

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are not even hearing. Then, what is the fun of my talking?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prime Minister is not yielding.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, will you please resume your seats?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prime Minister has agreed that Shri Arjun Singh will speak for two minutes. Hon. Members' will you please resume your seats?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Prime Minister has agreed to yield to Shri Arjun Singh. So, Shri Arjun Singh will speak for two minutes. He has yielded to him. So, please resume your seats. Shri Bagrodia, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to inform all Leaders, Whips and hon. Members that hon. Prime Minister has agreed to yield to him for two minutes. Please patiently hear him and then the Prime Minister will speak. Order please. Hon. Members you please take your seats.

May I request Sardar Buta Singh to take his seat?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Pramod Mahajan, please tell your Members to take their seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, please tell your Members to take their seats. The hon. Prime Minister has agreed to yield to Shri Arjun Singh for two minutes. Then, the hon. Prime Minister will continue with his speech. I would request you to maintain order in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not feel elated to come over here and whatever I am saying here, I am saying with a heavy heart. This is the place where the Constitution of India was framed. This is the place where the freedom fighters of India gave a final shape to their struggle in the form of the Constitution for the country. But with distress I say here that the way...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is delivering a speech...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sanjay Nirupam, what are you doing? I am trying to control the House. I seek the co-operation of all leaders in maintaining order.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: What else he will do in two minutes? Shall he chant mantra...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is this? The hon. Prime Minister will speak now. Already, we are late. We will take another one-and-a-half hours.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are certain things of discipline. There are certain things related to the dignity and decorum of the House. I feel that dignity of the House has been violated and that is why I want to make a request to this august House and the hon. Prime Minister. The hon. Prime Minister has established a good convention by giving me a chance to speak. I extend my thanks to him, but Sir, the position of the leader of Opposition in the House should also not be ignored. I feel that the way the hon. Prime Minister has expressed his dissent over the words uttered by the leader of the Opposition, does not befit him. This is my view...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you may kindly check if I have used any unparliamentary word in my speech. Kindly expunge it from the Proceedings, I would have no objection. Now, they're objecting, to my style, but now at this age, it is not possible for me to change my style...(Interruptions) Shri Jawaharlal Nehru had accepted this style and I did

not hear any objection from the next generation too as I heard from the written statement....*(Interruptions)* I have not gone through Shrimati Sonia Gandhi's entire speech. I am quoting it.

[English]

"There is, I am afraid, neither moral integrity, nor sincerity of purpose among those who are trying to force this law on the nation today."

[Translation]

What is this 'moral integrity'? What does it mean? If in the treasury benches....*(Interruptions)* Shrimati Sonia Gandhi should apologise for such words. In my long Parliamentary career, I have never used slang language, nor have I ever behaved improperly, but the people who are preaching us....*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these allegations are made with regard to POTO. Out integrity is being doubted, people are talking of bonafides. If they bring TADA it is all right, if they bring MISA, it is all right. At that time we did not doubt their integrity and that is why I am pained. If morality cannot be established by majority then should we expect that it will run by minority. I was going to praise Sonia ji on one point. In the same speech, she has said that they would be with us in our fight against terrorism, today and always. But thereafter, she waged a war against me. These are personal allegations. These are not policy related allegations, nor are they related to any violation of principles. It is an attack on my personality, which I would never bear....*(Interruptions)*

I have only two options—either I should adopt the path of welfare of the people, or act under pressure. Now who will decide this? It is the people who have given me this position and if I work under pressure, my friends, my party will leave me. The Leader of Opposition need not tell me whether I should work under pressure or quit. I am trying to serve the country in my own way and would continue to do so in future also. But I shall have to reply to the objectionable comments made against me. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am requesting you....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am Deputy Speaker.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am still requesting you if I have used any unparliamentary word, that may be expunged from my speech....*(Interruptions)* why not? Then whatever pandemonium they have created here, was useless....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I honour the sentiments of the House. I do not think that I have to add anything to the speeches made in favour of POTO and against it.

I have been asked to give information regarding one fact as to how many people have been arrested under POTO, during the last five months. So far information I have received, 18 people have been arrested in four cases under POTO. One case relates to attack on Parliament, in which four persons have been arrested under POTO. In the second case 4.28 kgs. of RDX was recovered and Rs. 35 lakhs cash were recovered in hawala and many more explosive material were recovered. Six people were arrested in this connection. In the third case in Delhi, six people—five Pakistanis and one Bangladeshi having arms and ammunitions, were arrested. All the six culprits are involved in the attack in Kolkata. In the fourth case, two persons of the Peoples' Liberation Army of Manipur were arrested. These are four cases in Delhi where 18 people were arrested.

In Jammu and Kashmir 91 people have, of course, been arrested under POTO. I do not have the details with regard to their nationality. One case under POTO has been reported from Maharashtra, about which we have received information that the Government of Maharashtra have withdrawn the said case that was filed under POTO.

I am of the view that a Joint sitting of a Joint Session is called when the two Houses do not agree on one point and thus it is decided by taking decision through vote in the Joint Session. I would request the august House to initiate this action. I express my gratitude and thanks to all those hon. Members, who participated in this debate.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to make provisions for the prevention of, and for dealing with, terrorist activities and for matters connected therewith, as passed by Lok Sabha and rejected by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration for the purpose of deliberating on the Bill."

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want division.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right, Let the Lobbies be cleared—

There will be division by distribution of 'Aye' and 'No' slips in accordance with Rule 376AA of the Rules of