

12.00 hrs.

RE. SPLIT IN TELUGU DESAM PARTY

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV (Arrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while laying the foundation of the Heavy Engineering Corporation of Bihar, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, the then Prime Minister, had rightly said that this factory would be a unique one and would prove to be the 'mother factory in Asia. He had said that it would manufacture and supply machines for other big factories. This factory was built at a cost of Rs. 400 crore but now its assets have gone upto thousands crores of rupees. It is capable of manufacturing machines for other factories as well manufacturing machineguns and tanks for meeting strategic requirements.

In spite of the fact that it meets the orders in time and maintains 110% quality, it is not getting orders from other Government factories which are supposed to place orders with it. During the last two years nearly Rs. 18,000 crore were sanctioned as grant by the Government to expand different steel factories, but this factory was sanctioned Rs. 600 crore only. The remaining funds were allocated to all private companies which are totally against national interests. It will naturally result in loss of this, factory.

It is said that its losses have gone upto Rs. 100 crore whereas it still pays an amount of Rs. 165 crore as excise duty and other taxes to the Government exchequer. It is very surprising and undesirable that the Reserve Bank of India charges interest @ 25% from it.

According to agreement signed between the H.E.C. and the Central Government on October 30, 1991, this factory was supposed to receive a sum of Rs. 65 crore from the Central Government during the year 1991-92 but not a single paisa has been paid to it so far.

At the instance of the Hon. Prime Minis-

ter, a central team comprising 3 experts was sent there in the first half of this month which held an enquiry in this regard. In its report, the enquiry team has recommended sanction of Rs. 40 crore in addition to the said Rs. 65 crore to this factory in this very month. Otherwise, this factory which is the most useful and important for the country will come to a last very shortly.

Even now, 22,000 people are earning a living from this factory and about 2 lakh of their dependents are getting sustenance from it.

I, therefore, request that the factory should be freed it from the grip of bureaucracy and the Central Government should take immediate measures to revive the factory and pay the funds this very month according to this agreement and issue orders to various factories to place orders with it

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with all due regard and respect to the Chair, I would like to make out some important matters. The ruling party is encouraging defections from the Opposition parties and it is engineering split in some political parties. Very recently, they had split a political party in Maharashtra. Now, they have engineered a defection from our Telugu Desam Party. In fact, the Telugu Desam Party, which was established as a regional party, has certain principles. For a definite reason, since Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao Garu, the present Prime Minister, as Prime Minister, contested the Nandyal bye-elections, our Party President was good enough and thought it fit - because for the first time, after Independence a person from the South and more so from our State of Andhra Pradesh has been functioning as Prime Minister of this great country - not to field a candidate against Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao. And now this ruling party which is in short of majority by some Members, they have engineered defections from our Telugu Desam Party. You are aware of it. I will not go into the details of chronology

of events because you yourself were the person before whom all these developments have taken place. They had come to you, met you and expressed their intentions and submitted their letters to you. It is very disturbing to find that some responsible Union Minister had to advise our former Members, colleagues about the draft of the letter that should be submitted to you. It came in the press also that some of these Members had stayed in a guest house belonging to an agricultural university of an adjoining State, very near to our capital city. And unfortunately, the ruling party's hand is very amply clear in this process of defections and split. It is most unfortunate that this Government headed by the present Prime Minister who says that this Government is interested in establishing certain moral values in the political system and also he has some behalf in arriving at a consensus with all the political parties, have left all these things to the winds when their question of survival came. It is now really shame that without any hesitation, they have encouraged the defections and they have engineered it. What I want to bring to your kind notice is my agony and deep sense of heart-burning. I will not repeat again what all has happened. But I would like to bring to the hon. Chair's notice the letter which I have given you — you remember that — to enquire from each and every Member who had earlier given letters to your goodself expressing their intentions and later on changing their views. And also, some Members, after meeting you on the 12th, were not seen anywhere. When we told you to kindly examine that, you were good enough to say that you would examine each and every person. Our Members had also brought it to your notice that they were having the parliamentary party meeting in Hyderabad on 14th. Then you said, "do not be worried. There is no hurry. I will take some time and definitely you will be given an opportunity...."

