

Government is concerned. I am sorry I have to oppose it staunchly at this last moment when I have only half a minute more to speak and I do it as my duty as a citizen of India.

[Translation]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar) : Today Shri Barnalaji has grossly misled the House and I want to refute his statement... (Interruptions). The Akalis are responsible for fanning terrorism in Punjab. The terrorism has taken life of 5000 Congressmen... (Interruptions) These people went to meet terrorists and they also gave them awards ... (Interruptions) I have received three bullets ... (Interruptions) They said that Akalis came to the power 6 times but the Congress party did not allow them to rule... (Interruptions) When they were in power, they were fighting among themselves and when they were fighting with us. These are the people who gave away rewards to the extremists. ... (Interruptions) You can get it verified from the Punjab unit of the BJP... (Interruptions) They are the accomplices of the extremists. They ought to be condemned.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghunandan Lal Bhatia, enough is enough.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL (Faridkot) : They are the murderers of the Sikhs... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghunandan Lal Bhatia, you are a very seasoned Member of the House

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If any hon. Member misleads the House, you have other course and other recourse to take. You can bring a privilege motion. But it is not the way to just come out and say you have misled the House. You can give proper notice.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : The people of Punjab have rejected them... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the way.

[Translation]

Please listen patiently. Please keep patience.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall feel highly obliged if the House listens to me with patience after having witnessed so much uproar. I want

to express my thanks to all those who have participated in the discussion on my Motion. This House is meant for peaceful, restrained and rational debate. Some friends wanted that there should be no debate on its and the Motion should be put to vote right away so that they could be enthroned immediately after they left the House... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : It will be like that only.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Someone is saying from other side that it will be like that only. This voice is coming from the Congress benches. Other friends should remain vigilant.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been in Parliament for the last 40 years. Such occasions have come many times. I have been witness to formation of Governments, change of Governments and installation of new Governments, but democracy... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not make these kinds of remarks, please.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : But on every occasion, democracy in India has emerged stronger and I am sure, this occasion will not be an exception.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I have been a critic to the Governments all these 40 years. Today, most of the times, I had to listen to criticism. There is a saying in Marathi :

"Nindkache ghar asave shojari, i.e.

Nindak niyare rakhiye, aangan kuti chhabaye"

You should keep your critic near you, otherwise sycophants will spoil you. If you have a critic, he will keep you spotless without any cost. The hon. friends who... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : It seems that mike is working there... (Interruptions)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI (Banaskantha) : You are telling that this mike is working and that mike is not working. Kindly listen to him perfectly. Why are you standing up and speaking like this?

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : He is complaining... (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to extend my special thanks to Sarvashri George Fernandes of the Samata Party, Sirdardarji of the Shiv Sena, Barnalaji of the Akali Dal and Jai Prakash ji of the Haryana Vikas Party who have supported my Motion. Those who have criticised will get reply to their criticism. However, I would especially like to mention Shri Murasoli Maran.

[English]

I have a special word of gratitude for my dear friend Shri Murasoli Maran... (*Interruptions*). Maran, I stand corrected. Despite our differences on certain issues, he was generous enough to set the record straight on the issue of horse trading by stating categorically that we did not use suit-cases to convert our minority into majority. He has in fact demolished the baseless and politically motivated allegation levelled by some members. I am also glad that Thiru Maran has taken note of our resolve to restore the balance of resources in favour of States.

We have always held the opinion that the Centre cannot be strong if the States are weak. Thiru Maran is disturbed over our advocacy of one nation, one people, one culture. I am happy that he shares our perception of one nation. But I must say that he has got it all wrong on our interpretation of one people and one culture. I categorically state here that the BJP does not stand for uniformity. We recognise the celebrated India's multi-religious, multi-lingual and multi-ethnic character. This view is best reflected in a poem by none but one of India's greatest Poets Subramaniam Bharati. That poem is entitled; "E Thaa!" i.e., "My Mother". I would like to read it in Tamil. It says :

"Muppadhu kodi magamudaiyal
Vyyir moimburam ondruiyal
Lval cheppoumzhi pad inettudaiyal
Enil Sindhanai ondrudaiyal"

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : Thank you, Sir, for reading out the poem in Tamil

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : This is not for the first time. I had also read something in Tamil in my Address in the United Nations.

