

Haridwar, Nasik and Ujjain in the country. This time 'Singhstha Kumbh Parva' is scheduled to be held in Ujjain in 1992. Historical, cultural, literary and religious importance of Ujjain is well known. Special arrangements are required to be made to provide facilities to millions of pilgrims likely to visit Ujjain on the occasion of 'Singhstha Kumbh Parva' from various parts of the country and also from abroad.

It will be necessary to make arrangements and provide various facilities such as augmentation of road, rail and air traffic facilities providing dependable telecommunication system, setting up of a T. V. studio, making adequate supply of drinking water by cleaning the Chhipra river and making its water pollution-free and issuing a commemorative postal stamp on the occasion of 'Singhstha Kumbh Parva'.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to provide financial assistance to the State Government and to make special arrangements to meet the requirements of this important festival which is a symbol of our social and cultural unity.

[English]

12.30 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*CONTD.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Hari Kishore Singh and seconded by Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari on the 14th March, 1990:-

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

'That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 12th March 1990 ' "

Shri Harish Rawat to continue his speech.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Harish Rawat, you have already taken 17 minutes while speaking yesterday.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Learned Speaker, Sir, I was submitting that if the Government was sincere to its commitment of making the right to work a fundamental right, it should provide unemployment allowance to the unemployed and should also take steps to lift the ban on recruitment in Government services. The Government has taken a positive step in this direction and has expressed their true sympathy with the youth power by increasing the age limit for the youth for appearing in the Civil Services examination from 26 years to 28 years. It is a commendable step. It is worth nothing how and in what form the Government has touched upon the issue of waiving the loans in the President's Address. It speaks of the contradiction in the deeds and words of the Government. Sir, at the time of Lok Sabha elections and also before the Assembly elections, Government have been assuring about two things. The first was that loans upto Rs. 10,000 would be waived. Later on the Finance Minister made it clear that it will not be a loan waiver, it will be a deliverance from the indebtedness. The same thing was also reiterated by the Prime Minister but now he has said that the Government intends to formulate a scheme to give relief in loans upto Rs. 10,000 to the farmers, landless labourers, artisans and agricultural labourers and a comprehensive scheme in this regard is going to be announced in Parliament. On the one hand they are talking of waiving loans or deliverance from indebtedness, and on the other hand they are speaking of formulation of a scheme in this regard. This itself shows that the Government wants to avoid the issue. By putting it off for some days or years, they want to formulate a policy which is not at all clear. On one hand, there are persons who have taken loans and they are expecting that

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their loans would be waived and on the other hand banks are not granting any further loans to them with the result that their entire production process has come to standstill. But the Government is lingering on the matter. This speaks of their sympathy towards the farmers. They want to please the farmers by shedding crocodile tears and by making false promises to them. During elections, they made promises to each and every section of the people. The Ex-servicemen too were given one such promise. The Government promised of providing 'one rank one pension' and many hon. Member sitting on this side in the House including myself also made a reference to it. While congratulating the head of the present Government, we had written to him that our government was hesitant in making such a promise, but he did make a promise in this regard. But what we find today is that Government is examining the modalities of implementing the said promise. 'One rank one pension' is a very simple matter which can be implemented by issuing just one official order. A high level committee constituted during the tenure of the then Minister of State for Defence had considered the matter in detail and the Ministry had completed all the evaluation work in this regard. The Government is aware of this fact, but just to avoid the matter and to gain time, they say that they are considering ways and means for fulfilling this commitment. The person who prepared the draft of the President's Address is indeed, very clever. They have tried to present the issues through jugglery of words like a fisherman who entices the fish into the net. For this, the Government deserves congratulations. They have constituted a committee to go into the question of one rank one pension. The Committee comprised of some Secretaries and officers of the Government. On the one hand, there is commitment of the hon. Prime Minister which he made to the people—the commitment which found place in the President's first Address after formation of this Government and reiterated in the President's 2nd Address and on the other hand, another committee of Secretaries is

formed in the name of deciding modalities. I know this Government has specialization in forming committees and commissions. I thought of all these Committees and Commissions, I would be able to select some issues for which I could congratulate hon. Shri Vishwanath. But I am distressed to say that I could not find even a single issue in which he has tried to come out of these Commissions or Committees. The appointment of Commissions or Committees is nothing but jugglery of words. Only the time will tell for how long can they satisfy the people of the country through these tactics. One thing of which I must make a mention is the commitment of the Government to control the prices. Shri Madhu Dandavate is a socialist and when he used to sit on this side, he worked as an effective instrument of control on our Government and young people like me looked towards him for inspiration. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we used to look towards him in the same way as we look to you today for the setting up of democratic values. In his capacity as the Finance Minister he had said that prices would be brought under control and that there would be a fall in the prices definitely within 15 days. But today, let Shri Madhu Dandavate go to the market, if not alone, let him take Shrimati Dandavate also with him or for that matter, he can also take his friends in the BJP with him and see for himself, what is happening. Sir, no decrease has taken place in the price of even a single item. Sugar, which was selling at Rs.8.75 per kg. during our tenure is not available today, even for Rs.10.00 the prices of edible oils in the market. (*interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER :Order, Order.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: The prices of soap have increased.

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): I am sorry to say that those who call themselves as representative of the people in the House are giving speeches which are detrimental to the feelings of the people and such

speeches are being made without being aware of ground realities.

(Interruptions)

I am talking about the prices. During your regime sugar was being sold @ Rs. 14 per Kg. and today it is available between Rs. 8 to Rs. 9 throughout the country.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I am thankful to you for taking the trouble of reacting to the points raised by me. However, had the hon. Minister worked for controlling the prices, to which he, his party and the parties supporting their Government were committed, I would have felt that he was doing justice to his long association with the Congress, but since he has not done so, it has distressed me.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: During election time, under your Government, sugar was selling in the villages and cities at Rs. 14 to 16 per kg. and today it is available throughout the country at Rs. 8 to 9 per kg *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Please help the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies. Today, the issue under discussion is not the Congress Government. The subject of today's debate is the reaction of the country to the President's Address. What the hon. Members of the House have to say in this regard? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Is the failure to provide jobs to the youth an achievement or non-achievement?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: If you want to have a discussion on the achievements of our Government then please bring a motion. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move a motion orally on the economic achievements of our Government and I request you to give your approval for a discussion on that subject. Sir, I am distressed that.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You may conclude the discussion on the President's Address.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I beg your pardon, because while referring to some issues, I used some harsh words. I also feel so because in the composition of the present Government, I used to see a reflection of the congress culture and that is why today I see the Congress culture emerging victorious.

The reason why I am saying this is that looking at the performance of the head of the present Government, It has been proved beyond doubt that the only party capable of running this country is the Congress (I) even though one might have left the congress party ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Order, Order.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: So far as this Government and the head of this Government is concerned, this is regrettable matter for those who had practised a non-congress political ideology all these years. I can understand the sad plight of hon. Shri George Fernandes and hon. Shri Madan Lal Khurana both of whom had always practised a non-congress political ideology. I can also understand the sorry plight of many hon. Members sitting on this side ... *(Interruptions)*.... even I am also feeling a bit sad today. To some extent I even sympathise with hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh because his Congress ideology and Congress culture had got trampled under the tensions and contradictions between the B.J.P.'s communalism, the so-called leftism of the C.P.I (M), hon. Shri Ajit Singh's 'Kisanvad', hon. Shri George Fernandes's dynamism and the dictates of hon. Tauji. This has caused me a lot of grief. I congratulate the hon. Member from Kanpur Shrimati Subhashini Ali for one of the points she mentioned in her speech. This point related to the bringing about of a reformist trend by hon. Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh along the lines of 'Perestroika' and 'Glasnost' introduced by President Gorbachev and which has taken Eastern Europe by storm. In our country too we see a reformist trend which was the brainchild of Shri Rajeswar Rao and Shri E.M.S. Namboodiripad. We can see an example of this reformist trend in this House

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where leftist forces and reactionary elements of the B.J.P. are supporting this rightwing Government. Whenever we criticize the Government on any issue, these supportive forces feel comparatively more upset. Hon. Vishwanath Pratap Singh deserves to be congratulated for this reformist trend.

Sir, I have had the opportunity to work with the head of this Government for a number of years and I have great regard for him. Our hon. Tauji is often equated with Dhritrashtra but to me it is hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh who fits that mould perfectly. Torn as he is between Congress culture and traditions on one side and his selfish motives on the other, he is suffering from mental tension. And it is in this state of tension that he has to take decisions and make compromises. This is really a sad state of affairs that the hon. Prime Minister of this country, the 'Dhritrashtra' of Kalyug should have to abandon secularism, socialism, Gandhism, Nehruism and national pride to compromise with the 'isms' propagated by hon. Tauji, hon. Shri Ajit Singh, hon. Shri George Fernandes and the B.J.P. I had thought that at least hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh would not compromise with democracy. But is the latter-day 'Dhritrashtra' any different from the 'Dhritrashtra' of yore who had to shoulder the burden of Duryodhana's corpse. The murder of democracy in Meham and subsequent moves of the Government to cover up the entire episode makes the picture amply clear. It shows the hon. Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh is out to strangle the voice of democracy in this country. I appeal to you, Sir, to contain this situation which is threatening to develop into a crisis of frightening proportions.

Sir, I sympathise with him because I can understand his pain and agony. Therefore I shall not dwell on this issue any longer. I shall conclude my speech by saying that this is a Government that lacks direction, a Government that is misleading the nation and a Government that has compromised national pride. I regret to note that the hon.

President's Address does not give any direction. This is the reason why for the first time a historical situation has arisen wherein so many hon. Members of the Opposition have moved amendments in respect of the Presidential Address. Even the others who have not moved any amendments would be having several doubts about the hon. President's Address.

Sir, I cannot express my support for the hon. President's Address even though I would have liked to do so. I request you to please accept the amendments moved in the hon. President's Address by our party.

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the hon. President's Address.

Sir, the people of this country have given a mandate against 40 years of Maladministration by the Congress(I) Government. In a historic verdict the public has freed itself from 40 years of dynastic rule. Respecting the Public's verdict and despite differences on a wide-range of policies, the B.J.P. extended its support to the Janata Dal Government so that this Government which is a better alternative than the previous one could run the country. We have decided that this Government should run for its full term of five years for which we are committed to provide our support. But, Sir, there are a few points that I would like to raise. The change which the public had bought is not limited merely to removing hon. Rajiv Gandhi and installing hon. V.P. Singh in his place or shuffling a few ministers here and there.

Sir, the people want a change in the entire social set-up. The erstwhile system that was dominated by a particular family had become obsolete. So this really is a move to bring in a Government that works and works honestly.

Sir, we appreciate the steps taken regarding the Lokpal Bill, Prasar Bhatti Bill, the Constitutional amendments to introduce the

right to work and formation of committees to study and recommend welfare measures for the farmers. This Government had started on the right note. But I want to emphasize that in between formation of these committees and their final outcome, the Government needs to take steps to assure the people that the defective set-up has received a hard blow.

Sir, I do not know of others but personally I feel that even 100 days after this Government came to power, people still believe that no work can be done without recommendations. The general feeling is that out-of-turn promotions, out-of-turn allotment of houses from the D.D.A. installation of telephone facility or allotment of any agency or dealership for Maruti cars or any other item is not possible without resorting to corruption. This is the general feeling among the people and the prevalence of such a feeling drives people in large numbers to M.Ps, seeking the recommendations. It has become an accepted fact among the masses in this country that in every sphere of life, things can be got done 'out-of-turn', merit being of no consequence.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that as the very first step to bring in a change in our social set up, all the Ministers should do away with their discretionary powers and they should declare that henceforth they will not use the discretionary powers. The Congress party had been running the Government, for the last forty less years, with such discretionary powers only, as a result of which large scale corruption is prevailing all over the country. I think that our first step should be to check corruption. Even today, it so happens that discretionary powers of the Ministers are used by their officers for out of turn allotments. Consequently people come to the Members of Parliament to ask them to write letters of recommendation for them to the Ministers. In fact, thousands of such letters are written to the Ministers for the out of turn allotment of Agencies, issue of licences etc. I think such a practice should be discontinued. However, if something has to be done on compassionate ground, rules

and regulations can be framed for the same to save the people from unnecessary harassment. But till now it does not appear so from the behaviour of any Minister or from, the decisions taken by the Government. It needs a strong political will and I hope the Government will soon have it.

Secondly I would like to say that most of the power brokers who were hitherto working with the congress party and were involved in big corruption scandals during the Congress regime, are still seen in our social meetings and official meetings. I feel ashamed when I hear them saying that a particular amount of money say twenty lakhs or so is required for the allotment of a petrol pump or gas agency or for an appointment. Infact we had made a promise to our people to give them a clean and honest Government. But is it the same system for which we had made those promises ? For how long these power brokers will continue to work and haunt us? Therefore, some way out should be found to do away with this system. For the disposal of such things in respect of which the Government thinks that crores of rupees may be pocketed by the middlemen in the form of their commission in the deal, it can arrange auction because with that change, I think the money which would have been otherwise paid to the middlemen will remain with the Government. I think it is necessary to take this matter seriously.

Thirdly, I would like to say that for the last forty years, these multi-nationals and big industrial houses have been dominating the Congress which has been working at their instance whereas we, the people in the BJP, Janata Dal, CPI and CPI(M) have been raising our voice against them because these multi-national companies have continued to tighten their hold over our country's economy. But what steps we have taken against them? I think that we should have taken some steps much earlier to liberate our economy from the clutches of these multinational companies. It should have been given top priority in respect of all such companies—be it the multinational companies of Italy, Germany, USA or any other

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country. But today the things have taken such a serious turn that multinational companies have been dominating the market of all the consumer items. It is said that Government is following the policies of Chaudhary Charan Singh. But as per the policy of Chaudhary Charan Singh, manufacturing of all those things that could be produced in the villages by the cottage industries, was to be banned for the small scale industries and big industries were not to be permitted to manufacture those items which would be manufactured by the small scale industries and multinational companies were also not be allowed to enter the field of production of those items which could be produced by the big Industries. Today multinationals have entered even the rural sector. They are producing right from the petty consumer items like tooth brush, paste etc. upto the medicines and all other items of production. During this period of last four months there has not been the slightest effort on the part of this Government to get rid of these multinationals. They should be asked to restrict their activities to technology or export items only and production of all the consumer items should be barred to them. If it is not done, the present number of unemployed i.e. ten crores will rise and touch the mark of twenty crores and under such circumstances our proposals of right to work and other such proposals of the Government will become meaningless. Therefore, Government should look into it because it does not find its place in the President's Address. I want that the Government should make its position clear in this regard. Besides, many other things have been mentioned here

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Malhotra, you can continue your speech after Lunch.

[English]

The House stands adjourned to meet at 2 p.m.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fourteen of the clock.

2.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes past fourteen of the clock.

[SHRI JASWANT SINGH *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will continue with the discussion. Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying about the Multinational companies and big business houses who had their hold on the Indian economy under the Congress regime. Some steps should have been by the Government in this regard much earlier but nothing concrete has been done in this regard so far.

Mr. Chairman: Sir, I would like to make one more point in the name of quality control and ISI Mark, these big companies have almost thrown the small scale industries and cottage industries out of trade, as a result of which lakhs of people are likely to become jobless. The aims and objectives of our employment schemes can be achieved not merely by giving Government jobs to the people but by generating employment opportunities in the small scale industries and cottage industries. In case, we continue with the existing policies and do not bring in a change in these policies immediately, the multinational companies and big industrial houses will continue to dominate the economy of our country.

Mr. Chairman, I regret to say one thing that the Hon. President has not said anything about the statehood for Delhi in his Address whereas it finds a mention in the election manifestoes of the Janata Dal, Bhartiya Janata Party, CPI, CPI(M) and congress party that statehood and state Assembly would be granted to Delhi. So I would like to say that such parties as do not believe in fulfilling the promises made by them in their manifestoes, lose their credibility in public like the congress itself which was voted out

of power as it had not fulfilled its promises. All other parties too who follow in their footsteps, will meet the same fate. The congress party had been promising statehood for Delhi for the last 42 years but had not fulfilled it. Now it is the Janata Dal that has also made such a promise in its manifesto. Earlier, when our present Prime Minister and the Industry Minister were in the opposition and were holding the post of Janata Dal President and General Secretary respectively, they had declared it in public that in case they came to power, Delhi would be granted statehood. Now that promise should be fulfilled. It appears that certain elements in the bureaucracy who used to misguide the Congress(I) earlier are preventing the present Government from paying any heed to the people of Delhi. With the result that even 42 years after independence, Delhi has not been granted statehood. The people of Delhi are considered to be incapable of running their own government. People who have little interest in Delhi's well-being are posted here and they use this posting to their own advantage for 5 to 7 years before going elsewhere. Nobody is responsible for Delhi as a result of which there is a deadlock in the city's development process. During the last 18 years not a single college or hospital has been opened in Delhi. In 1958, plans were made to construct a Metro Railway for Delhi, but nothing was done further. In Calcutta, the Metro Railway was planned only after 1970 and now the project is complete. I was sad to hear one of the Cabinet Ministers of the new Government saying over Doordarshan that a metro railway will not be constructed in Delhi. No Minister can disregard 40 years of efforts put in by us in this direction. There are abundant resources available in Delhi for construction of a metro railway without which Delhi cannot make progress. Such decisions can be taken only by the people who are not acquainted with Delhi's problems. Grant of statehood to Delhi cannot be deferred any longer. The public should not feel that the Government pays attention to a region only if violence occurs over there as it is happening in the case of Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. It so happens that the people of Delhi are

using peaceful methods to voice their demands. The Government should not take undue advantage of this situation and grant statehood to Delhi at the earliest so that the people of Delhi do not have to revolt to get what they want.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall raise two more points before concluding my speech. Firstly, I want to know what is being done for the rehabilitation of the nearly 1.25 lakh people who were uprooted from Kashmir and have migrated to other places? This question has been ignored altogether. Nearly, 1.25 lakh people have left Kashmir because they could not attend to their jobs there, they could not even go out of their houses. They could not bring their clothes and could not go to their banks to withdraw money and valuables due to which they are facing many problems today. Arrangements for their rehabilitation should be made immediately in Delhi and Jammu. The Government should provide them jobs, a place to live in and loan facilities.

I feel that any delay in this matter will create problems in Delhi or Jammu. If these refugees feel that they are being discriminated against then it could lead to an explosive situation. So there is need for some urgent action in this direction.

I want to emphasize that the pro-Pakistan elements in Kashmir should clearly understand that those who want to go to Pakistan can do so but they will not be permitted to take any part of Kashmir with them. Kashmir is a part and parcel of India and this should be unequivocally made clear to everybody.

Sir, so far as the communal situation in this country is concerned, communal forces are again gaining strength in this country. We are seeing a resurgence of the situation prevalent in 1939-40. If terrorism, communal forces, forces believing in two or three nation theory, and regional forces gain the upper hand, our country shall undoubtedly disintegrate.

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Sir, I would like to touch upon the Ram Janmabhoomi issue. The hon. President's Address states that efforts are being made to solve the problem in a cordial atmosphere. The 90 crore population of this country worship Lord Rama as their deity and there is no temple at Lord Rama's birth place. It would be natural, in fact necessary to build a temple at that place. There are lakhs of mosques in India and there is no bar on constructing more mosques. But there is only one birth-place of Lord Rama. They should not have any objection to a temple built at the site. But such issues are given a communal twist. When the Somnath temple was constructed, none of the communal elements in the country raised any objections. The Somnath temple was constructed after the country attained independence. Now after 450 years and the passing away of so many people if we cannot construct a temple at the Ram Janmabhoomi, then the devout population of this county may lose their patience. I would like to categorically state that a temple will be constructed at the Ram Janmabhoomi and no power on earth can stop us from doing so. What remains to be seen is whether this task will be carried out with peace and good will or bloodshed. Hopefully goodwill will gain the upper hand. One month has passed. Now the Hon. Prime Minister has three months at his disposal. He should again try his best to help in the construction of the temple of Lord. Rama with communal harmony.

Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we have had this second Address from the President in view of the Constitutional requirements within hundred days of the formation of this Government. Although the legacy has been we some and

the task is daunting, we appreciate the efforts so far made by the Prime Minister and his colleagues in solving some of the major problems concerning us.

Sir, since we last met in the Lok Sabha, a significant political development has taken place when the Rajiv Congress has been duly and appropriately routed in the last State Assembly elections and it has become now almost regional party of the South. We must congratulate the people of the different States for inflicting another resounding and well-deserved political mayhem on this party which is now down and out. Sir, the people of India have got rid of a corrupt, arrogant and anti-people Government in the last Lok Sabha election and the ennobling task of the present Government is to resurrect the administration and the people of this country from the shackles of perfidy and perversion. We know that the earlier Government's policy was to make hay while the sun shone and in this order of priority, common people occupy the last Chair. But the present Government has to direct its policies and has to spend its energies not only to restore moral values in the governance of the country but also to see that the real beneficiaries of the programmes and policies are the common and the deprived people of this country and that a rule for a family or a rule for a person, for an individual or his cohorts is ended for ever.

Sir, what we consider to be a significant development since the assumption of office by this Government is the introduction of a spirit of cooperation and understanding in place of an attitude of confrontation which we had seen and which was vitiating the very body politic of our country. In solving matters of national importance we appreciate the Prime Minister's efforts to arrive at a national consensus, specially when we are now in the midst of very serious problems, gravest problems, that we have witnessed, namely the problem of Kashmir, apart from the problem of Punjab and other problems like Ram-Janam-Bhoomi-Babri Masjid controversy. I think the efforts that the Prime Minister has made and is making to deal with this problem on the basis of a national consensus is most

commendable and I can only hope that the recognised opposition party will continue to give its cooperation although it stands decimated itself.

Sir, only the other day, we had the whole day discussion about Kashmir and it is fit and proper that the President also dealt with this issue first in his Address. Although the discussion was there, but let us also emphasise even during this debate the importance of solving this problem at a very early date and not only administratively but taking political measures and I wish well the new Minister who has been asked to coordinate the Kashmir Affairs and the Advisory Committee that has been appointed to assist him. In this context, we have to remember the clear attempt that has been made to internationalise the issue, the role of Pakistan in this matter, the recent statement of the Prime Minister of Pakistan who has pledged open support to the militants and secessionists in Kashmir and the Government has to take all possible steps with the support of all sections of the people in this country to solve this problem and it does not brook a moment's delay.

In Punjab although some important steps have been taken by the Government to normalise the situation there, an all Party meeting was held here as well as at Ludhiana, the Fifty-ninth Constitution Amendment Act which was an irritant has been repealed, now the trial of those who have been involved in Delhi riots has started and steps have been taken for that, prisoners have been released, but we must confess the situation is not normal, there are still killings going on of innocent people in Punjab and we must relentlessly pursue our efforts to bring about a solution in this, both administrative and political, as in the case of Kashmir, and I also commend the efforts made by the Governor of Punjab when he held an All-Party Meeting for quite a few hours, and let us hope that the situation will become normal and peace will be restored in that part of the country also.

