

14.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty Two Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

RE : HAWALA ISSUE

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have stated in our Adjournment Motion that the whole country is concerned about the Hawala issue as it is a case of large scale corruption and many hon. Ministers and Members of Parliament have resigned due to this issue. The Supreme Court, in this connection has directed the CBI, not to close the file against the Prime Minister and continue the enquiry being conducted in this regard. Therefore, I would like to state that the Prime Minister against whom the CBI is investigating, has no moral right to continue. The present Prime Minister should be removed and a new Prime Minister should be elected in his place. Only then, you should conduct the business of the House. Then we are ready to cooperate with you in conducting the business of the House..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We have also given adjournment Motion. A number of Ministers have resigned and the Prime Minister is also involved. It has been mentioned that he has also minted money..... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given the Adjournment Motion. It is an injustice to a junior Member like me. What right has he got to stick to the office of Prime Minister when a number of Ministers have resigned? Since I have also given notice of Adjournment Motion. Please listen to me first..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL (Hoogly) : The whole Cabinet is involved in the scandal. The Prime Minister himself is involved..... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Prime Minister is also involved in Hawala case..... (Interruptions)

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : The Prime Minister has no moral right to continue. The entire Cabinet and the entire Government is involved in corruption..... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice of Adjournment Motion but I did not get opportunity to speak since morning..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Let the Prime Minister come and give a personal explanation..... (Interruptions).

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Let him make a statement that he is not involved..... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Prime Minister has no right to remain in the office. How is he still holding the office when so many Ministers of his cabinet are alleged to have been involved in it?..... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You want to raise a privilege issue?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : How is she speaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR) : Hon. Speaker has allowed her.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Minister, the responsibility to conduct the business of the House is not your's it is the domain of Hon. Speaker..... (Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : It should not like that. I have so far made several attempts to catch the attention of Hon. Speaker since this morning..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Sir, what has happened to our Adjournment Motions?

MR. SPEAKER : I will tell you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I would request you to cooperate with each other and with the Presiding Officer also. I have received notices of Adjournment Motions as well as notices of breach of privilege in the morning when I was sitting in a meeting. Immediately after the meeting, I have come to the House. I should apply my mind to your notices of Adjournment Motions also to say "yes" or "no" to give consent to them or not.

Now if those notices are there, I have not rejected them or refused consent to them, but they are with me. But you have given the notices at the last moment. If they come to me at the last moment, I find it difficult.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL (Hoogly) : That is no fault of ours.

MR. SPEAKER : I find it difficult to apply my mind to these notices. I respect your feelings. If you want to discuss important

*Not recorded.

issues on the floor of the House, you can rest assured that you will get the opportunity. But please you will agree with me that from the manner in which we conduct ourselves in the House we will be able to show to the country that we are doing our duties in the best possible manner. Supposing, you are not doing that, then people will criticise us and we will have no reply to those criticism also. Notices are with me. I will apply my mind. I will say yes or no. If the things have to be raised, I will allow them to be raised. If they cannot be raised I will explain that. The Speaker is not expected to explain the reasons also. But I will explain the reasons why your notices are not allowed. I will quote the rulings also. But if you do not go by that and if you think that you can do it in your own way, it is not proper. Moreover, you will have the opportunity to discuss all the important matters you want to discuss. But let it be discussed in the manner in which it should be discussed. Otherwise, if each Member wants the matter to be discussed in his own manner, well, you will have a confusion in the House and you will not allow ordinary discussion. Ordinary discussion can take place only if you are going by the rulings given by the Presiding Officer, otherwise, it is not possible.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : We have submitted the notice for Adjournment Motion according to the rules and procedure of this House. Adjournment Motion has a specific meaning that let the House be adjourned because a development has taken place. The Hawala Scandal is such a development that merits Adjournment Motion. Sir, we have submitted our Motion before 10 a.m. and we expect very much that it is allowed..... (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You please apply your mind..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Now this kind of arguments cannot go on. If the Hawala matter is there, it is not an urgent matter.

..... (Interruptions)

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Is there any other matter more important than this ?..... (Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : This is very urgent..... (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Nothing is more important than this (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Let me complete.

