea gardens across the

country are lying closed. I live in West Bengal. 13 tea gardens are lying closed there for the last 5-7 years. The Government have made several efforts in this regard. It comes under the Tea Act. When Shri Jairam Ramesh was, a Minister he had visited these tea gardens. He announced a package for them and gave an assurance of reviving the sick tea gardens. The Government is requested to revive the closed tea gardens and the functioning of tea board be streamlined. The owners of tea gardens take funds from the Government and the Tea board and spend it elsewhere. Proper maintenance is not done. So, the Government should pay attention to these tea gardens so that these could actually be developed properly giving impetus to the country's economy.

Many foreigners visit our country. There are many places of tourists interest in the country, but, these should be properly developed. The natural beauty of Bhutan is not being highlighted properly. So I would request the Union Government to make adequate arrangements for travelling to this beautiful place which is blessed with abundant natural and manmade beauty like green forests, mountains, rivers and tea gardens. Darjeeling is the most vivid example of nature's splendour. It is most bountiful in the Assam belt. So, the Government should zero in on developing these places economically. Adequate railway and road transport facilities should be provided for travelling to that area. Since I was a Minister of State of Road Transport in my State, I could see that sufficient funds were not sanctioned for the construction of National Highway. Lesser funds are allocated for roads/routes leading to Assam and other States via West Bengal. Every year sufficient funds for repair of national highway in view of floods were not sanctioned and as a result the routes were heavily damaged. The roads were broken and could not be repaired due to lack of funds. The Government is requested to double the single railway line leading to Assam facilitating movement of more trains. It is highly regretful that the entire North-East is infested with extremism. There are people from Guwahati, Delhi and even Siliguri, however, there should be uniform

[Shri Manohar Tirkey]

development. Only uniform development can pave the way for the country's actual development. As we see in Delhi, likewise in a rural area a small road actually help lakhs of people. The State Government does not have sufficient funds. So the Union Government should actually come forward to facilitate uniform development *i.e.* equal development in all the regions which would facilitate employment to people that would prevent people from following the wrong path of extremism. Bhutan is a border country. The extremists find it easy to carry out their activities in a forest area like exploding bombs and then disappear from that place. It is a border area, and the border area development project of the Union Government is not adequately funded. I used to ask the District Magistrate why adequate funds were not available to tackle the menace and I was informed that lesser funds were sanctioned for that area. It is a developing area. Tribal inhabit this area. There is no basic infrastructure like electricity and roads in this area. Nothing much can be done there. So, it is the responsibility of the Union Government to revive the border area development project there which could bring prosperity. Everyone in our State depends on agriculture. The agriculturists cannot do farming properly because they cannot afford the prices of agricultural inputs like fertilizers, diesel etc. There are no proper arrangements for irrigation. I reside in North Bengal which is a flood prone area. It causes heavy damage. A major project of the area is pending on a big river Teesta.

A dam, a barrage on Teesta river has been constructed under the project. I feel the Union Government should acquire it. The Teesta river flows down from Sikkim and Bhutan. Twenty years have elapsed and the State Government have not been able to incur any expenditure, owing to shortage of funds. Here, the concern is being raised repeatedly that Teesta project should be awarded national status. This can facilitate irrigation for lakhs of acres of land every year.

Hon. Madam Chairman, it is submitted that you have been living for quite a long time in Delhi. However, you State is completely dry, there is lot of sand. Our land is quite green, there are tea gardens, beautiful forests and mountains yet we cannot use them. The river water is flowing down the mountains. There are forests, natural beauty, elephants and horses and many other wild animals. A scheme should be formulated for this purpose there. The Address by H.E. the President reflected the need for development works for tribals. The tribals listed in the B.P.L. would be given pension after 65 years of age. This is quite heartening. I am myself a tribal and you know that average age of a tribal is not more than 60-65 years. A tribal dies by the time he is 65 years old. So this scheme should be utilised and the provision of pension proposed for these poor tribals should be properly implemented beginning it from 60 years of age. I know the tribals since I live in that environment. That is why through you the Union Government is requested to make arrangements for awarding pension to the tribals at the age of sixty besides awarding them the BPL facility.

I would like to request that as there is a provision in the Railways, the Union Government opens Kendriya Vidyalayas from its funds and Kendriya Vidyalaya are also set up in army areas, the Union Government receives most of the revenue from tea gardens, the custom duty and the foreign exchange goes to the State exchequer. It is a tribal dominated area inhabited by multi-linguals. My forefathers left Ranchi, Jharkhand. Now we have been living there for the last 100 to 200 years and we have become Bengali's residing happily in Bengal. Similarly, people from different regions reside there that is why a mixed language is spoken there. There is difficulty in regard to Bengali and Hindi languages over there. Therefore, I would request the Union Government to set up Kendriya Vidyalaya there on the lines of cantonment areas, as it will provide an opportunity to the people to study every language.

Madam Chairman, I wanted to speak about several other things also but other hon'ble members have already

mentioned those things. I am grateful that you have given me an opportunity to speak but since this is the first time that I have been elected, I was not fully prepared to deliver a speech. But despite this, you have given me the opportunity to speak and I hope you will give me another opportunity next time also. My request is that whatever I have appealed through you to the Central Government, the Government should pay attention to that so that the region is benefited and could be developed. With these words, while expressing thanks I conclude my speech.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : I also express my thanks as you have covered all your points within the allotted time.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra) : Madam Chairman, I would like to express my gratitude as you have given me an opportunity to give some suggestions on President's Address. Yesterday, we heard the address by the hon'ble President and today you have presented here the Motion of Thanks on behalf of the ruling party. I agree with the view which the hon'ble President has expressed in her Address, however, I have given some amendments because I feel that irrespective of the appropriateness of the policies, they can never be successful till we remove the shortcomings in their implementation. You must be knowing that peacock is a beautiful bird having beautiful pinions and it becomes happy when it sees them but when it looks at its legs it begins to think that how fortunate it would have been, had its legs were as beautiful as its pinions. Similarly, extremely good policies are formulated here but when we look at their implementation, we find that there are so many shortcomings in those policies that their benefits do not percolate down to the poor.

One of the famous poets of India Shri Dushyantji has written that:

"Yahan tak aate-aate sookh jaati hai sabhi nadiyan hamein maalum hai paani kahan thehra hua hoga?"

Madam Chairman, you belong to literati, you must be knowing it. I have been elected from a remote region called

Chhatra, which is surrounded by forests. I do not know whether you have visited that place or not, however, it is situated 150 kms away from Ranchi. Chhatra is a terrorist infested area surrounded by forests. After visiting that place, I found that though the Government allocate funds for the region, but they do not reach the poor, we know where these funds get stuck.

Madam Chairman, in your speech you had mentioned that late Shri Rajivji had said that out of every one rupee sent from centre only 15 paise reach the target beneficiary. Even his son Shri Rahul Gandhi has also said that only 10 paise reach the target beneficiary. After all, where do the remaining 90 paise disappear? We know where the remaining 90 paise get stuck and how can we divert these funds to the targeted group for which it is released. Hence, I would like to add this in the President's Address that efforts be made remove lacunae in these policies. 60 years have elapsed since the implementation of democratic system in the country. Have the people of the country accrued the benefits of this system?

"Uga surya kaisa, kaho mukti ka,  
ujala karodon gharon tak no pahuncha,  
Mandiron ke shikharon par,  
magar devta ke padon tak na pahuncha".

