

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**First Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)**

...

Monday, March 30, 1998/Chaitra 9, 1920 (Saka)

...

Col./line	For	Read
2/16-18	The Minister of State in Ministry of Railways and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Ram Naik)	The Minister of State in Ministry of Railways, Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation (Shri Ram Naik)
17/30 60/11	Shri Nareesh Kumar Chunalal Puglia	Shri Nareesh Puglia
24/9 (from below)	he narrated by citing on episod	be narrated by citing an episode
40/15 (from below) 41/22,31 42/24	Shri Promotes Mukherjee	Shri Promotes Mukherjee
57/30	Secnd by	Secondly
60/18	Shri Prakash Ambedkar	Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar
88/17 (from below)	Shri Janardhana Reddy	Shri N. Janardhana Reddy
119/14-15	The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Shri M. Thambi Durai)	The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs and Minister of Surface Transport (Dr. M. Thambi Durai)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 30, 1996/Chaitra 9, 1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at one minute past
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us now take up papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, etc.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table.

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library. See No LT 47/98]
- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1996-97.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No LT 48/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (b) of item (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 49/98]

A copy of the Leaders of opposition in Parliament Amendment Rules, 1998

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NAIK): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Leaders of Opposition in parliament (Allowances, Medical and Other Facilities) Amendment Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.G.S.R. 87(E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 1998, under sub-section (3) of Section 10 of the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.

[Placed in Library. See No LT 50/98]

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA (Kaisarganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice under Rule 193 regarding law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh.
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up items No.4 and 5.

(Interruptions)

Dr. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : Sir, I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

Dr. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, I want to raise a matter of great seriousness. . . .(Interruptions) The hon. Minister of Home Affairs must make a statement. Every day, RDX-type explosives are being discovered in Tamil Nadu.

MR SPEAKER Please take your seat.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : Not now Raise This issue later on.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN (Bahraich): The situation in U.P. is really serious. . . (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Today, we have an important item of business also.

(Interruptions)

Dr SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Tamil Nadu is out of control. Do you want Tamil Nadu to become another Punjab? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I request all of you to kindly take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER . I have called Shri T. Subbarami Reddy and nobody else. What Shri Reddy speaks only will go on record

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

11.04 hrs.

[English]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF INCOME-TAX
(AMENDMENT) SECOND ORDINANCE
AND
INCOME-TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL

Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Vishakapatnam) : I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Income-Tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997 (No.28 of

1997) promulgated by the President on December 26, 1997."

Sir I rise to move the Statutory Resolution to disapprove the Income-Tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997 promulgated by the President on the 26th December, 1997. As I propose to disapprove this ordinance, I would like to make a few observations first.

The general principal underlying the Income-tax is to levy income-tax on profits or income without making any allowance or deduction on account of any capital which gets exhausted while yielding income. To this principal, there is an exception that the depreciation caused by wear and tear of assets, namely, building, plant, machinery and furniture is allowed by way of deduction under section 32 of the Income-tax Act 1961. At present, the basis on which depreciation is to be claimed by an assessee is the written down value of the block of assets. Section 32 of the aforesaid Act, as it stands, does not provide for a straight-line method of depreciation. With a view to enabling power generating units to depreciate their capital assets in a straightline method at the same rate at which it is reimbursed by the State Electricity Board under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, it is proposed to make amendment in section 32 of the Income-tax Act. With this amendment, there will be lower tax reimbursement by the State Electricity Board, consequently, a lower power tariff rate.

2. Section 80-IA of the Income-tax Act provides for a deduction in respect of profits and gains from industrial undertakings, etc., in certain cases. In order to provide incentive to mineral oil, power, highway projects and undertakings located in industrially backward districts of the country, it is now proposed to amend this section to-

- (i) extend the benefit of deduction available to undertakings commencing production of mineral oil in the North-Eastern region to undertakings located in other parts of country on or after the 1st day of April, 1997;
- (ii) extend the benefit of deduction available to infrastructure facility to housing and other development activities which are integral part of a highway project with a condition that the profits of such housing and other development activities shall be ploughed back to highway projects within a period of three years;
- (iii) extend time limit for availing the tax holiday from 12 years to 20 years in respect of highway and expressway projects;
- (iv) extend the cut off date for availing tax benefit

by undertakings which generate or generates and distributes power from the 31st March, 1998 to the 31st March, 2000; and

- (v) to provide for a five year tax holiday to undertakings located in the notified industrially backward districts of category A and a three year tax holiday to undertakings located in the notified industrially backward districts of category B; subject to the condition that such undertakings begin to manufacture or produce articles or things or to operate its cold storage plant or plants at any time during the period from 1-10-1994 to 31-3-1999. In both the cases, the tax holiday period will be followed by the benefit of deduction of twenty-five per cent or profits (thirty per cent in case of companies) for five years to the eligible undertakings.

In this connection, I would like to say that the Ordinance became necessary because the House was dissolved. So, there is a necessity to replace the Ordinance with legislation now. We objected to it earlier. However, after going through the facts figures, since the Ordinance has already been issued by the President of India in 1997 and also because of the fact that the Government has proceeded further, now I have decided to give the concurrence for adoption.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria). Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice of a Motion . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister first move the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-Tax Act, 1961, be taken into consideration".

The Bill seeks to replace Income-tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance (No. 28 of 1997) promulgated on 26th December, 1997 and to further amend the Income-tax Act, 1961 mainly to provide certain tax incentives to industrial undertakings engaged in the business of power generation, commercial production of mineral oil and construction of highway infrastructure.

Section 32 of the aforesaid Act, as it stands today, does not provide for a straight line method of depreciation. With a view to enable power generating units to depreciate their capital assets in a straight line method at the same

rate at which it is reimbursed to the power producing companies by State Electricity Boards under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, it is proposed to make an amendment in Section 32 of the Income-Tax Act. With this amendment, there will be lower tax reimbursement by the State Electricity Boards and consequently, a lower power tariff rate for the consumer.

Secondly, I also propose to amend Section 80-1A of the Income-Tax Act to provide for incentives to mineral oil, power and highway projects and in respect to industrial undertakings located in the backward districts.

I propose to extend the benefit of deduction available to undertakings commencing production of mineral oil in the North-Eastern region after the 1st day of April, 1997 to other parts of the country.

I also propose to extend the benefit of deduction available to infrastructure facility to housing and other developmental activities which are an integral part to a highway project with the condition that the profits of such housing and other development activities are ploughed back to highway projects within a period of three years. In case of such projects, I am also extending the time limit for availing the tax holiday from twelve years to twenty years, that is, the undertakings can claim the deduction in any ten consecutive years out of a period of 20 years.

The existing Income-Tax Act permits tax holiday benefit to undertakings which begin to generate or generate and distribute power up to 31st March, 1998. In order to attract new investments in the power sector, I propose to extend this date up to 31st March, 2000.

I further propose to provide for a five year tax holiday to undertakings located in the notified industrially backward districts of category 'A' and a three year tax holiday to undertakings located in the notified industrially backward districts of category 'B' subject to the condition that such undertakings begin to manufacture or produce articles or things or to operate cold storage plant or plants at any time during the period from 1-10-1994 to 31-3-1999. In both the cases, the tax holiday period will be followed by the benefit of deduction of 25 per cent of profits (30 per cent in case of companies) for five years to the eligible undertakings.

I hope that these amendments will go a long way in attracting investments in the power, mineral oil and highway projects. These are priority sectors where massive investments are required.

Sir, this Ordinance was promulgated by the previous Government. We considered it and found it useful. Therefore, I am bringing it before the House. This relates

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

to industries and power projects which are being set up in the backward districts of the country. We are extending certain tax benefits to them. Because of the very special political circumstances obtaining in the last few months, it had already been repromulgated once. Therefore, I am bringing it before the House. I am pleading this House to adopt this Bill. The undertakings, power projects and other industrial projects which have already had their financial projects sanctioned and taken all these benefits into account will be put into great inconvenience, if there is any deviation from what had already been allowed by the previous Government.

Therefore, I request Dr. Subbarami Reddy, hon. Member and other colleagues to withdraw their Statutory Resolution to oppose this Bill. I would also request then hon. House, through you, to pass this Bill without discussion because the objectives are very clear.

MR. SPEAKER : Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Income-Tax (Amendment) Second Ordinance, 1997 (No. 28 of 1997) promulgated by the President on December 26, 1997."