So far as Ram. Janambhoomi-Babri

Masjid controversy is concerned, our party's position is very clear. We are not against construction of any temple or mosque, but this is a matter which should be resolved by mutual discussions, negotiations, and solutions should be arrived at peacefully and in this I believe the National Integration Council can play a very major role and we are happy that this National Integration Council which was kept in total hibernation by the last government and in spite of the previous Prime Minister's repeated commitments to convene a meeting, it was not done and the new government has reconstituted it and I am happy to know that the honourable President has said that the Meeting of the National Integration Council will soon be called. Sir, I hope that some concrete steps will be taken and that an agreed solution will be found out for which this controversy which has its political fall-out in different parts of our country has arisen. The sooner the compromise is found out and the problem is tackled, the better for the country.

Another aspect on which we ought to remind ourselves, and we should not forget, is the corruption that had almost engulfed the whole country during the previous regime—Bofors and HDW Submarine scandal. Now there are more additions. Apart from that there is the ONGC scandal. We now get reports of the new power station's scandal, Alsthom contract, and the A-320 Airbus transactions. These are matters which should be tackled and I am happy that steps have already been taken in that regard. Sir, we are not for with hunting. But there are serious matters like corruption which have been eating the vitals of our country, which were destroying the very economic stability of this country in a sense, as a result of which the multinationals had been permitted to come in and they were enjoying the best of all the worlds so far as their interests in our country are concerned. It is necessary the persons who have been responsible for that should be identified and all steps should be taken to punish the guilty and the offenders. Sir, we are happy that in the matter of Bofors action has been taken and the change from the previous government's attitude to the

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new government's attitude is very clear. The F.I.R. has been lodged, the accounts have been frozen and let us hope that soon the facade will be ripped open and the guilty persons will be discovered and their names should be known to the people

Sir, the other important thing we believe, on which we must advert, is the matter of electoral reforms. We are happy that a Committee has been appointed to look into the matter. It is an all party Committee in which the official Opposition is also taking part and let us hope that this committee on electoral reforms will be able to give their report soon. We are happy that the Government is committed to introduce a legislation in this regard in this very session. We cannot ignore the serious consequences of the dangerous attempt that has been made to introduce violence in the polls and to vitiate the election process. We have expressed our deepest concern and anguish also as to what had happened in Meham in the recent Assembly elections. We are happy that the ruling party, the Janata Dal has itself asked for a repoll, although the Election Commission had countermanded the election. But this shows how the malady has gone deep in our body polity. Unless we are able to remove this malady from our electoral system, the people's faith in the system will be destroyed and considerably shaken which can only mean the end of the democracy in this country. Therefore, this is a matter in which very serious and early action should be taken. I request all the political parties, apart from the Government, to advert to the seriousness of the problem and see that at least the electoral process is not subverted in the manner as it has been sought to be done in some cases. I am very happy and I must congratulate the Government for their action, namely to provide an interim relief to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy. Although repeatedly such requests have been made to the earlier Government, they have not only provided an interim relief, but on the other hand have brought about a so-called settlement in the Supreme Court which had

been contrary to the interests of the thousands of people who have been affected by this tragedy. Legitimately and quite appropriately, they had opposed this settlement that had been made through the Supreme Court. We are happy that the Government had already provided Rs. 360 crores to give interim relief to the inhabitants of the 36 wards and also it had promised to give its support to the groups of organisations which have filed petitions to nullify that settlement

Sir, I need not go into the details about the efforts of the Government to loosen the stranglehold and misuse of the mass media in this country. I hope the Prasar Bharati Bill will have a meaningful debate in the House and a most acceptable system would be developed out of this debate. We also appreciate the Government's decision to introduce and pass the Lok Pal Bill

Sir, another very important subject on which the Government has given its attention—and we demand that this must be made effective as soon as possible—is the constitution of an Inter-State Council which had been provided in the Constitution for years since its enactment, but had never been implemented although a recommendation was made by the Sarkaria Commission. But, no action had been taken by the earlier Government. I request the Government to see that this Inter-State Council is formed as soon as possible so that it can start its functioning at the earliest because this is the best way to avoid irritants between the Centre and the States in our quasi-federal structure. There are various areas of operation and areas of responsibility so far as the different Governments are concerned. The attempt of the previous regime to centralise power at the cost of the States had only resulted in distortion, imbalance and uneven growth of the different parts of this country. Therefore, we want that this aspect should be very seriously looked into.

Sir, one or two aspects I will touch and my other colleagues will speak on this. Although I found some reference has been made to the industrial situation in this coun-

try, no mention has been made of the sickness of industry which is still prevailing today in this country. About 2 lakhs of factories have become sick and most of them had been closed down during the previous regime and no action had been taken except passing a law which was hardly implemented and as a result not only the units had become sick or closed down, but thousands and thousands of people, workers who had job have now again become jobless and there is no future for them. I do demand that this Government must evolve a proper policy to revive the sick industry. I am sorry, no mention has been made about that in the President's Address. I can only hope that the Budget which will be presented on next Monday will contain some appropriate and adequate provisions for doing away sickness in the industry and for revival.

Unemployment is still the scourge of this country and youth of this country. We welcome it and we are happy that in the President's Address also, the fundamental right for work is still being recognised and there is a commitment to introduce this fundamental right, by an amendment of the Constitution. But it has to be a meaningful one. I know, it is not easy to do that. But there must be some exercise made, some well-refined and conceptualised basis must be found out, for the purpose of making it an effective fundamental right, not a paper right only, so that the unemployment problem can be solved on a war-footing and on a well-defined basis.

The economy of this country is still under gravest strain primarily due to the misdeeds of the previous Government. We appreciate that it cannot be changed overnight, with the adverse balance of payment situation, with the mounting foreign debt, with the inflationary trend that has been there in this country all along over the years. These have put serious strain on the economy of the country and as a result, people have to share the burden. I am very sorry, our good friend, Mr. George Fernandes has even thought of increasing the railway fare which will affect the common people of this country. I hope,

he will reconsider before the Railway Budget is finally passed. But it shows the gravest strain under which we are operating. But we have to evolve a method by which common and poor people in the country are spared. Nobody is objecting to the increase of fare at the highest slabs—first class or air-conditioned class. But the ordinary people have to be spared. In view of the present conditions, we know magical remedies cannot be available. But we have to find out what is the proper emphasis and where the emphasis is to be given. We have the people in the rural areas, the unemployed, the children who are having special problems in the country. They have to be looked into and the people must be made to feel that this is a government which is trying its best to come to the succour and help of the ordinary people of this country and not for the multi-nationals as they used to do in the earlier regime.

The public sector must continue to occupy the commanding heights of our economy. There is a reference to the public sector in the President's Address and I hope that the Government will take appropriate measures to see that the public sector is not threatened from different sources as there had been attempts previously to do so.

I do not wish to take much longer time of the House except that we welcome the commitment, reiteration of the Government to the principles of Non-alignment so far as our foreign policy is concerned and their concern to continue to improve the relations with China and our neighbours. We hope that this policy would be continued. Although now the relations between India and Pakistan are under severe strain because of the events that have been taking place, we hope that the people of Pakistan and the people of India will continue to have friendship so that the forces in that country can be isolated and our Government must make it absolutely clear that there can be no compromise so far as the national unity and national integrity is concerned and there will be no weakening on the part of our country in matters like that.

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

So far as other issues are concerned, we shall discuss them during the Budget but I thank the President for his speech and I hope that many of the issues which have been highlighted in the Address should be implemented as soon as possible and some of the area in which the policy has not been made clear in those areas the policy should be finalised and the real object will be to come to the help and rescue of the common people of this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed further, I have to make an announcement that hon. Shri George Fernandes will make a statement regarding the accident involving No.1920 UP Dehradun Bombay Central Express Train on 14th March, 1990. He will make this statement at 3.30 PM.

I have to make yet another announcement which is that with the conclusion of Shri Somnath Chatterjee's intervention, each of the major parties in the House have now completed one round and all their speaker have had a chance to speak. The hon. Prime Minister is to reply to this debate tomorrow at 2 PM. I have a List of speakers here which it is impossible to fulfil. I am also obliged to give a chance to the smaller groupings in the Parliament that have not had a chance at all to make their view point felt. In those groupings, there are ten speakers. The Congress party, for example, has given me a List of 25 speakers. With your permission and with your consent, the parties will necessarily have to cut down their List because the first round is now over, I feel obliged to give opportunity to the smaller groupings and the List and the order of speakers for the balance of the sitting today will be as follows.

Shri Bhajan Lal

Shri Santosh Bhartiya

Shri C. Srinivasan, ADMK

Shri Rajveer Singh

Shri Nani Bhattacharya, RSP

Shri Ram Krishan Yadav

Shri G.M. Banatwalla

Shri Nandu Thapa

Shri Inder Jit

Shri Vamanrao Mahadik

Shri P.C. Thomas

Shri Rameshwar Prasad

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have left time for Shrimati Subhashini Ali.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have certainly left time. But I am in difficulty. I appreciate you have left time for her. Her name is listed for intervention. They have not got their chance even in the first round and I am obliged to get them their first round.

Shri Inder Jit

Shri Vamanrao Mahadik

Shri Rameshwar Prasad

For these speakers who are unattached and of smaller grouping, I am afraid the time allotted will be just five minutes each. I hope I have the House with me.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Don't delete her name.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is what I have suggested. Her name is not deleted.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Ordinarily, we exceed our allotted time, but I kept some time specifically so that she can speak.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR (Quilon): Instead of taking them in one bunch, why don't you dispose the grouping?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will tell you why. I

understand other parties have also been there. Every one is placed in similar difficulty. If the smaller groupings are not taken up now they will not, if tomorrow you will have a chance, you have your round two.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you may extend the time of the House but everyone must get a chance to speak. What is the problem in this?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are due to sit till 7 O' Clock.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Let us proceed with the business.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Till what time would you like to continue?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: You can extend the time upto 8.00 p.m. for the time being.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I suggest you extend the time upto 8.00 p.m. But let the small groupings finish with their speeches today.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly go according to the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am going according to the list only.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Sa-lem): With your permission, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that normally even smaller groupings were treated as parties and were given an opportunity to speak. We can give them an opportunity. Let it be given by rotation. Why are you putting them *en bloc*?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. It is *en bloc* in the sense that each of the parties has had one intervention. It is their intervention which is coming now. I am obliged to look after them. You are saying that I am doing a wrong thing.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: No, Sir. We are not against it. Please give them opportunity by rotation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. This is how we will follow. We will sit till 8.0' Clock. Mr. Handoo, your name has not been given. If you wish to give your name, please send it. There is not use protesting. Please sit down.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): Sir, I have not protested. But my name has been given by the leader of my group.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. It has not reached. Please send it. There is no use protesting. I now call upon hon. Shri Bhajan Lal to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't interrupt hon. Shri Bhajan Lal. Mr. Bhajan Lal, please carry on.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the President's Address.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please excuse me, I am interrupting you for a minute, before you start your speech I would like to tell you one thing. You have spoken for one and a half hour out of the total time allotted to your party. Now the time available to your party is very short while the number of those who want to speak on this matter is large. How long would you take.....

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you should do justice while allotting time. Our's is the longest party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir, that is why

your party is getting more time than others.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: We are entitled to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So if you speak briefly then other speakers belonging to your party would also get an opportunity to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAMUNA (Rajamundry): Sir, my name.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The names submitted by your party enlists the name of Shri Bhajan Lal at the top. I am calling the noble Members as per the list given to me.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman Sir, discussion on President's Address has been going on for the last two days and we were really astonished when we found a striking difference between the Address delivered by the President and the Address sent to him by the Government. It is surprising because.....*(Interruptions)*

Kindly listen. You will also get the chance to reply than you can plead your case. The previous Government tackled the situations, undertook the development and enhanced the dignity and the prestige of the country in such a fine manner that one cannot find such example in the history..... *(Interruptions)*.....

Kindly listen to me for a minute, do not interrupt. I haven't stated anything wrong. I am narrating only the facts..... *(Interruptions)*.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is right. Let him speak.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when they interrupt the chain of thoughts is disturbed. Thus my submission is that you should listen to me and let me speak. If you behave in this manner then we will also not let anyone of you to speak. You should raise objection only, if I say anything wrong.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are well aware that there is large production of foodgrains in the country today, compare the food situation in the country when India got freedom and the situation prevailing at present. When India got independence, we could not manage to produce enough food grains to feed the population of about 32 crores while at present the population has increased to 80 crores. At that time only 5 crores tonnes of foodgrains were produced while today we produce 18 crore tonnes. How has all this been possible? This is all due to the effective policies adopted by the Congress. It would be improper to say that the Congress achieved nothing and that they are responsible for the present situation as if the Congress had harmed the country. Congress has made the history of this country and enhanced its prestige. It is well known the whole world *(Interruptions)*.....

Mr. Chairman, Sir, take the case of industrial policy or the policy of science and technology of the previous Government. Our Government had proposed to transfer the power into the hands of common people through Panchayati Raj Bill. The day when that Bill fell through in Rajya Sabha would be considered as a black day in the history. They were told the importance of the Bill. Today the Minister of Agriculture stated that perhaps the present Government will not implement Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. This scheme is meant for providing employment to common man. The purpose of the Panchayati Raj Bill was to transfer the power into the hands of common people so that they could realise that they have got powers which will enable them to launch development work in villages. They did not allow the Bill to be passed. Only the future will reveal what commendable work we had done.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, he referred to the completion of 100 days of the Government. When a Government assess their functioning in terms of days, it means that the Government is capable to function for a few days and not for a few years. You are well aware of the problem of Jammu and Kashmir. We agree that this is not a new problem, it is an

acute and very grave problem and has been there since the country got freedom. But when did it become grave? It was only when your Government came to power. Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed is not present in the House today. Everybody has sympathy for his daughter. His daughter, Khurana Sahib's daughter, my daughter, all are alike. All the Members have sympathy for his daughter. But whether it is justified to release the hard core terrorists who support Pakistan and hoist Pakistani flag, just for the sake of the life of his daughter. Whether those who are killed everyday, are not the dear daughter of their parents. Whether it was proper to release five terrorists for the life of one daughter? Since then their nefarious activities have increased. Flag of Pakistan was hoisted. You must have read in the newspapers and heard through Radio and T.V. what sort of atmosphere has been created in Jammu and Kashmir. If the Government yield to the demands of the terrorists, their confidence would naturally boost up. The previous Government never allowed to create such situation. They controlled the terrorists with full strength. It was only Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government which took this step. At the time when Rubaiya incident took place, had our Government been in power, we would have preferred to issue 12 hour's notice to the terrorists and given ultimatum that if within this period..... (*Interruptions*)..... Kindly listen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please be seated. Kindly do not interrupt. When you get your turn to speak, you would be free to plead your case.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I submit before the House that whenever the Government yielded to the demands of terrorists, they gained confidence. This is the only reason that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has deteriorated. If we were in power, we would have given a 12 hours' notice and warned that in case the girl is not returned within that period, all the five terrorists would be shot dead in front of the people. In that case the girl would have been released within 3 hours. Under these circum-

stances the Government is appreciating its 100 days' performance. What is the prevailing situation in Punjab? I would like to know from you how many people have been killed in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. All the hon. Members heard about the incident which took place in Abohar. During the last seven years terrorists could not dare to enter there. But recently they have gunned down about 40 people and injured hundreds. The conditions have been deteriorated to this extent there. All this has happened only due to the ineffective policies and the inefficient Government.

In this country persons like Jhansi Ki Rani, Indira Gandhi etc..... (*Interruptions*) Shrimati Indira Gandhi sacrificed her life for the unity of the nation, She was shot dead but she did not yield to the terrorists. My submission is that Government must be bold in order to function effectively. Today the countries like Nepal and Pakistan are threatening India. Our Minister of External Affairs deliberately cancelled his tour to Iran, and Iran went to the extent of stating that he need not go there. Today the honour of the country is at stake. It is very essential to think as to what efforts should be made to take our country ahead and effective programme should be evolved and proper policy should be framed for this. The present Government talks too much about principles and morality and emphasise that there should be value based morality, but there is a big difference between their words and deeds.

We adopted a democratic form of Government in our country. One cannot find such an excellent example in any country of the world. But the situation has taken a totally different turn since the Government of Tau ji has come into power in Haryana. You should visit that area and see the condition. (*Interruptions*)..... That is a neighbouring state and not very far from Delhi.

I would like to congratulate the BJP leaders, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and yourself for rightly saying that Democracy has been murdered in Haryana. Please go and see it for yourself in Meham, it's not far

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

away.....(*Interruptions*) Please be kind enough to listen to me. I know you, too.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, they have been repeatedly mentioning about Faridabad. I will tell you what happened there. Shri Devi Lal had thrown a challenge to me to contest against him from Faridabad, if I was a Leader in the real sense of the term. I had accepted that challenge not verbally or through a statement in the press, but by formally writing a letter, challenging him to contest against me, if he had the courage, from wherever he liked to contest. But Chaudhary Devi Lal ran away from the battlefield. I am laying before you a copy of the letter which I had written to him.....(*Interruptions*).... This is the letter. It is a registered letter. The Press and the people of the country know that I had written a letter..... (*Interruptions*)..... You ask your Tau first. Please ask him whether I had written a letter to him. If he swears by the Gita that I had not telephoned him or had not written a letter to him, I am prepared to resign from the membership of this House.....(*Interruptions*).... Mr. Chairman, Sir, my challenge stands till the adjournment of the House.....(*Interruptions*).....Please help me(*Interruptions*).....If Shri Devi Lal swears by the Gita, if he tells the House that Bhajan Lal did not challenge him.....(*Interruptions*)...This is a registered letter which has come back to me. I repeat it, if Devi Lal says that I had not challenged him over the telephone and I had not written a letter to him. Mr. Chairman, Sir, if he says.....(*Interruptions*).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

[*English*]

Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: If he says that I have not talked to him over the telephone, then I myself would resign or if it is otherwise,

Shri Devi Lal should resign..... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): It is not a parliamentary speech. Such a language is used by the vegetable vendors. It lacks the decorum of a Parliamentary speech. It is most unfortunate that such a speech is being delivered in Parliament. What sort of a speech is this? I had heard that Shri Bhajan Lal is a man of great personality and that he is a man of character and also that he is not an ordinary person but it seems that he lacks that lustre.....(*Interruptions*).....

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: You kindly listen to me. Mr. Chairman, Sir, he is feeling uncomfortable on hearing the truth. In Faridabad..... (*Interruptions*).....

SHRI R.N. RAKESH (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, if, in this way, our leaders are not allowed to speak then we would also not allow their leaders to speak.... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, he does not know all these things. Some new Members are here. These poor fellows do not know about it. Kindly ask them to take seats. They are not aware of these things.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Don't go on interrupting like that. This is not a wrestling arena. This is a debating House, and not a wrestling arena.

[*Translation*]

15.00 hrs.

Shri Bhajan Lal, please take your seat

.....(*Interruptions*).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Members not to interrupt Shri Bhajan Lal. If you find anything objectionable, you will be given full opportunity to express it.

.....(Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: But, you please do not interrupt and let him speak. He has got the right to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to conclude just after making a point about Faridabad, that's all. If there is an example of secularism in the country, then, well, it would not be fair on my part to praise myself, but at a time, when politicians are given tickets on the basis of Caste, I after throwing a challenge to Shri Devi Lal, contested elections from a constituency where there is not a single voter belonging to my community and I won the election with a margin of 1.5 lakh votes. This is no mean achievement. For the entire country, this is an example to emulate. With the grace of God, the blessings of Guru Nammeshwar Bhagwan and with your good wishes, I won all the eight elections that I have contested so far, and you are talking about Shri Devi Lal, whom I have defeated thrice.....(Interruptions).....

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is really gratifying that he has raised the questions of democracy and morality. Even the hon. President had said in his Address that the absence of morality could lead to the destruction of democracy in the country. Then, what will happen to this country? We owe our independence to the sacrifices made by the valiant sons of our country who laid down even their lives to achieve it. Universal Adult Franchise was introduced in the country. Yet it is most unfortunate that booth-capturing was engineered by Shri Om Prakash Chautala's son, Shri Abhay Singh and other people in league with the Police and a 20,000 strong police force was deployed to present a picture of normalcy. It is not what I am saying but what, the Election Commission is saying. It has said in its independent report that such an injustice, such an outrage is unprecedented..... (Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat.

.....(Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to tell the hon. Members that the term 'lie' is unparliamentary. If Shri Bhajan Lal says anything and you are not in agreement with it..... (Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, let me finish what I am saying. Even if you do not agree with what hon. Bhajan Lal is saying and even if it is not true, you cannot use the word 'lie'.

.....(Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can say anything you like but you cannot use the term 'lie' as it is unparliamentary. Now, I would request Shri Bhajan Lal to complete his speech in one or two minutes.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I would not be able to do that in that time limit as there is a lot of interruptions and interventions. Please, excuse me, there is a lot of interruptions and interventions.....(Interruptions).....

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time given to you excludes the time that has been taken by interruptions and interventions.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I will try to complete it quickly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will curtail the time allocated to your party.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: It is difficult to clear even one's throat within that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not the proper place for that.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I would not like to say any such thing, neither I have said such a thing. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is the Election

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

Commission which says that democracy was slaughtered in Meham. It is not me who says this. It is Shri Ajit Singh, who is a part of their Cabinet who took an on the spot stock of the situation, who says like this. Shrimati Gayatri Devi also went there. She said that democracy has been murdered in Meham and that the Chief Minister should resign. The same thing is being said by senior leaders of B.J.P., Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee and Shri Lal Krishna Advani. The leaders of the State unit of the BJP are also saying the same thing. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, a leader of the CPI (M) and the leaders of C.P.I. have also expressed the same view that the Government should resign. Everybody says that the Chief Minister should resign. But they say that the question of resigning does not arise. *(Interruptions)* It was said by Dr. Mangal Sein and a host of other leaders. *(Interruptions)* It had appeared in some newspapers

"Haryana ke Mahabharat ke Tisri Kadi Samapt Nahi Ho Rahi Hai"

(the third episode of the Haryana Mahabharat is not coming to an end).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not read out that:

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: There was a report about Shri Devi Lal ji.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not allow you to read it out.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Please listen. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE (Deoria): There are certain norms for running the House. According to these norms one cannot say something which reflects even indirectly on a person or a party. There are clear directions in this regard. The point he is

making is clearly indicative of the fact that he is directly reflecting on somebody. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Many lost their lives in Haryana and many were injured. After a lapse of 14-15 days, Shri Ajit Singh went there for one day. A single word of sympathy was not uttered by Shri Devi Lal about the tragic incidents that took place in the area. Not a single word of sympathy was reported in the Press. *(Interruptions)* I also went there from door to door and expressed my sympathies with the people. *(Interruptions)* He should submit his resignation and jump into the election fray once again. *(Interruptions)* Now you have won the elections by**

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you use the words that he has won elections by**, These are not parliamentary. These are unparliamentary words which will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: They tried for thirty years but did not succeed, now luck has favoured them. They should use proper language when they speak in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please conclude. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): It is like the pot calling the kettle black.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Whom are you talking to please. You are a new Member.

SHRI KALKA DAS: You have never followed any rules.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: People like you do not know what the rules are. I have seen you for the first time in the House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIGOPAL PACHERWAL (Tonk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. We are new members. We had a feeling that we will be benefited by the speech of Shri Bhajan Lal, who is one of the senior members of the House and had been a Union Minister and Chief Minister of a State also. But he is playing the role of Shakuni. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: O.K. you will also get the rewards for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bhajan Lal ji, now you may please take your seat.