Light did reach upto the pinnacles of the temples but it could not reach the feet of the deity.

"Mila baantne ko jo amrit sabko,  
gala chand logon ka tar kar rahe hain".

The nectar of independence is meant for everybody but it has remained available to a selected few. This is why this point is being constantly raised in this Supreme Panchayat of the country i.e. the Parliament, that the money stashed in foreign banks should be brought back to the country. After all, how did that money reach there. Whatever may be the reason, the money should be brought back to the country and the benefit of this money

[Shri Inder Singh Namdhari]

should be given to the poor who have been deprived of this for decades.

Madam Chairman, I am drawing your attention towards this because I myself have experienced this difficulty. There is no railway line in my constituency. Lack of transportation facility, will increase terrorism in that area. It is the destiny of that region. There are rivers but dams cannot be constructed, as it is a forest area. The Department of Forest imposes several restrictions that dams cannot be constructed unless twice the area of land is provided. Through you, I would like to tell this to hon'ble UPA Chairperson who is present here. The Supreme Court gives strict instructions for the protection of forest land but can chalk out a way by which both the purposes could be served *i.e.* the forest land could be protected and the interests of the farmers could also be taken care of. Dams should be constructed on the forest land. The plants of Forest Department could be irrigated by that water. Today there is a need for holding discussion on this issue because if we do not discuss it, the neglected regions will remain neglected and the regions which are developing will further develop. These neglected and backward regions will not get justice. That is why I am requesting to add this point to the President's Address. Those involved in corruption should be identified, as the benefits of Government assistance do not reach the neglected and backward people. It's a fact that corruption is destroying our country like cancer. We cannot shy away from it. Irrespective of party in power, corruption can never be ruled out. The situation of corruption can aptly be described in words of a famous poet of Bihar Vidyapati— "Tatar Saikat Vari Bindu Som Sut Nik Ramni Sawade". Which means that few drops of water on very hot sand will vanish in no time, as it will be sucked up soon by hot sand particles. Similarly, on the hotbed of corruption, few development schemes will not leave any mark. Our country could not make any progress despite passage of such a

long period of time. Poor people have been longing for justice even today. Therefore, the Government through its policy initiatives need to pay attention for tackling corruption that is eating into the very vitals of the country.

Madam, you hail from Rajasthan and I don't know the level of corruption there but I can tell about Jharkhand as how the money earmarked for Government schemes is being looted. Approximately 35 to 40 percent of the money is cornered by middlemen and office bearers. "Umre Daraj Maang Kar Laye The Chaar Din' Do Aarzo Mein Kat Gaye Do Intazaar Mein." If one wants to witness how the money allocated for schemes is brazenly embezzled, he just needs to visit Jharkhand. How the region can make progress under such circumstances. Jharkhand was carved out with the objective of a progressive State. I am one of those, who had launched agitation for the formation of this State but once it was formed, I realized that it has deviated far away from its cherished goal. Therefore, I would certainly demand from the Government to provide a special package to Jharkhand to bring the region on track and make efforts, to weed out corruption from the State.

Madam, in the President's Address a lot of praise was showered upon the Election Commission in very explicit terms. I also agree that India is the largest democracy in the world but I am afraid that this malice of corruption could become malignant and turn cancerous for the country. We should awaken before it happens. The Government should pay attention towards electoral malpractices. The functioning of the Election Commission is akin to the department of Forest in that the later fails to check the movement of trucks laden with smuggled goods but is very prompt in nabbing poor women trying to steal even a very small piece of wood to brush their tooth, in the same vein the Election Commission would turn a blind eye to reckless expenditure during elections but enforces its code of conduct again it petty issues of displaying flags and banners. The Commission needs to be a little more rational

in its approach. Parties often take resort to caste-based politics. A few movements ago, Sharad Yadavji was rightly saying that before giving tickets, parties enquire about the caste of the candidate. What will the people like us do in such a situation Kabir has said — "Jaat Na Poocho Sadhu Ki, Pooch Lijiye Gyan, Mol Karo Talwar Ka, Pare Rahne do Mayan" which means that it is not the caste but the knowledge and virtues of a person that need to be reckoned as one should not be tempted to value the sheath in which the sword is kept but the sword itself. However, presently no one bothers respecting the virtues of the candidate and the candidate belonging to the caste having largest number is considered fit to be offered the ticket irrespective of what his credentials are.

Madam, the Election Commission needs to pay attention towards it. I very reluctantly I would like to say that the candidate who won election from the legislative constituency adjoining to my constituency was someone who was not found fit every by the High court and if such a person is privileged to take oath in the parliament is indicative of the direction in which our democracy is heading. There is a need to think over it. Therefore, I urge upon the Election Commission to shift its focus from insignificant things to more important ones like how the system could be detoxified from this venom of casteism and how the misutilization of money can be checked.

How can the violence be checked? In my Constituency, a commander of the terrorist was also one of the candidate and he used to threaten people that those who press the button of EVM first will risk losing his thumb and a banner was displayed for boycotting the elections. Poor voters went away without casting their votes but the bogus votes were fraudulently recorded at the Electronic Voting Machines and such things took place at hundreds of voting booths. I would like to ask whether the Election Commission has ever paid any attention towards it.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Namdhariji, conclude please. Try to conclude quickly.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI : Madam, I get emotional very easily because where else one would give vent to his feelings if not in this Supreme institution? You shared the same sentiment when you were speaking, hence I hope you will understand my sentiments too.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You have been the hon'ble Speaker in Vidhan Sabha. Hence you will get a lot of opportunities to speak.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI : Madam, I would like to say that the Election Commission needs to pay attention towards it because if the malice remains untreated it would be fatal for the country. Besides, President's Address mentioned that stringent steps would be taken to tackle terrorism. In this context I would like to mention that one of the reasons for the backwardness of Jharkhand, besides, the rampant corruption by middlemen and bureaucrats, is that one has to shell out a kind of levy to the terrorists to initiate any work after being awarded tender and the Government's work order has no meaning, one has to seek the consent of the terrorists to start the work. The work cannot start until they are paid share of the booty. Therefore, I urge upon you to pay attention to the problems of the constituency from which I hail.

Madam, hon'ble Minister of Railways is not present in the House but the Chairperson of UPA is present in the House. She might have visited the area during electoral fray but I urge upon her to visit the area during normal time and see what kind of condition prevails there in that area. Need of the hour for the Government is to pay attention towards the problems of that area. There is a need to see how railway line could be laid there, how the dam on the river could be constructed there and how the employment could be provided to the poor. Even NREGA has been reduced to a thing of mockery there. Right now, even you, madam, had said a lot in praise of NREGA but in my constituency people have started to say that one who works under NREGA will has to suffer. Why is it so? Workers do not get their wages. Even their account do not

[Shri Inder Singh Namdhari]

get opened for upto six months. Those not working get money and those willing to work don't have the job cards. When are these discrepancies going to end? There should be an agency to oversee all these things. Efforts should be made to ensure that the benefits of this well intended law reaches the poor.

Madam, what I say is based on my personal experience. I don't go by hearsay. I am narrating what I have seen with my own eyes. Therefore, through you, I would urge the Government to pay more attention towards the backward areas as even the purpose of giving reservation is to provide a level playing field to those who have been left behind. Since my constituency is backward, special attention should be paid towards this, so that, the people of that area may also feel that they are also a part of India. Otherwise, those disparities will disintegrate the country.