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-Tax Act, 1961, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH . Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Statutory Resolution moved by me, does not intend to oppose this Bill. I only want to give some suggestions by Participating in the discussion through this Bill because the Ordinance which was promulgated by the United Front Government is being presented here in the House in the form of a Bill by the Hon'ble Minister today and it has to be passed. His Excellency the President of India has powers to promulgate Ordinance under section 123 of the constitution. That should not be taken as a normal practice. My humble submission to all the political parties and all the Governments is that the things which were brought in the shape of an Ordinance on 16th September, 1997 and again on 27th December, 1997 were not of an urgent nature and did not require any Ordinance therefor. We have got powers to give some tax relaxations to certain institutions under chapter-six of Income tax Act. and for that purpose you promulgated an Ordinance. Earlier the Bills were used to be introduced in the Parliament through select Committees. Later on, this system was amended and after 1991 we introduced the Parliamentary Standing Committee System in the country through which we can introduce any Bill in the Parliament for consideration after a detailed examination of the Bill by the Committees. This Ordinance requires some more details about a few things. If it had come through standing Committee we could have considered it

thoroughly for example, you have said that relaxation would be given on the commercial production of oil in North-East region. But there is a long list of undertaking under section 81(a) which have got this relaxation.

[English]

"Any business or an industrial undertaking or a hotel, operation of a ship or operating in any infrastructural facility, scientific and industrial research and development or priority telecommunication services whether basic or cellular or operating an industrial park or commercial production of mineral oil in the North-East Region...."

[Translation]

A long list has been given under Section 81(a). To provide facility to only one undertaking among them is really improper and it needs consideration and examination by the Government.

Besides, the period of relaxation in respect of Income Tax Assessment has been brought down from 5 years to 3 years in backward regions. It is a matter of consideration whether this relaxation should be for 3 years or 5 years, because especially the backward regions affected from the regional imbalances need special industrial development and the Government is also of the opinion that it would make industrial developments in these backward regions; but instead of according them special facilities the Government has reduced the existing facilities. The Government should reconsider it. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Finance that the Government had repeatedly said in this House that whenever we would go in power or whichever Government was formed, the limit of income tax should be increased. The income of the people drawing salaries from the Government exchequer following the implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission, in view of the above, You have to increase the tax limit otherwise class-IV Government Employees are also likely to come within the purview of the Income tax. Only one particular section of the people will not be covered under the net of the Income tax and that section is Members of Parliament. Therefore you have to think over it seriously whether there can be any provision under which Hon'ble Members of Parliament can also be covered under the Income Tax net. The Government should think over it and make some provisions to keep class-IV employees who get salary from Government exchequer out of the purview of Income Tax. With this suggestion I conclude.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM (Garhwal) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, It is not clear as to what criteria were fixed by the earlier Government for providing a five year tax holiday, as the hon. Minister has said about backward areas. But the Zero Industry Areas, where there is no industry at all, have been excluded. For example, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi and Chamoli located in

Uttaranchal have been extended this benefit, but the Zero Industry Areas located in this every region have not been extended the same benefit. Pauri, Tehri, Almora are the Zero Industry areas where this benefit has not been extended. These districts should also be included for his purpose.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I fully agree to the point which has been raised by hon. Member, Shri Mohan Singh that it is not good to run the Government or make laws through Ordinances. I, on behalf of my Government would like to say that we have to pare the way of enacting the laws through ordinances. I have already said that this ordinance was promulgated by the earlier Government under unavoidable circumstances. There was such a political situation before that Government that the ordinance was promulgated again in December last year. That is why I was anxious to put this issue before the House immediately because I did not want that our Government may face such a situation again where we had to promulgate this ordinance second time or third time outside the House. Therefore, I took the advantage of this opportunity which is the first one for me and I have moved this ordinance to convert it into a law.

Hon. Member Shri Mohan Singh has raised certain other points which would be taken care of in the ensuing Budget.

[English]

I have taken note of it.

[Translation]

Hon. Member, Khanduriji has raised a point about backward districts. So far as I know earlier Government had constituted a committee in this regard. That Committee had made certain recommendations. Those recommendations were examined by the Government. The Government had divided the backward districts into two parts after examining the recommendations—first, in which five years holiday was to be provided and second, in which three year holiday was to be provided. Certain criteria were fixed on the basis of which that list was prepared. As I said that we wanted to give the shape of law to this ordinance immediately so we could not examine it thoroughly. If any shortcomings have been there the same would be considered by our Government and if any amendment if required therein we will come before the House with it.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR (Akola): There were some districts which were declared as industrial zones for backward districts. Some provisions were made by the Government for giving certain infrastructural facilities to those districts. About 220 districts were selected for this purpose. But out of these 220 districts, only five or seven

have been included in the List. I would like to know whether the rest of the districts, as declared, would also be included in the list or not. That is my point.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, Shri Khanduri has raised the issue about the 'No Industry Districts'. I would like to know whether those 'No Industry Districts' would also be included in the list or not.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Chamoli, Almora, Pithoragarh, Tehri Garhwal of Uttaranchal which are in Zero Industry Area, have been included under category 'A'. As I told you that certain criteria were fixed by the Committee. As per its recommendations districts which fall under category 'A' and 'B' were included in the list of backward districts. I would like to request that it had been done by the earlier Government. I had many options. I had the option to reopen this case then this ordinance should have been promulgated again for the third time and when I would come before this House in the next session, then whatever hon. Member Shri Man Mohan Singh is taking about would become a talk of this House that this Government wants to run through Ordinances. Therefore whatever I have said that would be considered by the Government and the changes or the amendments likely to be brought in this regard would be certainly considered by us. I want to request the hon. Members through you to pass this bill so that this ordinance is not promulgated again.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Subbarami Reddy, are your withdrawing your Resolution?

Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I would like to withdraw it.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-Tax Act, 1961 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 2 stands part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK (Panji): I beg to move:

Page 2. -

omit lines 29 to 35. (1)

only wanted to know which are the States that come under Category 'A' and Category 'B'

Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: And also, do you propose to bring any change in these categories in the future?

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, as I said a committee was constituted by Minister of Finance which had considered it. The Committee fixed different criteria for category 'A' and category 'B'. They have kept in mind infrastructure position and poverty line in a particular district and on the basis of the difference, they have put the district in category 'B' because there was some progress in that district in comparison to category 'A' and they have placed the most backward districts in category 'A'. This norms has generally been followed and this had been decided on the basis of the roads constructed in view of the population per thousand as well as the literacy and as I said, it is not so significant in the present context but we would think over it some other time.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has already said categorically that he will look into the matter and if necessary he will come back to the House with a comprehensive legislation.

Now I shall put amendment No. 1 moved by Shri Ravi Sitaram Naik to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : That clause 4, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had assured that we would be given a chance to speak later on we wanted to raise the matter pertaining to Uttar Pradesh....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please wait for a minute. Please let him complete it first.

[English]

Before going into the listed Business about the - Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, today we have received notices about three urgent matters of public importance. I am allowing the three hon. Members. I request each of the hon. Member to take only two minutes. Then, we will go to the routine Business.

[English]

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: I would like to know whether Goa is included in Category 'A' or not. I suppose, Category 'A' includes: Jammu and Kashmir Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Goa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: There is a long list of industrially backward districts which come under Category 'A'. It includes 53 districts and in Category 'B' there are 70 districts. I can say that I take no responsibility for it because this has been prepared by the previous Government. . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us complete it.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, how can the Minister say that he is not responsible for it? . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: He will have to take the responsibility. . .*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, to help the Government is another thing but department is left...*(Interruptions)* it should not be said that earlier Government was responsible for it....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : The Minister can have a relook into it . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I have only said that under category 'A' there are 53 districts and under category 'B' there are 70 districts. These criteria were fixed on the basis of which the rules were made by earlier Government. The principles which were laid down on the basis of that, these were determined. I have already said it in the House.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : The hon. Member from Panaji has asked about inclusion of some other States....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may look into it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : There is a list of these districts. If the House so desires, I can lay the list on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been published in the Gazette of India. . . (Interruptions) I can lay it on the Table of House. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA We must know which are the districts that are included in the list. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Rajnandgaon): When the Minister is moving the Bill, how can he disown the responsibility for it? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I own full responsibility for it I merely said, the list of 53 districts in category A and 70 districts in category B has been prepared. But it has been decided by the previous Government. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The points raised by the hon. Members can be locked into by the Minister.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I have already assured the House that as far as these lists are concerned we shall review the criteria. We shall take into account the claims of other backward districts also. Then, if it is necessary, I shall come before the House with an amendment.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ravi Naik, are you withdrawing your amendment?

SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : I would like to know from

the hon. Minister if the State of Goa is included in list A or not.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : I have given a notice for raising a matter of urgent public importance. The matter is the shortage of coins and notes of small denominations which is causing a tremendous hardship to the people, especially to the poor. I would urge upon the Central Government to look into the matter and supply adequate quantities of coins and notes of small denominations so that the people are not harassed.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, there is a move to shift the foreign department of the State Bank of India from Calcutta to Mumbai. Twelve years ago, there was an attempt by the Central Government to shift that Department from Calcutta to Mumbai, but that was resisted and we opposed it on the floor of this House at that time and the Central Government could not at that point of time shift the foreign department of the State Bank of India from Calcutta to Mumbai.

Now, there is again an attempt to shift this foreign department from Calcutta, which is in Calcutta since its inception. The Chief Minister of West Bengal as well as Comrade Somnath Chatterjee, Chairman, West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation have already written to the Central Government not to shift this foreign department of the State Bank of India from Calcutta to Mumbai. The Minister of Finance is here. I urge upon him that if there is any decision to shift that Department from Calcutta to Mumbai that should not be implemented, the Government should review it and they should not shift the foreign department of the State Bank of India from Calcutta to Mumbai.

I demand a categorical assurance from the Minister of Finance that the Government will not take such a move to shift the foreign department from Calcutta to Mumbai.

Mr. Finance Minister, would you kindly assurance us because it is the demand of the people of West Bengal?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): May I add to this?

You are rightly reviewing the decision. This is one decision of the last Government we are very strongly opposed to. You are talking of a consensus. I would request you to please review it to see that it is not implemented. I am sure, I do not know whether this is a part of the Bengal Package or not. (Interruptions) May I request the hon. Minister of Finance to please have a review meeting and take the peoples' representatives and the Government of West Bengal also into confidence. Why do they do this? Already they have over-saturated the financial capital. It would have understood probably if Lucknow would have been chosen as it is a better place than Mumbai. After

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

their meeting yesterday, the Prime Minister might like to review it.

This is a very sincere request. They should not queer the pitch. Apart from an emotional matter, this is a matter which has very visally affected not only Bengal but the whole of Eastern India and the North-Eastern India.

Therefore, I would request him to please see that it is not implemented forthwith.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Chacko.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already called Shri P.C. Chacko to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Idukki) : Sir, the hon. Prime Minister assured the House the other day that a discussion on the natural calamities would take place in this House. Sir, the Minister of Agriculture was sent to Bengal and he has returned. So far no time for the discussion has been fixed and the House is going to adjourn tomorrow.

A devastating storm has destroyed thousand of acres of standing crops in my constituency....*(Interruptions)* Sir, when this issue of storm in West Bengal and Orissa was raised in this House, an assurance was given by the hon. Prime Minister. A devastating storm has destroyed thousands of acres of standing crops in the Idukki district of Kerala, from where I am coming.

Sir, the natural calamities are not being attended to unless a hue and cry is made in the House. So, the hon. Prime Minister may kindly look into it. Standing crops worth crores of rupees have been destroyed in the district of Idukki. Some relief measures should be undertaken and a team may be sent to the State Government. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You will have an opportunity to discuss it. Please conclude.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Sir, the House is going to adjourn tomorrow. I want some assurance from the Prime Minister that this will be looked into. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Yesterday there was another storm. We got a telephone call this morning that the weather is very bad....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a routine discussion. Please

take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Three Members have given their notices and I am allowing them. Today and tomorrow we are discussing the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address. You can discuss these things.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North West): Sir, I will take only one minute....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not necessary.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR: Sir, if this decision was taken by the last Government, we should know under what circumstances that decision taken. The entire thing should come before the House....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I agree with him that everything should come before the House....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now I call upon Shri S. Gangadhar to speak.

SHRI S. GANGADHAR (Hindupur): Mr. Speaker Sir, the population of Anantapur district is more than 30 lakh. Sixty per cent of the population depends on rainfed agricultural produce. The rainfall is the second lowest in the country, next to Jaisalmer. There is a decline in rainfall during the last five years, year after year.

In south west monsoon, the district was in receipt of 283.8 mm. The distribution during the season was highly erratic. Owing to unfavorable seasonal conditions, only 6.95 hectares were sown in the district as against the normal area of 8.30 hectares. Out of the sown area, about 2.10 lakh hectares suffered on account of lack of moisture. The rainfed main commercial crops - groundnut and cotton - turned out to be the worst hit crops in the district. The district authorities are simply helpless as no funds are available with them to meet the situation.

Drinking water and fodder are not available. The funds placed at the disposal of the State Government under the Centrally sponsored Employment Assurance Scheme had been diverted to the Janam Bhoomi programme, a brainchild of the present Chief Minister. Most of the money so diverted has been pocketed by the TDP supporters and workers. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI S. GANGADHAR : The people have lost faith in

the present State Government. They are not paying due attention and they have failed to address to their chaotic conditions.

Sir, I, therefore, request you to direct the Central Government to immediately intervene in this matter on a war footing and remedy the situation by rushing the desired help to the needy people.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I call upon Shri Shanta Kumar to move the motion and speak.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before moving the motion, I would like to inform you and the House through you about my difficulty.

The Motion of Thanks on the President's Address is being moved and during this period I want to stay in the House therefore, I have to remain here till then. But the Motion of Thanks is also being taken up in the Rajya Sabha simultaneously. Besides, a foreign dignitary has also arrived, his programme was already fixed and I have to meet him at 12.30 p.m. Therefore, if you are going to initiate this discussion then I am present here but if my services are required in the Rajya Sabha, then I will have to go there. I hope that this House will cooperate with me and I also seek your permission to see that I may be allowed to attend both the Houses.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shanta Kumar.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARESH KUMAR CHUNALAL PUGLIA (Chandrapur) : I will take only one minute. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had given a notice under rule 193 and you have given a direction that you would listen us after some time. Sir, on your assurance we sat down...(Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Shanta Kumar's speech will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please take your seats ? Hon. Members, Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Singh, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : You had assured that you will listen us in just two minutes. We want to have a discussion on the present law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh under rule 193, because Central Government is solely responsible for providing safety and security to the dalits, women and minorities. . . (Interruptions) You can listen us tomorrow. . . (Interruptions) We are not disobeying your order. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please give your notice tomorrow. I will give you a chance.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : But the Home Minister is here (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : He can make a statement on the murder of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad's leader in Madurai. He belongs to the frontal organisation of RSS.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Subramanian Swamy, please take your seat. Except the speech of Shri Shanta Kumar, nothing will go on record.

Interruptions*

11.47 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR (Kangra): Sir, I beg to move:

"That an address be presented to the President in the following terms:

"That the Members of Lok Sabha Assembled in the session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 25th March, 1998."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tension and heat generated by this election is now cooling down. The tempers which were running high during Motion of Confidence have also calmed down. Allegations and counter allegations were

* Not Recorded

[Shri Shanta Kumar]

made which resulted in heated exchanges but I wish that a constructive discussion would now be held on the President's Address in a peaceful and cordial atmosphere. I am initiating this debate.

The main thrust in the President's Address was on solving the problems of the country with cooperation and consensus in the changed political scenario. The discussion was held and during this debate, we were trying to prove as to who has received people's mandate. Hon. Prime Minister has said that BJP has emerged as the single largest party, because people had given mandate in favour of BJP. But besides that hon. Prime Minister has also stated that even if they had secured two-third majority, required cooperation and consensus are still to run the Government of the country. Different claims have been made on the basis of the percentage of votes and different conclusions can be drawn from this as to who have got the real mandate. But one thing is certain that the mandate is to run the Government. This is neither for dislodging Government nor for changing Prime Minister after every six months. The mandate is not for pushing the country into fresh election after every 18 months. From this mandate, one thing, is clear that there should be a Government in the country which works, removes poverty and unemployment. The people have not given mandate for those, who have secured less seats in this House. This mandate is just to run the Government.

As the Prime Minister has said that the main thrust in the President's Address was reflection of consensus behind the mandate. Today, the country is passing through a period of political transition and despite getting highest number of seats in this period of transition, the BJP, has not been able to secure a full majority, so a number of political parties which have a common understanding came forward to form the Government. In the President's Address as well as in the speech of the hon. Prime Minister more emphasis has been laid on the issue of consensus. I would like to request that the time has come to find out a solution of the burning and basic problems of the country by coming to a consensus and for this very purpose, there is a basic need to ensure that we should be committed towards our country and should be loyal to the party we belong to and above all, the first and foremost thing is our fidelity towards this country. Therefore in order to promote such a politics of consensus we should not have any prejudice in our minds. We must change our age-old views about any particular party and should also shed our prejudices about them. There should be no prejudices against us now. Therefore, without changing these age old concepts this politics of consensus will not do well and without this, country would not march forward and we will not be able

to find a solution to the burning problems of this country.