[Translation]

Its Hindi translation is like this:
"Tees koti mukhmandal wali hai meri maan,
Ek hai uski kaya aur atma
Bhashayen wah atharah bolti hai,
Kintu ek hai uska chintan".

Mr. Speaker, Sir an allegation has been levelled against me that I have a lust for power and whatever I did during the last 10 days was nothing but lust for power. This allegation has hurt me deep in my heart. Just now, I said that I have been in Parliament for 40 Years. The hon. Members have seen my behaviour and my conduct. I had been in the Government with my friends in the Janata Dal. I have never done anything wrong in pursuit of power. Shri Sharad Pawar is sitting here. He was not present in the House when Shri Jaswant Singh was speaking. He said in his speech that Shri Pawar had caused split in his party to form Government with our support. Whether he formed the Government for the sake of power or for the good of

Maharashtra is a different thing. But the fact remains that he caused a split in his party and cooperated with us. But I did nothing of this sort. During the course of this debate a remark has been made repeatedly that personally Vajpayee is a good leader but his party is not good.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : That is correct.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Then what do you intend to do for a good Vajpayee?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I won't name anybody. I did not want to name even Sharad ji. If I am offered power with a new alliance at the cost of a split in my party, I would be the last person even to remotely entertain such an idea.

"Na bhito maranadasmi kewalam dusthito yash" Lord Rama has said that 'I do not fear death, if at all I fear, I fear bad name, I fear public odium'. My political career spanning 40 years has been as pen book. But when the electorate voted us as the single largest party, should we have rejected their mandate? When the hon. President invited me to form the Government and told me that the oath of the council of Minister would take place the next day and the majority should be proved by the 31st, should I have run away from shouldering the responsibility? When I initiated the discussion, I had clarified this point also. Isn't it a fact that we have emerged as the single largest party? Now I shall come to the other arguments that are being given in this regard. On being invited to form the Government, should I have asked the Hon. President to give me some time so that I may have consultations in the party?

When the President told me that the oath ceremony will take place the next day and I was given time upto 31st May 96 to prove majority, I offered to make best use of the time being given to me by talking to other parties in a bid to garner their support and try to create an atmosphere conducive to moving ahead on the basis of a common programme. What is objectionable in it? How does it indicate our greed of power? Moreover the decision to form the Government was not just mine, rather it was that of the party.

Mr. Speaker, once the date i.e. 31st of May was fixed for a trial of strength and it could take place only on the floor of the House, We never subscribed to the view that this trial of strength should take place either in Rashtrapati Bhawan or Raj Bhawan - it therefore became necessary to summon the House and once the House is summoned President's Address is a Constitutional obligation. We could have listed some other business too for the sitting, at least we could have moved a Motion of Thanks on the President's Address but neither people on the Opposition benches permitted nor I too insisted on it lest it should create any doubts. We looked for the earliest opportunity for the trial of strength. Hence the Motion of Confidence was brought on 27th May and today is 28 May and the matter will be decided. We could have insisted that since we have

been given time upto 31st May and we will remain in power.... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, one should not be hit below the belt or be put under cloud. I never played this game not will ever play such a game in future. Democracy in a system Now they are making a count of percentage of votes we got. Under the Westminster model of parliamentary system, that our country has adopted, number of votes or the percentage thereof which a party gets is not taken into account, what counts is the number of seats that a party wins. This system cannot serve the twin objective i.e. percentage of votes as well as number of seats. Our country has not adopted the List System of the proportional Representation system. I, for one, have always been pointing out the defects of the Westminster system in which at times it is quite possible that a party getting lesser number of votes on an aggregate may corner disproportionately larger number of seats or the Vice-versa is also possible. In Kerala a coalition Government has come to power with just one percent margin of votes, dislodging the party in power. The difference in votes was of just one per cent but this difference which we are having presently has to be recognised. And now the total no. of votes you are having are being counted but I can make a count of your own percentage of votes which will be only to your disadvantage. They now say that they are uniting. Are they uniting for the explicit purpose of providing a stable and responsible Government in the country? I do not want to repeat, they have not chalked out a programme so far and nor they have approached the electorate with a common programme. The mandate received and the vote percentage obtained about which they are now talking, is for different States and for divergent reasons. In Tamil Nadu it was the Congress that was fighting against DMK and not our party. The same situation obtained in Andhra Pradesh where we were nowhere in the picture. How can they say the mandate is against us when it was the Congress that they were fighting against and not us. What sort of a mandate is this? Say explicitly what you are murmuring. Say openly that you will not let us come to power at any cost. It is proper to speak in such a vein. The spirit behind this speech is even more deprecable. A bogey is being created in this House that India is moving toward a Hitler type of dictatorship and fascism is raising its head in the country. This sort of fear is being created. The persons who are debutants in this House and are quite unaware of even the dignity of the House, I am in Parliament for forty years now. We have been working as a party here on democratic lines and have been contesting elections.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We too have been in the Assembly for twenty years.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please have patience to listen.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, they will preach us about dignity.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : The mandate is against the Congress. The strength of the Congress in the House stands reduced to just half of its previous strength here. The people have given their verdict differently in different States, disregarding which all other parties are now uniting and enlisting Congress support and the latter willing to extend its unqualified support to them. I do not want to reiterate what my friend Mr. George Fernandes said yesterday. The stand taken by the other parties seems to be that irrespective of whatever invectives they might have hurled at each other but now they should unite and let the BJP not form the Government. If this is your collective decision, then I would not say anything. Nonetheless, such a decision would be negative, reactionary aimed at the sole purpose of stalling us from coming to power and hardly conducive to the health of democracy.

