

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Since, day before yesterday, the House was sitting the whole night, I want to give half an hour more today for your lunch.

13.13 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty-Five Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.51 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha Re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty-One-Minutes Past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

GENERAL BUDGET—1997-98—GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up General Discussion on the General Budget. Shri Sharad Yadav.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (MADHEPURA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in favour of budget presented by the National Front Government for this year. I would like to mention about the circumstances in details under which this budget has been presented.

Hon. Atalji has left the House. I was hearing him attentively. This is the second budget presented by the National Front Government. First of all we presented budget for six months and as per our strength we tested it in the economic conditions of the country for six months and today our Government have completed nine months. I appreciate the budget presented by Finance Minister Chidambaramji of our National Front Government but I am not saying so because I am a Member belonging to The National Front Government. You see every section of the country has supported and appreciated this budget whether it is middle class or businessman. Atalji was saying that it had gained praise a lot. We have presented this budget within our limits and our Finance Minister does not want that he should be praised. The people of this country whether they are toiling masses, middle class, industrialists or those who wish to strengthen this country and its economy have praised this budget which has been presented by Chidambaram Sahab under the leadership of the Prime Ministership of Shri Hardanhalli Deve Gowda. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is fiftieth year of our Independence and I admit that within these 50 years we can not save ourselves merely by saying that who was in power. Neither I am in Government nor in opposition, I am standing in the highest institution of the country. I do not want to say

anything about the period prior to 50 years of independence but after independence we have run this country. The people of this country have formed the Government whether it is State Government or Central Government and the persons elected by the people have run this country for 50 years and within this period we have formed the economy. Those who remained in the power whether they were in Government or opposition extended their contribution to it. I admit that we got this set up as legacy. Atalji has rightly said that it is the Government of 13 parties. There is no doubt that many parties have formed this National Front Government, these parties have a number of independents and congress party against which we have fought is also extending its support to this Government. It is possible because of circumstances, once you were also in Government.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (KOTA) : Your policies, principles and programmes have gone....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No comments please.

[Translation]

It is good to make comments sometimes but not like this....(Interruptions) Well, it does not matter, now he will not point at you.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Joshiji, you have said correctly that you were in the Government.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Yadav, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with Joshiji that principles have changed and those who were in the Government, they are now in opposition and those who were in the opposition they are now in the Government. I admit this.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (MURSHIDABAD): You have forgotten that Congress and both these parties supported Chandrashekharji....(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Joshiji in jolly mood, you say that do not look at him while speaking. He will not feel happy unless I look at him....(Interruptions)

15.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is sufficient.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Unless I say something, he does not feel happy. He is a son of soil and my memory also becomes fresh when I see him. He eats pure ghee and he is an Ayurvedic Vaidya. Agreeing with you I am expressing my views. You do not think that I am stating anything here as a member of treasury bench or opposition.

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

You see the condition of this country.

Our struggle for independence was fought under the leadership of Mahatmaji, Subhash Babu and Shaheede Ajam Bhagat Singh. Broadly speaking, Mahatmaji was the greatest leader of this struggle but he did not fight this struggle alone rather he showed the economic and social path of the country. He said that 75 or 80 per cent people of Hindustan live in the villages. He said about artisans that they were the second largest population of the country and he himself became artisan.

National Front Government has included the dream of Mahatmaji in its programme. Atalji has said correctly that there should be a vision while preparing a budget. We have included the vision of Mahatmaji in our programmes. We have also included the dream of Jawahar Lal Nehru in it. Thereafter, we have included farmers, labourers, artisans, public sector, private sector etc. of the country in this budget. It does not has dream of a particular individuals.

Atalji who is our elder brother made a mention of many diseases afflicting our country. He made a mention of some incurable diseases also. He has also played an important role to run this country.

One is political power and the other is people's power. Atalji has also been in power, although it may be for a short period. He was in power in the Government of Morarji Bhai in the year 1977. Beside him, many stalwarts such as Choudhary Charan Singh, Babu Jagjiwan Ram etc, who were also freedom fighters, were also in that Government, but they could not change the direction. We don't claim that we have brought any revolution. But it would have been better if Atal Ji would also tell the cure of the illness which he had pointed put. I was surprised at what he said about the manner in which they would do saving which was stated in their manifesto. It has been stated clearly at Page 18 and 20 of the manifesto B.J.P. manifesto that they would bring out the black money which is being created by parallel economy and we have promised to bring it out by December. In this regard he is telling the Finance Minister Chidambaramji that he does not agree to it. He agrees to it in the Manifesto of his party:

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (NAGPUR): Black money is to be unearthed by punishing the thieves no by rewarding them.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : How it came to your mind that we would reward them ? How you would bring it out ?