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, I do not have an opportunity to explain on the floor of the House what I said in the Chamber. You can talk to me in my Chamber.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: We felt very much alarmed when on 13th a letter was sent to the persons who had parted company with us. I am not going into the merits of it. You were good enough to sign a letter stating that so and so division numbers were allotted to them because you treated it as a split in a group. Again in a matter of two hours, another letter was sent to another Member who also had parted company... *(Interruptions.)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will explain to you everything in my Chamber and not here.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: While in the case of Janata Dal, the decision could not be taken for nearly two months and now in respect of Members from our Telugu Desam who have destructed and engineered a split, you are kind enough to take some decision in a matter of 48 hours... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am not questioning; let me make it clear.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, just a minute Shri Rao. Now, I am going to allow Shri Raju. Shri Rao, I am just saying that you can come to me and meet me in the Chamber and I will explain to you. If you are discussing every ruling of the Speaker, in the House, then it becomes very difficult for me to explain and for you to comply with it. So, let us discuss it in the Chamber. As far as other part is concerned, let us not be very touchy about that. Something has happened and it is bound to be felt by the Members. Let us not be touchy about that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, it is not necessary. You take your seats.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE

(Dumdum): I want to say something different.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nirmal, I am not allowing you. Shri Raju.

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU (Narsapur): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me an opportunity.

Shri. V.S. Rao, narrated everything in this august. House which is false and which is without any evidence. I want to say categorically that on 11th, we had submitted our resignation and we have formed a new party. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir, they have formed a new party!

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: That is Telugu Desam group. (*Interruptions*) It is my party and it is not your party. (*Interruptions*) Sir, let me tell you. We submitted our papers to you. Before we came to submit the papers to you, these people came along with some outsiders and they pulled down my Members and thrown them out and they took away three Members from my group. (*Interruptions*) Let me say Sir. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Have we kept them in any Guest House? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: Sir, he is telling a false story. He said that we stayed in an Agriculture Minister's farm house. That is wrong. I am having the proof of evidence as to where I had stayed. I never stayed there. I have the proof of evidence and we can produce the bills before you. I am telling you and I am also challenging him. Since this Government has not given us any protection, we ran to some hotel and we stayed there on our own names. Sir, we can produce the proof in this august House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down Shri Paswan. Now Shri Khurana:

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, there are certain important things which can be discussed in the Chamber and we appreciate that. (*Interruptions*) But there are important things which cannot be decided in the Chamber. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Thangkabalu, I will look into it. You please sit down. Yes, Shri Khurana:

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nirmal, this is not an economic matter. That is a legal matter. You please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, we are proud that India is a standing example for parliamentary democracy. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There are other issues; it is not like that.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): This is a very important issue. This issue should be resolved first.

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed them. You can come and enlighten me in the Chamber... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: I have provided opportunity to express their views; it is not a full-fledged debate.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nirmal Kantiji, you are not in know of things. Those who are in know of things have spoken. Please sit down.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: You told us that during Zero Hour you will allow us to raise this issue. This is a very important issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, I will explain. If you think that such matters should be discussed on the floor of the House, you can take a decision and we can discuss this issue. But all such matters will come to the House for discussion. If you think that these matters have to be discussed in the Chamber, I am ready to discuss them in the Chamber. All such matters will come to my Chamber then.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am saying that this House is sovereign, you can decide in any manner as to how a matter should be decided. If you think that all such matters should be decided on the floor of the House, I shall have no objection. If you want that they should be decided somewhere else, I shall have no objection. But until the time the decision is that such matters have to be decided in the Chamber, let them be decided in the Chamber. If you take a conscious decision, I will send all matters to the House for a decision.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Allow us to explain as to why we want to raise this in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: This is what happens. I will allow you if the House decides. I shall have no objection if the House decides and I will bring all the matters to the House only for a decision.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Allow us to explain why we want to raise it in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chatterjee, you don't know what has happened. Probably you have not gone through the rules and the relevant provisions and yet you want to discuss it in the House and you want that everybody should discuss it in the House. I will give you an opportunity, study the rules,