I want to caution them today. On our part, we are ready to sit in the opposition. Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I joined politics I never dreamt of becoming an M.P. I was a journalist. I am not keen on the type of politics being practised today.

16.00 hrs.

I do wish to renounce politics. But politics itself refuses to part company with me.

Then I became the leader of the opposition, today I am the Prime Minister and after some time I shall cease to be so. I was not overjoyed when I became the Prime Minister and nor I shall have any qualms when I demit the office. However, I would like to raise some issues.

Today a number of fresh allegations are being levelled against us that we have not included certain important issues in the President's Address. The President's Address makes no mention of Ram Temple, Article 370 and Uniform Civil Code and so much so that 'Swadeshi' slogan has also been jettisoned. All this is being said in a tone as if they are very much aggrieved on account of our putting aside these issues whereas these are the people who have all along been criticising us for these issues. They have been holding us guilty because we intended to construct Ram Temple and wanted abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and ask us how we can keep the unity of the country intact. Even though it has been written in the constitution and the Supreme Court has also vindicated this viewpoint that there should be a Uniform Civil Code but we cannot say the same? If one says so then one would be branded as subverter of the unity of the country. I we say that these issues are not the part of our present programme (Interruptions) and because we do not have the majority, (Interruptions).

We are fighting for majority. If the people's mandate is not in your favour they have not fully accepted us.

either and with the mandate we have received now, we are not in a position to implement all the Programmes. We wanted majority but we could not get. We have emerged as a single largest party and our endeavour is to evolve a workable system through consensus and that is why we did not touch upon the disputed issues. What objection do you have over it?

Now, United Front is being formed...*(Interruptions)* it is good if it has been formed but its programme is yet to be chalked out...*(Interruptions)* if that has been done, then have they assimilated the philosophy and the programmes of the Marxist party in it, in totality. If they have done so, then why the Marxist Party has been keeping a distance from the Government? When a United Front is formed, a number of parties come together...*(Interruptions)*

When different political parties come together every party has to give up some of its programmes. In 1977 also we were supporting the demand of abrogation of Article 370 of the constitution. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, who is present here, was with us at that time. In 1977 we were in favour of making Atom bomb also but when we realised that democracy was in danger and there was a need to save it, we kept aside many of our party programmes. Due to the imposition of Emergency, the entire country was turned into a jail. We all decided to work together to stop the authoritarianism. At that time no one asked us as to why were we not pressing for the demand of abrogation of Article 370. In a way it was right. Now, you are forming a United Front so each one of you will have to forgo some of your party programme. The Hon. President has given us time upto 31st because he knew that we were not in majority. But the Hon. President called us to form the Government because we were the single largest party in the House. He gave us time upto 31st May so that we may talk to other political parties and make efforts to form a stable Government. Such things are happening in other countries also. It was being done here.