Madam, since you have a poetic heart, so before concluding my speech I would like to recite few lines of Dinkarji.

"Ki Kuchh Samajh Nahin Padta Rahasya Yeh Kya Hai,  
Jane Bharat Me Bahati Kaun Hawa Hai  
Gamlon Me Hai Jo Uge Unme Suramya Aur Sugandh Hai  
Dharti Ke Ped Deen Durbal Hai  
Jab Tak Hai Yeh Vaishmya, Samaj Sadega  
Kis Tarah Yeh Desh Ek Hokar Rahega"

So, today it is the need of the hour to think how the unity of the country can be preserved. There is a need to protect the unity of the country.

It is also essential for the Government in power to see whether the condition of the people living in backward areas — we can give them an analogy of the trees growing on the land, — is deteriorating or not and also whether the rich — we can give them an analogy of potted plants, — the prosperous are further flourishing. As long as this system prevails, there cannot be harmony in the country.

With these words, I extend my thanks and conclude.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag) : Madam Chairman, I am thankful to you for giving an opportunity to speak. It is for the first time that I have got an opportunity to speak in this august House of the country.

I belong to that State about which I feel, there are many misconceptions. I am in public life since 1983, my father was also a public figure. I belong to the National Conference party of Jammu and Kashmir. My father was with the most prominent leader of Kashmir and in my maiden speech I would like to say something about my State in this august House of the country. As many of my colleagues have expressed their views, I also rise to speak in support of the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in the joint session of the Parliament. However, I would certainly like to say something.

We have been the victims of militancy for the last 20 years about which the entire country is aware and about which my colleague from Jharkhand has just now mentioned. Kashmir is the only place, not only in this country, but on the globe about which people know all over the world and the entire country says with pride that Jammu and Kashmir State to which I belong is the crown of this country.

I have mentioned about hon'ble Sheikh Abdulla who as the tallest and most prominent leader of the National Conference Party. I would like to remind in this House that I belong to that State where Mahatma Gandhi, the father of Nation saw a ray of hope at the time when the entire nation was involved in blood bath in the name of religion. I belong to the same Kashmir and my party Jammu and Kashmir National Conference is also proud of this. We rejected the two nations theory. My leader Sheikh Abdulla not only rejected the two nations theory rather, he also compelled Jinnah to go from there and gave the slogan of Hindu-Muslim-Sikh brotherhood. Probably, Kashmir was the only place in the country where no Hindu — Muslim riots took place. We established a political relation. I would

like to inform my respected colleagues that Jammu and Kashmir State is the only such State.

[English]

This is the only State which became a part of this great country. We sorted out our relationship with rest of the country. It is not true about other States of the country, Kashmiri people had dreamt about it. We have signed a Document — Document of Accession — and we are proud that we became a part of this nation. That was a secular and democratic country.

[Translation]

The militancy will be over, however, I would like to submit that it has political implications. The political issue of Kashmir should be addressed politically. So far as my party is concerned, [English] we have taken care of militancy and we are proud of our army.

[Translation]

So far as my party is concerned. [English] At the time of accession, when we became a part of this country, we were a fully autonomous State in the entire country. We acceded and we gave three subjects to the Union and for the rest of it, we were fully autonomous and we are enjoying a special status within this Union. But unfortunately,

[Translation]

it has been eroded singlehandedly, it has suffered one sided erosion. As far our opinion is concerned, I feel that the restoration of autonomy.

[English]

We are not asking for something new, we are not asking for moons, we are asking,

[Translation]

when we became part of this country, we had special status which we call autonomy, that autonomy should be

restored. It is essential for addressing alienation, political alienation of the State. Many formulae have been suggested for this. I feel that if there is any viable, practicable solution to the Kashmir issue, it is the restoration of fully autonomous position of the State.

Many formulae have been suggested, many discussions have been held, I want that the dialogue process that was initiated by the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, and Soniaji should continue because the situation in Jammu and Kashmir will remain peaceful if the relations between these two countries remain normal. Unfortunately, if the relations between Pakistan and our country deteriorate then it will adversely affect the situation in Jammu and Kashmir State. I wanted to talk about economic situation, however, as long as there is no political stability, situation will not improve. I can say with pride that we have rejected two nation theory. Regarding the communal riots it is commendable that our hon'ble President in her Address on behalf of the Government has said that there is a need to check communal riots. I am proud of this Address. When communal riots occur there, we face problems.

I wish Atalji were here. I wanted to talk to him and also that he too listen to me. If they talk about only one section of the country then it will not be okay because one billion people reside in this country and we have to take all one billion people together with us. If any political party talks about only one section, one religion, one region and the people of only one language group, then it can do no good to the entire nation. I feel that it is only the Congress Party which is taking care of the interest of one billion people of the entire country that comprises Hindu, Muslim, Sikhs, Christian and the people speaking different languages. I feel that this is the only party, only alliance that can keep the entire nation united. I do not have any hesitation to say that anyone acting on the sectarian lines talking about any particular religion and region, is not acting in the interest of the country. Hon'ble Advaniji was talking about external aggression, no citizen of this country

[Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg]

can tolerate this. But what can we do about internal aggression? What will happen if we start killing our own citizens in the name of religion, they do not feel safe here and the justice is denied to them by the State Government if they approach it. I am talking about Gujarat. They are pushed to the wall. I do not feel that they are serving the country. If any one can serve the country it is none other than the Congress. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please do not talk to each other, he has listened to you. Let him deliver his speech. When Advaniji had spoken, he had listened to him.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG : Secular forces can serve the country and those who have stood the test of time can serve this country. Only they can keep this nation united and run this country. Only secular forces like Congress Party, UPA Alliance can fulfil the dreams of Gandhiji and Nehruji. The secularism is our basic principle that has been upheld by the Supreme Court of our country and those forces which shake this foundation, they weaken this country. I would like to request the Government that the dialogue that has been held with Pakistan.

*[English]*

No dialogue is deadlock. We are a secular, democratic country. We should not hold the dialogue process. Pakistan can do it. We should not do it. We should continue and we should restart the dialogue process with Pakistan. With whatever forces we have there, we have to engage ourselves with them so that a lasting and permanent peace comes to this sub-continent and we can also be a part,

*[Translation]*

of the development process in the other parts of the country which is not happening because of political instability and

political uncertainty. Therefore, I am sorry to say that unfortunately due to political uncertainty we are not able to keep pace with the progress made in the whole country. Many other issues are also there.

Madam, in 1990 when militancy hit the State, the situation was abnormal, the circumstances were abnormal, we were compelled to bring some abnormal laws to strengthen the Army and Security Forces for handling the abnormal situation and circumstances. But now with God's grace, Congress Government and the Government of India have been able to address this problem to a large extent. Therefore, the time has come to initiate, restart the peace process so that political uncertainty may be addressed and since the situation is becoming normal, the laws enacted to handle the situation at that time, may be reconsidered.

Madam Chairman, through you I would like to tell the entire country that certain laws were enacted at that time, but now the situation is different. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singhji had constituted some committees. They had given recommendations and our Vice-President Dr. Hamid is Chairman of one of these committees. They have given certain recommendations. I would like to request that the recommendations given by the Committees constituted at the behest of the Prime Minister should be implemented so that Kashmir may also join the path of progress like the rest of the country.