..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You will hear me first.

..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not saying that there would not be any discussion on that. But in what form the discussion has to take place, has to be decided. You please understand this. What is this going on ?

..... (Interruptions)

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : We have followed the rules. We have submitted the notice for the Adjournment Motion as per the rules..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What she says will go on record.

..... (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for allowing me to speak..... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Others get opportunity but I never get..... (Interruptions)..... Many hon. Members have resigned over the Hawala issue..... (Interruptions) Hon. Prime Minister has no right to continue..... (Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, it is a fact that value-based politics is deteriorating day by day and to stop this corrupt practice, I think, it is better in the interest of the country that the Lok Pall Bill must be passed before the coming General Elections so that the corrupt people go out.

Sir, I also want to raise a matter about one scandal which is related to our country's prestige, and that is, PILCOM of Wills Cup Cricket 1996. They have violated FERA. One convener Shri Dalmia is taking thousands of dollars from abroad. This money is being misused for some political purpose to project somebody. This money has gone to CPI(M) party also. Shri Dalmia has lowered the credibility of the country.

Sir, our Home Minister is present here, Finance Minister is present here. I request through you that this matter should be investigated by the CBI as to how this money has been spent, from where this money has come, who sponsored this, so that the country's prestige must be restored..... (Interruptions)..... It is a great scandal. They are saying about Hawala. It is more than Hawala. Thousands of dollars are involved in this scandal of PILCOM..... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Now, it seems that you are interested in these Adjournment Motions. I thought you are interested in discussions.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : No, Sir. We want discussion under Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : If Shri Basudeb Acharia wants it under Adjournment Motion I will read out the rules, I will read out his notice and he shall have to justify as to how it can come under the Adjournment Motion. Rule 56 says :

'Subject to the provisions of these rules, a motion for an adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.'

Now, you take up your Adjournment Motion and please tell me what is definite in it, tell me what is urgent in it and I will apply my mind.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, the matter..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You read out your notice first, please. What is your notice, you read out and you show me what is definite, what is urgent in it, because of which the country will suffer, because of which others will suffer.

..... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This matter is definite.....
(Interruptions).....Several Ministers have resigned, this is
unprecedented..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is urgent ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Prime Minister's name
has also been referred. He is also allegedly involved in the
corruption..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are saying, several Ministers. What is
urgent and definite ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : That is why we want a
discussion only under Adjournment Motion.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Sir, I am grateful that
you have asked Mr. Basudeb Acharia about his Notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask you also to submit.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : May I submit, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : No, afterwards.

I will allow all those who have given notices to tell me as to
how it is definite and urgent.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : May I make a
submission, Sir ? I do not think, even on the Treasury Benches,
it will not be disputed that this matter is of greatest importance.....
(Interruptions)..... so far as the nation as a whole is concerned. I
believe, there is no dispute..... (Interruptions)..... I know you are
in great agony. You will be in more agony, I know that. And, you
have co-shares in your agony, I know that..... (Interruptions).....
But the point here is, how a sovereign Parliament is sitting, after
such startling disclosures have come ? The Supreme Court's
intervention has come, the CBI, the most important investigating
agency, has been directed by the Supreme Court. The Ministers
has to resign. They have not willingly resigned, they had to resign.
Allegations against the Head of the Government of this Country
have come. The Supreme Court has said, 'Do not close the
investigation'. Now, if the Parliament of India does not discuss it,
who will discuss it ?

Sir, therefore, my appeal to you – we have been making
that appeal since yesterday – is that please let us discuss this on
the floor of this House. This is one of the forms known to us,
namely Adjournment Motion. Notices for Adjournment Motion
have been given. With great humility, I would like to submit that
nobody can dispute the importance of it and the urgency of it.
Day-to-day, Supreme Court is passing orders and Parliament is
not discussing it. It is very difficult to accept such a situation.
Therefore, Members are very much agitated and we have given
notices according to rules before ten o' clock and you have to
give your rulings on them. Let us discuss it. If you feel that the
Adjournment Motion is not the proper form, let us start discussion
under Rule 193 or under Rule 184, whatever it is. Let us start it.
We also want to censure the Government under an Adjournment
Motion. But if you feel that it cannot be granted, the discussion
could not be precluded. Therefore, my appeal to you is, the House
wants to discuss it.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good thing. I like your approach
to this problem. I respect it.