SHRIBHAJAN LAL: I will conclude within 2-3 minutes. I have to make some important submissions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not deliver sermons, deliver the speech.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, please constitute a Parliamentary Committee to go into the Meham incident. You will come to know of the seriousness of the situation when that Committee goes there and submits its report to you.

(*Interruptions*)

This august House will come to know as to what is the plight of democracy in Haryana. There is no law worth the name in the State. The poor people cannot raise their voice there. Bogus votes are cast. What more injustice could be done there than this? Today the question is of saving the democracy. If we do not raise this point in the House and you do not protect us, how can democracy be saved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude your speech and save democracy.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: It cannot be saved by me alone. Your co-operation is also necessary. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir,

the Government is like a house of cards.

SHRI KALKA DAS: The house is a cemented one.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: You will come to know about the cement. Some of them are moving to the South while others are moving to West. There is a tussel of ideologies and still they talk of Government. You know how the Government is running. People have lost confidence in this Government. Everybody knows how they got votes by telling lies. They promised the farmers that their loans will be waived. Similarly, the Railway Budget is an eye opener and reflects the coming events. Their true self is revealed through the Railway Budget. Instead of giving relief to people they have imposed taxes worth Rs. 1000 crore. They have burdened the poor people and still sympathise with them.

I will conclude after making a few submissions about my constituency. Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mewat is the most backward area in Haryana. There is no railway line nor any industry in the area. I, therefore request the Government to pay attention to it.

The Mewat canal is pending Central Government's sanction. Prompt action should be taken in this regard taking into account the backwardness of the area. There is acute poverty in the area. People don't even have shoes to wear. I, therefore, request you to approve this canal project so that the lot of the people could be improved and the parched land of the area could be irrigated.

There were many things on which I wanted to speak, but you say that the time is short. Moreover, my friends on the other side are also feeling uncomfortable. But what can I do? I have only presented the facts. (*Interruptions*) They are making reference to Shri Devi Lal off and on.

They can convey my challenge to their leader that I am ready to contest elections against him from wherever he likes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA (Far-rukaabad) Mr Chairman, Sir, I am a new Member of this House and I belong to the literary world. I am not aware of the various tricks played in politics nor I am used to indulge in jugglery of words. I beg your pardon for my ignorance of conventions and rules of this House. It is, therefore, your responsibility to check me if I go astray and I hope that you will guide me. I beg pardon from all of you and the hon. Chairman that I may not be able to maintain the level of debate to that of Shri Bhajan Lal. I want to be excused for that.

Sir, when we speak here the entire nation watches us. They come to know how much we are concerned with their problems and sufferings. When things other than the problems and sufferings of people are discussed in the House, I do not hesitate to say that the people gradually start losing confidence in this apex democratic institution.

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN I have to take the consent of the House on a point now. On account of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee, the hon. Speaker and the Members in the panel of Chairmen have to be present there. The Committee's meeting started about fifteen minutes back. I would request Shri Shivraj V. Patil to sit in the Chair of the hon. Speaker while this Committee's meeting goes on. Do I have the consent of the House to do so?

SOME HON. MEMBERS Yes

MR CHAIRMAN I now call upon Shri Santosh Bhartiya to speak.

15.16 hrs.

(SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL *in the Chair*)

They feel that their elected representatives do not highlight their difficulties in the same tone as they speak at the time of

elections. Therefore, their confidence must be restored and they should be assured that their representatives do not lead a luxurious life but express some concrete suggestions for the prosperity and development of the country. The restoration of this confidence is a must and it is the responsibility of the present Government who represents the majority in this supreme body. The most important task before this Government is to restore the confidence of the people in the democratic institution.

We have been elected to this august House and if at any time some mistakes were committed, we should admit them. Sir, I am sorry to say that besides administration this august House has also committed some mistakes in last forty years. Had it not been so the problems of Punjab, Kashmir and Ram Janambhoomi—Babri Masjid would not have been there. When I say this, I hope that at least Ninth Lok Sabha will correct those mistakes and tell the people of Punjab that they are also citizens of this country like us. Till recently an atmosphere was created in the country that every Sikh living in Punjab was considered a traitor. Everywhere they were humiliated. Sir, I may be allowed to say that when all doors for an amicable solution are closed only then people resort to guns and bullets and it has proved true in case of Punjab. After the agricultural development, there was no further scope to absorb more people in it so they repeatedly raised their demand for basic needs. Some people tried to exploit their aspirations. When all the doors to ventilate their grievances were closed they resorted to guns. Amidst the booming sounds of the guns the problem of development has been relegated to the background. All the people of Punjab are not Khalistanis. While taking oath Shrimati Rajender Kaur said in the House that they never demanded Khalistan but the Government had attributed it to them. We should rectify our mistakes. Sir, besides Punjab, I would like to say a few words about the Kashmir problem also. I am a new Member of the House and do not want to insult anyone, but would like to say one thing, that, if we confine our discussion to Article 370 and Governor

of the State, it would amount to ignoring the very root of the problem. Everyone in Kashmir is neither a Pakistani nor a Pakistani supporter. It is also not a communal problem. There is another aspect of the Kashmir problem besides what the hon. Members have said. I would make submission about the other aspect of the problem before the House. I think this aspect should have been submitted before the House, by the Members who claim to be the representatives of Kashmir. The biggest Engineering College in Asia is situated in Srinagar. Even the toppers do not get admission in Engineering College and Medical College, unless they pay Rs. five lakh as donation. Muslims constitute 90 to 95 per cent of the population in Kashmir valley. Will the present Government or its predecessor tell us as to how many local students were given admission in these two colleges in the last 5 to 10 years? Why seats were not given to them? Why were seats offered to outsiders? Do they not have talent? How many local students have passed out of these engineering and medical colleges. Kashmir is not an industrial area but a tourist place. Even then no facility has been provided there for the tourists.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu): The hon. Member is talking about the Engineering College but about which college he is talking. How many outsiders have been given admission there and who arranged admission in their cases.

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA: It is the convention of this House that a maiden speech of any Member is not interrupted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, it is his maiden speech, so please do not interrupt.

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA: I know how many college are there and how many outsiders have been given seats there. I would like to know how many local students got admission in these colleges. When the local educated people approach the Industrial Finance Corporation, they do not get funds and instead of two months they take two years to process the case. Why it is so?

These are their grievances. Will the Government state as to how much funds were allocated to Kashmir for development in the last 5-15 years and how those funds were utilised. The local people are of the view that they are unaware of any such money spent there on the development. Two colleges were opened there during the time of Late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and Late Sheikh Abdullah. How many more colleges have been opened there since then? How many educated youth have been given employment? How many local people have been given loans from Nationalised Banks except from Jammu and Kashmir Bank. We should be informed as to what sort of facility have been provided there. Did the previous Government stop subsidy to outsiders for setting up industries there?

Sir, I would like to ask as to why the people displaced from the Dal lake area and who are still on the roads have not been rehabilitated. An hon. Member pointed out that in Kashmir valley, sufferings have been caused by the Governor. I would say that nobody is above law in this country, particularly when our Prime Minister has said that even he can be subjected to investigation. If any such thing has happened there, that should be investigated. Besides, the real problem of the Kashmir is the problem of development. I think so long as the people who were in power in Kashmir and bungled the money in connivance with their kith and kin, do not give account of that money, the problem of Kashmir would not be solved. It cannot be solved merely by abrogating Article 370 or criticising Governor of the State or by calling them Pakistanis.

Sir, one thing I have to say about communal situation. When the Government tried to unmask the faces of communal forces some allegations were made from the other side. I have been studying about the communal riots for the last 5 to 10 years and found that most of them took place in the Congress ruled States. Sir, it is alleged that BJP and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh are behind these riots. I tried to ascertain it from the newspapers but I could not find even a single

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person who was convicted or implicated in such riots having links with the BJP or RSS. On the contrary, the people who were implicated in Meerut, Bhagalpur, Ahmedabad and Kota riots were having links with the party which was sitting on this side on treasury benches, three months back. Sir, I may be allowed to say that the biggest communal force in our country, if any, is the people who were occupying treasury benches here three months back. Now I come to Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. This conflict is connected with the psyche of the people. They are the enemies of this country who try to drag this issue to the streets or incite the sentiments of the people so that there is bloodshed. But who is inciting poor Hindus and Muslims against each other? The happenings of the last 5-6 years clearly indicate that they do not want to find out any solution to the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute. They just want to keep it alive. In the last five years, no serious negotiations took place with the people associated with Ram Janambhoomi and Babri Masjid. If at any time some understanding emerged, it was leaked to the press and efforts were made to make that thing an issue. Now there is possibility of some amicable solution to the problem and it is good that they are not in power otherwise they would instigated the people.

I decided to speak on the Address because I consider it as an indication of change. It is true that though the Address does not show the exact shape of the change but it certainly indicates that the present Government has the will to change the situation. They have the will and courage to admit their mistakes too. They have the courage to take risk of going ahead on a new path. That is why I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and I believe that the Prime Minister and his colleagues will certainly strike at the very root of this chaotic system, a system that nurtures corruption, exploitation and oppression. Keeping in mind our experiences over the last 40 years, this Government should take

some quick decisions in this respect. Considering what the masses have achieved in these 40 years, it would be very difficult for the nation to wait any longer. Therefore, steps should be taken immediately to restore the public's faith in democracy. First of all, the existing education system should be changed. It has been mentioned in the President's Address that the present education system would be reviewed. I agree that as things stand now, only a review is possible. Yet, I shall use this opportunity to make some suggestions on this subject. I feel that there is an urgent need to revamp the present education system. Any delay in this matter will only increase the public's distrust in democracy. One suggestion that I would like to make is that the I.A.S. and I.P.S. examinations held every year should not be held for the next three years. Other-wise, we will never succeed in changing our education system or take any step in that direction. I think we have enough I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers in the country to take us through the next three years. These examinations can be reintroduced after three years, if the need arises. Similarly, I would suggest that schools and colleges in this country should be closed for a period of one year. For the country's development has been bogged down by inequalities, crime, disease, starvation and various forms of exploitation. The people who passed out from the schools and colleges in the post independence era simply added to the aforesaid ills. So there is a need to close down colleges for a year. Although some people may protest because the existing system is in their interest, the majority of people will thank you and support you for having taken this step towards educational reform. This is what I firmly believe.

Secondly, I shall say something about the economic situation. Although certain guidelines have been mentioned in this regard in the President's Address and it has also been pointed out by Shri Malhotra and Shri Somnath, I want to emphasize that concrete steps should be taken immediately in this direction. If the feelings of an ordinary Member like me can be conveyed to the Government, I would request them to reconsider their

policy towards multinationals. Production of items of daily use like tooth-brush, shoes, soaps and oil is almost exclusively controlled by multinationals. The Parliament should frame a law that would confine the manufacture of such items to the small-scale sector or the rural industry sector. This should be done without delay. Otherwise we will not be able to generate employment opportunities for which we have made commitment. If we fail to generate employment opportunities, for the weaker sections, the ruling party or the Opposition will never be able to gather enough courage to fight the evils in our society. We will have to pay special attention to the people belonging to the rural sector and those belonging to our respective constituencies. A small suggestion that I want to make is that manufacture of these items be taken away from multinationals and handed over to the unemployed people or cooperative societies formed by them and not to capitalists. Along with this, the Government's sale outlets like the Super Bazaars and the Kendriya Bhandars should be directed to buy these commodities from the small-scale sector or the aforesaid societies only so that a source of livelihood is made available to the weaker sections of our society. The previous Government encouraged advertisements featuring popular film stars resulting in exploitation of the feelings of the people.

Sir, now I shall briefly deal with the prevailing law and order situation. The decisions taken by the previous Government regarding law and order allowed full freedom to criminals: that licences for firearms would remain valid at the district level. For a criminal a licence has little significance. Only a law-abiding citizen acquires a licence for the possession of a firearm for self-defence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Santosh Bhartiya, as this is your maiden speech in the House, I do not want to interrupt you by ringing the bell. But the time allotted to you is over, so please finish your speech quickly.

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA: Sir, now much time has been allotted to me. Prior to me hon. Shri Bhajan Lal spoke for 55 min-

utes. I was looking at the clock and I think I have spoken for about 10 minutes only. If the time allotted to me is just 10 minutes then I shall sit down. So please let me know the time allotted to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Still you may complete the sentence which was being uttered by you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): Sir, please let him have two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You may finish what you were saying.

SHRI-SANTOSH BHARTIYA: Sir, I regret to say that in the second round the hon. Member who spoke before me got more time than I have been given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not a question of the time allotted to you but the time allotted to your party. So please conclude your speech and sit down.

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA: Sir, I would like to suggest that the present Government should change the policies of the previous Government. The policy related to firearms, in particular, has adversely affected the law-abiding citizens. This policy should be framed de-novo at the national, state and district levels.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No more new subjects please. You will have to wind up your speech now.

SHRI SANTOSH BHARTIYA: In conclusion, I would like to say that the absence of the word 'socialism' was strongly felt by Shri Gadgil, Shri Harish and hon. Shri Bhajan Lal also felt that several important points were missing. But when I look at what has been happening over the past 5-10 years and the performance of the previous Government, the disregard shown to socialism becomes amply clear. I hope the present Government will take some positive action

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on its own. They should work for the fulfillment of the promises made in the Address. They have been given a mandate to eliminate the existing system. Corrupt elements will definitely denounce the Government for this as the present system is favourable to them but their criticism should be ignored.

Sir, I would like to tell hon. Members of the ruling party that if they do not make it a point to change the present system they would not be honouring the mandate given to them by the public. This may lead to dissensions within the party. I urge the Government to ignore the criticism of the supporters of the existing system. The Government should resolutely work for the points included in the President's Address.

Sir, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Railway Minister will now make a statement.

15.38 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT *RE.* ACCIDENT INVOLVING NO. 9020 UP DEHRADUN-BOMBAY CENTRAL EXPRESS TRAIN ON 14.3.1990

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, I deeply regret to apprise the House of an unfortunate accident to train No. 9020 UP Dehradun-Bombay Central Express at about 15.25 hrs. on 14.3.1990 on the Ratlam-Dahod B.G. double line electrified section of the Ratlam Division of Western Railway. While this train with 16 coaches was on the run between Ratlam Junction and Morwani stations, the 6 rear-most coaches derailed, of which 4 coaches, marshalled 12th to 15th from train engine, capsized at Km. 646/23. As a result of this

derailment, 6 passengers lost their lives and 22 passengers sustained injuries, out of which 4 were grievous.

Immediately on receipt of information about the accident, Medical Relief Vans and Road Ambulances with Divisional officers and Doctors were rushed to the site from Ratlam. Divisional Railway Manager/Ratlam along with his officers immediately left for the site of the accident. Local civil and police officials also reached the accident spot. The injured were admitted to the civil and railway hospitals at Ratlam.

The General Manager, Western Railway and senior officers who were on inspection at Ankleshwar about 350 kms. from the site of accident also rushed to oversee relief arrangement at site.

Member Engineering, Railway Board also proceeded to the accident site.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Western Circle, who was with General Manager, Western Railway on inspection also proceeded to the site of accident. He will hold a statutory inquiry into the accident.

Ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of the dead and to the injured is being arranged.

I and all railwaymen and women extend our deepest condolences to the kith and kin of those who lost their lives and sincere sympathies to the injured in this unfortunate accident.

I am sure the House joins us in extending heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

[Translation]

SHRIDAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Kindly give an assurance to the House that old railway lines and bridges would be replaced.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This point can not be raised now. All such points may be raised during the discussion on the Railway Budget.

At this moment no questions will be allowed in this House after the statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): What type of relief will be given by the Government to the families of those affected?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Relief is given in accordance with the provisions made for this purpose.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI C. SRINIVASAN (Dindigul): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and on behalf of the AIADMK under the dynamic leadership of Puratchi Thalaivi Selvi Jayalalitha, I place before this august House the views of our Party Sir, this House must view with concern the shabby treatment meted out to the democratic process in the recent elections. The main force behind our unity and integrity is the periodic elections through which we reiterate our faith in ruling ourselves. This country has however recently witnessed the gory events of elections being conducted in several States amidst large-scale violence and electoral malpractices. We have debated on several occasions the electoral reforms. Apart from the unsavoury incidents in Bihar and Haryana, several condemnable events had taken place in the elections to Palani Lok Sabha Constituency in Tamil Nadu. More than 300 booths were captured and the ruling party elements forced a section of the people to vote in favour of a political party. Despite these, the DMK could not win the seat. Immediately, on the day of counting they hiked the rice price by one rupee after being frustrated by the impending defeat in the bye-election. The DMK got severe drubbing not only in the Lok Sabha elections in Tamil Nadu, but also in the bye-election. This is a clear verdict for a change in Tamil Nadu. But the change is yet to come. The Government that has been outvoted by

expression of the people's opinion refuses to bow to the will of the people. In spite of this, this Government in Delhi is firmly supporting the anti-people Government to continue in Tamil Nadu. If at all they are sincere in their faith in democratic traditions, in their faith in the people of India, they must ask this DMK Government to step down and seek a fresh mandate.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, he can place it on the Table of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is his maiden speech.

SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: People may vote for every five years, but people must also support the Government they have elected for five years. If they express their disapproval in any form, then the will of the people must be respected. Let this Government not take shelter under the letter of the law but observe the spirit behind the constitutional provisions.

Sir, I must with all agony apprise this august House about the conspiratorial designs of the Tamil Nadu Government to physically eliminate the Leader of the Opposition and the mass leader Pauratchi Thalaivi Jayalalitha. They made an overt attempt on her life on the floor of the Assembly last year. Having failed and having lost the Lok Sabha elections with gaining no seat in favour of them, they are determined to liquidate her.

[Translation]

PROF. RAMGANESH KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my point of order is whether a Member can read his own speech in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is the maiden speech, he can do so.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Visakhapatnam): It is his maiden speech, Sir. They should not object.

SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: We have our worst apprehensions about that and the evidence is there. Our leader was prevented from campaigning in the Pondicherry elections. A wanton attempt was made last month by a planned accident on her car. The wishes of the people of Tamil Nadu and the strength of Indian democracy saved her from the disaster. There should be a judicial inquiry into the whole episode. The case filed on that incident was disposed of within 10 days. This is simply judicial history. The public must know the designs of the DMK Government. They are out to physically destroy her. This whole House, I hope, would join in condemning the incident.

Sir, let me now come to certain problems on the economic front. Agriculture is the backbone of this country. Farmers in this country are faced with serious problems. On the one hand, they are facing resource handicaps and on the other hand, they are facing serious debt burden. This Government which promised the people to waive agricultural loans is developing cold feet. Months have passed, but they are yet to evolve a scheme for redeeming the farmers. Pending finalisation of any such scheme, an interim relief must be provided to the farmers from the debt burden.

Water resource management is in a poor state. Water resources should either be nationalised or a didactic system must be evolved to check river water wastage into sea and to provide equitable distribution of river water as per regional demands. It is in this backdrop the Government must take up the Ganga-Cauvery link system. Environmental clearance to the Telugu-Ganga Project must be given immediately so that at least by 1992 the project can bring some water to the Madras city. Sir, I learn this Government is not seriously pursuing the technology mission of providing drinking water to all villages launched by the previous Government. Do not give up good viable schemes for political reasons. It is ultimately the people who would be affected. Therefore, this Government must accord top priority for providing drinking water to all the

villages. This Government is not sincere about strengthening the local body institutions. When you were in the Opposition, you defeated the legislative measures of empowering the local body institutions to serve the people in a better manner. Why do you not develop an alternative model of strengthening the local body institutions?

Sir, industrial development is not balanced all over the country. Industrial development in Tamil Nadu is the slowest. Even the Rs. 400 crore Steel Plant initially to be set up in Salem has been shifted to Rourkela because the Tamil Nadu Government willingly conceded that the Plant may be set up in Rourkela. The Government which has lost the mandate of their people has no right to take such decision. The people want back the Plant in Salem. Please take action to bring back this Plant.

Sir, months have passed since this Government promised the people that 'Right to Work' will be made as a fundamental right. Two Constitutional Amendments have been made, but none for this purpose. This Government should not reconsider this and there can be no two opinion on this question. It should be made a fundamental right forthwith and follow-up employment guarantee schemes should be launched without any further delay as the youth in the country are frustrated today.

Sir, women continue to be oppressed and suppressed in the country. My leader, late Dr. M.G.R., launched several programmes for the welfare of women in Tamil Nadu. You must guarantee to the Indian women seats in Parliament and Assemblies and seats should be reserved for women as per their percentage in the total population.

Sir, the Sri Lanka problem is still haunting us. The IPKF is being withdrawn without a reciprocal commitment for ensuring peace in Tamil areas. Refugees' influx is on the increase. Ships carrying the refugees are not only landing on the shores of Tamil Nadu, but on the shores of Orissa also and soon this problem would spread to other States

also. The life of Tamilians is in perpetual danger in Sri Lanka. Recently, a ship carrying Tamil refugees was not allowed to land in Tamil Nadu by the Chief Minister who says that he has the Tamil blood in him. He further says that he would have welcomed the refugees if they are not opposed to the Tigers. This shows the factional mind of the Chief Minister. The Central Government must issue necessary directions to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to accept the refugees as they are related to people in Tamil Nadu by language and race. The Central Government must reconsider the whole issue and halt the withdrawal of IPKF until Tamils start living without fear and in peace. A mutually agreed friendship treaty must be concluded in which specific guarantee for devolving powers for the North Eastern Provincial Council, is included. Care must also be taken to ensure a warranty clause forbidding of setting up of military bases by foreign powers on the soil of Sri Lanka. Adequate security measures must also be taken to counter the threat posed to us by the establishment of a Naval base in Katchathivu ceded to Sri Lanka on the wrong advice of the DMK Government.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR (Quilon): Sir, for the second time in three months, the House is discussing the Presidential Address which reflects the essential character of this minority Government—vague and directionless, repetitive, damp squib, a diarrhoea of verbiage when attempting to denigrate the solid achievements of the previous Government—and constipated when it comes to new ideas or charting out a cogent path for carrying this nation forward. Sir, whether this Government has ruled for three months or it is going to rule for 3 years, it cannot escape the fundamental truth, it cannot grow out of the inevitable constraint that it is a freak child of Indian democracy, a minority government directly representing only 17% of the popular votes, kept alive artificially by the fascist right and the opportunistic left which are diametrically opposed in their ideologies and their views on all vital

socio-economic issues and domestic and foreign policies.

Sir, let me start with the pious declaration in the President's Address in para 6 that the Government is 'taking measures to strengthen secularism. This is Devil quoting the Scriptures. Who does not know that this Government has come to power by promoting the communal divide in North India, and by exploiting that communal divide. The BJP exploited religious fundamentalism through Ram Janma Bhoomi issue while the Janata Dal exploited the minority sentiments through disinformation and political skull-duggery. The truth of the conspiracy was carefully hidden from both sides. Shri V.P. Singh would not speak from a platform where the BJP was represented or BJP flag was flying. He would ask for the flag to be removed. Even in the election manifesto, the CPI (M) had categorically denounced the BJP as a reactionary communal force. Thus, the three segments of this Government solicited the votes of different sections and communities on different and mutually conflicting premises. These very same Parties have now come to form the Government, claiming the people's mandate. A Government based on such deceit and untruth cannot last long. This Government will crumble when the truth represented by the irreconcilable differences between the present ruling Parties and the false premises presented before the people come home to roost.