One issue on which much has been said and due to which everyone stands against us, unite against us by forming fronts is called communalism and this all happens in the name of secularism. Mainly two things have been said in this Address in this regard. One is that secularism is one of the main component of our Indian tradition because we believe in it and we have been able to build a new foundation on the basis of our Indian culture which we have received as a legacy. It has also been mentioned in the Address that secularism is the part and parcel of the tradition of our country. Another thing which we have said is that we must be committed to that. I would like to tell our friends in the opposition that they should have a trust on us. We are saying it openly that secularism is the part and parcel of our tradition and we have full faith in it. These are the two things which we have mentioned in the President's Address.

When we say that secularism is an integral part of our tradition, it means that in the ancient times there were no clashes in the name of the systems of worship in this country. The number of systems of worship existing in this country far exceeds the numbers existing in any other country. Freedom of thought available in this country is itself a great example of it. There have been no clashes in this country on the method of worship. Such types of questions have been raised during the past discussion.

In today's Politics of the country nobody can think of pursuing Politics by excluding some section of the society. My Muslim brothers who belong to this country my christian brothers who belong to this country the followers of all religions who belong to this country are ours and all the religions are our own. All the methods of worship are our own. Mosques, Gurudwaras and churches are our own. We are expressing our commitment in this regard. If there is any misunderstanding amongst us then the time has come to sort it out. There is a need to understand each other. No body can imagine pursuing politics excluding crores of Muslim brothers and crores of other people following different religions. This is an integral part of our history. There has always been freedom of thought in this country.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir I would like to invite the attention of Hon'ble members towards the two incidents which have taken place in the history of the country. Mahatma Budha was born in our India. He revolted against the vedic rituals. He remained Silent about the God. In a way he revolted against the vedic religion but he did not come in the hit list of anyone. He lived for 80 years. The People of this country treated him as an incornate. Another similar

incident took place in other part of the world. Jesus Christ was born. He also revolted against the Yahudi Religion but he was not heard and he was crucified. It is India where the freedom of thought is limitless. Maxmuller, a western scholar kept on studying the Rigveda for 13 years and when he started studying the Upnishadas, he said that the extent to which the sages and scholars of India had gone in the world in search of truth, had there been others, they would have collapsed. There are no limitations on the freedom of thought in India. Charvak was born here. He preached for a lavish living saying there is no rebirth. He was also heard and not placed on any hit list. No voice of oposition had been raised against him. Freedom of thought is on integral port of Indian culture.

A lot of things have been written in Gita. I like one shloka of Gita very much. Arjuna was asking for guidance in the battle field of Kurukshetra. Lord Krishna treated Arjuna as his friend. One thing which Lord Krishna said after 18th Chapter, I take it in high spirit. He said:

'It mein Gyanamkhyatan gudh-gudh tarom maya, Vimrishya a tat asheshesh yat ichhasi tat kuru.'

Arjuna, I showed you all the ways. It is the way of Karma, it is the way of Bhakti, it is the way of Gyana. I told you about all the ways. You think over it deeply and do whatever you think is right. Freedom of thought, if not in India, is nowhere else in the world. My submission is not to go by the words. The meaning of a word may differ for you and for me. But go by the spirit behind the word.

We talk about the Hindutva and you become furious. Swami Vivekanand had pronounced about 100 years ago:

[English]

I am the proudest Hindu ever born.

[Translation]

He said that he was Proud to be a Hindu but nobody called him communal. Supreme Court has explained about Hindutava. Our friends should try to understand our sentiments behind the word which we pronounce. Secularism is an integral port of our culture and we have faith in it. But when it is viewed from political angle then things start looking haphazard.

When Shri Shankar Singh vaghela was with us in Gujarat, he was communal. But when he broke away from us, he become secular. A cartoon had been published in news papers at that time in which Vaghela was shown stabbing in the bark of B.J.P. and friends from Congress were appreciating him by saying that now they could be able to know that Vaghela ji was 100% secular in the guise

of a communal when he stabbed the BJP in the back.

12.00 hrs.

Things look different when viewed from the political angle. I went to make submissions to my friends that nobody can pursue politics without taking all the people into confidence. The country will not progress without treating the entire country as one. You should appreciate our sentiments, you should try to understand us. My request is that we should overcome the politics of vote and mistrust. There is a resolve to wipe out hunger, fear and corruption from the country in this Address. There is hunger in this country today.

I would like to make one more thing clear that when we take about the work during the fifty years, then nobody can say that the country has not made progress during the last fifty years and it should not be said. There has been much development in some areas like science & technology. It is one such area where much development has taken place and credit for such developments goes to our friends in the Congress. We would not be miser in giving them the credit. I have come from Himachal. When some friends visit Himachal Pradesh, they feel that inspite of being a hilly state, its roads are good, a lot of work has been done in the field of apple production. I always say that it has the contribution of the First Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Parmar. We should not hesitate in saying that we should accept that the country has progressed in many areas. It's credit goes to Congress. But when the friends from Congress want to take the credit then the responsibility of short. falls will also have to be Ahead by them.

There are two opposite scenario in this country one scenario is that the country has progressed in many areas, the credit for which goes to you. We are also proud of it before the world that we are well developed in some areas. But there is another scenario too when we see that about 32-34 crores of people are still living below the poverty line here. They do not get even two square meals a day. According to 'Statistical outline of India' which is an index of human development, India is placed at 135th place. I am concerned that small countries like Korea, Malaysia, China and even Sri Lanka are ahead of us. 134 countries have overtaken us from the point of view of human development index and we have been pushed to 135th place.

Our head goes down with shame when we go through 'UNICEF's Report which has a mention of the present situation of the Children the world over. Almost sixty lakh children die every year in the world due to non-availability of nutritious food, as it is out of the reach of their parents. Most of the Children out of them i.e. about 24 lakh are

[Shri Shanta Kumar]

from India, which are not able to get milk as well as nutritious food. Twenty four lakh Children die every year in this country and this is really a very pathetic situation.

I am not only a man having interest in politics but I too have a literary taste and thus, I am also a Hindi Writer as well. I can reach even to that house, that mother whose children die for want of milk. Fifty years have passed since we have attained freedom and now we are celebrating Golden Jubilee of our Independence but still we find today that 24 lakh children die in this country every year as they could not get nutritious food and milk. We can see that in India, the number of poor people, illiterates, unemployed as well as ailing persons, is the highest in the whole world today.

Our friend Shri Naveen Patnaik was talking about Kalahandi where people die of hunger. It has also come to our notice that one of our sister has sold her 15 year old daughter just in fifty rupees there. Levelling allegations on one another is very easy but still we should have to bear in our minds that we are representing those who are not getting milk, who are dieing of hunger. This is another side of the picture of the country. Recently, we were celebrating the martyr's day on 23rd March to commemorate the memory of Bhagat Singh. On this very occasion, one thing struck in my mind that if Bhagat Singh had been alive today and to have a glimpse of this country where corruption is prevailing every where and if he had visited that place in Kalahandi where one mother had sold her daughter for just 50 rupees, what he would have actually thought and if he would have asked her to which place she belonged then he would have come to the ground realities that this could not be that India for which they had sacrificed their lives. This is the real picture of our country today. This new government have resolved to remove hunger from our country completely and to achieve this goal, we have extended our hand of support to have unanimity on this issue. There is no politics in it. Here, we are just doing our duty towards the crores of people of this country.