The President's Address had a mention of common man. It had a mention of providing food security to the common man. It talked about providing employment to the common man or implementation of schemes in this regard. I would like to apprise the House that the people of Jammu and Kashmir, who elected us to this House, have assimilated two remarkable things in the recently held elections in Jammu and Kashmir. The extremism has been rejected. The Congress candidates has got elected from Jammu. They have defeated communal forces in Jammu and separatist forces in Kashmir. Separatist took a U-turn and one of our colleagues sitting here relegated him to

the third position and even his security deposit was forfeited. Therefore, Kashmir has rejected separatism, Jammu has rejected communal forces. We are in advantageous position, we should take advantage of it, there is a need to further improve this situation. Some forces do not want peace there as you are aware that vested interests crop up in different sections of the society during the abnormal circumstances who thrive under such circumstances. Now, the time has come when we should not allow the designs of anti-peace forces become successful, we should weaken them and bring Kashmir into the mainstream of the country. The entire country has voted back the UPA alliance, there is a need to bring Kashmir in the mainstream so that Kashmir may also progress with the entire country.

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada) : Madam Chairman, the House is discussing the Motion of Thanks on President's Address in the House, I am from that part of Bihar where criminalisation of politics and politicisation of crime has taken place, where people are still living in the State of deprivation. Before presenting my views in the House, I would like to state one thing. A city magistrate of China had somewhere stated that when students asked Confucius about the things essential for the State, he replied that three things are essential for the State— Fort, Food and Faith. A student then asked, if one thing has to be withdrawn out of these things, which one would be withdrawn and which two will remain? At that time, Confucius replied: withdraw the Fort, withdraw the Army. The student again asked if one thing has to be withdrawn out of these two things; then which one would be withdrawn? Confucius replied that Food can be removed but without Faith the State cannot exist. The State cannot be imagined without Faith. When political values degenerate, the Faith languishes. When political values degenerate, the culture languishes, and the downfall of society becomes imminent. When political values degenerate, the system collapses, therefore sanctity of politics must be maintained. During the time of Pandit Jawahar Nehru and Indiraji, politics used to play the role of mother,

it used to consume poison and spring up nectar also. Now when the politics has become profession, business and object of luxury and pleasure, it takes in nectar and spits out poison.

Madam, no mention in regard to restoring the past glory of politics and sensitizing politicians towards sentiments of the people has been made in the President's Address. I hail from Bihar where communal harmony exists. Bihar had been the pillar of Indian politics, Bihar which had honoured Shri Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi with the title of Mahatma, has remained backward. Bihar is lagging behind so much in the field of development, that it is ranking lowest in the tally of States of the country. Therefore, through this House and you, I would like to request the Government that its allround development of country is to be carried out, then Bihar has to be put on the path of development.

Bihar will have to be given the status of special State. It is the misfortune of Bihar that it has been divided several times. Orissa was carved out of it, Jharkhand was also carved out of it and now the remaining Bihar has been facing the fury of floods, it is completely devastated, it is drought affected as well. When Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar, the then Government had promised special package for Bihar and twice resolutions were passed in Bihar Legislative Assembly for providing Rs. 1,47,000 crore as special package to Bihar but till date no such step has been taken. Madam Soniaji is sitting here. I have had close relationship with Soniaji's family and Soniaji is striving very hard to build India. She is very vigilant to achieve that pinnacle of renunciation. Through you, I would like to urge her to pay attention towards the development of Bihar. Before making any comment about the condition of the farmers in the State, I would like to tell you something. After the Mahabharata war when everything was destroyed and all the Kauravas were killed, the mother of Kauravas, Gandhari was facing starvation. She tried to look for something to eat. She saw a burnt berry tree. She jumped hard to reach the fruits of the tree but in vain. Nearby, there

[Dr. Bhola Singh]

were dead bodies of her sons. She tried to make a mound of the dead bodies to reach to barriers. Watching all this, Lord Krishna asked her as to how she could heap the dead bodies of her sons one over the other given the fact that she was the mother of those who were lying as dead bodies there? Gandhari replied to Vasudev, saying that old age brings pain and suffering, the death of young son brings even greater suffering but dying of hunger causes maximum suffering. She further added that she did not want to commit suicide. Today, the Union Government has fixed the MSP of paddy at Rs. 900 which is a remunerative price. Bihar Government added Rs. 50 as bonus to that price. However, what can one say about Food Corporation of India. The Corporation has cut a very cruel joke with the farmers and thousands of quintal of paddy is lying in the fields and homes of the farmers. Even the farmers who have sold their old crop have also not got payment. Food Corporation of India as decided to procure paddy through intermediaries and the farmers are forced to sell their paddy at Rs. 600. Sensing their suffering, I am very pained to say that the farmers have no cash. Cash crops are not being grown in Bihar and the farmers are relying on wheat and paddy only. In the recent past, the farmers of Bhojpur from where hon'ble Speaker Meira Kumar hails

17.00 hrs.

burnt thousands of quintals of paddy in their field as there was no buyer for it. The daughters of the farmers have crossed marriageable age. They have turned 30-40 years of age but yet to tie the nuptial knot. When groom is found for a girl, she refuses to marry saying that she is past the prime for bearing children and what is the use of marrying now. In this way, Food Corporation of India has cut a cruel joke with the farmers there besides flouting the policies of the Union and State Governments. I would like that this House, the Government and especially Soniiji should constitute a Committee of the House which may visit Bihar to see what kind of cruel joke has been played with the

farmers and what kind of inhuman treatment they have been subjected to.

Madam Chairman, through you I would like to put forth one more point before the House. You might have seen that few days back, 40 lakhs people became homeless and many of them were missing after the collapse of Kusba dam on river Kosi. Even today, lakhs of people are forced to lead a life under the open sky without shelter facing rain and hot weather. It is true that the Kosi tragedy is a national calamity. The Kosi flood and flood of river Ganga is nothing short of a calamity. I thought that Union Government will certainly provide assistance to deal with this problem. I am pained to say that 40 lakh people are still homeless there. Their land is inundated with sand, hence they are unable to cultivate. Their children are unable to get education and they are living like orphans. Hence, the Union Government should provide them assistance keeping in view its political commitments.

Congress is not the name of a party. Those who have turned Congress into a party did not do a noble job. Congress is a movement. Congress envisaged a sense of commitment like the river Ganga. It has been having the loftiness of the Himalayas. If it is turned into a party, it is nothing but the misfortune of the country. Congress is a conglomerate of several ideologies and mother of many of them. If it is treated as a symbol of single ideology, it is akin to harming national interests. So, the Union Government should take steps in the matter of Bihar.

In Bihar, there are 1 crore 81 lakh people in the BPL list. But, the Union Government consider only 65 lakh of them in BPL list. There are one crore 23 lakh people who have been living below poverty line in my region. The Government provides assistance only for 65 lakh BPL persons of Bihar.

Whereas the Government of Bihar says that 1 crore 81 lakh people are registered in BPL list. So, the State Government has to make a provision of Rs. 965 crore for arranging food for the remaining poor people. Through

you, I would like to submit that those who are in APL list in Bihar do not get kerosene oil. The Government have not made arrangement for this. So, the State Government is forced to arrange Rs. 464 crore to provide kerosene oil to them. The Bihar Government has to do it out of compulsion. So, a clear policy should be formulated here for those living below poverty line who are registered in BPL list.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Now you please conclude your speech because many hon'ble Members have to speak.

