

# The Journal of Parliamentary Information

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

NEW DELHI

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# THE JOURNAL OF PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION

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## EDITORIAL NOTE

Independent India has time and again proved its democratic credentials by conducting periodic elections to the representative bodies at the national, State and local levels. The successful culmination of the ten General Elections to the Lok Sabha has widely been hailed the world over as a tribute to the basic tenets of parliamentary democracy. During April-May 1996, the people of India again demonstrated their commitment to democracy when they went to the polls to elect their representatives to the Eleventh Lok Sabha. Following this, the nation and the Lok Sabha particularly witnessed developments of historical importance with two successive Prime Ministers seeking the vote of confidence of the elected House. This issue of the *Journal* carries a Short Note titled "The Eleventh Lok Sabha : A Momentous Beginning", highlighting major events since the General Elections were announced by the Election Commission.

The election of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is one of the important tasks the House has to undertake soon after its constitution. In a historic decision, the Eleventh Lok Sabha unanimously elected Shri Purno Agitok Sangma as the Speaker, the first time in our parliamentary history when the Presiding Officer was chosen from the Opposition benches. On behalf of the *Journal of Parliamentary Information* and its worldwide readership, we extend our hearty felicitations to Shri P.A. Sangma on his assuming the office of the Speaker of the largest working democracy in the world. We include in this issue of the *Journal* a Short Note on the election of the Speaker.

The Constitution of India provides for an Address by the President to either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together. Under art. 86(1), the President may address either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require the attendance of members. Art. 87(1) provides that at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the President shall address members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.

On 26 February 1996, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressed the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House at the commencement of the first Session of Parliament in 1996. We reproduce in this issue of the *Journal* the text of the Address.

During the Tenth Lok Sabha, a major initiative was taken to install more statues and portraits of several national leaders and eminent parliamentarians in the Parliament House Complex in addition to the ones which are already adorning the Complex. Accordingly, on 27 January 1996, a statue of the former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi was

unveiled by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma between Gate No. 5 and the Central Hall, near the Prime Minister's Office in Parliament House. Later, a function was held in the Central Hall which was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. This issue of the *Journal* carries the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

On 15 March 1996, at another function, the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled the statue of eminent freedom fighter and one of the builders of modern India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in the Court between Building Gate No. 1 and the Central Hall of Parliament House. Later, the President unveiled the portrait of veteran parliamentarian, Shri Madhu Limaye in the Central Hall. The distinguished gathering was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma; the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the former Union Minister and the Chairman, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Shri Vasant Sathe; and Shri Mohan Singh, MP. We carry in this issue of the *Journal* the texts of the Addresses by the dignitaries on the occasion.

Besides, this issue of the *Journal* includes our other regular Features, viz. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Development, Sessional Review and Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest.

It has been our constant endeavour to make the *Journal* more useful and informative. We would greatly welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We would also welcome practice and problem-oriented non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—Surendra Nath Mishra  
*Editor*



The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma arriving in procession to address members of Parliament on 26 February 1996

## ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO PARLIAMENT

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The Constitution of India provides for an Address by the President to either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together. The provision for an Address by the Head of State to Parliament goes back to the year 1921 when the Central Legislature was set up for the first time under the Government of India Act, 1919.

The President may address both the Houses of Parliament assembled together or either House of Parliament separately as per provisions of articles 86(1) and 87(1) of the Constitution. Under art. 86(1), the President may address either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require the attendance of members. Art. 87(1) provides that at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the President shall address members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.

The Address by the President is a statement of policy of the Government which is responsible for its contents. The Address contains a review of the activities and achievements of the Government during the Previous year and sets out the policies which it wishes to pursue with regard to important national and international issues. It also indicates the main items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought during the Sessions to be held in that year.

On 26 February 1996, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressed the members of the two Houses of the Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House at the Commencement of the first Session of Parliament in 1996.

We reproduce below the text of the Address.

—Editor

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Honourable Members,

I welcome you to this Session of Parliament.

The 10th Lok Sabha has accomplished substantially its tasks and the country has been guided through momentous changes in every sphere. I take this opportunity to congratulate all of you for your dedicated service to the nation.

The nation celebrated the 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi which was marked by a large number of significant activities in different parts of the country and abroad. An important landmark was the institution of the Gandhi Peace Prize for Social, Political and Economic Transformation through Non-violence and other Gandhian methods. The first Gandhi Peace Prize was conferred upon Dr. Julius K. Nyerere. The

Anniversary concluded with a solemn function on 31 January 1996 at the Bapu Kutir in the Valmiki Mandir Complex in New Delhi where Gandhiji used to stay.

The law and order situation in the country has been under control. Government would continue to exercise extreme vigilance in the coming months to ensure that relations between different communities and groups continue to be harmonious.

Terrorism and insurgency have been curbed. Separatist tendencies have been contained to a very large extent. In this context the performance of the security forces has been creditable. However, the incident of arms drop in Purulia in West Bengal has highlighted the need for constant vigilance. In this connection, investigations into the incident, and its national and international ramifications, are being pursued vigorously. Steps are being taken to ensure effective policing of the air corridors of the country.

In Jammu and Kashmir, due to the concerted drive by security forces against militants and foreign mercenaries, coupled with the acceleration of developmental activities, there is a perceptible change in the overall situation. The revival of political activities has been made possible. Parliament passed a balanced budget in 1995-96 and for the first time in many years the Plan outlay is expected to be spent fully on development schemes without any diversion for meeting the non-Plan resources gap. Though Government had to seek further extension of President's Rule upto 17 July 1996, it remains committed to the restoration of representative Government in the State at the earliest.

In the North-East several initiatives have been taken to tackle the economic backwardness of the region. The North-East Council has emerged as an effective institution for implementing developmental activities. The Sixth Schedule to the Constitution was amended for giving more powers to the Autonomous District Councils of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills in Assam.

The economic scenario has been continuously improving. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has shown a substantially faster rate of growth in the years subsequent to 1991-92. In 1994-95, this had increased to 6.3 percent. Gross Domestic Savings at current prices improved in 1994-95 and was 24.4 percent of the GDP. Industrial production increased by 12 percent in the first 6 months of the current year over the corresponding period last year, showing a strong revival.

Along with this, exports have gone up further by 24.17 percent in the first 8 months of the current financial year. Imports have also grown as a consequence of the overall growth of the economy, and the industrial sector in particular. Foreign exchange reserves are at a comfortable level of about \$16 billion.



The annual rate of inflation, which had almost reached 17 percent in August 1991, has been controlled and in the current year, the inflation rate has been brought down to around 5 percent, which is the lowest in the last 7 years. As a result of the strong support to the agricultural sector, foodgrain production and stocks have reached very comfortable levels. The availability of various items of mass consumption has been maintained. The Public Distribution System has been strengthened and by introducing the Revamped Public Distribution System, additional concessions have been given for those living in the poorest areas of the country.

The small scale industries sector accounts for about 40 percent of the output in manufacturing and 34 percent of the country's total exports. It has recorded a growth of 10 percent during 1994-95 and accounted for employment of 146 lakh persons by the end of 1994-95. Export of goods by this sector are estimated to have increased from Rs. 13, 883 crore in 1991-92 to Rs. 26,400 crore in 1994-95

In the khadi and village industries' sector, sales have reached a level of over Rs. 4,069 crore in 1994-95. This sector accounted for employment to 53.46 lakh persons in 1994-95. A Rs. 1,000 crore consortium credit has been given to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) this year for the first time. Out of this, the KVIC had sanctioned projects costing about Rs. 235 crore by the end of January 1996 to generate additional employment for about one lakh persons.

Our agricultural strategy has been to increase production through the best use of soil and water in an integrated fashion. During the Eighth Plan, Rs. 1,100 crore have been allocated for the restructured National Watershed Development Projects for Rainfed Areas. The coverage of Drought Prone Areas Programme has also been increased to 946 blocks of 149 districts in 13 States. Coverage of the Desert Development Programme has been further extended to 227 blocks of 36 districts in 7 States. These programmes are being implemented with the active participation of the watershed community.

Foodgrain production in 1994-95 achieved a new record of 192 million tonnes. The production of sugar also reached a record level of nearly 145.85 lakh tonnes in 1994-95. Government has built up a buffer stock of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar this year, as a precaution against possible fluctuations in availability and prices.

Disbursement of agricultural credit through institutional agencies is expected to reach a level of Rs. 26, 450 crore in 1995-96 as against Rs. 21,113 crore in 1994-95. The consumption of chemical fertilizers during 1994-95 was 135.64 lakh tonnes. It is expected to further increase to 156.64 lakh tonnes in 1995-96.

Government has been acutely sensitive to the needs of the poor. The programmes of direct alleviation of poverty have been expanded,

as reflected in substantial increases in allocations for rural development, employment generation, housing, rural water supply, etc.

Under the Indira Awas Yojna, about 20 lakh houses were constructed between 1985-86 and 1994-95. However, in 1995-96 this programme has been further stepped up by undertaking a massive programme of construction of 10 lakh houses with a budget provision of Rs. 1,000 crore and is progressing in full swing. Besides, steps have been taken to augment housing facilities for other sections as also government servants.

The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna which aims at providing self-employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth, had benefited 1,96,154 persons during 1994-95. For 1995-96, loans under the scheme are planned to reach 2.6 lakh persons.

As the Honourable members know, the Government has launched the National Social Assistance Programme to provide for Old Age Pensions, Maternity Benefit and lump sum payment on the death of the primary bread earner in poor families. Complementing this package is a pioneering scheme of Group Life Insurance which includes subsidized premiums for the poor.

An Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme was launched in November 1995 to tackle the problem of urban poor in an integrated manner in all 345 class-II towns with a population ranging between 50,000 to 1 lakh. A provision of Rs. 100 crore has been made in the current financial year for the Programme.

Government has strengthened the role and powers of the Panchayats and Nagarpalikas in all Centrally Sponsored Schemes operating at the district level and below. This initiative has also ensured the emergence of more than one million women as leaders and decision-makers at the grassroot level. Similarly, the States are being asked to empower these bodies with adequate financial and administrative responsibilities.

Substantial enhancement has been made in the allocations for Schemes of Special Central Assistance for Special Component Plan, Post-Matric Scholarships, National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation and Aid to Voluntary Organizations. The Government has also revised the rates of maintenance and other allowances under the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students.

A National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has been set up to monitor the implementation of the National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharis still engaged in night soil removal. Since the inception of the Scheme, about 94,000 such persons have been trained for other vocations and 2.5 lakhs have been rehabilitated.

The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation has so far disbursed Rs. 131.64 crore for self-employment ventures. To enable the Other Backward Classes (OBC) candidates to compete on equal terms with general candidates in various recruitment tests and examinations, the Government has provided financial assistance to 122 coaching centres so far.

The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation has established linkages with State channelising agencies. Loans are being disbursed for self-employment. The Wakf Act, 1995, for effective and democratic administration of Wakf Boards, has been brought into force with effect from 1 January 1996. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 has been enacted to provide equal opportunities for persons with disabilities. It has also been decided to set up a National Finance and Development Corporation for the Disabled with an authorised share capital of Rs. 400 crore. A Bill to set up a National Trust to provide total care to persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy has been introduced in the Lok Sabha.

The ongoing immunisation of children against six vaccine-preventable diseases has already yielded encouraging results. In keeping with the global goal of eradication of polio by 2000 AD, a supplemental dose of oral polio vaccine was administered to more than 7.5 crore children in the age group 0-3 years throughout the country on 9 December 1995 and the exercise was repeated on 20 January 1996. The Pulse Polio Immunisation will be continued in future years also.

The allocation for the education sector has been steadily increased as part of the Government's commitment to achieve the target of allocation of 6 percent of the GDP by the year 2000 AD. To realise the goal of Universal Elementary Education, 110 Districts would be brought within the ambit of the District Primary Education Programme by the end of the Eighth Plan. A National Elementary Education Mission has been launched to cover all children up to the age 14 years by the turn of the century. As part of National Literacy Mission, Total Literacy Campaigns have been further extended to 368 districts and the Post Literacy Campaigns to 159 districts in the country. A major National Programme of Nutritional Support to children in Primary Schools covering about 11 crore children from classes I to V over a three year period was launched on 15 August 1995.

There has been a remarkable improvement in the industrial relations scenario in the country over the last 5 years. There is a significant decrease in the number of strikes and lock-outs and the number of mandays lost. Government is committed to successfully implement the Employees' Pension Scheme introduced in November 1995, which provides for the first time, life-long social security to about 19 million industrial workers and their families.

To bring our arbitration law in tune with the international thinking on the subject, an Ordinance called "The Arbitration and Conciliation Ordinance, 1996" has been promulgated. With this and the other steps taken to establish Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms, it is hoped that India will soon emerge as a pioneer in this field in the South Asian region.

The achievements of our scientists in the past year have been noteworthy and give us confidence for the future.

Successful launches of INSAT-2C and IRS-IC satellites last December once again demonstrated our capability to design, build and operate state-of-the-art space systems, which will be vital for the development of our telecommunication, television, meteorological and resources survey programmes. We plan to launch INSAT-2D during 1996-97 and INSAT-2E and IRS-ID during 1997-98. We have also made good progress in developing the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) for launching our INSAT class of satellites.

During the year, the country's tenth nuclear power reactor at Kakrapar commenced operation and was stabilised satisfactorily. The research reactors at Trombay have supplied more than 60,000 kits for diagnosis and treatment to more than 300 medical institutions all over the country.

During 1995-96, the situation in some parts of India's immediate neighbourhood remained uncertain in security terms. Pakistan's continuing attempts to acquire sophisticated weaponry and uranium enrichment technology have been a matter of serious concern for us. Pakistan's attempts heighten tensions in our region and are likely to trigger an arms race. We have every confidence in the capability of our armed forces to defend the nation. Government is determined to ensure their capability in this regard. I am sure honourable members would, in this context, join me in commending the armed forces for their professionalism and dedication.

As a result of the concentrated efforts of our scientists engaged in defence research, the Light Combat Aircraft was unveiled in November 1995 and test flights would commence by the end of this year. The development of the Main Battle Tank 'Arjun' has been completed with a view to its induction. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a high performance supercomputer using multiprocessor technology, which has met a long-felt need and which enhances our self-reliance in this field.

In the foreign affairs' sphere, our relations with our neighbours were further strengthened. Our traditionally close ties with Bhutan were reinforced during the year. The visit to India of the former Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Manmohan Adhikari, in April 1995 and of the present Prime Minister, Mr. Sher Bahadur Deuba earlier this month, contributed to

developing closer mutual understanding. The inauguration by the Prime Minister of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital in the Maldives in April 1995 is testimony to our commitment to amity and cooperation with that country. Our relations with Sri Lanka were marked by cordiality and trust. Our trade with Bangladesh increased as did contacts between the peoples of the two countries. The momentum in our relations with China was maintained with a continuing dialogue at the highest levels. Our efforts resulted in promoting good relations with all our neighbours in South Asia, with the sole exception of Pakistan. We urge the Government of Pakistan to eschew its path of confrontation with India and respond constructively to our repeated offer of a bilateral dialogue to resolve all outstanding issues in accordance with the Shimla Agreement.

A landmark in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)'s progress was achieved last year with the operationalisation of the South Asia Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) from 7 December, 1995. The signing of a trilateral Memorandum of Understanding on transit by India, Iran and Turkmenistan, which seeks to establish a viable surface route between India and Central Asia for commercial and other links, was an important event in the development of our links with Central Asia. The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has agreed to full dialogue partnership status for India. This reflects the growing, mutually beneficial relationship between India and the ASEAN.

Our relations with the Russian Federation continued to be close. Further areas for cooperation in economic, cultural and other fields were identified. The India-United States relationship registered steady growth, in particular in the economic and commercial areas. Political and economic cooperation with countries in the African continent was promoted through high-level visits to and from, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Burkina Faso and Ghana.

India took the lead in articulating the political, economic, social and other concerns of the developing countries in international forums like the World Summit for Social Development in Denmark in March 1995; the UN General Assembly's 50th Anniversary Special Commemorative Meeting in October 1995; and the 11th Non-aligned Summit in Colombia in the same month. Consistent with its commitment to the objective of complete nuclear disarmament within a specified time-frame, India is participating actively in the negotiations for a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. At the same time, we view the indefinite extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as an obstacle to universal nuclear disarmament as it seeks to legitimise the nuclear arsenals of nuclear-weapons states.

As this Session will be a brief one, only essential legislation will be taken up during this Session. Some Ordinances promulgated since the

last Session will be placed before Parliament. A statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for the financial year 1996-97 will be laid before you for the purpose of passing Vote-on-Account authorising expenditure for a part of that year. Vote-on-Account in respect of the States under the President's Rule would also need to be passed.

The policies of the Government have put the country on the path of growth enabling the people to realise their potential. The strength of the country lies in the strength of its economy and the unity of its people. During the last four and a half years, your dedication, wisdom and vision have left an imprint that will guide the nation into a brighter tomorrow.

I commend you to your tasks in this Session and wish you success.

**Jai Hind**

## ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF SMT. INDIRA GANDHI

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On 27 January 1996, a statue of the former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi was unveiled by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma between Gate No. 5 and the Central Hall, near the Prime Minister's Office in Parliament House. Later, a function was held in the Central Hall which was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. The statue has been made by the renowned sculptor, Shri Ram Sutar.

On the occasion, the President of India also released a book, *Indira Gandhi: Speeches in Parliament*, edited by the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, Shri S.N. Mishra.

We reproduce below the texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion.

—Editor

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### ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA, SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL\*

We are grateful to His Excellency, the President of India, the Honourable Vice-President of India and the Honourable Prime Minister of India for having graced this solemn occasion on our invitation and graciously consenting to address this august gathering. It is our privilege to welcome these dignitaries here. We also welcome Smt. Sonia Gandhi to this function and express our sincere gratitude to her for being with us. We also extend a hearty welcome to the former Prime Ministers, Shri V.P. Singhji and Shri Chandra Shekharji and thank them for their benign presence on this occasion. We are also delighted to welcome the Honourable Ministers, the Honourable Governors, the Honourable Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, members of Parliament, dignitaries from the Diplomatic Corps, friends from the Media and Ladies and Gentlemen to this function.

In a short while from now, a book titled *Indira Gandhi: Speeches in Parliament*, will be released by the Honourable President. This book may prove to be of great interest to parliamentarians, the people of this country and the people of other countries who are keen to know and understand her ideology. This publication will enable the readers to have

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\*Original delivered in Hindi

a glimpse of Smt. Indira Gandhi's personality, her convictions, capabilities, courage and magnanimity which might prove a source of inspiration, encouragement, understanding and courage.

The officers of Parliament and some other friends have done appreciable work and rendered valuable contribution in the compilation and publication of this volume.

The statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi was unveiled a short while ago by the revered President, for which we thank him from the core of our hearts. The sculptor, Shri Ram Sutar's art is simple magic. His sculptures are indeed lifelike. We extend hearty felicitations to him on behalf of the august gathering for creating this masterpiece.

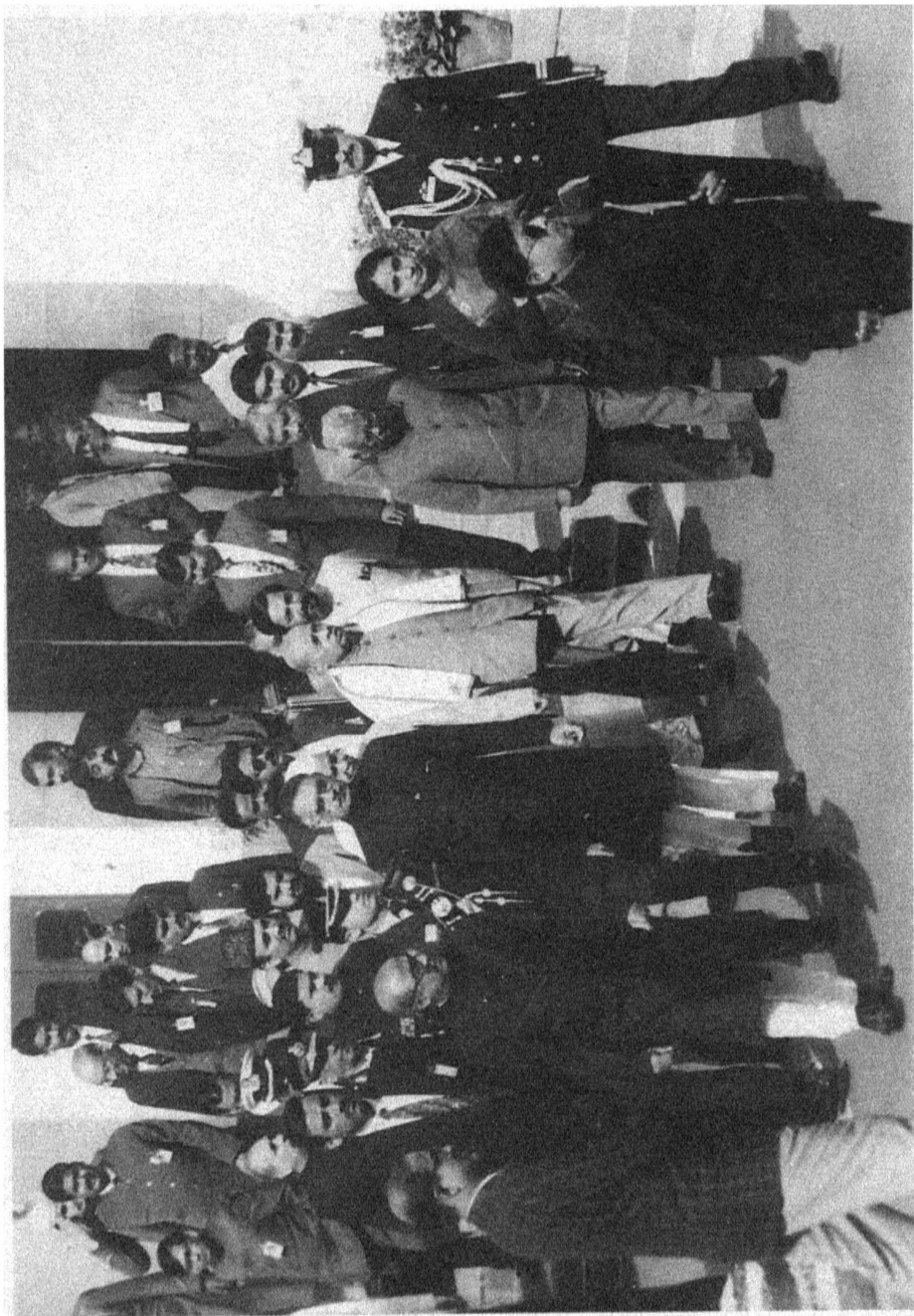
The sculptures and the statues installed in this building and elsewhere in the precincts of the Parliament House remind us of India's glorious past, its rich cultural heritage and the continuous and progressive flow of Indian civilization. These images can strengthen the foundation of the country's emotional integrity and instill in our minds an enduring source of inspiration. And that is what we consider as the most important purpose behind this endeavour. We express our utmost gratitude to all those who have extended their help and cooperation in this regard.

This statue of Indiraji has been donated by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. We express our thanks to this organisation and its officials for this gesture.

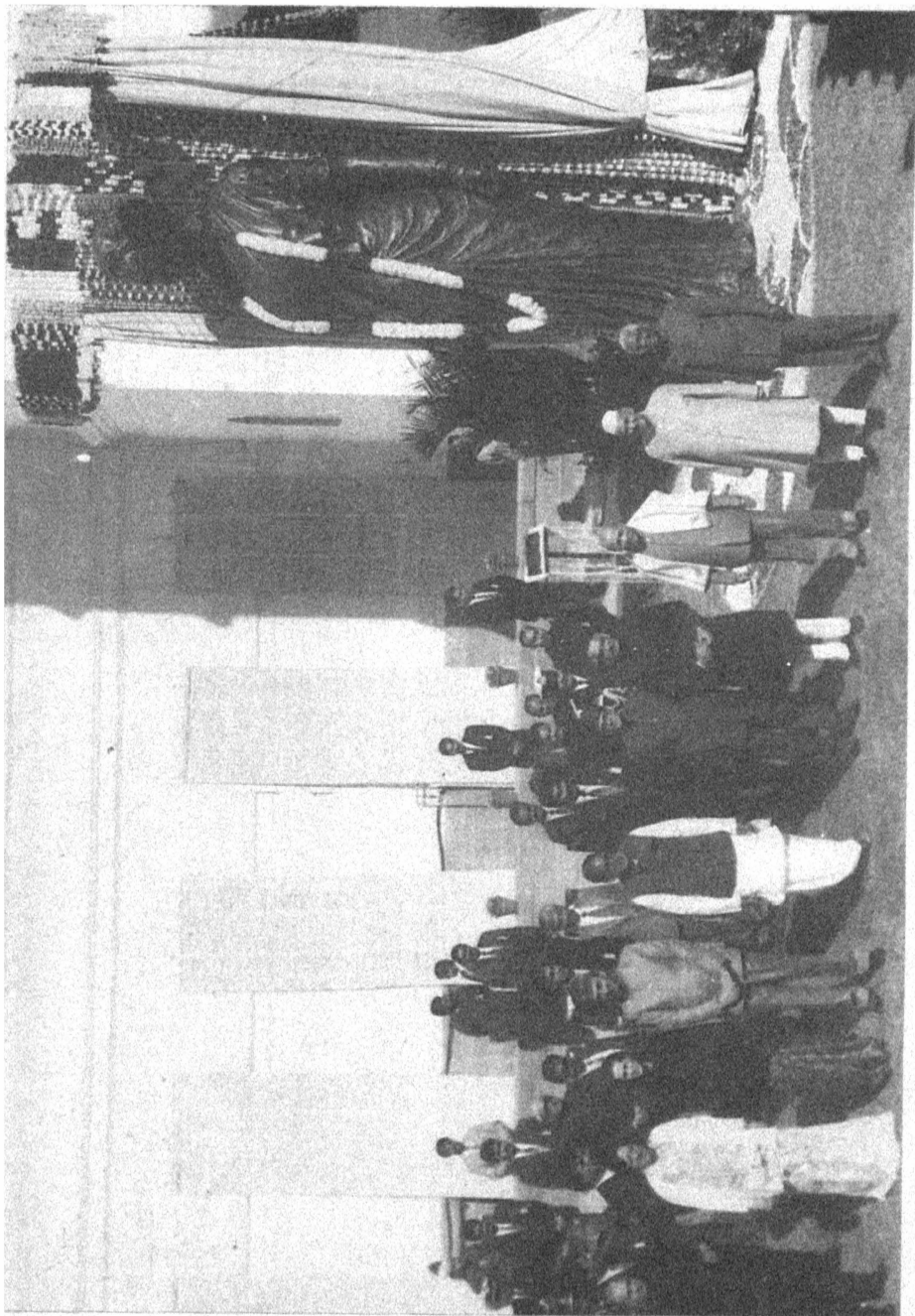
Indiraji belonged to a family that had been at the forefront of the freedom movement of our country; she was the daughter of a remarkable personality and visionary leader who steered India's struggle for Independence to its logical end; and finally she was a mother to all those right thinking sons and daughters of India and elsewhere who loved their country, who wanted peace in the world, who believed in giving equal rights and love to one and all, and who considered none as alien to them.

Though born in a very affluent family, she had to face the trials and tribulations of life from her childhood. She confronted all this for the sake of others and plunged herself into India's struggle for freedom. She suffered much and finally scarified her life for making India a strong nation, building its image, taking it in the right direction of progress and safeguarding its unity and integrity. In a way, she was like Abraham Lincoln and Mahatma Gandhi. Her heart was pure, devoid of any fear or hatred, and full of abounding love, willpower and feelings of universal good. She always cherished democracy and wanted it to exist and function in the country. She longed for the eradication of poverty, to enhance the economic growth of the country, to ensure justice for all and equal respect to the holy books of all religions. She always strove for preservation and enrichment of our rich cultural heritage, securing

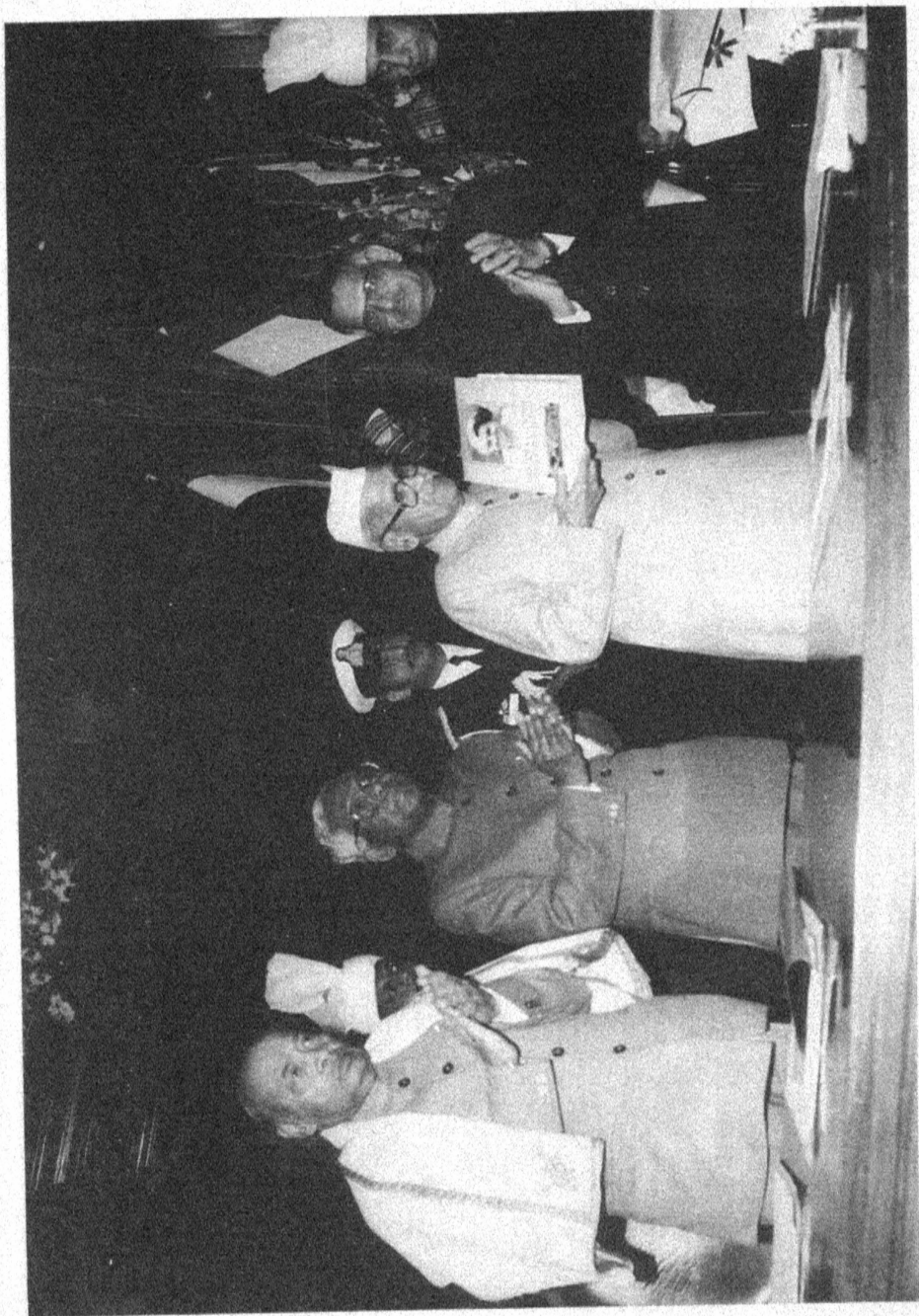




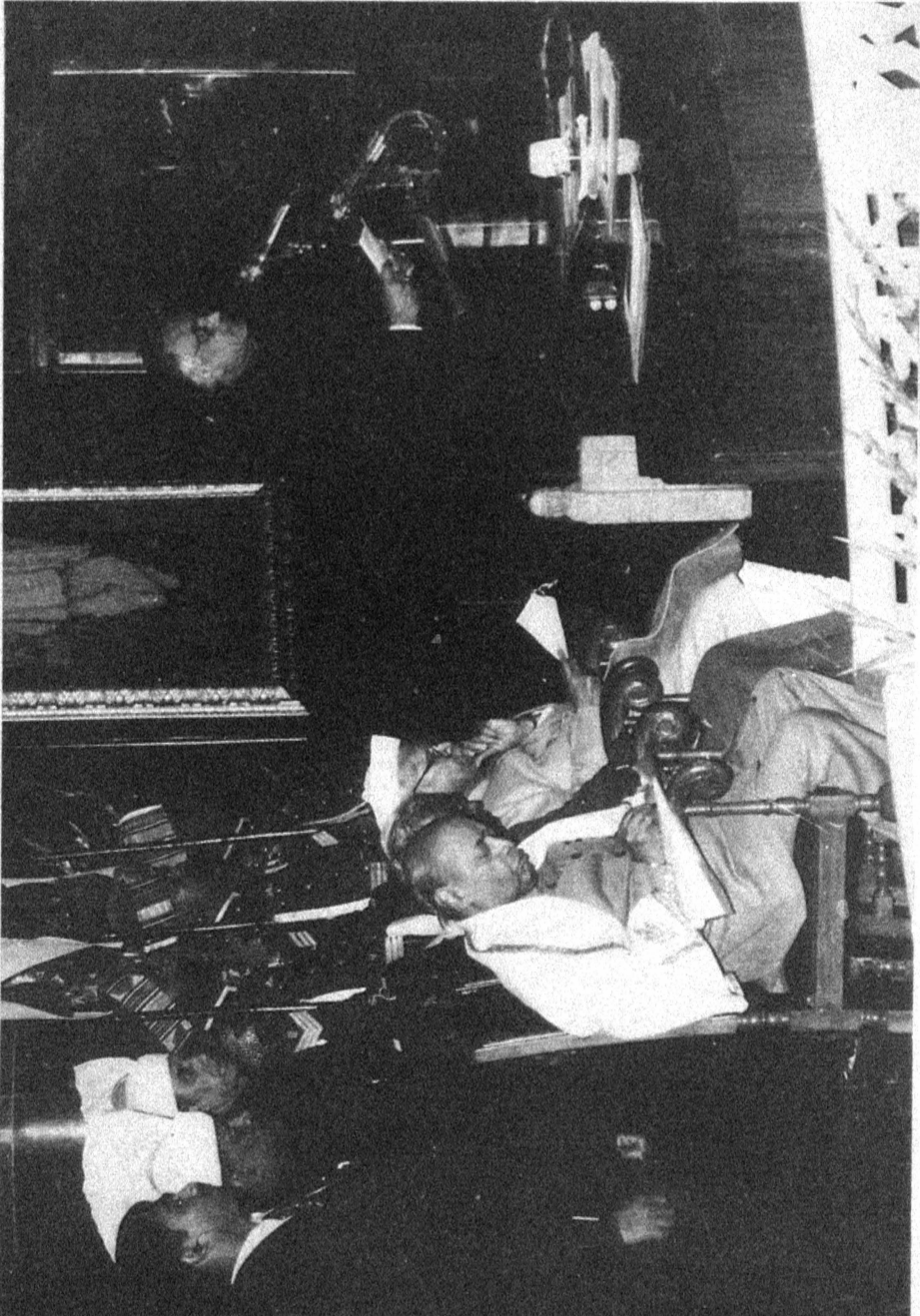
The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma arriving in procession at the function for unveiling the statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi



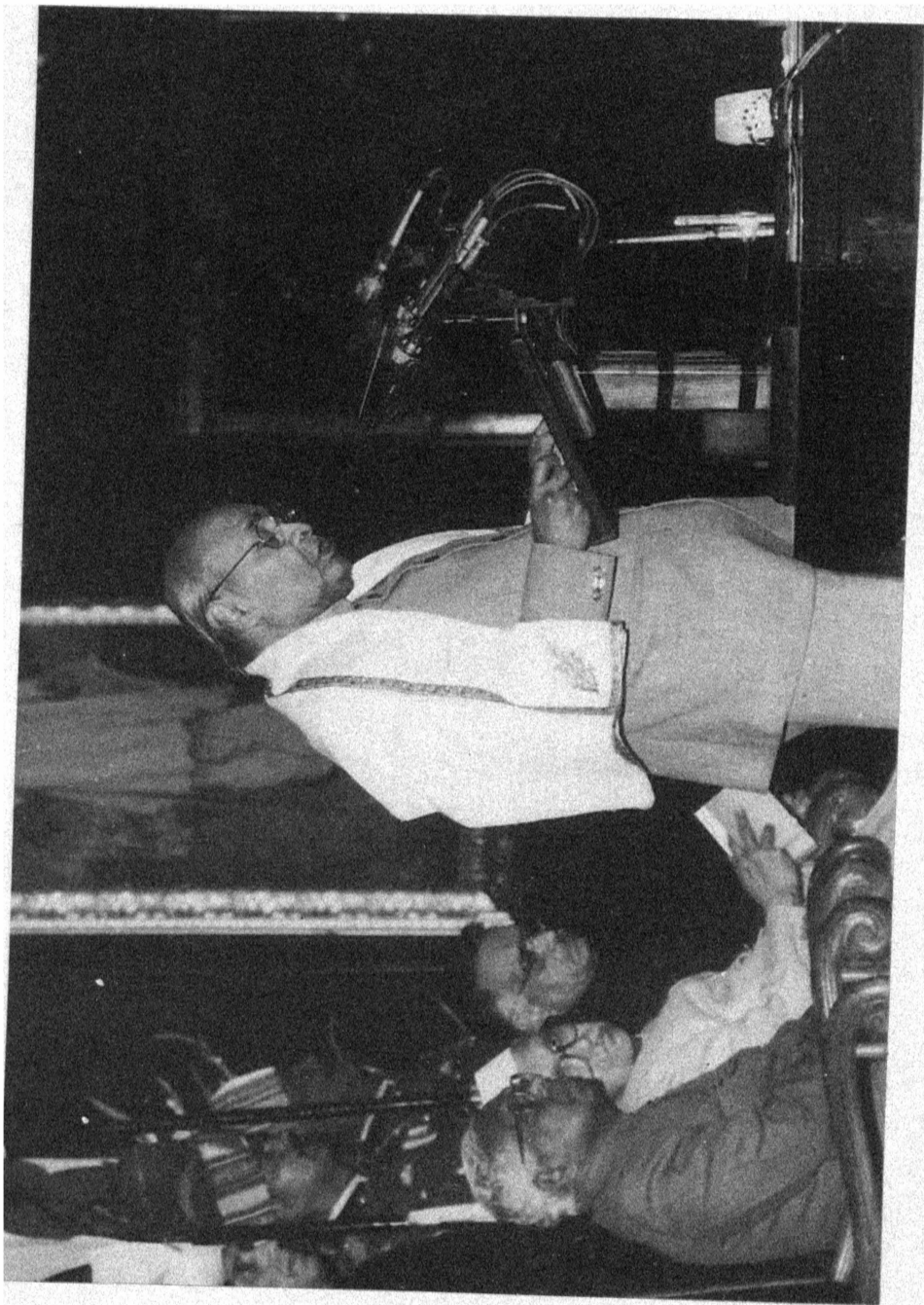
Dignitaries after the President unveiled the statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi



The President releasing the Lok Sabha Secretariat Publication, *Indira Gandhi: Speeches in Parliament*



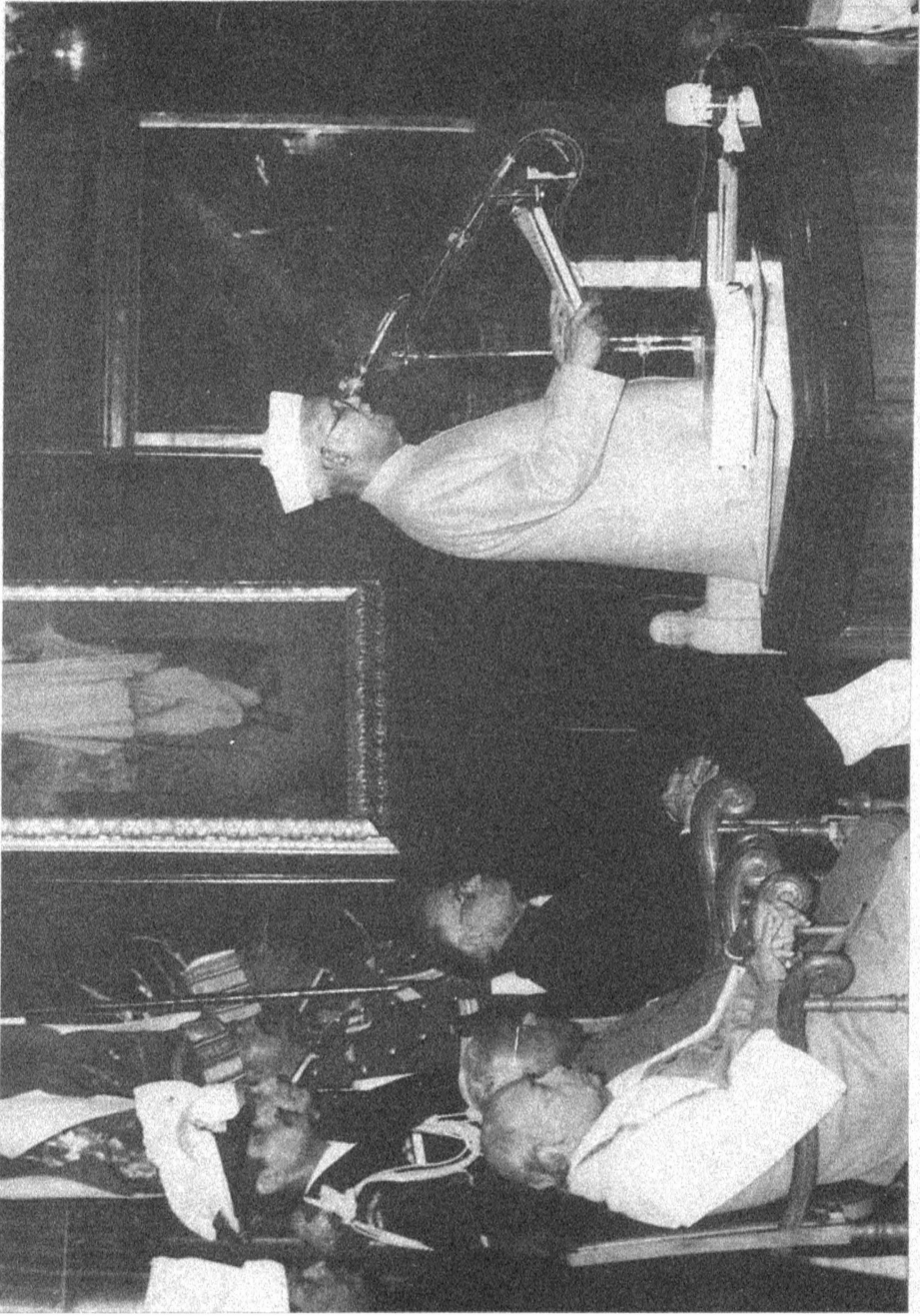
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil welcoming the gathering



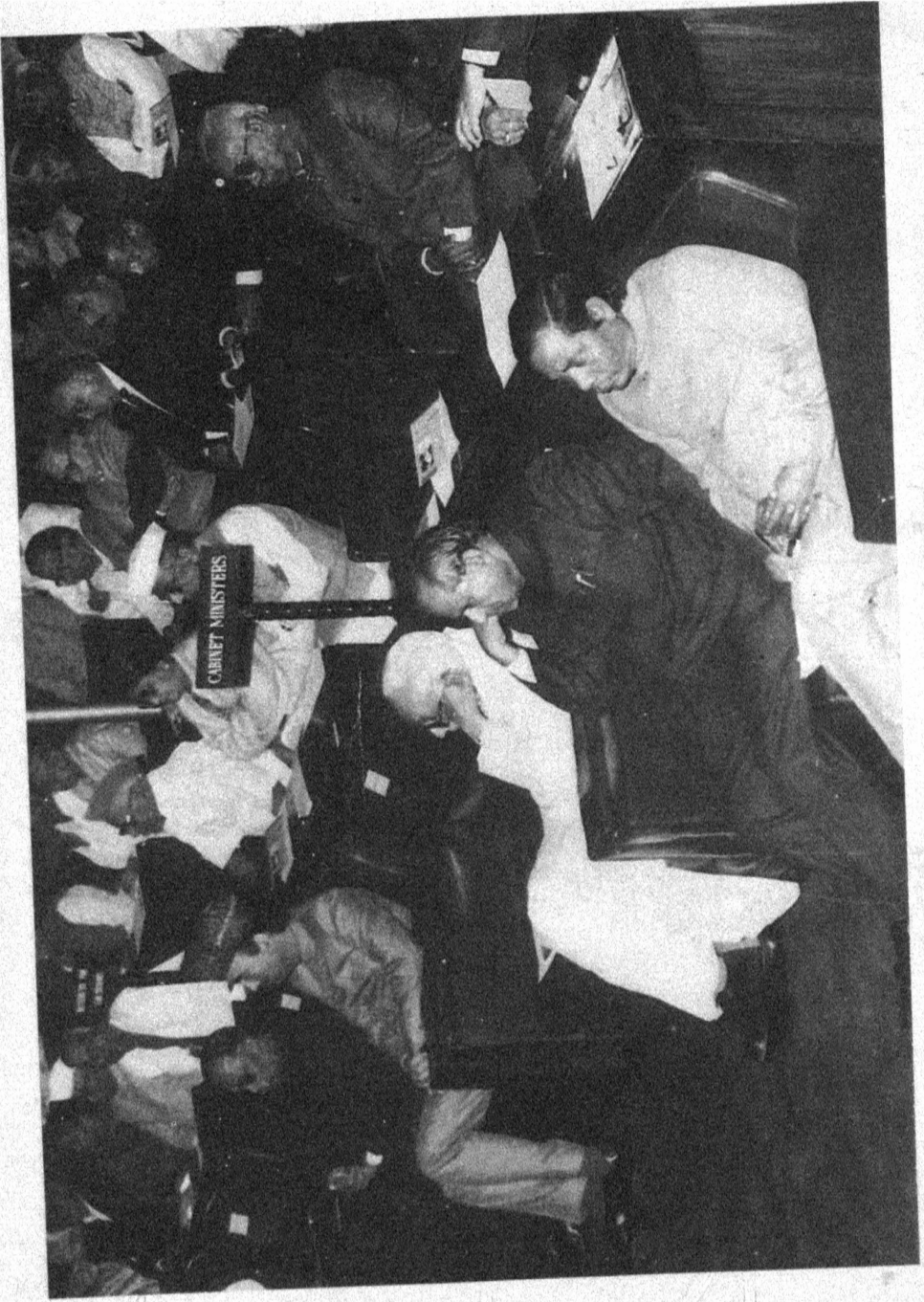
The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao delivering his Address



The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan addressing the gathering



The President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma delivering his Address



A view of the distinguished gathering



India's friendship with all other nations and for heralding an era of peace, prosperity and mutual goodwill throughout the world. She yearned to make the environment of the world pollution-free, conducive to better the health of the people. She wanted to make India so strong that none dared to challenge or do any injustice to our nation; at the same time, she was against injustice towards any other country. She believed in 'one for all and all for one' as the philosophy of life and wished the world to follow it.

Her convictions had a scientific, cultural and spiritual blend. It seemed, she loved and adored everybody and considered nobody as alien. She adopted these precepts into practice and promoted them. She endeavoured ceaselessly to make people understand the reality of the situation. In this process, she displeased many. Undetrrred, however, she took certain strong measures and suffered too on that count. She worked on an equal pedestal with all neighbouring countries as well as all developing and developed nations. She worked unswervingly, and that too with a spirit of camaraderie, for economic, social, cultural and spiritual uplift in our own country as also the world over. As a result, the country made all-round progress on political, economic, social, cultural, international, technical, scientific and spiritual fronts which benefitted one and all. That brought her displeasure also from some quarters. India had earned a new image as well as recognition in the world. She got the honour of becoming the Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement. To her, the entire world was one family. She wished peace and prosperity for the world. One should not forsake all that is substantive, progressive, sublime, advanced, welfare-oriented and truthful and must not try to stick to what goes against all these things. Only that approach can do good to our country and the world. All that Indiraji did was inspired by the age-old philosophies as well as the existing and future ideology of this country, the Constitution of India, and the precepts of Mahatma Gandhi, Pāṇdit Jawaharlal Nehru and other great thinkers. Our endeavour is to carry forward and further that very concept and mission; and it seems in the given circumstances nothing other than that could be or can be done.

With the passage of time the outline and concept of these principles may appear somewhat changed; of course there may be some changes too within; but its central theme remains and will continue to remain the same. This is because of the inherent strength, the sublimity and the ideal goal of universal welfare enshrined therein.

We pay our humble tributes to the pious memory of Smt. Indira Gandhi from the bottom of our hearts. We pray that her noble ideals of truth and welfare and all her other precepts may guide and inspire us to tread the right path for all times to come.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER,  
SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO**

*Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Mr. Speaker, V.P. Singhji, Chandra Shekharji, Soniaji and Esteemed Friends:*

It gives me great pleasure to be present here on this occasion when the people of India and their representatives are paying homage to Shrimati Indira Gandhi through unveiling of her statue within the august premises of this Parliament House. It is a humble tribute of ours to have her statue in this institution which articulates, literally and metaphorically, the voice of our common folk, whose toil and endeavour are manifest in the material and spiritual resurgence of our nation.

On this solemn occasion, when we honour Indiraji, it is appropriate that we reflect also on the extraordinary qualities and the outstanding achievements which made her so remarkable an individual and so successful a leader.

Indiraji occupies a unique place in world history in the twentieth century. For more than a decade and a half, she presided over India's destiny as Prime Minister. During this period, the country made great progress in various fields of national endeavour, social, economic and political. Most important of all, her political style was marked by a special concern for the poor and the weak within the country; and this special concern was reciprocated by the love and affection which the poor and the weak, in turn, extended to her. As a leader of the Non-Aligned Movement, Indiraji reached out with compassion and understanding to the people of the Third World as a whole, and voiced their aspirations in the fora of the world community. All this secured for her a place among the distinguished world figures of our times. Over and above this, in the long history of Indian civilization, Indiraji was the most outstanding woman who contributed to our material and spiritual greatness.

Despite her manifold qualities and her secure place in history, Indiraji was in some ways a very private person. To the few who were close to her, she came forth as a warm and deeply caring individual. Equally striking was the incisiveness of her intellect heightened by an intuitive understanding of people and problems. Over and above this, Indira Gandhi possessed great sensitivity to nature and art. These attributes went together with a commanding presence, a formidable will, a rare gift for leadership and physical and moral courage of the highest quality.

As an impressionable child, Indiraji was singularly fortunate in growing up in the family home of the Nehru's in Allahabad, which was transformed from a palace into an austere residence in the 1920s, under the saintly influence of Mahatma Gandhi. The forceful personality of her grandfather, Motilal Nehru, made a decisive impact on the child Indira. But above all, it was her parents, Pandit Nehru and Kamala Nehru, who nurtured

her with loving care and sensitivity. Jawaharlal Nehru believed that a liberal education provided the most suitable influence for shaping the mind of the young. We have in the famous letters, a graphic account of the affectionate relationship between them. Few children in our times could have claimed to have received so broad-based an education in life. Small wonder, then, that as Indira Gandhi grew up, she imbibed a rare catholicity of vision firming up by certain stoicism, which enabled her to face the severest challenges in life with rare courage and fortitude.

It would be appropriate for us to look briefly upon her public achievements and the proud legacy which she left behind her. The central focus to her political career was provided by an intense concern for the deprived and the underprivileged in our society. Indeed, immediately after taking charge of the office of the Prime Minister, she addressed herself to the seminal business of achieving self-sufficiency in agricultural production for the country. We all realise the importance of food security in the well being of our people. Indira Gandhi's first great achievement, therefore, rested in the initiatives she adopted in stimulating rural economic growth through what has come to be called the Green Revolution. The success with which this great task was handled has proved particularly beneficial for the poor and the underprivileged in our midst; at the same time as it has enabled us to hold our heads high in the world community and lead a life of dignity.

In retrospect, the consummation of the Green Revolution appears a relatively uncomplicated business. However, when the first tentative steps towards upgrading agricultural production were taken in the 1960s there were many problems, partly scientific and technical and partly social and economic, which had to be resolved before success could be achieved. Indira Gandhi handled these diverse problems with the skill and courage so characteristic of her leadership. To her, therefore, must go the credit for negotiating successfully this basic transformation of chronic scarcity to stable self-sufficiency.

Indiraji went on to pay increasing attention to India's role in world affairs, with particular relevance to South Asia. The emergence of Bangladesh as a sovereign State showed Indiraji as a world statesperson of the highest distinction. Indeed, the liberation of Bangladesh stands out as an event of the highest importance in the history of humankind in our times. Besides, it symbolised Indira Gandhi.

When the people of India recall Indira Gandhi's second tenure as Prime Minister, from 1980 to 1984, they also recall the imposing stature she had acquired as a world statesperson, a towering figure, rich with experience in all spheres that matter, rich also in the fund of wisdom which she brought to bear on the task of resolving problems. It seems clear that as she dwelt upon the health of nation at this juncture, she discerned the need for a change in the policies, social, economic and

political, which had hitherto characterised the management and direction of affairs in the country. Her tentative moves towards a new social and economic order paved the way for more substantive changes in the decade after 1984. What was constant in her initiatives, however, was a profound humanism which had underpinned our nationalist struggle under Mahatma Gandhi, no less than it underpins the strategies of economic growth and social transformation which we have adopted since 1947.

During her second term as Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi was increasingly drawn towards a political role which transcended the physical confines of her country which she loved so passionately. The world statesperson in Indira Gandhi, who combined a lofty vision with a firm sense of the concrete, found a highly creative expression in the role she played as the leader of the Non-Aligned Movement in the 1980s. In this capacity, she reached out to the great issues of war and peace and poverty and development. Above all, she led the movement for protection of the Environment, which has since spread like a worldwide banyan tree and attained a primacy of its own in world affairs.

The practical visionary in Indira Gandhi is admirably reflected in her address before the Heads of State of the Non-aligned countries, who had assembled in New Delhi in March 1983, to deliberate upon world problems. In this address, Indira Gandhi spoke of the changing international scene and the opportunities, no less than the dangers, which the future held for humanity. Referring to the crucial issue of economic relations between sovereign States in the world community she observed, and I quote:

The Non-Aligned Movement has stood firmly for a thorough-going restructuring of international economic relations. We are against exploitation. We are for each nation's right to its resources and policies. We want an equal voice in the operation of international institutions. We reiterate our commitment to the establishment of a New International Economic Order based on justice and equity. At this meeting, we should also devise a coherent programme of measures to be taken immediately to help developing countries in areas of critical importance.

Here is a statement of perennial significance, which continues to be part of our policy as we restructure the economy of India and seek also to establish a closer relationship with the global economy.

For all that Indira Gandhi achieved as a passionate nationalist, who was equally a world figure of towering stature, we honour her today by unveiling her statue in the Parliament House. This would always be a source of great inspiration. May her spirit guide us as we strive to build a resurgent national community, governed by those values which

characterise us as a humane and tolerant civilization within the comity of nations.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND  
CHAIRMAN, RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN**

*Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Shri V.P. Singh, Honourable Shri Chandra Shekhar, Smt. Vimla Sharmaji, Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Honourable Ministers, Members of Parliament and Friends:*

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, while he was sentenced to his first term of imprisonment, told the British judge what could be greater happiness than to be sent to jail for the freedom of India, unless it is to die for the sake of the dear motherland. His daughter, Indira Gandhi lived and died for India wishing that every drop of her blood would nourish the soil of India. Her son, Rajiv Gandhi, sacrificed his young life, a life full of hope, promise and attachment, in the service of India. To make India strong, prosperous and occupy an honoured place in the comity of nations was the main mission of all the three generations of leaders. Indira Gandhi's life and her politics, economics and foreign policy were dedicated to this overriding objective. During the sixteen years of her stewardship of the nation, she consolidated the unity of the country, built up its economic strength and its international position into that of a major power in Asia and a force for peace in the world.

Indira Gandhi inherited a world view and a vision of India from her father. But she pursued these, in changing circumstances and in the face of new challenges, with originality and intense pragmatism. Economic and social modernisation of India and the abolition of poverty and deprivation for its millions of people was a consuming passion for Indira Gandhi. While adhering with conviction to the basic policies laid down, soon after assuming Prime Ministership, she sensed that the Indian economy had grown and matured and certain changes were called for in the new stage of economic and technological development. She realised that economic administrative reforms, and reforms in the management of trade, financial affairs and public enterprises were required in the new stage. The high-powered committees she set up in these fields were the first serious exercises in the deregulation and liberalisation of the Indian economy which resulted in the launching of the economic reforms of 1981. Smt. Gandhi said: "We have come to a stage in our economic development, where the entire modality of doing investment in specified channels have to be reviewed", and that "time has come for a new policy framework that emphasises efficiency, competition and modernisation". Perceptive foreign observers at that time had taken note of the changes that were taking place in India's economy.

"The implications of the new strategy are staggering", said Mr. Orville Freeman, Chairman of Business International of the United States, "if pursued steadily and vigorously, it could propel India's take-off into the ranks of the major economic powers, not in some distant future, but in the foreseeable future". We are today pursuing that policy projecting India as a major economic power in the making.

Together with the first cautious efforts at economic reforms and liberalisation, Indira Gandhi has bequeathed to us an infrastructure of socio-economic reforms and a mechanism for abolishing poverty and uplifting the standards of living of our deprived millions which have become today an integral part of India's liberalisation programme. Indira Gandhi's *Garibi Hatao* slogan, with its 20-Point Programme and schemes like IRDP, RLEGP and NREP have been systematised and revamped to become the social safety net that is the indispensable accompaniment to our ambitious liberalisation policy today. This is a contribution of strategic importance by Indira Gandhi to the modernisation and transformation of India's economy and society.

Indira Gandhi had understood the crucial importance of science and technology to India's development. The Editors of *Nature* once described her as "the heroine of Indian science". She had emphasised the importance of applying science for the solution of India's economic problems, especially in the field of rural development and the abolition of the poverty of the people. The Green Revolution which took place in her time and under her inspiration, was a spectacular achievement in the application of science and technology anywhere in the developing world. But she did not neglect sophisticated and forward-looking scientific developments. The advances India made in the field of space sciences and atomic energy, remain a monument to her visionary leadership. Particularly the peaceful nuclear explosion conducted under her leadership in 1974 stands out as a great scientific feat and as an act of political courage which is of historic importance for India and the world.

Indira Gandhi's contribution to India's international position and to peace and development in the world has been acclaimed everywhere. It was she who breathed new life and dynamism into the Non-aligned movement and sought to make it 'the biggest peace movement' in the world. It was she who broke the deadlock with our great neighbour China by establishing in 1976 ambassadorial relations with China after a lapse of fifteen years. It was she who took the initiative in breaking the ice with the United States and established cordial relations with the Reagan Administration. And it was she who had the courage to intervene when democracy and human rights were brutally suppressed in East Pakistan and to help in the liberation of Bangladesh. It was Indira Gandhi who had the far-sighted vision and statesmanship to conclude a generous peace agreement with Pakistan at Shimla, thereby giving a chance to civilian and democratic rule to sustain itself in Pakistan.

Indira Gandhi's contributions to India, the Indian sub-continent and to the world were of far-reaching importance. An intensely practical politician, her vision also soared above immediate compulsions and considerations, and above narrow national interest into the realms of the future of humanity and the universe. She was a great and pioneering environmentalist. Mr. Maurice Strong called her 'the first planetary figure'.

I have great honour to participate in paying my humble tribute to a great world leader and to a great and proud Indian who gave her life for India.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA,  
DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA**

*The Vice-President of India, Shri K.R. Narayanan, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of India, Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Shri Mahavir Prasad, Governor of Haryana, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Members of the Union Council of Ministers, Former Prime Ministers, Leader of the Opposition, Members of Parliament, Freedom Fighters, Ladies and Gentlemen :*

I have immense pleasure in being present on this important occasion when we honour the memory of one of our great leaders. It is indeed fitting that a magnificent statue of an illustrious daughter of India, Indira Gandhi is being installed in Parliament House, which embodies the hopes and aspirations of our people and society. Today, we pay homage to a gifted person who toiled and worked in the service of our people throughout her life.

This likeness of Indiraji evokes a kaleidoscope of memories. A flood of images and associations blur the mind. A myriad emotions well up in one's heart. Many of us worked closely with her. We knew her over long years of triumph and of sorrow and tragedy. We saw her during moments of glory and of challenge. For me personally, since I was closely associated with Indiraji, it is difficult to be objective. It is best left to historians and academicians to provide, for posterity, an assessment and evaluation of her contribution to public life and national reconstruction. Suffice it to say, she was a Colossus amongst leaders who guided and shaped our national destiny.

In a sense Indira Gandhi symbolized the link between the old and the new, between our glorious freedom struggle and the eager and enthusiastic free India, yearning to secure her rightful place in the world. She reflected in her personality the modern, youthful and progressive India, rooted in her ancient culture and traditions: giving to the world from the wealth of its heritage and receiving in turn, dynamic impulses in the fields of science, technology, education, health, industry and agriculture.

A gracious lady with a steely determination and indomitable courage, Indiraji pursued untiringly the goals she had set for herself and for our country. One day before she fell to the assassin's bullets, she said:

I do not care whether I live or die. I have lived a long life and I am proud that it was spent in the service of my people. I am only proud of this and nothing else. I shall continue to serve until my last breath and when I die, I can say, that every drop of my blood will invigorate India and strengthen it.

Indiraji was a true nationalist who worked unswervingly for improving the life of the common man. She had a deep empathy for the underprivileged and those in distress. She was equally at home with the common people of our villages as she was in palaces of kings. Like her father, she maintained a very close and intimate link with the people. Many of us present here would recall the youthful images of Indiraji during her travels, wearing traditional costumes and singing and dancing with great zest with villagers and rural folk.

As I had said on her birth anniversary in 1987 when her portrait was unveiled in this historic Central Hall, India engrossed Indiraji. The national interest was her passion. Her knowledge of our heritage, her intuition of the inner pressures influencing events in diverse spheres, her feel for India's complex propensities - all these were amazingly direct and spontaneous.

Despite all odds Indiraji did not waver from the chosen path when she was convinced that it was in our best national interest. I recall the serene confidence with which she faced extremely complex and dangerous situations, such as the one in 1971. She remained undaunted by pressures and threats from abroad and stood firm as a rock in her duty.

In a speech at India Gate on 9 August 1971, she said:

The path ahead is hard and difficult. It has been so for years and our difficulties might increase further. But I know that the greater the difficulties, the greater will be our courage and strength...India is united and strong...The people are prepared for all sacrifices and hardships.

Secularism was an article of faith with Indiraji. She perceived it as having emerged from our age-old ethos of tolerance and respect for all religions. She said:

Secularism and democracy are the twin pillars of our State, the very foundations of our society...The citizenship of India is a shared citizenship. Danger to even one single citizen...is a danger to all of us and, what is worse, it demeans us all.



It is incumbent upon all of us, equal citizens of free India to enable our vibrant pluralistic society to prosper. All of us must unitedly work to strengthen India and take our great country forward.

Smt. Indira Gandhi was also a committed internationalist who sought for India her rightful and equal place in the international community. She became a world statesman, held in high regard and respect by her counterparts in other countries. She led a relentless crusade for peace, in every international fora, the Non-aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and the United Nations. As she said:

"The most noble cause is that of peace in the world and fraternity in the human race."

"Peace needs to be tended and safeguarded."

"Like righteousness, peace protects us when we protect it."

"No peace today. No life tomorrow."

In the international arena, her championing the cause of disarmament, North-South dialogue and the protection and preservation of the earth's ecological heritage, brought widespread recognition and accolades. Her contribution in bringing the issues of concern to developing countries, on the agenda of the international community, was inestimable.

Indiraji was a person of great sophistication and charm, a true connoisseur of art and culture who was at home with all sections of our people and society. A student of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, she was deeply sensitive to the natural environment and cultural vibrancy of India. She was a global citizen who was proud of India's heritage and of the intermingling of her culture with other civilizations and traditions.

A sensitive and courageous daughter of a hero of our struggle for freedom and the architect of modern India, Indiraji always aroused strong feelings in every person she met. No one could remain indifferent to her. She lived up to the sage advice given to her by Panditji in a letter written from Naini Prison: "Reading history is good. However, it is better to help in making history."

It is a privilege for me to dedicate this statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi to the nation. Let us all strive collectively to continue our efforts for building a strong, secure, prosperous and progressive India of Indiraji's dreams.

## ADDRESSES AT THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE OF MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD AND THE PORTRAIT OF SHRI MADHU LIMAYE

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On 15 March 1996, the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma unveiled a statue of the renowned freedom fighter and statesman, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad in the Court between building Gate No. 1 and the Central Hall of Parliament House. Later, the President unveiled a portrait of the eminent parliamentarian, Shri Madhu Limaye in the Central Hall. The function was addressed by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, the Vice-President, and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, the Chairman of the Indian Council for Culture Relations and former Union Minister, Shri Vasant Sathe and Shri Mohan Singh, MP.

The statue of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad has been made by the eminent sculptor, Shri Ram Sutar and the portrait of Shri Madhu Limaye has been painted by the renowned artist, Shri Shobhraj.

The texts of the Addresses delivered by the dignitaries on the occasion are reproduced below.

—Editor

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### ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN, INDIAN COUNCIL OF CULTURAL RELATIONS AND FORMER UNION MINISTER, SHRI VASANT SATHE

*Shraddheya Rashtrapatiji, Up-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Raoji, Honourable Speaker Shri Shivraj Patilji and Friends :*

It is a great honour for me to present, on behalf of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, the statue of our Founder, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, to the Parliament.

Maulana Sahib was a unique figure in our national life, both during the freedom struggle and as a builder of Independent India. An erudite scholar, pioneering journalist, zealous social reformer, political leader and a philosopher-statesman of outstanding personality, he guided the destiny of our nation for many years.

Even before he joined the Congress in 1920, he was associated with the revolutionary movement. But he soon became disillusioned with the cult of violence and became convinced that the path to freedom lay

through the non-violent struggle under Gandhiji's inspiring leadership. At the age of 35, he became the youngest President of the Congress, a post he was to hold again some years later.

Maulana Sahib was indeed a true interpreter of the Holy *Koran* whose universal message of peace and harmony, he explained to the whole world through his monumental work *Tarjuman-ul-Quran* and other writings. As a historian, his book *India Wins Freedom* is an important record of the story of our freedom struggle.

As the first Education Minister of India after Independence, Maulana Azad laid the foundation of our educational system. He was farsighted enough to recognise that the development of our human resources was essential for the long-term prosperity and progress of our country. Hence many excellent institutions established at his initiative in the fields of scientific research, culture and arts have become his enduring legacy to the nation.

Deeply rooted in India and its traditions and with an intimate knowledge of the cultures of Iran and West Asia, Maulana Sahib took initiative to foster cultural exchanges between India and the countries of Asia. One of his first accomplishments as Education Minister was to set up chairs of Sanskrit in Iran, Iraq and Egypt. It was at his instance that Kalidasa's *Shakuntalam* and other works of Sanskrit were translated into Arabic for free distribution to libraries and cultural institutions in West Asia. Maulana Sahib often referred to the closeness of Avesta and Sanskrit and the need for Indians to know Pahlavi and Persian.

Cultural ties with South East Asia attracted his special attention. He was particularly interested in Indonesia and its heritage and the historical ties between our country with Indonesia, Malaysia and other South East Asiatic countries. Even before the UNESCO General Conference in 1956, he had established an Indian network of educational and cultural exchange with these countries.

The founding of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations was a part of Maulana Sahib's vision for having an institution that will foster people to people contact and cultural relations with countries all over the world. The ICCR, therefore, can and should play a prominent role in the growing field of cultural diplomacy in the 21st century new world.

Pandit Nehru and Maulana Sahib strode like colossus by the side of the Father of the Nation. I have no doubt that the statues of these and other eminent leaders in the precincts of the Parliament would inspire the members of this temple of democracy to live up to the high standards and noble ideals placed by them before the nation.