study the law and convince me. If you are able to convince me in writing, I will keep it on record and I will take a decision on that. But please do not raise matters without understanding the legal position.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Paswan, I will hear you in the Chamber.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, you allow us to explain as to why we want to rise it; then, you give your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, it is not necessary. I am saying every now and then, it is not necessary. *(Interruptions)* Your wish should not be against the wish of the entire House. If the House wishes, I am ready to allow you to discuss; if the House wishes, I will bring all the matters to the Chamber and you decide it here. But, if you and you alone are standing up and saying that this should be discussed, I cannot allow you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, I believe that you will be in agreement with that we say. *(Interruptions)* Kindly allow us to say as to why we want to do this; then you come to the conclusion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, what the Members want is this. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All of you are standing. This is what happens in the House; we are not able to do. I am allowing Mr. Jena to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You allow me, Sir. I will explain as to why we want to do this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, we heard the two Members — Telugu Desam Deputy Leader and the erstwhile Leader-speak. The erstwhile leader says, "Yes, we want to a Guest House — Hotel — and paid the Bill." They have their own MP accommodation and they did not prefer to go there and call a meeting there. They went to a Hotel and paid the Bill. (*Interruptions*) At that point of time, the Congress... (*Interruptions*) Let me complete. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Dharmapuri): Sir, the House is not concerned with this matter. That is not the point. Why is should come to the House? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, at that time, the Congress Members, thumped the 'ables. What is the allegation? (*Interruptions*) Sir, we are all concerned about the allegation. We know, we are in the Opposition; and the ruling party is short of some Members. They want some Members to get the majority. The kind of thing which they are pursuing is deliberately encouraging the defection in the Opposition ranks. That is their habit. So, we allege that the Congress party is deliberately engineering defection in the Opposition benches and polluting the whole polity of the country. That is our allegation. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): You hear the reaction of this side also. You cannot say all the time; let somebody else also speak from this party.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Do you want to respond?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Yes. I want to respond.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Let me com-

plete first.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: You have already - plenty of you - spoken on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Shri Azad, we know that you are really competent as to how to respond to this particular subject.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: In this field, you have enough experience. You have defended when the same Telugu Desam MLAs were hijacked. At that point of time also, you have defended the Congress party and today also you are going to defend them. We know, you are efficient in this particular subject. (*Interruptions*) The Members were deliberately kept in captivity, they were offered money and they were... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Sir, the House should not discuss this matter unnecessarily. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Why not? It may be unnecessary for you. (*Interruptions*) Sir, we are really concerned about this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have said all those things. Now, you sit down, please.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. Now, Shri Azad.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, you hear us first.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am hearing Mr. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee. (*Interruptions*) No. cross-talk please.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am sure that you — not only you but also

the entire country – will share our feelings. In India not a single individual would be discovered who does not take pride in the fact that India, in the whole of South Asia, was a shining example of parliamentary democracy. That was since 1947. (*Interruptions*) You will agree to that. (*Interruptions*) You agree to that ! Okay. (*Interruptions*) Please bear with me.

Even in 1948, there was Preventive Detention Act. What happened was that for at least a decade or even more, the political and moral authority of the largest political organisation of the country was, more or less, intact. (*Interruptions*) Let me explain. I am trying to raise the issue. Then you counter. What happened after that was that it began with the Preventive Detention Act, 1948. Increasingly the ruling party, which was still the biggest party, was losing its moral and political authority. (*Interruptions*)

