

लिए मैं डबल नाम ले रहा हूँ। मैं सदन के सभी माननीय सदस्यों का प्रतिनिधित्व करता हूँ, इस-लिए दोनों की बात मुझे करनी पड़ती है।

**डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी :** चर्ची की बहस करते समय आप हमें खाना कैसे खिलायेंगे ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** खाना भी खिलाएंगे और बहस भी करेंगे।

12.19 hrs.

**ANNOUNCEMENT RE : RELINQUISHING OF OFFICE BY SHRI AVTAR SINGH RIKHY, SECRETARY-GENERAL, LOK SABHA ON RETIREMENT**

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आज एक स्पेशल बात यह है कि हमारे जो सेक्रेटरी जनरल हैं वे 31 दिसम्बर को अवकाश ग्रहण कर रहे हैं।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नई दिल्ली) :** इन्हें अभी तक सेक्रेटरी जनरल तो बनाया ही नहीं।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** मैं तो बनाना चाहता था, इन्होंने कहा कि मुझे सेक्रेटरी ही रहने दो।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** आज अग्राउंस-मेंट कर दीजिए कि वे एक सेक्रेटरी जनरल रिटायर करेंगे। इनके साथ न्याय नहीं हुआ है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** कर दिया। ये हो गए सेक्रेटरी जनरल।

He will retire as Secretary-General.

इस विभाग में मैं अब कार्यवाही करना चाहता हूँ।

I have to inform the House that Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy, Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is relinquishing office on retirement from service with effect from the 31st December 1983.

He has been the Secretary of Lok Sabha for the last six and half years. He belongs to the 1945 batch of the All India Services. He came here in 1956 as a Deputy Secretary

in Mr. Speaker Mavalankar's time. During his long period of service, he has served the Institution with great distinction and shown a rare zeal for work and duty. He has greatly helped in the efficient functioning of this House and has always tendered sound advice to the Chair on procedural and other matters. His advice on matters of procedure was also available to all Members of the House irrespective of their Party affiliation.

Shri Rikhy has been associated with International Parliamentary Organisations like Inter-Parliamentary Union, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments and has been a well-recognised figure in these fora by dint of his dedicated work and suave manners.

He has been taking keen interest in the Seminars and Symposia organised by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training in which not only the Members of Parliament but Members of State Legislatures and Members of Inter-Parliamentary Group also have participated.

During his long stint with the Financial Committees, he was instrumental in strengthening the Committee System and making their Reports pertinent and constructive.

Shri Rikhy had the unique distinction of not being absent from even a single sitting of the Lok Sabha during the entire period of six and half years and that is a record.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) :** That shows his tolerance about us.

**MR. SPEAKER :** In the true tradition of the Parliamentary Officials he has assiduously cultivated anonymity and has invariably put the interest of the Institution above everything else. He has endeared himself by his courteous behaviour to one and all.

In appreciation of his long and distinguished record of services to the House and its Committees I have appointed him as Honorary Officer of the House following past precedents. This would be a fitting recognition of his services.

We shall miss him. We wish him well in the years to come and to serve the country

in any other capacities.

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :** Sir, I join you in complimenting Shri Rikhy for the valuable services which he has rendered to this House for the last six and half years, of which I had occasion to see him performing his duties for the past about four years. I should like to congratulate him on your giving him the designation of Secretary-General. The task of the Secretary of the Lok Sabha is not easy. The Secretary or the Secretary-General has to have knowledge not only of procedure and rules but of many other matters and has to view the concern of the Members with sympathy and understanding and, of course, he must be very alert at all times.

Shri Rikhy has made useful contribution to Parliamentary work by his devotion to duty. He has maintained the conventions and high traditions of our Parliament. I join you in extending to Shri Rikhy my own and my Party's good wishes for the years to come and for whatever future work he may take up.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah) :** Sir, I join you in the felicitations and fully agree with the qualifications mentioned in your felicitations. I express my appreciation personally because whenever I have sought any help from him, I have seen he is very prompt to help. I can cite the instance when Dinen Bhattacharyya's death occurred in the mid-night, in the early morning I telephoned him and told him that this tragedy has happened and his body is to be sent to Calcutta. Immediately he responded and he made all the arrangements and his body was taken to Calcutta. I have seen how prompt he was to help us in this matter. On another occasion we lost another M.P. Mukund Mandal. In that case also when the tragedy happened, immediately I contacted him and I got his full co-operation and help.

In the case of getting admission of MPs to the Medical Institute or hospital, I have several times sought his help and he was very prompt in giving all possible help.

This shows his sense of duty, his attitude towards MPs, irrespective of party affiliations. I have always seen him with a

smiling face and he was most modest in his behaviour. These are very good virtues which we generally do not see in all officers or personalities. These are his added qualifications, apart from the qualifications mentioned by the Speaker in his felicitations.

Whenever the question of separation comes, there is always some feeling of sorrow. I hope he will pass his future life very peacefully. We hope that he with his vast experience will help us in future, either as adviser or in some other form. I thank him for the services rendered to us.