Sir, there is a need to ease out the tension which is building up in the country due to terrorism in the country, we must get rid of it. We have also talked about removing corruption from the country ... *(Interruptions)* I know, my friends from that side will naturally say something on seeing me ... *(Interruptions)*. You have said several things regarding Himachal Pradesh and we have heard many things in this regard and are still prepared to listen all about it but yet another aspect is there, let us also Listen to it. Earlier, Congress had secured 60 seats out of 68 in Himachal Pradesh. They had absolute majority, a clear mandate, but

now Congress could not get clear mandate in this election. From 60 seats, the strength of the Congress, has now reduced to just 31 and we have been able to capture 29 seats only. One of our hon. member died and our number reduced to 28 only. Mr. Sukh Ram contested election there and was able to get four seats only. No party had the numbers to form the Government. The people of Himachal have not given clear mandate to Congress to form the Government. The Mandate is only for the non-Congress Government. This was the real situation there. The leaders of the Congress party have been trying to form a coalition Government there with the support of Mr. Sukh Ram. Congress People visited Delhi and were contacting him to get his support. Had Sukh Ramji formed an alliance with Congress, then there would have been a Congress Government and on this, our friends would that Sukh Ramji had returned to his home. After all, in such a situation some one had to form the Government there because the mandate was to form the Government... *(Interruptions)*. Congress people were trying their best but Sukh Ramji did not oblige them. So respecting this Mandate to form non-Congress Government of Bhartiya Janata Party, we have to cooperate and if you people agree with this then we should go in for a new system and a code of conduct to avoid such type of Coalitions. So far as my party is concerned, I can assure you that in such a situation if any code of conduct comes up for compliance, then we will abstain from doing any thing wrong and will never shake hands with such a person but you are not even ready to do that. If you would have got this opportunity, you would have not spared it... *(Interruptions)* The Congress Leaders who have been Charge-sheeted are still enjoying their same status in your party and you are talking about making one such big leader, a member of the Congress working Committee. If any one of us has done this, then tell us and if there is any fault from our side then that should also be mentioned here but at the same time, we should not forget to tell the name of those who have not been involved even in a single case or had never committed any sin. For the last forty years, you have been indulging in doing wrong things and were involved in each and every sin, so when the people who have been corrupt on all counts level such allegations, it does not look nice.

Sir, the position of the opposition benches can well be narrated by citing on episod of Mahabharata. The Chariot of Karna was entrapped in sludge... *(Interruptions)* and Arjuna attacked him. Karna told Arjuna that his Chariot was entrapped in sludge and that it was a crusade (Dharma Yudha) and that he was doing a sinful act. Thereupon Arjuna told Karna, that Kaurava's were teaching him what was 'Dharma'. The had killed his son Abhimanuh by using unethical mean. They had tried to do injustice by constructing a wax house and setting it ablaze along with

him. They had been instrumental in Pandava's defeat in the gambling court and also Dropadi's disrobing. At that time they did not remember any thing about 'Dharma'. Therefore, if you want to say something to us, you can say and we are ready to listen to it. But only those who have not been involved in any type of corruption or sin during the last 40 years period can pay so. . . (Interruptions). But those who have committed sin after sin need not claim such things. . . (Interruptions).

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Sir, there is a lot of difference in what Bharatiya Janata Party profess and practice....(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Member, please take you seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Member, please take you seat.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will not go on record. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Member, please take your seat. This is not good.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request my friends sitting on that side that this is my maiden speech. I represent Himachal Pradesh and I had been a member of State Assembly and I have never seen such a noisy scene there.... (Interruptions).

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : The true colour of B.J.P. has come to the fore. There is a lot of difference in what they profess and practice today. . . (Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record. Shri Shanta Kumar, please address the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Member, this is not good. Please take your seat. There will be an opportunity for you to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will have a chance to rebut it. Please hear me. You will have a chance to rebut it. What is this? Please take your seat. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, sit down first.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record. There will be an opportunity for you to rebut it. What is this? Shri Shanta Kumar, please address the Chair now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that whatever we have been discussing in this House during the last 3 or 4 days, has not attracted good comments outside the House. I am not talking about any side but I request through you that if any member has to raise any point of order then we have an established practice and that point of order should have been based on any rule. If any one wants to say something in between someone's speech, then he can make a request to yield and on yielding of the speaker concerned, you can point out what you want to say. If we adopt these two procedures in running the proceedings of the House, then it will be more convenient to us otherwise whatever, we have seen during the last 3-4 days, here, has not sent a good message about the functioning of this House in the entire country, and this is what I request you all. (Interruptions)

SHRI AJIT JOGI (Raigarh) : If your side agrees to it, then we too are of the same opinion....(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What he has said is meant for the entire House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER This is not good. Shri Jogi, please take your seat. What is this?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I know we are more accountable.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shanta Kumar, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, So far as basic problems are concerned, our Government has resolved to make the country free from fear, hunger and corruption and mention has been made about it in this Address. Much has been said about the basic problems here. I will make a special mention about according priority to the problem of providing potable water, the issue which we had taken up yesterday also.

In our National Agenda, we have laid down a period of five years for that purpose. It is really painful to see that the fresh air and water which are essential for the survival of human beings is still a far cry. Any how, it is distressing to note that though air is god-gifted but still we are not able to provide potable water to the people of the country even after 50 years of our Independence. This non-availability of potable water leads to several ailments among people which, in turn, create more problems to them. Yesterday, a doubt was raised in this House as to how it is possible to provide potable water to all the villages in the next five years. I think, if we have the will power and cooperation of all the people then this problem can easily be solved.

In Himachal Pradesh our Government was formed in 1977. I was the chief Minister at that time. Sir, in Himachal Pradesh, where we have maximum number of rivers, we had to face this problem of potable water. People had to fetch water from the far off places even from a distance of 8-9 kms. There are some villages which are at the high altitude, there people had to come down even up to 4 kms to fetch water. It was a daily routine of one member of the house. When our Government was formed there, I took pains and helped the people in this direction. The work which could not be done during the last thirty years, had been accomplished with in two and a half years period. We have provided potable water to thousands of people. I think, if one has the will power, then, certainly this work will be completed.

Our Government has also reiterated in this Address that besides providing basic amenities we will provide potable water to each village and town within a span of five years. A survey had been conducted in Himachal Pradesh after providing potable water in each and every village to ascertain as to what is the state of health of the people of this State? This report has revealed that wherever potable water was provided to the people in the villages, the percentage of stomach diseases had been

reduced by eighty percent. That's why our Government has been saying to take up this problem on priority basis.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said that 50 years have passed since we got independence and we are celebrating golden jubilee of our independence and are discussing here about the shortcomings and achievements. Today, a question mark has been put on the political system which we have adopted during the last 50 years This is a challenge for the people who are in politics today, the respect and honour, the politicians had 50 years ago is no more there now. Once a leader had said in this country that "Give me blood, I will give you freedom", then all the youths of the country used to stand by him, but now the term 'leader' is being taken in a bad sense. Now people have lost faith in the political system and their hope lays shattered....(Interruptions) How many times elections were held during the last eight years and how much amount we had to incur on these elections? Today it has become necessary to give a serious thought to our entire political system. That is why we have been emphasizing to review the Constitution. This does not mean that we are going to change the Constitution or we want to do something against the spirit of the Constitution, what we mean to say is that some innovative ideas should be given a serious thought in this connection and some change should be brought about in it on the basis of our 50 years experience. Today, there is a need to reconsider the problems of frequent elections, instability, anti-defection law and corruption, etc.

Yesterday, there was a doubt in this House that this review of the Constitution will pure a great danger to the democracy. It is not the review of the constitution that will pose danger, the danger is already these the way the political system is shattering, the people have lost their faith in this system. Therefore, it becomes necessary now that if we want to restore this system, then we will have to review the Constitution. Not only eminent scholars but also common man in village ask us not to come for elections frequently and do some work after going to Delhi. They ask us as to why elections are being held every six months? Common man is feeling that there is a need to bring about changes in the existing system. It has been said in the Address that a commission would be constituted and whatever it recommends, we will bring it here. According to the constitution no amendment is possible without two-third majority. Eighty amendments have been carried out in the constitution. If some more amendments are necessary according to present day needs, there is a mention in this address about carrying out those amendments.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, the matter regarding implementation of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission is very important. That is also because I think that the Central

Government could not do justice to States. I had the opportunity to be the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh twice. Uptil now, I have been in state politics. Inhabitants of the State feel that. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude. Many hon. Members are there to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : I am the mover of the motion. So, I must be given time.

MR. SPEAKER : You have taken the maximum time more than half-an-hour. There are also other hon. members to speak. Please conclude.

SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : I will take ten more minutes.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was told that I will get more time to speak as I am moving the motion. I will try to conclude within ten minutes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that states do not get justice from the Centre. The main responsibility for development lies on the states but the financial powers are concentrated in the centre. Sarkaria Commissions Report was presented several year ago. It was never implemented in too. There is a need to provide more financial powers to the states. I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister, Who has given one thousand crores of rupees in addition to about three or three and a half thousand crores of rupees under the V.D.I.S. Scheme. He has assured for enactment of a law for providing 29 percent of the total taxes to the states. This is very important because only then the states can implement their development schemes in a better way. There is a need to provide autonomy to the states in addition to providing financial powers. When I was the Chief Minister, we were always having complaints that the matters remain pending for years. For setting up any new big industry, permission and approval from various ministries are required. Matters remain pending for years due to this reason. There has been some improvement in the situation but it still needs more improvement. Liberalisation is needed not only in economic field but in this field also. States should have autonomy and freedom for setting up projects and industries. The centre should not interfere in that unnecessarily. It is necessary that the approval for the projects should be free from red-tapism. From this point of view I feel that we have made a very important declaration in this Address.

