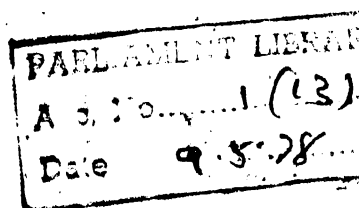


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Monday, February 20, 1978
Phalgun 1, 1899 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES



(Fourth Session)

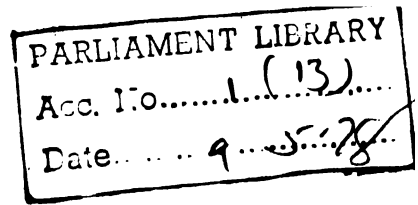


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 Sheo Narain, Shri (Basti)
 Sher Singh, Prof. (Rohtak)
 Sheth, Shri Vinodbhai B. (Jamnagar)
 Shinde, Shri Annasaheb P. (Ahmednagar)
 Shiv Sampati Ram, Shri (Robertsganj)
 Shrangare, Shri T. S. (Osmanabad)
 Shrikrishna Singh, Shri (Monghyr)
 Shukla, Shri Chimanbhai H. (Rajkot)

Shukla, Shri Madan Lal (Janjgir)
 Sikander Bakht, Shri (Chandni-
 Chowk)
 Singh, Dr. B. N. (Hazaribagh)
 Singha, Shri Sachindralal (Tripura
 West)
 Sinha, Shri C. M. (Mayurbhanj)
 Sinha, Shri H. L. P. (Jehanabad)
 Sinha, Shri M. P. (Patna)
 Sinha, Shri Purna (Tezpur)
 Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan
 (Aurangabad)
 Somani, Shri Roop Lal (Bhilwara)
 Somani, Shri S. S. (Chittorgarh)
 Somasundaram, Shri S. D. (Thanja-
 vur)
 Stephen, Shri C. M. (Idukki)
 Subramaniam, Shri C. (Palani)
 Sudheeran, Shri V. M. (Alleppe)
 Sukhendra Singh, Shri (Satna)
 Suman, Shri Ramji Lal (Firozabad)
 Suman, Shri Surendra Jha (Dar-
 bhanga)
 Sunna Sahib, Shri A. (Palghat)
 Suraj Bhan, Shri (Ambala)
 Surendra Bikram, Shri (Sahajahan-
 pur)
 Surya Narain Singh, Shri (Sidh)
 Suryanarayana, Shri K. (Eluru)
 Swaminathan, Shri R. V. (Madurai)
 Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwara (Kop-
 pal)
 Swamy, Dr. Subramaniam (Bombay
 North-East)
 Swatantra, Shri Jagannath Prasad
 (Bagaha)

T

Talwandi, Shri Jagdev Singh (Ludhia-
 na)
 Tan Singh, Shri (Barmer)
 Tej Pratap Singh, Shri (Hamirpur)
 Thakur, Shri Aghan Singh (Kanker)
 Thakur, Shri Krishnarao (Chimur)
 Thiagarajan, Shri P. (Sivaganga)

Thomas, Shri Skariah (Kottayam)
 Thorat, Shri Bhausahab (Pandhar-
 pur)
 Tirkey, Shri Pius (Alipurduar)
 Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan (Khalila-
 bad)
 Tiwary, Shri D. N. (Gopalganj)
 Tiwary, Shri Madan (Rajnandgaon)
 Tiwary, Shri Ramanand (Buxar)
 Tohra, Shri G. S. (Patiala)
 Tombi Singh, Shri N. (Inner Manipur)
 Tripathi, Shri Madhav Prasad (Do-
 mariaganj)
 Tripathi, Shri Ram Prakash (Kani-
 nauj)
 Tulsiram, Shri V. (Peddapalli)
 Tur, Shri Mohan Singh (Taran Taran)
 Tyagi, Shri Om Prakash (Bahraich)

U

Ugrasen, Shri (Deoria)
 Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P. (Badagara)

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinhji (Kapa-
 dvanj)
 Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (New
 Delhi)
 Vakil, Shri Abdul Ahad (Baramulla)
 Varma, Shri Ravindra (Ranchi)
 Vasisht, Shri Dharma Vir (Faridabad)
 Veerabhadrapappa, Shri K. S. (Bellary)
 Venkataraman, Shri R. (Madras
 South)
 Venkatareddy, Shri P. (Ongole)
 Venkatswamy, Shri G. (Siddipet)
 Verma, Shri Brij Lal (Mahasamund)
 Verma, Shri Chandradeo Prasad
 (Arrah)
 Verma, Shri Hargovind (Sitapur)
 Verma, Shri Mritunjay Prasad
 (Siwan)
 Verma, Shri Phool Chand (Shajapur)
 Verma, Shri R. L. P. (Koderma)

Verma, Shri Raghunath Singh (Main-
puri)
Verma, Shri Sukhdev Prasad (Chatra)
Visvanathan, Shri C. N. (Tiruppattur)

Y

Yadav, Shri Gyaneshwar Prasad
(Khaguria)
Yadav, Shri Hukmdeo Narain (Mad-
hubani)
Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad (Godda)

Yadav, Shri Narsingh (Chandauli)
Yadav, Shri Ramjisai (Alwar)
Yadav, Shri Sherad (Jabalpur)
Yadav, Shri Vinayek Prasad (Saha-
rsa)

Yadava, Shri Roop Nath Singh
(Pratapgarh)

Yadvendra Dutt, Shri (Jaunpur)

Yuvraj, Shri (Katihar)

Z

Zulfquarullah, Shri (Sultanpur)

LOK SABHA

The Speaker

Shri K. S. Hegde

The Deputy-Speaker

Shri Godey Murahari

Panel of Chairmen

Shri Dhirendranath Basu

Shri Tridib Chaudhuri

Shri M. Satyanarayan Rao

Shri Dwarika Nath Tiwary

Dr. Sushila Nayar

Shri N. K. Shejwalkar

Secretary

Shri Avtar Singh Rikhy

(xij)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Members of Cabinet

The Prime Minister	Shri Morarji R. Desai
The Minister of Home Affairs	Shri Charan Singh
The Minister of Defence	Shri Jagjivan Ram
The Minister of Information and Broadcasting	Shri L. K. Advani
The Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation	Shri Surjit Singh Barnala
The Minister of Petroleum & Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri H. N. Bahuguna
The Minister of Works and Housing and Supply and Rehabilitation	Shri Sikandar Bakht
The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs	Shri Shanti Bhushan
The Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture	Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder
The Minister of Railways	Prof. Madhu Dandavate
The Minister of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Cooperation	Shri Mohan Dharja
The Minister of Industry	Shri George Fernandes
The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation	Shri Purushottam Kaushik
The Minister of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Raj Narain
The Minister of Finance and Revenue and Banking	Shri H. M. Patel
The Minister of Steel and Mines	Shri Biju Patnaik
The Minister of Energy	Shri P. Ramachandran
The Minister of External Affairs	Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Labour	Shri Ravindra Varma
The Minister of Communications	Shri Brijlal Verma

Ministers of State

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance	Shri Satish Agrawal
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Cooperation	Shri Arif Beg
The Minister of State in charge of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport	Shri Chand Ram
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Cooperation	Shri Krishna Kumar Goyal
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture	Shri Dhanna Singh Gulshan
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Works and Housing and Supply and Rehabilitation	Shri Ram Kinkar
The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs	Shri S. Kundu
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry	Kumari Abha Maiti
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri Dhanik Lal Mandal
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Fertilizers	Shri Janeshwar Mishra
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel and Mines	Shri Karia Munda
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs	Shri S. D. Patil
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Energy	Shri Fazlur Rehman
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Parliamentary Affairs	Shri Larang Sai
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Communications	Shri Narhari Prasad Sukhdeo Sai
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways	Shri Sheo Narain
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence	Prof. Sher Singh

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	Shri Jagbir Singh
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and Parliamentary Affairs	Dr. Ram Kirpal Sinha
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs	Shri Narsingh Yadav
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance	Shri Zulfiquarullah
The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture	Shrimati Renuka Devi Barakataki

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. X

First day of the Fourth Session of the Sixth Lok Sabha

No. 1

LOK SABHA

Monday, February 20, 1978/Phalguna
1, 1899 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Thirty minutes
past Twelve of the clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

SECRETARY: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the President's Address to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 20th February, 1978.