Thereafter in the country what was happening was that in order to sustain power, in order to have a party rule, the development of parliamentary democracy was being thwarted for a narrow short-term consideration of a party majority. Punjab was destroyed. Kashmir was destroyed. Everywhere the toppling game was going on. (*Interruptions*) This was discovered in 1984 in Andhra Pradesh when the NTR Government, despite having a majority, was pushed out. It is unfortunate that once again we are standing on an issue which concerns with Andhra Pradesh MPs. What has happened is that in that effort, in that desire to somehow or other retain the party rule, they have started this thing. We know how the former National Front Government was destroyed. Every single means has been adopted to see that they tried to have a majority. This happened in Tripura. This happened during the National Front Government. This has become now a theme. They could not come here with a majority. They were a minority Government. They continue to be a minority. Therefore, they are, in trying to have their own party rule, stopping at no means to destroy our party. (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, why we want a discussion is that what is at stake is the moorings of parliamentary democracy. All these years, we tried to generate in terms of parliamentary democracy. (*Interruptions*) The stories are there. Even at that time of defection and to day everything went into it: favours, money, hotel, everything (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now what is thin going on?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Therefore, what we are concerned with is that many important things can be decided in the Chamber. We agree with that. But there are important things in the country which have to be decided in the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Enough of it. Now, please sit down.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Therefore, we demand that speakers from various political parties should be allowed to speak. Also, let them know the answer from the Members of the ruling Party or the leader of the ruling Party, as to what their approach to this problem is. Why have they acted in this manner?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chatterjee, you have to sit down now. You have spoken too much.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Mr. Speaker Sir,..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: What is the memorandum of understanding? What were your offers?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (Bhandara): You are also welcome!

SHRI B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda): Mr. Speaker Sir, defections should not be encouraged. In the name of decency and in the name of upholding democratic values, they

all must resign. They must be advised to resign forthwith from the membership of Lok Sabha. The recognition granted to them should be withdrawn immediately. Sir, this is a blot on the face of this august House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, the remarks made by hon. Members of the National Front that Congress (I) is responsible for creating this split are totally irresponsible, uncalled for and far from the truth. Let me, on behalf of this Government, make it very clear that the Congress Party and the Government have nothing to do with the split. This split is their internal matter. If TDP is falling under its own weight because of its internal contradictions and internal differences, we cannot help it. Central remarks made by hon. Members on the other side from the National Front are out of frustration and fear psychosis. I would like to make it clear that we have not encouraged defections and we are not in favour of any split, whatsoever it might be. Our friends from the National Front are always in the habit of levelling charges against the Congress even for those things which are not the concern of the Congress Party. If the National Front feels that maintaining the unity of the National Front is also the duty of the Congress, then Sir, I am afraid, we cannot fulfil that duty *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Paswan, Please sit down.

(Interruptions)....

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has levelled charges against the entire National Front...*(Interruptions)...*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I have not so far levelled any charge. But, if you speak in a loud voice, I will level charges.... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: But I am

levelling charges. I level my charge against you. I would like to repeat that the Anti-Defection Bill was passed keeping in view the dignity of the House. We had hoped that there will be some ideology, some morality with the Narasimha Rao Government.... *(Interruptions)....* But I charge that this Government has proved to be worse than any other previous Governments and it is deliberately misusing its offices on the strength of money..... *(Interruptions)*.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is my charge. If the hon. Members who have defected have the courage, let them face the elections. Such things are dangerous for democracy.

[English]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): Sir, he has said that he has resigned from the Party. By doing so he has disqualified himself to be a Member of the House. What is your ruling on this?

MR. SPEAKER: On that point, I have my own ruling. I can give a ruling. Please do not worry about it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears from the cold response of the Government towards the Anti-Defection Bill that this Government is encouraging defection everywhere.... *(Interruptions)...*

The hon. Minister stated that it is not his responsibility. I do not say that running the National Front or any other Party is his responsibility, but it is not good to entice people to the fold of one's party. Within a day several cars came out simultaneously and several people suffered from heart disorder at a time. On the 9th the number of people admitted as heart patients in Bihar is unprecedented in history....*(Interruptions)*

Is it not your responsibility?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Is it our

responsibility to ensure your presence?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Fake certificates were produced. Are not the hospitals under Government control.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think this House has taken more than half-an-hour now and half-an-hour in Question Hour. One hour is enough for this.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter.... (Interruptions).... If you do not want to hear us, we would like to stage a walk out.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I will take only one minute. All sections of the House....

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Sir, they say that we have taken money. So, it is quite appropriate to give me time. I will resign but you first give me time to explain my position.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give time to everybody who want to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: Sir, you have not given me time to explain the matter. Please give me some time.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: Sir, I am asking my colleagues to resign from the Membership of the House. We are all going to resign. I give a challenge; I will resign from the Membership but you should also resign.