I want to make one more submission. There are some small states in the vicinity of Himalayas-like Himachal

Pradesh Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and other states of North-East. These are smaller States. They have different problems. Whenever there is snow fall in Himachal Pradesh, my entire district of Lahaul Spiti, which is at the China border, gets blocked. Construction of roads is more costly there, their maintainance is more expensive. There is a need to give special attention towards their problems.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, a project to clean the Ganges has now been started which is a very good scheme. The Ganges originates from the Himalayas. A great environmental danger has cropped up for the Himalayas. Safety of Himalayas is essential and an important matter for the country. That is why I was repeatedly telling as Chief Minister that this country should prepare a national Himalayan Policy. Safety of Himalayas is necessary for the safety of the country. Smaller states in the vicinity of Himalayas are not able to safeguard the Himalayas. For this, the government of India should provide special assistance to them so that the Himalayas, which protects India as well as the life of Indians, can be saved. For this, the smaller states located near the borders, should be provided assistance.

Several things have been stated about the role of Governors in the President's Address. I think this has become necessary now. The dignity of the office of the Governor must be restored and we should not allow Rajbhavans to be used for any political purposes. I would like to say here only one thing about this that in 1992, when we were in power in Himachal Pradesh, an incident took place in Ayodhya but nothing had happened in Himachal Pradesh in this regard. Even a mosquito was not killed there. There was total peace in Himachal but even then the State Government was dismissed there. A member of legislative assembly belonging to our party had visited Ayodhya from Himachal Pradesh. After returning from there, he said that he had also taken part in the demolition of the mosque. Next day our Government arrested him. Even then our Government was dismissed. The Governor Shri Virendra Verma who had dismissed our Government that time, is a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha. I would like to add here that just two days before the dissolution of the assembly the Hon. Governor while answering the questions of press-persons had said that Government of Himachal Pradesh is functioning as per the constitution and there was no law and order problem as such. But just after two days I don't know how and under what pressure this report was obtained from him and consequently the Government of Himachal Pradesh was dismissed. In view of these things I feel that there should not be any misuse of the office of the Governor like this. Anyhow, due to this guilty conscience and prevailing circumstances in this regard, the Governor has tendered his resignation just after a few days.

[Shri Shanta Kumar]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say only one thing at the end. Much has been said in the Address, but the main thing is that even after fifty years, we are still facing problems such as poverty, unemployment backwardness and the people in the villages are still deprived of their basic rights. We all have collective responsibility towards these problems. Can't we dedicate these five years, just for the poor people? In the President's Address it has been mentioned that there should be a unanimity in regard to basic problems. I hope that the intention of our Government in the President's Address is clear that a new chapter should begin in the polity of our nation and we should try to work above the party politics so far as the basic problems of the country are concerned. Poor people of the country are having this expectation from us. We have been discussing whether atom bomb should be made or not? Thirty-four crore people of this country are poor. Parents are selling their Children in Kala Handi, youths suffering from severe unemployment are some of the burning problems which look like living atom bombs are knocking at our doors. It is a different thing whether we should make on atom bomb or not but what will be the ultimate solution to these problems; all of us will have to ponder over it together. Poor people of this country will not be able to wait any more. The unemployed youth will not be satisfied with the speeches of the leaders. Therefore, I hope that you will have constructive approach in regard to the politics of consensus as has been mentioned in this Address and about which the Prime Minister has sought the support of all the parties sitting in the opposition.

With these words, I conclude my speech and request the House to pass this motion unanimously.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fact that I have been called to second this Motion of Thanks to the hon. President of India moved by my esteemed colleague Shri Shanta Kumar, makes this opportunity memorable one in my public career.

The hon. President gave the message of confidence, a message for the prosperous future to the people of India when he addressed a Joint Session of both Houses of Parliament which significantly clarified the agenda of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the policies and decisions of this Government, the decisions which will be proved creditable and successful with authenticity and unassailability.

Sir, I was listening with attention to the speech made by the Mover of this Motion of Thanks, Shri Shanta Kumar. We have to take stock of what we have come across over the passage of the five decades since 1947. The late

lamented Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Jewel of India, hoisted the Tricolour with *Ashok Chakra* at the midnight of 14-15 August 1947, when the whole world was sleeping. I recall his words that 'we have made a tryst with destiny.'

Sir, Pandit Nehru was a visionary and a legend of our times. Of course, when we take into account the stock what we have got over half a century, we find that we have met with both success and failure. We have got so many achievements. But we have faced crises and challenges also. Pandit Nehru was also conscious of the fact that we have met disappointments and failures. With that consciousness in mind, he had look book at the poem which he cherished all his life, the poem of Robert Frost. It says and I quote:

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep
And miles to go before I sleep."

Sir, after five decades of Independence; after we have spent crore and crores of rupees, after we implemented Five Year Plans and Annual Plans, I shudder to hear, I shudder to read that people die of hunger, people die of disease as they do not get proper medical care. Some mothers have to sell their babies for a square meal which they do not find. Sir, people have to lie on the platforms and pavements without a roof over their heads. Of course, we have taken commendable strides in industrial development, in strengthening our Armed Forces. Of course, gone are the days of looking for PL 480 and resorting to imports of foodgrains. Today, we are proud to say that we have got self-sufficiency. At times, we are able to export our grains. For this, the whole credit goes to the farmers and nobody else. But I am pained to say that the miserable lot of our farmer, the agriculturist who has brought the credit of self-sufficiency of food grains to this country, has not changed. He is not able to liberate himself from the shackles of debt from the shackles of poverty; and he is not able to take care of his children. His misery continues.

Sir, in this Presidential Address, this matter has been taken into consideration. Therefore, this goes to say that agriculture has suffered on account of decline in investment. The Government will halt this decline and earmark up to 60 per cent of the Plan funds for these crucial segments of our economy. The more important point is that subsidies will continue but they will be better targeted.

The Government is committed to re-establish our farmers as a strong and self-confident community enjoying the fruits of prosperity. The farmers are braving scorpions and snakes even at the dead of night when they go to

their fields to irrigate the land. They are suffering day and night. If their misery is not erased and if they are not assured of a better living, just imagine, if they come to a decision to strike work, if they lay their hands off in despair, there will be no cultivation. If they abandon cultivation what will happen? Therefore, this Government would honour the farmers and agriculturists for their contribution to this country. We are going to take steps in this regard.

The election results for the Twelfth Lok Sabha have established one factor that the regional aspirations have come to play a dominant role in formulating the policies and programmes of this country. So, according to the changes, we have to face this regionalism. Regional aspirations should not be viewed as parochialism. This Government, with deep consideration and thinking, has come forward to attend the demands of the States for higher allocation of resources. At the same time, we have to face the twin challenges today; one is the alarming population growth and the other is the very serious problem of unemployment, both educated and uneducated. Otherwise the mind of the youth may wander in despair and frustration at time to extremism.

12.38 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

We recognised adult franchise. In recent years a very genuine demand for reserving 33 per cent of seats for women in the Parliament and State Legislatures has been raised. This Government has made a commitment that the pending legislation will be taken up immediately. I would like to appeal to the hon. Members of this House cutting across party lines to come forward and support the legislation which the whole country is looking forward to.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): In the same form.

SHRI VAIKO : Yes, it can be as has been promised to honour the aspirations of all sections of the society. Our hon. Prime Minister has already stated that when a decision like this is taken, all parties will be taken into confidence.

One important factor which has come to the political arena in recent years is the slogan of social justice. The first amendment to the Constitution guaranteed reservation for the backward class people in employment opportunities. But there are many States where there is a problem in this regard.

But we have to accept and agree on one point. In order to bring social justice, the reservation for the backward classes, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and also the minorities should be protected and

guaranteed. I am proud to say that I belong to a State where the social justice concept was pioneered. The credit goes to our 'Thanthai Periyar', the great revolutionary of social justice and rationalism and our late lamented great leader, the noble son of Tamil mother, the legend of Tamil masses for centuries, Arignar Anna and the great leader of not only the Congress Party, but the whole India Perunthalaivar Kamaraj. During 1950-51, due to the agitation of our movement and the persuasion of Shri Kamaraj, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru accepted the demand and the First Amendment was enacted.