President's Address

Honourable Members, I welcome you to this first session of Parliament in the current year which is also the first that I am addressing since I assumed the Office of President of India. While there are many things that claim our attention on this day, my thoughts go out to the people who lost their lives and property and to their kith and kin who survived, the devastating cyclones which struck Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep. My Government has treated this as a national calamity and has rendered all possible assistance and has fully cooperated with the concerned State Governments in organising relief measures. People from every part of our country have spontaneously and generously made contributions and I should like to place

on record my sincere appreciation of their help.

2. In the eleven months that have elapsed since the general election, Parliament and Government have gone ahead with speed in restoring to the people the freedoms and protections guaranteed by the Constitution in their original plenitude. The Courts have regained their powers. The Press is free. The citizen is no longer in fear of arbitrary restrictions on his freedom. Step by step, the promise of re-establishing a just balance between and among the legislature, the executive, the judiciary and the citizen is being fulfilled. In fact the process is nearly complete except for the constitutional amendments that have to be made.

3. One of the first tasks to which the Government addressed itself in terms of its mandate was the removal of the authoritarian provisions that had been introduced into the Constitution. The Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Bill, which has been passed by both the Houses of Parliament, is now before the State Legislatures for ratification and it does away with the various restrictions on the jurisdiction of courts. After detailed discussions with leaders of the Opposition Parties, a comprehensive Bill to abolish the distortions introduced by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, has been drafted and will be introduced during the course of this session. I hope it will receive the full and early cooperation of all sections

of the two Houses so that the Constitution can be restored to its true form by removing the dark spots. In particular, there is need to build bulworks against any possible future bid to use the Constitution itself to negate and subvert the basic principles of democracy.

4. Several changes that had been introduced in the electoral laws vitiating the equality before law, altering the concept of corrupt practices and abridging the power to appeal to the courts have been repealed. Another Bill is before you to repeal the amendments made in the Representation of Peoples' Act in 1974 and in 1975 so as to restore the democratic elements which obtained prior to these amendments. While undemocratic intrusions are thus being removed, there is need for basic reforms in electoral laws and procedures in order to make the electoral process more equitable and less susceptible to pernicious influences. Government is studying this question in detail and will place its proposals before the political parties very soon.

5. The people earnestly yearn for cleaner politics and cleaner administration at all levels. Unless there is faith in the probity of the holders of high office, the future of constitutional Government will not be secure. The Commissions constituted to enquire into the excesses of the Emergency and the allegations against certain individuals who had misused their positions are engaged in their onerous tasks. The Lokpal Bill designed to provide for practical and reliable safeguards against corruption and misuse of power by the elected representatives of the people is before you. Government will also be introducing a Bill to provide that all Members of Parliament should declare their assets, liabilities and business interests.

6. An alert public opinion is the best guarantor of rule of law and of honest and efficient democratic Government. By repealing the Prevention

of Publication of Objectionable Matter Act and reviving the Parliament Proceedings (Protection of Publication) Act, Parliament has enabled the Press to function once more as a watchdog of liberty of the individual and well-being of the community. Government has taken the initiative to end any kind of control over news agencies. Assessment of the performance of the Press should be left to professional organisations, like the Press Council, which I hope will soon be revived. In order further to facilitate the growth of sturdy and independent newspapers and news services in the country, Government proposes to appoint a Press Commission to make suitable recommendations.

7. The facilities given to all political parties to broadcast over the radio and the television during the elections to State Assemblies in June, 1977 opened a new chapter in the annals of our media. Government has made it very clear not to use the official media for partisan purposes and is awaiting the report of the Working Group which is studying the question of giving greater autonomy to Akashvani and Doordarshan.

8. A thorough review of the Maintenance of Internal Security Act has been made by Government and a Bill has already been introduced for the repeal of MISA and for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure. Government has seen to it that while retaining the minimum necessary legal sanctions in the interest of security and defence of India, maintenance of public order and all services and supplies essential to the life of the community, necessary safeguards, including review by boards of judges nominated by the Chief Justices of High Courts, are provided to prevent any kind of arbitrariness in the exercise of such powers.

9. In some areas of national life, the suppressed feelings of the people have found expression in various forms of protests and agitations. At

same time, the removal of restrictions has been utilised by some sections to indulge in acts of violence, intimidation and sabotage. There have also been acts and threats of terrorism against our personnel and property broad. While any aggrieved section welcome to seek redress of its legitimate grievances through constitutional channels open to it, the Government cannot obviously permit lawlessness and violence. Stringent deterrent action will be taken against those indulging in them. The police in the country has to be transformed into an effective instrument of public service not only to maintain law and order but also to protect the rights of citizens, especially the weaker sections. Government has issued detailed directions to the Administration in this regard. Since the Indian Police Act was enacted in 1861 and the last Police Commission was set up as far back as in 1902, the Government has appointed a National Police Commission to examine and recommend on all the major issues pertaining to police administration in the country.

10. The Government attaches highest importance to the enforcement of the rights and safeguards for Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. The Government feels that standing institutional arrangements are necessary to enable these sections to participate effectively and freely as equal members in the national mainstream. The following Commissions are, therefore, being set up:

- (1) The Minorities Commission is being set up for the enforcement of constitutional safeguards and the protection of laws passed by the Union and the State Governments; and
- (2) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission is being set up to investigate all matters pertaining to the safeguards for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Constitution and laws.

A Backward Classes Commission is being set up to go into the problems of the backward classes and make recommendations to improve their conditions.

11. Due to proper management of the economy in the past year, it is today well placed for making a rapid advance in the coming year. The rate of growth of the economy has risen to 5 per cent this year as against less than 2 per cent in the year prior to the assumption of office by this Government. Agricultural production has made up the ground lost last year and foodgrain production is expected to be above 118 million tonnes. The production of commercial crops also is much larger during the current year. The balance of payments continues to be strong in spite of a deceleration of export earnings and our foreign exchange reserves have continued to rise significantly. Procurement has been large in spite of the removal of the zonal system and food stocks are currently about 17 million tonnes even though the offtake from the public distribution system is larger.

12. Inflationary pressures have been brought under check. While the price rise in the previous year was about 12 per cent, the current level of prices is no higher than the level at the end of March, 1977. The growth of money supply which had been as high as 20 per cent has been brought down substantially in the current year. However, since the inflationary potential in the economy is considerable Government does not view the price situation with complacency. All available instruments will be deployed to maintain reasonable price stability during the next year.

13. This Government inherited an economy in which poverty and unemployment were acute, particularly in the rural areas, and in which the development of the past 30 years had not benefited large numbers. To rectify this neglect of the rural areas as well as to solve the chronic problems

of poverty and unemployment Government decided to re-orient the strategy of development. Therefore, the Fifth Five Year Plan is being terminated this year and a new Five Year Plan is being started from April 1978, which will incorporate fully the new thinking of this Government regarding the strategy of development. The primary objectives would be the removal of unemployment and substantial under-employment in the shortest possible time, increasing the availability of basic goods and services to the people in the lowest income groups in the same period, a significant reduction in disparities of income and wealth and a steady progress towards technical self-reliance. The next Five Year Plan will, therefore, give particular emphasis to agriculture and allied activities, cottage and small scale industries irrigation and power, adult education, universalisation of elementary education, rural water supply and rural roads. The production of basic goods necessary for the economy, such as oil, coal, metals, fertilizers, cement will also be emphasised.

14. Government has announced a new Industrial Policy which lays emphasis on the development of cottage and small industries widely dispersed throughout the country. This should help in achieving our goal of rapidly increasing employment. This Policy which also covers the role of public sector and large industries, indigenous and foreign technology, foreign investment, workers' participation and related matters, will go a long way in removing any uncertainty in this regard and lead to a revival of investment.

15. In the sphere of foreign trade, India's exports have made further advance during the year. The Government has adopted a deliberate policy of minimising the social cost of our exports and has regulated the exports

of essential items such as sugar, rice, oil, oilseeds, fresh vegetables and cement. The adverse impact of this on export earnings has been more than made good by encouraging the growth of exports in the dynamic sectors.

16. Long years of shortages of domestically produced commodities and imports have led to a host of controls and regulations through the economy, Government is keen that those that have outlived their utility should be removed so that the enterprise and initiative of the people have full play in determining economic activity. The current state of the economy is such that such a policy can be effectively pursued. Already the policy and procedures regarding exports and imports and industrial licensing have been examined with this objective in mind. A committee has been constituted to study comprehensively the entire systems of controls and make recommendations to reduce and streamline them.

17. Industrial unrest will lead to loss in production and this will not be in anybody's interest. I appeal to employers, employees and others concerned to ensure harmonious industrial relations so that growth is not affected. In this context I would like to refer to the study group set up by Government to examine this difficult subject. I hope the recommendations of the study group will help in the evolution of a rational wage and income policy.