SHRI BASUSEB ACHARIA : Then why did it not happen?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Because you did not allow it to happen.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Why do you not consider the fact that you are totally isolated in the country?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : We are not isolated

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Yes, you are.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : You are saying that no one is with us but if we say that the Akali Dal, which won in the recent elections, is with us...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is because he is not pro-BJP, but he is anti-Congress. That is why, he is with you... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Then, why can you not be with us?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Then, are you pro-Congress?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You may ask your Members to behave. You are here for forty years and I am here for 25 years. I am also entitled for respect...*(Interruptions)* What the hon. Prime Minister is saying all the time is, he thinks, it is our solemn obligation to keep him in power. That is what we have been trying to find out from yesterday. If the majority of the hon. Members are not supporting you, is it the fault of the other Members who are not supporting you? I have got my own perceptions, I have got my own policies and programmes. He is all the time accusing, as if, we are entering into some combination. Does that justify him to remain in power, without having a majority? Is this what you are trying to say?

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I have been listening to your criticism since yesterday and now you are not prepared to listen to a little bit of criticism...*(Interruptions)* Is it my fault if the voters have not given a clear majority to any party? We have been given the chance as the single largest party because people wanted for a change. Is it also our fault ?

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Without having a majority?

MR. SPEAKER : Achariaji, please do not interrupt him.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not talking about West Bengal. I have mentioned about it yesterday. It is a different matter that their number of seats and percentage of votes have decreased this time.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : But it is the only Government which has come back to power with two-third majority. Please do not forget that. It has come back to power for the fifth time. It is a record.

MR. SPEAKER : It is okay, Mr. Somnath. Please let the Prime Minister speak.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fail to understand that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

KUMARI MAMTA BNERJEE (Calcutta South) : I do not want to interrupt him, because the Prime Minister is speaking. But, I have some reservations about what Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Sir, two parties fought the elections against each other and now when they joined hand with each other they are saying that the mandate was against BJP and 82 per cent voters voted in their favour. It is a peculiar logic which is being given here.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : There is a logic behind it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : You all have united. It is a good thing.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Everything is before you.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : It is not before us
...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : May I ask Shri Vajpayee one question?...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : They do not listen to you, Shri Biju. Why are you trying to help them? They do not listen to you.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : What do you want? You wanted time till the 31st. But what is it that you propose?
...(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Have some patience. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

We held a large discussion on it. Earlier, you were not in favour of any discussion on this motion. But when a discussion was initiated, the hon. Members took keen interest in it and we have had a good discussion in the House. Now the time has come to take a decision on it. Even then you are feeling so perturbed. You are so anxious to come to power so soon.

I remember the day when you split the Janta Party and took Choudhary Charan Singh to South Block and stood in front of his chair... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Let us set the record Straight... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

I have burnt three letters in front of Choudhary Charan Singh. It was done by none else than Biju Patnaik. I have not engineered any split in Janta Party... (Interruptions)

[English]

How can you say all these?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Biju Patnaik, please sit down. Let the Prime Minister continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the time which was given to me to mobilise majority support has been properly utilised by me. I have had talks with different political parties. Some parties have come to our support and some other parties expressed their difficulties. Some parties are of the opinion that they will lose some of their votes if they support us. I can understand if any political party is worried about its vote bank but how long and to what extent this game of vote bank will continue? Will they ignore the national interest for the sake of vote bank? When we talk about minority and say that they should get full protection, equal opportunities, equal rights, people level charges against us that we do not practise what we say Such matters can be discussed in the House. Our party Government in the States is functioning accordingly and if you give us a chance in the Centre we can show you as to how all these things are implemented. I fail to understand that every political party is talking about the biggest minority community but no one is bothered about the Sikhs who are just two percent of the population. Just now you have listened to the agony of Shri Barnala. Nobody is bothered about them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I remember those days when Sikhs were being massacred in Delhi riots. One of our BJP workers came to me in the cover of darkness. I could not recognise him because he had cut his hair short and had shaved off his beard. I asked him as to what he had done with his hair and beard and why he had come surreptitiously in the cover of darkness? He told me that he could not come to me in the day light. He could not come out of his house with his long hairs. That was why he had sacrificed his hair. He had come to narrate his tale of woe to me. At that time we advocated the cause of Sikhs. That was why we lost elections at that time and the Congress Party captured the power by exploiting anti-Sikh sentiments of the people. We did not do that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : You are here by flaring up anti-Muslim feelings of the people... (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : This is wrong ... (Interruptions) But you do not condemn the atrocities committed on Sikhs... (Interruptions)

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : We do condemn...