Before I conclude, I would like to specially thank and congratulate the sculptor, Shri Ram Sutar, for having produced this excellent work of grandeur, grace and dignity in such a short time.

We are grateful to the Honourable President of India, to the Honourable Vice-President, to the Honourable Prime Minister, to you, Mr. Speaker, and to all the dignitaries for gracing this important historical occasion.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY SHRI MOHAN SINGH, MP\***

*Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Respected Pradhan Mantriji, Honourable Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Respected Chandra Shekharji, Smt. Champa Limayeji, Members of Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen :*

We welcome all of you on behalf of the Madhu Limaye Memorial Trust to this historic Central Hall. It is a happy coincidence that the oil portrait of the eminent parliamentarian whose vibrant voice once echoed in the Parliament is being unveiled here today. While Shri Madhu Limayeji was studying in Pune, he joined the *Satyagraha* launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1940. He participated in the historic Congress Session of 1942 in Bombay and responding to the call of the Mahatma to 'Do or Die' he went underground and actively contributed to the freedom struggle. After the nation became independent, he joined the liberation struggle in Goa where the Portuguese Government put him to cruel atrocities in jail and consequently, his health suffered. He was sentenced for life imprisonment for his active role in Goa's freedom struggle but was released after some time, thanks to the serious efforts made by the Government of India.

Shri Limaye was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1964 and in his first term itself, he had proved with his eloquence and oratory how a ruling party enjoying an overwhelming majority could be tackled by the Opposition with the help of rules and procedures. With his onslaughts, he exposed a number of cases of corruption in the public sector. He always emphasised upon purity in public life. He was in the true sense, a selfless and honest public servant.

During the emergency in 1975, he was kept under detention for 20 months. When the tenure of the Lok Sabha was extended for one year during the emergency, he not only opposed that but also resigned from his membership of Parliament. Despite pressing requests from his party, he never opted for the membership of the Rajya Sabha since it was simply not in his nature to submit a fake certificate showing temporary domicile in a State.

Notwithstanding his notable contribution in the freedom struggle and his four terms as a member of Parliament, he declined to accept any pension or award. To him, service to the nation was not a means of getting awards.

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\*Original delivered in Hindi

Our generation shall always remember him as a true patriot, renowned thinker, socialist leader, dedicated worker and distinguished parliamentarian.

The unveiling of his oil portrait in the Parliament House to commemorate his memory shall prove a source of inspiration to the generations to come. This portrait donated to the Madhu Limaye Memorial Trust by Bhāi Kamal Morarakaji has been presented by the Trust to the Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha. We are grateful to the Honourable Speaker in particular, with whose kind consent space has been provided in the Parliament House for the portrait of a unique sage in our public life. We express our special gratitude to the Respected Rashtrapatiji and Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, the Honourable Prime Minister and to all of you for having graced this occasion of historic importance. We also express our gratitude to Shri Shobhrajji, the painter of this portrait. We also thank and greet you all.

**ADDRESS BY THE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA,  
SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL\***

*Venerable Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Honourable Prime Minister, the Governor of Madhya Pradesh who is also present on this occasion, Shri Chandra Shekharji, Smt. Limayeji, the Leaders of the Opposition, Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament, Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Friends from the media, Brothers and Sisters :*

It is a matter of immense pleasure for me to welcome the Venerable Rashtrapatiji, the Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, the Honourable Prime Minister and other dignitaries of this occasion. These dignitaries have always obliged us by gracing the important functions of Parliament on our invitation. We are extremely grateful to them for this gesture.

This might be the last function of the Tenth Lok Sabha. It consists of three programmes. The ideas and views expressed in the Constituent Assembly, the text of the Constitution of India and decisions taken by the Presiding Officers have been recorded in the computer by the Lok Sabha and a C.D. Rom has been prepared, which would make this literature easily accessible to every body. They can carry in their pockets anywhere the entire discussion that took place in the Constituent Assembly. It has also been introduced in the *Internet*. Thus, anyone from any corner of the world can have access to the discussion by just pressing a few buttons on the computer. The officers of Parliament have done this job with utmost devotion and Dr. Sheshagiri and his other officers of the N.I.C. have extended a lot of cooperation in this work. We are thankful to them. The Disc is being released by the Venerable Rashtrapatiji today and it is a matter of immense pleasure for us.

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\*Original delivered in Hindi

The Portrait of Shri Madhu Limayeji is also being unveiled today by the Respected Rashtrapatiji. This portrait is donated by his friends and admirers. The portrait of Shri Madhu Limayeji will be unveiled in Parliament House. We would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to Shri Mohan Singhji and other friends of Shri Madhu Limayeji for donating the portrait.

Shri Madhu Limayeji was a great scholar son of India. He contributed a lot to strengthen our democracy and parliamentary system. He continued to write and speak on the basic issues pertaining to the country and continued to guide the country throughout his life. He passed away recently and the country suffered a great loss. We would like to salute him on this occasion and cherish his memory.

Today, the Respected Rashtrapatiji has also unveiled the statue of Maulana Azadji. I would like to convey my heartfelt gratitude to the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Shri Satheji and his friends for donating the statue to the Parliament of India. Shri Satheji helped us in this work for which he deserves the appreciation of the Parliament. Shri Sutarji who sculpted the statue, is a great artist of India and for him, art is worship. He never lets his genius cloud his nature or behaviour. We would like to congratulate him for this magnificent piece of art. We would like the Respected Rashtrapatiji to honour him by presenting a shawl and *shreefal* to him.

Maulana Azad Saheb was a great son of our country. History can never forget his contribution to the freedom struggle of our country. India will always be proud of his immense contribution. He was a farsighted administrator. His contribution to the country in the field of science, art and education is unforgettable. Whenever a big building is to be constructed, we first erect its pillars. At that stage, we do not have a clear picture of the grandeur of the building which becomes visible only when the building is complete. But the building cannot be strong and grand unless the pillars are strong enough to support it, without which the beauty of the building would seem hollow.

The contribution of Mahatma Gandhiji, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehruji and Maulana Abul Kalam Azadji and their colleagues in the fields of science, art, education and other fields for the betterment of the country has developed India into a nation that today it ranks second in the world as far as number of scientists is concerned and we can compete with any country in the field of science, art and education,

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was one of those who had a deep understanding of the Islamic religion and philosophy and was its true follower. His commentary on the *Koran Sharief* is considered to be one of the best commentaries in the world. Just as he was enlightened about Islam and its philosophy, he had respect for other religions and philosophies. A man who believes that this Universe is the creation of

the omnipotent and all of us are sons and daughters of that creator cannot have a sense of hatred and disrespect for other religions. Those who are enlightened about their own religions do not believe in wars, conflicts or bitterness in the world in the name of religion. Only those who do not have true Knowledge of religion have misused it and have been responsible for bitterness, conflict and destruction in the world.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was also one of those great sons of India who had great respect for other religions. That is why he was against the partition of India and not in favour of dividing mankind on the basis of caste and creed. This deep commitment to secularism made him speak for the unity of the country. He was of the view that India should not be divided in the name of religion and was in deep anguish and despair when partition eventually took place. We can maintain and strengthen social and communal harmony as also secularism in our country by following his ideas. Drawing inspiration from his ideals will not only be fruitful to India but also benefit the whole world.

Our country is not merely a land of hills, forests, rivers, land, human beings and other living beings but is also land of many ideas, ideologies and philosophies. Sometimes the waves of these ideas, philosophies and ideologies go high or low as in the sea but these are endless and they will remain thus for ever. That is the soul of mother India which will never be lost.

This Parliament House is a forum where ideas, ideologies, philosophies and sentiments originate. This is a place which links the past, the present and the future. These ideas permeate the precincts of the Parliament House and the statues and the portraits installed here symbolise them.

These statues shall inspire all of us and those who come here and our work shall be guided by the sentiments and ideologies that are before us. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's statue would also inspire us for ever.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER,  
SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO**

*Revered Rashtrapatiji, Respected Upa-Rashtrapatiji, Mr. Speaker, Chandra Shekharji, Sikander Bakhtji, Smt. Madhu Limayeji, Vasant Satheji, Excellencies and Ladies and Gentlemen:*

Today we have gathered here to honour two outstanding sons of India. It is an occasion which takes us back to the days of our freedom movement. Maulana Azad was a jewel amongst the galaxy of leaders in our freedom movement. He was a man of many parts—writer, scholar, thinker, philosopher, statesman, politician, freedom fighter and an unparalleled orator. It was a rare combination of intellect and emotion. These qualities made him stand out as a leader which influenced our freedom movement and won for him a special place in the esteem and

affection of our people. It is only appropriate that we honour this great leader who contributed so significantly to our freedom and in laying the foundation of the new nation.

We were fortunate that during the freedom struggle, some of the most outstanding Indians came forward to participate in it. They sacrificed their professions, comfortable life, came forward to even give up their lives for the cause of Independence. They each brought their own personality and talent to the cause. These men of outstanding calibre got the charismatic leadership of Mahatma Gandhi who moulded them into following the path of non-violence to achieve Independence.

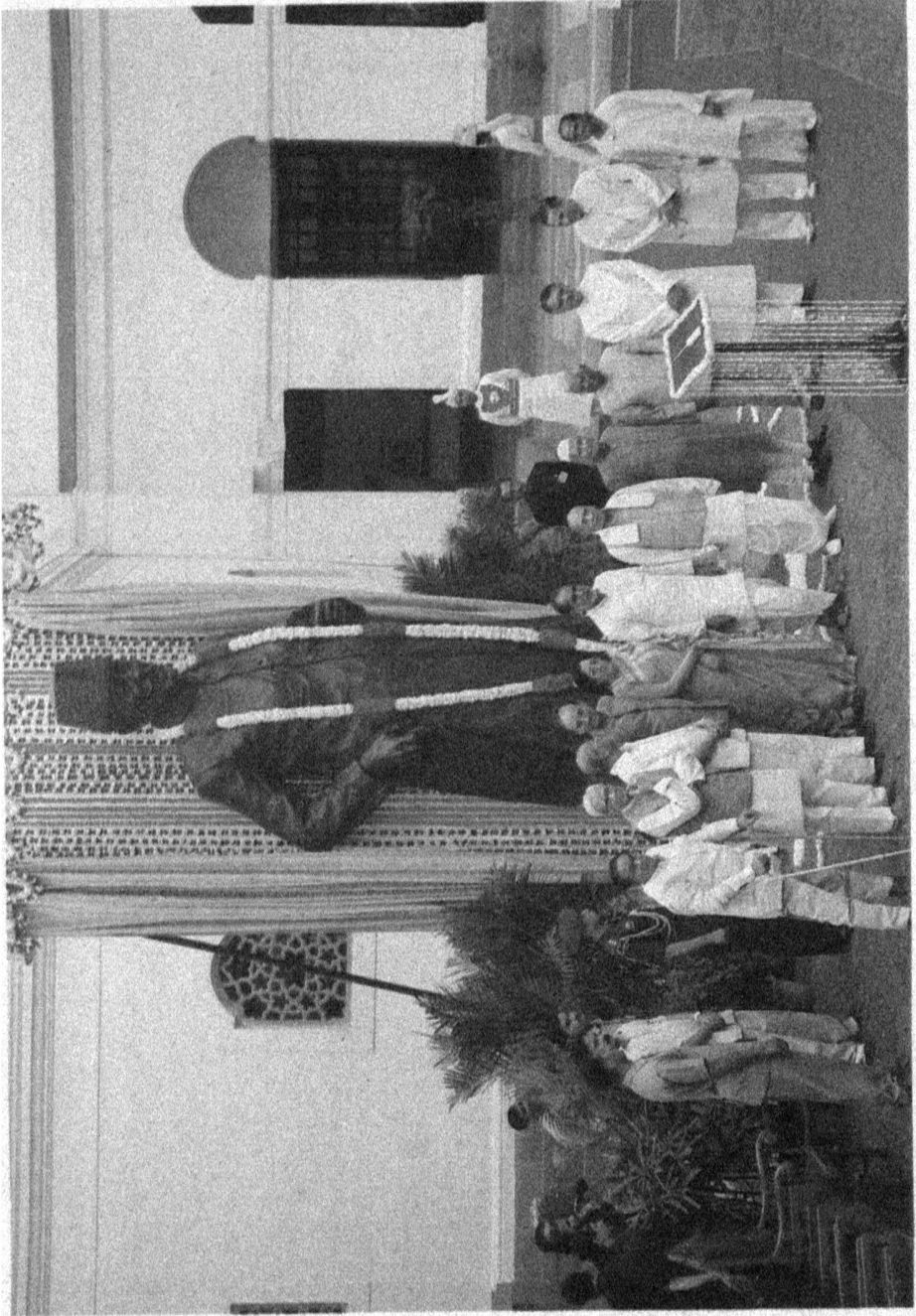
Maulana Azad was drawn to the Independence movement early in his life. He came from a family which believed in traditional methods of learning. He completed a rigorous course of religion when he was only 16 years old. He was trained to follow the orthodox ways. However, as he had himself recorded that he could not reconcile with the prevailing customs and beliefs and was full of sense of revolt, he was deeply disturbed by the prevailing conditions and decided to chalk out an independent path. His urge for a different way led him to adopt the pen-name *Azad*, signifying his break from the inherited beliefs.

This independent thinking and freshness of approach remained a hallmark in his life. He was attracted to the revolutionary movement but later was drawn to Gandhiji. Gandhiji's approach to *satyagraha* touched a chord in his heart. He had himself considered a similar programme and had written articles in his journal, *Al-Hilal*. From the time he joined the freedom movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, he remained steadfast in his devotion to the nation and was a symbol of secular approach to politics. Even though he had a deeply religious background, nationalism, and not religion, was the basis of his approach.

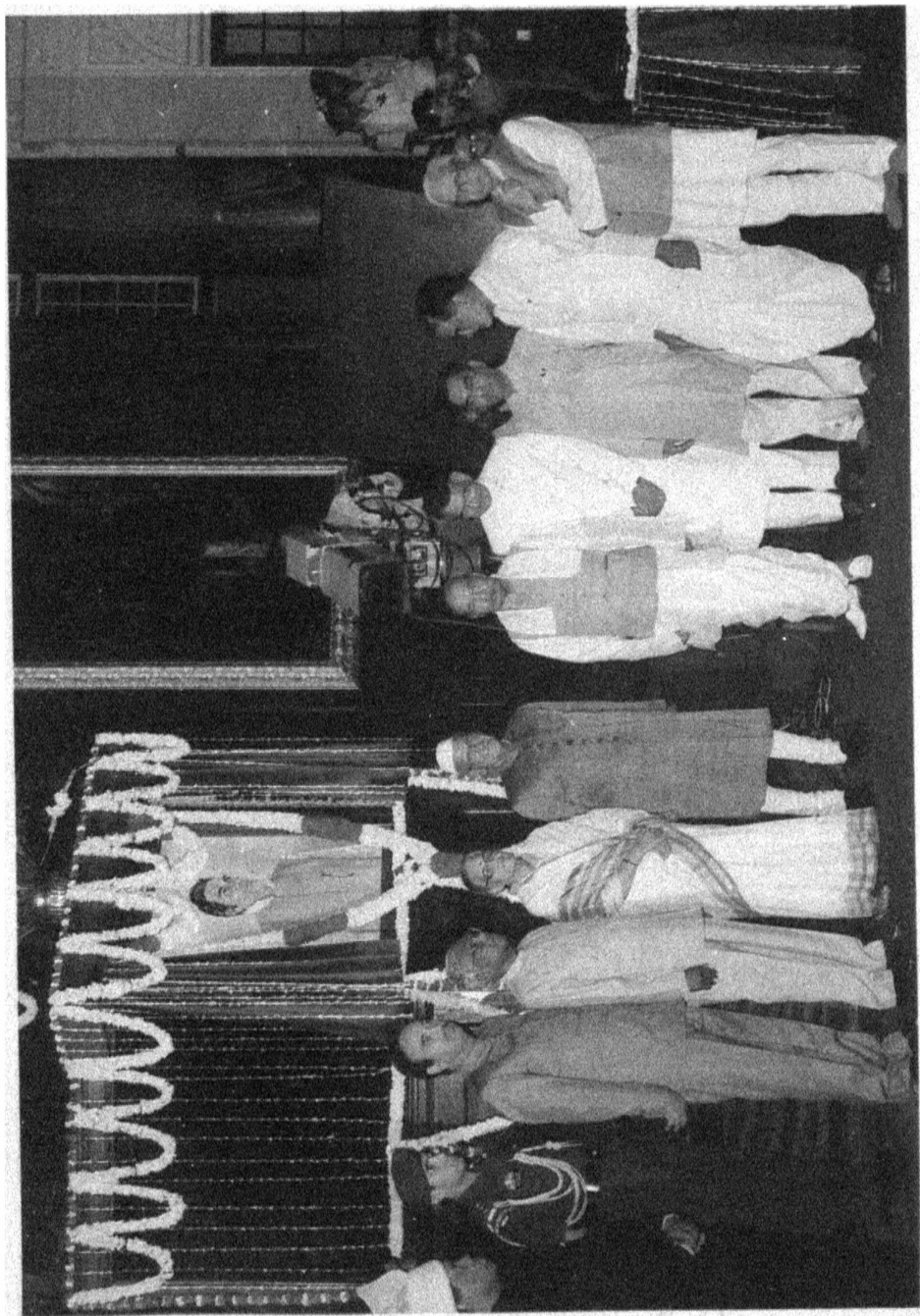
Maulana Azad started his life as a journalist. Coming from a family of scholars of Islam, he could have continued to inherit the position of his father and led an easy life. He was an outstanding scholar of Arabic, Persian and of Islam. His knowledge and learning made him realise that Muslims in India were not given the direction which would have been in their best interests. His travels abroad and contacts with prominent Muslim leaders and reformers in Egypt, Turkey, Syria, Palestine, Iran and Iraq gave him the confidence to talk with authority. His writings in various journals made him one of the most prominent Indian Muslims.

Maulana Azad was one of the first Muslim leaders to realise that the best course for people of this country was to remove the foreign domination. The first issue of his journal, *Al-Hilal*, in June, 1912 gave the call to Indians in general and Muslims in particular to awaken from their long and deep slumber. His deep understanding and the projection he gave through *Al-Hilal* made it one of the most popular journals. He gave a new language and voice to the underlying yearnings of the

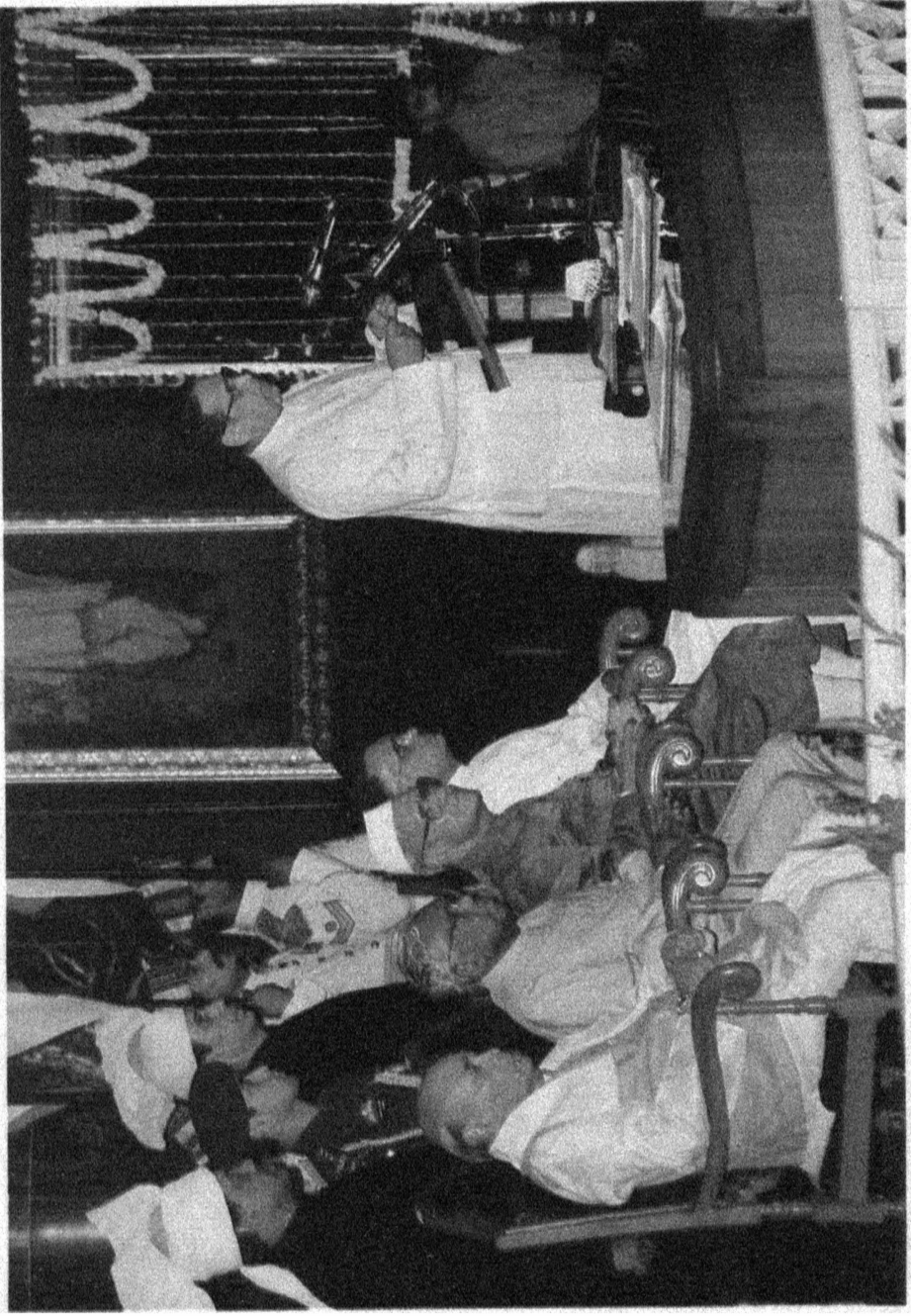




Dignitaries after unveiling the statue of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad



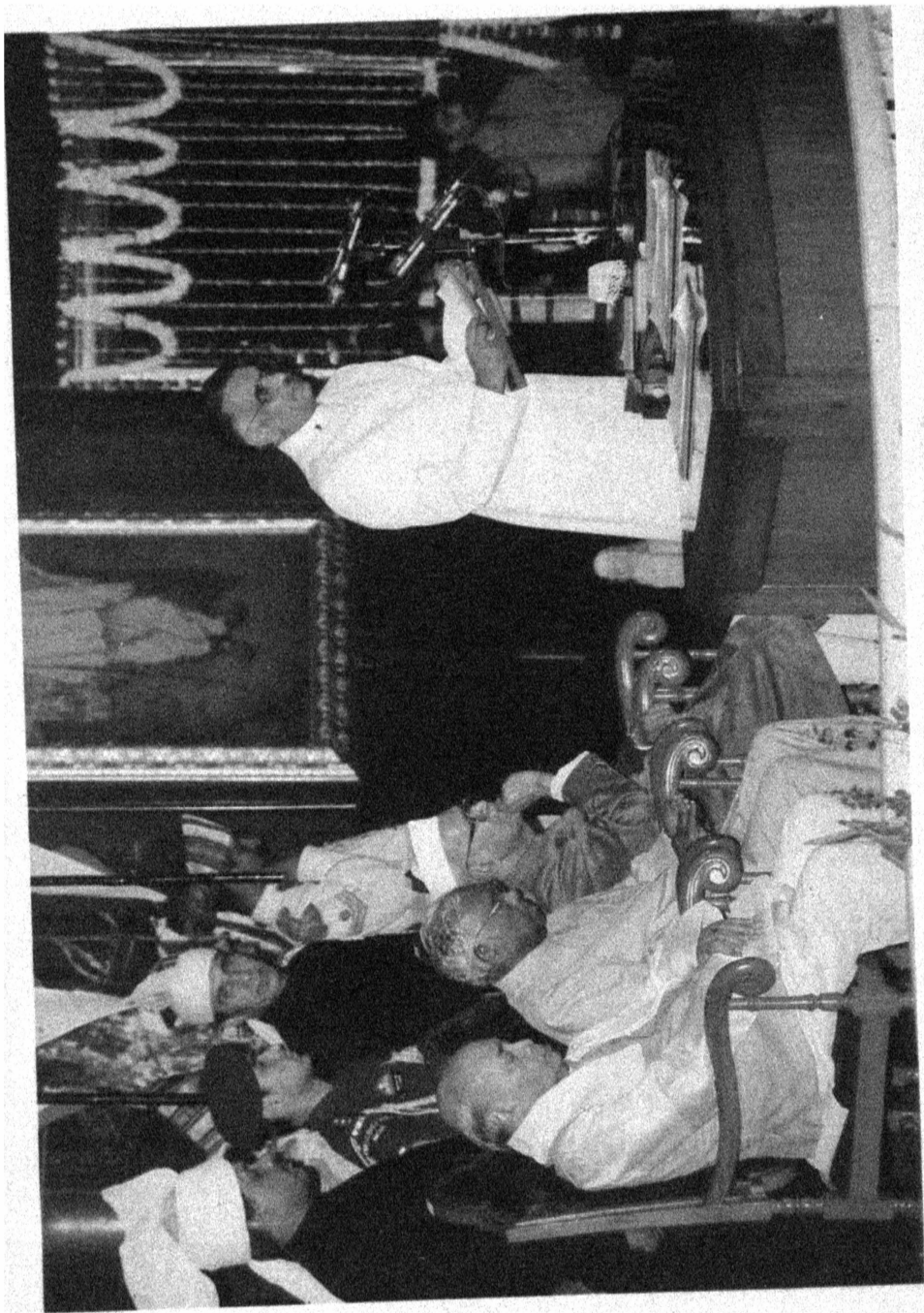
Dignitaries after unveiling the portrait of Shri Madhu Limaye



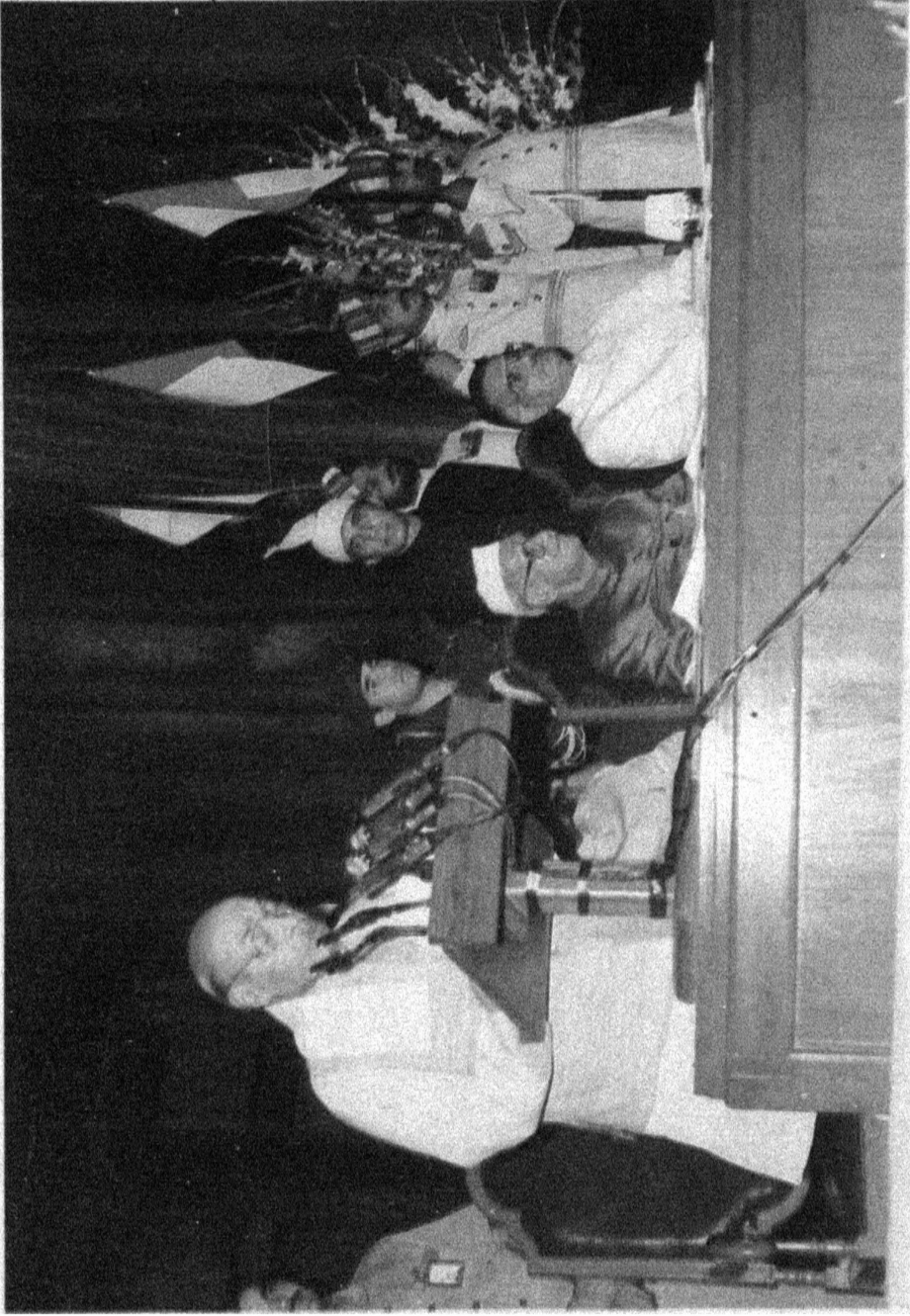
Address by Shri Vasant Sathe



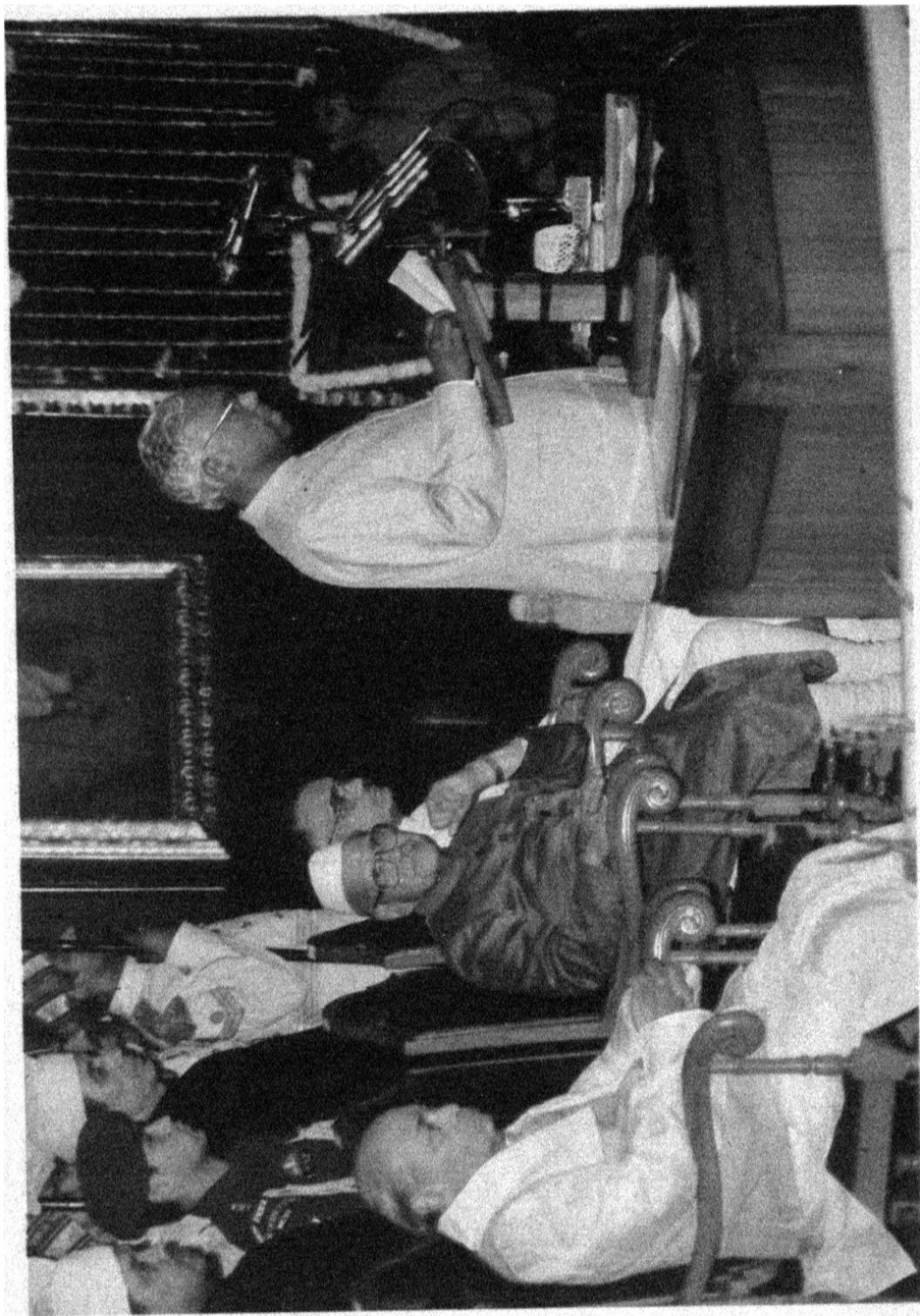
Address by Shri Mohan Singh, MP



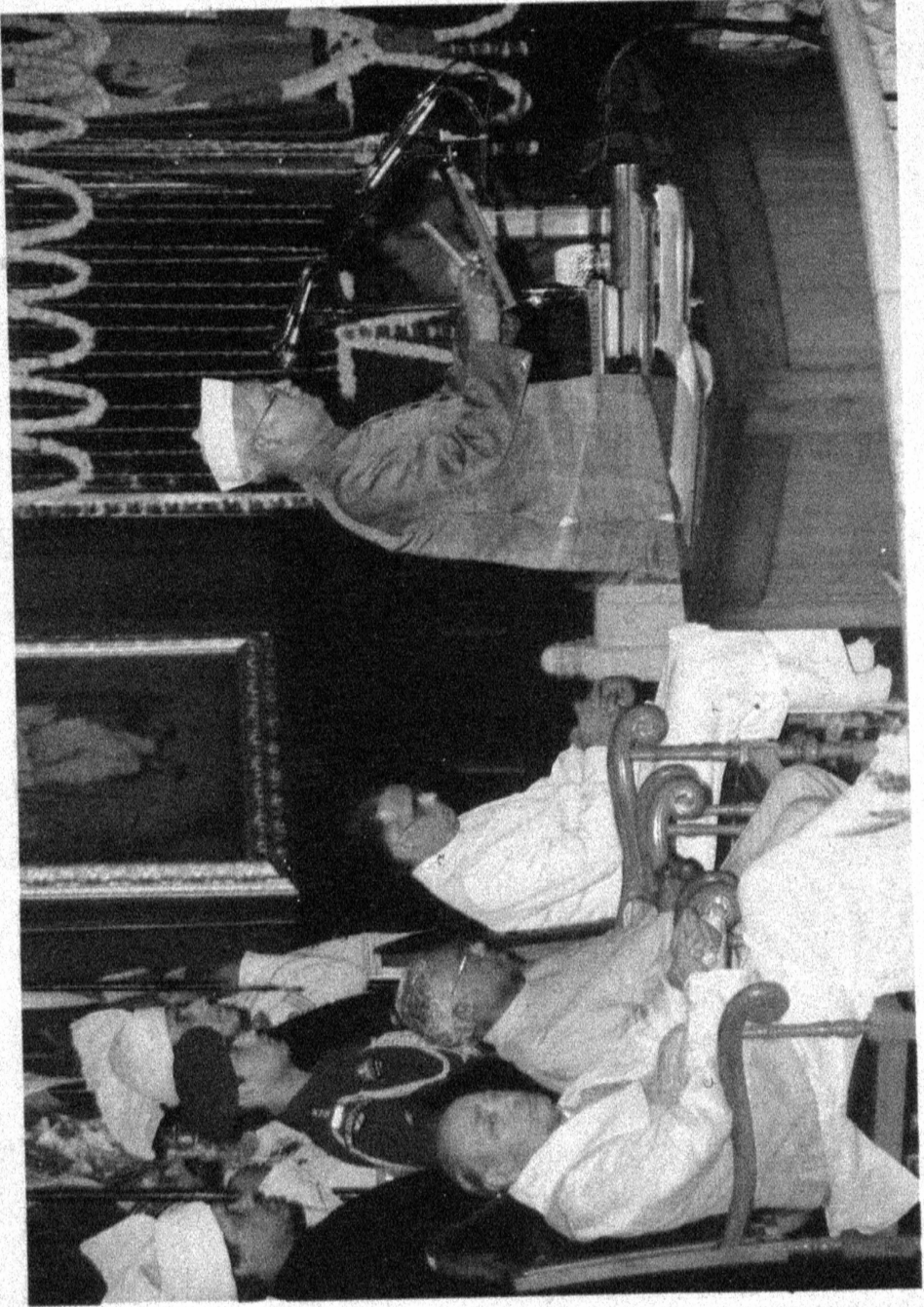
The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil delivering his Address



The Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao delivering his Address



The Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K. R. Narayanan addressing the gathering



Address by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma



common people of India. Naturally, he was criticised by the conservative leaders but none of those leaders could meet Maulana Azad's arguments. He energised the Muslim intellectuals through his refreshing outlook and rational approach. His revolutionary ideas expressed through *Al-Hilal* were full of urgency and urged the Muslims to learn the real teachings of Islam which lays down that one must wage a constant war against oppression; one must give up one's life for truth and one must consider slavery as a curse. He was an indefatigable upholder of *haq* and relentless fighter against *batil*. His messages and writings were literary gems which inspired the people of this country. Many years later, Dr. Zakir Hussain said that the *Al-Hilal* lighted a spark in his heart which developed into a flame that sustained him throughout his life and inspired all his endeavours.