..... (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I have given a notice. The
issue is simple the Hawala issue.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your notice ? You read it out please.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : It is the hawala issue itself. I have
raised only the Hawala issue.

MR. SPEAKER : No, it cannot be like that. I do not know
what the Hawala issue is. You read out your notice.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : It is there, with you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You read out your notice. I do not know
what the Hawala issue is. It is forcing your views on me. What do
you mean by Hawala issue ?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : If you ask anybody in the street,
they will tell you what the Hawala issue is. This is a definite issue.

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is not.

..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am allowing each one of you. Please do
not stand up every time.

..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please let me know what is the Hawala
issue, what is definite about it and what is urgent about it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : That is a definite issue. That is
why we want to discuss it. The hon. Supreme Court has directed
the CBI, the Central Bureau of Investigation to investigate into
the conduct of the hon. Prime Minister. That is the concern of
everybody..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are not reading out your notice.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I have given it to you. I do not
have it with me right now.

MR. SPEAKER : You should have a copy with you.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I have already submitted my notice
on an urgent issue. It is there with you.

MR. SPEAKER : I want it from you. You should read it out.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I have given a notice on an
important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : If it is an important issue, you should deal
with it in a proper manner also.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I have simply written, 'hawala
issue', This is a definite issue, this is a public importance issue
and this is the concern of the entire nation. The hawala issue
should be discussed immediately.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir,
without any hesitation, let me say at the very outset that we want
a rational debate on the subject. We want the debate on the
subject any time of the day, but the question here is that an

Adjournment Motion has been sought to be moved I am sure the hon. Member moving the Motion will move it according to rules and the decision will be taken according to rules.

In this context I would like to refer to Rule 58. It says that "the motion on adjournment shall be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence involving responsibility of the Government of India.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Is it not a matter of recent occurrence ?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It further says, "the motion shall not deal with any matter which is under adjudication by a court of law having jurisdiction in any part of India; and the motion shall not raise any question which under the Constitution or these rules can only be raised on a distinct motion by a notice given in writing to the Secretary-General."

This Rule precludes us to take this question under the Adjournment Motion. There are various other modes which I am sure the hon. Members will make use of. The Motion should have been given under Rule 184 or 193.

MR. SPEAKER : I have followed you. Somnath ji said the same thing.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore) : I have already given you a notice for Adjournment Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Please say which notice because I have lot many notices and you know I was sitting with you in the Committee.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What shall I do then ?

MR. SPEAKER : You shall wait until one day.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I can read it out. This is in my name, Loknath Choudhuri and Geeta Mukerjee jointly.

MR. SPEAKER : But you are pleading for them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I hereby give notice of my intention to ask for leave to move a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public matter, namely refusal of the Prime Minister to step down from office despite the ongoing CBI inquiry into the serious allegations of corruption against him, thereby vitiating the impartiality of the said inquiry. This is my motion and I consider it a very important matter. It is for you to decide whether anybody, especially the Prime Minister against whom there are allegations which are being investigated, should remain in office while the investigations are going on. Propriety demands that he should step down and allow the inquiry to go on impartially. When it is over then the result will show what has to be done
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naik and Ms. Mamata please sit down.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice for adjournment.

MR. SPEAKER : Which is that ? Please read it out.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, I am reading it out. I remember it. It is regarding disclosures made by and the charge sheets filed by the Central Bureau of Investigations

in the hawala scandal. Why I have given notice is that a very very grave situation has arisen because the same persons who are supplying arms to the anti-national elements and terrorising our border States have given money the politicians and bureaucrats. This is a very very serious situation.

MR. SPEAKER : You have to tell me what is definite in your notice.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, I am telling. Please hear me. It is a very-very grave situation where the persons who are supplying arms and who have helped the terrorists and anti-national elements, the same people have paid crores of rupees to the top politicians and bureaucrats. Is it not a serious matter which concerns this House ?