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Please look at the records... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We have raised this issue a number of times... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (SHAHABAD) : We have condemned the atrocities committed on Sikhs a number of times.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : All the culprits have not been arrested... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Who was responsible for putting Sikhs behind the bars under TADA... *(Interruptions)* I got them released from the Jail...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : The BJP men looted the Sikhs in Lucknow in the guise of Congressmen... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : I myself witnessed dozens of such persons belonging to the BJP and Congress Party who were together in looting the sikhs...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : It will be better for my friend Shri Mulayam Singhji not to utter anything in this regard. During his tenure as Chief Minister of UP the women who were coming to Delhi for a rally in support of their demand for Utranchal were raped and this fact has been substantiated even by the court. And after that Shri Mulayam Singh ji has no face to say anything... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : It is a matter of shame...*(Interruptions)* Some girls were disrobed in Kanpur. All these persons are sitting here...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Mr. Prime Minister, why do not you talk about the incident occured in Surat where BJP men disrobed the Muslim women?... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : It is Congress rule *(Interruptions)* Those women were disrobed in Congress regime...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, all these friends have been speaking for the last two days...*(Interruptions)* Now I have got a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)* They want to shut my mouth but this will not happen. If they try to do so on the strength of numbers we will be forced to take this war of ideologies to the streets... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We are ready to face it irrespective of the areas or the fields you like to take it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to stress on the point which I mentioned in the beginning. There should not be polarization in the

country, neither on the communal line nor on the caste line. The politics should also not be divided into two camps which sans dialogue and discussion. Today, country is in crisis. Whenever needed, we helped the Government to tide over the situation. Being the Leader of the Opposition, I was deputed by the then Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao to represent India in Geneva. Members of the Pakistani delegation were taken aback on my inclusion in the Indian delegation. In that country the leader of Opposition is only interested in pulling down the Government. This has not been our tradition and moreover it is quite contrary to our nature. I wish this tradition to continue. The Governments will come and go but the nation will always remain there. The democracy of this country will live forever. Has it not become a difficult task in the present atmosphere? This discussion will conclude today but the chapter which is going to start from tomorrow requires some deliberation. The bitterness should not be allowed to grow. I do not know the basis on which the United Front selected Shri Deve Gowda as its leader because he was not the first choice of the United Front. He was their fourth choice. Now he is going to become their first choice for the Prime Ministership... *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I regret that during the discussion the names of such organisations were mentioned here which are independent and are engaged in the task of nation and character building. I am referring to RSS. One can have differences with the ideologies of RSS but the kind of allegation levelled against RSS were not warranted. Even the Members of Congress and other parties respect and admire the constructive work being done by the RSS and they also lend their cooperation for the same. If they go and work among the poor and work for spread of education in tribal areas they should be felicitated for their endeavour. All sort of cooperation should be extended to them... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Who was Nathu Ram Godse?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Shri Deve Gowda whom you are going to elect you leader of United Front is well acquainted with the merits of RSS and moreover he himself has praised RSS for its activities...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : If it is so then Vajpayee ji, you should support him...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please sit down Mr. Patnaik?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please Address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I would like to submit to the members of my party... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is enough.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Why are you getting provoked by them. Let them speak what they want. The final hour has arrived. Do not get provoked.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir. Sir, My friends should know that I have also come here after getting elected. They should also know that being the leader of the largest party I have been appointed as Prime Minister by the President of India. It is at the directive of the President that I have come to seek the vote of confidence of the House.

Now, if discussion takes place and a senior leader like Biju Patnaik, interrupt me...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Patnaik, you do not have to react to everything that is said. You are one of the seniormost leaders in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, I was saying that those who are patriots, rational in this country and those who wish welfare of the country from the core of their heart and have come in contact with RSS, know that this organisation is dedicated to the country for its well being and just now...(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : And who was Nathu Ram Godse? What did he do in the interest of the country?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I will cite a recent instance. I am not mentioning that after the Chinese aggression, the voluntary organisations which were invited to participate in the Republic Day parade for showing solidarity with Pandit Nehru, RSS was one among them. Communists were not there. Where were they at that time...(Interruptions). Even during the time of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, who was also a popular Prime Minister of the country, when we had a war with Pakistan, educated people were needed to control the traffic in Delhi and it was again RSS volunteers who offered their services to control the traffic...(Interruptions). Recently a function was organised in Bangalore to commemorate the struggle against the emergency, which was called the second struggle for freedom. Shri Deve Gowda was also present there. I have with me the excerpts of his speech, which he made on the occasion, I am quoting it.