Maulana Azad was forced by the British to close *Al-Hilal*. This was re-issued under the name of *Al-Balagh* but that also had to be closed because he was externed from Bengal and had to shift to Ranchi to live and work on his treatise on the *Holy Koran*. His treatise *Tarjuman-ul-Koran* is an outstanding work indicating his understanding and erudition. This laid the foundation of a new school of thought. It was his desire to coordinate the teachings of Islam with the principles of human welfare and clear the myths and false legends.

Maulana Azad was a writer and a scholar of such dimensions that he left a lasting impression specially on the people of India. Above all, he was proud of being Indian and believed in an indivisible nation. He combined in him the best of traditions of India. He wrote in *Qaul-e-Faisal* and I quote:

Centuries of mutually shared history have enriched all aspects of our Indian way of life. Our language, our poetry, our literature, our social life, our taste, our dress, our customs and ceremonies and innumerable small things that compromise our daily life have been deeply influenced by this common way of life. Our languages were different but we began to speak with one tongue. Our customs and rituals were different but they coalesced with each other and evolved something common. Our old dresses may be seen in the pages of history for they are now no longer upon our bodies. It is our joint nationality that has bestowed this commonly shared treasure upon us.

*Ghobare Khatir* - a collection of his letters written in Ahmednagar Fort jail, is a touching insight into his mind and thinking.

As an orator he had the capacity to mesmerise his audience. I have heard him speaking several times and every time, it was an experience. He was a man of deep convictions and always stood for Hindu-Muslim unity, standing firm like a rock even in the midst of

uncharitable criticism. In 1923, presiding over a special session of the Congress, Maulana Saheb made the historic statement and I quote:

If an angel descends from the heavens today and proclaims from the Qutab Minar that India can attain swaraj within 24 hours provided I relinquish my demand for Hindu-Muslim unity, I shall retort to it saying, No my friend, I shall give up swaraj but not Hindu-Muslim unity. If swaraj is delayed, it will be a loss for India but if Hindu-Muslim unity is lost, it will be a loss for the whole of mankind.

Thus, Maulana Azad represented the proud traditions of our rich heritage. After the attainment of Independence, he was naturally given the portfolio of Education which included art, culture and scientific research. The great impetus and encouragement he offered for the development of art, literature, cultural activities and scientific research can be seen in the establishment of various academies, research laboratories and institutions. As Education Minister he strove to make the educational policies of the Government of India an instrument for developing India's human resource in the fullest sense. He laid the foundation for our educational edifice with farsighted arrangements for every branch—scientific, technical as well as general. We must dedicate ourselves to imbibe the values and ideals of Maulana Azad. He stood out as a champion of nationalism, progress, secularism, freedom and democracy. It is a matter of pride that even today we stand by the ideals of Maulana Azad and a study of his writings and speeches would give a new thrust to the understanding of the ideals of the leaders of our freedom movement. It sometime makes me sad that he was subjected to criticism by the conservative elements. He was called a 'show boy' of the Congress. He, however, stood firm on his conviction. At the moment I would like to quote from Maulana Azad's address in 1947 to the Muslims in Delhi from the historic Jama Masjid. I quote :

My brothers, if you are determined to live in India, no power can force you to leave it. Remember your great men of the past and live like them. Come, let us take a pledge that this country is ours; our destiny is linked with its destiny. Its fundamental problems will remain unsolved without our decisive voice. We will live here; we will die here.

History has shown that his analysis and vision were the most appropriate and have stood the test of time.

Today, we are also honouring another intellectual, freedom fighter and dedicated socialist, Shri Madhu Limaye. Shri Limaye was a voracious reader and was drawn into the freedom struggle in his student days. He was closely associated with the socialist group in the Congress and was imprisoned for his anti war speeches and his activities during the Quit India Movement. After Independence he continued to work for the

Socialist Party. As an ardent nationalist he joined the liberation movements in Goa. Limaye entered Goa in 1955 as a *Satyagrahi* where he was brutally beaten and was sentenced to 12 years of imprisonment. He was released when an amnesty was announced for the Indian prisoners in 1957 after spending over 19 months in Portuguese captivity. Limaye was a thinker and took keen interest in the formation of economic policy and constitutional issues. He had earned a niche for himself in the political arena of independent India. He was deeply sensitive to the needs of the poor but was never dogmatic in his approach. He used his intellectual qualities to uphold democratic principles and was very vocal and emphatic in his approach. Till his last days he continued to analyse the national events dispassionately as a true scholar. He was a man of integrity and always acted on his convictions and was never motivated by personal gain. He remained an austere and a simple man whose motivation was to serve the people of his country.

Today when we honour the memory of Maulana Azad and Madhu Limaye, let us dedicate ourselves to the ideals of freedom, secularism, national unity and welfare of the people to which both these great men dedicated their lives.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF INDIA AND CHAIRMAN,  
RAJYA SABHA, SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN**

*Respected Rashtrapatiji, Respected Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Shrimati Madhu Limaye, Honourable Shri Chandra Sekhharji, Honourable Shri Sikander Bakhtji, Honourable Ministers, Member of Parliament and Friends:*

Today we add another statue and another portrait to the galleries of great men that adorn this temple of democracy. They remind us of the glorious days gone by when they struggled for our freedom and Independence, and after attaining it strove hard to build up a just and democratic social order for our people. These statues and portraits will *look down upon* generations of parliamentarians to come, blessing their efforts for the nation and reminding them of the standards to be upheld in all their endeavours.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was a glittering star in that galaxy of great men who led India through a long and arduous struggle to its destined goal of freedom and Independence. He was a remarkable personality who combined in himself tradition and modernity, deep religious faith and broad rationalism, intense Indian nationalism and enlightened Islamic world outlook. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru remarked, "he was a strange mixture of medieval scholasticism, eighteenth century rationalism and the modern outlook." The sacrifices he made for India were immense and poignant. They are too well-known to be recounted today. But his deep

religious faith, his vision of India, and his love for his country are profoundly pertinent to the present and the future of India. He declared once— "I am a Muslim and I am proud of being one. Thirteen hundred years of its tradition is my heritage; I am not prepared to waste its tiniest part." But he added— "the spirit of Islam does not stop me. It is in fact my guide along the path. With pride I feel I am an Indian. I am a particle of the indivisible Indian nationalism. I will never relinquish this belief of mine."

It was this deep-seated belief that the Maulana spelt out when he was elected as the President of the Indian National Congress in 1940. What he said on that occasion is of utmost relevance today and in the future that it merits to be quoted. He said:

Eleven hundred years of common history (between Hindus and Muslims) have enriched India with our common achievements. This joint wealth is a heritage of our common nationality. If there are any Hindus amongst us who desire to bring back the Hindu life of a thousand years ago and more, they dream and such dreams are vain fantasies. So also if there are any Muslims who wish to revive their past civilisation and culture which they brought a thousand years ago from Irani and Central Asia., they dream also and the sooner they wake up the better. These are unnatural fancies which cannot take root in the soil of reality. These thousand years of our joint life has moulded us into a common destiny. The cast has now been moulded and the destiny has set a seal upon it.

In these words, the Maulana had spoken for his time and for all times to come. It is this man of vision and acute realism of whom Nehru had said, "he had a mind as keen as razor's edge" and of "strong common sense" with "a vast fund of knowledge", that we are remembering and honouring today.

Shri Madhu Limaye, a more contemporary figure for us and who passed away from the scene only recently, was a freedom fighter, socialist thinker, parliamentarian and a crusader for civil liberties and social justice. His contribution to the freedom movement in the stormy forties and during the Goa liberation struggle belonged to the unforgettable history of the radical days of Indian socialism. A brilliant intellectual with a practical bent of mind, he was one of those Socialists who sought to think with originality and a freshness of approach about socialism in Indian terms in an international context. He was deeply involved in the international socialist movement but he did not believe in blind imitation of Western models and felt the need for a distinctive Indian approach. In this process, he arrived at the necessity of marrying socialist principles to Gandhian ideas and methods. Madhu Limaye with his sharp analytical mind tried to study the post-independent India and

understand the political, social and economic forces at work since the country moved into the era of Independence. He arrived at the imperative of decentralisation in politics and economics and the need for grappling with the issues of social justice in Indian society. He tried valiantly to bring about a broad combination in Indian politics of all secular, democratic and socialist forces. Madhu Limaye was at once a thinker and intellectual, and a stormy petrel in Indian politics.

I have great pleasure in joining you all in paying tributes to him along with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, both of whom shared a passion for India's freedom and unity and for the welfare and progress of the Indian people.

Thank you.

**ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA,  
DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA**

*Shri K.R. Narayanan, Vice-President of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of India, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Vasant Sathe, Chairman, Indian Council for Culture Relations, Shri Mohan Singh from Madhu Limaye Smriti Nyas, the donor of the portrait of Madhu Limaye, Shrimati Limaye, Shrimati Najma Heptulla, Honourable Ministers of the Union Cabinet, Governors, Honourable Members of Parliament, Respected Freedom Fighters, Ladies and Gentlemen :*

It gives me immense pleasure to be present here, in this august Central Hall, hallowed by the memory of our leaders and freedom fighters.

Today, we pay homage to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who was a towering figure of this century. He guided and shaped the destiny of our nation. He was a fighter for freedom. His *nom de plume* the *takhallus* was *Azad* which refers to freedom. He devoted his entire life for the cause of a united, free, strong, secular India. A devout Muslim, an *Alim* steeped in Islamic tradition, he was a scholar renowned for his erudition and deep learning. When I said steeped in Islamic tradition, I would like to remind you that he was born in Mecca and his mother was a daughter of *Mufti Madina Munawwara*. His own mother tongue was Arabic. I am mentioning it because he had a deep knowledge of Arabic and its various meanings. His Urdu commentary on the Holy Koran is one of the most significant works on Islamic thought. Various people have written in India and abroad but they agreed that his was one of the most significant books.

Maulana Azad combined in himself the qualities of a visionary and the spirit of a man of action. He was a rivetting orator who held his audience spell-bound with his wisdom, the beauty of his language and his tremendous intellectual capabilities. At a very young age, he achieved great fame as editor of *Al-Hilal* and *Al-Balagh*, journals which played

an influential role in the awakening of political consciousness in India. He was a greatly respected leader of the nation who guided our struggle for freedom.

The world of letters, of books, art, music and poetry, was his passion. The academic and cultural institutions, including the Akademis for music, art and drama, and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations which he helped establish and nurture, stand eloquent testimony to his efforts as Minister for Education.

As I mentioned here, he himself chose to be a Minister for Education. He could have chosen anything. This I came to know from Panditji.

A symbol of our composite culture, our *tezzeb*, Maulana Saheb represented a harmonious blend of the past and the present. In a moving obituary reference to the Maulana, in the Lok Sabha on 24 February 1958, Panditji, a close and dear friend, colleague and compatriot and a fellow prisoner of the Maulana in the prisons of colonial India, said:

We have had great men and we shall have great men; but I do submit that peculiar and special type of greatness that Maulana Azad represented is not likely to be reproduced in India or anywhere else.

Panditji often used to say that he had met people from different parts of the country and he used to say that he was still to meet a person with sharper intellect than Maulana Azad.

I believe the defining contribution of Maulana Azad to our society, was his assiduous and untiring work for the sake of communal amity. As one of my illustrious predecessors, Dr. Zakir Hussain said in a speech at a public meeting in Delhi organised in memory of Maulana Azad on 23 February 1958:

The greatest service which the Maulana did was to teach people of every religion that there are two aspects of religion. One separates and differentiates and creates hatred. This is the false aspect. The other, the true spirit of religion brings people together; it creates understanding. It lies in the spirit of service, in sacrificing self for others. It implies belief in unity, in the essential unity of things. I am convinced, that it is this aspect of his life and work which holds the most enduring message for Indians, indeed, for all people of the sub-continent.

Maulana Saheb's philosophy of universal humanism and the unity of religion was derived from his deep study and meditations on the *Holy Koran*. Referring to the holistic philosophy in the *Holy Koran* he said:

Here is a person singing the praise of his Lord. But the Lord he praises is not the Lord of any particular race or community or religious group but Lord of all the worlds, Rabbul-alamin....,

the source of sustenance and mercy uniformly for all mankind...."

From this insight followed his deep and abiding faith in the unity of religion and commitment to harmony and amity amongst the followers of all religions.

The goal of Hindu-Muslim unity was perhaps even more important than freedom for Maulana Saheb, as it was for Bapu. In one of his famous speeches to which the Prime Minister referred, as the youngest ever President of the Special Session of the Congress in Delhi in 1923, he said:

If an angel were to descend from the high heavens and proclaim from the height of the Qutab Minar, 'Discard Hindu-Muslim Unity and within 24 hours Swaraj is yours.' I will refuse the proffered Swaraj, but will not budge an inch from my stand. The refusal of Swaraj will affect only India, while the end of our unity will be the loss of the entire human world.

Seventeen years later, delivering his Presidential address to the Ramgarh Congress Session in 1940, Maulana Saheb further expounded on this theme. He said:

I am a Muslim and profoundly conscious of the fact that I have Islam's glorious tradition of the last thirteen hundred years. I am not prepared to lose even a small part of that legacy...I am equally proud of the fact that I am an Indian, an essential part of the indivisible unity of the Indian nationhood...

This is one of the most stirring speeches on national unity and our tradition of pluralism, synthesis and oneness. In another memorable passage, Maulana Saheb states that India's diverse cultures, "like the Ganga and Jamuna, flowed for a while through separate courses, but nature's immutable law brought them together and joined them in a Sangam."

In a speech before partition, Maulana Saheb exhorted groups of potential migrants to reconsider their decision to migrate to Pakistan. Some of the portion has been quoted. He emphatically said that they would be like uninvited guests 'बिन बुलाए मेहमान' and that they would meet the prejudice and discrimination there. This was prophetic. If we think of their position today, they will meet the prejudice and discrimination. Now they have to form MQM—Mohajir Quami Movement. They are treated as Mohajirs, by somebody or other and they are suffering. We are reading reports everyday. That is what he said, prophetic. He was a real seer also. On another occasion, in a speech at Jama Masjid, he said: "the two-nation theory was the death-knell of a life of faith and belief...you will see that those on whom you rely for support will have

forsaken you and left you helpless at the mercy of fate." These were prophetic words, indeed. They were not only helpless and on mercy of fate but they were being persecuted there. I know it because I know a large number of people who migrated from Bhopal to that place and I get letters from them, that is how they are suffering.

The Maulana's message of universal humanism, amity and harmony in society is of abiding relevance. In some ways, after the first flush of joy at freedom, when our people were engaged in the tasks of nation-building and reconstruction, it was the preservation of our secular ethos, which was a crucial objective. This remains so even today. We should draw inspiration from Maulana Saheb's conviction and guiding principle of life that we are all Indians first and foremost; that we can be devout Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, that we can follow any faith we wish, and that the different faiths of India give strength to our national values, patriotism and yearning to build a better world for all. The message of Maulana Azad's life is of co-existence, assimilation and synthesis of cultures and traditions. It is one of vibrant pluralism and deep oneness of our society.

I had briefly referred to this theme in my Address to the Nation on the eve of Republic Day this year, when I had drawn attention to the power of democratic pluralism in our society. It is vital for all of us to realise and appreciate the fact that it is our glorious diversity and pluralism and our system of parliamentary democracy which ensures our unity and protects our integrity, as a nation and as a civilisation.

Though the doors of freedom have opened for us all, we cannot afford to be complacent. The gains of freedom, in all its different dimensions — political, social, economic, cultural and religious — must be secured and enlarged for each and every member of society.

Friends, we also honour today, a dear friend and colleague, a fervent nationalist and democrat Shri Madhu Limaye, who was snatched away from our midst only last year.

Of the diverse aspects of his personality, his inspiring role as a parliamentarian stands out most sharply in my memory. His outspoken views and clear perception of political, legal and constitutional matters were based on painstaking research and deep study. His objective and learned expositions in Parliament were heard by one and all with respect, even though not every one agreed with his point of view. The corpus of his speeches and books on important national issues constitute an important legacy for all of us, specially those in public life.

Madhuji practised what he preached. An inveterate socialist, influenced deeply by Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain, Rammanohar Lohia and Acharya Narendra Dev, he was spartan and austere in his private life. He believed in simple living and high thinking.



In honouring him today, we pay our respects to a freedom fighter who worked untiringly for the cause of liberating our nation from the colonial yoke. He was a young student of eighteen years, when he first suffered imprisonment during the freedom struggle. After Independence, his efforts for the liberation of Goa sent him into Portuguese captivity. Personal hardship, never deterred Madhuji from his path of duty; indeed, adversity only strengthened his resolve for the righteous cause of democracy, equality and human dignity.

Madhu Limaye was a man of simplicity, integrity and high moral rectitude, a brilliant intellectual and scholar, and an eminent parliamentarian. It is, indeed, fitting that his portrait has been placed in Parliament House alongside those of the great leaders of our nation.

I am glad that today our Parliament has taken significant steps to facilitate worldwide electronic access to the wealth of information contained in our debates of the Constituent Assembly and of Parliament. I am informed that the Constitution too, is now readily available through the Internet. Keeping pace with the latest developments in information technology, an area in which our professionals have shown excellence, is essential, and I am happy that Parliament is showing the way.

Friends, as we enter the next millennia, let us all pledge to work for peace, prosperity and harmony in our society. Let us realize the vision of our freedom fighters and founding fathers of a nation resplendent in its vibrant diversity and confident and secure in its oneness and unity.

Jai Hind.

## THE ELEVENTH LOK SABHA : A MOMENTOUS BEGINNING

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Independent India has time and again proved its democratic credentials by conducting periodic elections to the representative bodies at the national, State and local levels. The successful culmination of the ten General Elections to the Lok Sabha have widely been hailed the world over as a tribute to the basic tenets of parliamentary democracy. During April-May 1996, the people of India yet again demonstrated their commitment to democracy when they went to the polls to elect their representatives to the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

*Election Schedule:* on 19 March 1996, the Election Commission announced the schedule for the Eleventh General Elections and elections to five State Legislative Assemblies and one Union territory Assembly as also by- elections to several State Legislative Assemblies. The Lok Sabha elections were to be held on 27 April and 2 and 7 May 1996. In Jammu and Kashmir, the Lok Sabha elections were to be held on 7, 23 and 30 May 1996. On 27 March 1996, the president of India issued the provisions of the Representation of the people Act, 1951. Polling passed off peacefully in most parts of the country barring stray incidents of violence.

*Dissolution of Tenth Lok Sabha:* On 10 May 1996, the president, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma dissolved the Tenth Lok Sabha.

*Election results:* As the election results started coming in, it became clear that no single party was going to get an absolute majority in the House. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) emerged as the single largest party, followed by the Congress (I)\*.

*Constitution of the Eleventh Lok Sabha:* On 15 May 1996, the Eleventh Lok Sabha was constituted with the Election Commission issuing a notification under Section 73 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

*New Prime Minister:* On 15 May 1996, the president Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma invited the Leader of the single largest party in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee of BJP, to form the Government. The president asked Shri Vajpayee to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha by 31 May 1996.

Shri Vajpayee was sworn in as the Prime Minister on 16 May along with 11 Ministers of Cabinet rank. The Ministers and their portfolios

\*For detailed party position, see Table.

were: Shri Sikander Bakht: *Urban Affairs and Employment*; Shri Suraj Bhan: *Agriculture*; Shri Ram Jethmalani: *Law, Justice and Company Affairs*; Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar: *Civil Aviation and Tourism*; Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi: *Home Affairs*; Shri Pramod Mahajan: *Defence and Parliamentary Affairs*; Shri Karia Munda: *Welfare*; Shri Suresh Prabhu: *Industry*; Shri Sartaj Singh: *Health and Family Welfare*; Shri Jaswant Singh: *Finance*; and Smt. Sushma Swaraj: *Information and Broadcasting*.

Later, Shri Sikander Bakht was given the Charge of External Affairs.

*Protem Speaker:* On 18 May 1996, the President, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma appointed veteran parliamentarian, Shri Indrajit Gupta as the Speaker *pro tem*.

*First Session of the Eleventh Lok Sabha:* The First Session of the Eleventh Lok Sabha began on 22 May 1996 With the Speaker, *pro tem*, Shri Indrajit Gupta administering the oath or affirmation to the newly elected members. Shri Indrajit Gupta also announced that he had nominated Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia, Shri Chitta Basu and Shri P.M. Sayeed on the panel of Chairman before whom members could take oath.

*New Speaker of the Lok Sabha:* Shri P. A. Sangma of the Congress (I) was unanimously elected the Speaker of the Eleventh Lok Sabha on 23 May 1996.\*

*Address by the President:* On 24 May 1996, the president, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressed members of both the Houses of parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of the parliament House.

*Leader of the Opposition:* The Speaker, Shri P.A. Sangma recognised the Leader of the Congress ( I ) in the Lok Sabha, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha With effect from 16 May 1996.

*Panel of Chairmen :* On 27 May 1996, the Speaker, Shri P.A. Sangma announced that he had nominated Shri Chitta Basu, Shri Nitish Kumar, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, Shri P.M. Sayeed, Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia and Prof. Rita Verma as member of the Panel of Chairmen.

*Resignation of Prime Minister :* On 27 May 1996, the prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee moved in the Lok Sabha the Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers. The House discussed the motion on 27 and 28 May 1996. While replying to the debate, on 28 May 1996, the Prime Minister announced that he was going to tender his resignation to the President.

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\*For details regarding the election, see feature "Election of the Speaker of the Eleventh Lok Sabha".

The Speaker, thereupon, observed that in view of the resignation announced by the prime Minister on the floor of the House, putting the Motion of Confidence to the vote of the House had become infructuous and also no other listed business of the House for the day could be taken up. He, therefore, adjourned the House *sine die*.

The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee then called on the president, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma and submitted his resignation. The President requested Shri Vajpayee to continue in office till alternate arrangements were made.

The same day, the President called upon the Leader of the United Front, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda to form the Government. He was asked to prove his majority in the Lok Sabha by 12 June 1996. The Congress ( I ), which was the second largest party in the Lok Sabha, had already intimated to the President their support for the United Front.

*New Cabinet sworn in :* A 21-member Council of Ministers, headed by Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, was sworn in on 1 June 1996. The Council of Ministers and the portfolios are as under:

*Shri H.D. Deve Gowda : (Prime Minister) : Agriculture; Home Affairs; Science and Technology; Personal, Public Grievances and pensions; Atomic Energy; and the other Ministries /Departments not allocated to any other Cabinet Ministers, viz. Chemicals and Fertilizers; Communications; Environment and Forests; Food Processing Industries; Health and Family Welfare; Mines; Non-Conventional Energy Sources; petroleum and Natural Gas; Planning and Programme Implementation; power; Steel; Textiles;; Electronics Jammu and Kashmir Affairs; Ocean Development; and Space.*

*Cabinet Ministers :* Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia: *Welfare; additional charge of Labour;* Shri C. M. Ibrahim: *Civil Aviation and Tourism; additional charge of Information and Broadcasting;* Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav: *Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution; additional Charge of Commerce;* Shri I. K. Gujral: *External Affairs; additional charge of Water Resources;* Shri M. Arunachalam: *Urban Affairs and Employment;* Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav: *Defence;* Shri Murasoli Maran: *Industry;* Shri P. Chidambaram: *Finance; additional Charge of Justice and Company Affairs;* Shri Ram Vilas Paswan: *Railways and Parliamentary Affairs;* Shri S. R. Bommai: *Human Resource Development; additional charge of Coal;* Shri T.G. Venkataraman: *Surface Transport;* and Shri Yerram Naidu: *Rural Areas and Employment.*

*Ministers of State :* Shri Beni Prasad Verma: *Communications and parliamentary Affairs;* Shri Chandradeo Prasad Verma: *Rural Areas and Employment;* Capt. Jai Narayan Prasad Nishad: *Environment and Forests;* Smt. Kanti Singh: *Human Resource Development;* Shri Md. Taslimuddin:

*Home Affairs; Dr. S. Venugoplachari: Power; Shri Saleem Iqbal Shervani: Health and Family Welfare; and Dr. U. Venkateswarlu: Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs.*

*Leader of the House :* On 11 June 1996, the Speaker, Shri P.A. Sangma introduced in the Lok Sabha the Leader of the House, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

*New Leader of the Opposition :* The Speaker, Shri P.A. Sangma recognised the Leader of the BJP in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha with effect from 1 June 1996, the date from which the Leader of the Congress ( I ) in the Lok Sabha, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao had ceased to hold the post.

*Confidence Motion :* On 11 June, 1996, the prime Minister, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda moved the Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers. The Motion was adopted on 12 June 1996. Later, the House adjourned *Sine die*.

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**TABLE**  
**PARTY POSITION IN THE ELEVENTH LOK SABHA**  
(as on 6 June 1996)

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NAME OF THE PARTY	NO. OF SEATS
Bhartiya Janta Party	160
Indian National Congress	139
Janata Dal	45
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	32
Tamil Manila Congress (M)	20
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	17
Samajwadi Party	17
Telugu Desam Party	16
Shiv Sena	15
Communist Party of India	12
Bahujan Samaj Party	11
Samata Party	8
Shiromani Akali Dal	8
Revolutionary Socialist Party	5
Asom Gana Parishad	5
All India Indira Congress ( T )	4
All India Forward Block	3

Haryana Vikas Party	3
Muslim League	2
All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen	1
Autonomous State Demand Committee	1
Jharkhand Mukti Morcha	1
Madhaya Pradesh Vikas Congress	1
Maharashtra Gomantak Party	1
Karnataka Congress Party	1
Kerala Congress (M)	1
Sikkim Democratic Front	1
United Goa Democratic Party	1
Independents	9
Vacancies	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>543</b>
<i>Vacancies</i>	
1. Cuttack (Orissa) <i>vice</i> Shri Biju Patnaik (resigned on 21.5. 96.)	1
2. Gandhinagar (Gujarat) <i>vice</i> Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (resigned on 21.5.96.)	1
3, Nandyal (Andhra Pradesh) <i>vice</i> Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao (resigned on 23.5.96.)	1
	<b>3</b>

## THE ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

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Under the provisions of art. 93 of the Constitution, the Lok Sabha chooses one of its members to be the Speaker thereof, in accordance with the procedure prescribed in Rule 7 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha. The Speaker is elected from amongst its members by a simple majority of members present and voting in the House.

The Eleventh Lok Sabha was constituted on 15 May 1996. The newly constituted House met for the first time on 22 May 1996. The date for holding the election to the office of the Speaker was fixed as 23 May 1996. The members were accordingly informed of the procedure and programme thereof through the *Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II* on 18 May 1996 and again on 21 May 1996. Members were required to give notices of motions for the election in the prescribed form before noon on 22 May 1996.

Thirteen motions were received by the prescribed time, all of them proposing the name of Shri Purno Agitok Sangma for the office of the Speaker. All the motions were found to be in order and were included in the *Revised List of Business* for 23 May 1996 in the order in which they were received in point of time.

On 23 May 1996, when the item was taken up, the Speaker *pro tem*, Shri Indrajit Gupta, who was in the chair, called upon Shri Murasoli Maran to move the motion standing in his name. The motion was accordingly moved by Shri Murasoli Maran and seconded by Shri N.V.N. Somu. Subsequently, Bolla Bulli Ramaiah, Kum. Mamata Banerjee, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi, Shri Bijoy Krishna Handique, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Shri P.M. Sayeed, Shri Chaturanan Mishra, Shri P. Chidambaram, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Basudeb Acharia and Shri A.R. Antulay moved the motions listed in their names which were duly seconded by Sarvashri Ummareddy Venkateswarlu, Manoranjan Bhakta, D.S. Bhuria, T. Subbarami Reddy, Sharad Pawar, Santosh Mohan Dev, Rupchand Pal, S.R. Balasubramonian, Srikanta Kumar Jena, Beni Prasad Verma, Pramothēs Mukherjee and Giridhar Gamang, respectively.

The motion moved by Shri Murasoli Maran was unanimously adopted by the House. The Speaker, *pro tem*, Shri Indrajit Gupta then declared Shri Purno Agitok Sangma elected as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Shri Sangma was then conducted to the Chair by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha,

**Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Leaders of various parties and Groups in the House.**

Shri Sangma was warmly felicitated on his unanimous election to the office of the Speaker by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of Parties and Groups.

Congratulating Shri Sangma on his election to the high office, the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said it was a matter of immense pleasure that the election had been unanimous. On the one hand, it showed the incumbent's popularity; on the other, it indicated that despite political differences, the supreme representative body of our democracy could arrive at a consensus on important issues and take decisions unitedly. The North-East was an important part of the country which had been feeling neglected. The election of Shri Sangma would help in assuaging that feeling. The Prime Minister said that Shri Sangma had worked in various capacities and had held different subjects with dexterity. With his election to the august office, the dignity of the House had been enhanced. Shri Vajpayee, assuring the Speaker of the fullest cooperation, expressed the firm conviction that under his able leadership, the rights of the House and those of the members would be protected.

Felicitating Shri Sangma, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao expressed his happiness on the unanimous election of the Speaker. As the Chief Minister of Meghalaya and as the Labour Minister, Shri Sangma had to face difficult situation but he came out unscathed every time. Shri Rao beseeched members to help the new Speaker in maintaining the dignity of the House and conduct its business in the best traditions of parliamentary democracy.

Extending his felicitations, the Speaker of the Tenth Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that it was very heartening that Leaders of all Parties and all members of the House had shown sagacity in choosing the Speaker unanimously.

Congratulating the new Speaker, Shri Sharad Yadav expressed the firm belief that under Shri Sangma's able leadership, the Parliament would enable the nation to gain more strength.

Shri Murasoli Maran pointed out that the unanimous election of the Speaker spoke not only about the political equation inside the House but also Shri Sangma's admirable qualities.

Conveying his greetings, Shri Somnath Chatterjee said he was confident that Shri Sangma would fully justify the faith that the entire House had reposed in him.

Shri P. Chidambaram said that Shri Sangma would enhance the reputation of the Chair because by nature he was a conciliator and a negotiator.



Felicitating Shri Sangma on his election, Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah assured him full cooperation in conducting the business of the House.

Describing Shri Sangma's election as a gesture towards the federal spirit of the country, Shri Indrajit Gupta expressed the hope that he would be able to help and guide the members so that they could be worthy of the responsibility which the electorate had given to them.

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav expressed confidence that as the custodian of the House, Shri Sangma would protect the rights of the members.

Shri Chitta Basu said that the teeming millions belonging to the tribal areas as also the minorities would feel greatly encouraged by Shri Sangma's election.

