

to the House, my new colleague, Pandit Kamalpathi Tripathi.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SPEAKER AND SECRETARY OF LOK SABHA

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Sir, before you proceed with the business of the House, I have another pleasant task to perform—one which has been entrusted to me by the entire House, all parties. It is to warmly congratulate our Speaker, Dr. Dhillon on his election as President of the World Inter-Parliamentary Union. The Inter-Parliamentary Union is an international parliamentary organisation whose aim is to promote personal contacts between Members of all Parliaments and to unite them in common action to secure and maintain the full participation of their respective countries in the firm establishment and development of representative institutions and in the advancement of the work of international peace and cooperation. The honour is a richly deserved one. It is in recognition of Dr. Dhillon's personal qualities and of his hard and conscientious work for the Council. Dr. Dhillon has guided the deliberations of this House with dignity and good humour. We are conscious of the honour to our country and to this Parliament.

I should also like to take this opportunity to warmly congratulate Shri S. L. Shakhder on his unanimous election as President of the Association of Secretaries-General of the Parliaments of the world for a three-year term. The objective of the Association is to carry out studies concerning parliamentary law, practice and procedure and to propose measures for improving the methods of work of the various

parliaments of the world and for ensuring collaboration between their services. Shri Shakhder's election is a tribute to India and to the work which he has been doing for the Association over the last two decades. All of us here are aware of his knowledge and his deep interest in parliamentary procedures, on which he is a recognised authority.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN (Madras North) : Congratulations, Sir.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : Congratulations to you and Mr. Shakhder.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam Prime Minister and Hon. Members, I am greatly touched by the very magnanimous and generous observations made by the Prime Minister on her own behalf and of you all. As a matter of fact, it is not an individual honour for me alone. It is an honour because I represent your House and it is an honour because our House represents the largest democracy in the world and a great country.

I would like to join the Prime Minister in congratulating Mr. Shakhder for the very well deserved honour that he has achieved, having been elected the President of the Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments. It is a still greater honour because we call him Secretary and he is the President of the Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments. I have consulted the Prime Minister that we must also designate him Secretary-General.

I avail of this opportunity to convey my thanks on your behalf to the many countries which had sponsored my name. In the last 83 years, rather 84 years, of the existence of this Inter-Parliamentary Council and Union, this is the first time that it has gone out of Europe

for an Asian. We are indeed very proud as a nation that the great dream of Lord Stansgate (late Mr. Wedgewood Benn) that some day this Council should acquire universality has come true and such a change has happened.

I avail myself of this opportunity also to convey our thanks to our friends who nominated me and many other friends who have helped us in this election. You know, the nominations go well in advance. I learnt at a later stage that the first sponsors were New Zealand, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Ethiopia and our distinguished neighbours Nepal and Bangla Desh. If you will allow me, on behalf of you all and our Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, I will convey our deep gratitude to them.

SHRI PILOO MODY: If your election had been in India, it would have been unanimous.

Mr. SPEAKER: Well, next time we shall hold it in India if that is so.

I assure you on behalf of our Group that I will do my best to keep up the great name of this organisation and also work with honesty and integrity for the aims and objects which it stands for. Its aims are very high—to discuss amongst parliamentarians of all parties from various countries solutions to many problems which perhaps sometimes defy solution in the United Nations, which can be solved when the Parliamentarians of the world come together. This organisation stands for peace, adjustment and closer understanding amongst themselves. I do hope that with your co-operation and the co-operation of our distinguished Prime Minister we will be able to set up high standards.

I am extremely grateful to you also on behalf of our Secretary-General. He had the great honour of being elected to the International Committee for Parliamentary Docu-

mentation (CIDP) last year. Only five members are elected and he was one of them. He achieved it by unanimous election but I had to go through the mill which is our lot sometimes.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Self-Reliance in ship-building

*1. **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to attain self-reliance in ship-building;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the schemes; and

(c) when those are likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA):

(a) to (c). The objective is to attain a large measure of self-reliance in ship-building by the end of the Sixth Plan. The tentative programme of ship-building in the Fifth Plan envisages expansion of the Shipyard at Visakhapatnam and also of the Shipyard which is at present under construction at Cochin. In addition it is proposed to take up construction of two new shipyards.

SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: The answer given by the hon. Minister is very vague and general. I would like to know from him, what is our requirement in this country; what is going to be our target for the coming Five-Year Plan; what is the amount going to be invested in the Plan and what are the steps that they are going to take to get technological and know-how for ship-building from different countries of the world.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): With your permission, Sir....