DR. BHOLA SINGH : I am about to conclude.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You may certainly have special discussion on Bihar on some other day but today you please confine yourself to discussion on the President's Address.

DR. BHOLA SINGH : Through you, I would like to submit to the Government that it should give special status and make some separate provision to alleviate poverty in the State. I would like to conclude after saying one more thing. Madam, when Meera, who was a devotee of Lord Krishna was worshipping by dancing before Lord Krishna one young man proposed to her and said that he wanted to marry her. Meera told him that if he wanted to marry her he would have to accept her three conditions. She said my first condition is that I will eat to my satisfaction but you will have to fast. He said that how could it be acceptable to him. Meera said that her second condition was that she would sleep day in and day out and he would have to wake up the whole day and night. The young man said that how could it be acceptable to him. Meera said that her third condition was that she would remain fully dressed but he would have to remain naked, she wanted to know whether the said conditions were acceptable to him. The young man said that how could he accept such conditions. Then Meera said that she was the servant a devotee and worshipper of the one who remains hungry

but feed all of us, who always remain awake and provide sleep to all and who does not wear anything himself but robe all of us. The Government should also follow this Rosture, point of view. It should remain vigilant only then this country will have peaceful sleep. It should serve the country without caring for its own comfort, only then all the people will be satisfied. Today, we have to take steps to elevate the politics to the role of a mother. Through you I would like to submit the following lines that:—

"Ho gayi hai pir parvat si Pighalni chahiye,  
Is Himalaya se Koi Ganga Nikalni chahiye.  
Mere sine me Nahin Tere Sine me sahai,  
Hai Kahin Aag, To wah Aag Jalni Chahiye,  
Mera kam hangama khada karna nahin,  
Par Shart hai ki yah jo surat hai Badalni Chahiye.

With these words, I conclude and support the motion of thanks moved on the President's Address.

17.09 hrs.

[SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI *in the Chair*]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Dumariyaganj) : I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the President's Address. Mr. Chairman, Sir, history is evaluated in the future. This House is writing the history of the 15th Lok Sabha. The history was written on 3rd June and not only all the Members but the entire world is a witness to it because India is now among the league of 34 countries in the world where women have been elected as Speaker of the House. It is not that only one historical chapter is being written but in the coming days, several such historical chapters would be written which will be evaluated in future.

Sir, I think that this will be the first Government that has endorsed the Gandhian belief that India lives in villages. India's soul lives in its villages. The President's Address contains the policies and programmes of the Government which have a clear tilt towards providing

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maximum benefit to the villages. I think, if we look at the Address in a nutshell, it has three main points. First, it mentions that Mid-Day-Meal scheme will cover 15 crore children including those living in rural areas. The BPL persons above the age of 65 years will get pension and if any 40 years old woman is widowed she will certainly get pension. This is for the first time that a Government is making itself accountable for meeting its commitments during the first hundred days of its governance. Some members have expressed their apprehension that even though the policies and programmes of the Government look right, their implementation is going to be challenging. However, if one goes through the Address of Her Excellency, the President, all the apprehensions and doubts will be dispelled. It is for the first time, a work performance monitoring unit at the Prime Minister office level will be set up to monitor the main centrally sponsored schemes and programmes and for submitting their progress report for the general public to ensure accountability. This is taking place for the first time in history that the development schemes will be monitored by the Prime Minister's office. When the Bharat Nirman Yojana was started by the previous Government, be it the issue of public health, providing telephone connections, construction of roads or the development of villages, the report of the Government's programmes was submitted by administrative officers. It is for the first time that the progress report of the Bharat Nirman Yojana will be given not by the officers, but, the Minister of the Union Government will apprise the entire country as to what projects are being formulated under the Bharat Nirman and how much allocation is being made for them. People were apprehensive about the execution of the plethora of programmes being run, but the Address of the Hon'ble President makes a mention of the various projects on one hand and setting up of the monitoring cells for the monitoring of those programmes on the other hand. Whether it is Right to Information or making the data public or NREGA for which

it was mentioned that one who work under NREGA will meet his doom. Efforts are being made to do away with the irregularities at the district level within constitutional framework. I would like to thank the Government that for the first time effort will be made to appoint Lok Ayukata at the district level which will certainly bring down the level of corruption under NREGA. For the first time, the Lok Sabha elections have not been fought on anti-incumbency factor. This is the first election which have been fought on positive issues. It has happened because the Government have performed during the previous five years one of the achievement being implementation of loan waiver scheme. When farmers were dying in Bundelkhand region, the Chief Minister of the State was celebrating her birthday. At that time, Rahul Gandhiji alongwith other congressmen were there to support the farmers. When we proposed loan waiver scheme the State Government had shown its reluctance for the same. We would like to thank Rahulji for leading the Congress delegation. We met Hon'ble Prime Minister, Soniaji, because the farmers across the country from Kanyakumari to Kashmir were forced to commit suicide.

Certainly the loan waiver scheme has made farming a profitable venture from non-profitable one impacting the outcome of the elections. A total of Rs. 72,600 crore of outstanding loans covering 5 crore farmers has been waived. They say that the Prime Minister is weak one. Such a remark was made in the House. In response, the Hon'ble Prime Minister said that he should not be judged in this way rather his assessment should be based on his performance. Therefore, I am of the opinion that if the members of the Opposition had not chosen to call him weak either in the House or outside, the scenario would have been different. I would like to thank the Congress president for making her choice for the Prime Minister candidate clear in Manmohan Singh when she was asked as to who would be the next Prime Minister of the country, if Congress comes back to power. This was said when elections were not held and the Congress was releasing its manifesto. For the first time, the people of the country

have given a positive mandate on these polices and programmes.

Sir, these people tend to forget. Until they were in opposition, they used to hurl the slogan "Her Hath Ko Kam, Her Khet Ko Pani", but when they came to power, they forgot that everybody has to be employed and every field has to be irrigated. We do not say that we will provide employment to all. We implemented NREGA providing rural employment by enacting legislation. We made a law that every person above the age of 18 year will get assured employment for hundred days at his home and will be paid Rs. 100 for every working day. They have forgotten that everybody was to be provided work and every field was to be watered. Therefore, the people also forgot them. It was said here that they have run the Government for six years. But it has been proved that they are not the worshippers of Lord Rama, but mere traders. They chant his name only when elections are around. They should themselves admit it. Six budgets were presented by BJP-led Government. During their tenure the growth rate of agriculture sector was 2.1 per cent and industrial growth rate remained 5.4 per cent. Gross domestic product, which is termed as GDP, registered a growth rate of 5.5 per cent. There was Rajiv Gandhi Government from 1984 to 1989. The GDP grew at the rate of 7 per cent during that period which is a record in itself. Between 1991-96, Manmohan Singh was the Finance Minister of the Congress Government. At that time the country clocked a growth rate of 7 per cent. Between 2004 to 2008 the country witnessed an average growth of 8.5 per cent and even touched the figure of 9 per cent, which was maintained for three years. In the entire world only our economy is comparable to China. Presently Britain's economy is shrinking by 4 per cent. They are under the grip of recession whether it is Europe or other countries of the world. You are well aware that the growth rate of the agriculture was only 1 per cent between the year 1900 to 1950 and it grew at the rate of 3.6 per cent from 1950 to 1980 and now this growth rate has increased to 8.5 per cent between 2003 to 2008. We have grown in this fashion. In the month of April, the

core industries namely cement, finished steel, coal, energy and petroleum refining grew at the rate of 4.3 per cent as compared to 2.3 per cent in the corresponding period of the last year and 2.7 per cent in March. Today, these core industries comprise 26 per cent of the total industrial output of the country. The growth rate of cement sector has increased from 6.9 per cent in the previous year to 11.7 per cent this year.