Shri Birendra Prasad Baisha was of the view that each and every member of the House would get equal treatment from the Speaker.

Congratulating Shri Sangma, Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari said that the incumbent's experience would help in upholding parliamentary traditions even in trying circumstances.

Shri Surjeet Singh Barnala said he was sure that Shri Sangma would be able to overcome all difficulties because of his long and varied political experience.

Shri Nitish Kumar hoped that Shri Sangma would fully utilize the authority and competence at his command to ensure that the House lasted its full term.

Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar observed that the unanimous election of the Speaker indicated a bright future for democracy in the country.

Welcoming the new Speaker, Shri Kanshi Ram assured him full cooperation in conducting the business of the House.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla said that Shri Sangma assumed the mantle of Speaker at a very critical time in the history of parliamentary democracy. The unanimous election in itself was a shining and unique response to that situation.

Extending his heartiest felicitations to the new Speaker, Shri Madhavrao Scindia said that Shri Sangma's reputation for impartiality would stand him in good stead in the days ahead.

Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi hoped that all possible opportunities would be provided for raising issues in the House.

Congratulating Shri Sangma, Kum. Mamata Banerjee pointed out that the need of the hour was to restore value based politics.

Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal appealed to Shri Sangma to be impartial and judicious in order to uphold the high democratic values and essence of the Constitution.

Shri Jai Prakash expressed the hope that the new Speaker would give equal opportunity to members belonging to the small parties too.

Replying to the felicitations, Shri P.A. Sangma said:

Honourable Members:

The people of our great country, who represent about twenty per cent of the humanity, have returned this Eleventh Lok Sabha through peaceful elections. The honourable members of the House have done me a unique honour by electing me as their Presiding Officer in an unprecedented gesture of unanimity, cutting across the entire political spectrum, regional and cultural differences and even power equations. I offer my salutations to all of you.

I am overwhelmed too by the generous sentiments expressed from all sections of the House.

Even as we are at the close of the present millennium, many countries of the world are still in the process of transition to democracy, often facing painful social and political convulsions. As we have assembled here, we have reaffirmed our commitment to democratic roots.

As I take this Chair, I pay my tributes to the great leaders of our nation, veterans like Vithalbhai Patel and Dada Saheb Mavalankar, who shaped the traditions of this House. And no doubt, I shall be drawing my inspiration from them.

The Lok Sabha is a hallowed hall of democracy. The ideal for all of us, therefore, should be to give it the sanctity of a place of worship. In the House, there should be debate and dissent with dignity, compromise with courtesy and respect without rancour.

The mandate as well as the basic term of reference for us in this House is legislation. It is through legislation that we reflect the will of the people, lay down the politics, and establish the rule of law. Time, being the constraining factor, we should deploy the same to produce optimum results in terms of good governance.

We are people from the grassroots represented in all sections of the House. We have a feel for the pulse of the people. I am sure that we will enrich the proceedings of the House by bringing our collective wisdom and experience to bear on the dignity and quality of our debates.

The verdict of the people as reflected in the composition of this House has given rise to aspirations as well as apprehensions against them. I am sure that all of us will collectively discharge our responsibility so as to fulfil their aspirations and allay their apprehensions.

I shall assure you in this context that while conducting the proceedings of this House, I shall endeavour my utmost to be guided by transparency and impartiality in my actions and provide equal opportunity to all in giving expression to their views.

Parliament business is serious but need not to be tense. Tension would need to be tempered by a sense of wit and humour. We would have to draw inspiration from eminent parliamentarians of yesteryears with a sense of humour, like Pandit Nehru, Pilloo Modi, Balraj Madhok, Mahabir Tyagi, Jagjivan Ram, etc. Humour spawns camaraderie and camaraderie enhances understanding.

The Secretariat of the Lok Sabha does play a crucial role, though behind the screen, in facilitating the smooth and orderly conduct of the proceedings of the House. I shall be drawing upon the experience and cooperation of the Secretariat too in the effective discharge of my duties.

The media is the interface between the House and the people. I would seek their cooperation in objective presentation of the proceedings of the House to the people.

Honourable members, all of you have chosen to give the care of this House to my trust. On my part, I would assure you that I shall endeavour my best to rise up to this trust and meet your expectations.

Thank you.

### **SHRI P.A. SANGMA—A LIFE-SKETCH**

Son of late Shri Dipchon Ch. Marak, Shri Purno Agitok Sangma was born on 1 September 1947 at Village Chapahati in the West Garo Hills District of Meghalaya. He was educated at the Dalu High School, St. Anthony's College, Shillong and the Dibrugarh University. After his B.A. (Hons.), he did his Post Graduation and subsequently obtained a Degree in Law.

Shri Sangma, who has worked as a Lecturer, Advocate, and Journalist, started his political career as the General Secretary of the Meghalaya Pradesh Youth Congress in 1974. From 1975 to 1980, he was General Secretary of the Meghalaya Pradesh Congress Committee.

Shri Sangma's association with the Parliament began in 1977 when he was elected to the Sixth Lok Sabha from the Tura constituency. In 1980, he became the Joint Secretary of the All India Congress Committee. The same year, he was returned to the Seventh Lok Sabha. He was inducted into the Union Cabinet by the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi and held the office of the Deputy Minister in charge of Industry from November 1980 to January 1982. He was the Deputy Minister for Commerce from January 1982 to December 1984.

Shri Sangma was elected to the Eighth Lok Sabha in the General Elections of 1984. From January 1985 to March 1985, he was the Minister of State holding the charge of Commerce and Supply. Later, he was the Minister of State for Commerce from March 1985 to September 1985. From September 1985 to January 1986, he held the office of the Minister of State for Home Affairs.

Shri Sangma took over as the Minister of State for Labour with Independent Charge in October 1986. In February 1988, he became the Chief Minister of Meghalaya and remained in office till 1990. He was the Leader of the Opposition in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly during 1990-91.

In 1991, Shri Sangma was elected to the Tenth Lok Sabha and became the Minister of State for Coal with Independent Charge. In February 1992, he was given the additional responsibility of assisting the Prime Minister in the Ministry of Labour. He assumed the Independent Charge of the Ministry of Labour in January 1993. Shri Sangma was elevated to the Cabinet rank in February 1995 and held the charge of the Ministry of Labour.

Shri Sangma was the Leader of the Tripartite Indian Delegation to the International Labour Conference in Geneva six times. He was elected the Chairman of the Asia and Pacific Region for the International Labour Minister's Conference, 1994-95, the first Indian to occupy such a position. He was also elected the Chairman of the Labour Minister's Conference of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, 1994-95.

In September 1995, Shri Sangma took over as the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. He was returned to the Lok Sabha in the General Elections in 1996 and was unanimously elected the Speaker of the Eleventh Lok Sabha on 23 May 1996.

Shri Sangma has been closely associated with various social organisations and educational institutions. He has been the Editor of a local daily, *Chadambeni Kalrang*. He has also edited two books on *India in ILO*. Widely travelled in India and abroad, he has an abiding interest in social service. Reading, discussions and music are his favourite pastimes while he enjoys playing indoor games.

Shri Sangma is married to Smt. Soradini K. Sangma. The Sangmas have two sons and two daughters.

## PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

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### CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

*Unveiling of the statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi:* The statue of former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi was unveiled in the Parliament House Complex by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on 27 January 1996 who also addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall. The other dignitaries who addressed the gathering were the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil.

*Unveiling of the statue of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:* A statue of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was unveiled in the Court between Gate No. 1 and the Central Hall of Parliament House on 15 March 1996 by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma who also addressed the distinguished gathering in the Central Hall. The Vice-President of India, and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the former Union Minister and Chairman, Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Shri Vasant Sathe were the other dignitaries who spoke on the occasion.

*Unveiling of the portrait of Shri Madhu Limaye:* A portrait of the eminent parliamentarian, Shri Madhu Limaye was unveiled in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 15 March 1996 by the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma who also addressed the distinguished gathering. The other dignitaries who spoke on the occasion were the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and Shri Mohan Singh, MP.

### BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of those national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat are also brought out on the occasion.

*Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose:* On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, floral tributes were paid

at his portrait on 23 January 1996. Among the dignitaries who paid tributes to Netaji were the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav; the Minister of Employment and Rural Areas, Dr. Jagannath Mishra; the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri P.A. Sangma; the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee; the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others.

*Lala Lajpat Rai:* On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai, a function was held on 28 January 1996 in the Central Hall. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad; the Minister of State for Rural Areas and Employment, Shri Uttambhai Patel; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Lala Lajpat Rai.

*Smt. Sarojini Naidu:* On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Sarojini Naidu, a function was held on 13 February 1996, in the Central Hall. The Minister of State for Rural Areas and Employment, Shri Uttambhai Patel; the Minister of State for Agriculture, Mohd. Ayub Khan; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Smt. Sarojini Naidu.

*Shri Morarji Desai:* On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Morarji Desai, a function was held in the Central Hall on 29 February 1996. The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan; the Minister of Welfare, Shri Sitaram Kesri; the Minister of Industry, Shri K. Karunakaran; the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad; the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Sikander Bakht; the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee; the Minister of State for Rural Areas and Employment, Shri Uttambhai Patel; the Minister of State for Home, Shri Syed Sibtey Razi; the Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla; the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid floral tributes to Shri Desai.

*Dr. Rammanohar Lohia:* On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Rammnohar Lohia, a function was held on 23 March 1996 in the Central Hall. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; members of Parliament; and former members of Parliament and others paid tributes to Dr. Lohia.

**EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS****PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS VISITING INDIA**

*Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons of UK:* On our invitation, the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, UK, Mr. Michael Morris, accompanied by his wife, visited India from 2 to 9 January 1996. They called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil and the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri S. Mallikarjunaiah on 3 January 1996, The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha later hosted a dinner in their honour. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on 4 January 1996.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra, Goa and Bombay.

*Mongolia:* On our invitation, a 17-member Mongolian Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Chairman of the State Great Hural of Mongolia, Mr. N. Bagabandi, visited India from 9 to 14 January 1996. They called on the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 9 January 1996. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour later in the evening. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on 12 January 1996.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra.

*Egypt:* On our invitation, an 18-member Egyptian Parliamentary Delegation, led by the Speaker of the Egyptian Shoura Assembly, Dr. Mostafa Kamal Helmy visited India from 15 to 19 January 1996. They called on the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao; the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil; and the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khursheed on 16 January 1996. The Speaker, Lok Sabha hosted a banquet in their honour later in the evening. They called on the President, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma and the Vice-President and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri K.R. Narayanan on 17 January 1996.

Besides Delhi, they visited Agra.

**BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING (BPST)**

The BPST organised the following Courses/Programme during the period under reference:

*Orientation Programmes:* An Orientation Programme for sixteen newly elected members of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly was organised from 12 to 14 February 1996. The Programme was inaugurated by the Minister of State for Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri S.S. Ahluwalia.

*Eleventh International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting:* The Eleventh International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting

began on 21 November 1995 and concluded on 31 January 1996. The Programme was attended by two participants from the United Republic of Tanzania, one each from Ghana, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Zambia, two officers from the Lok Sabha Secretariat and three officers from the Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Legislature Secretariats. The Programme was designed to equip the officials with the basic concepts, skills and techniques required for drafting legislation, so that they could assist Private Members of Parliament, whenever required.

*Expert Group Meeting on "Training of Parliamentary Staff":* An Expert Group Meeting on "Training of Parliamentary Staff" was organised from 26 February to 1 March 1996 under the joint auspices of the BPST and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Secretariat. Senior parliamentary officials from some Commonwealth countries and the CPA Secretariat attended the meeting and shared their experiences with a view to developing a sound curriculum for training of parliamentary staff in the Commonwealth countries.

*Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes and Procedures:* Two Appreciation Courses were organised for: (a) Indian Audit and Accounts Service Probationers (11-15 January 1996); and (b) (i) Indian Revenue Service Probationers; (ii) Officers of Indian Defence Estates Service; and (iii) Parliamentary Fellows from the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies (11-15 March 1996).

*Attachment Programmes :* Two Attachment Programmes for foreign participants attending the training programme at the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India were organised on 22-23 January 1996 and 26-27 March 1996.

*Study Visits:* Twelve Study visits were organised for participants from leading training and educational institutions.



## PRIVILEGE ISSUES

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### LOK SABHA

*Alleged payment of large sums of money to some members of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha in the Lok Sabha for voting against the Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers in July 1993:* Four notices of a question of privilege regarding the alleged payment of large sums of money to some members of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) in the Lok Sabha for voting against the Motion of No-confidence in the Council of Ministers in July 1993 were received from Sarvashri Jaswant Singh, Indrajit Gupta, Arjun Singh and Jagmeet Singh Brar, all members. The notices dated 26 and 27 February 1996, received from Shri Jaswant Singh and Shri Indrajit Gupta, respectively, were against the Prime Minister. The notice dated 27 February 1996, given by Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar was against the Prime Minister and Sarvashri Shibu Soren, Suraj Mandal, Simon Marandi and Shailendra Mahto, all members belonging to the JMM in the Lok Sabha (who were said to be the beneficiaries of the alleged pay-offs).

All the said four notices, in support of the contention made therein, relied upon a Press statement issued by Shri Shailendra Mahto, a member. The statement, a copy of which was enclosed by Shri Jaswant Singh with his notice, stated that a meeting of the said four members of the JMM in the Lok Sabha was held with the Prime Minister in the presence of Shri Buta Singh, a member, two days before the voting on the Motion of No-Confidence on 28 July 1993. On the basis of an agreement allegedly reached at the said meeting, the members had voted against the Motion of No-Confidence and large sums of money were subsequently paid into various bank accounts of the said members.

The main contention of the members in their notices was that the Prime Minister was in contempt of the House by allegedly offering inducements to the said four members of the JMM and by trying to influence them in their parliamentary conduct. Shri Arjun Singh further contended that the Prime Minister had aided and abetted the conduct of the said members. Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar also contended that those members had committed a breach of privilege and contempt of the House by accepting the "improper gratification in matter of voting".

Copies of all the four notices were forwarded to the Prime Minister for his comments. Copies of the notices of Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar were also forwarded to the said four members of the JMM for their comments in the matter.

The Prime Minister's comments on the notices of Shri Jaswant Singh were received on 28 February 1996. In his comments, the Prime Minister, *inter alia* stated as follows:

The news item appearing in a section of Press and the press release by Shri Shailendra Mahto, MP are baseless and false. Neither any payments of money were made or arranged to be paid by me to any member of Parliament, nor was any member of Parliament influenced through improper means in his parliamentary conduct, nor was any member of Parliament offered any inducements, fee or reward on the occasion of the Motion of No-Confidence moved against the Council of Ministers in July 1993.

It is also to submit further that no attempt whatsoever has been made to prevent the will of the House and never was there any question of violation of the oath of office under the Constitution.

I would therefore submit to the Hon'ble Speaker that no breach of privilege has been committed.

The same day, comments of the Prime Minister on the notice of Shri Indrajit Gupta were also received. In his comments, the Prime Minister stated *inter alia* as follows:

The allegations in the published statement of Shri Shailendra Mahto are false and baseless and hence denied. In view of this, the question of denigration of Parliament does not arise.

I would, therefore, submit to the Hon'ble Speaker that no breach of privilege has been committed.

The comments of the Prime Minister on the notices of Shri Arjun Singh and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar were received on 6 March 1996. The Prime Minister, in his comments, stated *inter alia* as under:

The allegation that I have aided and abetted the alleged conduct of the MPs mentioned in the aforesaid notice is false and baseless and hence denied.

I would therefore submit to the Hon'ble Speaker that no breach of privilege or contempt of the House has been committed.

Shri Buta Singh, member, also addressed a letter to the Speaker, Lok Sabha in which he denied the allegations, stating *inter alia* that "I totally deny the consideration of any financial dealing. At no state any money was offered or given to anybody either by me or through me. He also made a personal explanation in this regard during the debate in the House on 28 February 1996.

Shri Suraj Mandal, member, while speaking in the House on 28 February 1996 during the discussion on Motion under Rule 184 regarding the Government's failure to answer charges relating to the 'hawala' case and illegal pay-offs to some members of Parliament, also categorically denied the allegations.

On 29 February 1996, Shri Shailendra Mahto, member, during his personal explanation in the House, denied the allegation in respect of acceptance of improper gratification by him for not voting in favour of the No-Confidence Motion against the Council of Ministers on 28 July 1993.

On 11 March 1996, Shri Arjun Singh raised the matter in the House with the permission of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil. After a prolonged discussion, during which members of all parties expressed their views, the Speaker, disallowing Shri Arjun Singh's notice of question of privilege, observed as follows:

...The matter is before the Court which may take a proper decision on the basis of evidence that may be produced before it. Three years back some allegation were voiced about the illegal payments. At that time itself, the House could have been asked to look into it. On the basis of other kinds of inducements, the matter could have been asked to be looked into the House. In view of these facts and the available evidence, I find it very difficult to give the consent.

The notices of question of privilege given by Sarvashri Jaswant Singh, Indrajit Gupta and Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar were disallowed by the Speaker on 12 March 1996 in view of his ruling in the House on 11 March 1996.

- (i) *Alleged non-implementation of member's proposals under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme by the State Government Officers;*
- (ii) *Alleged misbehaviour with a member by a Government officer; and*
- (iii) *Alleged delay in furnishing requisite information to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, by the concerned Bihar Ministry of Government of India/officer of the Government of Bihar*

On 26 April 1995, in a letter addressed to the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma, a member alleged *inter alia* alleged that the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was being deliberately thwarted in her constituency "due to calculated and active non-cooperation of the district authorities, particularly the Deputy Development Commissioner, Dhanbad." The member made a number of complaints against the Deputy Development

Commissioner (DDC), Dhanbad, for allegedly misappropriating and diverting funds allocated for MPLADS in her constituency. She also complained that she was threatened and misbehaved with by the DDC who allegedly said, "Now that the elections are going to take place shortly, I will show you." The member added that the DDC had been "deliberately sabotaging all my efforts towards timely and proper utilisation" of the MPLADS. She contented that in the process the DDC was "both in contempt and breach of privilege, as he is obstructing my proper functioning as an MP". She requested that a detailed inquiry in the matter might be ordered immediately.

As directed by the Speaker on 28 April 1995, a copy of the complaint of Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma, along with its enclosures, was forwarded to the Minister/Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation for furnishing a factual reply of the concerned officer within two weeks.

On 26 May 1995, a D.O. Letter dated 26 May 1995 was received from the Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, stating that the matter was being pursued with the Government of Bihar and the Speaker, Lok Sabha might be persuaded to allow them some more time to obtain the report.

On 29 May 1995 Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma raised the matter on the floor of the House. Thereupon, the Speaker observed as follows:

You have asked that it should be referred to the Committee of Privileges. I am allowing it....

I have gone through the matter minutely. The officer against whom complaint or charges were levelled was given time to reply in that regard, but even then he did not bother. He has not replied even after the extended time. So I am referring this matter to the Committee of Privileges. The Committee would see what action can be taken in this regard. Because if things continue like this, it would be difficult to implement the Scheme effectively.

The same day, a copy of the report dated 26 May 1995 from the Secretary to the Government of Bihar in the matter was received from the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

On 31 May 1995, the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, Department of Programme Implementation, *vide* their U.O. note dated 30 May 1995, issued with the approval of the Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, forwarded a copy each of the following reports:

- (i) Report from Shri Mahavir Prasad, Deputy Commissioner, Dhanbad, Bihar; and

- (ii) Report from Shri N.E. Aggarwal Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Government of Bihar.

The Ministry stated in their U.O. note that the Department of Programme Implementation, on receipt of the complaint from Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma, had directed the District Collector concerned to provide a factual report. In the meantime, the Additional Secretary, Department of Programme Implementation, Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, Government of India also met the Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar and personally handed over a letter with request that a report may be sent by 20 May 1995 positively. The Department also continuously remained in touch with the Secretary, Department of Rural Development, that Department being in charge of implementation of the MPLADS. The reports from the State Government and the District collector were available only on 29 May 1995.

The Committee of Privileges, after examining in person Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma, the DDC, Dhanbad, Shri Sunil Barthwal, the then Deputy Commissioner of Dhanbad, Shri Sudhir Kumar, the then Deputy Commissioner, Bokaro, Shri Mahavir Prasad, the then Deputy Commissioner, Bokaro, Shri Ravi Mittal, the Deputy Commissioner, Bokaro, Shri Sukhdeo Singh, the Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Government of Bihar, Shri N.K. Aggarwal, the Sub-Divisional Officer, Dhanbad, Shri Chandra Dev Singh, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Dhanbad, Shri Lal Babu Paswan, the Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar, Shri A.K. Basak, and the Additional Secretary, Department of Programme Implementation, Government of India, Smt. Shanta Shastri and after considering all the relevant documents, in their Fifth Report presented to the House on 8 March 1996, reported *inter alia* that the following three issues were broadly involved in the case:

- (a) Whether the schemes suggested by Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma under the MPLADS were not implemented by Shri Sunil Barthwal, the DDC, Dhanbad? If so, whether non-implementation of the MPLADS by a Government officer amounted to breach of privilege or contempt of the House?
- (b) Whether Shri Barthwal misbehaved with Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma when the latter went to his residence on 7 and 11 April 1995 to seek certain clarifications regarding implementation of the scheme under the MPLADS? If so, does it amount to breach of privilege or contempt of the House?
- (c) Whether delay in furnishing information to the Speaker, Lok Sabha by the Ministry concerned/DDC, Dhanbad regarding the complaint of the member amounted to breach of privilege or contempt of the House?

The Committee decided to deal with the issues separately.

On issue no. (i), the Committee observed that the D.C. and D.D.C., Dhanbad and D.C. Bokaro, pleaded their helplessness in implementing Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma's proposals under the MPLADS owing to extenuating circumstances beyond their control, viz. the coming into force of the model code of conduct for the State Assembly Elections in Bihar which prohibited sanctioning/implementation of new development schemes during the pendency of the election process. In this context, the Committee gave very careful consideration to: (a) letter dated 31 January 1995, addressed by Shri N.K. Aggarwal, Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Government of Bihar, to all D.C.s in Bihar, directing them to defer implementation of various development scheme during the Assembly elections in Bihar; and (b) the communication dated 23 May 1994 issued by the Election Commission of India directing the Chief Electoral Officer, Bihar to defer implementation of development schemes until after the elections were completed.

The Committee found that neither of the above communications referred specifically to the MPLADS. Nevertheless, the directions of the Election Commission of India in the above-mentioned communications that "it is not the mode of sanction which is material but its impact" and it must be ensured that "undertaking these works at this juncture does not influence the electors" seem to have clinched the issue by persuading the officers concerned into believing that sanctioning or implementing of any development work, even under an MPLADS, during the elections in Bihar was barred under the Model Code of Conduct.

The Committee also gave careful consideration to the clarification given by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, Government of India, that making internal examination/evaluation, etc. did not appear to be barred during the currency of the Model Code of Conduct and to the explanation given by the concerned officers in this regard that they felt that evaluation, etc. would have entailed a visit to the site by the staff, thereby giving an impression to the people at large that some development work was being taken up. The officers were apprehensive that it might have been construed as violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

The Committee were of the view that the contentment the officers concerned did not appear to be convincing and that the officers should have at least carried out technical evaluations and prepared estimates of the proposals of Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma under the MPLADS, during the operation of the Model Code of Conduct so that the work thereon could have been started in right earnest immediately after the election process was over. The Committee were constrained to observe that the Model Code of Conduct was nothing more than a convenient alibi for inaction and the officers concerned delayed the implementation of Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma's proposals.

The Committee observed that a typical bureaucratic indifference and apathy had been discernible right through the whole episode. There could otherwise be no explanation behind the delay in initiating at least some tangible action on Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma's proposals on two occasions when opportunity for doing the same was very much available - first, between 30 November and 7 December 1994. *i.e.* after Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma had submitted her proposals but before the Model Code of Conduct came into operation and again after 16 April 1995 when the election process had been completed.

The Committee were constrained to observe that there was a pathetic lack of coordination at all levels of executive machinery - Centre, State and District. This was more than manifest from the fact that the D.D.C., Dhanbad, D.C., Dhanbad and D.C., Bokaro, were not aware of the revised guidelines regarding the MPLADS which were issued by the Department of Programme Implementation, Government of India in December 1994, and sent to all D.C.s in January 1995 and even on 27 June 1995 when they appeared before the Committee. The officers confessed before the Committee that they were ignorant about the revised guidelines and had been following the old guidelines. Either the officers at the District level were too busy and unconcerned to even go through all the papers received in their offices or there was such a serious break in communication channel that appears sent by a Central Government Department were not reaching their destination. In any event, that, to say the least, was a serious reflection on the efficiency of the administrative machinery and needed to be looked into seriously by all concerned for taking suitable remedial action.

The Committee were convinced that there was also a lack of proper appreciation of the significance and true import of the MPLADS. The scheme was taken to be another of the like of many development scheme already in existence. No serious thought appeared to have gone into chalking out any strategy for proper implementation of the scheme. No system of funding review or monitoring existed. The Committee were shocked to observe that there were instances where even after members of Parliament having submitted their proposals, not even a single rupee had been spent under the Scheme. The Committee were pained at the sorry state of affairs where Government money to the tune of more than Rs. 700 crore granted for development work under the MPLADS for the benefit of the society at large was either not being properly utilised or, in some cases, not being utilised at all.

In the backdrop of such a disheartening scenario, the Committee felt that corrective measures were called for in right earnest. The Committee were of the view that periodic meetings should be held between the member of Parliament and the District level officers of his or her constituency to review the progress of development work proposed by the member under the Scheme. There should also be a system for

monitoring the Scheme at two levels - at the State headquarters level and at the Central level - to ensure that the Scheme was being implemented in letter and, more importantly, in true spirit. The persons directly responsible for implementing the Scheme, *i.e.* the officers at the District level, should be made accountable and asked to explain any undue delay in taking up proposals of a member or the reasons for not spending money granted under the MPLADS. The Committee hoped that the Department of Programme Implementation, Government of India, would, after carefully considering the matter, take necessary corrective measures and devise proper and adequate monitoring mechanism.

The Committee also desired that to ensure proper implementation and monitoring of the Scheme, their recommendations be brought to the notice of all Deputy Commissioners and District Magistrates in the country.

Besides, the Committee felt that it would be in the fitness of things if a Standing Committee of the House were to be constituted to monitor the proper implementation of the MPLADS and to go into the complaints of the members in that regard.

On issue no. (ii), the Committee, after taking into consideration the totality of the facts and circumstances of the case, came to the conclusion that the DDC, Dhanbad, Shri Sunil Barthwal did not behave properly with Prof. (Smt.) Rita Verma when she had gone to meet him with prior appointment, in connection with her proposals under the MPLADS. However, in view of the unconditional and unqualified apology tendered by Shri Barthwal, and also by the Chief Secretary, Bihar, Shri A.K. Basak, the Committee were of the view that the dignity of the House would be best served by taking no further action in the matter.

The Committee, however, lamented that time and again they had to perform the distasteful duty of reporting upon matters of misbehaviour by Government officers with members of Parliament. That became all the more lamentable in view of the fact that the Government of India had laid down clear guidelines for official dealings between the administration and members of Parliament. It seemed to the Committee that those guidelines were observed more in their breach rather than in their compliance. In a democratic set up, everybody must realise that it was the people who were sovereign. The bureaucrats and the people's representatives had to strive together for the uplift of the masses. With that commonality of purpose, there should hardly be an occasion for any confrontation between the peoples' representatives and bureaucrats. The Committee felt that there was a great need to train officers at all levels of administration so that they showed a little more tact and circumspection while dealing with members.

On issue no. (iii), the Committee noted that the Department of Planning and Programme Implementation, Government of India were



requested as per the direction of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, on 28 April 1995, to furnish within two weeks' time, the reply of the DDC, Dhanbad on the notice of question of privilege. The reply was, however, furnished as late as on 29 May 1995, after the matter had already been referred to the Committee of Privileges by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. The Committee observed that while the Additional Secretary, Department of Planning and Programme Implementation, Smt. Shanta Shastry stated that she had addressed a letter to the D.C. Dhanbad, on 2 May 1995 seeking a factual note in the matter, the D.C., Dhanbad stated that he received the said letter after about a fortnight and that resulted in the delay in furnishing the requisite reply to the Lok Sabha.

Smt. Shanta Shastry, during her evidence before the Committee, admitted that despatching her letter dated 2 May 1995 by ordinary post was a mistake which resulted in inordinate delay. She felt that the delay could have been avoided had the letter been sent by speed post.

The Committee were of the view that there was undue and unavoidable delay in furnishing the requisite information to the Lok Sabha and expressed displeasure at the casual approach. However, in view of the regret expressed by Smt. Shanta Shastry, the Committee felt that the matter need not be pursued further. The Committee wished that more promptitude and alacrity were shown by all concerned when information was called for by the Lok Sabha.

The Committee recommended that in view of their findings, no further action needed be taken in the matter subject to the following:

- (a) that their recommendations be brought to the notice of the all Deputy Commissioners/District Magistrates in the country; and
- (b) that a Standing Committee of the House be constituted to monitor the MPLADS.

No further action was taken by the House in the matter.

## PROCEDURAL MATTERS

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### LOK SABHA

During the Sixteenth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha, several procedural matters came up before the House. Some of the important procedural issues among these are mentioned below:

*Adjournment motions are not normally allowed during the Budget Session as members have sufficient opportunity to focus the attention of the House to any matter:* On 27 February 1996, when the House re-assembled after the lunch break, some members submitted that their notices of Adjournment Motions regarding investigation of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the *hawala* case and the alleged pay-offs to some members to have their support for the Government during the No-Confidence Motion in July 1993 be admitted.

The Speaker, Shri Shivraj V. Patil, thereupon, observed:

You will have an opportunity to discuss this matter on the floor of the House. In what form it has to be discussed that is the only question to be decided.

Thereafter, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri Suresh Kalmadi presented the Interim Railway Budget for 1996-97. Later in the day, some members again submitted that their notices of adjournment motions be admitted.

Thereupon, the Speaker, quoted the rule and observed:

Adjournment motions are not normally allowed during the budget discussions or during the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address as members have sufficient opportunity to focus the attention of the House to any matter during that discussion. Firstly, you want to discuss this matter; I will allow a discussion on this matter. Secondly, you are sitting in the Budget Session and if you want to censure the Government, you have ample opportunities. You can do it at the time of passing of the Motion of Thanks, the Budget and the Finance Bill. So, all opportunities are available to you. If you are insisting on this (Adjournment Motion) you may be appearing to quarrel on the form and not on the substance. As regards substance, you will be allowed to discuss this matter and if you want to censure this Government, there are opportunities available to you.

*Resolution regarding International Women's Day:* On 8 March 1996, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, a member, moved the following Resolution to mark the *International Women's Day*:

That incentives be given to girls for education so as to prepare them to exercise their equal rights and perform their responsibilities in the society. Proper and comprehensive education be given right from the primary stage so as to inculcate in the minds of boys and girls, proper attitude of equality, respect and responsibility towards each other. Media be impressed upon not to project women in any form which is derogatory, obscene and vulgar. Adequate reservation of seats for women's representation in the State Legislatures and parliament be constitutionally provided.

To achieve the above objectives and to monitor the progress and also to suggest ways and means to implement the policies and projects meant for improving the status of women, a Standing Committee of both the House of Parliament be constituted.

Thereafter, Dr. (Prof.) Girija Devi, Prof. Malini Bhattacharya, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, Smt. Lovely Anand, Smt. Saroj Dubey, Kum. Uma Bharati, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil also made references on the occasion.

*Certain comments made against Parliament and its members by an Additional Sessions Judge of Delhi :* On 11 March 1996, Shri Rabi Ray, a member, raised the issue regarding certain sweeping observations made by an Additional Sessions Judge of Delhi against Parliament and members of Parliament. Thereupon, the Speaker observed:

"I would like to read out what the honourable leaders of the Parties in principle, not exactly in the same words, wanted - that an expression to the views expressed by them in the House should be given on the floor of the House. In the meeting of the Leaders of these Parties held in my Chamber, I was asked to give expression to the views of the members of Parliament regretting and resenting the sweeping observations made against the Parliament and the members of the Parliament. Before it could be done, the High Court of Delhi has expunged the objectionable observations and has said as follows:

'In the present case, there was no occasion for the learned Additional Sessions Judge to make comments either against the Parliament or its proceedings or against the parliamentarians or politicians. He ought to have confined himself to the specific issue before him and dealt with the said question and nothing else'.

'Lords Corman in *Duport Steel Limited versus SAS* Weekly Law Report 142 has observed as follows:

If people and Parliament come to think that the judicial power is to be confined to nothing other than the judges' sense of what is right, confidence in the judicial system will be replaced by fear of it becoming uncertain and arbitrary in its application'.

Again Abraham Lincoln has said as follows:

'Nearly all men can stand adversity. But if you want to test a man's character, give him power'.

"This statement applies again in the quotation of what the judges of the High Court have said:

'This statement applies to all forms of power, including the judicial power. Judicial power also requires to be used with great restraint. In fact, greater the power, greater is the need for restraint. The learned Additional Session Judge totally exceeded the normal limitations imposed by judicial restraint in making uncalled for observations against the Parliament, its proceedings, parliamentarians and politicians. The remarks extracted above are hereby expunged'.

"These are the views expressed by the Honourable High Court. What has been done by the High Court is very judicious and meets the ends of justice and can be appreciated. And that is the spirit in which all the wings of the State should function in the interest of justice, welfare of the people and unity of the country. Mistakes committed by the individuals here or there should not reduce the respect and regard the persons working in all the wings of the State have for one another, for the people and the State and unity of the country, and should not be corroded or reduced. The balanced, judicious and correct constitutional approach adopted by all would be in the interest of the people, the ends of justice and the unity of the country.

"I think, in view of these developments and observations by the High Court, nothing more need to be done by this Parliament."

## PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 January to 31 March 1996)

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Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

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### INDIA

#### DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

*Elections to the Rajya Sabha* : The following were elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha on 12 February 1996 :

*Assam* : Shri Prakanta Warisa (Autonomous State Demand Committee); and Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee and Smt. Basanti Sarma (Congress-I).