18. My Government attaches great importance to the need of overhauling the educational system with a view to meeting the challenge of development as well as providing opportunities of public service to the students. The problem of illiteracy on such a large scale as prevails also requires to be given priority attention. We have thus to think of educational policies in terms of not only academic but also adult education. In fact, if the country is to make accelerated progress towards the goal we have

met before it, the spread of literacy on mass scale is indispensable. Various avenues of consultation with educational authorities have been explored by the Ministry of Education and as a result, guidelines in respect of different fields of education, namely university education, secondary education and primary and adult education have been prepared and enhanced provision is being made in the Central and State plans.

19. Government attaches the full importance to the promotion of science and technology in order to improve the quality and content of the lives of our people and be conducive to increasing employment. Research effort is being stepped up and made more relevant to our immediate problems in natural resources survey, in agriculture and industry and in energy sources. Government has taken up the implementation of a National Satellite Project. Through this project significant improvement in communications, meteorological and disaster-warning services will become available to the country.

20. I must refer now to a matter of great importance to our future well-being. The family planning programme has suffered a setback this year as a reaction to the excesses committed during the Emergency. We cannot afford to allow this trend in this vital matter. The fact that we are keen that family planning should be wholly voluntary requires that there should be a much greater effort towards education and motivation. I appeal to the State Governments and to all people to recognise the importance of the programme and to assist in the measures to achieve the national targets.

21. Another subject of vital importance to family welfare and to the discharge of a constitutional responsibility is prohibition. As decided in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Min-

isters held last year, prohibition will be introduced throughout the country in a phased manner during the next four years. The details of the phased programme are being worked out in consultation with the States.

22. Hon'ble Members, I now come to our relations with other countries. My Government has spared no effort in striving to make our sub-continent an area of peace and cooperation, through a series of initiatives in our bilateral relations with neighbouring countries. Agreement was reached with Bangladesh on the sharing of the Ganga Waters. We have approached our relations with other neighbours like Bhutan, Nepal, Afghanistan, Burma, Sri Lanka and Pakistan in the same spirit, based on equality, mutual respect and appreciation of each other's sensitivities and aspiration. In particular, our bilateral relations with Iran have registered an improvement which only an enlightened approach to mutual understanding could have achieved.

23. Although differences relating to the border remain unresolved, we are gradually improving bilateral relations with China on the basis of the Panchsheel. My Government has recognised the importance of developing close relations with the countries in South-East Asia. We have made significant strides in beginning to build bridges of cooperation with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and other States of Indo-China and with the Commonwealth countries in this region. For the first time, the Commonwealth Heads of Governments of the region met together recently and discussed methods of increasing mutual cooperation. With Japan, there is a deeper understanding and realisation that Indo-Japanese relations can be a contributing factor in achieving peace and promoting development in Asia.

24. The Government has based its relations with the Great Powers on

the firm belief in a commitment to genuine non-alignment, beneficial bilateralism and furtherance of constructive international cooperation. We are confident that the many sided co-operation and understanding which we have built with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries will be strengthened and enriched. We have achieved cordiality and friendship in our relations with the United States of America and Western democracies with whom we share a common belief in the democratic system of Government. It is our hope that notwithstanding the differences which we may have had in the past, we can now faster these relations to a new level and quality of mutual confidence which will transcend differences on specific matters and enlarge the area of understanding and faith in each other.

25 Tensions still be set specific areas of the world, particularly in Southern Africa and West Asia. We have continued to support the African countries and their liberation movements in the struggle against colonialism and racialism and have pledged our political and material support to the liberation movements in Namibia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa. We cannot over-emphasise the need for unity amongst the African leaders in dealing with the common enemy of racialism and colonialism. In West Asia, we continue to hold the view that a just and lasting settlement based on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories, and in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations which secure the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and security for all States of the region, is essential for durable peace in that region.

26. My Government has strengthened India's constructive participation in international forums—in the United Nations, in the non-aligned world, in

the Commonwealth and in the conference on International Economic Cooperation.

27. We are convinced that the enormous problems facing both the developing and the developed countries can be solved only if there is peace and stability in all parts of the world. In order to bring this about, it is essential that the major nuclear powers arrive at an early agreement on test ban, on reduction and ultimate elimination of all nuclear weapons, and on peaceful exploitation of atomic energy on the basis of respect for sovereignty, equality and non-discrimination. Nuclear disarmament is a matter of foremost concern to all the countries of the world and we hope that at the Disarmament Conference proposed to be held later this year the major nuclear powers will be able to announce an agreed and time-bound programme of disarmament. For our part, we have reiterated our solemn resolve to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and have also made it clear that we will unilaterally desist from making nuclear tests. We are, however, opposed to any form of discrimination in this vital sector.

28. Hon'ble Members, during this Session you have to consider the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure and the Demands for Grants for the coming financial year which will determine the new direction in which the country will progress in the coming years. You will have to finalise the legislative measures already pending with you and also deal with the new ones that will be presented, to some of which I have earlier made mention. Many of these measures are of far reaching importance in strengthening our democratic policy and economy. You thus have a very heavy agenda before you. I would not therefore detain you any longer. I summon you to your endeavours and wish you all success.

JAI HIND

माननीय सदस्यगण, मैं इस साल के पहले संसद् सत्र में आपका स्वागत करता हूँ। भारत के राष्ट्रपति का पद संभालने के बाद संसद् को संबोधित करने का यह मेरा पहला मौका है। यों तो इस समय ऐसी बहुत सी बातें हैं जिन पर हमें विचार करना चाहिए लेकिन इस समय मेरा मन उन लोगों के लिए व्याकुल है जिन्हें आंध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, केरल, पांडिचेरी और लक्षद्वीप में कहर डाने वाले समुद्री तूफानों में अपनी जान और माल से हाथ धोने पड़े। उन तूफानों में उनके जो सगे संबंधी बचे हैं उनके लिए भी मेरा मन बहुत परेशान है। मेरी सरकार ने इसे राष्ट्रीय विपत्ति माना है और इसके लिए हर मुमकिन मदद दी है और राहत कार्य संगठित करने में संबंधित राज्य सरकारों के साथ पूरा सहयोग किया है। हमारे देश के हर हिस्से के लोगों ने खुले दिल से उदारता के साथ योगदान दिया है और उनकी इस मदद के लिए मैं हृदय से अपना आभार प्रकट करता हूँ।

2. आम चुनावों के बाद इन महीनों में संसद् और सरकार ने संविधान में दी गई स्वतंत्रताओं और संरक्षणों को जनता को फिर से पूरे तौर पर हासिल कराने के लिए तेजी से काम किया है। न्यायालयों को उनकी शक्तियां दोबारा हासिल हो गई हैं। समाचार-पत्र स्वतंत्र हैं। नागरिकों को उनकी स्वतंत्रता पर मनमानी रोक-टोक लगने का अब कोई डर नहीं है। विधायिका, कार्यपालिका और न्यायपालिका के आपसी संबंधों में और इनके साथ नागरिकों के संबंधों में फिर से संतुलन बनाने के वायदे को कदम-ब-कदम पूरा किया जा रहा है। दरअसल, संविधान में किए जाने वाले कुछ संशोधनों को छोड़कर, बाकी काम लगभग पूरा हो चुका है।

3. सरकार को जो जनदेश मिला उसके मुताबिक इसके सामने सबसे पहला काम यह था कि संविधान में जोड़े गये निरंकुशता से संबंधित उपबंधों को हटाया जाए। संविधान

(बचालीसवां संशोधन) विधेयक को संसद् के दोनों सदनों ने पास कर दिया है और यह अब राज्यों के विधानमंडलों के पास अनुसमर्थन के लिए भेजा गया है। इससे न्यायालयों के अधिकार क्षेत्र पर लगी तरह-तरह की पाबंदियां दूर हो जाएंगी। विरोधी दलों के नेताओं के साथ विस्तार से चर्चा के बाद, संविधान (बचालीसवां संशोधन) अधिनियम से संविधान का जो रूप बिगड़ गया था उसे ठीक करने के लिए एक व्यापक विधेयक का मसौदा तैयार कर लिया गया है। यह विधेयक इसी सत्र के दौरान पेश किया जाएगा। मुझे आशा है इसे दोनों सदनों के सभी वर्गों का जल्द ही पूरा सहयोग मिलेगा ताकि काले घब्रों को मिटा कर संविधान को इसके असली रूप में फिर से ला सकें। लोकतंत्र के बुनियादी सिद्धान्तों को नकारने और उलटने के लिए संविधान का ही उपयोग करने की किसी कोशिश को संभावना न रह जाए, इसके ठोस उपाय करने की खास जरूरत है।

