

MR. SPEAKER: The convention does not detract from the merit of the motions which the hon. Member proposes to move. If he will have the patience, he will observe the convention and, after the President's Address he will move all these motions.

11.15 hrs.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Indira Gandhi may now move the motion.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That Shri Bal Ram, a Member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House."

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bali Ram Bhagat may second the motion.

SHRI BALI RAM BHAGAT (Sitamarhi): I second the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Narayan Datt Tiwary may now move the motion standing in his name.

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी (नेनीताल) :
श्रीमान् मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

"कि श्री बल राम को, जो इस सभा के सदस्य हैं, इस सभा का अध्यक्ष चुना जाये।"

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (Shri P. Shiv Shankar): I second the motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the first motion that is, the motion moved by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and seconded by Shri Bali Ram Bhagat to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That Shri Bal Ram, a Member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House."

Those in favour may say "Aye".

HON. MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Those against may say "No".

I think the Ayes have it; the Ayes have it. The motion is unanimously adopted.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: I declare Shri Bal Ram duly elected as the Speaker of the House. Now, I have great pleasure in inviting Shri Bal Ram to occupy the Chair.

(Shri Bal Ram was conducted to the Chair by the Prime Minister and Shri Charan Singh.)

[MR. SPEAKER (SHRI BAL RAM) in the Chair]

15.18 hrs.

FELICITATIONS TO THE SPEAKER

THE PRIME MINISTER (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate you on your assumption of the high office of Speaker. May I also take this opportunity of extending my congratulations to all Hon'ble Members of the House on their elections?

Sir, traditionally today is the first day of spring, a day of new beginnings, a day devoted to learning and to culture. It is a coincidence that your election, Mr. Speaker, has taken place today. But that does not detract from the day or the event; rather it gives it added significance.

India is known for its adherence to the ancient. Yet, it is ever ready to meet new situations and new challenges. In a fast-changing world, the need is for a fresh outlook, not just periodical or occasional but constant and continuing.

You, Sir, are a son of the soil with personal experience of the difficulties of the largest section of our people, one on which we are all dependent for our survival. The Indian farmer is known not only for his sound