The democratic polity of India was built on the solid foundations of socialism and secularism, on the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. It was the steadfast adherence of these values which has enabled this democracy to remain as a largest single democracy in the world, while most of the other nations born to freedom from colonial domination have fallen by the way side and taken over by fascist or military dictatorship. It is clear from the events of the last three months that the forces of left adventurism, right reaction and religious fundamentalism which are the guiding and supporting forces of this Government pose a positive

[Sh. S. Krishna Kumar]

threat to the unity and integrity of our country.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee a few minutes ago was gloating over what he called the decimation of the Indian National Congress. Instead we see the increasing predicament of the Indian Left and the *hara-kiri* which they are committing on themselves. At least, after the Assembly elections, the realisation should be dawning on them that by collaborating with the BJP, they are destroying whatever base they have built in the last six decades in India. The Communist Parties are used to committing historic mistakes and then making *post mortem* analysis on them and making course-corrections witness the great leap forward or the Cultural Revolution in Mao's China or Stalin's repressive era and the years of stagnation under Brezhnev in the U.S.S.R. Creating conditions for the ascendance of the BJP is perhaps the second historical mistake the Leftists are making in India, the first being the betrayal of India's freedom struggle, especially the Quit India Movement. The Stalinist Gerentocracy which controls the Left in India is now on the wrong side of history even in the global Communist movement.

16.00 hrs.

Their suicidal policy of promoting fascist, reactionary and fundamentalist parties within the country and their international isolation will surely lead to their marginalisation and liquidation in the country, at least in the forms in which they now exit. To sympathise with them will be patronising, so let us wish them good luck.

As was emphasised by all my colleagues, the Achilles heel of this Government is its policy on Kashmir. The watershed in this unfortunate development is the Dr Rubrya episode, which shorn of its humanitarian veneer, was an ignominious and abject surrender of the Government of India to hardcore terrorism. On that fateful day, effective political power or at least, the percep-

tion of it, passed from the Government to terrorists and the secessionists in the Kashmir Valley. For the first time, lakhs of ordinary citizens rejoiced in the streets paying homage to the terrorists. On January 20 and 21, the new Megalamaniac of a Governor by his hamhanded searches alienated the entire local population in the Valley. He followed it up by the high-handed dissolution of the last buffer between the Central Government and the Kashmir people, the elected legislature. It is not known whether Shri Jag Mohan consulted the Prime Minister before the dissolution of the legislature. If he did consult, then it is a sad reflection on the Prime Minister for them he was party to the politically infantile decision. If the Governor had the temerity not to consult the Prime Minister then it is a sad reflection the control the PM has is the Governance of this country. The continuation of the depredation of the Governor in inflicting on the people of Kashmir virtually permanent curfew, hundreds of innocent citizens being killed, is going to lead us to a one way street. Today Mother India is crying because its child the beautiful Kashmir Valley, is being estranged, alienated perhaps irretrievably that. If the situation comes to pass, God forbid, the Valley is to be severed from us, the people of India are not going to forgive, history is not going to forgive Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and his minority Government.

In no crucial issue, whether J&K, Punjab or Sri Lanka, can the national interest be safeguarded by vague platitudes or hollow acts of gimmickry. It is the perception of weakness which characterises this Government which has demoralised the security forces whether in J&K or the Punjab or the IPKF in Sri Lanka. The Punjab situation is deteriorating day by day. Much was made of the abrogation of the 59th Amendment on Punjab because it compromised the citizen's right of life. But this Government is extinguishing the right to life of ordinary citizens of Kashmir.

Sir, I will take only a few more minutes and make a few observations. We will be debating in detail on the Prasar Bharati Bill.

We are not opposed to the creation of a Corporation or giving functional autonomy to the electronic media because it is part of our own Congress-I manifesto. But, there is no doubt, that this Government in the same manner as they have appointed politically the State Governors in this country, is going to pack up the Board of Governors of the new Corporation with fellow-travellers and supplicants. The difficulty is one cannot legislate for honesty of politicians, independence of professionals or efficacy of management. The Government, I believe, should have adequate political control over the media to use the media as an effective instrument of nation building. If they are going to limit the control by Parliament to discussion of the annual report and Budget of Prasar Bharati and if they are going to deny the inalienable right of Members of Parliament to ask questions about the organisations; then it will be a retrograde step at the present stage of the country's development.

Sir, the incontrovertible facts show that the Indian economy left by Shri Rajiv Gandhi was in a healthy and vibrant state. *The Economist* of London says that India has prospered mightily during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's five years in power. I do not want to discuss this in detail because of paucity of time. Further, the actual investment in real terms during the Seventh Five Year Plan was 109 per cent. There was a record foodgrains output of 170 millions. There was a fantastic export growth. There was a whopping industrial growth of above 8 percent. It is true that Balance of Payments and deficit financing were stretched to the limit in order to retain a high growth rate. But the result was that India became a global economic force. India achieved competitive strength in the world market. Today, after this Government has taken over, it is following an anti-growth policy. Business and industry are confused. Industry has already started decelerating. Instead of the high-growth wealth-producing economy, this Government is going to convert our economy to a low-growth, command and control oriented poverty-distributing economy. I will take only a few more minutes. Yesterday, my colleague listed at length

the investment under Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government for rural development programmes. Much is being made of the Janata Dal Government's pronouncements that 50 per cent of the investment in the Eighth Plan will be earmarked for rural areas. The actual fact is that under the Seventh Plan under the Rajiv Gandhi's administration, 55 per cent of the Rs. 180,000 crs. which was the investment in the Seventh Plan, was actually spent in the rural areas. I have got the statistics of the Planning Commission here.

The President's Address only repeats what was said three months ago about the genuine devolution of powers for the Panchayati Raj institutions. This Government has aborted the historic achievements of the previous Government in respect of Panchayati Raj and Nagarpalika Bills which came almost to fruition. They were brought after the greatest possible consultation process but now it is clear this Government has no interest in transferring power to our people.

The one more point which I wish to make is regarding Family Planning. As a public worker I had been a strong proponent of the National Family Planning Programme I believe it is a crucially important programme for our socio-economic development, for the removal of poverty, for carrying forward this nation to its rightful destiny. What has the President's Address mentioned about Family Planning? It mentions that effective control of population is also essential. It further says that we have to achieve a national consensus in respect of population control. Sir, the Bhartiya Janata Party it has expressed itself against any effective National Family Planning Programme because of its archaic and obscurantist stand that some communities do not follow Family Planning and so the Hindus should not follow it. Because of that, if you are going to insist on a national consensus, it means that it is going to be good-bye to the National Family Planning Programme.

Sir, in sum, the President's Address is a repetition of the pious platitudes and vague generalisations of three months ago. What-

[Sh. S. Krishna Kumar]

ever be the balancing acts, whatever be the political acrobatics, this Government may perform in order to cling on to power, one thing is clear. This Government will not be taken seriously by the Indian people. When the waves recede and when self-evidence truths finally prevails it will be clear that only the Indian National Congress can maintain the integrity of the country and lead the nation forward. The Congress shall restore the affection of the people, restore the dignity of the nation and its true secular, socialist path towards its rightful future.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJDEV SINGH (Sangrur). Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the Parliament. In his Address, the Hon. President has categorically mentioned that agriculture would be encouraged. But at the same time, mention has been made about fixation of the support price of paddy only. The harvesting season of barley and wheat is about to start and in a few days' time, these commodities would start arriving in the market. The most important point in this regard is that support price of wheat should be fixed. The prices of agricultural inputs have increased manifold during the last few years. In view of this increase, the support price of wheat fixed earlier is no more remunerative. All of you are aware that the farmer has been toiling in extremely difficult conditions. Despite hard work, he is unable to get the reasonable price for his produce to enable him to make his both ends meet. This naturally affects production. The country will make progress only when the farmer is satisfied and gets remunerative price for his produce.

My suggestion is that in view of the increase in the price of agricultural inputs during the last few years, the Government should fix the support price of wheat at Rs. 325 per quintal. The Government should keep in mind the condition of those sections of the society who live in extreme poverty. My suggestion in this regard is that the

Government should grant subsidy for sale of their wheat. If the price of wheat is fixed at less than Rs. 325 per quintal, it will not be remunerative and the farmer will not be satisfied. The prosperity of the country depends on the farmer. Therefore I would suggest that the Government should take effective measures in this regard and announce Rs. 325 per quintal as the support price of wheat at the earliest. When the foodgrains is brought to the market, Government agencies including FCI do not come forward to purchase it for days together. Due to this, the farmer has to face a lot of difficulty and is forced to take rounds of the market. Therefore, it is essential that the Government should take effective steps for purchase of the produce of the farmers as and when he brings it to the market. The payment should also be made promptly, so that the farmer gets the price of wheat and other crops without any difficulty.

Last year, the Government had announced Rs. 10 as bonus on the sale of paddy, but it is a matter of regret that this bonus has not been paid in some parts of Punjab so far. It is regrettable that a long time has passed since this announcement was made by the Government, but so far neither bonus has been paid nor any measure has been taken in this respect. The Government must take steps for the prompt payment of this bonus to the farmers.

Secondly, apart from the farmers, jawans play a significant role in the country. They have to protect the country under difficult circumstances. But the rate of the pension of the jawan who retired 10-15 years ago is not even 1/3rd of what a jawan gets today on retirement. Earlier, the army jawans had to work under heavy odds. Then why should those who worked in difficult circumstances to protect the country, should get lower rate of pension? What is the logic behind it? I have not been able to find any logic for a long time. I would like to suggest that the time has now come when the principle of 'one rank one pension' should be adopted. How can a retired army jawan make his both ends meet under these circumstances. It is surprising

that some of the Jawans get only Rs. 200 as pension. Nobody can sustain with such a nominal amount in the prevailing circumstances. No step has been taken to remove this anomaly so far. Therefore, action should be taken at the earliest in order to remove this genuine grievance of Ex-servicemen.

Banks were nationalised so that the common man could avail of better facilities. But it is a matter of regret that corruption is rampant in the nationalised banks. A person has to pay a substantial amount as bribe to the Bank officials in order to get a small loan sanctioned. In case, the people want to get loan for purchasing agricultural items, they have to pay a major part of the loan as bribe. In the process, the farmers suffer the most. In order to improve the functioning of Banks, it is essential to appoint supervisory squads in the banks which should identify the genuine difficulties of the farmers by making on the spot visits. There is an immediate need to take effective steps in this regard.

Massacre of Sikhs took place in the country in 1984. Thousands of women became widows and about 3700 persons were killed in Delhi alone. It was not a riot. Riot takes place when two sides are involved in the fight. In that case two sides were not involved. Sikhs were massacred under a well planned conspiracy. The Government assured time and again that steps would be taken for the rehabilitation of the affected families. But it is a matter of regret that no steps have been taken in this regard. The affected people have been on hunger strike in Delhi since February 12. Earlier it was relay fast, now they are on fast-unto-death. Their demands are genuine. The Government should accept those demands to win the hearts of the Sikhs. The first among those demands is:—

[English]

Declaration of November, 1984 riots as eruption of violence against Sikh community and tackling all the victim cases as a social burden on the society and the country as a whole and not merely as an administrative

problem to be left over in the hands of the bureaucrats alone.

[Translation]

This is an important demand which should be accepted immediately. It will enable the Government to win the confidence of the Sikh community. Their second demand is:—

[English]

- (i) full compensation as per the Compensation Act for all the murdered to their next of kins.
- (ii) rehabilitation of victims at several places for all those who have been uprooted due to looting/burning of their houses and commercial establishments viz. shops, factories, work centres etc.,

[Translation]

Then there is a demand of pension for those who became widows in those riots. These widows should be given a monthly pension of Rs. 1500/- each so that they could make their both end meet. Educational facilities should be provided to their children. This is a problem which requires humanitarian approach. The Government can win the confidence of sikh community by providing them adequate compensation. The more the delay in providing compensation, the more this community will suffer. Therefore, talks should be held with those who are on hunger strike without any further delay and thus take steps for the fulfilment of their demands. As regards the payment of compensation, they are asked to produce death certificate. It is very surprising. How can a death certificate be obtained? No list of those 3700 persons, who were killed in those riots has been published. Therefore this condition of producing death certificate should be waived and the cases of compensation should be settled without insisting on the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted in your case is over. You have already taken a lot of time.

SHRI RAJDEV SINGH: Railway Budget has already been presented in the House and there is no proposal of introducing any new passenger train in Punjab in the Budget. Earlier it was stated that no new train could be started in Punjab due to constraints of resources. In this regard I would like to ask as to whether this constraint of resources is applicable to Punjab only and not in case of other States?

It has been a long standing demand that a passenger train from Bhatinda to Delhi via Rampur Phool, Barnala and Sanaam should be started. This demand has been raised time and again and justifications have also been given in this regard. Thus it is necessary that this demand should be accepted and Punjab should be given its due share. Sardar Atinder Pal Singh who has been elected from Patiala constituency should be released at the earliest. It will help in winning the hearts of Sikh Community. With these words I conclude my speech on President's Address.

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Bijnor): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have read the President's Address very carefully and after regarding it, I was reminded of the previous Government. Congress Government only made promises before millions of down-trodden people of the country and formulated different types of programmes to shut their mouths, whenever they raised issues regarding their rights. I would like to submit that if the Janata Dal Government also follows the same path, it will have to face the same consequences as the Congress Government faced. In the President's Address, I didn't find anything, which is favourable to the poor of this country and which has been said on behalf of the Government. Delhi is the capital of India, where the poor from all over the country have migrated in a large scale in search of livelihood, but the Government never paid any attention to them. Government has not made any arrangement so far for providing housing facilities to them. The Government makes special arrangements for those who migrate from Punjab due to terrorism, but no arrangement has been made by the Govern-

ment yet for those poor, who have migrated to Delhi from other States. Their number is larger than the refugees of Punjab. They are from the down-trodden class of the society. They were never provided any facilities in Delhi.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government on another important issue also. Although it is said by the Government that there is democracy in the country, but a good number of hon. Members have referred to the incidents occurred in Meham and we read about them in newspapers also. I would like to draw the attention of the press reporters sitting in the press gallery of the House towards the incidents occurred in Bijnor district of Uttar Pradesh.....(*Interruptions*) Please listen to me first. When we have listened to you patiently, you should also listen to us. I would like to submit to the hon. Chairman.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is on a point of order. Please sit down, let him say first. After that, you can continue.

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my point of order is that no Member can address the Press here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are right. But as a new Member, she may not be aware of it. I would like to inform you that the press can not be addressed in the House. Please keep it in mind.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: I welcome the advice of hon. Chairman. But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members sitting here and the Government towards the irregularities committed in the case of election for Chandpur Assembly seat. On the 27th of the last month, when election was being held for the Chandpur Assembly seat, I was present there. Before the election, the people belonging to weaker sections were threatened that they would not be allowed to cast their votes, about which I informed the Chief Election Commissioner and informed him again on the 27th. In spite of all this, they

could not exercise their franchise. Out of the 200 polling booths of Chandpur Assembly seat, 62 were captured. Out of them, 32 were such, where 91% to 100% voting was in favour of Janta Dal candidate. Is this the democracy? How it will work if the down-trodden people are deprived of their right to vote. It has been stated by the President in his Address that the use of money and muscle power in the elections will be checked. When the down-trodden people of this country cannot cast their vote, how can they elect their representatives to the Lok Sabha or to the State Assemblies. I have drawn your attention particularly on these issues. May be, my words are too harsh. Neither I am supporting the Congress Government nor the Janta Dal Government. I will only support that Government, which will work for the poor and the down-trodden. I am not the person to support any party under pressure. The poor and down-trodden constitute 85 per cent of our population. There is a need to pay attention towards them. The Government should not shirk their responsibility only by formulating programme as was done by Congress and by simply constituting committees as has been done by this Government. Instead, this Government should ensure the work of the committees in completed in two-three months and see the outcome thereof. It has been stated by the Government that 50 per cent of the Central Budget will be allocated for the rural development. It is a welcome step. Majority of our down-trodden and exploited society lives in the villages. But when the information is gathered, it reveals that the funds provided by the Centre has not reached to them, as the money has been pocketed by the intermediary officials and they get it only on papers. So, in fact, they do not receive any benefit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit through you that the Government should pay attention to what I say and act accordingly otherwise it will have to face the same consequences, which the Congress Party faced at the hands of Bahujan Samaj Party. This Government will also fall, if it does not fulfil its promises made in the election manifesto.

Land is allotted to the poor and the down-trodden people on papers only, but in reality, they do not get it. Not only the hon. member of BJP and Janta Dal, but the Congress Members should also realise this fact. May be, my words are harsh, but you should remember that once these poor, oppressed and backward people are organised, we will not let any atrocity to be committed on them. We are fighting with the Government in this country to follow the path of Baba Saheb Ambedkar and to let the poor and down-trodden also follow that path.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding the question of backward classes, I would like to remind that when the Janta Government came to power in 1977, it had promised that the recommendations made in the reports of Kaka Kalelkar Committee and Mandal Commission would be implemented, but the Janta Party threw those reports in the dust-bin. If the Janta Dal Government adopts the same attitude and only committees are constituted for the implementation of the Mandal Commission reports and no action is taken, the backward people will not spare the Janta Dal Government also.

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I be permitted a brief digression before I go on to the main subject!

May, I Mr. Chairman, take this opportunity to congratulate you on your unanimous choice as the Deputy Speaker. This was announced by Mr. Upendra in a Press Conference a little while ago. So, May I be permitted to congratulate you in advance. It is now a matter of formality only.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: We also congratulate you, Sir.

SHRI INDER JIT: Mr. Chairman, corruption as we all know has been playing havoc with our political, public and national life. Therefore, I have personally welcomed the President's assurance of early steps to clean up our public life, particularly at the

[Sh. Inderjit]

political and at the highest level. I welcome the announcement in regard to the Lok Pal Bill. Nevertheless, I must also express my great disappointment at one major lapse. We cannot clean our public life merely through half measures. These half measures have been the bane of our public life for the last three decades. I would therefore have been happy if the President's Address had also referred to the solemn commitment made by the National Front Government on assuming office. In accordance with this all Ministers were required to declare their assets in Parliament. I greatly regret to say that although one hundred days have passed by these assets have not yet been declared. I would strongly urge that this is very-very necessary if we are to move in the right direction.

As we all know, Nehruji and Shastriji were very clear what they wanted done. We had first the a Santhanam Committee Report. Much more followed thereafter. Yet nothing has really been done in all seriousness. Therefore, I do wish that Mr. V.P. Singh, who heads the National Front Government, should come forward—not only he himself, but also all his Ministers—to make declarations of their assets and lay these on the Table of the House. I know Mr. V.P. Singh has been very clear on this subject personally. Last year, I recall having a discussion with him in the Lobby. Thereafter he came forward with a public declaration of his assets. I had then remonstrated that this by itself was not enough. The declaration of assets needed to be laid on the Table of the House. The reason? Any false declaration would automatically invite contempt and privilege of the House.

Therefore, this is something which must be done, because the present Government made a solemn commitment in the matter. Not only a solemn commitment on assuring office. I remember that the Janata Dal also declared at its foundation Conference at Bangalore that it would come forward with a

law requiring every MP and MLA to file an annual declaration of his assets.

I will elaborate this point a little later. But I would like to say one thing immediately. At one stage, during Pandit Nehru's time, a practice evolved under which Ministers at the Centre were required to file declarations of their assets and to submit copies of these declarations to the Prime Minister. Likewise in the States, the Ministers were required to submit their declarations to the Chief Ministers. But, this did not serve the best interests of the country. If I may say so, at best it served the interests of the leaders who could then use the declarations to manipulate matters in one way or the other.

Yesterday, I was very happy to see that Dr. Chenna Reddy in Andhra Pradesh and all his Ministers have made public announcement of their assets: But I would like to say that this, by itself, is not enough. These declarations of assets should be laid on the Table of the House. That would give the declarations credibility and a special sanction.

As I said earlier, it is not enough that the Ministers declare their assets. If we are really serious about cleaning up the Augean stables and giving our country a clean public life and a clean political life, then we have to take one other step. We have to get all MPs at the Centre, as well as all the MLAs and MLCs in the states to come forward with such declarations. I am not making a very revolutionary suggestions. This practice is something which is followed in many countries.

In Australia, for instance, the present Prime Minister Mr. Robert Hawke got all his MPs and Ministers in 1983 to table declarations of their assets. Likewise in the Bahamas and Malta I had occasion to talk to the President of the Bahamas Parliament Mr. Ooley, as also the speaker of Malta, Mr. Micoreff in the Bahamas, they passed in 1976 a legislation requiring all the members of Parliament or those aspiring to be members of Parliament to make a declaration of

their assets and interests. And not only Parliamentarians, their spouses and dependent children also. In the Malta likewise, and in many other countries, they get all their MPs to declare their incomes and assets.

Therefore, I do feel that two things must be done if we are serious about fighting corruption. Firstly, as I said earlier, all Ministers must be required to make declaration of their assets. And secondly the Prime Minister, and his Government must come forward quickly with legislation requiring all members of Parliament to make a declaration of their assets.

In this context, I would like to add that some of the leading democracies also provide for such declarations. I am sure my friends here are aware that in the United States, for instance, the President and the Vice President, and all the top executive personnel are required to make their financial disclosures to the Congress.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): They have reached a high degree of sophistication.

SHRI INDER JIT: In one case, Mr. Reagan's National Security Adviser Mr. Richard Allon was forced to resign in 1982 because he failed to disclose that he had received three expensive watches and an honorarium of \$ 1,000 from a Japanese Magazine. (Interruptions) Perhaps for some friends here we may have to wait—for Mr. Gorbachev to give a lead. Nevertheless, I think it is important to know that in leading democracies all over the world, this is something which is being done, something which ought to be done here too.

One other point I would like to make at this stage is this. The Santhanam Committee required not only declaration of assets by the Ministers, but also by their families. This might seem to be a radical measure: But I think this is something which must be done, if we are serious about cleaning up our public life.

Mr. Chairman, there is much else to say : But I realize that we have time limitation. So, I shall not deal with other matters except to state in conclusion that there is much that requires to be done—in regard to the Lokpal Bill. Likewise, there is much that needs to be done in regard to the grave issues facing this country. Kashmir is one and Punjab another. Some of us had a chance to speak on Kashmir. But this chance was very very brief. Nevertheless, I am very grateful to you, Sir, for giving me a chance today I do hope that the Government would seriously come forward and do what I have earnestly advocated. Otherwise, there would be a credibility gap in regard to its solemn commitment. Already, people outside are beginning to feel that a fraud has been perpetrated on them, a hundred days have gone by. And as yet, the Ministers have not declared their assets.

Finally, thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me a chance to air my views on a very limited, but a vital matter. It is a subject of great national importance indeed if we are truly serious about having a clean public and national life.