We are not afraid of facing the people. We will face the people and come here again. This is a challenge I am giving in this august House. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I will give time to you also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Charges are levelled against us.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: Sir, I give a challenge; I am prepared to resign let them also resign. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: You resign and go to the people. (Interruptions)

SHRI BH. VIJAYAKUMAR RAJU: You should also resign and go to the people. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, so far as elections are concerned, in this House, all sections, have expressed their grave concern over the use of muscle power and money power. Everybody has said that. (Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): That is being done in West Bengal.

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Telugu Desam and the Janata Dal have already broken. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, why are you weeping? Nobody can save it.

DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL (Calcutta North West): Sir, if they say that there is muscle power and money power, there is a perfect example of that and that is West Bengal. Violence, intimidation, rape, muscle power and money power have been used at the time of elections in West Bengal.

SHRIRUPCHANDPAL (Hooghly): That is how he has been elected from West Bengal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am not surprised at their ignorance. Even their Party have said that there have been use of muscle power and money power at the time of Elections. Several reports are there. They are not aware of it. I am not surprised at their ignorance. What is troubling us is that even after the elections, money power is being utilised. Therefore, Sir, what we are feeling disturbed is that whether that cancer will continue to pollute our Parliamentary democracy.

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad gas denied that. Of course he has to deny that.

SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD: Of course, we have to deny that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He has denied that the Congress Party has nothing to do with it. But unfortunately, we are not satisfied with that denial.

Sir, to register our protest in the further decimation of this Parliamentary institution, we walk out.

12.43 hrs.

At this Stage Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other Hon. Members left the House.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Without hearing me, they are walking out. Let them hear me and then walk out. They do not want to hear the facts.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, during Question Hour, this issue was raised. In all propriety, it should have been taken up only after the Question Hour. As the Speaker, in your own wisdom, have given a ruling that all the Leaders of the Opposition Parties can be called in the Chamber. That would have been the most proper thing. But, unfortunately, the entire Opposition again wants to repeat the game of stalling the proceedings

of the House and waste the valuable time of the House.

I may kindly be given a few minutes time just to remind the Opposition as to what had happened in the last three years in this House and in this country. When the National Front Government came to power, they elected their Prime Minister. At the time of elections, there was a difference of opinion. Shri Chandra Shekhar was here. I was trying to mention this in his presence only but unfortunately, he has left. He was not happy to elect the former Prime Minister Shri V.P. Singh as the Leader.

There was difference of opinion. In their party, some sort of a secret arrangement was made whereby Mr. Devi Lal was first elected Leader and he accepted it. And there was an understanding that he would vacate it; and in the same meeting, Mr. V.P. Singh was installed as the Leader of the Party.

We watched on the TV all over the country how Mr. Chandra Shekhar reacted. He said, that was the last minute fraud that was committed. That was the way the then Prime Minister was elected. We never made any observation here. Nor did we raise it as an issue in the House. The entire Opposition including BJP, Marxist Party and the National Front when they were in Government, had only one programme: anti-Rajiv, anti-Congress. That was the most unfortunate story that happened in the last three years.

Our beloved Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated last year. It was the result of the destabilisation that was created in the last three years, that enabled his assassination.

Now they are frustrated because on the Motion of Thanks On President's Address, they never expected that the Government would win with the difference of 52 votes. They are unhappy; they are demoralised. What has happened in the Top is their internal matter. Why should their dirty. Linen be washed in this august House? If there is any internal problem let them sort out. They

have not. We challenged that from our Party. We do not interfere stand for any of their internal problems. If they break themselves how are we responsible? If some of the programmes we have now brought over here, if some of the economic changes that we have initiated have shown results, why are they annoyed? They always say that we have surrendered our economic sovereignty. But, unfortunately, they have surrendered their intellectual sovereignty. They have no programme; they have surrendered even all their values. So, I feel that this matter may not be discussed here, as you have already ruled that the Leaders be called in your Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not ruled anything.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: That was a suggestion I accepted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They should be taught some parliamentary things. They do not know what is the meaning of walk out, what is the significance?