**श्री रशीद मसूब (सहारनपुर) :** मोहतरम स्पीकर साहब, आपने जिस ख्यालात का इजहार फरमाया है मोहतरम रिखी साहब के लिए, मैं अपने आपको और अपनी पार्टी को उससे बिल्कुल मुताबिक पाता हूँ। आज हमारे लिए एक अजीब सा मौका है। ऐसे वाक्यात और ऐसे मकाम इन्सान की ज़िन्दगी में बहुत कम आते हैं, जब वह खुशी और गम दोनों से दो-चार होता है। आज जिन ख्यालात का इजहार रिखी साहब के बारे में किया जा रहा है, उनको सुनकर एक खुशी सी महसूस होती है। जो ख्याल और जज्बात हम रिखी साहब के लिए रखते थे, पूरा हाऊस का हाऊस वही जज्बात इनके लिए रखता है। दूसरी तरफ, इस बात का अफसोस है कि रिखी साहब सेक्रेटरी जनरल की हैसियत से हमारे दरम्यान नहीं थे। रिखी साहब के साथ रहने का इत्फाक मुझे हिन्दुस्तान में और हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर भी हुआ। एक शेर मुझे याद आ रहा है। मैं रिखी साहब की नज़र करता हूँ।

“कितने शिरी हैं, तेरे लव के रकीब,  
 गालियाँ खा के बद-मजा न हुआ।”

बहुत से मौके ऐसे आते हैं और आए, जब हम लोग रिखी साहब के साथ जज्बात में, गलतफहमी में या किसी भी वजह से गुस्से हुए हैं और बहुत सी मर्तबा बहस-मुवाहिसे के मूड में भी आए, लेकिन इनकी तारीफ करती पड़ेगी, जैसा मैंने कहा है कि “गालियाँ खा के बद-मजा न हुआ”। हमारे उस गुस्से का हमें ऐसा महसूस हुआ जैसे हम कोई गुस्सा कर ही नहीं रहे हैं और कोई इनसे बहुत

अच्छाई या तारीफ की बात कर रहे हैं। वही हंस-मुख चेहरा, वही हंसकर के जबाब देना, वही इमदाद जिस तरीके से हो सकती है, करना। यह तो इनकी इन्सानी खसूसियत थी जो बहुत कम लोगों में होती है। वह खसूसियत जो एक सेक्रेटरी जनरल में पालियामेंट के तमाम रूल्स के ऊपर और पालियामेंट से मुतालिक क्वानीन पर गिरफ्त हो, उसमें रिखी साहब का कोई जबाब नहीं। मुझे हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर डेलीगेशन में कई बार जाने का मौका मिला और कई लोगों को इस सिलसिले में देखने का इत्फाक हुआ है। लेकिन, जो हम-वक्त इमदाद रिखी साहब की तरफ से मिलती रही, वह हर आदमी से नहीं मिली। हमें महसूस हुआ कि हमारे रिखी साहब हमारी पालियामेंट के रूल्स और प्रोसीजर से मुकम्मिल तौर पर वाक-फियत नहीं रखते हैं बल्कि इन्टरनेशनल कांफ्रेंस के क्वानीन और जुवावित में ज्यादा महारत रखते हैं। यह खसूसियत और क्वालिटी बहुत कम लोगों में देखने में आती है। सबसे बड़ी बात जो सेक्रेटरीयट के लिए जरूरत है कि किसी के साथ इम्पारशियलटी व गैर-जानिबदाराना तरीके से काम करना। अपोजिशन के लोगों को अहसास न हो कि हम अपोजिशन में हैं और रूलिंग वालों को अहसास न हो कि हम रूलिंग में हैं इसलिए जो चाहें करवा लें। यह खसूसियत कोई मामूली खसूसियत नहीं है। इसके ऊपर पूरे पालियामेंटरी सिस्टम की बुनियाद है।

लिहाजा मैं रिखी साहब का उनके इस कदम हमदादी साढ़े छः साल हमारे साथ बिताने के लिए शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ। अब वह हमारे दरम्यान सेक्रेटरी जनरल की हैसियत से नहीं होंगे। मैं उम्मीद रखता हूँ कि आगे जब भी कभी हम लोगों को रिखी साहब की मदद की जरूरत पड़ेगी— मुझे यकीन है कि पड़ेगी— हमें उनकी मदद जरूर मिलेगी। जो काम वह हमारे दिलों पर छोड़ गए हैं उससे हमें अंदाज होता है कि हम आसानी से रिखी साहब को छोड़ेंगे नहीं, उनकी मदद जरूर लेंगे और मुझे पूरा यकीन है कि वह हमारी मदद करते रहेंगे। यही मुझे अपनी तरफ से और अपनी