Today, we have given a commitment in this Address that the Government will take all appropriate measures to uphold the existing percentage of reservation in educational institutions at the State level. This has become a problem. In 1994, the then Government of Tamil Nadu under the able stewardship of Dr. Jayalalitha unanimously passed an enactment, a legislation in the Legislature of Tamil Nadu. The Constitution Amendment to put it in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution was passed by Parliament. But today, the need is that there should be a Constitution Amendment not only to guarantee but also to empower the States to decide the percentage of reservation according to the discretion of the State Legislatures because impediments and bottlenecks have been put in the implementation of the 69 per cent reservation. I expect and request for support in this regard from the hon. Members of the many political parties who have supported the legislation to put it in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution. When such an appropriate legislation is brought before Parliament, I request hon. Members to support that legislation also.

A national water policy which will provide for effective and prompt settlement of disputes and a time-bound implementation of the award has been proposed. Hon. Shri P.A. Sangma has raised certain doubts about this promise. But we have to evolve a national water policy keeping in mind the concept which has been enshrined in the international law by international forums regarding rivers even crossing the boundaries of countries.

Today, I have a feeling of pride, jubilation and happiness. The words of Arignar Anna, which I have always cherished in my heart come to my memory. In the year 1963, when many hon. Members of the Lok Sabha were sitting in the gallery of the Rajya Sabha, Anna made a statement on the floor of Rajya Sabha. I remember his words and I quote:

"I can never forget that I have got a hoary language called 'Tamil'. I will be never satisfied and I cannot be contained till that language in which my forefathers spoke, in which my poets have given sermons and scriptures, in which we have got classics and literature of inexhaustible

[Shri Vaiko]

knowledge will find a due place as one of the official languages of the Union of India:

Sir, all these years no step was taken in this regard. Now, there is a beginning. Let us look at this. We have taken a step. We have stated.

"The Government will set up a Committee to study the feasibility of treating all the 18 languages included in the Schedule VIII of the Constitution as official languages."

While speaking on the Confidence Motion, Shri Chandrashekhar, expressed some fears and some apprehensions about this promise. I should not be misconstrued by any quarter in this House because I am putting forth my point of view without any fear or prejudice. There is a complete or Kural in Tamil under the heading Arivudaimai in Chapter 43 which says,

"Epporul yaryarvai katpinum apporul meyporul kanba dharivu":

This means, 'To grasp the truth from everywhere and everybody, that is wisdom'. This country is a great country with a very large landscape. We are competing with China in population growth. This great country should remain united always. On behalf of my party, the Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, I would like to say that we are committed to the unity and integrity of India. There should not be any doubt, not even an iota of doubt about this. But we cannot forget the past.

The Mauryas were there, the Guptas were there and the Moghuls were there. Then the British came. Till then this long landscape right from the lofty peaks of the Himalayas to the sacred shores of Kanyakumari, this was not one country. Of course, we can point out many ills of the British Raj, but the one great contribution of that Raj is the unity of India. Since our country is multi-religious, multi-lingual and multi-ethnic, all the languages should be given equal treatment, equal opportunities and equal status in order to strengthen the concept of unity and integrity of India. The sense of equality should be injected in the minds of the people throughout the country.

Sir, religion cannot unite. There are many nation states in Europe. But Christianity could not unite them. India has got many religions and sects. You may ask: Is it practical? But we have to analyse and visualise the dangers and challenges that we have to face if the hegemony of one language is imposed on others.

Sir, what happened in the Soviet Union? They had made tremendous progress in several fields. They were a mighty power, competing or at times even surpassing the

United States. But what happened to the Soviet Union? What had happened in Yugoslavia? It will never happen and it should never happen in India.

So, what happened in Yugoslavia should not be repeated here and it will not be repeated here. What happened in the Soviet Union will not be repeated here and should not be repeated here. Therefore, it is a good beginning commenced by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government. Pandit Nehru gave that option to the people speaking other than Hindi. That is why, we are not clamouring for English; that also should continue; till that time all the languages enjoy equal rights. For this, I have to command, I have to applaud this commendable step taken by the Vajpayee Government.

Our friends not only here but throughout the country should not have any misconception as if we are going to totally scrap and bring a new Constitution. Not at all. This Constitution has been amended more or less 80 times. In the Constituent Assembly debates, in its closing stages, Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar, in his wisdom, clarified this point. I quote his speech given on the 25th November, 1949 in the Constituent Assembly.

"The Assembly has not only refrained from putting a seal of finality and infallibility upon this Constitution by denying to the people the right to amend the Constitution as in Canada or by making the amendment of the Constitution subject to the fulfilment of extraordinary terms and conditions as in America or Australia, but has provided a most facile procedure for amending the Constitution."

Not only that. He visualised the forthcoming scenario and challenges. Therefore, again on this pertinent point of amending the Constitution, without giving a rigid finality, he stated:

"Jefferson, the great American statesman who played so great a part in the making of the American Constitution, has expressed some very weighty views which the makers of Constitution, can never afford to ignore. In one place, he has said:-

"We may consider each generation as a distinct nation, with a right, by the will of the majority, to bind themselves, but none to bind the succeeding generation, more than the inhabitants of another country."

I repeat the sentence, "We may consider each generation as a distinct nation". So, we cannot bind the succeeding generation. The next generation may view it differently. Therefore, flexibility should be there. Avenues for amending the Constitution should be there. That is why, the procedure for amending the Constitution was made more facile than as in Australia or Canada or America.

With this background, if you have an unbiased look to meet the challenges of the time, the Constitution may be reviewed without changing the fundamental structure. The basic structure was stated in clear terms in the Supreme Court judgment.

The President's Address also pays attention to an important new dimension of this last decade of the 20th century.

"Every citizen has the right to feel secured and be free from fear."

Rabindranath Tagore in his verse stated:

"Where the head is held high,
Where the mind is free from fear,
In that heaven of freedom,
Let my country awake."

So, we should be free from hunger; we should be free from ignorance; we should be free from fear.

To liberate ourselves from the psyche of fear and apprehension and to strengthen security, we have to be more vigilant while exercising control over the Government machinery. The country heaved a sigh of relief and felt a sense of happiness when the aeroplane reached very late at Coimbatore. Shri Lal Krishna Advani, President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, in his own words said, "Thanks to the Almighty, I was saved." By the blessing of the Goddess, of Nature he was saved that fateful day due to delayed arrival of the aeroplane. More than 60 people were killed. And more than a hundred people were wounded. The figure included the Hindu as well as the Muslim boys who were working from dawn to dusk just to get Rs. 4 or Rs. 5 to earn their livelihood. They were also killed. In Coimbatore, I went to all the hospitals console every youth, every adult male or female person belonging to both the Muslim and the Hindu communities. When they were crying with bleeding injuries, I went to them. I shared their tears. I shared their grief. Side by side a Hindu boy, a Muslim boy was also lying injured. They came from poor families. They were returning home. And when they reached near the meeting place, the bomb blast took place. The blood was flowing in the streets of Coimbatore.

Imagine what would have happened had something happened to Shri Advani. Even I could not imagine what they would have been had something happened to him. Hundreds of 'Naokhali's would have been repeated. Rivers of blood would have been flowing and people would have been killed enmass. Instead of nurturing brotherhood, the people would have taken up arms against each other. I feel very sorry to point out that the State Government, which should have been responsible in Tamil Nadu, failed

in its duty.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): No, no; it is not like that. ... (Interruptions) It should not go on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, this is not the way to rebut. You can do so when you get your chance.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, how many more minutes will you take?

SHRI VAIKO I will take only ten minutes more. ... (Interruptions) I will speak after lunch.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, if there is anything that you want to rebut, you can do so when you get a chance to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. If there is anything objectionable, then, of course, you raise it according to the Rules. If it is a point of order, you can raise it. If it is objectionable, of course, you can bring it to the notice of the Chair.

But he has only accused the Government. If you want, you can give details when you speak and say that it is not like that.

Please, that is not the way. You are a senior Member. You please cooperate with the Chair, otherwise it would be difficult to conduct the business of the House.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five
minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA in the Chair]

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS - Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko may continue his speech.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Mr. Chairman, in the month of December, 1997, three bomb blasts took place in the passenger trains in Tamil Nadu in which many people were killed. In those most unfortunate and grievous incidents a young boy who had gone to Chennai to appear for IAS examination was killed. The poor parents of that boy who were dreaming that their son would become an IAS officer or a Collector one day, had to receive the shattered dead body of their dear son.