*Bihar* : Sarvashri Shatrughan Prasad Sinha (BJP); Ranjan Prasad Yadav, Maulana Obaidullah Khan Azmi, Jagdambi Mandal and Prem Chand Gupta (all Janata Dal); Shri Nagendra Nath Ojha (CIP); and Shri Gyan Ranjan (Congress-I).

*Haryana* : Sarvashri Banarsi Das Gupta, Lachhman Singh and K.L. Poswal (all Congress-I).

*Himachal Pradesh* : Smt. Chandresh Kumari (Congress-I).

*Madhya Pradesh* : Sarvashri Suresh Pachouri, Abdul Gaiyur Qureshi and Surendra Kumar Singh (all Congress-I); Sikander Bakht and Lakhbir Ram Agarwal (both BJP).

The following were declared elected to the Rajya Sabha on 19 February 1996 :

*Andhra Pradesh* : Sarvashri Dr. D. Venkateshwara Rao (TDP) (NTR); Y. Lakshmi Prasad, S. Ramachandra Reddy, Saifullah; Smt. Jayaprada Nahata (TDP); and Y. Radhakrishna Murthy (CPI-M).

*Gujarat* : Sarvashri Anantray Devshankar Dave, Gopalsinh G. Solanki and Bangaru Laxman (all BJP); and Brahmakumar Bhatt (Congress-I).

*Karnataka* : Sarvashri Ramakrishna Hegde, and C.M. Ibrahim (both Janata Dal); and S.M. Krishna (Congress-I).

**Maharashtra** : Sarvashri Suryabhan Wahadane and Vedprakash P. Goyal (both BJP); Mukesh R. Patel and Adhik Shrodkar (both Shiv Sena); S.B. Chavan and N.K.P. Salve (both Congress-I); and Shri Suresh A. Keswani (Independent).

**Manipur** : Shri W. Angou Singh (Congress-I).

**Meghalaya** : Shri O.L. Nongtdu (Congress-I).

**Orissa** : Sarvashri Maurice Kujur, Ananta Prasad Sethi and Smt. Jayanti Patnaik (all Congress-I); and Shri Dilip Ray (Janata Dal).

**Tamil Nadu** : Savashri N. Thalavai Sundaram, R.K. Kumar, T.M. Venkatachalam, P. Soundararajan and S. Niraikulathan (all AIADMK); and Shri S. Peter Alphonse (Congress-I).

**West Bengal** : Sarvashri Dawa Lama, Bratin Sengupta, Md. Salim and Dr. (Smt.) Bharati Ray (all CPI-M) and Shri Debabrata Biswas (Forward Bloc).

The following were declared elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha on 20 February 1996 : Shri K.K. Birla (Congress-I) and Shri Ramdas Agarwal and Shri Mahesh Chandra Sharma (both BJP).

**Budget Session of Parliament** : The Budget Session of Parliament commenced with the customary Address by the President to the members of the two Houses assembled together in the Central Hall on 26 February 1996. Both the Houses were adjourned *sine die* on 12 March 1996 and were prorogued by the President on 14 March 1996.

**Schedule for the Eleventh General Election** : On 19 March 1996, the Election Commission announced that polling for elections to the Eleventh Lok Sabha, including Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir, and elections to six Legislative Assemblies Assam, Haryana, Kerala, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal would be held on 27 April, 2 May, 7 May and 21 May 1996. On 25 March 1996, the Election Commission announced certain changes in the election schedule to the six Lok Sabha seats in Jammu and Kashmir. Elections in Ladakh and Jammu would be held on 7 May, in Baramullah and Anantnag on 23 May, and in Srinagar and Udhampur on 30 May 1996. A Presidential notification regarding the Lok Sabha elections was issued on 27 March 1996.

**Merger of parties** : On 16 March 1996, the Samata Party merged with the Samajwadi Janata Party.

**Resignation of Ministers** : On 17 January 1996, the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Madavrao Scindia and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources, Shri V.C. Shukla resigned from the Union

Cabinet on being charge-sheeted in the *hawala* case. The Minister of State for Textiles (Independent Charge) Shri Kamal Nath resigned from the Union Cabinet on 19 February 1996. On 20 February 1996, the Food Minister, Shri Buta Singh and the Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri Arvind Netam submitted their resignation to the Prime Minister. The Minister of State for Urban Development, Shri R.K. Dhawan submitted his resignation on 21 February 1996. All these resignations followed their being charge-sheeted in the *hawala* case.

The Minister of State for Rural Areras and Employment, Col. Ram Singh resigned from the Union Council of Ministers as well as the Congress(I) Party and joined the BJP on 29 March 1996.

*Resignation of members* : Shri Sharad Yadav, a Janata Dal member representing the Madhepura constituency in Bihar, resigned from the Lok Sabha on 22 January 1996.

Shri Chandrajeet Yadav of the Samata Party, representing the Azamgarh constituency in Uttar Pradesh, resigned from the Lok Sabha on 8 February 1996.

Shri G. Made Gowda of the Congress-(I) representing the Mandya constituency of Karnataka resigned from the Lok Sabha on 9 February 1996.

*Member suspended from party* : The BJP suspended its Lok Sabha member from the Gonda constituency of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh from the parliamentary party on 8 February 1996.

*Death of member* : The Congress(I) member of the Lok Sabha from the Keonjhar constituency of Orissa, Shri Govinda Chandra Munda passed away on 20 February 1996.

## AROUND THE STATES

### ANDHRA PRADESH

*Political developments* : Two Telugu Desam Party (NTR) MLAs—Shri K. Ramachandra Rao and Shri P. Brahmaiah—joined the Telugu Desam Party (Naidu) on 24 January 1996. The Deputy Speaker, Shri Mohammed Farooq of Telugu Desam Party (NTR) joined the Telugu Desam Party (Naidu) on 29 January 1996.

*Resignation of Minister* : The Transport Minister, Shri Harikrishna resigned from the Cabinet on 7 February 1996.

*Resignation of member* : The Congress (I) member of the State Legislative Assembly, Shri Vijayabhaskara Reddy, resigned from the membership of the House on 5 March 1996.

**BIHAR**

*Resignation of member* : The Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly, Shri Yeshwant Sinha, resigned from the membership of the House on 27 January 1996.

*Death of member* : The Janata Dal MLA, Haji Muzaffar Hussain passed away on 14 March 1996.

**DELHI**

*New Chief Minister* : The Chief Minister of Delhi, Shri Madan Lal Khurana resigned from office on 22 February 1996 after the CBI sought the permission of the Government to prosecute him for his alleged involvement in the *hawala* case. Shri Sahib Singh Verma was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Delhi on 26 February 1996,

**HARYANA**

*Death of Minister* : The Minister of Development and Panchayat, Shri Rao Bansi Singh passed away on 20 January 1996.

**KARNATAKA**

*Resignation of Minister* : The Minister of State for Prisons and House Guards, Shri Mirajuddin N. Patel resigned from office on 18 February 1996.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

*Expansion of Cabinet* : On 7 January 1996, the Chief Minister, Shri Digvijay Singh inducted four more Ministers in the Cabinet. They are Sarvashri N. Nayak, Ratnesh Soloman, Jageshwar Sahu and Nand Kumar Patel.

*Resignation of Minister* : The Minister for Cooperatives, Shri B.R. Yadav resigned from the Cabinet on 15 January 1996

**NAGALAND**

*New Deputy Speaker* : Shri Wangyuh Konyak of the Congress Party was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 22 March 1996.

**ORISSA**

*Election of Speaker* : Shri Chintamani Dyansamantara of the Congress(I), was elected the new Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly on 17 February 1996.

*Expansion of Cabinet* : The Chief Minister, Shri J.B. Patnaik expanded his Cabinet on 14 January 1996 by inducting seven Ministers two of



Cabinet rank and five Ministers of State. The Ministers and their portfolios are as under :

*Cabinet Ministers* : Shri Kishore Chandra Patel : *Forest and Public Enterprise*; and Shri Durga Shankar Patnaik : *Labour and Employment*.

*Ministers of State* : Shri Jayadev Jena : *School and Mass Education* (Independent Charge); Shri Nagarjuna pradhan : *Commerce* (Independent Charge); Shri Haladhar Karji : *Planning and Coordination*; Shri Kartik Mohapatra : *Revenue*; and Shri Rama Kanta Mishra : *Agriculture*.

### PUNJAB

*Expansion of Cabinet* : The Chief Minister, Shri Harcharan Singh Brar expanded the State Cabinet on 7 January 1996. The new Ministers are :

*Cabinet Ministers* : Smt. Rajinder Kaur P. Lattal and Shri Brahm Mohindra.

*Ministers of State* : Sarvashri Harnek Singh Mangewal, Joginder Singh Mann, Dharampal Sabharwal, Karam Singh Gill, Pratap Singh Bajwa, Ramesh Dogra, Harminder Singh Jassi and Parminder Singh Sandhu.

*Deputy Ministers* : Sarvashri Abdul Gaffar, Gurnam Singh Abulkhuraria, Kirpal Singh Makha, Upinder Sharma, Gurucharan Singh, Tript Rajinder Singh Bajwa, Sajwar Singh, Raman Bhalla, Guljar Singh Kapurthala, Gurcharan Singh Dirba, Hans Raj Josan, Malkiat Singh Birmi, Sadhu Singh, Hamir Singh Ghagga and Smt. Malti Thapar.

On 10 January 1996, Shri Jagtar Singh Multani was inducted as Deputy Minister.

*Resignation of Minister* : The Minister of Transport, Shri Tej Prakash Singh resigned from the Ministry on 4 February 1996.

*Death of Minister* : The Minister of Agriculture, Forest and Cooperatives, Shri Dilbagh Singh Nawanshahr passed away on 18 March 1996.

### SIKKIM

*New Governor* : Chaudhary Randhir Singh was appointed as the new Governor of Sikkim on 8 March 1996.

### UTTAR PRADESH

*Extension of President's rule* : On 1 March 1996, the Rajya Sabha approved the extension of President's rule in Uttar Pradesh for a further period of six months beyond 18 April 1996. The Lok Sabha approved the extension of President's rule in the State on 12 March 1996.

**WEST BENGAL**

*Death of MLA* : The Democratic Socialist Party MLA, Shri Haripada Jana died on 13 February 1996.

**DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD****AUSTRALIA**

*Election results* : In the elections to the National Assembly, held on 2 March 1996, the Liberal-National Party coalition won a majority of 44 seats in the Lower House of Parliament. Mr. John Howard of the Liberal Party took over as the Prime Minister on 8 March 1996.

**BANGLADESH**

*Political developments* : The Election Commission called for general elections to the Parliament to be held on 18 January 1996. The Opposition parties pressed for the resignation of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's Government and demanded that general elections be held under a neutral caretaker government. Amidst Opposition parties' call to boycott the polls, the Election Commission rescheduled the elections on 15 February 1996. Results were declared on 16 February, in which the Bangladesh Nationalist Party won 164 out of 175 seats. On 19 March 1996, a 27-member Council of Ministers headed by Begum Khaleda Zia was sworn-in by the President, Mr. Abdur Rahman Biswas. Terming the swearing-in as illegal, the Opposition parties waged a non-cooperation campaign. In the wake of the turmoil, on 28 March 1996, the President gave his assent to a Constitution Amendment Bill, providing for the future general election to be held under a neutral caretaker government. On 30 March 1996, the Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia resigned and Mr. Mohd. Habibur Rahman was designated as the non-party caretaker Prime Minister.

**COMOROS**

*New President* : Mr. Mohammed Taki Abdoul Karim was elected as the new President of Comoros on 17 March 1996.

**EGYPT**

*New Prime Minister* : On 3 January 1996, the President, Mr. Hosni Mubarak accepted the resignation of the Prime Minister, Mr. Atef Sedki and appointed Mr. Kamal-al-Ganzouri as the new Prime Minister.

**GAUTEMALA**

*New President* : Mr. Alvaro Arzu was sworn in as the new President on 15 January 1996.

## GREECE

*New Prime Minister* : On 16 January 1996, the Prime Minister, Mr. Andreas Papandreou resigned from office. Mr. Costas Samitis was elected as the new Prime Minister on 19 January 1996.

## ITALY

*Political developments* : The Prime Minister, Mr. Lamberto Dini resigned from office on 11 January 1996. The President Mr. Oscar Luigi Scalfaro dissolved the Parliament on 16 February 1996 and called for general elections to be held on 21 April 1996. On 22 April 1996, elections results were declared and the Centre-Left Alliance Coalition leader, Mr. Romano Prodi was elected as the Prime Minister. He won a vote of confidence in Parliament on 31 May 1996.

## JAPAN

*New Prime Minister* : On 6 January 1996, the Prime Minister, Mr. Tomiichi Murayama, resigned from office. Mr. Ryutaro Hashimoto of the Liberal Democratic Party was elected as the new Prime Minister on 11 January 1996.

## NIGER

*New Prime Minister* : Mr. Boukari Adji was appointed as the new Prime Minister on 31 January 1996.

## PALESTINE

*President sworn in* : Mr. Yasser Arafat was sworn in as the President of Palestine on 12 February 1996.

## POLAND

*New Prime Minister* : The Prime Minister, Mr. Josef Oleksy resigned from office on 25 January 1996. Mr. Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz was sworn in as the new Prime Minister on 7 February 1996.

## PORTUGAL

*New President* : Mr. Jorge Sampaio was elected the new President on 15 January 1996.

## SUDAN

*President re-elected* : Mr. Omar Hassan-al-Bashir was re-elected as the President of Sudan on 23 March 1996.

## SWEDEN

*New Prime Minister* : The Prime Minister, Mr. Ingvar Carlsson, resigned from office on 18 March 1996. He was succeeded by the Finance Minister, Mr. Georán Persson.

**TAJEKISTAN**

*New Prime Minister* : On 8 February 1996, the Prime Minister Mr J. Karimov resigned from office. He was succeeded by Mr. Jachye Asimov.

**TURKEY**

*Political developments* : The following is the party position in the Parliament consequent upon the general elections held on 24 December 1995; Total seats : 550; Welfare Party : 158; True Path Party : 135; Motherland Party : 132; People's Republican Party : 50; and Democratic Left Party : 75.

On 25 December 1995, the Prime Minister Ms. Tansu Ciller who announced her resignation was asked to remain in office till a new government was formed.

On 3 March 1996, the Motherland Party leader Mr. Mesut Yilmaz and the leader of the True Path Party, Ms Tansu Ciller signed a Protocol on the formation of a coalition Government headed by Mr. Mesut Yilmaz. On 25 May 1996, the coalition of the two parties split leading to the resignation of the prime Minister, Mr. Mesut Yilmaz, on 6 June 1996. Mr. Necinettin Erbakan, who was elected the new Prime Minister of a coalition of the Welfare Party and the True Path Party won a Vote of confidence on 9 July 1996.

**ZIMBABWE**

*President re-elected*: Mr. Robert Mugabe was re-elected as the President of Zimbabwe on 19 March 1996.

## SESSIONAL REVIEW

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### TENTH LOK SABHA SIXTEENTH SESSION

The Sixteenth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 26 February 1996, was adjourned *sine die* on 12 March 1996 and was prorogued by the President on 14 March 1996.

A brief resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period is given below :

#### A. DISCUSSIONS/MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS

*Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address to Members of Parliament* : The President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma addressed the members of the two Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 26 February 1996.\*

On 12 March 1996, moving the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address, Shri P.C. Chacko said that when the Narasimha Rao Government took over in 1991, the political, economic and social situation in the country was very tense. After five years, the country was looking towards the future with more confidence. Elections were held in Punjab and the State had come back to the national mainstream. In Assam, extremist violence and insurgency had been effectively controlled and the State was back on the path of development. Autonomous Councils were set up in Assam and wherever reasonable demands were made, people were given democratic freedom. In Kashmir, the situation was changing. The Hazratbal crisis was successfully tackled by the Government. The national economy had also shown considerable improvement. The improved political and economic scenario, the successful welfare measures and all-round progress had been testimony to a democratic Government.

Seconding the motion, Dr. Girija Vyas said that the country had made considerable progress in various fields under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Participating in the discussion, Shri E. Ahamed wanted that some mechanism should be devised whereby the minority community would

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\*For the text of the Address, see feature Address by the President to Parliament, pp. 135-142

be given due representation in Government and quasi-Government institutions.

Taking part in the discussion, Shri Lokanath Choudhury stressed that the real leadership of the country had to unite all the secular and patriotic forces into a common front to face the communalist and imperialist aggression.

The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, replying to the discussion, informed the House that all suggestions made by the members would be taken in account.

The motion was adopted.

*Government's failure to answer charges relating to the 'hawala' case and the allegations about illegal pay-offs to some members of Parliament:* Moving the motion on the subject on 28 February 1996, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that corruption was increasing in the country and the Government, instead of inquiring into the cases of corruption, was trying to hush them up. Some facts regarding the 'hawala' case had come to light in 1991. Had some awakened citizens not gone to the Supreme Court by way of a public interest litigation, the scandal would not have come to light. The Government should answer as to why action was delayed in the matter and as to why the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) did not take any action. If the politicians were corrupt, then the bureaucrats could not remain honest.

Shri Vajpayee recalled that a No-Confidence Motion was served against the Narasimha Rao Government in 1993. The whole Opposition was united over that and the Government was about to collapse. Four members of a party changed side for which lakhs of rupees were deposited in their accounts in a bank in Delhi on the same day. Where did that money come from who gave them and why? Could the ensuing elections also be contested on the basis of black money? A solution to the problems should be found and those who were guilty should be punished. The 'hawala' scandal and illegal pay-offs to some members of Parliament had lowered the dignity of the august institution and it was the right time to take concrete measures to re-establish the dignity of the institution.

Making a submission by way of personal explanation, Shri Buta Singh denied that any money was given to any member or dealt with by him or through him. The statement given the previous day by Shri Shallendra Mahto, a member, had tried to implicate him (Shri Buta Singh) in the alleged deal. He had only tried to mobilize

political support and convinced the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leadership about the Congress Party's commitment to the cause of the tribal people in establishing the Jharkhand Development Council.

Taking part in the discussion\*, Shri Somnath Chatterjee observed that had the Supreme Court not forced the Government, there would have been no investigations into the 'hawala' deal. If the Government had nothing to hide, it should take the House into confidence and disclose everything before it. Paying money or trying to influence members of Parliament was as much condemnable corruption as giving money. The Government had forfeited its right to remain in power. Probity had lost the meaning and significance so far as the Government was concerned.

On 29 February 1996, Shri Shailendra Mahto made a personal explanation in the House under Rule 357. In his clarification, the member said that some members of the JMM, along with Shri Buta Singh, had met the Prime Minister at his residence and discussed the constitution of the Jharkhand Development Council. While replying to the discussion on the No-Confidence Motion in 1993, the Prime Minister gave an assurance regarding the resolution of the Jharkhand issue. Only after that did the JMM members voted in favour of the Government. So far as the question of depositing money in the bank was concerned, that was the party fund and with the consent of the party, it was given to him (Shri Mahto) for party work.

On 8 March 1996, intervening in the discussion, the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao said that the Government had never sought to interfere in any manner with the investigations (into the 'hawala' scandal). The Supreme Court had been overseeing the various stages of the investigation and the CBI had been acting under the directions only of the Supreme Court right from the beginning. The direction of the Supreme Court to the CBI (to report only to the apex Court) applied even in relation to any authority which exercised administrative control over the CBI by virtue of the office of the said authority without any exception. The Prime Minister also drew attention to the statement by the Solicitor-General on instruction from the CBI Director that neither the CBI Director nor any of his officers had been reporting to any authority about any particulars relating to the investigations. The order of the Supreme Court accorded fully with the Government's view as to how the CBI should act in the case. The Supreme Court had asked the

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\*Others who part in the discussion were : Sarvashri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Suraj Mandal, Pawan Kumar Bansal, Srikanta Jena, Syed Shahabuddin, Rabi Ray, Mohan Rawale, Chiranjil Lal Sharma, Devendra Prasad Yadav, George Fernandes, Bhogendra Jha, P.R. Kumaramangalam, Mej. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri and Kum. Mamata Banerjee

CBI not to do something which the CBI had not done, was not doing and would not do. The law of the land should be allowed to take its course. There would be no departure from that under any circumstances.

Shri Indrajit Gupta said that over the last three to four years, there had been numerous examples of how accountability was being completely denigrated and destroyed. Nobody was held to be accountable for major scams. The Prime Minister should voluntarily step down from office and allow the investigations to proceed without any kind of hindrance.

Shri Chandra Shekhar said that he was under the impression that following the Supreme Court's order, the Prime Minister would seek a clarification from the apex Court as to what compelled them to issue the order to the CBI. Whatever the Supreme Court did in the course of Justice was right but it had no right to interfere in the rights which the Prime Minister, as the head of the Government, had got in a parliamentary democracy.

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde pointed out that the 'hawala' case had very large ramifications. It had also proved that foreign companies were able to influence the decisions of our public sector undertakings through some politicians and bureaucrats.

Participating in the discussion on 12 March 1996, Shri Chitta Basu expressed the view that the 'hawala' case and grave implications for the democratic polity, public probity and ethics and transparency of the Government.

Shri Yaima Singh Yurnnam called for the resignation of the Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao.

The Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Margaret Alva traced the origin of the 'hawala' case and the measures taken by the Government and the CBI to investigate the matter. There had been no undue delay in the investigation. The Supreme Court was overseeing the investigations and the CBI was regularly reporting to them the progress made. Neither the Prime Minister nor the Department of Personnel and Training was involved in that. In fact, in no case did the Government go into the investigating process, nor were any reports called for from, or sent by, the CBI. The Minister reiterated the legal position that though the superintendence of the agency, rested with the Central Government, that superintendence did not include giving instructions or interference in the sphere of its statutory functions like investigations. As regards the allegation of illegal pay-offs to some members of Parliament, Smt. Margaret Alva stressed



that all whose names had been taken up had clarified the position in the course of the debate.

Replying to the discussion, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that the existing electoral system bred corruption. The ever increasing election expenditure was directly related to corruption. If ill-gotten money played a pivotal role in deciding the fate of democracy, the common man would lose faith in democracy. The only way to give a right direction to the polity was to stamp out corruption ruthlessly, he added.

The motion was negatived.

*Resolution on the occasion of the International Women's Day:*  
On 8 March 1996, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil moved the following Resolution in the House on the occasion of the International Women's Day:

That incentives be given to girls for education so as to prepare them to exercise their equal rights and perform their responsibilities in the society. Proper and comprehensive education be given right from the primary stage so as to inculcate in the minds of boys and girls, proper attitude of equality, respect and responsibility towards each other. Media be impressed upon not to project women in any form which is derogatory, obscene and vulgar. Adequate reservation of seats for women's representation in the State Legislatures and Parliament be constitutionally provided.

To achieve the above objectives and to monitor the progress and also to suggest ways and means to implement the policies and projects meant for improving the status of women, a Standing Committee of both the Houses of Parliament be constituted.

Thereafter, Kumari Uma Bharti, Smt. Girija Devi, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, Smt Malini Bhattacharya, Smt. Lovely Anand and Smt. Saroj Dubey made references on the occasion.

The Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao assured the House that the Government was entirely in agreement with the spirit of the Resolution.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil informed the House that the Leaders of all the parties had explained to him that they agreed with the principles contained in the Resolution.

The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

*The Interim Budget (Railways), 1996-97:* Presenting the Interim Budget (Railways), 1996-97, on 27 February 1996, the Minister of

State of Railways, Shri Suresh Kalmadi said that he was seeking only a Vote on Account sufficient to provide for the estimated expenditure for the first four months. The requirements for the remaining part of the year were to be voted upon separately later on.

From an era of substantial budgetary support, the Railways had come to be largely financially self-reliant to support the developmental activities. Budgetary support which was 75 per cent of the total Plan outlay in the Fifth Year Plan had come down to around 15 per cent in the current financial year. The Indian Railways were presently the world's only major railway system which was run without any direct subsidy from the general exchequer. The Railways had been funding majority of their own developmental works even while subsidizing freight and passenger traffic and operating many unremunerative lines. The Railways had been internally generating resources of the order of more than Rs. 4000 crore for varied developmental activities. To overcome the resource constraints, the Railways had launched several innovative resource mobilization measures in order to ensure that the developmental activities did not suffer. Besides, the Railways had been adopting strict financial control to cut down working expenses.

The major programme of countrywide gauge conversion was being mostly financed from internal resources. The efforts towards promotion of private investments in the Railway projects under the 'Build-Own-Lease-Transfer' and 'Own-Your-Wagon' schemes had met with encouraging response. The Railways were fine-tuning their marketing strategy to further encourage private investments in Railway projects so that the growing transport demand was fully met.

The country-wide gauge conversion programme was intended to be the main vehicle of economic liberalization. Besides helping in the removal of regional economic imbalances by redrawing the investment flows to the backward areas, it facilitated direct linking of mineral sources with industrial and commercial centres on broad gauge and also improved the overall transport efficiency of the railway system. It was also connecting various ports to the hinterland areas on broad gauge which would help in boosting the economy by facilitating exports and imports. 'Project Unigauge' was being implemented with all the seriousness and determination. That could be seen from the fact that the Railways had completed more than 5000 kms of gauge conversion since 1992-93 as against only 3100 kms of gauge conversion in the first 45 years of Independence.

The coach manufacturing technology was also being modernized to meet the passengers' demands for faster and comfortable travel and to bring it at par with facilities and amenities available in

passenger coaches of advanced railway systems. The wagon stock was also being upgraded for faster freight movement. Due emphasis was being given to electrification of identified high traffic corridors for faster movement of trains. Electrification also helped in addressing the growing environmental concerns.

The Railways' financial performance had been excellent in 1994-95. The 'excess' had gone up to Rs. 2,446 crore from the Revised Estimates of Rs. 1,870 crore. The Railways paid Rs. 1,363 crore as dividend to the Central Revenue. They further contributed Rs. 1,306 crore to the general exchequer by increasing the balances in various Railway Funds kept with them.

The Railways carried 365 million tons of originating traffic in 1994-95. The earnings were likely to be more than the Budget expectations. The passenger earnings were likely to improve by Rs. 245 crore over the Budget Estimates of Rs. 5,755 crore. There was a similar trend of improvement in earnings from other coaching traffic and sundries. Thus, the gross earnings were likely to be more than the Budget Estimates by Rs. 405 crore.

The Ordinary Working Expenses had come under great strain in the current year as a result of post-budgetary factors like sanction of additional interim relief, enhancement in productivity-linked bonus, etc. The Railways had been taking special measures to control their working expenses by stringent expenditure and cost control, stricter inventory control and improved utilization of the assets, etc. As a result, the Railways had not only absorbed the post-budgetary impact of about Rs. 450 crore but was also expected to save Rs. 200 crore. The Ordinary Working Expenses had, therefore, been fixed at Rs. 14,590 crore as against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 14,790 crore.

The appropriation to the Depreciation Reserve Fund was being raised to Rs. 2,050 crore from the Budget Estimates of Rs. 2,000 crore keeping in view the stress on replacement and renewals of assets.

Due to the increased outgo from the Pension Fund on account of sanction of additional reliefs to the pensioners, the appropriation of Pension Fund was also being raised from Rs. 1,970 crore to Rs. 2,090 crore. The Total Working Expenses worked out to Rs. 18,740 crore as against the Budget Estimates of Rs. 18,760 crore.

The Net Traffic Receipts came to Rs. 3,435 crore. After adding the Net Miscellaneous Receipt of Rs. 243 crore, the Net Railways Revenue worked out to Rs. 3,678 crore. Out of that, after meeting the dividend liabilities of Rs. 1,360 crore to the General Revenues,

the Railways would be left with an 'excess' of Rs. 2,318 crore as against the Budget target of Rs. 2,055 crore. The additional amount of Rs. 263 crore thus available was being appropriated to the Capital Fund to be used as a Plan resource.

The safety of train operations continued to receive the highest attention. The number of train accidents had come down from 812 to 501 in the last decade ending 1994-95. The incidence of accidents per million train kms had also come down from 1.5 to 0.78. But there was hardly any room for complacency in that regard. The Railways had intensified their efforts to improve the level of safety consciousness among the railwaymen on the one hand and introduced additional safety features in train-operations on the other. Accidents at unmanned level crossings, which primarily took place due to the negligence of road users, continued to be a matter of concern. In an effort to address the problem, solar powered audio-visual alarm systems to alert road users had been introduced on a trial basis.

In order to augment its carrying capacity, Railways had taken up doubling projects on a large scale, particularly in those States which already had predominantly broad gauge network at the start of 'Project Unigauge'. The Government had taken up construction of several new lines for the benefit of such areas with potential for development by being rich in natural resources but languishing for want of transport infrastructure.

The Railways had redoubled efforts in identifying various works and projects which needed to be taken up on short-term, medium-term and long-term basis to provide the much needed relief to the over worked system. The long-term projects required huge investments. Raising resources of that magnitude through commercial exploitation of the Railway land and or air space over Railway tracks was under active consideration of the Government.

A fresh thrust had been given to improve the amenities for the passengers. Allocation for the passenger amenities had been increased from Rs. 24 crore in 1991-92, Rs. 73 crore in 1994-95 and further to Rs. 91 crore in the current financial year. Similar thrust would be maintained. Passenger reservation system had almost been fully computerised. By 31 March 1995, 92 per cent of the total reservation workload had been computerised.

The scale of operations on the Indian Railways was of a colossal magnitude. About 1.2 crore passengers were travelling daily on about 700 passenger trains crisscrossing the country on a network of 63,000 kms. covering over 70,000 stations.

The Plan outlay for 1996-97 had been fixed at Rs. 8,130 crore. That was higher than the current year's Plan size by Rs. 630 crore. That was to be financed through budgetary support from the general exchequer (Rs. 1,269 crore); internal generation of resources by the Railways (Rs. 4,111 crore); investments through the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (Rs. 1,850 crore); and private investments through various schemes.

The Gross Traffic Receipts at the existing fare and freight rates were estimated at Rs. 23,385 crore which constituted an increase of Rs. 1,210 crore over the Revised Estimates for the current year. The Ordinary Working Expenses for 1996-97 were estimated at Rs. 16,457 crore, an increase of Rs. 1,867 crore over the Revised Estimates of the current year.

The appropriation to the Depreciation Reserve Fund had been kept at the level of Rs. 2,000 crore, keeping in view the anticipated outgo from the Fund for replacements and renewals of the assets. The appropriation to the Pension Fund had been raised to Rs. 2,350 crore, keeping in view the expected outgo from the Fund. The Total Working Expenses in 1996-97 had thus been estimated at Rs. 20,807 crore. The dividend to the General Revenues had been estimated at Rs. 1,583 crore. The Dividend liability would be Rs. 1,583 crore. The 'excess' would be Rs. 1,274 crore out of which Rs. 350 crore would be appropriated to the Development Fund. Rs. 224 crore would be appropriated to the Capital Fund.

On 11 March 1996, the following items of business were taken up together: (i) General Discussion on the Interim Budget (Railways), 1996-97; (ii) Demands for Grants on Account Nos. 1 to 16 in respect of the Interim Budget (Railways), 1996-97; (iii) Supplementary Demands for Grants Nos. 1 to 4, 11 to 14 and 16 in respect of the Budget (Railways), 1995-96; and (v) Demands for Excess Grants Nos. 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 16 in respect of the Budget (Railways), 1993-94.

Participating in the discussion\*, Shri Ram Kapse said that the real problem was loss of punctuality, late running of trains, dislocation, etc. which were to be solved immediately.

The Minister of State of Railways, Shri Suresh Kalmadi replied to the debate.

All the cut motions were negatived and all the Demands were granted in full.

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\*Others who took part in the discussion were Sarvashri Basudeb Acharia, Rabi Ray, Md. All Ashraf Fatmi, Ramasray Prasad Singh, Bhogendra Jha, Ram Naik, Subhash Chandra Nayak, Sivaji Patnaik, Shyam Bihari Mishra, Umrao Singh, Sarat Pattanayak, Sant Ram Singla, Manikrao Hodalya Gavit, Oscar Fernandes, Dr. Ravi Mathi, Dr. (Smt.) Padma, Smt. Suseela Gopalan and Kum. Mamata Banerjee.

*Financial Budgets: while*  
 The Interim Budget (General) 1996-97: Presenting the Interim Budget (General) 1996-97 on 28 February 1996, the Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that during the past five years, the Government had sought to accelerate the rate of growth of the economy and achieve broad based development, which alone would ensure a rising standard of living for all our people. We had sought to modernize our economy, improve productivity and increase efficiency in all sectors. We had sought to integrate our economy more effectively with the world, so that we could compete successfully in world markets and also attract larger volumes of investment. Above all, we had sought to ensure that in the process the needs of the poorer sections of our society were constantly kept in view. As the private sector had expanded vigorously into many areas which were earlier reserved for the State, the focus of State activity and the deployment of public resources was now being concentrated on meeting the needs of the poor and on the social sectors such as health, education and rural infrastructure where the market economy alone could not bring benefits rapidly.

The annual rate of inflation was as high as 17 per cent in August 1991. It had been brought below 5 per cent in February 1996, the lowest level since 1988. Furthermore, the annual rate of price increase of essential commodities, such as wheat, edible oils and sugar was even lower. To mitigate the impact of inflation on the poorer sections, the Public Distribution System (PDS) had been strengthened. The revamped PDS had been extended to 1,775 blocks in tribal, hilly, desert and other remote areas. A further expansion of the revamped PDS to more than 650 additional blocks was in process.

Our policies had also produced a resurgence of economic growth. After slumping to less than one per cent in the crisis year of 1991-92, the rate of growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rebounded to 5 per cent per annum in both 1992-93 and 1993-94. It then accelerated to 6.3 per cent in 1994-95 and continued high growth of 6.2 per cent was estimated for 1995-96. In the first four years of the Eighth Plan, growth had averaged 5.7 per cent which was in line with the Plan target of 5.6 per cent.

The exceptional recovery had been underpinned by strong performance of all major sectors of the economy. Agriculture provided livelihood for two-third of our people and had been given high priority in our policies. We had provided more remunerative prices. We had removed barriers to internal and external trade in agricultural commodities. We had encouraged agro-processing activities. We had sharply reduced the bias against agriculture in our foreign trade policies.