Sir, we have made progress, we have won elections by showcasing our previous achievement. We have not won on the basis of hollow slogans. Before the elections, opposition had raised slogans on the issues of terrorism and price rise. When UPA Government reduced the price of petroleum products and diesel twice, it had its impact in the entire country and the slogan of inflation lost its base. The way we have fought against terrorists incidents which occurred six months back on 26 November, has isolated Pakistan from the rest of the world. In such circumstances, terrorism and price rise are no longer the issues. Bringing back money stashed in Swiss Banks in the current issue.

The entire country felt as to how all of a sudden this issue has surfaced. They were in power for 6 years. At that time, this was not an issue, even after that, this was not an issue. The issue was raised exactly at the time of elections. People felt how issues change on daily basis, how one person is called Prime Minister in waiting, another person is called as would be Prime Minister, as if two persons are being promoted as Prime Minister, it appeared that the party is divided on this issue. People thought that one is being promoted as a Prime Minister of this term and another for the next term. The people of the country do complete evaluation and I would like to say that the way the elections are held this time, these can definitely be termed as elections with positive outcome. When NREGA was being implemented, I remember it was 26th February and when Shri Madhusudan Mistryji was speaking on 20th February 2006, the people asked as to how the funds would be mobilized for implementation of NREGA? Where it will be implemented; what procedure

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would be followed? Today also, this question was raised, as many programmes have found a mention in President's Address, but special provision in this regard would be made in the budget. Such questions were raised on that day also. If in every village of the district, an adult of 18 years demands employment, then how the funds for paying wages would be arranged but you have seen that NREGA was implemented in 200 districts during first year. Then, NREGA was not implemented in our districts. When meeting of sub-committee was held in UP, Rahulji raised the issue that NREGA should be implemented in the entire country. At least, for the first time, the Government which is providing employment has come to power. If somebody wants employment, he does not need to migrate to Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata. He can get employment in his village itself. He gave assurance in this regard. The delegation met the Prime Minister and today I want to congratulate him for implementing NREGA in the entire country. Now, at least if a person who wants employment gives his request in writing, then, the Administration has to comply. Beside that, he will also get unemployment allowance. Therefore, it cannot be said as to how NREGA would be implemented. There are irregularities in NREGA. The State Governments are responsible for it. CDA, GDA could be responsible for it, and the way circumstances emerge, they could be responsible. I would like to say that some issues have found a mention in the President Address. Today, even in the era of global recession we are maintaining our growth rate, whereas the entire world is affected by this global recession, be it Japan, Europe, or USA, all big banks are getting closed, retrenchment is going on, unemployment is on the rise, but even today I would like to State that the growth rate of the country, development of the country is telling the success story as to how India has faced the global recession. I am stating it because what I am saying would be written in the history of this country. It is for the first time that the Government has resolved to fulfill its commitments within 100 days. Whether it's the issue of tabling Reservation Bill in

Parliament, or question of bringing participation of women up to 50 per cent in Panchayats or local civic bodies or question of increasing women's representation in Government jobs, we can proudly say before the world that we are a self-reliant and strong country. It will not be appropriate if we do not give equal status, opportunity or benefit of reservation to our women in comparison to other countries of the world. Therefore, I understand that this House will create history when women get reservation in Legislative assemblies and Lok Sabha and the Fifteenth Lok Sabha would be known for it. The Government have reiterated its 100 days' resolution, I congratulate the Government for this.

Today, we are providing 50 per cent reservation in Panchayats and civic and local bodies. Today, when we have to face the world, the equal participation of women is needed, contribution of women would be equal to our male colleagues in the coming days. Today, we have done a lot for them in every sector. I do not want to go in details, but I understand that we are not just chanting the slogan of women empowerment, but it is a national mission for us. You yourself have seen our efforts made in the direction of fulfilling that national mission. All of you have acknowledged it, the entire House has acknowledged it. I would like to thank that at least this House acknowledged the fact that Congress Party, UPA took the initiative to get women Speaker elected.

The leaders of all parties have acknowledged it. We have not merely given the slogan of women empowerment, but we are making real efforts in this direction. Whether it is an issue of Her Excellency, the President, the Speaker and even this motion of thanks was moved by Dr. Girija Vyas. I understand that in the coming days on power in the world would be able to stop women empowerment, it has to be enacted in the shape of law and it would be implemented also, I know this.

Sir, the last Government had declared Ganges as national river. I would like to thank late Shri Rajiv Gandhi

for checking the pollution in the Ganga, which is linked with Hindus, Hindutava and called 'Ganga Maiya' by the Bharatiya Janta Party people. At the time of formulation of Ganga Action Plan, I was with him and when the last Government was formed it again took action in this direction and it was the Congress and UPA Government that was concerned about the pollution in Ganga. BJP, NDA Government remained in power for 6¼ years. They were not concerned about the way the Ganga was being polluted in Kanpur, and along its entire course after originating from Gangotri and flowing all the way through Haridwar and then to Gangasagar of Kolkata. The water of 'Ganga Maiya' if which we take a sip from the palm of right hand for purification 'Aachman' by us, a ritual observed during every 'Pooja' has found a mention in the President's Address. We have not only declared Ganga river as the National River, but have also asked for taking measures for cleaning and beautifying it. I definitely understand that this is such a work, which will create history in itself in the coming days. We will clean this river.

Planning Commission should have an independent evaluation office to assess main programmes, I am just mentioning points, whether it is backward area upliftment or social audit of Right to Information Act, or formulation of public data policy and increasing accountability towards people. Consequently, the average growth rate remained 8.6. As I said that only India and China have been able to cushion the blow of recession hitting the world. It has been the result of the foundation of the economy laid by Late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru in the form of the Five Year Plans and the setting up of Bhilai, Raurkela steel plants and Bhakra Nangal dam and setting up of public sector. He invested heavily in basic infrastructure upon which Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi began the process of making Modern India through Green Revolution, poverty eradication programmes, self-reliance in agriculture production, support price to make the farmers prosperous.

I would like Advaniji, today, as he said literacy means information technology literacy means computer education.

He might remember that when Rajivji was introducing computer, the opposition across the country criticized it. They opined that lakhs of people would lose their jobs. Today, I would pay earnest tribute to Rajivji that if computers had not been introduced, then lakhs of people would have actually been rendered jobless. Today, our country has earned a name abroad through these computers, through outsourcing. Our boys, youths and I.T. engineers have earned a reputation across the world in the information technology sector. India began to be reckoned as a developing economy owing to the efforts of Shri Rajiv Gandhi at that time. G-20 is a very big forum of the countries across the world. Today we are actually participating and enjoy a firm standing among G-20 countries of the world due to our economic position as a result of economic liberalization introduced by Dr. Manmohan Singh. Our per capita income has increased 300 times from the year 1950. Despite that the taxes have not been increased, these have rather been curtailed. We reduced customs duty, central excise and taxes on many other items during the period of proceeding Government. I feel all this was done to wipe the tears of the poorest of the poor living in the remotest areas of the country. The Government is trying to support the destitutes, widows. Today there are 18 lakh people in Uttar Pradesh living below poverty line who are eligible for pension. However, the State Government is not even paying Rs. 100 out of Rs. 200/- given by the Union Government. Their priorities are constructing rock garden in the State capital. This way Rs. 11 thousand crore are being spent on constructing only Ambedkar parks, Kanshi Ram Smarak etc. When flood hits Poorvanchal then the Chief Minister does not bother to visit the area, she goes only after the visit of Rahul Gandhiji best someone should criticise her.