MR. SPEAKER : You are not reading your notice. You are not sticking to your notice. This is something. May I read out your notice ?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, you can read it out. My notice is regarding the disclosures made by and the charge sheets filed by the CBI in the hawala scandal.

15.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : You were now talking about something else.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, you have made your point.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chitta Basuji also will have an opportunity.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : Sir, let us not indulge in semantics or nuances of technicalities. This is every serious matter. The security of the country is at stake. Those who have been entrusted to protect the sovereignty of the nation are receiving money.

MR. SPEAKER : Which is your notice, read it out.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : *Hawala* issue has many ramifications.

MR. SPEAKER : It has to be a definite matter I am reading out the rules for you. You have made these rules.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : The *hawala* issue has many ramifications and the most serious of them is the security of our nation is at stake. They are taking money against illegal orders that they are granting in respect of power projects, in respect of railways etc. Every day new scandals are coming out and many of them are related to the *hawala* case. (Interruptions).....*

MR. SPEAKER : This is going out of record.

.....(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, the remarks made by the Member are objectionable and they should go out of record.....(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : They are not going on record. I have already done that.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know that the hon. Members have come refreshed after the inter-session period of the House. But I am alone; I cannot face all of you together.

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL : We are all behind you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Please cooperate. I am allowing the Members one after the other to make their statements.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, a discussion should take place.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Somnathji, I understood what you have said perfectly. We will try to do it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Speaker, Sir, you were good enough to observe that we have come refreshed after the break.

MR. SPEAKER : If it is derogatory, I take it back.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No, Sir, it is not that. Rather than being refreshed, I personally have come extremely depressed after the break, Sir. You were quite right also in observing that the Chair is not obliged to explain why the Chair has taken a decision in one fashion or another. Quite rightly again as Members when we make a submission to you or when we move a motion, we are under an obligation to convince you that what we want to put across with your permission, is really something that is of concern.

Now, Sir, I share the concern as expressed by Somnathji. In totality what we are concerned as a House - and I am sure the Treasury Benches share that - is really the question of accountability of the executive and probity in public life. Some Members have chosen to approach this whole larger question of accountability of the executive and probity in public life through the route of adjournment motion.

Others have chosen the route of a Motion under Rule 184. Some of us had been persuaded, subject to your approval, that a serious breach has been committed of the privilege of this House. That is, Sir, for you to decide. I quite accept..... (Interruptions)For example, take the Censure Motion. That is again for you to decide. What are the issues that are agitating the House and I am sure, they are agitating all sides of the House? What is agitating the House is something that the Supreme Court has been seized of since the 16th of January? In that sense, if we were to go by the technicality, yes, it is not an issue of immediate occurrence but of the 16th of January, when we were not in session. From 16th of January till today - what is called by everyone - it has become a cliché phrase, which is understood though. Perhaps, you are right in saying that it is not exact enough. It is called the *Hawala* case. The *Hawala* case has taken many hon. Ministers, as casualty. They had to leave the Government; they have resigned. This is not an ordinary issue. There are serious charges.....(Interruptions) The President of my own party has also been charged. Now, if he is charged or if anybody is charged, surely it is an elementary commentary that if he is charged it is incumbent upon him to prove his innocence. That is the larger question that has arisen. For example, the Chief Minister

of our State of Delhi, which is a State ruled by B.J.P., has stepped down from office. The President of my party has stepped down from office. The president of my party has resigned his seat from Parliament. The President of our party has announced that till he has proven his innocence he will not contest any elections. These are not small things.....(Interruptions)..... Why do I say this?(Interruptions) Because that is one part of this large aspect of accountability and probity.

What is the second part? The second part is a charge made yesterday in writing by a sitting Member of Parliament that large sums of money were exchanged between Members of the Ruling Party and him when it was the question of a Confidence Vote in the House.....(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : You point it out..... (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : My Point is not(Interruptions) The point that I am raising is not diluted, it is not diminished by these interruptions. In fact, these interruptions are an index of the sense of guilt of the Ruling Party.....(Interruptions)..... Whatever I am saying is a well enough known fact. This is the second part of it.