पार्टी की तरफ से कहना है।

مذہبی رہنماؤں (سماج) نے ہمراہی سماج کے لئے میں آئے ہیں اور میں اپنی  
کو اس سے الگ نہیں بنانا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں نے کبھی سماج سے ہٹ کر نہیں  
مقام انسان کی زندگی میں بہت سے تھے جس میں وہ خوش اور بخیر ہو سکتے  
دو چار ہوا ہے۔ آج میں سلامت کا اظہار بھی سماج کے بارے میں کیا  
جا رہا ہے۔ ان کو میں ایک خوشی میں ہوں جو ہے تو خیال اور عزت  
ہمراہی سماج کے لئے رہے تھے۔ ہمارا بس کام اس میں جہالت کے  
لئے رکھنا ہے۔ یہ سب سب اس لئے اس فکس ہے کہ ہم سماج  
کے ہر فرد کو بہت سے ہمارے درمیان نہیں تھے۔ ہم سماج کے  
ساتھ رہے۔ ان کا تعلق ہے ہندوستان میں اور ہندوستان کے ہر  
آپ کا شعر ہے ہمارا ہے۔ میں بھی سماج کی نظر کرتا ہوں۔

”کتنے بغیر جی ہیں تیرے لب کے رقیب  
مردان کھا کے مدرزہ نہ پہاڑ“

[illegible]

بہن! میں رکھی صاحب کو ان کے اس قدر امدادی سارے مجھے سال  
 ہمارے ساتھ بتانے کے لیے شکر ہے اور تیار ہوں۔ اب وہ ہمارے درمیان  
 سکریٹری جنرل کی حیثیت سے نہیں ہوں گے۔ میں امید رکھتا ہوں کہ آگے  
 بہن بھی ایسی ہی ہوں گی کہ رکھی صاحب کی مدد کی ضرورت ہونے لگے گی۔  
 بہن سے کہہ دوں گی۔ ہمیں ان کی مدد ضرور ملے گی۔ تو حجاب وہ ہمارے  
 دونوں پر پھونکے گئے ہیں اس سے ہمیں اندازہ ہونا ہے کہ ہم انسانی  
 سے رکھی صاحب کو چھیڑ دینے نہیں۔ ان کی مدد ضرور ملے گی۔ اور مجھے پورا  
 یقین ہے کہ وہ ہماری مدد کرتے رہیں گے۔ یہی مجھے اسی طرف سے اور  
 اپنی ماں کی طرف سے کہنا ہے۔

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE** (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Secretary-General, Avtar Singh Rikhyji, will be retiring on 31st December. I think he will be keeping pace with the time because as the year ends, his tenure of office also ends and that is how he is keeping pace with the time in which he is functioning.

Sir, I share quite a number of common experiences and associations with our Secretary-General. You will be glad to recollect that he was in the Railways for 9 years ; I was there only for 2 years ! But I always feel and I have always told our Railway officers that 'you are permanent employees, whereas the Ministers are only casual workers. You will continue there for a longer time'. He continued for 9 years. He had rich associations with the Railways and when he tried to assist the Estimates Committee, he brought his rich experience in the Railways to the working of the Estimates Committee and he made valuable contributions in the working of the Estimates Committee when it examined the Department of Railways.

There are so many other associations. I was with him in Andamans not during the freedom struggle, but during the tour of the Estimates Committee and there we tried to find out how meticulously he was functioning as an officer assisting the Estimates Committee, how deep-seated was his interest in the work of the Committee and particularly on financial matters he used to bring a fresh outlook which helped the Committee a lot.

As far as his work in this House is concerned, on a number of occasions we had the happy experience that when the presiding authority—I am not referring only to you—had a doubt as to whether what we are raising fits into the rules, on a number of occasions we found the Secretary-General rushing to the Presiding authority and pointing out that what he is saying is quite consistent with the rules, and we shall never remember some such occasions when because of his assistance we were able to make our contribution in this House and of course, Sir, your indulgence was always there.

As far as his work in the House is con-

cerned, he tried to give all technical assistance to the Members whether they belong to the Ruling Party or whether they belong to the Opposition, and that is the quality of the persons who function in this House.

But, Sir, this House has one more association, and that is the association of the Zero Hour. Sir, I remember a friend of mine who was telling me that at the railway station there was a heavy traffic, at night also he heard the sound and fury of the railway trains. And when he retired and went to a quiet place, he said, 'I never get a sound sleep because I am accustomed to the sound and fury of the railway trains'. The same is likely to happen to him because for more than 6 years he has been a witness to the sound and fury of the Zero Hour. His ears have been tuned in consonance and frequency to the tune of the Zero Hour and therefore, when he retires now and spends a very quiet time with his family members, I am sure even in the company of his family members he will not have sound sleep because he will need the sound and fury of the Zero Hour. That is how things have been happening.