The pre monsoon showers have thrown normal life out of gear, wires have broken down, poles have fallen, entire Poorvanchal is in topsy-turvy State. There is huge loss of life and property. The way cyclone hit Bengal, it hit

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Poorvanchal, however, the Chief Minister did not visit the area. The rivers like Kosi in Bihar or Swarnarekha in Orissa are flooded due to the rivers of Nepal. Karnali and Jalgudi rivers originate from Nepal. On this issue, the Government of India should hold talks with the Government of Nepal in the near future.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, tourism industry in Uttar Pradesh has virtually reduced to nothing ever since the separation of Uttaranchal from Uttar Pradesh. Buddhist circuit is the only hope. Shravasti is in Siddharth Nagar, the birth place of Lord Gautam Buddha, Buddhist circuit could be developed to improve tourism in Sarnath. Works on National Highway, conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge can be executed for this purpose. An international airport could be constructed in Shravasti Sarnath on the lines of the one in Bodh Gaya in Bihar. Buddhism is practiced in 35 countries of the world, tourists from these countries can be attracted here,

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today Shri Sharad Yadavji was referring to shortage of power. This was also quoted by several other honourable Members. In 1989 after the defeat of Congress in Uttar Pradesh, BJP formed the Government, three times followed by the BSP Government, yet not even a single megawatt electricity has been generated. Now the Union Government has given an assurance that it would generate 13 thousands megawatt power every year. Whether the State Government is only for running the Government? And the Union Government would feed them with electricity, fund them for running Indira Awas Yojana, Pension scheme, flood control etc. Right now, Bhola Singhji demanded some funds. If the Union Government would fund every programme, where the State Government resources are going? The State Government's resources are for erecting statues and tax revenues for constructing parks. The States should use their resources for developmental works, however, today the priorities of the State Government have changed. Today, their priorities are not public, agriculture and

farmers. When Rahulji stays at some Dalit's house, Behenji makes fun of him. In absence of any reaction, she would have realized the response of the people of Uttar Pradesh. She was dreaming of becoming the Prime Minister anticipating victory on 60 seats which was however, reduced to 20. We contested on 64 seats alongwith our allies and won 21 seats. We fulfilled our duty of coalition. If we had prepared our selves six months ago, we would have won 40 seats instead of 21 seats in Uttar Pradesh and 15 seats in Bihar. That is why public is the biggest master of Democracy.

[English]

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep."

SHRI HASSAN KHAN (Ladakh) : Sir, I stand to support the motion of thanks.

[Translation]

On the President's Address, emphasis has been given on the road connectivity and I would like to say few lines regarding the said connectivity in the House.

[English]

Sir, I represent the Ladakh Constituency, which is the remotest region in the country and the State of Jammu and Kashmir. My region remains cut-off from the rest of the country for more than six months in a year.

My region has long borders with China as well as Pakistan. Drass, falling under my constituency, is the second coldest place in the world, and the highest battlefield in the world, Siachen, is also in my constituency.

Since the area remains cut-off from the rest of the country for more than six months, the working season in the region is also affected — it is not more than six months in a year. All the schemes and programmes initiated by the Centre or the State Government has to be completed

within a span of only six summer months which hampers the flow, the speed of the programmes in the region.

My submission is that the connectivity programme which the President has emphasised in Her Speech needs to be given importance in the remotest region of Ladakh which remains cut-off, as I have already said, for six months.

A scheme or a programme is going on or is in the air, *[Translation]* since the time when Morarji Desai Sahab was the Prime Minister and Sheikh Mohammad Abdulla was the Chief Minister of the State, Padamshree Shri Sanam Murmu was the Minister and the works Minister of Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir. At that time too, it was said that there is a need to construct a tunnel at Onal to remove this separation. Since that period till today, this matter has always been discussed. I have come to know that last year UPA Government did a lot in this regard. If the survey and feasibility study is done in this regard then this region will remain connected throughout the year with the rest of the country and the remote areas of this region will also get developed.

*[English]*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Ladakh region is bigger than Jammu, and Kashmir together in area, though it has the lowest density of population in the country; that too is a big problem for the development of the area.

*[Translation]*

This region is spread over 5800 square k.m. area and when it is cut off from the rest of the world for six months, the people residing in this area and those living along China and Pakistan border face many problems. The brave army jawans of our country are doing their duty round the year in glacier region whether it is winter, summer or in blizzard at the height of 18 thousand feet. Keeping in view the above, I would like to draw the attention towards providing connectivity to this region. This programme is going on for a long time and a tunnel is required to be

constructed to connect this area with the rest of the country. So emphasis should be given on this project. All the residents of Ladakh and myself hope that the UPA Government, during its five years term will certainly work in this direction. It will also find solution to the problem affecting this region for a long time. So, I feel it necessary for providing connectivity to that area for connecting it with the rest of the country and for its development. There is only one airport in that area which is located in Leh. Second airport is in Kargil which is not commercially viable. There is a need to upgrade this airport so that commercial services from Kashmir, Delhi or from Jammu may be operated at least during the winter months between these two districts which are located at a distance of three hundred km. I would like to request the Government to pay attention in this direction as well.

Attention should be paid in this direction as well. Second airport is available there. Already there is an airport. Army aircrafts land there. I would like to request that arrangement should be made to operate commercial services from there. That airports should be upgraded, so that, bigger aircrafts may also land there. If these things are done then this region may also be developed. The scheme which are formulated at centre and the State level may make their impact there. With these words. *[English]* I strongly support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

*[Translation]*

Dr. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY (Shrawasti) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Dr. Girija Vyasji.

Sir, I represent Shrawasti constituency in this House which is a backward and border area located along Indo-Nepal border. It is 'Tapobhumi' of Mahatma Buddha and a pilgrim place for 'Sanatan's as well as Jains also and Devi Patan Temple is located there. It is world famous place for tourism and pilgrimage. Not only this, Shrawasti,

[Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey]

erstwhile Balrampur has also been represented in this House by the great personalities like hon'ble Atal Bihari Vajpayee, hon'ble Subhadra Joshi, Hon'ble Nanaji Dashmukh and Barrister Haidar Hussain. I am thankful to my people who have expressed their faith and confidence in the Chairperson of UPA the epitome of patience and sacrifice, hon'ble Sonia Gandhiji and policies of Dr. Manmohan Singhji, the Prime Minister of UPA Government and gave me an opportunity to represent them in this House.

Sir, it appears, rather I am confident, that all the Members of this House will agree with the President's Address delivered by the hon'ble President in the joint sitting of both Houses in which the inclusive development for Bharat Nirman has been conceptualized. It is because of the commitment, patience and firmness of the UPA Government, displayed in its fight against terrorism, fight for the eradication of poverty on economic front and for providing health facilities to all the people and the progress it has achieved during the last five years, that the Government have achieved this mandate. It is for the first time after late Rajiv Gandhiji that it has got such a mandate. This mandate has been given for a Government in the country having strong will power which can take firm decisions for the progress and development of India. This mandate is the result of such need.