This was a democratic method of registering a protest.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: This indicates that they want absolute power, monopoly, a single party rule. You do not know the meaning of walk out.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): I recall that since 1967 the Parliaments has been very much concerned about the problem of defection which started in a big way that year. Many committees were formed; many proposals and ultimately in 1985, the Parliament enacted a law to prevent defection.

The objective was firstly to see that the commitment, any MP gives to the people when he returns to Parliament, that commitment is maintained; he stands by that. Secondly, to consolidate the political system, to consolidate political parties to enable parties to crystallise. And therefore, if, for any reasons, instead of consolidation, one finds a fragmentation of parties, one cannot but feel sad. And therefore I do not appreciate the mood of glee I see on the faces of the Ruling Party. *(Interruptions)*. I see very obviously. *(Interruptions)* I am sorry.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Should we cry in the House? Should we weep in the House? *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAMGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Do not cast aspersion.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I could see the kind of remarks that were being made even when this unhappy discussion was going on. The Minister is very right when he says that it is not his responsibility to maintain discipline in your Party; he is very right. He is very right, when he says that out of 13 Members of the Telugu Desam Party, nine absented themselves on the crucial vote, he is not responsible. He is very right in that. I would not blame him for that. But in the course of these remarks that were being made, there was an element of gloating over it that the party has broken up. *(Interruptions)*

I would say that this is not the first instance.

SHRI RAMGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: These are accusations being made without any basis.

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: In the last three months, the Janata Dal has broken up, the Shiv Sena has broken up and the Telugu Desam has broken up. And I would say that it is they who are also responsible for this. Not only you. Essentially, what is to be learnt from this episode is that some of the political parties in the field today are in a state of disarray. But what I have to say to the ruling party is, only because you do not have a numerical majority, therefore, do not succumb to the temptation of engineering further disarray, as you have been doing in all these things. *(Interruptions)* I know that for a ruling party which is in your present state, it is not easy to resist from temptation but your credibility would be enhanced if whatever happens there you let it happen on its own and let not these charges be levelled. I do not know. I do not vouchsafe for these charges. But now-a-days charges are being made that those who have decided to side with you, have been paid so much amount. I do not know. If it is happening, if the kind of rumours that go round about money being paid to see that the split takes place, if there is an iota of truth in it — I wish there is none — then you should realise that the Anti-Defection Law, was not enacted merely in order to see that the thing is frozen. And if there is an honest difference of opinion within a party, — I remember the Communist Party broke up; no one accused them of becoming defectors, the CPI and the CPI (M) when they were formed, they were not accused of defecting.

But in all other cases the allegation that they are defecting for some consideration being offered by the ruling party is very much audible, is very much vociferous.

I only wish to emphasise that the time has now come for the entire Anti-Defection Law to be reviewed. The Anti-Defection Law should not be considered only piece-meal. Our experience since 1985 till today, of these past seven years, should make us realise that as it is today, it is becoming a dead letter, which is by passed in various ways, various means and so let us have a second look at this Anti-Defection Law.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry that wild charges were levelled against us, especially Shri Raju, K.P. Reddaiah, Dr. Chowdary, Shri Ganga Reddy and Shri Indrakaran Reddy.

You may not be knowing, but our Andhra Pradesh people know what Shri Raju and K.P. Reddaiah are. And I am sorry that, without hearing what exactly has happened, we are discussing in wilderness, in a vacuum.

What has exactly happened is that eight Members went to the Speaker's House and presented a memorandum.

MR. SPEAKER: What happened in the Speaker's Chamber is not to be discussed in the House; and if you want to discuss, and if everybody wants to discuss, I will allow everything to be discussed.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Okay. I am not mentioning it. They are telling about democracy. They are talking about the values of democracy. They are forgetting that even now at this hour, they have taken one of our colleagues as a hostage and are hiding him somewhere.