SHRI PIYARE LAL HANDOO (Anantnag): Mr. Chairman, I thank you for having called upon me, though late in the day, to make some observations on the Motion presently being discussed in the House. Normally speaking, perhaps 100 days' time would not be long enough for us to pass a judgement on the working of the Government, particularly in some of the sectors of the State activities; those would be our foreign policy, difficult price position and strangulation of debt grip. My friends from the Janata Dal, today early in the day, characterised it, the spread of multi-nationals' hold over the economy. Perhaps in respect of that, the present time would not be correct to pass any judgment on the working of the Government of the Janata Dal. But there are sectors in which 100 days' time is sufficiently long and we can see the direction in which the Janata Dal Government is taking the country. The Janata Dal Government itself in their first Address characterised those sectors as most critical sectors of the nation's life.

[Sh Piyare Lal Handoo]

I may remind them what I said about Punjab in the first Presidential Address. We can also recollect what was said about Punjab in this House. Then we had more than four Akali Dal (Mann Group) Members present, and today we saw only one of them present. What has happened in Punjab since the last Session, since the discussion on the President's Address? I think it is known to everybody. I need not repeat it. But what I said then can be repeated even now. The kind of terror that Punjab is seeing today is the kind of terror that was seen three months before perhaps in graver form. We are still far away in Punjab as we were then from holding the prospect of election before the people of Punjab. The second sector which was characterised most serious was Kashmir and perhaps two days before the discussion on the Kashmir—I need not say anything but I have my own personal reasons to make a reference to what was said by the Home Minister in my absence in the House—he said something, and that was about the representative character of the member of the Kashmir National Conference in this House. I agree with them that this time during the November elections to the Parliament we were unanimous in saying that people in large numbers did not come to vote. We do not take any credit for having ensured the boycott of the people. If anybody can take credit for having ensured the boycott of the people from the electoral process, perhaps Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed is to be given that credit. The mere fact, as I said last time, that he did not travel through a tunnel to contest in his home district was a sufficient proof of which forces did he try to support then and left Congress and the National Conference alone to contest against, what I said then, shadow in the electoral process. But if he is keen to solve Kashmir problem, I hereby give him a proposal today. I resign tomorrow morning from the Parliament. But Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed will have to do one thing, he will have to say on the Floor of this House that as Home Minister of India he will contest elec-

tion against me from Anantnag constituency. It will help us in two ways. It will choose the right type of representative for the Anantnag District. It will also ensure a beginning of political activity in my district. Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed would do only two things. He will make a declaration on the Floor of this House that within two hours of my resignation from the Parliament he will request the Election Commission to fix a date for the election to Anantnag parliamentary Constituency. I will be a candidate against Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. He will contest against me as the Home Minister of the country. Let us both join this struggle to help as many people as we can and get them into the electoral process.

It is very fine to say what happened there. But what is needed is what we do today. I was begging him the other day, I beg him even today—Kindly recognise the sea change that has taken place in Kashmir between the 13th of December and 20th of January. These two dates will not be obliterated from the minds of the people at any point of time. If you do not recognise the importance of these two dates and still do not take steps and undo things which are being done perhaps you will land in a position where we will not be able to retrieve anything in the State, much less the ideology that helped Kashmir to blend itself with the Union of India and which helped India to be called the motherland of Kashmir. I will say nothing more than this today about Kashmir.

There are some important matters which have been omitted in this President's Address. I shall seek reference to one of the matters which appeared to be dear to the Janata Dal leaders when they were in opposition, that was decentralisation of political power in the country. I seek the Prime Minister's intervention even now to know from him as to what had happened to the Sarkaria Commission and to the recommendations contained therein. There was an amendment moved by me last time to the President's Address seeking implementation of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission. But this President's Address is to-

tally silent about the decentralisation of power, which has to be the bedrock of the federal system in the country. If we ignore that, we will be taking a risk of having more secessionist movements all over the country. Last time I made an appeal to kindly try to find the meaning of the visit to Kashmir by one of the Members of Parliament who has not yet taken oath. Why did he visit Srinagar and why did he address a public meeting in Hazratbal mosque? I also requested kindly find the meaning of the press statement issued by the leader of the so-called liberation movement in Assam. If you do not read the meaning and attempt to weld together the so-called liberation movement in Assam, the so-called independence movement in Punjab and the so-called secessionist movement in Kashmir, you will be missing something from the modern Indian life. I once again appeal to the Home Minister to come to the House and take the House into confidence in respect of the studies they have conducted about the possible interconnection between these movements and indicate as to the steps they propose to take from the Sarkaria Commission for restructuring the national life.

We are connecting agricultural labour with wages and do not connect them with the land. The most important thing is that we have to connect agricultural labour with the land. Are we so poor in land as not to be in a position to distribute land among the agricultural labourers? We are enlisting the laws passes eighteen or twenty before and putting them in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. That will not solve the problem. What is needed is an attempt to restructure and rephrase the total social relativity of our rural life and to ensure sufficient land for every working hand and to see that we decentralise the political power right from Delhi up to the Panchayat level.

With these submissions, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on the President's Address.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (Ghosi): Mr.

Chairman, Sir, the President's Address is the policy-statement of the Government. It reflects the Government's policies regarding prices, the national unity and measures to be taken to eliminate economic and social oppression.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a change of government in a democracy. Sometimes, one party comes to power and sometimes, the other. In America, sometimes the Government is of the Republican Party and sometimes it is of the Democratic Party. In England, sometimes the Government is of the Labour Party and sometimes it is of the Conservative Party. We would not say any such thing about change of the Governments which is detrimental to democratic values of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that this Government does not know which policy to adopt. There is no coherence in functioning of the Government. It is ridden with internal conflicts and lacks internal unity and harmony. It is now three months, when the National Front Government came into power, but it has not been able to form its full Government yet. A single Minister is holding several portfolios. What a Government like this will do for the country, which could not form its full Government in three months.

I would like to ask hon. Members of Parliament of the ruling party who are there to rule our 80 crores of people, how will they implement their policies, principles and fulfill promises made in the Election Manifesto. The election manifesto is like an affidavit in the people's court. How will you fulfil it? How will you assure the masses?

16.57 hrs.

[DR. THAMBI DURAI *in the Chair*]

The Members of the present ruling party say that no development has taken place during the last 40 years. It is the only topic of discussion inside and outside the House. At the time of independence in 1947, India was a poverty-stricken country, but

[Sh. Kalp Nath Rai]

today, it is a powerful country. It has emerged as an industrial power in the world. Was India a country with such a large agricultural sector?..... (*Interruptions*)..... I am presenting the facts before you. If you will continue to interrupt like this, not a single Minister of yours will be able to speak here..... (*Interruptions*).....

Mr. Chairman, Sir, no developing country which believes in democracy has made as much progress as India has made during the last 40 years. I would like to inform the hon. Members of the ruling party that today, India is self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains.

At the time of Independence we used to import foodgrains from abroad. At that time the total population of the country was 35 crore. Today, our country produces 17 crore tonnes of foodgrains. We have set a new record in foodgrains production in the country.

Today our country is an atomic power. It is the sixth country in the world to have achieved it. We have missile power also. India has launched a remote sensing satellite. Today India is a military power in the world. It is we who have developed these capabilities.

We have promised to our people a democracy based on socialism. It is the only country in the world where democracy and socialism and freedom of speech and freedom to earn livelihood go together. But this is not the position in other parts of world. Where there is socialism, there is no democracy. Similarly, where there is democracy there is no socialism. Under the able leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi we adopted such a political system in which democracy could go hand in hand with socialism. We accorded priority to freedom of speech alongwith the right to livelihood. We drifted away from the capitalist and communist blocs. The countries of the third world want that the freedom of speech and right to livelihood should go

together. This has been our achievement over the years.

They ask as to what has the Congress done. In this connection I would like to remind them as to who brought freedom to the country. It was the Congress. It was the Congress which abolished Zamindari system and the privy purse enjoyed by the former rulers. Congress nationalised the banks and established democracy based on equality. It provided land and money to crores of poor people to construct houses. Congress was infact a ray of hope for the poor people. Even today ours is the largest party in the country. 210 Members of Lok Sabha have won on the Congress party ticket but the Government was formed of a minority party. The party in power has no policies, no principles and no programmes. What policies and principles they are talking of. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that this Government will fall within a year or two and future will then look towards Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his achievements.

[*English*]

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make it very clear to the other side that the hon. Minister must know what his party Members are doing... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will take care of it. Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this connection I would like to quote a few sentences of Shrimati Indira Gandhi who was a great world leader:—

[*English*]

"Today, who are our enemies? It may be that we have external enemies and will have them in future, too. Then, like many other countries, we have poverty

and economic backwardness as our common enemy. But what was it that weakened India in the first place because of which we lost our Independence? The same thing exists today, which can, and is, weakening the country. It is divisiveness in the name of religion and language, as also provincialism and casteism. I ask you, my brothers, my sisters and dear children, which country has been able to progress without unity and hard work? We want our defence forces to be strong. Why? Not to launch an attack on others, but to defend our own borders, to keep our country safe. We want that our industries should flourish, our agricultural production should grow, employment opportunities should increase, as also the production of those goods which can help raise our living standards and provide comfort and happiness.

There are three big dangers. One is the amassing of the worst kinds of weapons which can destroy the human species, entire cities and lands. Second, the gap between the rich and the poor nations continues to widen. The gap between the rich and the poor exists in our country and in other poor countries also. This is a fact we do not seek to conceal. At least we are trying to establish a socialistic pattern of society and socialism itself means that this difference between the rich and the poor should diminish, that equality should prevail in society and that the fruits of Independence should reach each individual and every family. The third danger is that because of greed we continue to exploit the natural resources of the earth like mining coal and extracting oil without giving a thought to what effect such acts will have on the coming generations."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had said that either the world has to

destroy weapons or the weapons will destroy the world. The entire world is undergoing tremendous change. If we do not mould ourselves accordingly we will not be able to save the unity and integrity of the country. What is the position of India in the context of the world and that of Asia? What mistakes have we committed so far. I am not saying that the Congress has achieved all the targets which were set during the freedom struggle. I am also not saying that the Congress has fulfilled all the aspirations of the people. I do not also want to say that the leaders of opposition have succeeded in achieving their goals. But one thing I must say that it is due to Congress that we have made achievements in different fields and the country has made progress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while on the one hand the members of the Janata Dal say that—

[*English*]

public sector will occupy commanding height in economy.

[*Translation*]

Whereas on the other hand Shri Advani says that—

[*English*]

private sector will occupy the commanding height in the economy.

[*Translation*]

I would like to ask whether both the things can go together? Our friends belonging to leftist and communist party might be agitated with us on certain points, but they are our friends. They are the people who are going to co-operate with us in our fight for socialism.

There have been some mistakes on our part for which we are being punished. But I know that one day or the other we will be united and the people will dig the grave of

[Sh. Kalp Nath Rai]

communalism and casteism. Mr. Chairman, Sir, in 1977, their 360 Members won the elections. The election were held again after a period of 2 1/2 years and 340 out of them were defeated and same of them lost even their security deposits. They have never visited Delhi even once thereafter. They do not have a standing. How long would they remain in power? If they have courage, let them from the Government of their own. If they are able to do so I dare say that their Government will collapse within a year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, they talk of having a leader. The opposition party in India never got a leader. For some time it was led by Shri Morarji Desai, who was a Congressman and for sometime Choudhary Charan Singh was their leader. Today, Shri V.P. Singh a Congress deserter became their leader. Who is he? On 12 July 1987 he said—

[English]

"Rajiv Gandhi is my leader, the Congress is my party".

[Translation]

The Congress discarded him and they accepted him as their leader. He tries to be a leader. They welcome him, whom we had thrown out of our house. I would like to say a few words about the rise of their leader. In one of the meetings of All India Congress Committee the present Prime Minister had made a fervent appeal to Shrimati Indira Gandhi to give Rajiv Gandhi for party work so that they could fight the Kauravas of the Opposition. Today he has become the leader of those Kauravas. Let him deny this. After the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, a meeting took place in 24, Akbar Road, New Delhi. In that meeting the present leader of the country had compared Rajiv Gandhi with Lord Shiva. He had said that just as Lord Shiva had carried the dead body of Sati on one of his shoulders and the entire sub-continent on the other, similarly, Rajiv Gandhi, is carrying the dead body of Indira Gandhi on

one of his shoulders, and the responsibilities of mother India on the other. Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 23 November, 1981 at Kanpur, while addressing a mass rally of 5 lakh people the same leader had said that Rajiv Gandhi was a luminary star who outshines even the radiance of the sun and the moon. He had also said to the audience that the Nehru dynasty is like a gold mine which sometimes produced diamonds like Jawaharalal and sometimes leaders like Rajiv Gandhi. He added further that just as the body gets energised with the infusion of blood in the veins, similarly, the Congress party has got strength and stability with the arrival of Rajiv Gandhi. He had said that Rajiv Gandhi is our Commander and we are his soldiers. Was such a sycophant ever born in Indian politics.....

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): Sir, I am on a point of order. We are discussing the President's Address and therefore we should confine ourselves to the issues and the problems which have been mentioned therein. Aspersion should not be cast on the personal conduct or personality of the hon. Prime Minister. Therefore, you should direct the hon. Member not to cast personal aspersions and speak on relevant issues.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If at all unparliamentary or anything else is spoken, then only we can remove it. I cannot allow your point of order. Only I can request the Members that when they are speaking they can restrict their speech according to whatever subject we are discussing. Well, I cannot restrain the Member. Therefore, it is left to the Member to decide what to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let it be relevant to the particular subject. That is all I can say.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Chairman,

Sir, I was trying to paint the true self of the leader of National Front Government. Two years ago he was a Congressman. I expelled him and the entire party gave its approval to this move. Because**.....

They were ** against the Rajiv Government. Through this House, I would like to recount the issues relating to Fairfax Agency. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister and he was the Minister of Finance. Without taking the Prime Minister and the Parliament into confidence.....

(Interruptions)

SHRINATHUSINGH (Dausa): Sir, I am on a point of order. We do not have any objection to the speech of Shri Kalp Nath Rai. He is free to speak against the Prime Minister or any other Minister but he said that at that time the Prime Minister was..... Has he any proof? If he has, he should submit it in the House. The Hon. Prime Minister is not present in the House and I think, making such an allegation against him in his absence is against the dignity of the House. It is a very serious allegation. If the hon. Member has any proof, he should submit it to the House. According to him, a person who..... is the Prime Minister today. Either he should submit a proof in support of the allegation or it should be expunged from the proceedings of the House, otherwise it will be against the dignity of the House.....*(Interruptions)*.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to me. I will go through the record and see.

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU SINGH: It means that the Prime Minister..... It should be expunged from the record.....*(Interruptions)*.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request all of you to take your seats. I will go through the record

and set it right if there is anything objectionable.

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU SINGH: Either it should be expunged or withdrawn.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record and if there is any objectionable remark, it cannot be part of the record.

.....*(Interruptions)*.....

SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA (Bhilwara): My humble submission is he has made a specific allegation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already given the ruling.

SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: The only submission is I refute the charge with all our might. It is far away from the truth. Let it remain on the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already informed the House that I will go through the record and if there is any objectionable remark, it cannot be apart of the record.

[Translation]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Natrajan, the sitting judge of the Supreme Court has said in his report that the Fairfax Agency was hired at the instance of Mr. Hershman I will submit that report to the House tomorrow. Efforts have always been made to destabilise the country with the help of C.I.A. Justice Natrajan and Justice Thakkar, the sitting judges of the Supreme Court, have clearly said in their report that the Fairfax agency was hired without consulting the Prime Minister, Cabinet or the President.....*(Interruptions)*.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already you have taken a lot of time. Please sit down.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: It was a n anti-people and anti-national step... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Try to conclude your speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Not only this, the Chairman of the Fairfax Agency, Mr. Hershman was the former director of the C.I.A...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Shri S.C. Verma...(*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: By hiring this Agency, they had taken an anti-people and anti-national step. Indian laws have no jurisdiction over the aforesaid Agency and we have no control over it...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): Now, he is speaking again.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Sir, you have given me two minutes more so please let me speak. I have not yet concluded. It was an anti-national and anti-people step by Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and his men. A conspiracy was being hatched to destabilise the political stability of the country...(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA: He must

be asked to sit down. You have called the next speaker.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: The Janata Dal has made several commitments in its election manifesto and one of them was waiving of loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will ask him. Please take your seat. Mr. Kalp Nath you have already taken a lot of time. I am giving two minutes to wind up.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Janata Dal Government have neither taken any step towards waiving of farmers' loan since it came to power nor anything has been mentioned about it in the President's Address...

(*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You Address the Chair. Now please conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: In spite of this, the Government considers itself as the supporter of the farmers...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, this Address does not contain any positive point. The factual position has been ignored in it... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat. There is a limit for you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: The present Government may last for one year or two

years but thereafter crores of people of this country will dislodge it and will remember the achievements of Shri Rajiv Gandhi and his Government once again... (*Interruptions*)...

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this country can never forget one of the greatest world leader Shri-mati Indira Gandhi and her achievements. The President has not said anything concrete in his Address about the inclusion of right to work in the Constitution. Therefore this is a helpless Government..... (*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken 30 minutes. Wind up... (*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Janata Dal Government... (*Interruptions*)...

You are not allowing me to speak, I will also not allow you to speak.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request all of you to cooperate to conduct the House. If you are not cooperating, I cannot do anything. Mr. Verma, carry on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Sir, I am on a point of order. If such a senior Member like Shri Kalp Nath Rai behaves in this manner in the Lok Sabha, where we represent, lakhs and crores of people, what will the junior Members learn from him. I would say that such behaviour does not behave him.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. Mr. Verma, carry on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI S.C. VARMA (Bhopal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am one of those members who have been elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time and my first submission is before you. I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards two or three issues. The most important of them is that of the Bhopal gas tragedy victims. I am myself a resident of Bhopal and I am aware of their agony, as I have been a witness to that frightening tragedy that took place in the chilly night of December 2, 1984. I would like to mention here that the people of Bhopal have elected me to the Lok Sabha, so that I can draw the attention of the august House to their agony and distress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the tragedy took place in Bhopal on December 2-3, 1984, lakhs of people ran helter-skelter as if they have come under a heavy attack. At that time, an explosion took place in the Union Carbide Company and a gas enveloped the entire atmosphere, but, alas within a span of few hours many died, those who could see became blind, others became handicapped and were left to struggle between life and death. The figures that have been published shows more than 3600 people dead and after that when we compiled the data two thousand more people had died. Although such a horrible tragedy shook the whole world, not only India, yet it is most sorrowful that the Government failed to provide necessary relief to those people. I charge the previous Government for treating the issue so lightly. They never gave due consideration to the basic problems. They never asked themselves what relief they had provided in the 4-5 years that had passed by. We were always given assurances that some of our problems would be solved, but nothing happened. With utmost grief, I would like to state that the decisions of the present Government too are not based on realities. Distribution of money is a welcome step, 120 crores are to be distributed for one year and it has also been stated through the President's Address that 360 crores would be distributed. However, I would like to state

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before the august House that distribution of money would not solve the basic problems of the gas-affiliated people. This is just an interim relief that was to be provided soon after the tragedy. The tragedy took place in 1984 and today, in the year 1990, they are saying that they are distributing money and providing relief. As an administrator, who has served in high positions for about 30-35 years, I wonder how money could be distributed equally. Did the same number of deaths take place in all the families? Did the same number of people become handicapped in all the families? What sort of justice is that the same amount is distributed to all the families and what sort of justice is it, when they say that they have done whatever was to be done and that they would be considering it in future? It is very necessary to understand what is to be considered in future, because this is not an issue that can be disposed of that easily. What is surprising is that when 80-90 people die in a plane crash or when 200-300 people die in a train accident, there is a commotion not only in India, but throughout the world. Surely, then the problems in Bhopal, where 3600 people have died, where people are dying everyday even now and where about 1.50 to 1.75 lakh people are still suffering from the after effects, deserves a serious consideration.

What I want to say is that, it is good that money has been distributed, but the issue of rehabilitation should also be considered along with it. It is nothing short of justice when a mere amount of Rs. 10,000 each is paid to those families whose members have died compared to the lakhs of rupees given as compensation to the families of the victims of plane crashes and rail accidents. Yesterday, the Railway Minister even announced an increase in the compensation amount in the event of a rail accident to two lakh rupees, but the families of Bhopal gas victims were given just Rs. 10,000 each because they are poor people, because they cannot fight. What sort of justice is this? The previous Government did not pay enough attention and committed irregularities. I would like to sub-

mit before you the legal position of the issue. It is beyond the jurisdiction of the Indian Courts, whether it be the District court, the High court or even the Supreme court to decide about these cases as this was granted to them by an American Court because it was there that the legal proceedings were initiated first.

When the case was taken up in the U.S.A., the U.S. courts felt that the poor gas victims would not be able to come over to the U.S.A. So they thought of giving the jurisdiction of the case to Indian courts. I have with me the decision of the U.S. court. It says That:-

[English]

- (i) Consent to the jurisdiction of the courts of India and continue to waive defences based on the statute of limitations;
- (ii) Agree to satisfy any judgment rendered by an Indian court against it and upheld on appeal, provided the judgment and affirmance comport with minimal requirements of due process.

[Translation]

The Government should clearly understand that only a basic jurisdiction has been granted to Indian courts. Initially, the case was registered in the Bhopal District Court, which said that an interim relief of Rs. 3.5 crores be paid to the gas victims since a lot of time had elapsed. Union Carbide appealed against this decision in the High Court. This amount was reduced to Rs. 2.5 crores by the High Court for reasons unknown. Subsequently the Central Government and the State Government filed an appeal in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court said that a proposal had been received from Union Carbide for a settlement with the Central Government. The Central Government agreed to this as the disposal of the case would take a lot of time. Then the parties agreed to an amount of 470 million

dollars in settlement. This gave rise to many doubts because the then Government had given in writing that they wanted a compensation of Rs. 3300 crores. But later on, they agreed to accept just Rs. 715 crores which is rupee equivalent of 470 million dollars. This would naturally create doubts in the minds of people. What could be the reasons that made the Government agree to an amount of just 470 million dollars in settlement? Anyway, I shall not go into the hows and whys of this matter. Being an administrator, I neither look for a political angle nor doubt anybody's intentions until it has been proved. I would like to say that as mentioned in the President's Address, an interim relief has been paid but we shall take this matter to court again. As an administrator, I am familiar with certain laws and I would like to caution the Central Government that if it files a petition in the Supreme Court, the Union Carbide will again have the right to back-out without honouring their side of the agreement. Sir, I would ask the Government to beware of it. The Government should hold a dialogue with Union Carbide and pressurise them to agree that it would be better if they pay a higher amount as compensation. If Union Carbide moves out of the settlement, the case will reopen and then its fate would be hard to determine. The decisions regarding interim relief were taken by the District court, the High Court and the Supreme Court. The issues as such have not been framed as yet. The process in the civil court has not yet been set in motion. If that process starts it will take at least 20-30 years to arrive at a settlement. Sir, these are some of the points that I would like the Government to take note of. We are not interested in distributing a beggarly sum of Rs. 200 to each victim and then ask them to remain content with that. What is more important is that we rehabilitate the affected families. The point is what we propose to do in the case of 3600 people who have already died and in case of another 2000 casualties about whom information has been received and on behalf of whom claims have been filed. We have to think of ways to augment their income on a permanent basis. Secondly, what is surprising is that when the affected people were

asked to file their claims, 5 to 5.5 lakh people filed their claims. So this is really a problem of gigantic proportions. When these people were subjected to a respiratory test, over 2 lakh people were found to be suffering from an acute health disorder. I have seen with my own eyes that even the progeny of those affected in the gas leak are suffering from physical disorders. Just 3-4 days back, I saw a new-born child who did not have eyesight. People even go to the extent of saying that this was much like the after-effects of chemical warfare by which the present as well as the future generations are adversely affected. The Bhopal Gas Tragedy was as serious as the dropping of the atom-bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan or the use of poisonous gas in the Iran-Iraq war. All these points have to be taken into consideration, otherwise, the people of Bhopal will hold a grudge not only against the Government but the entire nation for their miseries. Nobody had asked for a factory to be set up over there. It was the Central Government that granted approval. The plant was set up and the leakage of gas from it killed thousands and maimed many others for life. Many families were wiped out and incalculable destruction was caused. These were the points I wanted to mention.