Sir, the present mandate is certainly in favour of the efforts made by the previous UPA Government, under the able leadership of the Chairperson of UPA Hon'ble Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji and Rahul Gandhiji for the progress of farmers and improving and strengthening their economic condition and the condition of the villages so as to improve their standard of living and the decision that has been taken by the Government in this regard. India lives in villages. Since the time I began to understand these things and became mature, started my journey as a student, I have been told that India lives in villages and it is the land of the farmers. Certainly, under the prevailing

circumstances we cannot afford to increase the prices of foodgrains produced by the farmers but what we can do is that we can certainly make way for setting up a stronger and more inclusive India by reducing the input cost of farming paving the way for the farmers to become prosperous.

I am grateful to the great people of India who by reposing their faith in the policies of the UPA Government and by giving a befitting reply to the non Congress Government which have traditionally been following the path of weakening the country and were soft towards corruption and terrorism, not only helped UPA gain majority but gave a resounding mandate for a strong Government.

As Pal Saheb has stated I represent the constituency which has international acclaim. It is also part of Budha circuit comprising Sharavasti, Sidharth Nagar, Kushinagar, Sarnath as well. It is also an international tourist spot and certainly attracts foreign investment and also earns foreign exchange for the country. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the fact that the area can be developed as a potential source of foreign exchange earning by ensuring development of Budha circuit and proper development of reserve forest area from the tourist point of view in a planned manner. There is a need to extend the Gorakhpur to Faizabad National Highway by including Kushinagar, Maharajganj, Sidharthnagar, Tulsipur Sharavasti into it and further connecting it to Lakhimpur, Shahjanpur, Barabanki, Shahanjanpur via Barabanki and Bahraich on Lucknow-Delhi-Bareilly highway which needs to be given the Status of national highway. This section need to be upgraded from State highly to National Highway. This will certainly be an important step from the point of view of tourism. There is need to set up an international airport there. Sir, I was listening to your speech. In my district Shravaṣṭī, not even a single inch of railway line exists. To hope for the development of the area in the absence of railway line and means of transportation does not appear practical.

I was listening to hon'ble Advaniji. Today Indo-Nepal border is one of the most insecure borders in view of the intensions of China. There is a need to pay attention towards this issue. Probably this is the reason as to why the Border Security Force has been deployed there. Maoist activities have been checked to a great extent since the development of border security force there. It has also helped in checking the smuggling activities there.

There is a need to give more powers to the forces. I would discuss about the present Uttar Pradesh Government later, but, we certainly need to pay more attention to the border areas because we have the longest porous border there. We need to be more cautious at Indo-Nepal border even greater than Pakistan or any other neighbouring country in the wake of the prevailing political instability in Nepal. I am a resident as well as a representative of the area. Therefore, I am raising this point here.

Sir, we lack adequate educational facilities. Our area is very backward in the matter of technical and management education. This belt of terai region of Shivalik range faces the fury of floods caused by Rapti river and other hilly rivulets. It has no means of irrigation and farmers have no other facilities except drill boring. Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the need for providing a special package for constructing Mathura, Kodri and Pipra bridges on river Rapti and for the upliftments of Tharu tribals in my constituency so that different schemes in the field of education, health and self employment for them could be undertaken. This is urgently required.

Sir, one of the States ruled by non-Congress Government is Uttar Pradesh. Just now you were making a mention about NREGA. It has come to an notice that 30 per cent of the fund released under NREGA are recovered as commission by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. We view on T.V. that terrorist have imposed jaiya in Uttar Pradesh 'Birthday tax' has also been imposed

there. Today, one can see the ghastly face of democracy in Uttar Pradesh. The people of Uttar Pradesh that once, used to lead the entire India have given a befitting reply to these defeatist tendency by electing 21 persons from the constituencies especially of Budha circuit region. For the last few hours I have been listening to the speeches of my hon'ble colleagues from the opposition. I would like to salute hon'ble Soniaji for the sacrifice she made and the fortitude of Rahulji which have brought about such transformation in the House that people once the votaries of Godse's ideology, have started talking about Gandhian policy in this House and say that it is the Congress which is the face of India in the world. So, through you, I would like to salute the UPA Chairperson for her sacrifice, dedication and patience.

Sir, the double standards will no longer be acceptable in India. The people of India have made their mind in this regard. We will have absolute majority Government after five years. Anti-incumbency is no longer a factor coming in reckoning. Rather, people are shifting to positive mandate. The day is certainly not far away when the election will be held for 16th Lok Sabha and the Congress will form absolute majority Government.

Sir, hon'ble Advaniji made a mention of proxy war in this House. I would like to know as to who promoted that? The concerns were being expressed on the verdict given by the High Court of Pakistan. Through you, I would like to submit to him that when they were in power they played host to Kandhar. It was the cabinet Minister of their Government who did so. Had there been a befitting reply to terrorism at that time, there would not have been Mumbai attack nor would they had dared to attack the Parliament. Terrorism would have been uprooted completely.

Sir, the firm determination of the Congress and UPA Government will certainly destroy terrorism. India is also fighting against the global economic recession and in coming time India will certainly emerge as a number one economy in the world.

[Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey]

Sir, I would like to conclude, however, I would like to draw the attention of the head of UPA Government once again on the Vote of thanks on the President's Address moved by hon'ble Dr. Girija Vyas. Sir, you had mentioned about nectar, I would like to conclude my speech with the following lines:—

\*Amrit to sab lekar bhage, Ab vish ki taiyari hai;  
Kaun Halahal Pan karega, har koi yahi vichar raha;  
Aaj Tumhen Hindustan kya, Pura Vishva Nihar Raha.

I would like to say this because India holds a prominent place in the world. At the time when politics and politicians have become a subject matter of satire, the people of India and its politics have taken a historical turn. The present composition of the House *i.e.* of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha is the outcome of the commitment of the UPA Government. I would certainly like to extend my thanks to hon'ble Sonia Gandhiji and hon'ble Rahul Gandhiji who, by following an ideal Indian cultural tradition and by showing the sense of sacrifice and patience tried to infuse the sense of confidence and expectation in the mind of youth and common people of India in politics and in politicians, at a time when the confidence and expectation of the people of India had entered into such a phase when politics and politicians had become a subject matter of ridicule and when politicians are being presented in electronic channels as a laughing stock. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am extending my thanks to you. Now you please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY : Certainly, today the youth of India. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Pandeyji, you referred about poison and nectar, you certainly might have read this:—

Maan Sahit Vish Khai ke, Shambhu Bhaye Jagdish,  
Aur Bina Maan Amrit Piye, Rahu Katayo Sis.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY : Sir, many many thanks to you.

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Dr. Girija Vyas. The use of term 'overwhelming' at point number six of the President's Address was certainly commendable and I liked it very much. She said that the people of India have given a clear and overwhelming mandate to the UPA Government in the elections. It was a beautiful expression. Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, when the elections, were held. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Vermaji, you may continue your speech on Monday because we want to listen your long speech. So, you take rest for two days and after getting prepared come to the House on Monday. Now the House is adjourned to meet again at Eleven of the Clock on 8 June, 2009.

**18.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, June 8, 2009/  
Jyaistha 18, 1931 (Saka).*

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