I do not want to take much of your time. All of us who are associated with this House will remember him, and I will only make one constructive suggestion. The tradition of this House has been that whoever has functioned as the Secretary or the Secretary-General in this House, when he retires, has a photographic memory, he brings his experiences in the form of a book and that is how the book by Kaul and Shakhder has become almost a Bible for all of us. And therefore, I hope and trust that if he has some good experiences about us, forget the bad part about us, but if he has some good experiences and he has followed some interesting precedents, when he retires, let him bring out another book so that just as Kaul and Shakhder are remembered not only as the former Secretaries-General, but they are also remembered as the authorities on the procedures and proceedings of this House, when he retires, he will use his photographic memory to bring to book all the experiences that he experienced in this House and I think that will be the best thing, for which he will always be

remembered.

Sir, I give my good wishes to Mr. Rikhy, and I hope he will have a sound health.

MR. SPEAKER : Your reference to zero hour reminds me of the famous Panjabi poet Waris Shah.

आदतां पड़ियां जांदियां नहीं वारिस शाह,  
चाहे करिए पोरियां पोरियां नी,  
खारे खू नहीं हुंदे मिट्ठे,  
चाहे खंड सुटिए बोरियां-बोरियां नी।

इसका अर्थ मैं बताता हूँ...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We had a laugh without understanding.

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल (अयपुर) : समझे तो नहीं हैं, मगर फिर भी वाह-वाह।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसका अर्थ यह है कि आदत जो पड़ जाती है सुनने की या करने की वह जाती नहीं है चाहे पोरि-पोरी करके काटो जिस्म को। जैसे खारे कुए में मीठा चाहे जितना डालते रहो पानी मीठा नहीं होगा। खारे कुए में खांड भर-भर कर डालते रहो वह मीठा नहीं होगा। तो इसी तरह से आदत बन जाती है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (नई दिल्ली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कोल और शकधर के बाद लोक सभा का प्रमुख पद सम्हालना अपने में एक बड़ा दायित्व था क्योंकि कोल और शकधर अपनी सेवाओं से, अपनी उपलब्धियों से और अपने व्यवहार से अपने लिए स्थान बनाने में सफल हुए थे। लेकिन जब श्री रिखी को सचिव का पद दिया गया तो हम लोग जानते थे कि वह अपने दायित्व के निर्वाह में पूरी तरह सफल होंगे। और आज जब वह हमसे विदा ले रहे हैं, हम उन्हें विदा दे रहे हैं तो सदन भी यह सन्तोष कर सकता है कि रिखी के रूप में हमें ऐसा सचिव मिला, अभी उन्हें आपने सैक्रेटरी जनरल बनाया है, कि जिसने अपने कर्तव्य के प्रति पूरी प्रमाणिकता बरती और कर्तव्य का पालन करने में किसी तरह की कसर

नहीं रहने दी।

1957 से मैं रिखी साहब को सचिवालय में सक्रिय देख रहा हूँ। अभी माननीय दंडवते जी ने उल्लेख किया पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटीज के साथ उनके सम्बन्ध का, उनके सहयोग का। मैं पब्लिक एका-उन्ट्स कमेटी के मੈम्बर के नाते उन्हें देखता रहा, फिर मुझे अध्यक्ष के नाते काम करने का मौका मिला। संसद का ठोस काम तो समितियों में होता है। अगर हम और समितियाँ बना सकते और उनमें गहराई से मामले ले जा कर विचार कर सकते तो बहुत अच्छा होता। लेकिन अगर लोक-लेखा-समिति, आकलन समिति और सार्वजनिक संस्थानों से सम्बन्धित समितियाँ अपना महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान कर पा रही हैं तो उसके लिए उनके अध्यक्ष और उनके सदस्य तो बधाई के पात्र हैं ही, मगर पदों के पीछे जो सचिवालय काम करता है और उसमें रिखी जैसे जो अधिकारी काम करते हैं उनका योगदान सचमुच में उल्लेखनीय और सगहनीय है।

बाद में रिखी साहब सचिव बने और एक बात मैंने देखी, पता नहीं सदन के कितने सदस्यों ने इस बात की ओर ध्यान दिया होगा कि हमारे सदन में एक नई परम्परा रिखी साहब ने शुरू कर दी है। जब वह आते हैं और सदन के सदस्य एकत्रित होते रहते हैं उस समय, अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप तो बाद में आते हैं, रिखी साहब आकर अपने स्थान पर शांति से खड़े हो जाते हैं और टेबिल के चारों तरफ जो अफसर बैठते हैं, वह भी एक मिनट के लिए मौन के लिए खड़े हो जाते हैं। यह एक नई चीज है जो इन्होंने शुरू की है। शायद दिन का काम आरम्भ करने से पहले वह हर एक से चाहते हैं कि अपने मन में किसी का स्मरण कर लो और आज का दिन ठीक तरह से गुजर जाय, हम अपने कर्तव्य का संतोष के साथ पालन कर सकें इस लिए किसी के प्रति अपना समर्पण प्रकट करो। रिखी साहब सचमुच में एक बड़े धार्मिक व्यक्ति हैं जो व्यक्तिगत परिचय से मैं उन्हें जान सका हूँ।

लोक सभा के नियम और प्रक्रिया के प्रति सतत जागरूक रहना, अध्यक्ष को सही सलाह देना...

