

Sixth Series, No.2

Saturday, March 26, 1977  
Chaitra 5, 1899 (Saka)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

First Session  
(Sixth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
New Delhi

# CONTENTS

No. 2—Saturday, March 26, 1977 (Chaitra 5, 1899 (Saka))

	COLUMN
Members Sworn . . . . .	I
Election of the Speaker . . . . .	1—3
Felicitations to the Speaker . . . . .	3—14
Shri Morarji Desai . . . . .	3—4
Shri Yashvantrao Chavan . . . . .	4—5
Shri Jagjivan Ram . . . . .	5—6
Shri P.K. Deo . . . . .	6
Shri George J. Mathew . . . . .	7
Shri Samar Mukherjee . . . . .	8
Shri P.G. Mavalankar . . . . .	8—9
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan . . . . .	9—10
Shri Aravinda Bala Pajanor . . . . .	10—11
Shri Laxmi Narain Nayak . . . . .	11—12
Shri A.V.P. Asaithambi . . . . .	12
Mr. Speaker . . . . .	12—14
Introduction of Ministers . . . . .	14—15
Obituary Reference . . . . .	15—26
<i>(Death of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, President of India)</i>	
Shri Morarji Desai . . . . .	15—16
Shri Yashvantrao Chavan . . . . .	16—17
Shri Jagjivan Ram . . . . .	17—18

Shri Samar Mukherjee . . . . .	18
Shri K. Mayathevar . . . . .	18—19
Shri G.M. Banatwalla . . . . .	19
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan . . . . .	20
Shri Samar Guha . . . . .	20—22
Shri P.K. Deo . . . . .	22
Shri Skariah Thomas . . . . .	22—23
Shri Balbir Singh . . . . .	23
Shri P.G. Mavalankar . . . . .	23—24

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

## LOK SABHA

*Saturday, March 26, 1977/Chaitra 5,  
1399 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock*

[THE SPEAKER pro tem (SHRI D. N.  
TIWARI in the Chair)]

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब जिन सदस्यों  
के नाम पुकारे जायेंगे वे शपथ लेंगे या  
प्रतिज्ञान करेंगे ।

### MEMBERS SWORN

- Shri Charan Narzary (Kokrajhar)  
Shri George J. Mathew (Muvattupuzha)  
Shri Madan Bhaiya (Janjgir)  
Shri Govinda Ram Miri Wakil (Sarangarh)  
Shri Keshavrao Shankarrao Dhondge (Nanded)  
Shri Khagapati Pradhani (Nowrangpur)  
Shri Kirit Bikram Kishore Deb Barma (Tripura East)  
Shri Chandra Pal Singh (Amroha)  
Shrimati Shanti Devi (Sambhal)  
Shri Phirangi Prasad (Bansgaon)  
Shri Sheo Sampat (Robertsganj)  
Shri Samar Guha (Contai)  
Shri Brahm Perkash (Outer Delhi)

11.15 hrs.

### ELECTION OF SPEAKER

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब श्री मोरारजी  
देसाई अपना प्रस्ताव पेश करेंगे ।

2

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI  
MORARJI DESAI): Sir, I beg to move

“That Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, a  
Member of this House, be chosen as  
the Speaker of this House.”

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री यशवन्तराव  
चव्हाण इस प्रस्ताव का अनुमोदन करेंगे ।

SHRI YASHVANTRAO CHAVAN  
(Satara): Sir, I rise to support the  
proposal made by the Prime Minister  
that Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy be chosen as  
the Speaker of this House.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत हुआ :

“कि श्री एन० संजीव रेड्डी को,  
जो इस सभा के सदस्य हैं, इस सभा  
का अध्यक्ष चुना जाये ।”

इस विषय पर और भी प्रस्ताव हैं, लेकिन  
मैं समझता हूँ कि अब उन की जरूरत नहीं है ।

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA  
(Delhi Sadar): They are on the agenda.  
Those Members should be asked to  
move their motions.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब मैं इस प्रस्ताव को  
आप के मत के लिए रखता हूँ ।