4. कानून की निगाह में बराबरी के सिद्धान्त को दूषित करने, भ्रष्टाचारपूर्ण तरीकों की धारणा को बदलने और न्यायालयों में अपील करने की शक्तियों को कम करने के लिये चुनाव कानूनों में कई परिवर्तन कर दिये गए थे। अब उन्हें निरस्त कर दिया गया है। जन-प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम में 1974 तथा 1975 में किए गए संशोधनों को हटाने के लिए एक विधेयक आपके सामने पेश है जिससे इन संशोधनों से पहले जो लोकतांत्रिक तत्व इस कानून में मौजूद थे, उन्हें बहाल किया जा सके। इस तरह गैर-लोकतांत्रिक हस्तक्षेपों को दूर किया जा रहा है, लेकिन चुनाव कानूनों और कार्य-पद्धतियों में बुनियादी सुधार करने की जरूरत बनी हुई है, ताकि चुनाव प्रक्रिया को अधिक न्यायसंगत तथा नुकसानदेह प्रभावों के प्रति ज्यादा मजबूत बनाया जा सके। सरकार इस मसले पर विस्तार से गौर कर रही है और वह शीघ्र ही अपने प्रस्ताव राजनीतिक दलों के सामने पेश करेगी।

5. जनता सच्चे मन से यह चाहती है कि राजनीति और सभी स्तरों पर प्रशासन अधिक स्वच्छ हो। जब तक ऊंचे पदों पर आसीन व्यक्तियों की ईमानदारी में विश्वास नहीं जमेगा, तब तक सांविधानिक सरकार का भविष्य सुरक्षित नहीं होगा। आपातकाल में हुई ज्यादतियों और अपने पदों का गलत इस्तेमाल करने वाले कुछ व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध लगाए गए आरोपों की जांच करने के लिए गठित आयोग अपने कठिन कामों में लगे हुए हैं। जनता के चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा अप्रत्याचार तथा अपनी शक्तियों के गलत इस्तेमाल के विरुद्ध व्यावहारिक तथा विश्वसनीय सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था करने के लिए तैयार किया गया लोकपाल विधेयक आपके सामने पेश है। सभी संसद् सदस्यों को अपनी परिसम्पत्तियों देनदारियों तथा कारबारी संबंधों के बारे में घोषणा करने के लिए सरकार एक विधेयक पेश करेगी।

6. एक सचेत जनमत ही विधि-संगत शासन तथा ईमानदार और कुशल लोकतांत्रिक सरकार को मुनिश्चित कर सकता है। आपत्तिजनक सामग्री का प्रकाशन निवारण अधिनियम को निरस्त करके तथा संसद कार्यवाही (प्रकाशन की सुरक्षा) अधिनियम को बहाल करके संसद् ने समाचारपत्रों को एक बार फिर से व्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता तथा समाज के कल्याण के प्रहरी के रूप में कार्य करने में समर्थ बना दिया है। समाचार एजेंसियों पर अभी सभी प्रकार के नियंत्रणों को हटाने के लिए सरकार ने स्वयं पहल की है। प्रेस के कार्य-निष्पादन का जायजा लेने का काम प्रेस परिषद् जैसे व्यावसायिक संगठनों पर ही छोड़ दिया जाना चाहिए। मुझे उम्मीद है कि प्रेस परिषद् जल्द ही फिर से काम करने लगेगी। सरकार का विचार है कि वह एक प्रेस आयोग बनाए जो देश में मजबूत तथा स्वतंत्र समाचारपत्रों और

समाचार सेवाओं का विकास करने की और सुविधाएं देने की उद्युक्त सिफारिशें दे सके।

7. जून, 1977 में राज्य विधान सभाओं के लिए चुनावों के दौरान सभी राजनीतिक दलों को आकाशवाणी तथा दूरदर्शन पर अपना प्रचार करने की सुविधा देने से हमारे संचार माध्यमों के इतिहास में एक नया अध्याय जुड़ गया है। सरकार ने यह बात साफ-साफ कह दी है कि सरकारी संचार माध्यमों का दलगत उद्देश्यों के लिए प्रयोग नहीं किया जाएगा। आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन को अधिक स्वायत्तता देने के प्रश्न पर विचार कर रहे एक कार्यकारी दल की रिपोर्ट की सरकार प्रतीक्षा कर रही है।

8. सरकार द्वारा आंतरिक सुरक्षा अधिनियम का पूरे तौर पर रिव्यू किया जा चुका है और मीसा को निरस्त करने तथा दण्ड-प्रक्रिया संहिता में संशोधन करने के लिए एक विधेयक पहले ही पेश किया जा चुका है। सरकार ने यह मुनिश्चिन किया है कि भारत की रक्षा और सुरक्षा, सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था और समाज के जीवन-प्रापन के लिए अनिवार्य पूर्तियों और सेवाओं को बनाए रखने के हित में न्यूनतम आवश्यक कानूनी प्रावधान तो रखे ही जाएं, लेकिन साथ ही ऐसी शक्तियों का प्रयोग करने में किसी भी प्रकार की मनमानी को रोकने के लिए आवश्यक व्यवस्था की जाये और यदि जरूरत पड़े तो उच्च न्यायालयों के मुख्य न्यायाधीशों द्वारा मनोनीत न्यायाधीशों के बोर्डों से रिव्यू भी कराया जाए।

9. राष्ट्रीय जीवन के कुछ क्षेत्रों में, जनता की दवाई गई भावनाएं तरह-तरह के विरोध-प्रदर्शनों और आंदोलनों के रूप में व्यक्त हुई हैं। इसके साथ ही, प्रतिबंधों को हटाने से, समाज के कुछ वर्गों ने हिंसा, आतंक और तोड़-फोड़ की कार्यवाहियों में भाग लेना आरम्भ कर दिया है। विदशों में भी कर्मचारियों और सभ्यता को हानि पहुंचाने की घटनाएं हुई हैं तथा

घमकियां भी मिली हैं। कोई भी ऐसा वर्ग जिसके साथ न्याय न हुआ हो, अपनी न्यायोचित शिकायतों को सांविधानिक माध्यमों से दूर करवा सकता है लेकिन सरकार हिंसा तथा अराजकता को कतई बर्दाश्त नहीं करेगी और इस प्रकार की कार्रवाई करने वालों को रोकने के लिए कड़े कदम उठाए जायेंगे ताकि ये दोबारा न हों। केवल कानून और व्यवस्था बनाए रखने के लिए ही नहीं बल्कि नागरिकों, विशेषकर कमजोर वर्ग के नागरिकों के अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए देश की पुलिस को जन-सेवा का एक प्रभावी साधन बनाना होगा। इस संबंध में सरकार ने प्रशासन को विस्तृत निर्देश जारी किये हैं। चूंकि भारतीय पुलिस अधिनियम बहुत पहले 1861 में बनाया गया था और अंतिम पुलिस आयोग 1902 में गठित किया गया था, इसलिए सरकार ने देश में पुलिस प्रशासन से सम्बद्ध सभी महत्वपूर्ण मामलों की जांच करने और इसके बारे में सिफारिशें देने के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय पुलिस आयोग का गठन किया है।

10. सरकार इस बात को सर्वोच्च महत्व देती है कि अल्पसंख्यकों/अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों और पिछड़े वर्गों के अधिकारों तथा उनके हितों की सुरक्षा संबंधी उपायों को लागू किया जाय। सरकार यह महसूस करती है कि इन वर्गों को राष्ट्र के प्रमुख कार्यों में अन्य वर्गों के समान स्तर पर प्रभावकारी तथा स्वतंत्र रूप में भाग लेने में समर्थ बनाने के लिए स्थायी संस्थागत प्रबंध करने आवश्यक हैं। अतः इसके लिए निम्नलिखित आयोग गठित किए जा रहे हैं :

(1) सांविधानिक सुरक्षाओं को लागू करने तथा संघ एवं राज्य सरकारों द्वारा पास किए गए कानूनों की सुरक्षा के लिए अभ्यसंबन्धक आयोग का गठन किया जा रहा है।

(2) संविधान और कानूनों में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों को जो सुरक्षण दिये गए हैं उनसे संबंधित सभी मामलों की जांच करने के लिए अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग का गठन किया जा रहा है।

