

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब मैं बड़े हर्ष के साथ श्री एन० संजीव रेड्डी को अध्यक्ष पीठ पर आसीन होने के लिए आमन्त्रित करता हूँ।

आप सब लोग जानते हैं कि श्री एन० संजीव रेड्डी इस सदन के लिये नये आदमी नहीं हैं। वे 1967 के बाद इस सभा के अध्यक्ष रहे हैं और बड़ी योग्यता से उन्होंने कार्य निभाया है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि भगवान उनको शक्ति दे कि वे निष्पक्ष रूप से इस सभा का काम निभा सकें।

(Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy was conducted to the Chair by the Prime Minister and Shri Yashwantrao Chavan)

[MR. SPEAKER (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) in the Chair.]

11.18 hrs:

FELICITATIONS TO THE SPEAKER

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I deem it our good fortune that this august House has elected Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy as its Speaker.

Shri Reddy occupies an eminent place in national life by dint of his contribution to the freedom movement and his distinguished and varied services over the years. Besides his reputation as administrator, he is a veteran Parliamentarian. His Speakership of the Fourth Lok Sabha is remembered for the dignity, fairplay and the unfailing good humour which he brought to the discharge of the duties of this high office. By electing him again as Speaker, the Sixth Lok Sabha has found the right person for the right place.

The Lok Sabha is the repository of the sovereignty of the people. The Speaker is the custodian of the authority of the Lok Sabha. The people of India have just given expression to their will with fearlessness and

faith and in a manner that the whole world has applauded. Great things are expected from the new Parliament. It has not only to undo the wrongs that had crept into the body-politic and governmental functioning but to ensure that the hopes of the millions are fulfilled speedily through wise and practical economic and social policies. It is our good fortune to have a person of Shri Reddy's vast experience and maturity to conduct our deliberations.

The composition and character of the Lok Sabha have undergone a change unimagined until a little while ago. I have always believed that the proper functioning of democracy requires a constructive relationship between the Government and the Opposition. Policies may differ but there should be an unqualified loyalty to the good of the nation and the needs and aspirations of our people. I do hope under the guidance of Shri Sanjiva Reddy, who is known for the art of smooth conduct of debate and discussion, this Lok Sabha will prove itself a vigilant watchdog of the rights and freedom of the people.

I offer my own felicitations and those of all sections of the House, and the country at large, to Shri Sanjiva Reddy.

SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): I rise to join the Prime Minister in congratulating Mr. Speaker on his election to this august and high office. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are not new to this office. You have held this office with distinction in the stormy years of 1967—69. I am sure, your wisdom, your skill will certainly be of immense use to the conduct of business of this hon. House. The purposeful and dignified working of this sovereign body is of supreme importance to Indian democracy and therefore, as a Speaker, I am sure, you have a very important part to play. While I do not want to bring in any controversial issues to begin with, I am sorry, the Prime Minister unnecessarily

touched some of the controversial aspects. But, I do not want to make this mistake on this first occasion. I would certainly like to assure you, besides congratulating you, on my behalf, on behalf of every Member on this side, that in the interest of Indian democracy, in the interest of policies that the nation has believed in so far and for which we have worked for the last thirty years after independence, we would give you all cooperation. May I again say: Very well done before, please do better in future.

श्री जगजीवन राम (सासाराम) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बड़ी प्रसन्नता की बात है कि सदन को आप जैसा अध्यक्ष उपलब्ध हुआ है। जिन लोगों को इस सदन में पहले रहने का सौभाग्य मिला है, उन्होंने देखा है कि किस खूबी और खूबसूरती के साथ आपने सदन का काम चलाया है। जब कभी किसी सदस्य को आपने समय नहीं भी दिया, तो वह भी इम तरह से किया कि उसको कोई तकलीफ न महसूस हो। जिस किसी सदस्य को आपने चुप भी कराया उसको आपने हंसा कर चुप कराया। ये सब ऐसी खूबियाँ हैं, जो सब व्यक्तियों में नहीं पाई जाती हैं यह आप की विशेषता है।