प्रश्न यह है :

“कि श्री एन० संजीव रेड्डी को, जो  
इस सभा के सदस्य हैं, इस सभा का  
अध्यक्ष चुना जाये ।”

इस प्रस्ताव के पक्ष में बहुत अधिक  
बहुमत है । मैं घोषणा करता हूँ कि श्री एन०  
संजीव रेड्डी विधिवत् इस सभा के अध्यक्ष  
निर्वाचित हुए हैं ।

*The motion was adopted.*

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 Yashvantrao 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 YASHVANTRAO 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 इस 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 खूबियां 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 दफा 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 Sepakeṛ 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 in tact.

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 BALAJANOR** (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 Pajanon]

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, भुखमरी 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 उल्लास पैदा हुआ था, एक भाषा बंधी थी, उसी तरह से हम इस नई लोकसभा के द्वारा ऐसे काम करें जिससे सारे देश में एक उल्लास 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 cooperation 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

[Shri Morarji Desai]

present and, for the rest, I shall have the privilege of doing it on Monday.

1. Shri Parkash Singh Badal.
2. Shri Sikander Bakht.
3. Dr. Protap Chandra Chunder.
4. Prof. Madhu Dandavate.
5. Shri Mohan Dharia.
6. Shri P. Ramachandran.
7. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
8. Shri Ravindra Verma.

11.45 hrs.

#### OBITUARY REFERENCE

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my melancholy duty to move a Resolution to give expression to the Lok Sabha's grief over the demise of President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. The late President was a staunch nationalist from his early years and was one of the finest gentlemen in our political life. Selfless, modest but firm in his loyalty to the ideals which have built up our nation, he won the affection of our people. I was privileged to know him and work with him for many years. He had a remarkable gift for maintaining his equanimity in moments of stress and crisis. Through his culture and unfailing courtesy he added new dignity to the office of the President of India.

The Lok Sabha also remembers him as a conscientious parliamentarian.

His passing away has deprived the nation of a guide and statesman of rare quality.

I request all sections of the House to join me in requesting the Speaker to convey Lok Sabha's condolences to Begum Abida Ahmed and to other members of the family.

I beg to move the following Resolution:

"That the Lok Sabha expresses its profound sorrow at the sudden death of the President of India, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, and pledges itself to promote the high ideals of patriotism, national unity, secularism and the service of humanity which he upheld."

**SHRI YASHVANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara):** I rise to pay our humble homage to the great son of India, the late President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. As I said, he was a great son of India who participated in the Indian national Independence struggle. He was one of the few men to whom it was given to serve the country before the Independence and even during the post-Independence period of reconstruction of modern India. He was educated in England. As a lawyer, while he practised in Assam and in Calcutta too, he never lost his contact with Delhi. He had, if I can borrow the word of Prof. Rashudin, the simplicity of Assam, he had the ruggedness of the tribals, he had the sophistication of the Urdu culture of Delhi.

Sir, I had the privilege of knowing him personally for the last more than 15 years. He was associated with my Party from the days of 1931 and as such, when I came in contact with him he was connected with the very leading policy-making organs of our Party. If you look at him as a man, as a sportsman, as a Minister and lastly as President, what stands out is the man behind. He was religious by nature, but he was secular in his convictions and conduct. As a Minister he had held many offices and he had held them with great distinction. He had functioned in this House as a Member of this House. I think many of the old Members know him with what grace he functioned in this House.

He participated in the national struggle and suffered with millions of other

citizens of India and he was thus one of the architects of Independence of India. As a man, Sir, he was simple in his natural behaviour. His disarming smile and his graceful and gentle conduct as a President won the hearts of millions of people.

It is a great tragedy that he is no more amongst us. He was highly respected as a man and as President in whatever country he visited. Only a few days before he died he had visited Malaysia. Unfortunately he came back and he fell seriously sick and died. We consider him as a great Indian, a great Congressman and a great President. We shall always remember him as the ideal person and follow in his footsteps.