DR. RAMKRISHAN KUSMARIA (DAMOH) : We would tele if when we would come in power.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: The thieves should not be rewarded. They should be punished. You are rewarding them.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : You would bring it out by playing Kabaddi....(interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSHI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through Sharad Yadav, I would like to ask the Finance Minister that if the black money is donated for construction of temple, whether the Finance Minister would exempt it from tax because that is also a noble cause ?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : They don't disclose the money that was collected for the construction of temple. They *lathicharge* immediately.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, he is not speaking on Budget. He is speaking on the speech of Atalji.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I am emphasising what Shri Atalji has said. He should tell the way out. He has said that they would bring out the black money from parallel economy. We have stated the manner in which we would do it. If he knows any better way, he should tell that. In my opinion, the Prime Minister of United Front would easily accept that as he works with open mind. I want to make it clear that I am not the man of the Government, but if they would tell any better way, we are ready to accept that. What would be your way of *lathi* because it is democracy. But you have principally raised the issue of bringing out black money.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, why could we tell the way ? We ourselves are fighting to come in power. What we shall do, we would tell it when we come to power.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Chaubeyji is a righteous man. We know him for the last many years. He has been in jail with us in the year 1977 and he has said a right thing. Now what he is saying, is saying because they have to reach here.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Yadavji is such an experienced person. Even then he is talking like this. Do you not know that we want to come in power. When we would come to power. Then they would tell. We were there, but you did not allow us to remain there. You came there by manipulations.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is good if there is light talk in between. But it should not continue.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : What is going on, is all right. I don't object to it.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, it seems that Yadavji has not come after making preparation for the budget.

DR. RAMKRISHAN KUSHMARIA : The fact is that it is not a socialist budget. Therefore, he is not speaking properly.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are doing injustice to Sharad Yadavji.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : When Yadavji is a

socialist leader and this budget is not a socialist one, why he is speaking on it.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying that hon'ble Atalji has made such preparation for the first time for the budget and I would say it not only today but continue to say it in future in also. If I did not support this budget, I would not have risen to speak on it. I would tell every thing in the house clearly later on. I would like to say something about the issue raised by hon'ble Atalji. He was saying in his speech that bring such cows which eat less fodder, give more milk and give more dung.

DR. RAMKRISHAN KUSMARIA : Which is fodder. Fodder has finished.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Now-a-day man is eating fodder. There is no fodder for animals.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Yadav, please speak on the subject.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The purpose of Atalji was to criticise and what he said was all criticism whether it is regarding price-rise or unemployment. I want to say something issue-wise in that regard. Keeping in view, the condition of the country which we have inherited, no one can say that we have misused the funds of this country in any way in the last 8 or 9 months. He said and cited the former Primer Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi that only 15 per cent money reaches where it is intended and the remaining 85 per cent money is taken away by the middleman and the middleman gets powerful. You would admit the fact that we have not misused the funds of the country during the nine months. There are 540 Members in this House. No one can raise figures against any member of Cabinet including the Prime Minister. We know ...(*Interruptions*)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (KOTA) : ...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : He must withdraw it. It is highly objectionable. ...(*Interruptions*) it is a direct allegation against the conduct of the Prime Minister and the conduct of the Chief Justice. It cannot go on record...(*Interruptions*) It must be expunged...(*Interruptions*) No, there is a limit...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Joshi, please sit down.

Not Recorded

[*Translation*]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am not saying it, the press of India is saying it. What has been published in press, has not been denied. There is no control of any one over the press of India...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister has replied in this regard that he had not gone for this purpose.

[*English*]

The matter should end here.

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No, No, Sir...(*Interruptions*) This is not proper....(*Interruptions*) This is highly improper.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already given direction to remove those words.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : Sir, this is something which questions the *bonafide* of the Prime Minister and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court....(*Interruptions*) It is highly improper. It is not correct...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already directed them to remove those words. What more do you want ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, we must understand....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)\*

SHRI. P.R. DASMUNSHI : Sir, if I say whatever I like beyond the dignity of the House and say something about the conduct of the hon. Prime Minister and the highest office of the nation, than....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already given the direction for removing them.

SHRI. P.R. DASMUNSHI : Is simply an order of expunction of the remarks from the Chair enough ? Would you not like to reprimand the Member so that it is not repeated in future....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, the hon. Speaker has said that he has been receiving hundreds and thousands of letters reflecting on the conduct of the Members in the House. It is a fact that poeple today are looking at us not with a straight face. They have started questioning us on our approach to dignity; our approach to upholding the traditions of this Parliament. Now, if such actions and such statements are once again made in the House then this tantamounts to denigrating not only the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief of the Executive, the Prime Minister but also the House itself...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, if you consider that it is

Not Recorded

[Shri: Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

enough to expunge these remarks then we are sorry because it is a denigration of the Parliament. He should apologise and withdraw the words...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already given directions to remove those words. The matter ends there.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : No, Sir. He should withdraw his statement. In deference to the wishes of the House I would like to request him through you, Sir, that he should withdraw the statement right now.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the Chairperson is standing, all other should sit down.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already said that occasional light remarks are not objectionable. So, it is not unexpected.