इस सदन का स्वरूप बदला है। यह पहला अवसर है कि सदन में एक विपक्षी दल रस्मी तरीके से प्रकट हुआ है। लोकतन्त्र की सफलता के लिए सत्तारूढ़ दल और प्रतिपक्ष का होना बहुत ही आवश्यक है। लेकिन यह भी आवश्यक है कि उन दोनों का लक्ष्य होना चाहिए जनता का कल्याण, देश का उत्थान और देश को शक्तिशाली बनाना। मैं मानता हूँ कि इस कार्य में सत्तारूढ़ दल और प्रतिपक्ष दोनों मिल कर कार्य करेंगे, क्योंकि दोनों का लक्ष्य एक ही है।

यह कहना मुझे अनावश्यक प्रतीत होता है कि आप निष्पक्ष रूप से इस सदन का कार्य चलायेंगे, क्योंकि आपने पहले ही यह सिद्ध कर दिया है कि आप की कार्यवाही से सदन के

सभी दलों को प्रसन्नता और सन्तोष रहा है। मैं एक दफ़ा फिर आपको बधाई देता हूँ।

SHRI P. K. DEO (rose):

Some hon. Members rose.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you kindly be seated? Not all of you together. One or the other only I can call, not all of you together.

Shri P. K. Deo.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I join with my friends in offering our felicitations to you and I congratulate you for having assumed this high office.

You acquitted yourself as a great Speaker and upheld the high traditions of this House with great dignity.

Yesterday we took oath to uphold the Constitution and now you preside over the House whose power, as per the amended Constitution, has been over-emphasized at the cost of the judiciary. The constitutional amendments are not for judicial review. God forbid an irresponsible Parliament may not delete Art 368 which gives the amending power of the Parliament or plant one Juan Carlos as the monarch of this country as in Spain. Even the poor man's access to the High Court under Art 226 has been denied for any other purpose. With this background and with the election results in view you will be guiding the proceedings of this House. After all, people are supreme and their voice has to be reflected in this House.

We, the Independents, however, insignificant we may be in number, should be given sufficient time to make our view-points heard. I hope you will always hear dispassionate and independent views from the Independent Members as you are insulated against any political pressure. We neither have any personal axe to grind nor have to aspire for the corridors of power.

With these words I pledge my loyal support to you.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call the hon. Members, one by one. I appeal to them not to bring in controversial things at this juncture. There will be lot of time and many occasions for that. There will be a number of occasions when we can certainly discuss those issues, but, certainly, not on this occasion. After all, we are now going through the routine business.

Some hon. Members rose.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): Shri Samar Mukherjee is the leader of the CPI (M) Group. You should call him, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call all of you. Names have been given to me. I will call them first. I wish you had sent your name also. Anyway, I will certainly call him also.

Now, I call Shri George J. Mathew.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW (Muvatupuzha): On behalf of the Kerala Congress Parliamentary Group and myself I heartily congratulate you on your election to this exalted office. Though I am new to this House. I know Sir, you are not new to this office and your reputation as a fair and balanced judge in conducting the parliamentary proceedings is a great consolation to us the small groups in this House. We know, Sir, when you occupied the Chair earlier, you had given weightage to the Opposition though their number was small. I am sure that you will continue this process even hereafter, though a number of persons who were in the opposition then are in the Treasury Benches now. This is especially true with regard to my State which has got all its members on this side of the House. So, whenever questions of Kerala come, do not forget Kerala Congress.

I extend to you on behalf of my Party and myself our fullest co-operation.

MR. SPEAKER: Many of the faces are new to me. Kindly excuse me. I

will now call Mr. Samar Mukherjee to say a few words.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): On behalf of my party, the CPI (M) and also on my behalf, I offer our felicitations on your election as Speaker.

Your election as Speaker has taken place in a new background and in a new situation. High hopes have been raised in the minds of people and I hope you will be worthy of the expectations of the millions and millions of people outside by upholding the democratic rights not only of the Members inside but also of the rights of the people outside and create a new tradition inside this House when the entire country can feel that this Parliament is now a sovereign body in the real sense. I offer our full co-operation in your functioning on behalf of my party.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): I am very happy to join the hon. Prime Minister as well as the hon. Leader of the Opposition and many other colleagues in felicitating you, Sir, on this great occasion of your election as the Speaker and to your elevation to the Chair which you had previously occupied from 1967 to 1969. Truly speaking, it is the old Speaker coming back home. This House is a new House in more than one sense—with new climate, with new faces around, with new hopes and challenges, new sense of purpose and determination. I am sure, therefore you will visualise that your responsibility is all the—greater.