(Interruptions)

And they are talking about the values of democracy. In the veranda, Mr. Chandra Babu Naidu, who is not a Member and who is the Son-in-law of our earlier leader, Mr. N.T. Rama Rao, was dragging away the members... *(Interruptions)* They are talking about democracy today. Simply they are saying that the Congress people had given money and all that... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I would like to know whether he was dragging the MPs inside the premises of the House or outside... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: He was dragging inside the premises of the Parliament House. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, this is very highly objectionable. How can a non Member of Parliament drag the Members of Parliament inside the premises of the House? How was he permitted to do that? This is highly objectionable... (*Interruptions*) He is not a Member of Parliament and he is not even an ex-MP. He has no right to enter and grapple with the MPs. A non-Member of Parliament has no right to do so.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: The House should understand what has happened.... (*Interruptions*) It is a warning signal to all the parties (*Interruptions*) If they were interested to see that this split should not have taken place, they - the Janata Dal Members or the Communist Members - should have come to us for negotiation.... (*Interruptions*) They do not want the presence of Mr. N.T. Rama Rao in the National Front. That is what they wanted. Mr. N.T. Rama Rao was thrown away. The split is not due to N.T. Rama Rao and Congress. The differences were created within us. The great leader Shri V.S. Rao says that he is a democrat... (*Interruptions*) You do not know what is going on inside the Party. You do not know our heart burning and how they are treating the colleagues and the Party members. Is there any democracy in this?... (*Interruptions*) How was Mr. Ajit Singh thrown out? How was Mr. Mulayam Singh thrown out? The leadership of the Parties do not want the mass leaders to continue in their parties. When the mass leader is not accommodated, just like in Punjab, he will go and start a Regional Party. That is how, the Indian politics has been spoiled by the Opposition as well as by the ruling party some time back... (*Interruptions*) Instead of going into the problems, they are simply accusing the Congress Party. It is not like that. And nobody is interested in that... (*Interruptions*) The Janata Dal Members and the Communist Members - you set right your own house and you just nourish, cultivate, the democratic principles in your parties. That is V.P. Singh.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MURALI DEORA (Bombay South): V.P. Singh is the biggest defector.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Without the mass leaders like Mr. Ajit Singh, Mr. N.T. Rama Rao, Mr. Mulayam Singh, they want to continue their party as a National Front.... (*Interruptions*) We know how Russia has fallen into pieces. Everybody wants some freedom to speak; freedom to function; freedom to express his opinion as to how people are suffering and what the Kashmir problem is. You do not allow people to speak in the internal party meetings.

13.00 hrs.

Therefore, we have taken the decision on our own. Eight people, majority of the party Members, decided to sit as a separate group, not as defectors. If there is any defector, it is only Mr. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde, who has stabbed Mr. N.T. Rama Rao. Because of him, because of his anti-democratic principles, we have gone out. He does not like backward classes, he does not like Muslims, he does not like Scheduled Castes. Shri Balayogi is a Scheduled Caste man. He wants to go and harass him* ... (*Interruptions*). And what is this Government, this Home Minister doing? He should come forward and give protection to the Members of this House..... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into the record.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: Sir, he has failed to protect us. That is why we are taking our own steps to protect ourselves. I have got great respect for N.T. Rama Rao.... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: It is Mr. Vadde Sobhanadreeswara Rao who initiated this split and finally we had to split.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, he made a comment about us. He says that we have not negotiated with him.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAHYADAV: Not that, they were not interested in N. T. Rama Rao to play politics in the Indian politics. They want that somehow his party should be destroyed. This is what the Janata Dal, Shri V.P. Singh wants. Otherwise, if he was really interested, he could tell his colleagues to behave democratically and behave properly. Then this split would not have taken place...

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji, there is nothing personal or derogatory...

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Sir, on the same issue, he walked out... *(Interruptions).*

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): I will take only two minutes, Sir. What is happening in this House for the last forty-five minutes, unfortunately, is quite unbecoming of the traditions of this august House. There are certain things happening in certain parties. I only want to tell the Opposition leaders, especially, the leaders of the LF parties, that this is going to continue, not because we are engineering defection in any party but because of their wrong policies. All parties, including Communists, Janata Dal, TDP, are going to face this crisis tomorrow because they are opposing the pro-people policies of the Narasimha Rao Government. They are feeling some prick of conscience, due to their anti-people policies.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said about muscle power and money power. If city is flourishing anywhere in the country, it is maximum in Jyoti Basu's West Bengal. He is coming here and teaching us political morals. For the last seven-eight months, all popular policies of the Narasimha Rao Government are being opposed by the Communists and the National Front. This is creating deep problems inside their party.