यह तो उनका एक दायित्व था, मगर उनके व्यक्तित्व के अनेक पहलू हैं। उदाहरण के लिए बहुत में सदस्यों को वह सलाह देते रहते हैं कि आप सवेरे घूमने जाते हैं कि नहीं जाते हैं, सवेरे जरूर घूमने जाइये। अब वह जाते हैं, गर्मी में जाना संभव भी हो सकता है, मगर सर्दी में कौन जाये ? मगर रिखी साहब सलाह देंगे। यह बिना आत्मीयता, बिना ममत्व और बिना लगाव के नहीं हो सकता।

सचिव को क्या पड़ी है कि कोई सदस्य सवेरे घूमने जाता है या नहीं जाता है, जाता है तो अच्छा और नहीं जाता है तो और भी अच्छा। मगर रिखा साहब के लिए सदस्य सिर्फ एक इकाई नहीं, वह एक जीवित व्यक्ति है, जिसके साथ उनका सम्बन्ध है। वह सम्बन्ध केवल औपचारिक नहीं है, केवल सदन की सदस्यता तक सीमित नहीं है, जैसा मैंने कहा उसमें कुछ अपनापन है। यही अपनापन जब विदेश यात्रा पर हम लोग जाते हैं तो और भी बढ़ जाता है।

मैं और भी कहूंगा कि जो भी हमारे अफसर इस परम्परा में पले हैं, सचमुच में संसद के सचिवालय की एक परम्परा है। श्री कौल ने, श्री शकधर ने उस परम्परा को निभाया और रिखी साहब, जो ऊपर से शांत, सीधे, मित-भाषी, मगर मिष्ट-भाषी दिखाई देते हैं, कौल और शकधर के व्यक्तित्व की तुलना में रिखी साहब सरल से लगते हैं, मगर एक बार जिम्मेदारी आ गई तो उस जिम्मेदारी को उन्होंने बड़ी दृढ़ता से पालन किया है।

हम लोग सचमुच में उनका अभाव अनुभव करेंगे, मगर मुझे मालूम है कि जिस तरह का हमारा सचिवालय है और इसमें काम करने वाले लोग हैं, यह परम्परा जो रिखी साहब के पूर्ववर्ती सचिवों ने डाली और रिखी साहब ने उसे आगे बढ़ाया, यह परम्परा और आगे बढ़ेगी।

आपने रिखी साहब को परामर्शदाता के पद पर नियुक्त किया है, हमें उनकी सलाह का लाभ मिलता रहेगा। अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको भी

बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि आपने उनके रिटायरमेंट से पहले सैक्रेटरी-जनरल बना दिया, लेकिन आपने जो बात बताई, वह भी रिखी साहब के व्यक्तित्व को बताती है कि आप उन्हें पहले सैक्रेटरी-जनरल बनाने को तैयार थे, लेकिन, उन्होंने कहा कि नहीं, नहीं, मैं सचिव के नाते ही काम करूंगा। यह बान उनके व्यक्तित्व को एक ऐसा आयाम प्रदान करती है जो सचमुच में बिरले व्यक्तित्वों में मिलती है।

हम लोग रिखी साहब को बधाई देते हैं, उनका समय लोक-सभा के सचिवालय में बहुत साल का और उपलब्धियों का बीता, उनका शेष जीवन सुखी हो, वह स्वस्थ रहें, जो भी समय बचे उसका लाभ वह अपने संसदीय लोकतंत्र को मजबूत बनाने में करें। यही हमारी कामनाएं हैं।

✓ **SHRI C.T. DHANDAPANI (Pollachi) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our system of democracy, the role of Secretary, Lok Sabha is more pivotal than that of the public bodies. ✓ Though I have very little acquaintance with Mr. Avtar Singh Rikhy, I could understand that he was an effective and efficient officer and he was so generous in dealing with the issues which had been taken by the Members to him. ✓ His concept and his decision with regard to the rules and procedures within the framework of our Lok Sabha procedures was more useful and helpful to the Chair as well as Members. ✓

✓ Sir, he has rendered a very valuable service not only to the House but in convening various seminars and inviting members of the Legislatures to assemble at a particular place and exchange views to promote the idea of Parliamentary system so that thereby the democratic institutions can be strengthened.

That he has done during the tenure of the Secretary. As Prof. Madhu Dandavate has said here, his vast experience and his knowledge should be useful for the future to the Members of Parliament as well as to the public. By saying this, I would only appeal to Mr. Rikhy that, after retirement, I hope he would do some useful research and bring about some valuable books for the benefit of Members and the public.

Sir, you have conferred on him the title "Secretary-General" today and, his having accepted this award, I hope, Mr. Rikhy would certainly follow the path of other Secretaries-General who have rendered service to the society.

By saying this, I congratulate Mr. Rikhy for the valuable services which he has rendered to the House as well as to the other forums of parliamentary system.