Right above your Chair, Mr. Speaker, there stands a neon sign-light saying 'धर्मचक्र प्रवर्तनाय'

From the noble King Ashoka's times, this has been the rule of law, that we shall have *dharmachakra*—not only the Rule of Law, but also the Rule of *Dharma*. *Dharma* is something which is greater than even

law. It is something which has more ethical and moral values. I am quite sure that that will also adorn your sense of functioning in this august House.

I am, moreover, confident that the spirit of dissent which is the essence of democracy will also be preserved by you in ensuring that the smallest voice in this House—it may be even the voice of one individual—is not drowned either from this side or from that side. Your duty will be to keep the Spirit of Dissent intact.

With your long and distinguished political and parliamentary experience, you will, I trust, act as a friend, philosopher and guide to each one of us here, and you will give us a chance once more to see your tact, good humour, robust common sense and sweet reasonableness.

Proceedings in this House require dignity and decorum. I am quite sure you will guide us, lead us, and when necessary, teach us, so that we do not go astray from the path of true service with dignity and decorum.

While offering my warmest congratulations and respectful felicitations and my sincere good wishes, may I say in the name of God and in the name of all Members of this honourable House, let democracy triumph for all times to come in our ancient Indian land. Let the parliamentary spirit always triumph over the party spirit.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Communist Party of India I offer you felicitations on your assuming this august Chair.

I would like to avoid any controversial issues because this is neither the occasion nor the time to bring those things into the picture. We are concerned with the conduct of busi-

ness in this House under your guidance. You are not new to this post and, therefore, you are well versed with everything. No doubt you are not new but there are many who are new. Therefore, your guidance assumes much importance. I am sure that you will help us to see that the business of the House is conducted in the dignified manner, which our country and the world expect. We, on our behalf will extend to you the fullest cooperation in order to see that the issues that face our people assume much greater importance than the issues that may face individuals and particular areas.

In concluding, I would like once again to extend to you our fullest cooperation and to extend to you our warmest felicitations on this happy occasion.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry): On behalf of All India Anna D. M. K. I offer my felicitations and wish you well.

As Shri Mavalankar said 'dissent is the essence of democracy'. In the past, dissent was not treated with decency. Besides straightway felicitating you on your assumption of this august Chair, I would like to express the hope that you would uphold high traditions in this House and you will maintain the democratic spirit. With your competence, I am sure, you will take it to the highest pedestal. On behalf of Anna D. M. K. I offer my fullest cooperation in maintaining decency, dignity and decorum in this House. At the same time I would like to point out that the dissent from the Opposition should be given greater attention than in the past when on account of some technicalities the Members were not allowed to speak. The minutes were counted more than the spirit. I request you to take the spirit of the rules than the letter of the rules so that members can express

[Shri Aravinda Bala Pajanor]

themselves freely, as each Member represents lakhs of people of the country. Once again, democracy has triumphed in this country. We have great faith in secularism, socialism and democracy. At the same time we have to look to the right of the minorities. On this occasion my leader Mr. MGR has categorically expressed the hope that we will function as constructive opposition both inside the House and outside the House maintaining the decency and decorum of the House.

On behalf of our party I congratulate you and I offer my felicitations to you and I assure you that we will function as a dignified and dutiful opposition party offering our constructive criticisms. I am sure, Sir, that you will guide the House by your varied experience. My party has lot of new faces and I am seeing many new faces here also. I am sure you will conduct the deliberations of the House with your wise guidance and without any partiality and make Parliamentary democracy a success in this country.