11. पिछले साल अर्थव्यवस्था का ठीक तरह संचालन हुआ जिसकी वजह से यह अब इतनी अच्छी अवस्था में है कि अगले साल तेज प्रगति की जा सकती है। इस सरकार के कार्यभार संभालने से पहले वाले साल में अर्थव्यवस्था में वृद्धि दर 2 प्रतिशत से भी कम थी जबकि इस साल यह बढ़कर 5 प्रतिशत हो गई है। कृषि उत्पादनों में पिछले वर्ष में हुई कमी को पूरा कर लिया गया है और उम्मीद है कि अन्न का उत्पादन 1180 लाख टन से ज्यादा हो होगा। वाणिज्यिक फसलों के उत्पादन में भी वर्तमान वर्ष में बहुत अधिक बढ़ोतरी हुई है। हालांकि निर्यात अर्जत में कमी आई है फिर भी भुगतान संतुलन मजबूत रहा है तथा हमारे विदेशी मुद्रा कोष में खासी बढ़ोतरी होती रही। जल प्रणाली को समाप्त करने के बावजूद अनाज की वसूली काफी बड़े पैमाने पर हुई है। हालांकि सरकारी वितरण प्रणाली में काफी बड़ी मात्रा में अन्न दिया जा रहा है फिर भी इस समय 170 लाख टन अनाज भण्डार में है।

12. मुद्रास्फीति संबंधी दबावों पर नियंत्रण पा लिया गया है। पिछले साल कीमतों में लगभग 12 प्रतिशत वृद्धि के बावजूद इस समय कीमत का स्तर मार्च, 1977 के स्तर से उंचा नहीं है; मुद्रा सप्लाई में जो कि 20 प्रतिशत अधिक थी, इस वर्ष काफी कमी ला दी गई है। चूंकि अर्थव्यवस्था में मुद्रास्फीति की शक्यता काफी है, इसलिए सरकार कीमतों की मीजूदा स्थिति के बारे में निष्क्रिय होकर नहीं बैठ

सकती। अगले साल कीमतों को उचित स्तर पर स्थिर रखने के लिए सभी उपलब्ध साधनों का प्रयोग किया जाएगा।

13. इस सरकार को विरासत में ऐसी अर्थ-व्यवस्था मिली जिसमें घोर गरीबी और बेरोजगारी थी, खास तौर से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में, जहां अधिकतर लोगों को पिछले तीस सालों में हुए विकास का लाभ नहीं मिला था। इस संबंध में ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की उपेक्षा को दूर करने के लिए तथा गरीबी और बेरोजगारी की पुरानी समस्या को सूलझाने के लिए सरकार ने विकास प्रक्रिया को सही दिशा देने का निर्णय किया है। इसीलिए, पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना को इस साल समाप्त कर अप्रैल, 1978 से एक नई पंचवर्षीय योजना शुरू की जा रही है। इस योजना में विकास के लक्ष्य निर्धारण संबंधी सरकार की नई विचारधारा का समावेश होगा। बेरोजगारी और बड़े पैमाने पर अल्प रोजगारी को कम-से-कम समय में दूर करना, इसी अर्थ में निम्नतम आय वाले वर्ग के लोगों के लिए अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में आवश्यक वस्तुएं उपलब्ध कराना, आय और सम्पत्ति की असमानता में महत्वपूर्ण कमी करना और तकनीकी आत्म-निर्भरता में लगातार प्रगति करना इस योजना के प्रमुख उद्देश्य होंगे। इसलिए, अगली पंचवर्षीय योजना में कृषि और उससे संबंधित गतिविधियों, कुटीर और लघु उद्योगों, सिंचाई और बिजली, प्रौढ़ शिक्षा, सभी के लिए बुनियादी शिक्षा, गांव में पानी और सड़कों की व्यवस्था करने पर खास तौर से जोर दिया जायेगा अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए आवश्यक अधारभूत सामग्री जैसे तेल, कोयला, धातुएं, उर्वरक सीमेंट आदि के उत्पादन पर भी बल दिया जाएगा।

14. सरकार ने नई औद्योगिक नीति की घोषणा की है जिसमें कुटीर और लघु उद्योगों के विकास को पूरे देश में अच्छी तरह

फैलाने पर जोर दिया गया है। इससे रोजगार के अवसरों में तेजी से वृद्धि करने के हमारे लक्ष्य का प्राप्त करने में सहायता भी मिलेगी। इस नीति के अंतर्गत सरकारी अथवा प्रौद्योगिक उद्योग, स्वदेशी और विदेशी तकनीक, विदेशी निवेश, कामगारों की भव्यदायी और उससे संबंधित मामले भी आते हैं, और इसने इस दिशा में किसी भी प्रकार की अनिश्चितता को दूर करने में और फिर से पूंजी निवेश करने में काफी सहायता मिलेगी।

15. विदेश व्यापार के क्षेत्र में, इस साल भारत के निर्यातों में और प्रगति हुई है। सरकार ने हमारे निर्यातों की सामाजिक लागत को कम-से-कम रखने की सुविचारित नीति अपनाई है और चीनी, चावल, तेल, तिलहन, ताजी सब्जियों और सीमेंट जैसी आवश्यक वस्तुओं के निर्यात का नियमन किया है। निर्यात से होने वाले अर्जन पर इसके प्रतिकूल प्रभाव की काफी से ज्यादा क्षतिपूर्ति महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में निर्यातों के विकास की गति को बढ़ाकर कर ली गई है।

16. देश में उसादित वस्तुओं की पिछले बड़न सालों से चनी आ रही कमी और आयातों के कारण अर्थव्यवस्था में ढेर सारे नियंत्रणों और नियमनों को लागू करना पड़ा था। सरकार की उत्कट इच्छा है कि इनमें से जिसकी उपादेयता समाप्त हो चुकी है, उन्हें हटा दिया जाए ताकि अर्थव्यवस्था की गतिविधियों को निर्धारित करने में लोगों के उशमों और पहलशक्ति का पूरा उपयोग हो सके। अर्थव्यवस्था की मौजूदा स्थिति ऐसी है जिसमें ऐसी नीति को प्रभावी ढंग से आगे बढ़ाया जा सकता है। इस उद्देश्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए निर्यात और आयात तथा औद्योगिक लाइसेंसों संबंधी नीति और प्रक्रिया की पहले ही जांच की जा चुकी है। नियंत्रणों की समूची व्यवस्था का व्यापक अध्ययन करने और

उनको कम करने तथा सरल बनाने की सिफारिशें करने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया जा चुका है ।

17. औद्योगिक अशांति से उत्पादन में हानि होगी और यह किसी के भी हित में नहीं होगा । मैं मालिकों, कर्मचारियों तथा अन्य संबंधित व्यक्तियों से अपील करता हूँ कि वे सौहार्दपूर्ण औद्योगिक संबंध कायम करें जिससे विकास पर कोई बुरा असर न पड़े । इस संदर्भ में मैं इस कठिन विषय पर सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किये गये अध्ययन दल की ओर ध्यान दिलाना चाहूँगा । मुझे आशा है कि इस अध्ययन दल की सिफारिशों से मजदूरी और आय की नीति बनाने में सहायता मिलेगी ।

18. विकास की चुनौती का सामना करने तथा विद्यार्थियों को जन-मेवा के अवसर प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से हमारी सरकार शिक्षा प्रणाली को पूरे तौर पर बदलने की आवश्यकता को बहुत ही महत्व देती है । इतने बड़े पैमाने पर फैली हुई निरक्षरता की समस्या की ओर भी प्राथमिकता से ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है । इसलिए हमें शिक्षा संबंधी नीतियों के बारे में अकादमिक ही नहीं, बल्कि प्रौढ़ शिक्षा की दृष्टिकोण से भी सोचना है । वास्तव में यदि देश को अपने निर्धारित लक्ष्य की ओर तेज गति से बढ़ना है तो बड़े पैमाने पर साक्षरता के प्रसार के बिना काम चल ही नहीं सकता । शिक्षा मंत्रालय ने शिक्षा के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों से संबंधित प्राधिकारियों से सभी संभव दृष्टिकोणों से सलाह-मशवरा किया है और परिणामस्वरूप विश्व-विद्यालय शिक्षा, माध्यमिक शिक्षा और प्राथमिक तथा प्रौढ़ शिक्षा आदि व शिक्षा के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लिए मार्गदर्शक सिद्धान्त तैयार कर लिये गये हैं और केन्द्र तथा राज्यों की योजनाओं में पहले से अधिक प्रावधान किए जा रहे हैं ।