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, लोक सभा के सैक्रेटरी जनरल, श्री अवतार सिंह रिखी, इस माह के अंत में लोक सभा की सेवा से अवकाश ग्रहण कर रहे हैं। एक खास अवधि के बाद सरकारी एव संसद के सेवकों की अवकाश ग्रहण करना ही पड़ता है। अगर ऐसा न हो, तो नए सेवकों को आगे बढ़ने का कभी अवसर ही न मिले।

जब भी हमारे कोई सचिव अवकाश ग्रहण कर हमसे बिछड़ते हैं, तो दुखी होना तथा उनकी कमी को महसूस करना स्वाभाविक है। श्री रिखी की विदाई से भी हमें दुख है, क्योंकि अगले सत्र में हमें उनका साहचर्य और सहयोग नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री रिखी जितने दिनों तक भी लोक सभा के सचिव रहे, उन्होंने योग्यता और निष्ठा के साथ काम किया है। उनका व्यवहार हमारे साथ मधुर और सौहार्दपूर्ण रहा है। उनका मृदुभाषी होना उनका स्वाभाविक गुण है। एकाधबार मेरे जैसे सदस्य के कुछ कटु शब्दों को भी उन्होंने हंसते-हंसते सुना और उसे बुरा नहीं माना।

श्री रिखी के साथ मुझे सरकारी उपक्रमों की समिति में भी काम करने का अवसर मिला था।

अतः मैं अपने दिल की ओर से और अपनी ओर से श्री रिखी की सेवाओं के लिए सद्भावना व्यक्त करता हूँ और उनके स्वस्थ रहने एवं दीर्घ जीवन की कामना करता हूँ।

**श्री रामलाल राही (मिसरिख) :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री रिखी साहब आज जिस सीट पर बैठे हैं, 31 दिसम्बर के बाद वह इस सीट पर नहीं होंगे,

क्योंकि वह 31 दिसम्बर को रिटायर कर रहे हैं। लेकिन आज आपने इस सदन में जो घोषणा की है, उससे हम मान कर चलते हैं कि हम सदस्यगण या संसद को उनकी सेवाओं और योग्यता से लाभ मिलता रहेगा, जो उन्होंने आज तक इस सदन और इस संसद की सेवा करके हासिल की हैं।

जो शब्द आपने, सदन की नेता ने और विरोधी दलों के सम्मानित नेताओं ने श्री रिखी साहब के बारे में कहे हैं, मैं अपने आप को उनसे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। साथ ही मैं एक और बात भी कह देना चाहता हूँ। मैं एक नया सदस्य हूँ। और इससे पहले लगभग साल भर शकधर साहब के कार्य को देखने का भी अवसर मिला और रिखी साहब के कार्य को भी देखने का अवसर मिला। हम जैसे नौजवानों को उनसे बहुत बल मिला है। हम लोगों ने कभी-कभी देखा है कि जब कभी हम आपके पास सलाह-मशवरा करने गए हैं, तो आप कहते हैं कि देखेंगे, देखेंगे, कमरे में आइये।

लेकिन रिखी साहब ने कभी नहीं कहा कि हाँ, देखूँगा, देखूँगा। उन्होंने कहा कि जो क्लस रेग्युलेशन में होगा वैसा ही होगा, मैं इसमें कुछ नहीं कर सकता। क्लस जो कहेंगे मैं वही कर पाऊँगा, उसके अतिरिक्त और कुछ नहीं कर सकता।

रिखी साहब की इमानदारी, निष्ठा और काम करने का जो तरीका है वह प्रशंसनीय और सराहनीय है। हम विश्वास करते हैं कि जो भी व्यक्ति डम सीट पर आयेगा वह इन्हीं के गुणों के आधार पर पर काम करेगा ताकि जो संसद सदस्य हैं, उनको निरन्तर सहयोग मिलता रहे और वे इस बात को महसूस करते रहें कि जो भी सचिव महोदय यहां आकर बैठेंगे उनसे सभी सदस्यों को सदैव परामर्श और अच्छी सलाह मिलेगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं पुनः अपनी तरफ से, अपने दिल की तरफ से रिखी साहब के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ और बधाई देता हूँ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आपके कहने का तात्पर्य मैं समझ गया लेकिन इसमें थोड़ा सा अन्तर आप



समस्त लीजिए कि ये परमानेंट थे और मैं वर्क-चाज हूँ।

**SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO** (Parvathipuram) : I would like to join you in congratulating Mr. Rikhy personally and on behalf of my Party, for the valuable services rendered by him in Parliament.

The dedication of Mr. Rikhy towards his work and his sincerity is evident from the fact that he was not absent even for one day during his tenure as the Secretary of the Lok Sabha.

With his vast experience, Mr. Rikhy made his own contribution in playing his role in strengthening this parliamentary institution in various spheres.

I would like to say that those of us who have been here for the last few years will always remember Mr. Rikhy for the same and I would like to congratulate him again and wish him the very best in the future years.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU** (Barasat) : Sir, I take this opportunity to place on record my appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Rikhy to this House.