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक (खजुराहो) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज आप के अध्यक्षीय पद पर निर्वाचित होने के लिये आप को हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ। सारे भारत की निगाह आज इस लोकसभा की ओर लगी हुई है। आप के अध्यक्षीय पद पर आसीन रहते हुए इस लोकसभा में जो भी विधेयक या प्रस्ताव पारित हों, वे इस बात का सुबूत हों जिन की आकांक्षा हमारे देश की जनता लगाये हुए है, जिनके द्वारा हमारे देश की गरीबी, सुख-मरी और बेकारी दूर हो सके। हम यहां पर ऐसे प्रस्ताव रखें जिनसे हमारे देश की इन समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके। जिस तरह से आजाद होने के बाद हमारे देश की जनता में

एक जबरदस्त उत्साह पैदा हुआ था, एक भाषा बंधी थी, उसी तरह से हम इस नई लोकसभा के द्वारा ऐसे काम करें जिससे सारे देश में एक उत्साह पैदा हो।

मैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप के माध्यम से यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम जितने भी नये निर्वाचित सदस्य यहां आये हैं, सभी मिल कर आप की सहायता करते हुए इस लोकसभा की गरिमा को बढ़ाने का प्रयास करें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं बार बार आप को बधाई देता हूँ।

*SHRI A. V. P. ASAITHAMBI (Madras North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, it is not only a great privilege but also an honour to me to extend my hearty felicitations to you on your assumption of the august office of Speaker of Lok Sabha.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention that, had the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam supported you when you contested the presidential election, the history of India would have taken a different turn. The nineteen months of incarceration of the Opposition Parties and the indignities that the country had been put to could have been averted. I am happy that I have been given this opportunity to welcome you in atonement of our past act. I am sure that under your guidance the noble democratic ideals will not only be cherished but will also flourish with fervour. I have no hesitation in saying that the Opposition Parties will be functioning effectively under you. On behalf of the D. M. K., I will extend my fullest co-operation to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Friends, I am deeply grateful to the hon. Members of the House for the confidence they have reposed in me by electing me to this exalted office of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Speaker

I would also like to express my grateful thanks to the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition and the Leaders of various groups for the kind words they have spoken about me.

I am well aware of the heavy responsibilities which I am required to shoulder in the discharge of my duties and this, I must frankly admit, has made me somewhat overwhelmed and, shall I say, a little diffident. But, in view of the generosity you have shown by electing me, I do hope that I shall prove worthy of the great trust that has been reposed in me. The kind sentiments expressed by the hon. Members from both sides of the House embolden me to look to the future with confidence and courage. This brings to my mind the affection and respect with which I was treated when I held the office of Speaker in the Fourth Lok Sabha. All sections of the House then cooperated with me and, I believe, I was able to discharge the functions of my office to their satisfaction. Now, your indulgence, faith and love shall sustain me through thick and thin. As a firm believer in democratic ideals and sure of getting full cooperation from every section of the House, I am confident that my task will not be as difficult as it would otherwise be.

The country has recently witnessed one of the largest elections ever held in the history of the democratic world involving some 320 million people. This goes to prove once again that democracy has taken deep roots in this country, belying the doubts and misgivings entertained at various times in several quarters. It is further significant that this election as well as all the previous ones held since the emergence of our Republic have been so peaceful as to draw the admiration of the world as regards the political maturity of our people. They have also proved that the Indian people have unflinching faith in re-

of Ministers

presentative institutions and can take part in the political process without in any way impairing the national unity or endangering the structure of the State.

I am not unaware of the special obligation of the Speaker to protect the rights of all sections of the House, especially of the Members on the Opposition benches. I, on my part, would like to assure the House that I shall never allow myself to forget that responsibility and shall always endeavour, to the best of my capacity, to regulate the proceedings of the House in a way that would be in keeping with the highest traditions of this noble institution and further enhance the prestige and dignity of the Office of the Speaker. At the same time, I hope that every section of the House as well as individual Members will extend to me their full cooperation in conducting the business of the House in a manner that would do credit to us as representatives of the people entrusted with the great task of taking this nation forward to further prosperity and progress. It is only in such a spirit of service and dedication to the causes of freedom and democracy which we hold dear that we can hope to lay the firm foundations of an effective parliamentary forum.)

I thank you once again for the great honour bestowed on me and assure you all of my complete devotion to the service of the House.

11.44 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I, Sir, introduce some of the members of the Cabinet who were sworn in? I won't be able to do so for all of them because some of them are not present. So, I am introducing those who are