Another matter relates to the grant of one rank-one pension as mentioned in the President's Address. This was in the context of service personnel. But what is not understandable is why this cannot be applied to civilian officers. There are 2-3 decisions of the Supreme Court on this subject. The judges of the Supreme Court themselves took the initiative and in their case the Supreme Court decided that those who had retired prior to 1.1.1986 would get the same amount of pension as those retiring after that date. The formula of one rank-one pension should be applicable to other services also. Pension is given to those who attain the age of superannuation. It would be desirable to let the old people live their lives peacefully without feeling the pressures of inflation. Does price-rise pinch those who retire before 1.1.1986 and those who retire later

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differently? This is the second point that I wanted to raise.

I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I express my support for the Motion of Thanks.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Hari Kishore Singh with regard to the Address made by the President to both Houses of Parliament.

During the discussion in the House about the last Address to the joint sitting of Parliament by the President, I have made it categorically clear—not just as the Member of Parliament belonging to the Congress party, but also as a young Member—that youth of this nation are not happy with mere words or platitudes or just commitments. We want real action and real proof on the ground. At that time, the alibis that was presented was that—we just come to know, we just got it—give us a chance in the Government for a few days and we will show you a record of progress. Hundred days were glorified and hundred days of progress was established. But one thing is clear. The Government has been very efficient in appointing committees, councils and collective decision making bodies. But whether any real decisions have come out or whether there has been any real improvement on the ground, that is not there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I as a child recollect one joke or Committees, especially Government Committees. It has often been said that Committees to Government are very akin to a stomach ailment known as diarrhoea. In both cases, there are always sittings. In both cases there are reports and in both cases the matter is dropped. The situation is like that. So, I only wish that in this particular instance this does not happen.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Please expunge this.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Why? This is very very parliamentary. I did not use wrong words. If you don't understand the joke, I cannot help it.

Mr Chairman, Sir, I understand the anathema or a feeling of animus that my—more loyal than the king—senior Member of this House Shri Somnath Chatterjee feels, because he knows that I am hitting very close to what he feels.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I said only for your benefit because it should not remain in your name like this.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Why do you feel that all the Committees will function like this?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the point which is very important is that in the very second paragraph of the Address. His Excellency the President, while Addressing both the Houses of Parliament, has gone on to make, what I consider a factual error. He has said that,

'by and large, reaffirmed the verdict of the people in the last Lok Sabha elections in favour of change'.

In fact, the present Government—though it is a minority Government—have enjoyed a certain percentage of votes and a certain amount of support in the States where the Assembly elections took place. But, today, the Assembly elections have proved that the Lok Sabha elections vis-a-vis the Assembly elections,—the Government have lost ground rather the National Front Government has lost ground and it is the BJP which has gathered ground. (Interruptions) I do not say that the Congress gathered ground. No. We accept the people's verdict. We never go against the people's verdict. I am just mentioning that a factual error is there and it is a point to be noted. What is important is that,

today in the last four months, the communal forces have become stronger not only in Parliament or not only in the Assemblies, but communalistic tendencies have really taken root and matters are going out of hand.

Kashmir is a serious problem. It is not just a problem. It is not just an issue. It is a crisis today. It has been admitted in this House that civilian administration has come to a nullity. It is admitted in this House that there is no law and order. It is admitted in this House by the Government that they are not able to manage this situation. All of us have got together and decided that this is a national crisis, not a debating point. But what one feels very unhappy about is that the President's Address is almost casual about it. Very inert statements have been made and that depth of the problem was not understood even at the time when the President's Address was given to both the Houses of Parliament. It is most unfortunate.

But what has really affected all of us is that Kashmir is not just one of the States of our Union. Kashmir is also a symbol of secularism of India. If Kashmir breaks away, it would have far-flung reaction not just in terms of one State segregating or just a matter of secessionism.

It is relevant to this point that if one takes up the statement that the Governor made to the all-party delegation that met him, the objective of the Government as well as that Governor seems to be to render whatever little political force that existed in Jammu and Kashmir, which was nationalistic in character, to nullity. The objective was to say that the National Conference and the Congress were a write-off and that there is no other political force except the JKLF in Kashmir. Is this exactly what a nationalistic Government should do? That Governor was sent all the way from Delhi to Kashmir—a Governor against whom the then Chief Minister said categorically, if he was appointed as Governor, he would resign. Knowing very well that the Chief Minister would resign, that the elected Government would not remain, the Government was sent in order that the res-

ignation could be obtained, in order that the National Conference and the Congress could be made a non-entity.

And ultimately for what purpose? Is that JKLF, which is giving the slogan of separatism, going to succumb and work within the Constitution? They know very well that would not help.

The situation in Kashmir is not one to be just discussed. We need action. I would like to plead on this occasion, let everyone of us, who is interested in it, be given the opportunity. I have my little influence among the Central Government employees in Kashmir. Let us be given the opportunity to go to Kashmir to move among the people. I would. I have asked the hon. Home Minister for curfew passes. Even if he does not give these, we would go as the trade unionists know how to do it. We will go, if necessary, at the cost of violation because Kashmir to us is not just a mere problem. It is the whole nation's very fundamental symbol of secularism being destroyed.

I would like to say one last word about Kashmir. It is not as simple as it looks. There is a very serious sinister plan behind this. It is obvious that an attempt is being made in a planned, manner to alienate the people, the administration, the bureaucracy of Kashmir from India as a whole in order to justify a communal campaign that is on all over India. The very next step would be to say that these people belong to another religion—the Muslims, a minority—they show no loyalty, and, therefore, they must be taught a different lesson. It is these communal elements who are behind the scene. That's why one sees them supporting even the State terrorism being let loose by the Governor, Mr. Jagmohan. What is unfortunate is to see that this Government, which claims to be secular, which in its words speaks of secularism with the highest respect, actually stands on a communal crutch which is becoming stronger and stronger and one can see collusive action. They cannot pull wool over the eyes of Indians so easily. The people will realise what is the falsity behind every statement

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they make. Of course, they are very apt in making statements. Words come up galore with lovely terminology to add.

If I may say, one more example would be relevant. One sees the manner in which the President has categorically stated in his Address that:

"My Government will fight those trends which have, in recent years, sapped our democratic institutions of their vitality and strength. Government is taking steps to ensure that our election system is rid of the debilitating effect of money and muscle power."

They say this on one side and on the other side, in Haryana one sees their own Chief Minister. *(Interruptions)*

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: In Amethi. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: We are not saying anything. You have to realise something. This is your address and not ours. One must realise what one is doing. I wonder whether your value system is when one commits a crime, the other one can also commit. Is it that?... *(Interruptions)*... You have said louder than normal words that you stand up for all that is right and you are against muscle and moneypower. Why don't you get your Chief Minister in Haryana resign? Then, I will accept what you say. Mr. Chairman Sir, the issue is double-valued. They have exposed themselves. They are unable to enforce discipline in their party. That is not the only issue. One can go into the Address and find as to what is said about food production. They claim the credit for it. They have said that the procurement of rice has touched a new high at 9.32 million tonnes in the last year. I presume that this was not done within four months. It seems that they have procured 9.32 million tonnes in four months, i.e., ever since they came to power. They do not give credit where it is due. It is obvious that they are still in their

public relations phase. They may believe in saying that even the good monsoon was due to them. You forget that the monsoon took place when our Government was in power.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That monsoon was due to you.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, let me make it clear that at this present moment, I do not claim anything that had happened because of us. One can see the atmosphere of the House, i.e., hon. Members saying that everything that is bad is ours and everything that is good is theirs.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: By and large yes.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am grateful that at least by saying 'by and large' you are coming closer to us. They are incapable of even admitting their views which they claim that they can admit.

I would like to go into another matter which is very close to my heart. In my own State, Tamil Nadu, there is total breakdown of law and order in the constitutional machinery. Every Member of Parliament had been assaulted, insulted and dragged into jail and had been treated to the worst form of dignity. I myself have personally gone through it. I do not say 'off the record' for the sake of using words. We have been physically taken up and thrown into the gutters. It had happened to us. We have complaints. Is that how you treat the citizens?

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): How were we treated during the emergency?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: You are justifying it. You should say whether it is proper to do so.

[English]

Mr. Chairman, I am not contesting

what happened or what did not happen during emergency. But obviously, it is clear that they think that without announcing or proclaiming emergency under the Constitution, they can carry it out in Tamil Nadu. They do not have the support of the people. This has been established. In both the elections, the Lok Sabha elections as well as the by-elections, every form of booth capturing and other techniques like using money and muscle power were adopted. It was used in the Palani elections of Lok Sabha. Still, they could not win because the margin was so large. What is important today is that there are more than 30,000 political detainees in the jails of Tamil Nadu just because one day they said that they will do Rail Roko if the name of a particular station will not be changed to the name of a famous leader of India, Mr. Kamaraj. They just made a symbolic protest in each Railway.... (*Interruptions*) ...Many people have gone and come back and we know that many will come back. **18.00 hrs.**

The problem here is that they are unwilling to even understand the situation. Such lack of sympathy, such lack of sensitivity is terrible to see it from those who form the crutches and becoming more loyal than the King. I do not find the treasury benches responding. The response is coming from the supporting crutches. Anyway after all, it is on the crutches they stand.

I would only like to say this much that never before except in British times—where *satyagrahis* or the people who participate in the democratic movement, treated in this manner... (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Somnathji knows very well, how much he spoke and how much he spoke during the last Session. They talk of Panchayati Raj and genuine Panchayati Raj. Is genuine Panchayati Raj is that Panchayati Raj where Panchayati Presidents are the puppets of the State Governments? I wonder. I would like to have a clarification. What are these words 'genuine Panchayati Raj vis-a-vis Panchayati Raj'? A clarification, I think is worth because after all, it is in a document... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): For twenty years, there have been no elections.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: We are asking for elections. You are not realising what the Panchayati Raj scheme is. You were there in Parliament. It is not that you do not know what it was.

Another unfortunate thing is this. They have been speaking from roof-tops about waiving loans upto Rs. 10,000. God knows how long they are talking about this. In the last two elections, they have been able to manage. But I would like to know what is this scheme. Is it going to be an immediate wiping out or is it another attempt to befool the people of India? It will be very interesting to see how much they will do and what they will do.

Another interesting thing is the manner in which they claimed to solve the problem of unemployment. After making the usual statements that they will strive to ensure for all citizens—this is an extract from the Directive Principles of State Policy, it is very clear, even the words are common—now they say that the Government will introduce a Constitution Amendment to enshrine, the right to work, as a fundamental right in the Constitution. I welcome it. The Congress had asked for this to be included, in the last Speech. We have requested for an Amendment. We welcome it and I fought for it even when I was in the treasury benches. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee knows about it. I may have failed but I fought for it. But the situation is simple. I would like to know whether it is going to come in this Session. Because it does not talk of this Session. I would plead with them that it is time ultimately that we youths at least have this—the fundamental right to work and not the right to laze around.

Now, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government a very important point. The Government should make a note of it. I understand, quite reliably, that in the Meeting at Cairo from May 31st to June 3rd of the Organisation of Islamic States, the JKLF

[Sh. P.R. Kumaramangalam]

Leader is slated to address. The hon. Minister may note this because, it is very important. They are going to raise a demand with more than 30 Islamic nations to take up the struggle for self-determination in Kashmir and not only in Kashmir but also in certain of the Republics of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. They are going to club all of them together and are planning to move it in the United Nations as a self-determination appeal of the people. One must use all diplomatic efforts one has to scuttle this.

We have supported the Arab world over and over again on many fundamental issues, including recognition of Palestine. We must use all our talents to ensure that this does not happen. If this does happen, it would queer the pitch in the international arena. Today, Pakistan is doing almost what exactly we did before the Bangladesh War took place. They are preparing the ground internationally to create an atmosphere allergic to us, which is animus to us. Let us do our best in the diplomatic lines. Let it not be just touch and go. Serious efforts are required on the diplomatic front.

In Sri Lanka, there is a very major issue which has happened. There has been a mention about the Sri Lanka Accord, and hopes and aspirations that the Accord would be implemented. But factually, that has not come up. On the contrary, we have reached a stage where there is almost total wipe-out of all Tamil militants in the East. Today, there is a buffer district in Sri Lanka, called Vellore. There is a situation where in a British frigate H.M.S. *Adelane* (*interruptions*) has stayed for three weeks in Colombo, and 38 British Naval Intelligence officers have spent over four weeks in Trincomalee which was originally a British port. Today, at Trincomalee, at Plantation Point as it is called—or Plain Point, whichever way you may pronounce it—it is very clear that there are over ten senior Pakistani military officials posted there, training the Sri Lankan Army.

Another important fact is that every

single Army camp in Sri Lanka i.e. of Sinhalese Army, has moved back into its old barracks which they had occupied before they were caught; and I have myself with me informally a Plan of Action—which I can give the hon. Minister if he wishes—on how to wipe out not only just EPRLF but also the LTTE. Today, a situation has arisen when unless strong diplomatic efforts are taken, it is quite possible that we have a situation back to 1983, i.e. of Square One. It is a serious breakdown.

Lastly, I would make an appeal. Yes; all refugees are liabilities; not necessarily assets. But don't treat all of them as criminals. Let them not be thrown from pillar to post, to find a place to stay. They may be Tamilians, or any others; but the point is that they are refugees; they are accepted political refugees. I plead with the Government: please give them the respect the refugees deserve.

I would like to end with something which is very close to my constituency, if I can have half a minute. Salem Steel was a dream of every single person (*Interruptions*) belonging to Salem. Last year, during my Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's regime, Rs. 450 crores were sanctioned, allotted...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Only sanctioned

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: You check up the records. What has happened is terrible. It was sanctioned for being spent for a hot rolling plant for backward integration of Salem Steel. Unfortunately, that has been reconsidered. It has been stayed. Now an attempt is being made by my friends specially from Durgapur, to take that hot rolling stickle mill, and thereby destroy whatever dream there was of having an integrated steel plant in Salem. I would plead both with the supporting parties, and specially Basudev Acharia Ji—he is not here—that they may kindly be considerate; and I request the Government kindly to allow the dream.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We have not opposed it.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM. Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam was one time a member of your party.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is the misfortune.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The other point which is very important is this: the airport at Salem has been awaiting implementation. I request the Government to take it up. Unfortunately, the President's Address to both the Houses is of such a nature that all that one can say is that it is a repeat of platitudes and niceties, with a little addition of committees and councils. I would only request this: let us move from it. The country has gone into a crisis in Jammu and Kashmir, it is likely to go into a crisis in the Punjab. Sri Lanka has become a terrible situation. And the *Nanna Munna* Nepal—I think my friend Arif had said it—is in a situation where problems are increasing. I think we should realise that it is no use making debating points. We all should put our heads together and solve these national problems. The Congress will always be willing

[*Translation*]

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay South Central) Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are having a discussion on the President's Address. I rise to welcome the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. Today the complexion of the House has undergone a change because the largest single party which scored 192 seats is sitting in the opposition whereas the party with a total number of 142 seats has formed the Government. Taking it as our national duty we have given a promise of extending our unconditional support to them. During the period of last 42 years, the people of this country found that the party they had voted to power with a thumping majority did not take care of welfare of the people. It is on that account that they chose to elect us to rule this country and to protect it with a sense of collective responsibility. The main factor which has been responsible for this change was the trust of the people negatively responded by

the Congress. Today, our enemy is keeping an evil eye on this country and it is waiting for an opportunity to attack to occupy a part of it. But we will make concerted efforts to face our enemy. India is a land of multiple cultures and a welfare State hence she should work for the welfare of all the people of this country. On the 9th August, 1942, the great leaders of Congress had assembled to resolve to work for the independence of their country and since we had achieved it, welfare of the poorest of the poor should have been the point of prime consideration but for that matter, a period of 42 years has proved inadequate. During that period it was only once that the people of this country did try a change. But later on, in view of a few difficulties the public again voted the Congress to power at the Centre. Now it is once again the people have given their verdict against the Congress and entrusted us with a collective responsibility to which we must positively respond. The President's Address has laid emphasis on security of the country and its people. No doubt priority should be given to it because our enemy is threatening us with regard to Kashmir, we must resist it. We took a number of steps in respect of Sri Lanka. That country might have been divided but to avert that situation, we sent our troops there and saved that country. So in case any foreign power tries to divide a country, our troops must go there to challenge and check that move with all our might in one way or the other by way of negotiation, agreement or the way of conflict. India shall have to go to their rescue. However, we must bear in our mind all the things such as name of the country, to whom that country belongs, which party is in power, try and who have shed their blood for it in the past. We will have to bring all of them together by making all out efforts.

A befitting reply will have to be given to our enemy, during the course of negotiations the issue of Kashmir and Punjab, wages a war on us. During the tenure of General Zia-ul-Haque as the President of Pakistan, there was a secret planning of that country to make a stealthy infiltration into Kashmir, to develop close relationship with

[Sh. Vamanrao Mahadik]

the local residents of the State and gradually take over the administrator in that part of the country. But ours is a secular State. Hindus and Muslims are equal. If Hindus leave their native villages to migrate to Jammu, Muslims too, in the same way, migrate from Jammu to other places. But if an outsider infiltrates we should present him. It is our bounden duty to fight against them. I remember that during our first war with Pakistan, our forces fought so bravely that they could easily occupy whole of the Kashmir valley. But Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru ordered not to proceed further and said that he would face the consequences. I don't want to repeat all those things. However, today we are facing the unfortunate situation. I, therefore would like to urge upon the leaders of all the political parties that

[English]

at any cost even of war, we will have to keep Kashmir with us.

[Translation]

There is no other way out except a war with Pakistan. Kashmir will have to be kept under the administrative control of India. Our friendly gestures towards Pakistan would prove detrimental to the interest of our people and Government of this country. Perhaps you agree with me on this point. Recently, a delegation of leaders of all the political parties headed by Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed visited the valley along with Shri George Fernandes who has been appointed as the Minister in charge of Kashmir affairs. Shri Jagmohan was already there. But leaders of all the political parties should sit together and review the situation on these lines that in case Kashmir slips out of our hands, we may lose Punjab also. For the solution of these problems, I would like to offer a few more suggestions.

Delhi is the capital city of this country but there is one more capital of this country we call it Bombay that is in Maharashtra. It is

also known as the commercial capital of the country all over the world. Nothing has been mentioned about that city in the Address. One of our former Prime Minister had given an assurance to sanction a sum of Rs. 100 crores for improvement in the slums of Bombay where in about 50 lakh people live at present. After all, who owns the responsibility of looking after them? That is the result of the political game we have played for the last 42 years. But we must find out some remedy to solve this problem. That is why all of us, irrespective of our association with the leftist or rightist ideology, extend our full and unconditional support to the new Government. We would like the present Government to take care of the welfare of the poor and weaker sections of the country and share their sufferings. They should leave no stone unturned in this regard. We were expecting that at least one such scheme would be announced in the President's Address for welfare of the poor people of this country, so that they may have an adequate and proper supply of foodgrains from the ration shops to lead a comfortable life. The Government should take necessary steps for this purpose even if they have to bear losses and even if the Government has to give subsidy.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is limited for you. Please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: I have spoken only for a little. However, I would not like to go against your direction. I would like the poor people to avail the facility of ration, the Government should make the provision in this regard. Had such commitment been made in the Address itself, it would have been in the interest of the poor people because food, water, cloth and shelter are the four prime and basic necessities of a man. During the last 40-42 years, we have heard a lot of 20-point programme or 25-point programme or 40-point programme which were meant for the welfare of the poor, but we are

not aware of the extent of bungling done in the name of these programmes. It was for that reason that the earlier government was thrown out of power. Now the new Government have taken over and if they too work on those very lines, they too won't stay. Our scheme should be framed with the sole objective of welfare of the poor people. They, should aim at the redressal of grievances of these people, others may say whatever they like but we are here not to destabilise this Government but to encourage them for efficient functioning. We consider the Government as a medium of fulfilling of all our hopes and aspirations. The previous Government has its links with the affluent. The result is that while on one side, there are people who own vast stretches of land say 50, 100, 200 or even 500 acres on the other side there are people who are starving and cannot afford even two square meals. Hence, the Government should identify such people who have amassed huge wealth during the last 40 years. The other side of the picture is that a large number of people have been starving for want of employment. So the Government should conduct a survey as to how this disparity has permeated and who is responsible for this alarming situation and whether only the politicians are responsible for it. President's Address does not indicate as to what action is proposed to be taken by the Government against such people. Another thing which has not been made clear, is the line of action of the Government, they propose to take in respect of the youth to provide them incentives. Provision of unemployment allowance is no solution to the problem. Today, they have to face a number of difficulties in employment exchanges. Nothing has been mentioned about old age pension also in the President's Address. That is why old and helpless persons like me this Government could not have blessings of, rather they speak ill of them. We will have to pay attention to the poorest of the poor and particularly the poor children. Once when Mahatma Gandhi went to meet King George V, he was covering his body only with a piece of cloth. King George V asked him as to why even he although a barrister was not in his full dress. At this, he replied that the British rule in India

had turned the Indians poor and they were not in a position to afford sufficient clothes to cover their body. Even today, if you observe the position with regard to average distribution of cloth, you will find that even today a large number of people live without a cloth on their body. We do not find a record on this aspect in the President's Address. Our country can face an attack from outside the country, but an uprising of the poor in this country will be a difficult situation to deal with. We hope that the Government would pay attention to wards this. That is why we have been extending our support and cooperation to the present Government.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): The President has rightly highlighted the external threat to our country flowing from the developing crisis in Jammu & Kashmir. The reality on the ground is that the external forces are encouraging terrorism seeking to internationalise the issue and finally to organise intrusion across the border. At this very critical situation of our country, what is needed the most is the granite-like national unity, unfledging resolve and determination to eliminate the external threat.