It is known to many of us that Mr. Rikhy has made valuable contribution for the enrichment of the procedure of this House and its conventions, during his tenure in the House. We have been all impressed by his amiable nature, modesty, courtesy, impartiality and above all, strict adherence to the rules.

The dutifulness of Mr. Rikhy will go as an example for all of us. As a Member of this House, I have always found Mr. Rikhy a helpful adviser in the matter of formulating my questions and other issues also.

I cannot but mention or make certain personal reference. In 1979, I fell seriously ill in a farflung village in Maharashtra and I cannot forget the help Mr. Rikhy rendered to me by going out of the way, I presume, in the matter of arranging for the proper treatment in the hospital.

In conclusion, I want that we, as Mem-

bers or legislators or parliamentarians, shall be able to have the benefit of his experience if he chooses to make a valuable treatise of his experiences.

I wish Mr. Rikhy well and many happy days.

**PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ** (Baramulla) : Sir, after your laudatory remarks about Mr. Rikhy and the eloquence of our esteemed Prime Minister and the sentiments expressed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and by Prof. Madhu Dandavate and others, there is hardly any need for me to express my ideas because I would be mostly repeating what has been said. But one or two things I will say out of my own experience in the short tenure that I have had in the Lok Sabha till this time. Considering the traditions established by the Secretaries like Shri Kaul and Shri Shaktidher, it was a very uphill task to maintain these traditions and to strengthen them, but I feel that Mr. Rikhy has not only maintained those high traditions of the Lok Sabha Secretariat but he has also enriched them. I have personal experience of one or two qualities of Mr. Rikhy and I want to share those experiences with my colleagues in the House. On occasions I found that Mr. Rikhy was very cold when we met him, but when I gained experience I found that it was only his exterior and beyond that exterior and behind that, there was a human and affectionate heart throbbing all the time with understanding of the problems of the Members. Then I found that he had a kind of humility; all the time I have understood that it was not an ordinary humility but it was a magnanimous humility which is not common in these days. He had enjoyed a place of prestige in the Lok Sabha and I feel very happy. Sir, that you have now finally designated him as Secretary-General. I wish him well in future in the job or in the assignment that will come his way.

**SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV** (Azamgarh) : Sir, I fully associate myself with the sentiments which you have expressed about Shri Rikhy's contribution to the working of this House and his valuable work which he rendered to our House. I think that Shri Rikhy will be leaving behind himself a very good example of a very



dedicated and dutiful officer. There are very few people who really work with that much sincerity and honesty which we found from our experience in Mr. Rikhy. I think, Mr. Rikhy was not only sincere and dutiful to his work but whenever the occasion arose to choose between appeasing a Member and his duty, he always stood by his duty.

As Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee I had occasion when some more officers needed to be appointed and I wanted really competent and able officers. I sought the help of Mr. Rikhy; I said that the work was enlarging day by day and that we needed good and competent officers. At that time he came and very gently advised me, "Sir, it is correct that we need more officers, but this work can be done not necessarily by appointing eight officers but it can be done only by four officers if they really work hard and we will be saving the money of the treasury". It is only very few people who look after the interests of the country and the interests of the people at large. This was one thing which impressed me so much that I decided that we would not appoint more officers, we would take work from the existing staff. We thought that perhaps the Budget was not sufficient. But Mr. Rikhy's concern was that we should not go in for more expenditure.

Very often I used to ask him as to what was the secret of his keeping such good health because I was always impressed by his health. Even today when I look at him, I get the feeling that he will be retiring only after ten years. But perhaps the rules are such that he has to retire. Otherwise, he is quite competent to work for another ten years; his physical ability and his good health is such. He always used to say :

"ऊपर वाले की मेहरबानी है"

That gives the feeling that he is a God-fearing person.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : किस की ?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : Not only the Speaker, but the Almighty.

13.00 hrs.

I think I am reminded of you also, when you said

ऊपर वाला हमारी रक्षा कर रहा है ।

I think that Uparwala who is above you also.

डा० सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी (बम्बई उत्तर पूर्व) : ऊपर तो अखबार वाले हैं ।

श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव : उनके ऊपर भी कोई है ।

That was the most unassuming, always unassuming reply of Mr. Rikhy.

It has been very rightly said here that he was not only concerned with our work in the Lok Sabha but he was always concerned with our welfare also. He used to inquire about our welfare and his first question was always, 'How is your family? How is your health?' Sir, this is something which we need to-day—a really good human being and a gentle person. And these are the qualities which I have found in Mr. Rikhy. I am sure Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji—I do not know why he had some hesitation in accepting his advice because Vajpayeeji is one of the very hard working persons—he should have accepted his advice so that he may also keep good health.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप उनकी सुवह की नींद क्यों खराब करना चाहते हैं ।

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : I am very happy that you have really paid a very good tribute to Mr. Rikhy by appointing him, even against his wishes, as Secretary-General. This is the honour which he deserved and I am also glad that you have appointed him as Honorary Adviser to the House. In future he will be in one or the other capacities associated with us because I feel for many years he can lead an active life because his contribution will be useful.

