

(viii) **Need to provide Central Assistance for better irrigation facilities in Fatehpur, U.P.**

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Fatehpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, people of Tindwari, Hasba, Bindki, Fatehpur and Kishanpur in Fatehpur Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh are facing a lot of difficulties due to non-availability of proper irrigation facilities. Therefore, setting up of Government tube wells, pump canals and construction of canals is very essential in the current financial year itself. Farmers are facing starvation due to erosion in Lower Ganga Canal and lack of irrigation facility. Jarauli Pump Canal under Fatehpur district is also lying incomplete. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to get Government tube wells set up and new pump canals constructed immediately by providing financial assistance in the current financial year itself.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now resume further discussion on the Motion of Confidence. Time allotted for this debate was seven hours.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No please, not now. Zero Hour is over.

We have consumed six hours and 37 minutes. We are left with 23 minutes out of seven hours suggested in the BAC.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, not now. The time for raising serious matters is over.

Now we continue the debate on the Motion of Confidence.

Mr. Finance Minister.

12.14 hrs.

MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (Contd.) - Adopted

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday we began another debate on another Vote of Confidence. It is not often in a nation's life that there is such rapid change of Governments and each Government is required to seek a Vote of Confidence in this House. By any standard, by any measure, these are indeed unusual times and therefore the experience that we gain would indeed be very valuable for the future. Because these are unusual times, one has to find unusual responses to the challenges that we face.

12.15 hrs.

(Shri P.M. Sayeed in the Chair)

Sir, I was disappointed yesterday, not because important things were not said or important things were not said by important people or important people did not say things with the importance that deserves to be attached to these matters, but I was disappointed because it was, in fact, a throw back to the debate of 27th and 28th May. It seems to me that my good friend, Shri Jaswant Singh is like a sulking child whose toy has been taken away and he cannot quite comprehend or come to terms with the fact that he is no longer in Government.

Sir, where did we end our debate? We ended it rather unceremoniously when Shri Vajpayee walked away even before the Speaker knew what was happening and he could pronounce an end to the debate or declare the Motion infructuous as the Speaker did in 1979 for adjourn the House *sine die*. But that debate ended, I thought, with the broad consensus that the mandate of 1996 elections was for a coalition. Perhaps, Sir, this message was not quite absorbed on 27th and 28th May. But if almost 15 days later one-third of this House refuses to learn or absorb this message, I am afraid, that does not portend well for democracy or for the functioning of this House.

I would most humbly submit to my good friend, Shri Jaswant Singh, who had very many nice things to tell about me yesterday and I hope I can return the compliment in some small measure today. The message of 1996 is that this country voted for a coalition Government. You have ridiculed us, you have criticised us, you have at least read the title of our common minimum programme even if you did not read the contents of it. But please understand the process, the churning that is going on in this nation which is reflected by all who are sitting on these Benches.

Sir, much has been said about support from outside. What did the BJP do in 1989? It supported a Government from outside. It is a different matter, its sense of political morality did not stand in the way of pulling the rug from under the feet after a few months, the political morality about which Shri Jaswant Singh waxed eloquent yesterday. What did the BJP do to the Mayawati Government in Uttar Pradesh? BJP supported it from outside and then as usual its sense of political morality encouraged it to pull the rug from under the feet. I do not think, we should give to each other lesson on political morality. If you believe what you are doing is right, please do it but go to the people and ask for their support. If I believe what I am doing is right, I shall go to the people and get my support.