Agricultural production declined during the crisis of 1991-92 but thereafter it had grown by more than 4 per cent per year on an average in the next three years. Food production also rose by more than 4 per cent per year on an average to reach a record level of 191 million tones in 1994-95. The industry had responded magnificently to the stimulus of our policies of unshackling domestic industry and to the challenges of international competition. Industrial production was stagnant in 1991-92. It recovered robustly to grow by 6 per cent in 1993-94 and then further increased to 8.6 per cent in 1994-95. Industrial growth had accelerated to 12 per cent in the first half of 1995-96. Capital goods production surged in 1994-95 by 25 per cent which was more than twice the growth recorded by the other broad categories of basic goods, intermediate goods and consumer goods. The capital goods sector continued to outpace the other sectors in first half of 1995-96, recording a growth of 14.3 per cent.

In each year after the crisis, the production from small scale industry had grown faster than overall industrial production. For example, in 1993-94, the output of small scale industry rose by 7.1 per cent, whereas overall industrial production grew by 6.0 per cent. Similarly, in 1994-95 small scale industrial growth of 10.1 per cent outpaced overall industrial growth of 8.6 per cent. We had pursued a three-pronged approach of promoting rapid, broad based, employment-generating growth, broadening and deepening special programmes for poverty alleviation and employment generation and giving a strong thrust to programmes for social sectors and social security. The total increase in employment in the economy was 3 million in 1991-92. It doubled to an average of 6 million in the next two years and exceeded 7 million in 1994-95 which compared with an average increase of less than 5 million per year in the eighties. The latest Planning Commission estimates of poverty showed a significant decline in the proportion of people below the poverty line. The proportion fell from about 25 per cent in 1987-88 to below 19 per cent in 1993-94. The average real wage for unskilled agricultural labour, one of the weakest sections of our society, also showed improvement. Real wages fell by 6 per cent in the crisis year of 1991-92. Thereafter, they rose steadily at an annual rate of 5 per cent in each of the next three years.

Despite tight fiscal constraints we had, in the three years between 1992-93 and 1995-96, increased the Central Plan budget allocation for rural development by about 150 per cent, for education by over 90 per cent, for elementary education by nearly 130 per cent and health by over 120 per cent. We had launched important new programmes and initiatives for the weaker sections. The Employment Assurance Scheme provided assured employment for 100 days to

unskilled rural poor at the rate of two persons per family in 3,175 poorest blocks of the country during the lean season. The Prime Minister's *Rozgar Yojana* was designed to generate employment through setting up micro enterprises by educated unemployed. In 1994-95, 1.9 lakh beneficiaries were sanctioned loans under the scheme. The target for 1995-96 was 2.6 lakhs beneficiaries. The National Social Assistance Programme had three key components. The first provided monthly old age pension from the Central Government of Rs. 75 to those below the poverty line which was expected to benefit 54 lakh people. Second, there was a lump sum survivor benefit on the death of the primary bread winner in poor households of Rs. 10,000 in the case of accidental death and Rs. 5,000 in the case of death from natural causes. That was expected to benefit 4.5 lakh families a year. Third, there was a maternity benefit of Rs. 300 for expectant mothers which was anticipated to benefit 46 lakh women each year. The Mid-day Meal Programme was intended to improve nutrition and school attendance of 11 crore children in Classes I to IV in 3 years. In the first year of scheme, 3.4 crore children had already been covered. Under the *Indira Awas Yojana*, 4 lakh houses were built for poor families in rural areas in 1994-95. 10 lakh houses would be built under the scheme in 1995-96. The *Mahila Samridhi Yojana* aimed at empowering women through giving them greater control over household savings. The Rural Infrastructural Development Fund had been established in NABARD which would provide Rs. 2,000 crore for completing ongoing projects of medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation and other rural infrastructure. Bank credit for village and *khadi* industries was being expanded through the provision of a special bank consortium fund of Rs. 1,000 crore. A new Group Life Insurance Scheme of the LIC to provide life cover of Rs. 5,000 to each person was being implemented by Panchayats in rural areas, with subsidized premium for poor households. The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, set up in 1992, had sanctioned over Rs. 250 crore of loans to beneficiaries. The National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation had sanctioned loans of Rs. 400 crore. The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation for assisting development of backward sections among minorities had become operational. The Handicapped Development and Finance Corporation was being established with authorized capital of Rs. 400 crore.

The crisis of 1991 was most visibly reflected in our balance of payments. In the past five years, our foreign trade and external payments policies had transformed weakness into strength. Exports declined in dollar value in 1991-92. They grew by 20 per cent



in 1993-94, and by 18 per cent in 1994-95. Export growth had accelerated to 24 per cent in the first 9 months of 1995-96. Trade liberalization had actually increased our self-reliance in foreign trade. The ratio of export earnings to import payments had risen from an average of 60 per cent in the eighties to 90 per cent in the last two years. Foreign investments had risen from less than 200 million dollars in 1991-92 to nearly 5 billion dollars last year. Over 85 per cent of foreign investment approvals were in the priority sectors, including infrastructure, and more than 80 per cent of proposals involved joint ventures with Indian companies. On the eve of the 1991 crisis, our external debt was rising at 8 billion dollars per year. In the four and a half years from April 1991 to September 1995, the growth of external debt had averaged only 2.2 billion dollars per year. The ratio of external debt to the GDP had fallen from a peak of 41 per cent in 1991-92 to about 29 per cent in September 1995. Correspondingly, debt service payments as per cent of current earnings were likely to drop from above 35 per cent in 1990-91 to below 27 per cent in 1995-96. Furthermore, the proportion of short-term external debt had been brought down from above 10 per cent in March 1991 to below 5 per cent in September 1995.

As part of the economic reforms, we had undertaken sweeping measures to strengthen our banking system and capital markets. As a result the number of public sector banks declaring operating losses had fallen dramatically from 8 in 1992-93 to only one in 1994-95. The average ratio of non-performing assets to total advances of public sector banks had also declined significantly from 26 per cent in 1992-93 to 20 per cent in 1994-95. An ambitious programme for rehabilitation and restructuring of Regional Rural Banks had been launched.

Our Programme of capital market reform had greatly increased the mobilization of investible funds through primary issues from about Rs. 6,000 crore in 1991-92 to over Rs. 27,500 crore in 1994-95. Even more important, we had strengthened regulation and supervision over the capital markets with a view to improving the transparency, efficiency and integrity of our stock exchanges. Systematic and determined efforts had been made to modernize the infrastructure and working of capital markets. Our reforms in the financial sector were designed to promote savings and investment in our economy. Last year, the rate of gross domestic savings (as a ratio to the GDP) set a new record of 24.4 per cent, higher than any time in our history. That financed a high rate of gross domestic investment, 25.2 per cent of the GDP and supported a record high level of real gross fixed investment at 22.2 per cent of the GDP.

The Budget Estimates for 1995-96 had placed the Total Expenditure of Rs. 1,72,151 crore which was expected to go up to Rs. 1,83,004 crore showing an increase of Rs. 10,853 crore. The Plan Expenditure in the year 1995-96 was estimated at Rs. 48,648 crore. The Revised Estimates showed an increase of Rs. 581 crore for Plan Expenditure in rural development and an increase of Rs. 679 crore in education. The Central assistance to State and Union territory Plans which was estimated at Rs. 19,509 crore was now expected to increase to Rs. 19,854 crore.

The Total non-Plan Expenditure had entailed an additional provision of Rs. 10,660 crore. The gross tax revenues were now expected to exceed Budget Estimates by Rs. 6,592 crore and reach Rs. 1,10,354 crore. The strategy on tax revenues which constituted an important component of our receipt had also shown healthy buoyancy. Receipts under that head, which were estimated at Rs. 26,413 crore in the Budget were now expected to go up to Rs. 29,103 crore in the Revised Estimates.

Taking into account the variations in Receipts and Expenditures, the current year expected to end with a budget deficit of Rs. 7,600 crore. The fiscal deficit was originally budgeted at Rs. 57,634 crore and placed at 5.5 per cent of the GDP. It was now expected to be Rs. 64,010 crore.

As regards the Budget Estimates for 1996-97, the Minister proposed an increase in the Estimates for Plan Expenditure from Rs. 48,500 crore in the Budget Estimates for 1995-96 to Rs. 50,521 crore in the Budget Estimates for 1996-97. In keeping with the priorities of the Government, the outlay for rural development programmes during the Eighth Plan period was stepped up substantially to the level of Rs. 30,000 crore from the Actual Expenditure of Rs. 11,000 crore during the Seventh Plan. With the proposed allocation of Rs. 8,692 crore for 1996-97, the Total Expenditure during the Eighth Plan would be of the order of Rs. 33,400 crore which amounted to a more than three-fold increase over the Actual Expenditure during the Seventh Plan. The total non-Plan Expenditure during 1996-97 was estimated to be Rs. 1,51,503 crore compared to Rs. 1,34,320 crore in the Revised Estimates for the current year.

The Minister provided for Rs. 27,819 crore for defence in the Interim Budget as against Rs. 25,500 crore in the Budget Estimates for 1995-96. The provision for defence were to be further revised at the time of preparation of the regular Budget. He also provided for Rs. 5,774 crore for food subsidy and Rs. 6,800 crore for fertilizer subsidy. Rs. 5,000 crore was being provided to meet contingent expenditure.

Coming to Receipts, the estimates of tax revenues had been made at the existing rates of taxation in the Interim Budget. The gross tax revenue at the existing level of taxation was placed at Rs. 1,28,540 crore. The States' share of taxes next year was estimated at Rs. 34,027 crore compared to Rs. 29,266 crore in the Revised Estimates of the current year.

Taking into account the changes in Receipts and Expenditures, the Total Net Revenue Receipts of the Centre at the existing rates of taxation was estimated at Rs. 1,27,162 crore and the Total Expenditure was estimated at Rs. 2,02,024 crore. The budget deficit during 1996-97 was estimated to be Rs. 5,000 crore and the fiscal deficit was estimated to be Rs. 62,404 crore.

On 11 March 1996, the House took up for combined discussion the Interim Budget (General), 1996-97; the Demands for Grants on Account (General), 1996-97; and the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General), 1995-96.

Initiating the discussion, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee contested the claim made by the Finance Minister regarding price rise and employment generation. On the expenditure side, the revenue expenditure was far more than the capital expenditure. The annual growth rate of the GDP had fallen during the past five years. There was also a fall in the increase in foodgrain production.

Participating in the discussion\*, Shri P.C. Thomas observed that many schemes for the welfare of farmers, labourers and the poor people had been working well.

Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam regretted that no significant programme had been taken towards the development of the North-Eastern region.

Shri Chitta Basu expressed the view that poverty had increased. The country had already entered a debt trap. The policy of globalization, liberalization and privatizing was not the way out for the protection and preservation of the economic sovereignty of the country.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee stressed that the country needed a balanced development. The Government had no programme and no policies to do that. The major financial institutions in the country were facing a financial crunch.

The Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan Singh replied to the debate.

All the Demands were voted in full.

\*Others who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah, Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, Jaswant Singh, Murli Deora, Pramothas Mukherjee, Mohan Singh (Deoria), Bhogendra Jha, George Fernandes and Dr. Mumtaz Ansari

## B. QUESTION HOUR

During the Session, in all, 5091 notices of Questions (4,067 Starred, 1,022 Unstarred and 2 Short Notice Questions) were received. Out of these, 180 Questions were admitted as Starred and 1,513 Question as Unstarred. Three Unstarred Questions were deleted from the List of Unstarred Questions.

Due to interruptions in the House on 27 February and 6 and 7 March 1996 and due to the adjournment of the House on 1 March 1996, Starred Questions were not called for oral answer. On 28 February 1996, the Question Hour was suspended. In view of that, the replies to the Starred Questions listed for these days were treated as Unstarred and their answers, together with the answers of the Unstarred Questions, were printed in the official reports of the days concerned.

*Daily average of Questions:* The average number of Starred, Questions answered orally in the House during the Session was one. The maximum number of Starred Questions answered was 4 on 29 February 1996 and the minimum was 3 on 8, 11 and 12 March 1996.

The average member of Questions in the Unstarred List come to 168 against the prescribed limit of 230, the minimum being 124 Questions on 29 February 1996 and the maximum being 233 on 11 March 1996.

*Half-an-Hour Discussions:* In all, one notice of half-an-hour Discussion was received which, however, lapsed.

## C. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references were made to the passing away of Shri Surya Narayan Singh, Govinda Chandra Munda and Shri Rudrasen Chaudhary, all sitting members of the Lok Sabha; Shri Dev Kanta Borooh, a member of the Constituent Assembly, the Provisional Parliament and the First and the Sixth Lok Sabha; Shri Braja Kishore Prasad Sinha, a member of the Provisional Parliament; and Shri Bakin Pertin, Shri Heera Bhai, Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Shri T.S. Negi, Shri P.C. Sethi, Shri Gopi Ram, Sardar Swaran Singh Sokhi, Shri Bishan Chandra Seth and Shri Robin Kakoti, all former members of the Lok Sabha; and Shri N.T. Rama Rao, the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

On the opening day of the Session, on 26 February 1996, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj V. Patil made reference to the tragedy which struck the people of the Dabwali town in the Sirsa District of Haryana where, in a devastating fire at a School

function, more than 350 people, a majority of them school children, met their tragic end on 23 December 1995. Thereafter, members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

## RAJYA SABHA

### HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION\*

The Rajya Sabha met for its Hundred and Seventy-sixth Session on 26 February 1996 and was adjourned *sine die* on 12 March 1996. A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the Session is given below:

#### A. DISCUSSIONS

*Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address:* The discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address took place on 28 and 29 February and 1 March 1996. On 28 February 1996, Shri Jagesh Desai, initiating the discussion, congratulated the Department of Research and Development of the Defence Ministry for their excellent work on the *Arjun* tank and the *Prithvi* missile. Referring to the incident of arms dropping in Purulia, he said that it appeared to be the handiwork of Pakistan which wanted to destabilize India. The member stated that the situation in Punjab, Assam and Jammu and Kashmir had improved under the Government led by Shri Narasimha Rao.

With regard to the country's economy, Shri Desai praised the Government for controlling the prices of essential commodities, improving industrial growth, raising foodgrain production and checking inflation. Stressing the importance of the power sector, he suggested that in case of a resource crunch the generation of power could be done by the private sector. The small scale industries were the backbone of the country's industrial development which constituted 40 per cent of the total industrial production.

Replying to the debate\*\* on 1 March 1996, the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao stated that there was no controversy in respect of the fall in the percentage of people living below the poverty line. While the public and private sectors were both flourishing in the country, the Government would continue to champion the cause of the public sector. 85 per cent of the investments were in the joint ventures and in the infrastructure sector namely power, petroleum, roads, etc. As regards 6000 MW of power projects which had not been cleared, he said he would ensure that all the projects were cleared before the elections. The

\*Contributed by the Research and Library Section, Rajya Sabha Secretariat

\*\*The other members who took part in the discussion were: Sarvashri Ajit P.K. Jogi, E. Balanandan, Rameshwar Thakur, Inder Kumar Gujral, Mool Chand Meena, R. Margabandhu, Mohinder Singh Kalyan, Chaturan Mishra, Tara Charan Majumdar, Raj Nath Singh, Mohammed Afzal *alias* Meem Afzal, M.P. Abdussamad Samadani, P. Upendra, Joy Nadukkara and Smt. Sushma Swaraj

Government had created a Backward Classes Commission for the social and economic uplift of the weaker sections. The Prime Minister said that the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) had utterly failed in its objectives and reiterated the Government's policy of complete nuclear disarmament which was being appreciated by several other countries. To achieve that goal, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the NPT had to be invariably interconnected. He emphasised the need to have a fresh National Security Council (NSC) which would be set up soon.

The motion was adopted.

*Situation arising out of the air-dropping of lethal weapons in Purulia:* On 8 March 1996, Shri Gurudas Das Gupta called the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the situation arising out of the air-dropping of lethal weapons in Purulia, posing a threat to national security.

Replying to the Calling Attention, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan apprised the House of the sequence of the incident beginning from 13 December 1995 when the AN-26 type aircraft left Bulgaria for Karachi with its consignment of weapons, to 22 December 1995 when it was detained in Bombay. He informed the House that the assistance of *Interpol* had been sought for the investigation of the case, which had ramifications in various countries. The Minister admitted that the incident did reveal certain gaps within the prevailing system relating to permission and clearances for operation of non-scheduled flights over the air space of the country. An Inter-Ministerial Committee had been set up to identify those gaps and the Government had taken steps to implement its recommendations.

Replying to the points raised by the members, the Minister made an appeal to them to consider the matter seriously so that such an incident was not repeated again, especially in the background of some forces working against the unity and integrity of India. These forces had taken full advantage of the liberalisation policy which had enabled about 1,000 to 1,200 flights per day to different destinations in India. The Law Ministry had been consulted on the kind of action that could possibly be taken on the basis of the information being received.

While the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) probe, which began from 28 December 1995 with the permission of the West Bengal Government, suspected the *Anand Margis*, no action could be taken against anyone without the full report. The Minister added that strict action would be taken against the persons ultimately found responsible for the incident.

## B. QUESTION HOUR

During the One-Hundred and Seventy-sixth Session of the Rajya Sabha 2,932 notices of questions (2,803 Starred and 129 Unstarred) were received. Out of these, 180 were admitted as Starred Questions and

1,313 as Unstarred Questions. 2 Short Notice Questions were received but none was admitted.

*Daily average of Questions:* Each of the lists of Starred Questions contained 20 Questions. On an average, 2 to 3 Questions were orally answered per sitting. The maximum number of Questions orally answered was 4 on 29 February 1996 and 8 March and 12 March 1996 and the minimum number of Questions orally answered was 2 on 28 February 1996.

The minimum number of Questions admitted in the list of Unstarred Questions was 119 on 1 March 1996 and the maximum number was 155 on all dates except 27 and 28 February 1996 and 8 March 1996. Their average came to 145.8.

*Half-an-Hour-Discussions:* 3 Notices of Half-an-Hour-Discussion were received but none was admitted. Discussion on one Half-an-Hour Discussion pending from the 174th Session was not concluded during this Session also.

*Statements correcting answers to Questions:* Two Statements were laid by the Ministers concerned correcting replies to Questions answered in the Rajya Sabha.

### C. OBITUARY REFERENCES

During the Session, references, were made to the passing away of Sarvashri Braja Kishore Prasad Sinha, D.K. Barooah, Sheel Bhadra Yajee, P.C. Sethi and Robin Kakati, all former members and the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N.T. Rama Rao. Members stood in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

## STATE LEGISLATURES

### ARUNACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*

The Second Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 21 December 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 22 December 1995.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the first Lt. Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri K.A.A. Raja.

The Assembly, which commenced its Fourth Session on 27 March 1996, was adjourned *sine die* on 28 March 1996.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh addressed the House on 27 March 1996. The discussion on the Motion of Thanks took place on 28 March 1996. The Chief Minister replied to the debate and the Motion was adopted unanimously.

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\*Material contributed by the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

*Financial business:* During the Session, the Chief Minister, who also holds the charge of Finance, presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96 and the vote on Account for the first six months of the year 1996-97. The supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96 relating to various Departments were moved by the Chief Minister and the Grants were voted in full on 28 March 1996. Thereafter, the vote on Account for the year 1996-97 was moved and adopted in full. Subsequently, the necessary Appropriation Bills were also introduced and passed.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Bakin Pertin, a former member of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

### GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*

The first session of the year 1996 of the Goa the Legislative Assembly commenced on 21 March 1996. The House was prorogued on 29 March 1996.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor, Shri Romesh Bhandari addressed the House on 21 March 1996. The discussion on the Motion of Thanks took place on 25, 26 and 28 March 1996. Later, the Motion was put to vote and adopted.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Goa Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1996; and (ii) the Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account)\* Bill, 1996.

*Financial business:* On 21 March 1996 the Chief Minister, who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96. All the Supplementary Demands were discussed and put to vote and granted on 25 March 1996. The Annual Financial Statement for the year 1996-97 was presented on 27 March 1996. The Vote on Account was proposed, put to vote and carried on 27 March 1996.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Valente Sequeira, a former member of the Legislative Assembly of Goa, Daman and Diu.

### GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*\*

The Ninth Gujarat Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fourth Session on 14 February 1996, was prorogued on 29 March 1996. There were 33 sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Gujarat addressed the House on 14 February 1996. The Motion of Thanks was discussed for three days and was passed on 22 February 1996.

\*Material contributed by the Goa Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

\*\*Material contributed by the Gujarat Legislative Assembly Secretariat.



*Legislative business:* During the Session, nine Bills were passed by the House.

*Financial business:* During the Session, the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1996-97 was presented by the Finance Minister, Shri Vajubhai Vala on 16 February 1996. There was a general discussion on the Budget for four days. Out of 100 demands for grants 55 were discussed for 13 days and the remaining 45 demands were guillotined on 25 March 1996. The Appropriation Bill was passed by the House on 27 March 1996. On 15 February 1996, the Statement of Supplementary Expenditure for the year 1995-96 was presented to the House. The Supplementary Demands were discussed for two days and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill was passed on 26 March 1996.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of six former members of the Legislative Assembly.

#### **HIMACHAL PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA\***

A one day Session (Seventh Session) of the Eighth Vidhan Sabha was held on 31 October 1995. It was prorogued by the Governor on 5 November 1995.

*Election of Deputy Speaker:* On 31 October 1995, Shri Ishwar Dass was elected as the Deputy Speaker.

#### **KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*\***

The Tenth Karnataka Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifth Session on 19 February 1996, was adjourned *sine die* on 11 March 1996. There were 16 sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Karnataka addressed the members of the two Houses assembled together on 19 February 1996.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, 13 Bills were taken up for consideration and passing.

*Financial business:* On 4 March 1996, the Finance Minister presented the Budget for the year 1996-97. The Demands for Grants were discussed for three days. The Final Instalment of the Supplementary Estimates for the year 1995-1996 was also presented by the Finance Minister, which was discussed and passed.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N.T. Rama Rao and Shri B.R. Krishna Murthy, MLC. Obituary

\*Material contributed by the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat.

\*\*Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

references were also made on the demise of Sarvashri Y.V. Jogannavar, P. Anandakunda Hegde and Gudu Saheb, all former members and Shri G.S. Venkataramana Iyer, former Secretary of the Karnataka Legislature.

### KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL\*

The Karnataka Legislative Council commenced its Eighty-second Session on 19 February 1996 and was adjourned *sine die* on 11 March 1996.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Karnataka addressed members of both the Houses assembled together on 19 February 1996. The Motion of thanks was discussed for 5 days. The Chief Minister replied to the debate and the Motion was adopted.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, all the 13 bills received from the Legislative Assembly were considered and passed by the Legislative Council.

*Financial business:* During the Session, the Budget Estimates for the year 1996-97 were presented on 4 March 1996. The general discussion on the Budget took place for two days. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill was passed by the House on 11 March 1996. On 5 March 1996, the Supplementary Estimates (Final Instalment) for the year 1995-96 were presented. The Appropriation Bill was passed by the House on 11 March 1996.

### MADHYA PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA\*\*

The Tenth Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, which commenced its Winter Session on 22 November 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 15 December 1995. There were 17 sittings in all.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the Panchayati Raj Amendment Bill, 1995; the Entertainment Cess Advertisement Tax Amendment Bill, 1995; and the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat Service Amendment Bill, 1995 were passed by the House.

*Financial business:* A proposal for the Second Supplementary Demand was made on 29 November, 1995 which was discussed and the Appropriation Bill (No.5), 1995 was passed by the House on 1 December 1995.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Martand Singh and Shri Dinesh Singh, former members of Parliament. Obituary references were also made on the demise of Sarvashri Jagsuriya Ahirwar, Dulichand Ahirwar, Sudhir Mukharjee, Prem Singh Solanki, Gokul Prasad Katolia, Mohan

\*Material contributed by the Karnataka Legislature Secretariat

\*\*Material contributed by the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha Secretariat

Singh Thakur, Balgam Singh Tilgam and Smt. Jyotsna Devi, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly; and Shri Fajal Tabish and Shri Rameshwar Shukla 'Anchal', both renowned poets.

The Eighth Session of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly commenced on 12 February 1996 and was prorogued on 26 March 1996. There were 24 sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Mohammad Shafi Qureshi addressed the House on 12 February 1996. The Motion of Thanks was discussed from 16 to 20 February 1996 and was adopted by the House unanimously.

*Financial business:* The Finance Minister introduced the Third Supplementary Demands for the year 1995-96 on 14 February 1996 which was passed by the House on 15 February 1996. Later, on 26 February 1996, the Finance Minister, presented the Annual Budget for the year 1996-97. The discussion on the Budget was in two phases. The general discussion took place on 27 and 28 February 1996. The discussion concluded on 25 March 1996. The Appropriation Bill (No.2), 1996 was passed on 26 March 1996 after the voting on Demands for Grants was completed.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri P.C. Sethi and the former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N.T. Rama Rao and Sarvashri Bhalchandra Bagdare, Mangal Parag, Sushil Bahadur Asthana and Jagadish Prasad Khare, all former members of the Legislative Assembly. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of the well-known religious worker, Shri Narharidas Tyagi.

### **MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\***

The Maharashtra Legislative Assembly commenced its Third Session on 4 December 1995 and was prorogued on 22 December 1995.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of one sitting member and six former members.

The First Session of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly of the year 1996 which commenced on 18 March 1996, was prorogued on 22 March 1996.

*Governors' Address:* The Governor of Maharashtra addressed the members of the two Houses assembled together on 18 March 1996. The Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address was moved and was adopted without any amendment.

\*Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation Bill, 1996; (ii) The Maharashtra (Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1996; and (iii) The Maharashtra Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996.

*Financial business:* On 19 March 1996, the Finance Minister presented the Supplementary Demands for the year 1995-96. On the same day, he also presented the Budget (Vote on Account) for the year 1996-97. The Supplementary Demands were discussed for one day. The Supplementary Demands, the Vote on Account and the Appropriation Bills were passed on 22 March 1996.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of four former members of the Legislative Assembly.

### **MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL\***

The Maharashtra Legislative Council commenced its third Session of the year on 4 December 1995. There were 14 sittings in all.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following Bills were considered and passed by the House: (i) The Maharashtra Official Languages Bill, 1995; (ii) The Maharashtra Legislature Members' (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iv) The Maharashtra Truck Terminal (Regulation of Location) Bill, 1995; (v) The Maharashtra Slum Area (Improvement, Clearance and Redevelopment) (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (vi) The Bombay Municipal Corporation and Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (vii) The Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) (Second Restrospective Extension of Duration) Bill, 1995; (viii) The Maharashtra Sale of Trees by Occupants belonging to Scheduled Tribes (Regulation) Amendment) Bill, 1995; (ix) The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Third Amendment) Bill, 1995; and (x) The Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Preservation of Trees (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

The following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly were rejected by the Council: (i) The Bombay Village Panchayats and the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (ii) The Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iv) The Maharashtra

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\*Material contributed by the Maharashtra Legislature Assembly Secretariat.

Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Temporary Amendment) Bill, 1995; and (v) The Maharashtra Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1995. However, out of these five Bills, four Bills were passed again by the Legislative Assembly for the second time and transmitted to the Council for consideration. But the Bombay Village Panchayats and the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 1995 and the Maharashtra Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats and Industrial Townships (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995 were rejected once again by the Council at the consideration stage. Although the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment) Bill, 1995 and the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) (Temporary Amendment) Bill, 1995; were shown for consideration and passing, they could not come up for consideration in the House.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of the former Minister, Shri Eknath Buvasaheb alias Abasaheb Nimbalkar. Obituary references were also made on the passing away of Sarvashri C.R. Khanolkar and Madhavarao Hari Godbole and Smt. Subhadra Dattatrya Joshi; all former members of the House.

#### **MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\***

The Sixth Manipur Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Third Session on 22 November 1995, was adjourned *sine die* on 28 November 1995. There were six sittings in all.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, three Bills were passed. They were: (i) The Manipur Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1995; (ii) The Salaries and Allowances of the Members of the Legislative Assembly (Manipur) (Fifteenth Amendment) Bill, 1995; and (iii) The Salaries and Allowances of the Ministers (Manipur) (Eighth Amendment) Bill, 1995.

*Financial business:* During the Session, the general discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96 were taken up on 25 November 1995. The Supplementary Demands for Grants, 1995-96, were passed unanimously.

#### **MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*\***

The Third Mizoram Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Eighth Session on 12 March 1996, was adjourned *sine die* on 20 March 1996. There were six sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Mizoram addressed the House on 12 March 1996.

\*Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

\*\*Material contributed by the Mizoram Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

*Legislative business:* On 19 March 1996, the House passed the following Bills: (i) The Mizoram Board of School Education (Amendment) Bill, 1996; and (ii) The Mizoram Motor Vehicle (Taxation) Bill, 1996.

*Financial business:* During the Session, the Finance Minister presented the Vote on Account for the period 1 April 1996 to 31 July 1996. The Supplementary Demands for 1995-96 and the Supplementary Demands for Grants for regularisation of excess expenditure incurred during the period 1987-88 to 1992-93 were also presented. The House also passed 3 Appropriation Bills.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Shri Joe Ngurdawla and Shri Vanlalhruaia, both former members of the Legislative Assembly.

#### **NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\***

The Eighth Nagaland Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Eighth Session on 21 March 1996, was adjourned on 29 March 1996. There were seven sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Nagaland, Shri O.N. Srivastava addressed the House on 21 March 1996. The Motion of Thanks on the Governors Address was discussed for two days and was adopted on 23 March 1996.

*Election of Deputy Speaker:* On 22 March 1996, Shri W. Wangyuh Konyak of the Congress (I) was elected the Deputy Speaker.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Nagaland (Sales of Petroleum and Petroleum Products, including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) (Taxation) (Amendment) Bill, 1996; (ii) The Nagaland Ownership and Transfer of Land and its Resources (Amendment) Bill, 1995; (iii) The Nagaland Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996; and (iv) The Nagaland Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996.

*Financial business:* On 23 March 1996, the Chief Minister, Shri S.C. Jamir, who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1995-96. The discussion on the Supplementary Demands took place on 25 March 1996 and the necessary Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996 was passed on the same day. On 25 March 1996, the Chief Minister presented the Budget for 1996-97. The general discussion on the Budget was held on 26 and 28 March 1996. The discussion on and passing of the Demands for Grants for the year 1996-97 took place on 29 March 1996 and the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996 was passed on the same day.

\*Material contributed by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

**ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\***

The Eleventh Orissa Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Fifth Session on 13 March 1996, was adjourned *sine die* on 22 March 1996. It was prorogued on 4 April 1996. The House had 9 sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* On 13 March 1996, the Governor of Orissa addressed the House. The Motion of Thanks was moved on the same day and was discussed for two days.

*Election of Deputy Speaker:* On 15 March 1996, Shri Bibhuti Bhusan Singh Mardraj was unanimously elected as the Deputy Speaker.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following bills were passed: (i) The Orissa Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1996; (ii) The Orissa Secondary Education (Amendment) Bill, 1996; (iii) The Orissa Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1996; (iv) The Orissa Advocates' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1996; (v) The Orissa Appropriation Bill, 1996; and (vi) The Orissa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

*Financial business:* During the Session, the Second Supplementary Statement of Expenditure for the year 1995-96 was presented on 14 March 1996. The relevant Appropriation Bill was passed on 19 March 1996.

On 15 March 1996, the deputy Chief Minister Shri B.K. Biswal, who also holds the charge of Finance, presented the Budget. The Motion on the Vote on Account was moved in the House on 15 March 1996 and was discussed on 21 March 1996. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill for the year 1996-97 was passed by the Assembly on 22 March 1996.

*Obituary references:* On 13 March 1996, obituary references were made on the demise of Shri Govinda Chandra Munda, MP and Shri Guru Nayak, a former member.

**SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*\***

The Fifth Sikkim Legislative Assembly, which commenced its Interim Budget Session on 14 March 1996 was adjourned *sine die* on 15 March 1996. There were two sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of Sikkim, Chaudhary Randhir Singh, addressed the House on 14 March 1996. The Motion of Thanks was moved by the Chief Minister on 14 March 1996 and adopted unanimously.

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\*Material contributed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

\*\*Material contributed by the Sikkim Legislative Assembly Secretariat.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, the following Bills were introduced and passed by the House: (i) The Sikkim Appropriation Bill (No.1) of 1996; (ii) The Sikkim Appropriation Bill (No.2) 1996; (iii) The Sikkim Legislative Assembly Members' (Removal of Disqualification) (Amendment) Bill, 1996; and (iv) The Sikkim Khadi and Village Industries Board Bill, 1996

*Financial business:* On 14 March 1996, the Finance Minister presented the Interim Budget for the year 1996-97 which was passed by the House on 15 March 1996. The Supplementary Demands for grants for 1995-96 were presented by the Finance Minister on 14 March 1996 which were discussed and passed by the House on 15 March 1996.

*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Sarvashri Adar Singh Lepcha, B.P. Kharel and Rinzing Tongden Lepcha, all former members of the Legislative Assembly.

#### WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY\*

The Eleventh West Bengal Legislative Assembly commenced its Ninth Session on 7 March 1995 and was adjourned on 11 August 1995. In between, the House was adjourned for pre-voting Budget scrutiny by the Departmentally-related Subject Committees from 19 April 1995 to 10 July 1995. The House was prorogued on 16 August 1995. There were 47 sittings in all.

*Address by the Governor:* The Governor of West Bengal, Shri K.V. Ragnunatha Reddy addressed the House on 7 March 1995. The Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address was moved the same day. Four days were allotted for the debate on the Motion of Thanks which was adopted by the House without any amendments.

*Legislative business:* During the Session, twenty-five Bills were passed by the House.

*Financial business:* On 21 March 1995, the Budget for the year 1995-96 was presented by the Minister of Finance, Dr. Asim Kumar Dasgupta. The general discussion on the Budget was initiated on 23 March 1995 which continued for four days. It was followed by discussion and voting on demands for grants relating to those departments which were yet to be covered by the Subject Committee System. The Appropriation Bill (No.2), 1995 was passed after discussion on 29 July 1995. On 28 March 1995, the Supplementary Demands for the year 1994-95 were introduced and were passed by the House the same day. On 29 March 1995, the House passed the Appropriation Bill, 1995 on Supplementary Demands.

\*Material contributed by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly Secretariat.