Sir, I pay my humble homage to him.

श्री ज. ज. वन राम (सासाराम) :

अध्यक्ष जी दिवंगत राष्ट्रपति श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद भारतीय संस्कृति में जो कुछ सुन्दर है, उसके प्रतीक थे। वे राजनीति के मोद्धा तो थे ही साथ ही साथ उनमें मानवीय गुणों का समन्वय भी बहुत ही सुन्दर ढंग से हुआ था। भारत भिन्न-भिन्न धर्मों का देश है। सभी धर्मों का आदर होना भारतीय संस्कृति का एक अविच्छिन्न अंग है। श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद इसमें विश्वास ही नहीं रखते थे बल्कि यह उनके जीवन का एक अंग भी बन गया था और इसलिए भारत के सभी लोगों के लिए वह प्रिय बन गए थे।

“वह एक खिलाड़ी थे। वह राजनीति में भी खेल खेला करते थे और जब कभी मौका आता था इस बात को बतला देते थे कि हार और जीत में प्रसन्न रहना एक खिलाड़ी का अच्छा काम होता है। मन्त्रिमण्डल में भी वह रहे और जिन लोगों को उनके साथ काम करने का अवसर मिला उन्होंने यह देखा कि कार्य की सफलता के साथ-साथ उनके मातहत काम करने वालों में विश्वास पैदा करना, उनका

प्रेम लेना यह भी उनका एक गुण था। उनके चले जाने से भारत का एक महान पुरुष चला गया है और उन के स्थान क्री पूति होना सम्भव नहीं है। जिन लोगों को उनके साथ राजनीति में काम करने का अवसर मिला उन्होंने वह भी देखा कि राजनीति के अन्दर भी वह उदारता बरता करते थे और उदारता इस बात से चलती थी कि भारतीय संस्कृति में उनका अटूट विश्वास था। वह मानते थे कि भारतीय संस्कृति एक मिश्रित संस्कृति है और सभी लोगों की मिली जुली संस्कृति है। उनके गुणों को हम स्मरण रखें तो हमारा राष्ट्रीय जीवन सम्पन्न बन सकता है।

उनके प्रति हम जितनी भी संवेदना प्रकट करें थोड़ी होगी। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं उनके प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और उनके परिवार वालों के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my Party, I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed here in offering our condolences and homage to the departed President. I was not so thick with him, though I had the privilege of coming in contact with him. The quality in him which attracted me was that he was above communalism and he carried forward the tradition of nationalist Muslims. The country was not prepared for this news of his sudden death; there was some confusion when the news of his sudden death came. No doubt, his death and absence at a critical time has been felt throughout the country.

On behalf of our Party, I request you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR (Dindigul): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the All-India Anna D.M.K., I convey my sorrowful condolences on the death of the President to the members of his bereaved family and request you to convey the same to them.

[Shri K. Mayathevar]

As we are all aware, the former President not only served as great politician; he proved to be a very good administrator while he held the high office of Minister many times in the country. He was an honest politician and great statesman, who was very faithful to the country. When he was President, he was a protector of this nation. He proved to be very good philosopher. He also served as an educationist. In all aspects, he set up new precedents as President of India.

In terms of the Resolution, I would again request you to convey our sorrowful condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

श्री जी० एस० वनातत्राला (पोनानी) :  
जनाब स्पीकर साहब, हम सदर जम्हूरिया, श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद साहब के अचानक इन्तकाल पर अपने रंज, गम और अफसोस का इजहार कर रहे हैं। मरहूम के बारे में जिन जज्बात का इजहार किया गया है मैं अपने और मुस्लिम लीग की जानब से इस रंज और दुख में शिरकत का इजहार करता हूँ।