19. अपने देशवासियों के रहन-सहन के स्तर को सुधारने के लिए और रोजगार के अवसर बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी की उन्नति को पूरा महत्व देती है । अनुसंधान की दिशा में अधिक प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं ताकि वे हमारे प्राकृतिक साधनों के सर्वेक्षण, कृषि और उद्योग और ऊर्जा स्रोतों की तात्कालिक समस्याओं के लिए अधिक संगत हो सकें । सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय उपग्रह परियोजना पर अमल करना शुरू कर दिया है । इस परियोजना से संचार, मौसम विज्ञान और तूफान-चेतावनी के क्षेत्र में सेवाओं में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार होंगे जिनका लाभ देश को मिलेगा ।

20. अब मुझे उस विषय का उल्लेख करना है जो देश के भावी कल्याण के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है । इमर्जेन्सी में की गई ज्यादतियों की प्रतिक्रिया के फलस्वरूप इस साल परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम को बड़ा धक्का लगा है । इस महत्वपूर्ण मामले में इस प्रवृत्ति को नहीं चलने दिया जा सकता । हम चाहते हैं कि लोग परिवार नियोजन अपनी इच्छा से अपनाएं । इसके लिए लोगों को शिक्षित करने और प्रेरणा देने के लिए अधिक कोशिश करने की जरूरत है । मैं राज्य सरकारों और सभी लोगों से अपील करता हूँ कि वे इस कार्यक्रम के महत्व को समझें और राष्ट्रीय लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने के उपायों में मदद करें ।

21. परिवार कल्याण और सांविधानिक जिम्मेदारी निभाने के सिलसिले में एक दूसरा महत्वपूर्ण विषय नशाबन्दी का है । पिछले साल मुख्यमंत्रियों और मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसार अगले 4 सालों में क्रमिक रूप से नशाबन्दी लागू कर दी जाएगी । इस क्रमिक कार्यक्रम के ब्योरे राज्यों के साथ मशवरा करके तैयार किये जा रहे हैं ।

22. माननीय सदस्यगण, मैं अब दूसरे देशों के साथ अपने देश के संबंधों की चर्चा

करूंगा। मेरी सरकार ने पड़ोसी देशों के साथ द्विपक्षीय संबंधों के सिलसिले में लगातार पहल करके इस उप-महाद्वीप को शांति और सहयोग का क्षेत्र बनाने के लिए प्रयास करने में कोई कसर नहीं छोड़ी है। गंगा पानी के बंटवारे के संबंध में बंगलादेश के साथ करार किया गया। समानता, परस्पर सम्मान और एक दूसरे की संवेदनशीलताओं और आकांक्षाओं के समादर पर आधारित यही भावना हमने भूटान, नेपाल, अफगानिस्तान, बर्मा, श्रीलंका और पाकिस्तान जैसे दूसरे पड़ोसी देशों के साथ संबंधों में भी अपनाई है। विशेष रूप से ईरान के साथ हमारे द्विपक्षीय संबंधों में उल्लेखनीय सुधार हुआ है। यह एक दूसरे को समझने के लिए प्रबुद्ध दृष्टिकोण अपनाने से ही संभव हो सकता था।

23. हालांकि सीमा से संबंधित मतभेद सुलझ नहीं पाए हैं फिर भी हम चीन के साथ पंचशील के आधार पर द्विपक्षीय संबंध घीरे-घीरे सुधार रहे हैं। मेरी सरकार ने दक्षिणी-पूर्वी एशिया के देशों के साथ निकटता के बढ़ते हुए संबंधों के महत्व को माना है। जनतांत्रिक गणराज्य वियतनाम और इन्डो-चीन के अन्य देशों और इस क्षेत्र के राष्ट्र-मंडलीय देशों के साथ सहयोग के सेतुओं के निर्माण की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति की है। इस क्षेत्र की राष्ट्र-मंडलीय सरकारों के प्रमुख पिछले दिनों पहली बार मिले और उन्होंने आपसी सहयोग बढ़ाने के उपायों पर चर्चा की। जहां तक जापान से हमारे संबंध की बात है अब यह अधिक अच्छी तरह समझा और महसूस किया जा रहा है कि भारत-जापान संबंध एशिया में शांति प्राप्त करने और विकास को प्रोत्साहित करने में सहायक हो सकते हैं।

24. जहां तक बड़ी शक्तियों से संबंधों की बात है उसे सरकार ने सच्ची

गुटनिरपेक्षता की नीति में आस्था, लाभकारी द्विपक्षीयता और रचनात्मक अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग की अभिवृद्धि में दृढ़ विश्वास पर आधारित किया है। हमें पूरा यकीन है कि सोवियत रूस और अन्य समाजवादी देशों के साथ हमने जो बहुमुखी सहयोग और सौहार्द स्थापित किया है, वह मजबूत और समृद्ध होगा। संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और पश्चिमी लोकतांत्रिक देशों के समान सरकार की लोकतांत्रिक प्रणाली में हमारी भी आस्था है और इन देशों के साथ अपने संबंधों में हमने मित्रता और सौहार्द स्थापित कर लिया है। भले ही पहले हमारे बीच मतभेद रहे हों लेकिन हमें उम्मीद है कि हम इन संबंधों को पारस्परिक विश्वास के उस उच्च स्तर तक ले जा सकते हैं जो किन्हीं खास मामलों पर मतभेदों से कहीं ऊपर होगा और एक दूसरे में समझ-बूझ और विश्वास का क्षेत्र विस्तृत करेगा।

25. विश्व के विशिष्ट क्षेत्रों, विशेष रूप से दक्षिणी अफ्रीका और पश्चिमी एशिया में अभी भी तनाव बना हुआ है। हमने उप-निवेशवाद और जातिवाद के खिलाफ संघर्ष में अफ्रीकी देशों के मुक्ति-आन्दोलन का समर्थन करना जारी रखा है और नामीबिया, जिम्बाबवे और दक्षिणी अफ्रीका में मुक्ति आन्दोलनों को अपना राजनीतिक समर्थन और ठोस सहायता देने का वायदा किया है। जातिवाद और उपनिवेशवाद के सामान्य शत्रु के विरुद्ध अफ्रीकी नेताओं में एकता की जरूरत के बारे में जितना कहा जाए थोड़ा है। पश्चिमी एशिया के संबंध में हमारा अब भी यही मत है कि इस क्षेत्र में स्थायी शांति के लिए एक न्यायसंगत और चिरस्थायी समझौता होना चाहिए। यह समझौता सारे अधिभूत क्षेत्र से इसराइली सेनाओं की वापसी पर आधारित हो और संयुक्त राष्ट्र के उन संकल्पों के अनुसार हो जो कि फिलिस्तीनी लोगों के वैध अधिकारों को तथा इस क्षेत्र के सभी देशों की सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करते हैं।

26. अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मंचों, जैसे संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ, गुट-निरपेक्ष विश्व, राष्ट्रमंडल और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक सहयोग संबंधी सम्मेलनों में मेरी सरकार ने भारत की रचनात्मक सहभागिता को मजबूत किया है।

27. हमारा यह दृढ़ मत है कि वे विराट समस्याएं, जिनका विकासशील और विकसित देश सामना कर रहे हैं, केवल तभी हल की जा सकती है जब विश्व के सभी भागों में शांति और स्थिरता हो। इस उद्देश्य को पूरा करने के लिए यह बहुत जरूरी है कि बड़ी अणु शक्तियां आणविक परीक्षण पर रोक लगाने, सभी आणविक हथियारों को कम करने और उन्हें अन्तिम रूप से समाप्त करने, तथा प्रभुसत्ता, समानता और पक्षपातहीनता के प्रति सम्मान रखते हुए परमाणु ऊर्जा का शांतिपूर्ण कार्यों के उपयोग के लिए शीघ्र ही सहमत हो जाएं। आणविक निरस्त्रीकरण के लिए विश्व के सभी देश व्यग्र हैं। इस साल ही कुछ समय बाद निरस्त्रीकरण सम्मेलन करने का प्रस्ताव है। हमें उम्मीद है कि उसमें प्रमुख आणविक शक्तियां निरस्त्रीकरण के लिए एक सर्वसम्मत और समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम की घोषणा करेंगी। अपनी ओर से हमने आणविक शक्ति को केवल शांतिपूर्ण कार्यों में प्रयोग करने के दृढ़ निश्चय को फिर दोहराया है और यह भी स्पष्ट कर दिया है कि बिना किसी का इन्तजार किए आणविक परीक्षण करने से हम स्वयं दूर रहेंगे। बहरहाल इस महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र में हम किसी भी प्रकार के भेदभाव के विरुद्ध हैं।