The third part that seized the House this morning is of the observations made by a judge of one of the lower courts. That is the totality. Out of this totality, this House is wanting to give voice to the expressions of its concern. It wants to give voice in a manner that will make our concern conveyed to the rest of the country. If we end up, if we reduce the totality of this concern, no matter what shape it is given, what particular notice is given, whether Adjournment Motion or Motion under Rule 184-I too have moved a Motion under Rule 184 - Do you wish me to read out my Motion under Rule?(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. You have that copy and I have also read the same.

.....(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : I have already told my point..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Very good.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am not attempting to make some debating point.....(Interruptions)..... My intention is not to score small debating points. The issue is enormous. The issue confronting is today really questions the very legitimacy and credibility of the institution in which we are sitting. I consider it a great honour that these two letters which are suffixed to my name, those two letters are very simple letters - 'M' and 'P', but to carry these two letters as a suffix to my name, I treat as a great honour. It is an honour endowed upon me by my electorate. The honour is called to question by everyone today. The judges of the court are very eminent people; they are very wise people. In their wisdom they have said what they have said. What is required today?

[Translation]

As I submitted in the morning that today our Republic ought to exercise self-restraint. Therefore my humble submission to my

friends of treasury benches is that the question which have come before us today are of so much importance and fundamental nature.....(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : You are speaking like Father Christmas. What about the allegations in today's newspaper that you have bought over these MPs for Rs. 3 crore.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Yes, I thing so, Sir.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Now that has also come out in the newspaper. That is about your leader.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Yes, quite right, Sir.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Then you should explain it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I will Sir.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is the best person to find out.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I know.....(Interruptions)..... I think my friend really puts his finger on...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, the giver and taker both are guilty.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Of course, they are guilty. The leader of my party has said so in the Press that both the giver and the taker are guilty.....(Interruptions)..... Now a statement is made here.....(Interruptions) I am answering this. Mrs. Alva, please listen to what I am saying.....(Interruptions)..... I will answer to what he has said. If the debate that is to be conducted in this House is a debate that starts by a newspaper allegation and if we reduce the concerns of this House by this kind of slanging match, then noting is going to come out of it. By all means you say that Rs. 2 crore were paid. Why limit it to Rs. 2 crore?(Interruptions)..... Why did not you say Rs. 10 crore?(Interruptions)..... You are now supporting him. He is with you.....(Interruptions)..... It truly saddens me that my good and charming friend Mrs. Margaret Alva should now be using this as the point of argument against me is not a point of argument against me at all.

If my party is proven as guilty of having paid Rs. 2 crore or Rs. 5 crore or Rs. 10 crore, by all means punish us, hang us, prove it to us. It is all that we are saying. Every time when we open our mouth and say.....(Interruptions)..... This is not the way, Sir. This is not the way to give voice to the concern of this House. Do not trivialise this for heaven's shake, Mrs. Margaret Alva.....(Interruptions)

SHRI MRUTYNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani) : How can you say about what is going to happen in the court; whether the country is going to favour you or you are going to be hanged? Till then you have to wait.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am quite ready to be hanged today. I am not seeking any favour from the court. My good friend, the hon. Member said that I was saying that courts would do us a favour. I seek no favours, my party seeks no favours from no courts.....(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : You do not deserve that.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : All right, we do not deserve that.....(Interruptions)..... Sir, I am appalled at the kinds of comments that are coming from the Treasury Benches.....(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : We do not deserve it. If we do not deserve to be in this House then the Treasury Benches should individually pass resolution and expel all of us from the House. What are we appealing to you is that let this House give voice to the enormity of its concern. Let this House give its voice to the most unprecedented situation that this House has ever faced.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I have said that you will have an opportunity to discuss this matter on the floor of the House. It should not be necessary for me to repeat it again and again. In what form it has to be discussed, that is the only question to be decided. Now, if you want to discuss it today, immediately after the Railway Budget is presented. I will allow the discussion on it.