*Obituary references:* During the Session, obituary references were made on the demise of Giani Zail Singh, former President of India; Shri Morarji Desai, former Prime Minister of India; Shri Matish Ray, the Minister of Public Works Department; Sardar Swaran Singh; Shri Madhu Limaye, former member of Parliament; and Smt. Kalpana Joshi, veteran freedom fighter and prominent Communist leader. Obituary references were also made on the demise of the veteran parliamentarian, Prof. N.G. Ranga, eminent writer, Smt. Ashapura Devi, two Deputy Ministers of West Bengal, some former members of the Legislative Assembly and some other eminent personalities.

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**APPENDIX I**  
**STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED**  
**DURING THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE**  
**TENTH LOK SABHA**

1. PERIOD OF THE SESSION	26 February to 12 March 1996
2. NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	10
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	48 hours and 27 minutes
4. GOVERNMENT BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	23
ii) Introduced	13
iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
iv) Referred to the Departmentally related Standing Committees by the Speaker/Chairman, Rajya Sabha	Nil
v) Reported by Standing Committees	7
vi) Discussed	11
vii) Passed	10
viii) Part discussed	1
ix) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	Nil
x) Pending at the end of the Session	26
5. PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	352
ii) Introduced	Nil
iii) Discussed	—
iv) Discussion postponed	1 (pending from the last Session)
v) Part-discussed	1 (pending from the last Session)
vi) Removed from the Register of Pending Bills	Nil
vii) Pending at the end of the Session	352
6. NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193 (Matters of Urgent Public Importance)	
i) Notices received	105
ii) Admitted	Nil
iii) Discussions held	Nil
7. NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 197 (Calling attention to matters of urgent public importance)	
Statements made by Ministers	Nil
8. MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS	
i) Notices received	2
ii) Admitted and discussed	Nil
iii) Barred	Nil
iv) Withdrawn	2

<b>9. STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS</b>	
i) Notices received	164
ii) Admitted	11
iii) Moved	1
iv) Adopted	1
<b>10. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS</b>	
i) Notices received	3
ii) Admitted	3
iii) Moved	Nil
iv) Adopted	Nil
<b>11. PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS</b>	
i) Received	3
ii) Admitted	3
iii) Discussed	2
iv) Negatived	1
iv) Part-discussed	1
<b>12. GOVERNMENT MOTIONS</b>	
i) Notices received	1
ii) Admitted	1
<b>13. PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS</b>	
i) Notices received	190
ii) Admitted	30
iii) Moved	1
iv) Discussed	1
v) Negatived	1
<b>14. TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION</b>	<b>5,867</b>
<b>15. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED</b>	<b>1,114 on 12 March 1996</b>
<b>16. NUMBER OF ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS</b>	
i) Consent withheld by the Speaker outside the House	42
<b>17. TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED</b>	
i) Starred	180
ii) Unstarred	1,513

## 18. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period 1 January to 31 December 1996	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	4	—
(ii)	Committee on Absence of Members	1	1
(iii)	Committee on Public Undertakings	7	7
(iv)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	—	—
(v)	Committee on Petitions	2	1
(vi)	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	1	1
(vii)	Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	7	8
(viii)	Committee on Privileges	—	—
(ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	9	1
(x)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	6	1
(xi)	Estimates Committee	4	3
(xii)	General Purposes Committee	1	—
(xiii)	House Committee		
	(a) Accommodation Sub-Committee	—	—
	(b) Sub-Committee on Amenities	—	—
(xiv)	Public Accounts Committee	3	6
(xv)	Railway Convention Committee	3	1
(xvi)	Rules Committee	—	—

## JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEES

(i)	Joint Committee on Offices of Profit	—	—
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## STANDING COMMITTEES

(i)	Committee on Agriculture	4	2
(ii)	Committee on Communications	7	2
(iii)	Committee on Defence	3	3
(iv)	Committee on Energy	4	—
(v)	Committee on External Affairs	5	—
(vi)	Committee on Finance	7	4
(vii)	Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution	3	5
(viii)	Committee on Labour and Welfare	—	—
(ix)	Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	5	3
(x)	Committee on Railways	—	—
(xi)	Committee on Urban and Rural Development	8	6

19. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE 3

20. PETITIONS PRESENTED 3



**APPENDIX II**  
**STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK**  
**TRANSACTIONED DURING THE HUNDRED AND**  
**SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA**

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	26 February to 12 March 1996
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	10
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	31 hours & 38 minutes (excluding lunch break)
4.	NUMBER OF DIVISIONS HELD	Nil
5.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	35
	(ii) Introduced	Nil
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	06
	(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment	Nil
	(v) Referred to Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vi) Referred to Joint Committee by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(vii) Referred to the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	Nil
	(viii) Reported by Select Committee	Nil
	(ix) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(x) Reported by the Departmentally-related Standing Committees	07
	(xi) Discussed	Nil
	(xii) Passed	Nil
	(xiii) Withdrawn	Nil
	(xiv) Negatived	Nil
	(xv) Part-discussed	Nil
	(xvi) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any recommendation	Nil
	(xvii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xviii) Pending at the end of the Session	35
6.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	98
	(ii) Introduced	Nil
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Lok Sabha	Nil
	(iv) Returned by the Lok Sabha with any amendment and laid on the Table	Nil
	(v) Reported by Joint Committee	Nil
	(vi) Discussed	Nil
	(vii) Withdrawn	Nil

	(viii) Passed	Nil
	(ix) Negatived	Nil
	(x) Circulated for eliciting opinion	Nil
	(xi) Part-discussed	Nil
	(xii) Discussion postponed	Nil
	(xiii) Motion for circulation of Bill negatived	Nil
	(xiv) Referred to Select Committee	Nil
	(xv) Lapsed-due to retirement/death of Member-in-charge of the Bill	Nil
	(xvi) Pending at the end of the Session	98
7	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 176 (MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
	(i) Notices received	18
	(ii) Admitted	7 (on 1 subjects)
	(iii) Discussions held	—
8.	NUMBER OF STATEMENTS MADE UNDER RULE 180 (CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE)	
	Statements made by Ministers	1
9.	HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS HELD	1 (From 174th Session but not concluded)
10	STATUTORY RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	54
	(ii) Admitted	54
	(iii) Moved	1
	(iv) Adopted	1
	(v) Negatived	—
	(vi) Withdrawn	—
11	GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Notices received	3
	(ii) Admitted	3
	(iii) Moved	—
	(iv) Adopted	—
12.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS	
	(i) Received	2
	(ii) Admitted	2
	(iii) Discussed	Nil
	(iv) Withdrawn	Nil
	(v) Negatived	Nil
	(vi) Adopted	Nil
	(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
	(viii) Discussion postponed	Nil

13.	<b>GOVERNMENT MOTIONS</b>	
	(i) Notices received	—
	(ii) Admitted	—
	(iii) Moved	—
	(iv) Adopted	—
	(v) Part-discussed	—
14.	<b>PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS</b>	
	(i) Received	54
	(ii) Admitted	—
	(iii) Moved	—
	(iv) Adopted	—
	(v) Part-discussed	—
	(vi) Negatived	—
	(vii) Withdrawn	—
15.	<b>MOTIONS REGARDING MODIFICATION OF STATUTORY RULE</b>	
	(i) Received	Nil
	(ii) Admitted	—
	(iii) Moved	—
	(iv) Adopted	—
	(v) Negatived	—
	(vi) Withdrawn	Nil
	(vii) Part-discussed	—
	(viii) Lapsed	Nil
16.	<b>NUMBER, NAME AND DATE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CREATED, IF ANY.</b>	Nil
17.	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED</b>	825
18.	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED</b>	1,284
19.	<b>MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS' PASSES ISSUED ON ANY SINGLE DAY, AND DATE ON WHICH ISSUED</b>	123 on 29.2.96
20.	<b>MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERSONS VISITED ON ANY SINGLE DAY AND DATE ON WHICH VISITED</b>	245 on 29.2.96
21.	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED</b>	
	(i) Starred	180
	(ii) Unstarred	1,313
	(ii) Short-Notice Questions	2
22.	<b>DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRIES</b>	Nil

## 23. WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Name of Committee	No. of meetings held during the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996	No. of Reports presented during the 176th Session
(i) Business Advisory Committee	4 (Four)	Nil
(ii) Committee on Subordinate Legislation	1 (One)	Nil
(iii) Committee on Petitions	7 (Seven)	1 (One)
(iv) Committee on Privileges	—	—
(v) Committee on Rules	—	—
(vi) Committee on Government Assurances	4 (Four)	Nil
(vii) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	1 (One)	1 (One)

## DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES :

(viii) Commerce*	5 (Five)	7 (Seven)
(ix) Home Affairs	9 (Nine)	2 (Two)
(x) Human Resource Development	8 (Eight)	6 (Six)
(xi) Industry	2 (Two)	1 (One)
(xii) Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	5 (Five)	1 (One)
(xiii) Transport and Tourism	6 (Six)	3 (Three)

## 24. NUMBER OF MEMBERS GRANTED

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1 (ONE)

## 25. PETITIONS PRESENTED

Nil

## 26. NAME OF NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN WITH DATES

Sl. No.	Name of members sworn in	Date on which sworn in
1	2	3
1.	Shri K.L. Poswal (Haryana)	26 February 1996

## 27. OBITUARY REFERENCES

Sl. No.	Name	Sitting member/Ex-member/dignitary
1.	Shri Braja Kishroe Prasad Sinha	Ex-member
2.	Shri D.K. Barooah	Ex-member
3.	Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee	Ex-member
4.	Shri P.C. Sethi	Ex-member
5.	Shri N.T. Rama Rao	Ex-member
6.	Shri Robin Kakati	Ex-member

\* a) Sub-Committee on Marine Products &amp; Ruber

3

Nil

b) Sub-Committee on Leather &amp; Carpets

3

Nil

c) Sub-Committee on Department of Supply

1

Nil

**APPENDIX III**  
**STATEMENTS SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD**  
**1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1996**

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills	Private Bills	Starred Questions	Unstarred Questions	Short Notice Questions
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>STATES</b>							
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	15.3.96 to 23.3.96	5	11(2)	—	571(160)	199 <sup>(e)</sup>	47(2)
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	18.3.96 to 23.3.96	5	8(8)	—	193(80)	98(160)	18(16)
Bihar L.A.	19.3.96 to 21.3.96	3	2(2)	—	941(533)	17(339)	386(43)
Bihar L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	18.3.96 to 26.3.96	7	5(5)	—	668(165)	(415)	—
Gujarat L.A.	14.2.96 to 29.3.95	33	14(19)	21	6316(2760)	103(64) <sup>(b)</sup>	42(15)
Goa L.A.	21.3.96 to 29.3.96	7	3(2)	1	455(215)	32(30) <sup>(a)</sup>	3(3)
Haryana L.A.	26.2.96 to 8.3.96	8	14(14)	—	95(54)	1	1
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	10.1.96 to 18.1.96	21	18(14)	—	755(378)	51(33)	1(1)
	19.2.96 to 12.3.96						

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.®	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	19.2.96	16	14(12)	—	165(165)	759(759)	3
	11.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	19.2.96 to	16	12	—	165(165)	759(759)	3
	11.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala L.A.	29.2.96 to	13	10(10)	13	5871(451)	(4386)	6(1)
	19.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	12.2.96	24	7(7)	3	6020(5487)	2261(2454)	5
	15.12.95	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	18.3.96 to	4	7(3)	4	4435(472)	110(32)	57(20)
	22.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.	18.3.96 to	4	(3)	—	1161(249)	87(42)	5(3)
	22.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	15.3.96 to	15	4(4)	—	270(27)	97(97)	—
	4.4.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	12.3.96 to	6	4(5)	—	213(211)	123(123)	—
	20.3.96 *	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagaland L.A.	21.3.96 to	7	4(4)	—	62(62)	26(20)	—
	29.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.	13.3.96 to	9	7(6)	1	1230(863)	1145(1512)	60(2)
	22.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab L.A.	27.2.96 to	15	7(7)	—	590(377)	97(64)	2
	22.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.	7.3.96 to	7	6(3)	—	546(525)	529(506)	—
	16.3.96	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Tamil Nadu L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.	15.3.96 to 22.3.96	6	3(3)	—	284(204)	17(75)	1(1)
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>UNION TERRITORIES</b>							
Pondicherry L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

\*\*Information received from State Legislatures contained NIL Report

● Dissolved since 19.2.90

**Notes :** (a) Including Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred

(b) 35 Notices received as Starred Questions but admitted as Unstarred Questions

(c) 204 Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred

(d) 204 Starred Questions admitted as Unstarred; total 234

(e) Non-Session period : Notices received-63; Notices admitted-58







	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Uttar Pradesh L.C.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
UNION TERRITORIES																
Pondicherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Information received from State/Union Territory Legislatures contained NIL Report

\*\*Information not received

⊙ Dissolved since 1990

Notes :

(a) Committee on Amenities-2 sittings

(b) Niveedan Committee-65 sittings; Bunkar Welfare Committees-31 sittings; Zila Parishad and Panchayati Raj Committee-105 sittings; Question and Calling Attention Committee-19 sittings and 8 reports; Internal Resources and Central Assistance Committee-25 sittings

(c) Committee on Allotment of Land to Education, Charitable Institutions-2 sittings and 1 report

(d) Press Advisory Committee-1 sittings; Budget Committee-3 sittings and 1 report

(e) Committee on Panchayati Raj-3 sittings and 3 reports; Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Tribes-3 sittings and 2 reports; Committee on Welfare of Socially and Economically Backward Classes, Nomadic Tribes and Denotified Tribes-1 sitting and 4 reports; Committee on Papers Laid on the Table of the House-1 sitting and 1 report; Committee on Absence of Members-1 sitting and 2 reports; Members' Allowances Rules Committee-1 sitting

(f) Press Gallery Committee-1 sitting

(g) Committee on Forest-3 sittings and 1 report; Tourism Committee-4 sittings and 8 reports; Committee on Agriculture and Horticulture-4 sittings and 9 reports; Revenue Committee-5 sittings and 4 reports; Committee on Education-3 sittings and 4 reports; Committee on Petitions-3 sittings and 3 reports; Committee on Health and Family Welfare-5 sittings and 4 reports; Committee on Papers Laid-3 sittings and 1 report; Committee on General Administration-3 sittings and 6 reports

(h) Subject Committee on Commerce & Industries-3 sittings; Subject Committee on Housing and Urban Development-3 sittings; Subject Committee on Power-2 sittings; Subject Committee on Revenue, Forest, Environment & Ecology Development-6 sittings and 3 reports; Subject Committee on PWD and Irrigation-5 sittings; Sub Committee on Finance Department-5 sittings; Sub Committee on Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries-3 sittings

(i) Subject Committee on Cooperation-4 sittings and 1 report

(j) Committee on the Welfare of Women and Children-8 sittings and 3 reports; Committee on Environment-11 sittings and 3 reports; Committee on the

- Welfare of Backward Class Communities-8 sittings and 1 report; Committee on Papers Laid-4 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee I-2 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee-II-2 reports; Subject Committee-III-1 sitting and 2 reports; Subject Committee IV-2 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee V-2 reports; Subject Committee VI-3 sittings and 2 reports; Subject Committee VII-1 sitting and 2 reports; Subject Committee VIII-1 sitting and 3 reports; Subject Committee IX-1 sitting and 2 reports; Subject Committee X-1 sitting and 2 reports.
- (k) Committee to Examine the Paper Laid on the Table-1 sitting; Questions and References Committee-6 sittings and 3 reports; Women and Children's Welfare Committee-4 sittings
- (l) Catering Committee-2 sittings; V.J.N.T. Committee-II sittings; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee-12 sittings and 1 report; and Panchayati Raj Committee-16 sittings
- (m) Catering Committee-2 sittings; V.J.N.T. Committee-11 sittings; Employment Guarantee Scheme Committee-12 sittings and 1 report; and Panchayati Raj Committee-16 sittings
- (n) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-7 sittings; Members Amenities Committee-4 sittings; House Committee on Environment-2 sittings; House Committee on Women's Welfare-5 sittings and 1 report; House Committee to look into the functioning of Medical Colleges-7 sittings and 1 report; Subject Committee on Panchayati Raj-1 sitting; Subject Committee on Water Resources-1 sitting; House Committee on Linguistic Minorities-1 sitting; and House Committee on Prawn Culture-4 sittings
- (o) Committee on Papers Laid/ to be Laid on the Table-9 sittings and 1 report
- (p) Women & Child Welfare Committee- 15 sittings; and Question and Reference Committee-23 sittings and 1 report

**APPENDIX IV****LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT  
AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE  
PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1996**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Title of the Bill</b>	<b>Date of assent by the President</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
1.	The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and full participation) Bill, 1995	1.1.1996
2.	The Uttar Pradesh State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1995	1.1.1996
3.	The Appropriation (No.5) Bill, 1995	3.1.1996
4.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 1995	3.1.1996
5.	The Finance Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
6.	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
7.	The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
8.	The Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
9.	The Appropriation Bill, (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
10.	The Appropriation Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
11.	The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
12.	The Uttar Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
13.	The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996	27.3.1996
14.	The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill, 1996	27.3.1996

**APPENDIX V**

**LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF  
STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD  
1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1996**

**ANDHRA PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996
2. The Andhra Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 1996

**BIHAR VIDHAN SABHA**

1. The Bihar Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996
2. The Bihar Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996

**DELHI VIDHAN SABHA**

1. The Provincial Small Cause Courts (Delhi Amendment) Bill, 1995
2. The Delhi Lokayukta and Upalokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 1996
3. The Delhi Member of Legislative Assembly (Removal of Disqualification) Bill, 1996
4. The Appropriation Bill (No.1), 1996
5. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

**GOA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Goa Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 1996
2. The Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

**GUJARAT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Gujarat Maritime Board (Amendment) Bill, 1996
2. The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualification) (Amendment) Bill, 1996
3. The Bombay Court Fees (Gujarat Amendment) Amending Bill, 1996
4. The Gujarat Legislative Assembly Members (Removal of Disqualification) (Second Amendment) Bill, 1996
5. The Gujarat (Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1996
6. The Bombay Stamps (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1996
7. The Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax (Gujarat Amendment) Bill, 1996
8. The Gujarat Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1996
9. The Gujarat Appropriation Bill, 1996

**HARYANA VIDHAN SABHA**

- \* 1. The Haryana and Punjab Agricultural Universities (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 2. The Haryana Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 3. The Punjab Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 4. The Haryana Mechanical Vehicles (Levy of Tolls) Bill, 1996
- 5. The Haryana Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 6. The Haryana Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996
- 7. Guru Jambheshwar University, Hisar (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 8. The Haryana Prevention of Defacement of Property (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 9. The Haryana General Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 10. The Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulations) Haryana Amendment Bill, 1996
- 11. The Punjab Land Revenue (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1996
- \* 12. The Punjab Scheduled Roads and Controlled Areas Restriction of Unregulated Development (Haryana Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1996
- 13. The Haryana Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996
- \* 14. The Haryana and Punjab Agricultural Universities (Haryana Amendment) Bill, 1992 (as received back from the Governor for reconsideration)

**HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

- 1. The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 2. The Himachal Pradesh Land Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 3. The Himachal Pradesh Housing Board (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 4. The Himachal Pradesh University (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 5. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 1996
- 6. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.2) Bill 1996
- 7. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 1996
- 8. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1996
- 9. The Himachal Pradesh Kisan Pass Book Bill, 1996
- 10. The Himachal Pradesh Advocates Welfare Fund Bill, 1996
- 11. The Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members) (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 12. The Salaries and Allowances of Speaker's and Deputy Speaker's (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 13. The Salaries and Allowances of Deputy Ministers (H.P.) (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- 14. The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (H.P.) (Amendment) Bill, 1996

**KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

- 1. The Bangalore City Planning Area Zonal Regulations (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 1996
- 2. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1996

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\* Awaiting assent

3. The Karnataka Court Fees and Suits Valuation (Amendment) Bill, 1996
4. The Karnataka Advocates Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1996
5. The Bangalore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Bill, 1996
6. The Karnataka Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1996
7. The Karnataka Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 1996
8. The Motor Vehicles (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 1996
9. The Mysore (Personal and Miscellaneous) Inams Abolitions (Amendment) Bill, 1996
10. The Karnataka Appropriations (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996
11. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 1996
12. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1996

**KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Kerala Appropriation Bill, 1996
2. The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 1996
3. The Kerala Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 1996
4. The Kerala Public Service Commission (Additional Functions as Respects Certain Societies) Bill, 1996
5. The Kerala (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Regulation of Issue of Community Certificates Bill, 1996
6. The Abkari (Amendment) Bill, 1996
7. The Indian Succession (Kerala Amendment) Bill, 1996
8. The Kerala Toddy Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1996
9. The Kerala Civil Courts (Amendment) Bill, 1996
10. The Kerala Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

**MADHYA PRADESH VIDHAN SABHA**

1. Madhya Pradesh Viniyoga, Vidheyak, 1996
2. Madhya Pradesh Nagar thatha Gram Nivesh (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1996
3. Madhya Pradesh Viniyoga (No.2) Vidheyak, 1996
4. Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Nirvachan Yachika Pratibhuti Nikeshap (Vidhiman Yakaran) Vidheyak, 1996
5. Madhya Pradesh Vrettikar (Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1996
6. Madhya Pradesh Rajya Alp Sankhyak Ayoga Vidheyak, 1995
7. Madhya Pradesh Vanigyik Kar (Ditya Sanshodhan) Vidheyak, 1995

**MAHARASHTRA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation Bill, 1996
2. The Maharashtra (Supplementary) Appropriation Bill, 1996
3. The Maharashtra Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

**MEGHALAYA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Meghalaya Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996

2. The Meghalaya Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996
3. The Meghalaya Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996
4. The Meghalaya Fcrest (Removal of Timber) (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1996

#### **NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Nagaland (Sales of Petroleum & Petroleum Products, including Motor Spirit and Lubricants) Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1996
- \* 2. The Nagaland (Ownership and Transfer of Land and its Resources) (Amendment) Bill, 1995
3. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996
4. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996

#### **ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Orissa Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 1996
2. The Orissa Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1996
3. The Orissa Secondary Education (Amendment) Bill, 1996
4. The Orissa Advocates' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1996
5. The Orissa Appropriation Bill, 1996
6. The Orissa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996

#### **PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA**

1. The Punjab Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 1996
2. The Punjab Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996
3. The East Punjab War Awards (Amendment) Bill, 1996
4. The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Bill, 1996
5. The Punjab General Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1996
6. The Punjab Health Systems Corporation Bill, 1996
7. The Punjab Regional and Town Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill, 1996

#### **TRIPURA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

1. The Tripura Sales Tax (Seventh Amendment) Bill, 1996
2. The Tripura Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996
3. The Tripura Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 1996
4. The Tripura Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1996



**APPENDIX VI**  
**ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD**  
**1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1996**

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of promulgation	Date(s) on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
<b>UNION GOVERNMENT</b>					
1.	The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	5.1.96	27.2.96	8.4.96	—
2.	The Employee's Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	5.1.96	27.2.96	-do-	—
3.	The Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	—
4.	The Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	—
5.	The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	—
6.	The Depositories Ordinance, 1996	7.1.96	27.2.96	-do-	—
7.	The Supreme Court and High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	—
8.	The Arbitration and Conciliation Ordinance, 1996	16.1.96	-do-	-do-	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
9.	The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	27.1.96	-do-	-do-	-
10.	The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
11.	The Arbitration and Conciliation Second Ordinance, 1996	26.3.96	-	-	-
12.	The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	26.3.96	-do-	-do-	-
13.	The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996	27.3.96	-do-	-do-	-
14.	The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	27.3.96	-do-	-do-	-
15.	The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
16.	The Building and other Construction Worker's Welfare Cess, Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
17.	The Depositories Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
18.	The Supreme Court and High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
19.	The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-
20.	The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Second Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	-do-	-

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
<b>STATE GOVERNMENTS</b>					
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>					
1.	The A.P. Rural Development Ordinance, 1995	29.12.95	19.3.96	—	—
2.	The A.P. Urban Areas (Development) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	25.1.96	-do-	—	—
3.	The A.P. Town Planning (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	—	—
4.	The A.P. Prohibition (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	5.2.96	-do-	—	—
5.	The A.P. Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance 1995	8.2.96	-do-	—	—
6.	The A.P. Panchayat Raj (Second Amendment) Ordinance 1995	7.2.96	-do-	—	—
7.	The A.P. Municipalities (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	9.2.96	-do-	—	—
8.	The A.P. Small Scale Industries (Restriction on Sales Tax Holiday) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	7.3.96	-do-	—	—
<b>BIHAR</b>					
1.	Jharkhand Area Autonomous Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	—	—	—	—
2.	Bihar College Service Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	—	—	—	—
<b>HARYANA</b>					
1.	Guru Jambheshwar University Hisar (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	1.11.95	26.2.96	1.3.96	Replaced by legislation

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>					
1.	The Himachal Pradesh General Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	13.11.95	10.1.95	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Himachal Pradesh Housing Board (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995	8.11.95	10.1.96	—	-do-
<b>KARNATAKA</b>					
1.	The Karnataka Land Reforms (Amendment) Ordinance 1996	5.2.96	—	—	—
2.	The Karnataka Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	—	—	—
3.	The Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	17.5.96	—	—	—
<b>KERALA</b>					
1.	The Kerala Public Service Commission (Additional Functions as respects certain societies) Ordinance, 1995	27.10.95	4.3.96	—	—
2.	The Malabar University Ordinance, 1995	9.11.95	4.3.96	—	—
3.	The Kerala Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	20.1.95	4.3.96	10.4.96	—
4.	The Abkari (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	15.2.95	4.3.96	—	—
5.	The Kerala Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	16.2.96	4.3.96	—	—
6.	The Kerala Contingency Fund (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	—	—
7.	The Kerala Municipality (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	-do-	-do-	—	—

Sl. No.	Subject	Date of promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of cessation	Remarks
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>					
1.	The Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis (Amendment and Continuance) Ordinance, 1996	12.1.96	18.3.96	—	—
2.	The Maharashtra Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	17.1.96	-do-	28.4.96	—
3.	The Maharashtra Private Security Guards (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	9.2.96	-do-	28.4.96	—
4.	The Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corporation Ordinance, 1996	25.1.96	-do-	-do-	—
5.	The Maharashtra Contingency Fund (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	20.2.96	-do-	-do-	—
6.	The Maharashtra Local Authority Members' Disqualification (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	8.3.96	-do-	-do-	—
<b>ORISSA</b>					
1.	The Orissa Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	1.2.96	14.3.96	—	—
<b>PUNJAB</b>					
1.	The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	2.1.96	28.2.96	—	Replaced by Legislation
2.	The Punjab General Sales Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	10.1.96	29.2.96	—	-do-
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>					
1.	The Rajasthan Taxation Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance, 1996	4.1.96	7.3.96	14.3.96	-do-

**APPENDIX VII**  
**A. PARTY POSITION IN LOK SABHA**  
**AS ON 20 FEBRUARY 1996**

Sl. No.	State/ Union Territory	Seats	Cong. (I)	BJP	CPI(M)	JD	CPI	SAMATA PARTY	AIADMK	JD(A)	TDP	OTHERS	IND./ Nominated	Total Vacancies
<b>(I) STATES</b>														
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	29	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	7	1 (a)	—	40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
3.	Assam	14	8	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (b)	1	14
4.	Bihar	54	2	5	1	16	7	9	—	4	—	6 (c)	2	52
5.	Goa	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
6.	Gujarat	26	6	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
7.	Haryana	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	28	21	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
11.	Kerala	20	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 (d)	—	20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40	26	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (e)	—	39
13.	Maharashtra	48	38	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 (f)	—	46
14.	Manipur	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	2
15.	Meghalaya	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
16.	Mizoram	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
17.	Nagaland	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
18.	Orissa	21	13	—	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	19
19.	Punjab	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (h)	—	13

20. Rajasthan	25	13	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	
21. Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
22. Tamil Nadu	39	26	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	
23. Tripura	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
24. Uttar Pradesh	85	13	50	—	3	1	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	90	
25. West Bengal	42	5	—	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	
UNION TERRITORIES																					
26. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
27. Chandigarh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
29. Daman and Diu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
30. Delhi	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
31. Lakshadweep	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
32. Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
33. Nominated	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>254<sup>Ⓐ</sup></b>	<b>115</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>09*</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>28</b>							

\*Includes 6 members sitting separately consequent on receipt of intimation from them

<sup>Ⓐ</sup>Including H.S.

- a) All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen-1
- b) Autonomous State Demand Committee-1; Asom Gana Parishad-1
- c) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-6
- d) Indian Congress (Socialist)-1; Muslim League-2; Kerala Cong. (M)-1
- e) Bahujan Samaj Party-1

- f) Shiv Sena - 2
- g) Manipur People's Party - 1
- h) Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
- i) Sikkim Sangram Parishad - 1
- j) Janata Party - 1 ; Samajwadi Party - 3 ; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1
- k) All India Forward Bloc - 3 ; Revolutionary Socialist Party - 4





1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20.	Rajasthan	10	3	—	—	6	—	—	1	10	—
21.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 (g)	—	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	18	3	—	—	—	—	15 (h)	—	18	—
23.	Tripura	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34	2	2	—	11	—	6 (i)	2	23	11
25.	West Bengal	16	1	—	11	—	—	4 (j)	—	16	—
<b>UNION TERRITORIES</b>											
	Delhi	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—
	Pondicherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	Nominated	12	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	8	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>245</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>19</b>

(a) Telugu Desam I - 3; C.P.I. - 1; Telugu Desam II - 1; T.D. (Chandrababu Naidu Group) - 4; T.D. (N.T. Rama Rao Group) - 1

(b) Asom Gana Parishad - 1, Autonomous State Demand Committee - 1

(c) C.P.I. - 3

(d) M.L. - 2; Kerala Congress (M) - 1

(e) Shiv Sena - 3

(f) Nagaland People's Council - 1

(g) Sikkim Sangram Parishad - 1

(h) AIADMK - 15

(i) Samajwadi Party - 5; Bahujan Samaj Party - 1;

(j) R.S.P. - 1; CPI - 1; F.B. - 2

**C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE LEGISLATURES  
AS ON 1 APRIL 1996**

State/Union territory	Seats	Cong. (I)	Janata Dal	Lok Dal	BJP	CPI (M)	CPI	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	295	25	—	—	3	15	19	223 <sup>a</sup>	5	290	5
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	126	66	1	—	10	2	4	28 <sup>b</sup>	15	126	—
Bihar L.A.	325	29	169	—	40	6	26	97 <sup>c</sup>	12	321 <sup>a</sup>	3
Bihar L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Delhi L.A.	70	13	4	—	49	—	—	1 <sup>d</sup>	3	70	—
Goa L.A.	40	23	—	—	4	—	—	10 <sup>e</sup>	3	40	—
Gujarat L.A.	182	45	—	—	121	—	—	—	16	182	—
Haryana L.A.	90	53	—	—	—	—	—	13 <sup>f</sup>	5	72 <sup>g</sup>	17
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	68	53	—	—	7	1	—	—	7	68	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A. Ⓞ	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.C.	75	23	11	—	7	—	—	—	7	48 <sup>h</sup>	26
Kerala L.A.	141	52	2	—	—	26	12	38 <sup>g</sup>	5	135 <sup>a</sup>	5
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	321	172	4	—	117	1	2	15 <sup>h</sup>	8	319 <sup>a</sup>	1
Maharashtra L.A.	269	80	11	—	64	3	—	84 <sup>i</sup>	44	286	3
Maharashtra L.C.	78	37	1	—	13	1	—	15 <sup>j</sup>	11	78	—
Manipur L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya L.A.	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	55 <sup>k</sup>	3	58 <sup>a</sup>	1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mizoram L.A.		40	21	—	—	—	—	—	9 <sup>a</sup>	10	40	—
Nagaland L.A.		60	43	—	—	—	—	—	10 <sup>a</sup>	7	60	—
Orissa L.A.		147	78	46	—	9	—	1	5 <sup>a</sup>	6	145	2
Punjab L.A.		117	86	1	—	4	1	4	13 <sup>a</sup>	5	114	3
Rajasthan L.A.		200	76	3	—	99	1	—	—	21	200	—
Sikkim L.A.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.		60	10	1	—	—	43	—	5 <sup>a</sup>	1	60	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.		108	16	4	—	19	—	—	46 <sup>a</sup>	8	93	15
West Bengal L.A.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>UNION TERRITORIES</b>												
Pondicherry L.A.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>a</sup> Excluding Speaker

<sup>b</sup> Dissoled since 19.2.90

(a) Telugu Desam Party-212; Majlis Batchao Tahreek-2; A.J.M.I.M.-1; Democratic Peoples Front-7; Nominated-1

(b) Asom Gana Parishad-24; Autonomous State Demand Committee-4

(c) Communist Party of India (Male)-6; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Soren)-16; Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (Mard)-2; Samta Party-4; Bahujan Samaj Party-2; Marxist Coordination Party-2; Jharkhand Peoples Party-2; Jharkhand Party (Horo)-1; Champaran Vikas Party-1; Nominated-1

(d) Unattached-1

(e) Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party-8; United Goan's Democratic Party-2

(f) Haryana Vikas Party-7; Janata Party-1; Bahujan Samaj Party-1; Unattached-4

(g) Muslim League-17; Kerala Congress (M)-6; Kerala Congress (Jacob)-4; Indian Congress (Socialist)-3; Revolutionary Socialist Party-2; National Democratic Party-2; Kerala Congress (B)-2; Kerala Congress-1; C.M.P.-1

(h) Bahujan Samaj Party-11; Krantikari Samajwadi Manch-1; Chattisgarh Mukti Morcha-1; Bhatiya Republican Party-1; Nominated-1

- (i) Shivsena-73; Peasants and Workers Party-6; Samajwadi Party-3; Maharashtra Vikas Congress-1; Nagvidarbha Andolan Samiti-1
- (j) Peasants and Workers' Party-1; Shiv Sena-11; Republican Party of India-2; Akhil Bharatiya Maratha Mahasangh-1
- (k) United Meghalaya Parliamentary Front-40; Opposition Group-15
- (l) M.N.F.-9
- (m) Nagaland Peoples Council-10
- (n) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-9; J.P.P.-4
- (o) Bahujan Samaj Party-9; Shiromani Akali Dal-4
- (p) R.S.P.-2; A.I.F.B.-1; T.H.H.P.P.-1; T.U.J.S.-1
- (q) Samajwadi Party-24; Indian National Congress Indira-(T) 7; Bahujan Samaj Party-2; Shikshak Dal (Non-Political)-8

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