28. माननीय सदस्यगण, इस सत्र के दौरान आपको आय और व्यय विवरण और आगामी वित्तीय वर्ष के लिए अनुदानों के लिए मांगों पर विचार करना होगा जिससे उन नई दिशाओं का निर्धारण होगा जिनमें देश को आने वाले वर्षों में प्रगति करनी है। आपको उन वैधानिक उपायों को अन्तिम रूप देना होगा जो आपके पास विचाराधीन है।

आपको प्रस्तुत किए जाने वाले कुछ नए वैधानिक उपायों पर भी विचार करना होगा, जिनमें से कुछ के विषय में मैं पहले ही उल्लेख कर चुका हूँ। इनमें से कई उपाय हमारी लोकतान्त्रिक नीति और अर्थव्यवस्था को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण हैं। इस प्रकार आपने सामने बहुत ही लम्बी कार्यसूची होगी। इसलिए मैं आपका अधिक समय नहीं लूंगा। आपने योगदान के लिए मैं आपका आभार करता हूँ और आपकी पूर्ण सफलता की कामना करता हूँ।

जय हिन्द।

12.31 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as we meet to-day after an interval of two months, it is my unpleasant duty to inform the House of the sad demise of three of our former colleagues, Shri Mahadeo Prasad, Dr. Shriman Narayan and Shri H. R. Gokhale.

Shri Mahadeo Prasad was a Member of the Second and Third Lok Sabha during the years 1957—67 representing respectively Gorakhpur and Bansgaon constituencies of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier he had been a Member of the U.P. Legislative Assembly during the years 1952—57. Keenly interested in the upliftment of the depressed classes, he always championed their cause both in Parliament and outside. He passed away at Gorakhpur on the 11th December, 1977 at the age of 76.

Dr. Shriman Narayan was a Member of the First Lok Sabha during the years 1952—57 representing Wardha constituency of the erstwhile Madhya Pradesh State. Starting his career as an educationist he founded the Sek-saria College of Commerce, Wardha and served as its principal. Soon he

[Mr. Speaker]

came in contact with Mahatma Gandhi and became his ardent follower and joined the "Quit India" movement. In 1949, he undertook a world tour to propagate the Gandhian ideology. He was the author of several books on Gandhian economics and planning. Throughout his life he remained closely associated with the programmes of constructive work which Gandhiji had started with a view to achieve the regeneration of rural life.

He served the country in various capacities with distinction. He was associated with a large number of educational and other institutions and served as Dean of the Faculty of Commerce in Nagpur University from 1951 onwards. In 1958 he became a Member of the Planning Commission and served in that capacity till 1964 when he was appointed as Ambassador to Nepal. In 1967 he was appointed as Governor of Gujarat and he held that high position till 1973.

He also organised several All India Educational Conferences and rendered yeoman service as President of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, an organization with which he remained associated till his end.

In spite of his distinguished record of service as an educationist, Gandhian thinker, a Parliamentarian, diplomat; administrator, economist and a prolific writer both in Hindi and English, his life was marked by simplicity and complete absence of ostentation. He lent lustre and dignity to whichever office he held in his long and distinguished career.

He passed away at Gwalior on the 3rd January, 1978 at the age of 66. In his death the country has lost an unassuming and dedicated worker and a true patriot who spent his whole life in the service of the nation.

Shri H. R. Gokhale was a member of the Fifth Lok Sabha representing

the 'North-West-Bombay' constituency of Maharashtra. He belonged to a family of jurists and started his career as an advocate. He took active part in the "Quit India" movement and also played a leading role in the trade union activities. In 1962 he was appointed judge of the Bombay High Court and served in that capacity upto 1966. Later he became Minister of Law and Justice in the Central Government during the years 1971-77.

Shri Gokhale passed away at New Delhi on the 15th February, 1978, at the age of 63.

In his death the country has lost an eminent jurist and parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a shortwhile.

12.35 hrs.

Re MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I have given an adjournment motion on the issue of the Iranian students, their arrest and the intention of the Government to deport them; and certain other restrictions have been imposed on them which is unbecoming of a democratic country like ours. The second one is about the assault, torture and shooting and ultimately burning of a Harijan within the Constituency of Shri Jagjivan Ram in Bihar. I would like to have your considered opinion on the same.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already considered it and the orders will be communicated to you.

12.36 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

HIGH DENOMINATION BANK NOTES
(DEMONETISATION) ORDINANCE, 1978

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Ordinance, 1978 (No. 1 of 1978) (Hindi and English versions) promulgated by the President on the 16th January, 1978 under article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1512/78].

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Can-
nalore): I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: This is merely the laying on the Table. You will get an opportunity to discuss this.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Even at this stage when he is laying this paper on the Table, I would like to draw your attention to some of the important things.

When the Ordinance was promulgated we conveyed certain remarks about it at that stage. The point is very serious. When this Ordinance was promulgated they did not include Rs. 100 notes. That is one of the very serious....

MR. SPEAKER: When the Bill comes you can discuss it.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It was leaked out.

The decision of the Government according to the Press was leaked out.

MR. SPEAKER: You can discuss it when the Bill comes.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: We are going to discuss the Bill which has been leaked out and some people benefited out of it. That is the point.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Mrs. Gandhi came to know and got Rs. 1,000 notes encashed.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Some people say R.S.S. benefited by it.

PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE
STATE OF KARNATAKA DATED 31-12-77,
AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ORDER AND THE
KARNATAKA GOVERNOR'S REPORT IN
RESPECT THEREOF

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Proclamation (Hindi and English versions) dated the 31st December, 1977 issued by the President under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Karnataka published in Notification No. G.S.R. 798 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1977 under article 356(E) of the Constitution.

(ii) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) dated the 31st December, 1977 made by the President in pursuance of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the above Proclamation published in Notification No. G.S.R. 799(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1977.

(2) A copy of Report dated the 31st December, 1977 of the Governor of Karnataka to the President (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1513/78].

NOTIFICATION UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, 1962
AND CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English

versions) under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

(i) G.S.R. 764(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) G.S.R. 774(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iii) G.S.R. 1(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iv) G.S.R. 7(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(v) G.S.R. 11(E) and 12(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(vi) G.S.R. 16(E) and 17(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(vii) G.S.R. 18(E) and 20(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(viii) G.S.R. 21(E) and 22(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ix) G.S.R. 39 and 41 published in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(x) G.S.R. 77 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xi) G.S.R. 41(E) and 42(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xii) G.S.R. 46(E) to 48(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th January, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1514/78].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

(i) G.S.R. 790(E) to 792(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) G.S.R. 795(1) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iii) G.S.R. 49(E) to 51(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(iv) G.S.R. 53(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 1978 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. Lt-1515/78].

(3) A copy of Notification No. 331/77-C.E. (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 1977 containing corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 945 dated the 23rd July, 1977 under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1516/78].

12.36 hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBERS

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that on the 24th December, 1977 I received a letter from Shri Karpoori Thakur, an elected Member from 'Samastipur' constituency of Bihar, resigning his seat in Lok Sabha. I accepted his resignation with effect, from the 24th December, 1977.

I have also to inform the House that a letter was received in Lok Sabha Secretariat on 6th January, 1978 from Shri Y. Shaiza, an elected Member from 'Outer Manipur' constituency of Manipur, resigning his seat in Lok Sabha. I accept his resignation with effect from the 6th January, 1978.

LOKPAL BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi-Sadar): I beg to move:

"That this House do further extend upon the last day of the first week of the Monsoon Session (1978), the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into allegations of misconduct against public men and for matters connected therewith."

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): How many times, will it be extended?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: (Cannanore): When this Bill was introduced in this House the hon. Home Minister was so keen and it appeared that he wanted to get it pas-

sed right then at that time. After a lot of persuasion he accepted that it should be sent to a Joint Select Committee. But he made it very clear that he was very keen to fight corruption and corruption in high places.

I think this is the third time that Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta is coming for extension. Now the point is: are they keen to pass this Bill?

MR. SPEAKER: What is your suggestion?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: My suggestion is that they should not have come forward for extension.

You are a custodian of the House. We can extend it provided this is the last extension which they are asking for. By extending it, we cannot give extension to corruption un-limitedly.

I am requesting you that you make it sure that this is the last extension that they might be asking for.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move:

That in the motion—

for "first week of the 'Monsoon Session (1978)".

substitute—

"present Budget Session".