[English]

RSS is a spotless organisation. In my first years...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : He is not here. Shri Deve Gowda is not here to contradict it...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I am on a point of order. In the absence of any person in the House...

MR. SPEAKER : Why do not you take out the Rule Book and read from it?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I am raising a point of order under rule 376...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : You may change your leader tonight. (Interruptions) You cannot listen to even the praise of your leaders...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Justice Lodha. I have given time to him. I will come to you.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I just want to draw your attention that any Member in the House has every right to quote any document provided...(Interruptions). Just a moment, let me finish. But without any document, without authentication and without your prior permission and too if a person is absent, nothing should be made public about him because he has no right to reply in this House, Sir...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Under what rule?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : He is quoting one document.

MR. SPEAKER : Under what rule you are raising your point of order?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Under rule 115. The Member is misquoting and unnecessarily making allegation against Mr. Deve Gowda and it is of no relevance. It is absolutely false and fabricated. He is trying to malign Mr. Deve Gowda in a manner that he is trying to create confusion among the United Front. That is his intention and the Prime Minister should not...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : It has appeared in a Southern newspaper in Bangalore which authenticates the statement of Mr. Deve Gowda when he told about RSS. "Nishkalankam Choritranam" I can give Kannada Prabha and the Indian Express and it is authenticated...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you one by one...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Ahamed, I will come to you. Have you got your ears?

SHRI E. AHAMED : Yes, I am listening.

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down. I had given him the permission to speak first.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I draw your attention to rule 353. No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person unless the member has given adequate advance notice to the Speaker and also to the Minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make...*(Interruptions)* not only Ministers but Members also ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : That is, if you want to allege anything against the Minister...*(Interruptions)*. He is reading irrelevant rules...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

They do not know the rule and are reading the rule book.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : You read it.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I need not read it, I learnt it by heart... I have read it, I have already read it well before you read. I know it by heart. I can tell you each and every word...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, Rule 352 categorically says :

"A Member while speaking shall not—

- (i) refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending.
- (ii) [make personal reference by way of making an allegation imputing a motive to or questioning the bone fides of any other Member of the House unless it be imperatively necessary for the purpose of the debate being itself a matter in issue or relevant thereto;]...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, under Rule 353 it is very clear, it says:

"No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a Member against any person unless the Member has given a notice..."

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Sir, it is neither an allegation nor it is defamatory to the person for whom it has been attributed... *(Interruptions)*. But what they have said about Guru Golwalkarji should be expunged from the record. Golwalkar who is no more in this world whatever has been said about him by a senior member like Shri Indrajit Gupta, who made and subscribed our oath should certainly not form part of the record. But what has been

said about Shri Deve Gowda who is going to be their leader tomorrow, there is nothing wrong in it, it is in accordance with the rules...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, I would like to refer to Kaul and Shaktidhar. On page 817, it is stated that :

"As a rule, no allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature can be made by a Member against any person unless the Member has given previous intimation to the Speaker and taken his permission..."

Sir, on page 818 Kaul and Shaktidhar has stated about Rule Committee's observation. It is stated that :

"While proposing this rule, the Rule Committee observed :

It was against the rules of parliamentary debate and decorum to make defamatory statements or allegations of incriminatory nature..."*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Have you heard anything? To whom Shri Deve Gowda has referred as "spotless character"...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : RSS

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Did he say that BJP was of spotless character?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : No, no, they are talking about RSS.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : You are not. He is not. He is not...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : One at a time please.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Sir, I will draw the attention of the House to Rule 349 (ii), which says :

"Whilst the House is sitting, a Member— shall not interrupt any Member while speaking by disorderly expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner;"

The Leader of the House is speaking. Our Prime Minister is quoting from the speeches of the future Prime Minister. Why should they object to that? The rule says that no Member will interrupt the Prime Minister while he is speaking. Sir, I urge you to kindly enforce this rule and ask them not to interrupt and particularly not to prevent the Leader of the House to make his point of view. He is only quoting his statement...