[English]

Please avoid all these controversial things and now you please allow him to resume his speech.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, my submission, therefore, is that in order to uphold the dignity of this House it should be possible for him to stand up and say that he said that in the heat of the moment and that he now withdraws all those...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I respect him...*(Interruptions)* I have seen his conduct in the House. It has been exemplary...*(Interruptions)*. Therefore, my request to him is that in order to defend our prestige, he should stand up and say that he uttered those words in the heat of the moment and he is withdrawing those things. That would uphold the prestige of the House....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Those words are not on record now. I have already directed them to remove it. Now please allow Shri Sharad Yadav to resume his speech.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not insist.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Try to get the matter settled.

*(Interruptions)*

Not Recorded

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry. I am not allowing you. I have allowed him only.

SHRI. V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (MANGALORE) : I seek your protection. I am on a point of information.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not allowing the point of information. Please sit down.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : The fact has gone on record. The Prime Minister is present in the House. He should enlighten us.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The Hon. Prime Minister may please tell that whether he had gone or not. There is misconception all over the country about it and it will be removed only after the Prime Minister explains the position.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why do you repeat all these things ?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is why I requested that....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Only expunction is not enough...*(Interruptions)*

[Translations]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever is being told from both sides.

[English]

I can only express regret.

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Let him continue his speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow him to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHADAMBARAM: Why is Shri Dhananjay Kumar provoking him ? Please sit down.

Not Recorded

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain dignity of the house. Allow him to speak please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when Atal Ji rose to speak nobody interrupted him. I rise to defend the Government and I do not want to say anything about the interruption. I want to make a request that the matter is serious and while discussion we should not take it lightly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Alright.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Now, I come to the point. The United Front Government have set a target for alleviation of poverty in the country. We are the followers of the ideologies of Gandhi, Lohia and Jai Prakash. We have formulated a common minimum programme and the objective of this programme is to strengthen the working class, the labour class of the country. Unless the working class in the country is strengthened, the economy of the country or for that matter the economic condition of the country will not improve and India will not be strong.

For the first time in the history of India, we have allocated 1300 crores rupees for irrigation. For a long time, we were simply saying that our Constitution is a federal one, we are a Union of States, No doubt we are a 13 parties Government but it is this Government which has fulfilled the spirit of Union of States. No other Government did this work till date. We have distributed an amount of Rs. 1300 crores among the States of the country just in keeping with the spirit of Union of States that we have in our country. Atalji was saying that the allocation for irrigation has been reduced. The amount has not been reduced but on the contrary, it has been increased from last year's Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 1300 crores this year. We have provided Rs. 200 crores for Ganga Action Plan. We have also made allocation for rural social upliftment programme to the States.

We have provided Rs. 15,707 crores in the budget for basic needs of the country. In the history for the first time we have provided so much money. The Finance Minister has stated that the fiscal deficit will not be more than five per cent because the increase in prices is deeply related with the budget deficit. Whatever we told six months ago, that has been reflected in this budget. We hope that we would be able to bring it down to 4.5 per cent and even below it.

Regarding electricity, I agree to the criticism made by Shri Atalji. We need 25,000 mega watt more electricity in the country. We have limited resources. Our central power authority NTPC is the main supplier of electricity for the last fifty years. Each and every State irrespective of the party ruling there, as a matter of fact one or the other

party is ruling in one or the other state should make retrospection as to how much amount of NPPC is outstanding against them. If I say anything about the arrears of amount outstanding against DESU of Delhi you say that I am politicising the matter. This Central Institution is engaged in power generation work and if the States do not make payment for the power being supplied to them, then how can we do the development work. Water and electricity are two basic things for the development of the country. If these two things are in plenty, the country can prosper rapidly. We have paid attention towards them. This House should also pay heed to them and a discussion be held thereon. Water and hydro-electricity should be properly utilised in the country. We have made efforts for it. I am on my leg to speak in favour of the budget. We have signed the Mahakali Treaty with Nepal. Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh are the poorest and the most backward areas in the country. Here all rivers originate from Nepal. The United Front Government will leave no stone unturned to make negotiations and agreements with Nepal in this regard. Our intention is above board. A treaty should be executed between India and Nepal for sharing of water. If we get the electricity generated from water, then India can give electricity and water to them.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Are you going to sign any agreement ?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : We are quite ready, Chaubeyji should think seriously in this matter. Water is an important resources of the country. It is not meant just to bring greenery in the country. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the installation of a tubewell costs about one and a half or two lakh rupees but in Bihar boring of tube well costs only two thousand rupees. Chaubeyji knows it well.....(Interruptions)

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Sir, I would like to say a small thing. When Shri G.P.Koirala was the Prime Minister of Nepal, we called on him. When the embankment was breached the Kosi Embankment Committee met him. At that time, when we requested him to supply power for Bihar, he told us that they were ready to supply provided the Government of India took up the matter with them. He stated that they were not able to utilise so much power. Excess power could be given to India....(Interruptions). Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government of India should talk to them....(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Certainly, it is....(Interruptions) I am telling you that nobody executed the Mahakali Treaty...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now it is half past three.

[English]

Please continue on Monday.