In this regard I would like to point out that as early as 1966 the urgency of the establishment of an institution like the Ombudsman or the Lokpal has been highlighted by the Administrative Reforms Commission headed by not less a person than the Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai. Since that time this House has been seized of this Bill in various stages, either as a Private Member's Bill or as a Government Bill. Every time the Government has been dilly-dallying with it. Sir, I don't doubt the bonafides or the seriousness of the Joint Committee which has been looking into it. But I would like to point

[Shri P. K. Deo]

out that they should look into it seriously and come to an early decision. Sir, I opposed last time when they asked for the extension of time. My Non-official Lokpal Bill was withdrawn by me in the Second Session of this Lok Sabha on the assurance given by the Home Minister that the Government's Lokpal Bill would be passed expeditiously. Then it was extended to the Third Session. Then, in the Third Session, they asked for extension of time till the Fourth Session. Now, they are asking for extension till the Monsoon Session. Sir, there is nothing like a Monsoon Session. If they ask for the Fifth Session, one can understand. If the monsoon fails, there may not be any Monsoon Session at all. This is again something which is absolutely vague. So, I beg to submit this: In the explanation in the Memorandum, they have mentioned that in the Inter-session period, they had as many as 14 sittings. But, in this session, we have 62 working days. If the Committee is serious to take note of this important Bill, if they like to pass this Bill and give their suggestions, they can sit on all the 62 days in this session and by the end of the present session they can come forward with their Joint Committee Report.

So, in all seriousness, I beg to submit that for God's sake, don't extend the time indefinitely. I wish no persuasion would be required at all to persuade this House to accept my amendment, so that they take this matter seriously and submit the Report of the Joint Committee within this session itself, in which we have got 62 full working days. Thank you.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Arkonam): Sir, the extension asked for is such that this matter may not be taken up even in the Monsoon Session. It means, indefinite delay of this

measure. Sir, the extension can be given, but the extension should be such that this Bill comes up for consideration in this Budget Session itself. So, I submit, it should not go beyond the First of April of this year, so that the House is enabled to consider in this Budget session itself. I therefore suggest....

MR. SPEAKER: Why do you suggest First of April, of all days?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: All right; you can have Second of April, Sir, I don't mind. Thank you.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Lokpal Bill is one of the very good and very welcome measures of the new Janata Government. I think the whole House agrees that this Bill should be passed into law as early as possible.

Sir, I remember,—and I think you will recall,—that at one point of time, in the early stages, the Government had no intention even to appoint a Select Committee, they wanted to get the Bill, passed without a select Committee. Now, all important Bills must have select Committees and I am glad the Select Committee has been there.

All I have to say is, in view of the fact that this measure is concerned with an important issue on which there is divergence of views and a deep cleavage of opinion—and therefore this extension is sought, and I appreciate this point—let this, however, be the final date, so that at least in this year of 1978 itself we can tell the people that we really mean business, and we are earnest about it. This is all I wanted to say.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, since we came to this House—I came to this House almost a decade ago—we had been hearing about it. This Lokpal comes up every year and dies at the end of the last day of the session.

Now that gave a confirmed impression in the minds of the people that the Government was not serious about enacting this Lokpal. Therefore, we do not want the same thing to happen in the regime of the new Government which has made a promise that they would like to free the administration from corrupt practices etc. I request that Shri Shyamnandan Mishra, who is the Chairman of this Committee, should come before the House with a special resolution and assure that before the end of this session a report will be submitted before this House.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): I would like to say that it is only the Select Committee Members who do not want M.Ps. to be included. That is what all I have learnt.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI (Bhivani): They should be included.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: They should be included. Therefore, let the date be fixed and it should be done before that. I have no objection. I am very happy about it.

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य, श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु ने कहा है कि लोकपाल विधेयक का इतिहास स्थगन का इतिहास रहा है, और इसीलिए इसे सदन के सामने लाने में जो विलम्ब हो रहा है, उससे लोगों के मन में दुश्चिन्ताये हो रही हैं। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री ने आश्चर्यत किया है कि उन्हें इस पर कोई एतराज नहीं है कि लोकपाल बिल को शीघ्र लाया जाए और इस शुभ विधेयक को शीघ्र ही पास किया जाए। इस स्थिति में हम लोग ज्यादा सशक्त होकर आप के द्वारा प्रवर समिति के सभापति तथा सदस्यों से अनुरोध कर सकते हैं कि इस विधेयक को इस सत्र की समाप्ति से पहले ही यहां ला कर उस पर विचार-विमर्श किया जाए और उसे पारित किया जाए। हम समझते हैं कि यह संसद्

की सर्वसम्मत राय है जिसका उन्हें धादर करना चाहिए।

SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry): Sir, the Prime Minister has made a reference about the Members of Parliament to be included in that Bill. I do not think there was a divergent view on this because the Chief Ministers have also to be included in that. In that case, the question of the power and the Centre-State relations comes in. It is not that simple as the Prime Minister said just now that Members of Parliament should be included in it. Whether it is technically possible or not it is entirely a matter for the Select Committee to decide. But the very important factor is of including the Chief Ministers at this stage within the purview of this Bill. I think that it is only on that score that the Committee is postponing and they are not able to take a decision on this issue which is a political one. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL (Jangipur): Sir, on a point of order. The proceedings of the Select Committee are secret. How can the Prime Minister peep into the proceedings? How can he make a reference to this?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I have not peeped into it.

MR. SPEAKER: Secrets are better known.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विधेयक को पास करने के बारे में जो चिन्ता व्यक्त की गई है, मैं उससे सहमत हूँ, और सरकार भी उससे पूरी तरह सहमत है। आप को याद होगा कि स्वयं गृह मंत्री ने कहा था कि हम इस विधेयक को जल्दी से जल्दी पारित करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन यह एक महत्वपूर्ण बिल है, जिस में कई कानूनी नुक्ते हैं। उनके बारे में एटार्नी-जेनेरल से

[श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त]

बात की गई है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जिस एक बात का जिक्र किया है, उसके अलावा और भी बहुत सी बातें हैं। पूरे देश के लिए यह एक माडल बिल बन रहा है। इसके बाद स्टेट्स में भी इस प्रकार के बिल बनने हैं। दूसरे देशों में भी इसका असर हो सकता है। सरकार की कोई नीति ऐसी नहीं है कि इसे अकारण एक दिन के लिए भी डीले किया जाए। (व्यवधान) स्वयं सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने इसे जल्दी पारित कराने के लिए पूरे कदम उठाए हैं। लेकिन कोशिश यह है कि होम मिनिस्टर साहब की भी और सेलेक्ट कमेटी की भी कि यह किसी पार्टी का सवाल नहीं है, यह एक राष्ट्रीय सवाल है, इसलिए कान्सेशन डेवलप हो जाय और ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग इसमें शामिल हों। इस चीज की कोशिश है और मैं समझता हूँ कि इस चीज को आप एप्रिशिएट करेंगे कि यह पार्टी का सवाल न बने जैसे कि यह सवाल उठाया गया है कि आया इसमें चीफ मिनिस्टर्स हों या न हों, मेम्बर हों या न हों, सेक्रेटरीज हों, या न हों, और बहुत सारे सवाल हैं, मैं तफसील में जाना नहीं चाहता। इसलिए मैं सारे सदन से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि सरकार स्वयं चिन्तित है, वह चाहती है कि जल्दी से जल्दी हो, एक मिनट की भी देरी इसमें नहीं करनी चाहिए। तो जैसा प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है, मुझे इसमें कोई एतराज नहीं होगा, इस सदन के अखिर तक यह सेलेक्ट कमेटी को कोशिश करेगी कि इसको पारित कर दिया जाए।

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Committee has taken an unduly long time. The Bill is a very important bill but even very important bills are to be passed.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Sir, I may tell you that we had fourteen

sittings and there are 489 amendments to this Bill. I assure you, Sir, that we shall try to finalise this Bill by the end of the Session, but . . .

SOME HON'BLE MEMBERS: No 'but'.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I shall put the amendment of Shri P. K. Deo to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That in the motion.—

for "first week of the Monsoon Session (1978)" substitute—
"present Budget Session"

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: I now put the motion, as amended, to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That this House do further extend unto the last day of the present Budget Session, the time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into allegations of misconduct against public men and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: So, the report shall be submitted by the end of the present Session. There is no other work for the day. The House stands adjourned till eleven of the clock tomorrow.

12.53 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, February 21, 1978 Phalguna 2, 1899 (Saka).