With these words I wish him a very happy future and a good health which he keeps and which I hope he will continue to keep.

MR. SPEAKER : Now the last but not

the least—Mr. Deputy-Speaker.

**SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN (MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER) :** Mr. Speaker and my dear colleagues...

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** Oh, no, no. How can you address 'dear colleagues' ?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** There are only Members and not colleagues.

**SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN :** I am a Member of Parliament when I sit here. That is why I said it.

**SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR (Dindigul) :** He is only an hon. Member. He is not Deputy-Speaker.

**SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN :** When I sit here, I am a Member and my division No. is 441. Therefore, I addressed as colleagues.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** I always sit here and I never address 'our colleagues'. Only the Chair has to be addressed. I am sorry to say.

**SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN :** Thank you. Correction is accepted, Mr. Vajpayeeji.

Though the Chair has already expressed the sentiments of the House with regard to the retiring officer, Mr. Rikhy, yet, as Deputy-Speaker—now I am right, I think—I have to express certain things with regard to my association with him as my officer guiding me to run the House.

I have had an experience of 4 years. Mr. Rikhy has come along with me during foreign tours. He never thought that he was an officer, the Secretary-General as has been conferred very rightly by my esteemed Speaker on him—that he was the Secretary-General of this great Parliament, the Lok Sabha. The first call that would come—I think Mr. Vajpayee would agree with me—would be from the Secretary-General, 'Sir, have you got up ?' when we take the receiver. The tone would be the same as I had expressed because I have heard this very often and we will be missing

that tone. He will say, 'Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, have you got up, Sir ?' 'I have already got up and that is why I have taken the receiver.' Then immediately he will say, 'Sir, we have to go to the session at about 10.30. Anyhow I will come and remind you again at 8 O'clock.'...(*Interruptions*) It was a great worry. At 6 O'clock, I was thinking how this gentleman is so active and whether he sleeps in the night or not. Then I understood how he was very active and how he is still very active at this age of sixty and nobody will say that he has crossed sixty. Mr. Sezhiyan, a former Member of this House and one of my leaders, has told me, you know the strength ; you know the reason why Mr. Rikhy is very active. He told me one day that he takes his bath even in the cold season in the month of January at 4 O'clock in his house in the cold water. It keeps him so active and that is why he is able to get up early in the morning. I hope his success is only for the two reasons. Any man in public life, whether he is an officer or a public man like us, if he avoids egoism and anger in public life, he would be a success. I have seen Mr. Rikhy in the past four years ; he never used any harsh words or he never told me anything in an angry mood and, as a matter of that, whenever I was in the Chair, some hon. Members might think that, when he turned back and told me something, he was misleading me. That was not the position. When I am not prepared to give more time to any Member in this House, he used to get up and say 'Sir, give him some more time. What is there ?' This is the advice that I have had from this great man. I have also seen the Parliamentary Affairs Minister would come and tell me that we must complete this and the time is over ; we are very much behind the schedule of our legislative business. Therefore, he must complete this. I may be telling, especially, to Mr. Unnikrishnan that he should stop. Then he will turn that side and come and tell me—Mr. Unnikrishnan might have thought or might have been thinking that he was misguiding the Speaker or Deputy-Speaker—what I am telling is the truth and I am saying this before this House—'Sir, allow him some more time or, else, there will be a lot of noise and all that.' This is the quality of this great man. That is

the reason for his success and, though I could not express my sentiments...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, top-secrets are being revealed.

✓ SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN : I can only say this. I must mention about one thing. If at all, he is a symbol of what my great Leader, the Great Anna, the Former Chief Minister of Tamilnadu and a Member of the Rajya Sabha said, of the three qualities—the duty, dignity and discipline—in Tamil, it is called, *Kadamai, Ganyam and Kattupadu*. Mr. Rikhy is a symbol of these qualities. ✓

13.08 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reviews on the working of and Annual Reports of Hydroelectric Power Co-operation Ltd. New Delhi for 1982-83 and Powers Engineers Training Society, New Delhi for 1982-83 and Statement Correcting reply to USQ No. 2273 dt. 6.12 1983.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7513/83].

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report

(Hindi and English versions) of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1982-83.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7514/83].

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting the reply given on 6th December, 1983 to Unstarred Question No. 2273 by Shri A. Neelalohithadasan Nadar regarding exploration of Oil during last three years. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7515/83].

Statement re action taken or proposed to be taken on Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 68th Session of International Labour Conference held in June, 1982 at Geneva.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding the action taken or proposed to be taken on Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 68th Session of the International Labour Conference held in June, 1982 at Geneva. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7516/83].

Annual Accounts of Tuticorin Port Trust for 1982-83 with Audit Report and Bombay Port-Trust for 1982-83 with Audit Report and Notifications under Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 read with clause (c)(iv) of the Proclamation dt. 6.12.83 issued by President in relation to the State of Punjab etc.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : On behalf of Shri Z.R. Ansari, I beg to lay on the Table :