यकीनन मरहूम एक दिलकश शख्सियत और शानदार रेकार्ड के मालिक थे, मुल्क की शानदार खिदमत का सेहरा उनके सर पर रहा है। उनका अचानक इन्तकाल कर जाना मुल्क के लिये एक बहुत बड़ा नुकसान है। हम मरहूम को अपना खिराजे अक्कीदत पेश करते हैं और साथ-साथ अल्लाहताला से दुवा करते हैं कि मरहूम को जवारे रहमत में जगह अता फ़रमाये, और पसमान्दगान को सब्जे जमील अता करे। मरहूम आज हमारे बीच में नहीं हैं, लेकिन उनकी याद हमेशा ताजा रहेगी इस बारे में कोई शक और शुबहा नहीं हो सकता है।

इन अल्फाज के साथ मैं दोबरा उन नेक जज्बात में शरीक हो रहा हूँ जो इस ऐवाम में मरहूम के लिये कहे गये।

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the CPI, I should like to associate myself with the tributes that have been paid to the late President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. To us he stood as a symbol of protection for the minorities and for the weaker sections. In his stewardship we looked forward to further progress of those particular sections. He carried with him the best traditions of the national movement and the spirit of national integration overcoming various fissiparous tendencies and linguistic and regional differences. He was always there in order to smooth out the differences that existed and to bring about a tranquil situation where there was disturbance. His loss is a loss not only to his family but to the country as a whole. On behalf of the CPI, I request you to convey our deepest condolences to his family and to assure them that the people of this country will always be there to help them through whatever trials and tribulations they may have to go through as a result of the loss of someone who was the head of their family and who was also the head of the country and their family is also part of the larger family of the country as a whole.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we heard the news of the sudden death of our late President it was a shock not only to us but to the whole country. It was a personal shock to me for one particular reason, that I had developed a certain kind of special spiritual relationship with our late President. It is not known to many newcomers here that the standard of Indian nationalism that Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Saheb was carrying was handed over to him by his political initiator and ideological preceptor, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In 1938 after Netaji was elected as President of Haripura Congress, you will remember what happened. Assam was then under Saadullah Ministry of the Muslim League. Permission was not

granted by the Congress High Command to form coalition government with any other party, but just after his election as President, Netaji went to Shillong and he reached the house of Fakhruddin Saheb. It was his personality that initiated Fakhruddin Saheb into the heart of national liberation movement in India and the main current of our national struggle.

12 hrs.

He stayed at the house of Fakhruddin Saheb and asked Shri Bardoloi and Fakhruddin Saheb to move a non-confidence-motion against the Saadullah Ministry. Saadullah Ministry fell and it was Netaji who was sitting there at that time, with the help of Fakhruddin Saheb requested Bardoloi to set up a Congress Ministry in Assam, although at that time the Congress High Command did not permit it. But as you know Netaji was daring and dashing; he did not wait for any permission from the Congress High Command. But with the help of Fakhruddin Saheb, the first Congress Ministry was set up in Assam and thus with the help of Fakhruddin Saheb, Assam was saved from a catastrophe, the catastrophe of becoming the victim of partition. Fakhruddin Saheb when he became the President, in his Radio and TV broadcast, mentioned in an expression of deep feeling that he was initiated into Indian national politics by Netaji.

I have had many occasions to meet him as a Minister as also as President and even when I went to see him in connection with some official work, he would introduce each and every time some of the ideals and feelings which he derived from Netaji. On 25th June, 1975, at about 6 p.m. I had a half-an-hour discussion with Fakhruddin Saheb. At a very crucial and critical moment how sensitive his mind was was witnessed by me during the discussion. I do not want to convey the controversial content of that discussion now. And then the very night I was arrested under MISA. When I was released, I had

occasion to meet him and he was so sensitive and so compassionate towards me that he immediately asked his personal doctor, Dr. Caroli, to take care of my health. Sir, I want to say that Fakhruddin Saheb was not only above communalism but he was much more than that, he was a true Indian and he carried the spirit of Indian nationalism. I do not want to use the word in a negative sense; not only was he a true Indian, a true Indian nationalist, but he carried the great heritage of Indian culture. He was a man of high dignity and a man of fine sensitivity and human feeling and that was the characteristic of a man of high dignity and cultural complexion with a deep commitment to Indian nationalism. Sir, when we pay homage to him, we should remember his dedication to the spirit of Indian nationalism.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi):  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments of sorrow that have been expressed in this House by various friends on the sad demise of our dear President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed.