But the form will be left to me. Please understand. This is my difficulty. You do not understand the importance of Budget and the importance of discussing this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak for a minute.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We are not passing the Budget. We are presenting the Budget. You can take it up if you want to discuss it today itself but then the form should be left to be decided and we should do it in a proper fashion that next moment you will also not be in a difficult position.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) : You have forgotten the alternative obligation to pass the Railway Budget.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I met you in your Chamber after the discussion held in the morning. An effort was made to evolve an opinion about it. If it requires more consideration, it can be done. I humbly submit that no conclusion has so far been drawn on the issue that we raised in the morning and which still being discussed. We wanted the hon. Prime Minister to come in the House and clear his position. That issue is still unresolved but we do not want to put any hurdle in transacting the financial business. If the hon. Minister of Railways wants to present the Railways Budget, he should do it quickly. He is not required to read out the whole Budget speech, he should only present the Budget as it will be considered to be read.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You can lay it on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we will help in continuing the transaction of business which was marred by deadlock in the morning and which has been revived again.

[English]

*MR. SPEAKER : Buta Singhji I will allow you. Please understand that the senior Member and all Members in their heart of heart are very clear as to what is to be done first and what is to be done afterwards. I am really grateful to all the Members for understanding this implication involved in this issue. I think that the hon. Leader of the Opposition and hon. Member, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, leader of his Party have now made a good suggestion. We will accept it. Let the Budget be presented. Then we can continue. On that we shall have no difficulty in it.

THE INTERIM BUDGET (RAILWAYS), 1996-97

15.19 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to place before the House the Revised Estimates for 1995-96 and the estimated receipts and expenditure for 1996-97.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kalmadi...

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : I am on a point of order. My point of order is this : The Railway Budget is to be presented by a Cabinet Minister, i.e. the Prime Minister and not by the State Minister. Has the Prime Minister informed you in advance that he will not present the Budget ? That is my point of order. He has not informed you in advance.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : I have already presented the Supplementary Budget in the last session. No objection was raised at that time.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Sir, I will read it again. I rise to place before the House the Revised Estimates for 1995-96 and the estimated receipts and expenditure for 1996-97.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is possibility of accident at the speed. The hon. Minister of Railways is moving forward. Let the train be started but the speed should be increased slowly and not instantly.

LOK SABHA

List of Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) for the year of 1996-97 voted by the Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House
1	2	3
		Rs.
1.	Railway Board	7,46,78,000
2.	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	37,81,54,000
3.	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	276,00,49,000

1	2	3
4.	Repairs & Maintenance of Permanent Way & Works	569,12,04,000
5.	Repairs & Maintenance of Motive Power	396,47,93,000
6.	Repairs & Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	589,81,44,000
7.	Repairs & Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	302,96,37,000
8.	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock & Equipment	486,53,54,000
9.	Operating Expenses - Traffic	1401,33,33,000
10.	Operating Expenses - Fuel	1347,53,61,000
11.	Staff Welfare & Amenities	220,71,17,000
12.	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	284,84,28,000
13.	Provident Fund, Pension and other retirement benefits	787,32,17,000
14.	Appropriation of Funds	1878,00,00,000
15.	Dividend to General Revenues, Repayment of Loans taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalization	8,50,78,000
16.	Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	
	Revenue	15,00,00,000
	Other Expenditure	
	Capital	472,23,32,000
	Railway Funds	3806,53,68,000
	Total	12888,22,47,000

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to place before the House the Revised Estimates for 1995-96 and the estimated receipts and expenditure for 1996-97 and I deem it as an honour to be given this opportunity by the hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. The estimates for the next financial year are for the whole year, but at present I seek from this august House only a "Vote on Account", sufficient to provide for the estimated expenditure for the first four months. The requirements for the remaining part of the year are to be voted separately, later on.

Sir, before doing so, it is my solemn duty to apprise this august House about the manner in which Indian Railways are going about meeting the growing rail transport demand. This in essence amounts to recounting the success story of our government since 1991-92 when our country launched its journey towards new horizons. The period since then has been very significant for Indian Railways as much as for our nation. Under the visionary leadership of the hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, our nation has embarked on the path of social, political and economic stability leaving behind the memories of earlier upheavals on these fronts.