In the morning I did draw the attention of the Government and the House to the aggressive attitude of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, their aggressive stances and attitude which naturally give rise to the doubt of imminent danger. I am sorry I am constrained to mention that when the need of the hour is an all-cut unity in the country to defend the territorial integrity of the country, it is unfortunate that voices are being heard for reiterating the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution of our country. This reiteration does not unite the people of India; rather it seeks to divide. Therefore, I take this opportunity to draw the attention of this House to the circumstances which are related to this article 370, and urge upon them to disabuse their minds. Instead of using my own words to explain the historical compulsion for article 370 and for its incorporation in the Constitution of our country, I prefer to rely on

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

the wise words of the framers of the Constitution. Permit me to quote what was said when article 370, as we see it today, was moved as article 306 of the Draft Constitution. Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyanger, while moving for the incorporation of that article in the Constitution, was pleased to remark:

"Sir, this matter, the matter of this particular motion, relates to the Jammu and Kashmir State. The House is fully aware of the fact that that State has acceded to the Dominion of India. The history of this accession is also well-known. The accession took place on the 26th October, 1947. Since then, the State has had a chequered history. Conditions are not yet normal in the State. The meaning of this accession is that at present that State is a unit of a federal State, namely, the Dominion of India. This Dominion is getting transformed into a Republic, which will be inaugurated on the 26th January, 1950. The Jammu and Kashmir State, therefore, has to become a unit of the new Republic of India'.

Sir, I do not further want to quote. Simply I want to quote another important paragraph wherein it is said:

"As the House is also aware, Instruments of Accession will be a thing of the past in the new Constitution. The States have been integrated with the Federal Republic in such a manner that they do not have to accede or execute a document of Accession for the purpose of becoming units of the Republic, but they are mentioned in the Constitution itself; and, in the case of practically all States other than the State of Jammu and Kashmir, their constitutions also have been embodied in the Constitution for the whole of India. All those other States have agreed to integrate themselves in that way and accept the Constitution provided."

Then it goes on to say. Some hon. Member of the Constituent Assembly asked why this discrimination, and it was ably answered by Gopaldaswami Ayyanger. I quote:

'The discrimination is due to the special conditions of Kashmir. That particular State is not yet ripe for this kind of integration. It is the hope of everybody here that in due course even Jammu and Kashmir will become ripe for the same sort of integration as has taken place in the case of other States. At present it is not possible to achieve that integration. There are various reasons why this is not possible now. I shall refer again to this a little later.'

The reason he has said is:

'The effect of this article is that the Jammu and Kashmir State which is now a part of India will continue to be a part of India, will be a unit of the future Federal Republic of India and the Union Legislature will get jurisdiction to enact laws on matters specified either in the Instrument of Accession or by later addition with the concurrence of the Government of the State. And steps have to be taken for the purpose of convening a Constituent Assembly in due course which will go into the matters I have already referred to. When it has come to a decision on the different matters it will make a recommendation to the President who will either abrogate article 306A or direct that it shall apply with such modifications and exceptions as the Constituent Assembly may recommend. That, Sir, is briefly a description of the effect of this article, and I hope the House will carry it'.

18.29 hrs

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

Now, herein is explained the historical compulsion for incorporation of the article

376 of our Constitution. Now, at this stage the House also should take note of two very historical facts One is the Constituent Assembly was set up for the State of Jammu and Kashmir which worked till 1955 and in August 1954 Kashmir's Constituent Assembly approved this Article, that is, Article 370 which was a *sine qua non* for the enforcement of the article and the second fact which the House should bear in mind is that the root of this article did not lie in the Muslim demand but in the demand of Dogras and Pundits as a reaction to the British policy Starting as late as in 1893 when the British was inviting the Muslim Zamindars and Jagirdars from Punjab to purchase lands in the Valley it was Dogras and Pundits who prevailed upon the then Maharaja who had State subject notification preventing the acquisition of land in the Valley by anyone who is not a subject of the State Therefore, unfortunately, today the issue is being given as a communal colourisation These are the points in my mind which I wanted to place before the hon Members in this House and I have made the—efforts to quote from the Constituent Assembly debate and also to recall these two important historical facts

Sir, at present, the Article 370 is the only legal window through which Government of India can extend its Governance over Jammu and Kashmir Sir if this whole house or anybody in his wisdom wants to scrap the Article 370, I want to remind the country through this House that we shall be inviting a greater disaster Now let us also understand the meaning and significance of it Once it is scrapped, Kashmir will revive back to instrument of accession This is the legal position If that is so, we are really helping the external forces to internationalise the issue Thank you very much Mr Chairman I hope this small intervention by me and the two his of historical facts may be taken note of

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI J JAMUNA (Rajahmundry) Sir, this is my maiden speech It is surprising that men have been advocating the case of women to bring them on the forefront They

say 'ladies first' everywhere But it is mere a show off and it is not so in the actual practice Today itself I was meted out that sort of behaviour Anyway, it does not matter At last, Mr Chairman gave me an opportunity to speak I would like to thank him for that

Now, I would like to speak on the President's Address This Address does not say anything about the women in particular It has not been clarified as to what steps are to proposed be taken by the Government for the welfare of woman In the last years President's Address it was sated that the Government would take interest in the welfare of women and give them full protection But even after a span of three months, nothing has been done in this regard It has been stated in the President's Address—

[*English*]

Government is considering legislation to set up a National Commission on Women "

[*Translation*]

The Government have also decided to appoint a commission in this regard You all know that

[*English*]

the crime against women is increasing now—a days especially the dowry deaths

[*Translation*]

Nothing has been stated in regard to the dowry deaths Even the number of incidents of atrocities against women have increased considerably No action plan has been mooted to solve this problem In this regard, I would like to give an example Recently, I have received a letter

[*English*]

I have received a telegram two days back from one Shrimati Rita Gupta, whose marriage was over in 1978, but who is being still harassed to bring some more dowry by

[Smt. J. Jamuna]

her in-laws. The police did not do anything on her complaint and a representation was made to the hon. Prime Minister and so far no action was taken. She was very much depressed and I request immediate intervention in this matter and save her.

I also received a letter from one Mr. Gupta of Delhi about this. Like this so many atrocities are going on against women.

Sir, this year has been declared as International Women's Year marked to promote the status of woman by ushering in various developmental programmes. It is proposed to set up a National Commission on Women. But my feeling is that before the Commission sees the light of the day, the Government of India should declare immediately the measure that can be taken in the field of promoting the welfare of women and extend all possible assistance to the States to enable them to take up developmental schemes meant for the poor and oppressed women.

One more thing. Sometimes if I think of that, I am very much afraid. That is the most important thing. It is most horrifying that medical tests known as Amino Geneticis are being conducted on pregnant women to detect the sex of the baby yet to be born.

The motive behind these tests can go against women. I came to know such tests were banned in some States on being opposed by women organisations while in other States they are in force. It is very much desirable to have a uniform policy and the Government of India should take initiative to impose a ban throughout the country. Therefore, I request the Government to take immediate action in this regard. Then, I would like to bring to your notice one more thing. I am mentioning this because this Government had promised that they are going to give lot of respect to women and give special protection to women. Recently, I had been to Orissa and Maharashtra for canvassing to our party during the Assembly elections. I

have toured more than 50 villages within two days and everywhere I used to draw a lot of people not only as a cinema star but also as a party worker. Thousands of people have attended my meetings. In some places like Gunupur, Raigarh, J.K. Paper Mills, Gudari, Gopalpur etc., some people disturbed my meetings. But I do not know whether they are Janata Dal party workers or arranged *goondas*. They have thrown stones against me and so many people were hurt including ladies. That is why I have my own doubts about this Government. If they are not able to protect a sitting Member of Parliament, how can this Government protect a poor lady? I am asking only one question. Is this the way to conduct elections and telling the people that we are conducting elections freely and fairly. Nobody need elaborate about the way they were conducted in Mahem. I request that such unlawful activities should be curbed. I hope sincerely that this will be taken note of. It has been mentioned in the President's Address that the problems of ex-servicemen will receive full consideration. In this connection, I have received a representation from a wife of an ex-serviceman who served for a period of 23 years. After retirement, he is receiving a meagre pension while a Subedar who worked under him and retired subsequently is receiving more pension.

He won the case in the law court but still the judgement is not being implemented. I wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister of India about this case. I request that instructions be given so that justice is done to the poor family.

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, that is a very good speech made by His Excellency, the President because it is good in colour. But I am doubtful that many of the realities have been overlooked.

I will first draw the attention of the House to one aspect where I feel that the concerned persons have misled the President which

they should not have done. In fact, the President has been told and it is found in his Address that after this Government took office, for the past three months, there is a regular reduction of the prices of essential commodities. It is specifically stated that in regard to rice and sugar, the price has come down and it is coming down. I am afraid, it is a wrong statement and I feel, it should not have been done. Instead the prices are going high and it is a great concern for all of us, because the prices of all the essential commodities are going up beyond control.

My second point is, with regard to import and export policy. The Government has stated that fair price will be ensured. But it is unfortunate that after this Government came to power, several imports have been made to satisfy certain vested interests, especially great business magnates and industry. I am referring to the import of rubber. After this Government came to power and after the first Address of the President wherein it was stated that it would be seen that agriculturists would be going to get fair price, the Government has imported 10,000 tonnes of rubber. This has caused very serious drawback in the price of rubber as far as the cultivators and planters are concerned.

There is a mention about environment protection. It is very good. But I would suggest that while protecting the environment as stated in the Address, due consideration should be given to certain aspects. I am referring to many persons in the nation, especially in Kerala who are holders of small plots of land, who have made the forest area into green plantation and who are going to earn very much for the nation. These persons are now facing a difficult situation because of one provision in the Forest Conservation Act. I would submit that unless some amendment is brought by this Government, it will be very difficult as far as the large number of agriculturists who are in possession of that land for a very long time, are concerned. They should be given registration on the land which they possess, as they are cultivating that land for a very long period, for many years. The Government of

Kerala has taken a decision that persons of such nature, who are in possession of such land as small holders, prior to 1.1.1977, will be given registration. But they are unable to do so because of the provisions in the Forest Conservation Act. I plead with the Government that some action must be taken by them in this respect.

Another point is about drinking water. A mention was made in the Address about irrigation.

But I would think that a very serious problem that is going to be faced by the people of India in the coming few months, especially I am referring to Kerala and, especially of my Constituency is that the difficulty is that usually the summer comes by April and the Government are taking action for giving drinking water facilities by that month. But the whole Kerala and many parts of India have become dry even in January. Urgent action is necessary in this respect. In fact, the Government has been moved and I am told the Government of Kerala have been given funds from the Centre but those funds have not been utilised. Drinking water problem is going to be a very very acute problem.

I may draw the attention of the House to another point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many new points have you got?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I am taking up the points. I am not going to elaborate them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Four more.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot get so much time. Kindly select them because we have so many other speakers.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I limit to three points. I leave one point.

[Sh. P.C. Thomas]

A Bill is being brought regarding converted Buddhists but there are similarly affected other persons also.

Just because they believe in one religion and just because they have converted to that religion, for example Christianity, many persons who are entitled to the benefit of Scheduled Castes are not getting it only because they are converted to that religion. In secular India, this is not permissible. So, my submission in the present Bill is that the Government should take the initiative to bring a change including certain other classes especially the Christians.

Another point regarding environment. Shrimati Maneka Gandhi is the Minister. She is very much interested in environment. In fact, when she came to Kerala last time, there was some difficulty with the planting of a tree, because the environment is not good enough for the tree to grow, she refused to plant the tree. That is good. But I would like to bring to the notice of this Government one aspect. Several factories are there in India. I can show some examples also. The effluents of these factories are causing lot of difficulties to the farmers. For example, FACT is a big factory in Kerala. There is a Cochin Division. From there, the effluents are just sent to Chitrapura river. On the banks of the river, which is quite near to the factory, there are about 2,000 acres of land which have become uncultivable for the past several years.

I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister as well as the House to this and request that some action should be taken. I have a suggestion in this respect. Either the lands may be acquired. It is not difficult as far as the factory is concerned, that is necessary also. Secondly, I can also suggest that at least one person from one family having those portions of land must be given employment in such concerned factories.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please give the facts. Don't give examples.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I am thankful to you for allowing me to put my last points. My last point is with regard to Jammu & Kashmir. In this connection, I have this point that now the President mentioned about the freedom of the press. There is so much of hue and cry with regard to this aspect. But, after this Government came I came to know that there are many instances where the press has been manhandled like anything. We have an instance of even the Chief Minister going to the extent of bullying a press man. Such types of instances are there and the President has stated that there should be freedom of press.

Finally I would like to submit that the Government should take a very serious note of these things. They should take immediate action to see that freedom of the Press is not only just spoken of but it is actually given and well entertained. That is all I wanted to say.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO (Aska): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the President and Support the Motion. I thank the President for his having addressed both the Houses of Parliament. Before I go on to my speech I would like to point out to our hon. lady Member of Parliament from the other side that she has blamed this Government for some trouble that was created in her meetings. But she should have realised that in February the Government in Orissa was the Congress Government. It is only on the 5th of March that the Janata Dal Government came to power.

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY (Cuddapah): She did not blame the Government.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: No, she has said that. She definitely said that when this Government has come to power, it should have seen to it that a VIP should be treated properly. So, it is up to that Government in Orissa to have seen to it.

SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : What she mentioned was that the attitude of the people should change. That is all.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Please check up the proceedings. Anyway, it is a little bit of slip of facts. But I just want to correct the record. In February, when she was touring Orissa, it was the Congress Government which was in power there. Obviously when the Congress Government was in power these things happened. So, she cannot blame the present Government for that.

Sir, when we hear our friends on the opposite side, we always hear one thing. They always call this Government as a minority Government. Someone called this as a coalition Government. One friend called it a hybrid. I do not want to use vulgar term. There is a more vulgar term for hybrid Government. I do not want to mention it. Probably she has meant that. They always call this Government as a minority Government and so many other things they use. I want to bring it to your notice that this Government has been nominated by the President. Our Prime Minister has been invited by the President to form the Government knowing well that this is a majority Government. Our friends from the opposite side are sitting here. They are participating in this House knowing full well that it is not a minority Government but a majority Government. I would also like to say that if they have got the guts, instead of calling everytime it is a minority Government why don't they bring in a No Confidence Motion and throw out this minority Government. Do they have the guts to do that? They always go on harping on the same strings that this is a minority Government, coalition Government etc. They don't have the guts. I challenge them that when the Motion on the President's Address is put to vote, let them call for a division and see whether it is a minority Government or a majority Government. Let them test it on the floor of the House instead of harping on the same strings, which are not facts. Then, they talk of crutches. Do they have the guts to remove the crutches they have the power. Why should they say like that? Both the BJP and the Leftists have already said that they support this Government. When they support this Government there is no question of calling them crutches.

Sir, I would also like to bring facts here that it is the Congress Government which had full majority not once but twice. They got three-fourths majority. In 1971, Smt. Indira Gandhi got a three-fourths majority. What did they give to this country? They gave emergency where the whole Parliament was reduced to a farce, where the Constitution was amended to bring dictatorship in the country. The whole institution of judiciary and the democratic Government did then. That is what the majority Government gave to this country. They had got another majority in 1984—a big majority, much bigger than what Smt. Indira Gandhi had got. What had that majority Government done? The whole country faced this corruption for five years.

19 hrs.

It is the dereliction of democratic right; dereliction of the President itself. Mr. Zail Singh is an example for that. Where no one bothered about the parliamentary practice; no one bothered about the Parliament, no one bothered about the President. That is the majority they want. That is the majority they want so that they can ride rough-shod over this country. They want to ride rough-shod over this democratic system. They want to ride rough-shod over our system. When they talk of minority Government, they should know what type of majority Government they gave to this country. People have thrown you out. People have thrown you out because of the brute majority. You have used this majority to ride rough-shod over this country, over these people and over this nation. That is why, they have thrown you out.

I want to bring to your notice that minority Government is not a sin. It happened in history also. When the British were facing Hitler just at the beginning of the Second World War, they had the coalition Government. The British people brought coalition Government and they could face the Hitler. So, there is a crisis worst than what was in Europe, what was in early 20th century. This crisis was created by our friends on the other side. Now they talk of minority Government. people want a consensus Government now.

[Sh. A.N. Singh Deo]

They do not want majority. They want things to be done in a more rational manner, in a more democratic manner, in a manner which people will accept, where every opinion must be taken up. That is a mandate of the people.

The Janata Dal, the BJP and the Leftists are going to fulfil that mandate what the people have given us. No matter, whether they call us minority Government or not. I would like to tell my friends not to talk of this minority, minority every time. We have come out of this crisis, through the silent resolution. That is why, they are so anxious, they are so frightened for everything they have done, over five or ten years which will come out in the open. Now all that corruption will be exposed to the nation. Now, they still think that they are in the majority or they have got the votes of the people. I will give you an example. What has happened in Orissa in the last election—both in the Parliament and also in the Assembly election? In the 1984 elections, the Congress won, out of 21 seats in Orissa, 20 seats. What is the result now? The Janata Dal and the associate Members have won 18 seats and they have won only three seats. They were rejected by the people. What happened in the Assembly elections? In 1985 elections you had got 117 seats. Where are those 117 MLAs? They are thrown in the Bay of Bengal. And you have won only ten seats where you do not even have an leader of opposition. That is the case in Orissa. The same is the case in U.P. and Bihar. Now we have a strong Government with Shri Biju Patnaik as our leader. Shri Biju Patnaik is a leader has led this Janata Dal to victory along with the associate parties, not only in the Parliament elections but also in the Assembly elections. Why has it happened? I would like to point out that in every elections the Prime Minister used to go to Orissa to declare that they would have second steel plant. In 1980 elections, Shrimati Indira Gandhi went to Orissa and declared in front of the masses that they would have the second steel plant.

She wrote in banners that this is the

present of Indira Gandhi to Orissa; but there was no steel plant. She said this on the condition that they should vote for the Congress and the people of Orissa voted for 20 Members of Parliament and 117 Members of Legislative Assembly.

Again in 1984 when, the elections came, the then Prime Minister went to Orissa and again said that there will be a steel plant in Orissa and the people again voted for the Congress. But nothing happened and no steel plant came. Now we expect our Government, our Shri Biju Patnaik to have the steel plant in Orissa. We are going to have it now.

SHRI KALPA NATH RAI: you will not have it.

SHRI A.N.SINGH DEO: You will see whether we will have it or not. (Interruptions)

We have been hearing about the Kashmir problem for two days. Whenever anyone speaks from that side, he talks of Kashmir problem. I agree this is a problem of the biggest magnitude. But I am reminded of a story. A patient is dying and we get a lot of doctors to come and examine him. They could not diagnose the disease. But our friend doctors get around the patient and they see a nurse who was with them earlier and who is not with them now. So they said this nurse is there and that is why the disease is there and she must be removed first. They cannot diagnose the disease and they say this! They have no suggestion to say what the disease is. They are always harping on the Governor Jagmohan. If they have constipation probably Jagmohan is responsible for that?

What did the Leader of the Opposition say? 'We will give this Government our constructive support'. Is this the constructive support? When Kashmir is burning you go there and the first statement you make is, why did not the Governor come to the Airport, why such and such a person is not sitting on the left side and such and such a person on the right side. Is this constructive

criticism? When the Kashmir is burning you talk of who is sitting on the left and who is sitting on the right! (Interruptions)

SHRI A. CHARLES: You know the past history of Shri Jagmohan. He was installed there just to topple the Farooq Ministry. (Interruptions)

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Because you cannot diagnose the disease, you are blaming the nurse.

They have criticised whatever the Janata Dal has done.

AN HON. MEMBER: They have not done anything.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: We know what you have done. They say that the Indian National Congress has done everything. May I ask one question? Where is the Indian National Congress? Why is the (I) attached to it? Is this the Indian National Congress with the (I) after that? I remember, in my young days they had a symbol of 'Two bullocks'. Where is that 'Two bullocks' symbol now? Where is the 'Cow and Calf' symbol now? Now they have a 'Hand' which is also a cut-off hand! If you see that hand it does not have any *bhagya rekha*. If you see the poster of 'Hand', it does not have the *bhagya rekha* and that is why they have been overthrown by the people.

[Translation]

The poster published does not have '*bhagya rekha*'.

[English]

Now they talk of Indian National Congress with the (I). We respect Mahatma Gandhi. He is the father of the nation. But do they have the guts to talk of Mahatma Gandhi? In Orissa we call them the brandy congress and not the Gandhi Congress.

Every MLA in Orissa had ten liquor shops. So, it is called brandy congress. (Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we should realise what the Government now, is doing. The Government is trying its best to do good for the people. You go to Punjab and see it for yourself. Did Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shrimati Indira Gandhi have the guts to go in the streets of Punjab in open jeeps? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: SHRI KALP NATH RAI. Please listen to me. You have got seven speakers from your side to speak. If you interrupt, their chances will be zero.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO : The present Government is doing good for the people. But the opposition accuses that Committees are set up—organisations are set-up enquiry committees are set-up. You have upset everything and so we have to set up everything. You have upset the whole country. One hon. Member—I do not know his name, he is not here now—was talking about upsets. We are setting up because you have upset everything. (Interruptions) That is why we are setting up everything anew. (Interruptions)

SHRI KALP NATH RAI :**..... There are CBI cases against him. (Interruptions)

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO : We will appoint hundred Fairfax type enquiries, so that they will catch hold of**..... like you. It is no where said that it is anti-national. (Interruptions) You have thrown out our Prime Minister. It is our Prime Minister who brought the credibility. (Interruptions) That is why the whole nation has voted for him. They wanted him to be the Prime Minister so that he will catch hold of.....**..... like you and then teach you a lesson. That is why he has got the mandate from the people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Sh. A.N. Singh Deo]

out a few other things also. We are taking steps at the top level. But unfortunately, the system that is in existence from the British times needs to be changed—the administrative system, the bureaucratic system and the police system. The people have to be taught, at the *thana*, the block, the tehsil and other levels, where the real problem lies. We must now take some steps to modify those things. We have not started approaching them. But we have taken steps at the top level. I would say that even the Criminal Procedure Code must be changed, because police are using them for harassing the people. It is a very common knowledge that if two people fight with each other and come to police, they will take complaints from both sides, file FIRs, take money from both sides, and finally harass both of them. That is what is happening. If our friends in the opposition say this, I will agree with them. But they did not do anything to rectify them.

Now, what is happening in the Supply Department? In our State what is the position? Every congressman was a supply dealer. He used to stock sugar and rice and sell them in the black-market. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Are you going to allow this to go on record? He is making an allegation. This is bad. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this should not form part of the record. There is an allegation that every congressman collect rice and sugar and sell them in the black-market. It is a disgrace. We have strong objection to this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: In general, charges can be made. I mean, they can be discussed here. But there was a reference to the Chief Minister of Orissa. That should be expunged. Such references should not be there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Now, I want to say a few words about the Kashmir problem. You must realise that Pakistanis are definitely indulging in nefarious activities in that State. It is their direct involvement into the affairs of our country. We thought that when Mrs. Bhutto came to power, she would behave like any other elected leader in a democracy. But unfortunately that lady has followed the policies of her father, Mr. Bhutto, who said that Pakistan would fight with India for 1,000 years. We must be very careful of the present Prime Minister of Pakistan who is his daughter. Our Prime Minister should never hesitate to tell her in no uncertain terms that if she interferes in the affairs of India, we will march against Pakistan and teach a lesson to that country. With these words, I conclude supporting the motion of thanks to the President.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I will call the Members from the opposite side. There is a long list. I have been requested that they should be called with an assurance that not more than five minutes would be taken by the young Members. Please remember that. Now, Shri Ramesh Chennithala.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this President's Address, I could not find anything new and concrete. It does not give any indication about the Government's performance. Actually, this Government is a symbol of non-performance. There is a total confusion prevailing in the Government, and the administrative set-up is not moving. They have no policies. No programmes have been formulated as yet. Hundred days are over. One-point programme of the Janata Dal is to criticise Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and the previous Government. For how many days can these people go on like this? They have given a lot of promises to the people of India. Their electoral promises are here. During the last hundred days, they have been blaming the previous Government. But how long will you go on like this? This is the question.