अन्तवन्त इमे देहा

Everybody who is born has to die some day. But he was snatched away from the public life while he was in office by the cruel hands of Death. The public life of this country has become poorer by the absence of this great Indian. Sir, he was the embodiment of humility and humanity and I have had great regard for him. I had the privilege of working in this House with him for several years and I simply admired him. While in office, after returning from his strenuous journey from Malaysia, he succumbed to death. I express my sorrow and I pay my homage and tribute to him and offer my condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS (Kottayam): Sir, the sad demise of the late President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, is a great loss to the

[Shri Skariah Thomas]

nation. He was a freedom fighter, an able administrator and a protector of the minorities. We, the members of the Kerala Congress Parliamentary group, offer our condolences to the bereaved members of his family.

त्रौषरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं स्वर्गीय श्री फ़ख़रुद्दीन अली अहमद की मौत पर उन को श्रद्धांजलि भेंट करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस देश के करोड़ों लोगों में ऐसी धारणा बनी है कि उन की मौत कुदरती हालात में नहीं हुई और इस बारे में उनमें बहुत असन्तोष है। इसलिए मैं सरकार और श्री मोरारजी देसाई से कहूंगा कि वह इस बारे में एनक्वायरी करायें कि किन हालात में उन की मौत हुई, ताकि लोगों को पता चले कि वह कुदरती मौत मरे हैं या नहीं।

श्री फ़ख़रुद्दीन अली अहमद एक बहुत बड़े इन्सान थे।

फ़रिश्तों से बेहतर है इन्सान होना, मगर इसमें होती है मेहनत ज्यादा। वह इन्सानियत के पुजारी थे। मैं फिर कहूंगा कि सरकार इस बात की एनक्वायरी करायें कि उनकी मौत किन हालात में हुई।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Sir, I rise to pay my respectful homage to our late President, Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. His sudden death has left us all deeply shocked and distressed. He was a gentle and sensitive soul. His two qualities, among many, which attracted all towards him always were his simplicity and charm. His sincerity of purpose and sportsmanship were also qualities which lent a special flavour and a special meaning to the public and political life of our democratic Republic. President

Ahmed was a sportsman not only in the sense that he played tennis, golf, hockey, cricket and other games but he also played well by observing the rules of the game in politics and in public life, as a true sportsman. He took his victories and defeats in the manner in which a true sportsman would take his victories and defeats. One can hardly see a better and nobler example of secularism—

“सर्व धर्म समभाव,” “सर्व धर्म समभाव”

that was very beautifully symbolised in our late President. His humility and qualities of head and heart will be an example for all to follow in this great Republic of ours. I join this honourable House in requesting you, Sir, to convey our sincere condolences to Begum Abida Ahmed and other members of the bereaved family.

MR. SPEAKER: With a heavy heart laden with grief and sorrow, I join the House in paying my humble tribute to our revered President, the late Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed here by the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, Leaders of Opposition Groups and other Members on the passing away of Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed. He was an illustrious statesman who symbolised the best traditions of India's composite culture. During his long association with Parliament, he had endeared himself to all sections of the House by his parliamentary skill and amiable nature. We deeply mourn the loss of this great son of India. We convey our heart-felt condolences to Begum Abida Ahmed and other members of the bereaved family.

I would now request hon. Members to rise in their places to show their approval of the Resolution moved by the Prime Minister and to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the late President.

*The members then stood in silence for a short while.*

**SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi):** Sir, under Rule 277.....

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am on my legs.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Resolution is adopted. As a mark of respect to the memory of the late Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, the House stands.

adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 28th March, 1977 half-an-hour after the Address by the Vice-President acting as President.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till half-an-hour after the address by the Vice-President acting as President, on Monday, March 29, 1977/ Chaitra 7, 1899 (Saka).*