What has happened in TDP, we are not happy with that. The Congress is not at all happy with the TDP split. If all these sundry parties are going to continue this policy of opposing this Government with a negative attitude, this will continue.

Sir, the rules and procedures of the House...

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: What is the business at this point of time you do according to the rules?

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, you have given a directive that these matters may be discussed in the Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given any directive, let me make it very clear. What they have suggested, I have accepted.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, the so-called senior Members are taking a position that all these matters should be discussed here. We are not against that.

MR. SPEAKER: Now please conclude.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: Sir, I express my utter dissatisfaction in the way the senior members of the opposition are behaving in this House, throwing all the precedents and all the conventions of this House to the wind. Our party is not at all responsible for the split and we will not engineer any split. But they should know how to behave. *(Interruptions).*

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it. If there is anything derogatory, it will not form part of the record. Now, Khuranaji.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Only one minute, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: No, Mr. Rao otherwise it will continue. I have called him four-five times. Please cooperate now.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to divert the attention of the House from Andhra Pradesh to Punjab, where.

MR. SPEAKER: You want to speak on Punjab or on Soviet Union, the topic you were supposed to speak on.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to speak on the people of B.J.P. in Punjab.

MR. SPEAKER: Alright, speak what you want to speak.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, three weeks have passed since the new Government took over in Punjab. It was only in the last week that 15 non-Punjabi engineers were shot dead in Sangrur and day before yesterday, 20 unarmed innocent persons were gunned down in Bhagwan Nagar and Vishwakarma Nagar in Ludhiana. As it has appeared in the newspapers that about half dozen of these 20 persons were the B.J.P. workers, so much so that 2 of them were the block presidents. My submission is that only those who took part in the elections held on 19th February are being chosen to be killed.

The terrorists came to Bhagwan Nagar and Vishwakarma Nagar in two groups and killed the people at point blank. All of the deceased had bullet marks on their heads and chests. The terrorists came in two groups and in police uniform. Not only the newspapers have published it, we also have got the information that police was given prior information in regard to it, the victims had received threatening letters a few days ago. The police station is just at the distance of 200 metres from the place where the incident took place and the killers remained there for about 15 minutes after committing the heinous crime. They came on foot and also went back on foot. When a CRPF jawan who was deployed to provide security to a Bahujan Party Member was informed about

the incident. He said that it was not his duty to look into the matter and the police came after an hour.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would give only one example among the deceased persons a young boy of 16 named Arjun Chopra was also there. His father is a cancer patient. He says that since his son is no more, he has lost interest in life and thus he would not get himself treated for his ailment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am referring to these things because in the last elections B.J.P. took part in the interest of the country. But now the Congress Party is in power there which is accountable to the people. It is under their rule that people are being demoralised and B.J.P. workers who participated in the last elections are being picked on to be killed. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is also present here. He may kindly direct the Punjab Government to take effective measures to stop the killing of innocent people in Punjab which is proving like a violent stroke to the hope of people of getting protection from the elected Government. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that he may kindly consult the matter with the Chief Minister of Punjab and provide protection to the people and also to the B.J.P. workers being killed in Punjab.

SHRI HARPAL PANWAR (Kairana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the atrocities by the police in the Gango town of Saharanpur district. 22 persons including Shri Raseed Masud an MP have been seriously injured. 5 persons out of the total were injured due to the fire opened by the police and 17 due to the lathi-charge.

Day before yesterday, on Saturday, the 14th of this month, an S.H.O. along with another police official of another district tried to enter the house of Shri Rasheed Masud at 9 o'clock. When his nephew stopped them and asked why they wanted to do so, they said that some wicked persons were hiding inside. His nephew refuted their charge. At