We are hearing colourful speeches of the Prime Minister. We are hearing colourful

speeches of the Ministers. But no result is produced. No programmes or policies have been announced as yet. My colleagues have rightly pointed out that this Government is interested only in formulating committees.

In this Address, there is a mention about the education policy which was formulated by the previous Government. What is its approach towards the new education policy approved by this Parliament, has not been mentioned.

We are all aware of the major problem—unemployment—confronting the nation. The previous Government had taken a lot of measures, like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, to eradicate unemployment. In the President's Address, it is mentioned that the Constitution of India is going to be amended in regard to right to work. It is good. But simply by amending the Constitution, can we eradicate unemployment in India? Is there any programme? Is there any policy? This problem cannot be solved simply by amending the Constitution of India by incorporating the right to work in the fundamental rights.

The problems of the people of India cannot be solved by these rosy, colourful and emotional speeches. Is there any constructive approach from the Government? We are watching them very closely for the last 100 days. I could not find any single constructive approach from the Government. What about terrorism? This House discussed the situation in Jammu and Kashmir for two days. What is the attitude of the Government towards terrorism? The situation in Jammu and Kashmir is very worse. Law and order has been disturbed. Divisive and communal forces are very active there. Is there any firm action taken by the Government? Without any firm action, can we suppress the communal and divisive forces? This is showing the weakness of the Government. If the Government is strong enough, they can stop these activities of terrorists and communal forces. But the Government is weak and it showed its weakness by releasing five terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir. If this situation continues, this will encourage the

communal and divisive forces in other parts of the country also. Then, it will be a disaster for the nation. They are preaching value-based politics. Are they practising the value-based politics preached by our hon. Prime Minister? Democracy was assassinated in Meham. We are hearing the different opinions of the Ruling Party regarding this. They are not ashamed of Menam incident. Jammu and Kashmir Assembly was dissolved. Is it the value-based politics which is preached by the Prime Minister? Government is destroying the secular character of our country. This is the charge which I want to make against them. Government is promoting the majority fundamentalism which is a danger for our country. Minorities in this country are feeling insecure. In a Press Conference, the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Devi Lal said that the Christians in this country must go to Europe and America. It had come in the papers. (*Interruptions*)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: It has not been denied yet. If the Deputy Prime Minister is denying it, I am ready to withdraw my statement. I myself read in the papers that the Deputy Prime Minister of India had said that the Christians must go to Europe and America. Is this Government protecting the interests of the minorities? And the BJP is demanding the scrapping of Article 370 of the Constitution. It has been rightly pointed out by Mr. Chitta Basu that it will damage the secular image of India. The majority is thinking about their own security. This is the unfortunate part which we can see in the Indian political scenario. The BJP and the Shiv Sena are speaking only about the majority section and its insecurity in this country. If so, who will protect the minorities? Minorities are feeling though they are left out and insecure. The duty of the majority community is to protect the minority communities. Only then, secularism will flourish in India. I am very proud to say that the Congress has always been protecting the interests of all communities. The BJP, joining hands with Shiv Sena and Vishwa Hindu Parishad, is preaching the majority funda-

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mentalism openly. Is the Government protecting the rights of the minorities? It is the duty of every Government to give confidence to the minorities of this country. In this situation, I want to know the stand of our hon. Prime Minister and the Left Parties in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you also want to protect the interests of your colleagues from *your side*?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Definitely Sir. I am a responsible Member and I will definitely protect the interests of my colleagues.

I want to know the stand of the Left Parties and also the stand of the Prime Minister, Mr. V.P. Singh. I want to ask a question whether he is promoting the majority fundamentalism by destroying the fabric of secular of India.

In the streets of Kerala, the CPI (M) workers are butchered by the RSS cadres. Here, they are joining hands. Now, I want to know from the CPI (M) benches, whether they are promoting the majority fundamentalism. If so, you have to repent one day. Now, the majority fundamentalism is flourishing in the country. The minorities are feeling insecure. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee was very happy when he was delivering his speech. He said: "The Congress is defeated." Of course, Congress is defeated in the Parliamentary election and in some of the Assembly elections. We are accepting it. But, who won the elections? Are you happy about the BJP's victory. The CPI (M) people must tell the people why Mr. Namboodripad was silenced by your party. He was preaching communalism for the last so many years. Now, he is silenced by your party.

Under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Congress will fight against these divisive forces. The Congress is here. The Congress will be here. One of the Leaders from the Left Parties, during the discus-

sion on the Jammu and Kashmir, said, Congress will not remain for ever, the Congress is destroyed. But under the Leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Congress is here and it will continue to be here. We will fight against the communal and divisive forces and we will promote the interests of this great nation.

SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO : The hon. Member has just mentioned that the Deputy Prime Minister had said that all Christians should go to Europe. This is a wrong statement. I would request the Chairman to verify it and expunge it, if it is there in the record. Otherwise, all such statements will be permanently there in the record.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: I have seen it in the newspaper.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttak) : This is a planted story of the Congress people. He has never said so.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: But till now, the Deputy Prime Minister has not denied the newspaper report. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: This is a totally planted story of the Congress people.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please remember that there are other speakers from the major parties also. So, please don't go beyond five minutes. I will have to be very strict and call the next speaker at the end of five minutes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD (Arah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have heard the hon. President's Address and also the views of the different hon. Members on the same. According to some hon. Members, the Congress Government has done a lot for the development of the country during the last 40 years. Definitely, there has been development. But where has been that development? In fact, that development has multi-

plied the assets of Tatas and Birlas whereas the villager and agricultural labourers are still working on daily wages of Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 and one kilogram of foodgrains. Women are exploited and humiliated and they cannot afford even two square meals. It is in this ratio that this country has developed. Even more the report of the Auditor-General has revealed that the amount of D.A. paid to the subordinate staff has been slashed whereas the amount payable to the high ups has registered a higher increase. The President's Address also seems to be carrying the impact of the congress which ruled the country during the last 40 years. It does not have any proposals for the alleviation of poverty in rural areas, for solving the problems of the workers and for increasing agricultural production. In the recent elections particularly in Bihar and in Meham in Haryana, where a lot of violence took place, the democracy and the people's aspirations were totally crushed by the unholy alliance of the money power and the administration. The President's Address also does not speak of the way the Government proposes to adopt to avert such a situation. However, I welcome the Government's resolution seeking the participation of workers in the management, but it lacks in the expression of their concern regarding the all round development and welfare of the labourers. System of child labour and inhuman exploitation of women still continues. The President's Address does not contain any proposal to check the exploitation of women. Also, nothing has been said in the President's Address about those one and fifty lakh factories, which are lying either sick or closed. The Address does not contain any resolve to remove the backwardness of Bihar. The steps to be taken for the industrial development of that State should have been mentioned in it. Besides, no mention has been made about the concrete steps to be taken to bring an end to the menace of widespread feudal exploitation, atrocities and suppression in Bihar. One of the important issues for the development of Bihar is to make the Dalmia Nagar Industrial Complex operational. Justice should also be done with Bihar regarding the sharing of water of Som Canal. Arah-Sasaram railway line and

Fatuah-Islampur railway line which were in operation since the British period, are lying closed. The President's Address should have contained steps to get these lines re-operated. For the promotion of tourism in Bihar, provision of train facilities between Rajgir and Bodhgaya and in North Bihar should have also been mentioned in the Address. The issue of political prisoners is also of great significance, particularly in respect of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab. The new Government should have mentioned the step to be taken by them to rectify the mistakes of the previous Government. The multinational companies have penetrated into the non-priority sector. Pepsi Cola is one such concrete example of it. Money is being deposited in foreign countries by the big people of this country. Instead, it should be utilised for the development of this country.

The President's Address does not speak of the wrong policies of the previous Government which have been mainly responsible for the creation of Kashmir problem. It is necessary that we should admit our previous mistakes without any reservation and make an honest resolution to rectify them and solve the problem. The President's Address should have also contained guarantee of social and cultural identity and economic and political rights of the people of Kashmir. It should have contained a firm resolve to retain Article 370 of the Constitution in respect of Kashmir.

A mention should have also be made in the Address about the formation of an anti-riot special force to check the menace of communal riots and with a greater participation of the minorities and the downtrodden in it. An anti-riot volunteer force should be constituted with the active participation of left-democratic and secular organisations and work under the supervisions of Governments.

The provision of a precise, concrete and effective plan should also have been included in it for improving our relations with the neighbouring countries. The President's Address is silent on the issue of violation of

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human rights in Nepal which is our neighbouring country, inspite of the fact that both India and Nepal are the signatories to the Geneva Charter on human rights. Hence, the Address should reflect the concern of India about such a state of affairs in Nepal.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria): Will this debate be over by 8 O, clock?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is how we have decided unless you choose to sit upto 9 O, clock.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khujuraho): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the time to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. This is my maiden speech in the House. The people of my constituency has elected me with the expectation that I will represent them and give an expression to the sentiments of the people of Bundelkhand region in the House whenever I get an opportunity for the same.

Though my saffron clothes give an impression to the people that I will speak particularly on religion or on God. In the beginning, when I entered this House, some hon. Members thought that I might start Akhand-Kirtan in the House. But later on, I had to dispel all their doubts. No doubt, I am a devotee of the Lord and if necessary, I may make a mention of the same, but primarily, as I am a farmer's daughter, I am here to voice the grievances of the farmers and particularly the grievances of the farmers of Bundelkhand region.

The President's Address is really meaningful, explicit and well knit and it has evoked a lot of expectations. It also kindles a ray of hope with the mention of steps proposed to be taken for the solution of the problem of

Jammu-Kashmir which like the problem of Punjab we have inherited from the Congress Government.

The steps so far taken to solve the Kashmir problem have been in the right direction. But one thing is certain that as and when any step is taken to find a permanent solution to the Kashmir problem, Article 370 will have to be taken into consideration. When Article 370 was placed before the Constituent Assembly by Shri Gopal Swami Iyenger. Hazrat Muani Saheb, an hon'ble Member of the said Assembly had raised his voice against the proposal and had said that by introducing Article 370 a kind of discrimination was being done against the State. Over the last few years our friends from the Congress created such a psyche that as and whenever it is proposed to abrogate Article 370, a feeling is developed that discrimination is being done against the State. With the passage of time Article 370 has assumed great importance. I understand that under the prevailing circumstances as and when the question of abrogating of Article 370 is taken up, people think that a problem like that of the Ram Janambhoomi and Babri Masjid has germinated. Some people, especially our colleagues of the Congress Party have time and again spread these misgivings among people. But one thing is certain that due to the operation of Article 370 in Kashmir, the people of Kashmir have developed a feeling over the years that their case still remains unsolved. This phenomenon encouraged the secessionist elements in Kashmir to give weightage to the issue suiting to their needs and exploit the situation. Hence, I would like to say that as long as due thought is not given to the Kashmir problem, there can be no permanent solution. It requires total allegiance and courage. I am fully confident that due thought will be given with regard to abrogation of Article 370 and efforts will be made to find out a permanent solution. As I am speaking for the first time, it is possible that I might commit mistakes. Hence I would require the able guidance of my senior and experienced colleagues sitting on the other side. This is what I thought at the time of entering the Lok Sabha. Be-

cause, we are quite young and lack legislative experience, we had expected that being the senior and experienced persons they will share their knowledge and experience with us so that we could play a meaningful role. But on the contrary, when I look to their behaviour I feel that it is not we, but the Members of the Congress Party should be asked to undergo refreshers' course. This feeling in my mind gained ground when I heard Shri Vasant Sathe and Shri Kalp Nath Rai using derogatory language. They were sitting on the treasury benches for a pretty long time. It is their misfortune that these days they are sitting in the opposition. So they should learn the decorum to be maintained while sitting in the opposition.

In the course of his Address, the President has made a mention of the steps being taken by the Government to solve the Ram Janambhoomi problem. The steps proposed are, no doubt, commendable, but I feel that a solution to the problem should be found out at the earliest. During the last 4-5 years they have made the issue more complicated. It is just like the rider riding a camel or an elephant makes a wound on the animal's back and beat, the animal at the wound when he want, to make him run fast. The Congress (I) also left the Ram Janambhoomi issue as a wound so that they could exploit the situation as and when required. I feel that whatever steps will be taken in solving the Ram Janambhoomi issue, these will be exemplary for the future generation. I want that this issue should be solved on the same line as Sardar Vallabh Patel solved the Somnath Temple problem. I am hopeful that our honest, sincere and capable Prime Minister will take suitable steps in this regard. Just now Shri Kalp Nath Rai was telling that the present Prime Minister used to call Rajiv Gandhi as a jewel, a diamond and what not. In day to day life we fall victim to so many misgivings. If by mistake the Prime Minister had said that somebody was a diamond, and later deserted him, he did not do any wrong. When one comes to know that the coin he considers to be diamond, is a fake coin, he has to throw it away. How long he will keep it in safe custody. The hon. Member made a second

charge against the Prime Minister. At that moment I thought of speaking against such a remark, but had to keep quite as I am new to this House. (*Interruptions*) I am not going to yield to your pressure. His charge was that there was a time when Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh called the Congress (I), the Pandavas and the opposition as Kauravas and this was the reason he took the side of the Congress (I). The fact is that at times we are guided by some misgivings. Similarly, when Shri Singh came to know that the Congress (I) party is the real Kauravas, he was disillusioned and he left the party. It was a good thing what he did. Because he is honest and moralist. He viewed Rajiv Gandhi as a garland studded with diamond. When he came to know that Rajiv Gandhi is a fake diamond, he disassociated with him. I am hopeful that our honest and moralist Prime Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh will take steps to find a solution to the construction of the temple at the birth place of Lord Rama with the same courage as Sardar Patel had constructed the Somnath temple. Though it was decided by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to start construction of the temple on 14 February, it was postponed. This is what we learnt from the life of Lord Rama Lord Rama spent 14 long years in exile in the forests in view of the situation then prevailing in Ayodhya. He thought it proper to go to the forests at that time. Several of our colleagues from the Congress (I) party are critical of the fact as to why the foundation laying was not postponed on 9 November whereas the construction of temple from 14 February was postponed. The Congressmen who wished to postpone the foundation laying on 9 November had an ulterior motives in their minds. They had a desire to linger on the problem. But the organisations involved in the constructions of temple are very responsible and patriotic. When the Prime Minister made an appeal to think about the prevailing critical situation in the country, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh responded to his call. They accorded priority to country's interests over religious sentiments and agreed to change the date of construction from 14 February. It does not mean that we have totally changed

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our stand in the matter of construction of the temple. There can be no other thought than to construct the temple. Construction of temple is its permanent solution. If some other measure than to construct the temple is taken, it will be a temporary measure and not the permanent solution to the problem.

One thing that I would like to submit is that the Ram Janambhoomi issue has been given a communal touch. Whosoever this mistake might be, it is very painful. The Ram Janambhoomi issue is on no account a communal one. It is an issue concerning the self-pride, the dignity and the identity of the nation. How the country is to be recognised. Should this country be recognised by the name of a foreign invader, Babar's name or by Lord Ram's name. Even today crores of people in the country are influenced by the character of Lord Ram I, therefore, call upon the people of my country to view the Ram Janambhoomi issue not from a communal angle but from an historical and national angle. If Lord Ram's name is communal how is it that these people sang their favourite song "Ishwar tero name, Allah tero nam," at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi. They are the people who did not find any difference between Ram and Rahim. It may also please be noted that "He Ram" has been inscribed on the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi. It denotes that the Ram Janambhoomi issue is on no account a communal issue. I am, therefore, confident that the solution will be in the right direction and Shri Ram Temple will be constructed at the site of Ram Janambhoomi.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already submitted that I am a devotee of God as well as a daughter of a farmer. A great injustice is being done to the farmers of Madhya Pradesh, especially in Bundelkhand. There are no means of irrigation in that region. The villagers experience all sorts of difficulties. Exploitation of rural population has been continuing since the time of Britishers and even before that by the Rajas'. When the

Britishers left, the feudalistic elements took over and they started exploiting and harassing the farmers in many ways upto this day. People of Bundelkhand particularly living in villages are facing three type of difficulties. First, they have to face those feudalistic elements who have not forgotten so far that they had been kings of the area at some point of time. Second are the local officials. Even a patwari thinks himself to be a collector and a constable of a police station thinks himself to be an S.P. when they go to a village in Bundelkhand. The third difficulty is a Congress agent who sucks the blood of the farmers like a leech. He acts as a broker for officers, legislations and even the Members of Parliament and exploits the people of villages. A very interesting thing happened in the recent Lok Sabha elections held in 1989. An interesting illusion of the people was shattered. So far priests and Maulavis were deceiving the people in the name of religion for their selfish interests. They had ingrained in the minds of the people, particularly the rural folk that the root cause of their sufferings and injustice that they were facing was the result of their past deeds (Karma). But during the 1989 elections the country's voter came to know that the exploitation, injustice and suppression which they were facing was not the result of their past deeds but the result of casting their vote wrongly. That is the reason why he had to suffer. It was for the first time that the Indian electorate recognised their power. They brought about this change but still much remains to be done for the people of Bundelkhand, without which they will not feel the essence of Freedom. 6-7 districts in the region do not have even railway lines. People face lot of difficulty because of lack of transportation facilities. There is no industry in the area. Absence of industry is the greatest problem. As there are no railway lines there is no industry and people are facing lot of hardships. A proposal of laying Lalitpur-Singrauli railway line was formulated between 1977 and 1980. But nobody knows what happened to that proposal. Had that railway line been constructed there, the area would have witnessed a sea change. Neither a Government industrial unit nor any private industry

has come up there in the absence of railway lines.

It has been mentioned in the President's Address that efforts would be made to provide equal rights to women. I would like to submit that illiterate women living in villages do not even have an idea that they have same rights. I would like to draw your attention to their plight. When they go to find work they are discriminated upon and exploited. The wives of farmers and labourers do twice the work of their husbands: I do not know much about other places but the wives, daughters and sisters of the farmers of Bundelkhand live the worst life. They never go to bed before their husband and never get up after their husband rises. They serve the meal to other members of the family first and then eat the left over if there is any otherwise they drink a glass of water and go to bed. This is the plight of women there. On the one hand we talk of providing them equal rights but on the other hand their plight is deteriorating.

So far as the question of educated women is concerned, I would like to submit that 25% women are educated in the country whereas in Madhya Pradesh their percentage is about 15 per cent or even less than that. Now if women are not educated, how will they come to know about their right of equality. There are no schools in villages at present. There are no schools for them in villages. In Chattarpur district of Bundelkhand there is neither a school nor an Inter College within a radius of 15-20 kms. Boys can go to far of cities for education where they can hire a room on rent but how can women go to study there.

The working of post offices is worst there. If a letter is sent informing about the serious illness of a person, it reaches the addressee when 'Terahvi' (Thirteenth day after the death) is being performed. When the addressee goes there to enquire about the welfare of the sick, he participates in the 'Bhoj ceremony' (community lunch) which is organised on the 'Terahvi' of that person. This is the condition of the post offices and

roads there. Bundelkhand is not only my constituency but other areas and districts also fall under it. So far people of these areas were living in darkness. Now I hope that efforts would be made for the development of that area. Schools and hospitals will be opened there and roads would be constructed there. The people of the area would enjoy a new type of freedom.

Besides this, providing remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce has also been mentioned in the President's Address. The farmer has to toil day and night in the field and so does his wife and children. He has to mortgage even his land and then he is able to produce the crop. I think all these things would be borne in mind when we discuss the question of providing remunerative prices to farmers. In fact, due to illiteracy, the farmer is not aware of his rights and consequently he has to suffer. I am sure that with the opening of schools, education will spread in villages. The women and farmers of the country will be benefited. The farmers will definitely move towards progress and prosperity with the new Government.

Along with this, the point about Mandal Commission report has also been mentioned. There has been a long standing demand to implement it. I hope that efforts will be made to implement it effectively so that the people who are actually backward and are in a pitiable condition will be benefited.

The new Government is only 100 days old. The steps which have been taken by the new Government during these 100 days are really effective. The masses have heaved a sigh of relief.

Besides I have full faith that this Government will successfully deal with corruption which is deep rooted in our system. Our former Prime Minister and the present leader of the opposition Shri Rajiv Gandhi used to say that if Rs. 100 are sent from Delhi as an assistance to villages, by the time it reaches the villages only Rs. 15 are left. This is what he used to say himself. All this happened

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with the knowledge of that Government. I feel that corruption and brokers have also been a cause for their party's defeat. The people felt that if Rs. 100 become Rs. 15 by the time it reaches the village and the Government is helpless why not give an opportunity to another party to form a Government which would be more effective. We should have such Prime Minister who could at least check Rs. 100 from becoming Rs. 15 by the time it reached the villages and thus eradicate this corruption. I believe that there are many such schemes which could not be completed due to corruption. I have been in politics for the last 5 years only and I do not have much experience of politics, but whatever I have observed during my visits to Bundelkhand, I feel that many problems of villages can be solved if these schemes are implemented properly and effectively. Only thing which needs to be checked effectively is corruption which has increased over the years. The Congress could not effectively deal with it because as it is said in Kathopanished.

'Andhenaiva Neeyamana Yathaandha'

A blind cannot show the way to others. So they failed in checking corruption. But our Prime Minister came out of that checking atmosphere of corruption as he did not like it. I believe that he would take effective steps in checking corruption and improving the working of administration. I hope that he would come down with a heavy hand on those people who indulged in corruption, took bribes and created hurdles in implementing the schemes for the farmers, poor, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I am grateful to you for granting me an opportunity to speak. I must have made thousands of mistakes because I have no experience of debating. I want to be excused for that and I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Banatwalla, will you be able to finish your speech by 8 O'clock?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA(Ponnani): How can I say even before starting to speak? If I am not able to finish by 8 O'clock, I will continue tomorrow. That has been the procedure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That much of time cannot be allowed.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: In protest I will not speak. I have not yet started. I do not know how much ground I will cover in the matter of two minutes. Before I begin I am not in a position to tell you how much time I will take. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can be afforded only five minutes of time. You can speak now.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I thank you very much for this type of directions and instructions that a party like mine is getting from you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is unavoidable.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: It is unfair on your part.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the Committee which decided this.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: You have taken two minutes in arguing with me. Let me start now. I will be on my legs.

I will continue tomorrow. Whoever is in the Chair will decide.

20.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry, that cannot be done. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: You are deciding once for all. You are not permitting me to continue tomorrow. That is not a proper procedure, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, I learn from you. Right now, if you want to speak, you can get five minutes' time.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: It is not your wish that I speak. That is the situation. That is how you are treating me. I protest against that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the House which has decided that way.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I will con-

tinue tomorrow. You may adjourn the House at any time that you like.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: You cannot ration it like this, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have requested him to speak. What do you mean? There is so much time. You tell him. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

20.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 16, 1990/Phalgun 25, 1911 (Saka)