Sir, following the serious bomb blast that took place in Salimangalam in which four persons were killed, intelligence reports uncovered a diabolical plot to attack and kill top leaders of BJP, particularly, Shri Advani and Shri Vajpayee. In the headlines we saw the name of Tamil Nadu. The leaders of Bharatiya Janta Party lodged a complaint, gave a representation to the Government to take serious action against the people involved in it and to prevent such occurrences.

On that fateful day, when more than sixty people were killed in the bomb blasts in Coimbatore, 25 bomb blasts took place, particularly, on the route from the airport to the meeting place one after another. There was a bomb blast in the Government hospital in which several people were killed including a lady nurse. The sinister plan and plot was to attack and kill Shri Advani at the hospital, had he been rushed there following a possible escape from the attack on the dais. Such a grievous tragedy took place.

Sir, I am pained to say that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, hon. Dr. Karunanidhi made rash and irresponsible statements that the people of Tamil Nadu should chase away the sadhus and sanyasis of BJP who were coming from the North. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South): No, it is not true. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : This was the statement made by Dr. Karunanidhi. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, he is misleading the House.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur) : This is a totally baseless allegation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, you will get your chance to speak. Please take your seat.

SHRI VAIKO : The Statement made by the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu appeared in every newspaper not only once but more than once. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It is baseless....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, you will get the chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : I quoted the exact words of Dr. M. Karunanidhi.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, please.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO : *Pandara paradesimal vadakkaa erundu varugiravargal virattappadavendum.* Here, the meaning of '*pandara paradesimal*' is the B.J.P. and that they should be chased from the soil of Tamil Nadu who are coming from the North. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : I am a point of order.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is not present here in the House. His name cannot be taken here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Giri, under what rule you are raising a point of order?

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Any allegation cannot be made on him ... *(Interruptions)* This is my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. He is not making any derogatory remark, Shri Giri.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Giri, he is not making any derogatory remark against the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore WB): The statement of Chief Minister was published in the newspaper. How far it is justified? ... *(Interruptions)* How far it is authentic? ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, please take your seat.

He is referring to a statement made by the Chief Minister.

Shri Vaiko, are you quoting from the newspaper report or what statement are you referring to?

SHRI VAIKO : I take the responsibility, Sir. . . *(Interruptions)*

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM : For the last two days during the discussion on the Confidence Motion, they have been quoting newspaper reports. Have you objected to it? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Let him continue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SATHIAMOORTHY (Ramanathapuram) : It is the life and death of Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only Shri Vaiko is permitted to speak.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It should not go on record. It should be expunged. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Will they say that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has never uttered those words? Let that be recorded. Let them say that, then I will yield. Let them say that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has never uttered those words? Let it be recorded, I mean it. . . *(Interruptions)* I cannot help them.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (Coimbatore) : The statement of DMK is encouraging terrorists. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not make such remarks.

This will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

Only the speech of Shri Vaiko will go on record.

SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE: This is a constitutional point. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (Bikaner) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, will you please advise our hon. friends here that this is the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address; this is not concerning the States; and let us go on with the subject? . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, it is concerning the security of the country. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Sir, the hon. Minister, Shri Ram Naik was in the Rules Committee and we sat . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Promotes Mukherjee, please take your seat. The Minister of Home Affairs is on his legs.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not have intervened had it not been for what Shri Balram Jakhar said. What was being exchanged now was not relating to the State of Tamil Nadu. I do not know whether the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said what my colleague has just now said. I have not read it. If it has not been said, the hon.

Members from the other side are free to contradict it saying that it has not been said and the matter might end there. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Shri Vaiko should not just pass any remark like this. He should not take the time of the House by telling the concocted story. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Whatever the Government has to say about the situation there or about the recent incidents, I will certainly say tomorrow. But today the point is very limited; whether a statement of this kind - on the face of which, it is a highly objectionable statement - has been made or not. If it has not been made, you can contradict it. If it has been made as he has said, let it remain as it is. That is all. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : The hon. Member, Shri Vaiko is not able to produce it before the House or lay it on the Table of the House. Again and again he is repeating the same thing. There is nothing wrong in alleging anything but it should be supported by the document, in conformity with the rules. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, please try to conclude now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Sir, is the newspaper report sufficient to charge against the Chief Minister? I want to know this from the hon. Minister and the House. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Those remarks have to be removed from the record. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri E. Ahamed, do you have any point of order? Otherwise, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, normally allegations are not made against a person who is not present in the House. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know that. He is not making any allegation. He is referring to a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Where is the statement? Let him produce it? . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri T.R. Baalu, I will go through the proceedings. If there is anything objectionable, that will be removed from the proceedings.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: How is it relevant with the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, the life of Shri Advani was at stake. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ahamed, he is not yielding. You will have to raise only a point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, the life of Shri Advani was at stake. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we have created a history. In Parliament, each and every word has got some meaning. Please ask him to speak only relevant points. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, you should not refer to it. If you want to refer to it, you will have to take the permission.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, my point is that the hands of the police were tied not only throughout Tamil Nadu those days but had there been permission to take action without any interruption or hindrance from the Government, they could have taken same action as they have taken after the tragedy. . . .(Interruptions) He is objecting to this. What is the objection? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, why are you objecting to this? This is his view which he is expressing. He has every right to express his views. You have a right to express your views.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I do agree, Sir. He can express anything but without producing any relevant record to you, he should not level charges. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, at least, Shri Vaiko, please try to conclude.

SHRI VAIKO: The hands of the police were tied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please conclude.

SHRI VAIKO: My time was swallowed by the interruptions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before lunch break you told that you would speak for only 10 minutes.

SHRI VAIKO: But I was not permitted even to complete one sentence. What should I do?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Already 20 minutes have passed.

SHRI VAIKO: That is not my fault. Sir, with all the force at my command, I charge the Tamil Nadu Government and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Karunanidhi for dereliction of duty and criminal negligence of duty to prevent the massacre....(Interruptions) With all the force at my command, I charge the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu with dereliction of duty.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I am on a point of order. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, Shri Ahamed is on a point of order. Please take your seat. You can speak after that.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, under Rule 352 sub-clause (v), "a Member while speaking shall not reflect upon the conduct of persons in high authority unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms". . . .(Interruptions) Let me complete.

SHRI VAIKO: All the leaders of political parties. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I may be permitted to say that even in the explanation also, it has been stated that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: Why has he forgotten what all the leaders of the political parties have said about the various Chief Minister? . . .(Interruptions)

SEN. LDR. KAMAL CHAUDHARY (Hoshiarpur): He is not speaking about any individual. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chaudhary, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: The words 'Persons in high authority mean persons whose conduct can only be discussed on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms under the Constitution or such other persons whose conduct, in the opinion of the Speaker, should be discussed on a substantive motion drawn up in terms to be approved by him'....(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: It is a very good point of order! Sir, I want to know whether Shri Ahamed was present when the Confidence Motion was discussed on the floor of the House. I want to know whether he was present here or not. Many of the leaders of the political parties had made

derogatory remarks about the Chief Ministers of many States on the floor of this House. . .(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vaiko, let him explain first.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, I would say that when he is referring to the conduct of the Chief Minister of a State, he must have come here with the necessary documents and authenticated them before the House...(*Interruptions*) Then there is a possibility.

SHRI VAIKO: That is the document which says what has happened. What more evidence do you want? Do you want some more people to be killed.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Shri Vaiko, you can very well refer (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ahamed, please be seated.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vaiko, you can mention but you cannot discuss.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, I have mentioned that due to the negligence of duty and due to the dereliction of duty, this has happened, Sir, whoever abets or instigates an offence, also becomes liable to prosecution.

Therefore, Sir, those who have abetted it, who have failed in their duty to prevent the massacre, they are also liable to be prosecuted. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the entire statement made by him should be expunged from the record. ...(*Interruptions*) It is not relevant. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, we will go through the proceedings and if there is anything objectionable, we will remove that from the proceedings. Let him continue now.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, 98 per cent of the Muslim population does not agree with these sentiments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, what happens then? After the horses have galloped and run away, they are trying to bolt the stable. They are searching every Muslim's house today just as an. ...(*Interruptions*) In the President's Address, there is a reference commending the elections. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. Let him continue.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, the hon. President of India has thanked the Election Commission of India for conducting the General Elections with despatch and efficiency. The very same Election Commission gave not only an advice, it made a statement that there should not be any opinion poll to be published in the newspapers. But defying that instruction, they have published the opinion poll results in the weaklies, magazines and newspapers, particularly in Tamil Nadu because the soothsayers, astrologers and pollsters played a very dominant role in predicting, that In Tamil Nadu, the Democratic Progressive Front, that is the AIADMK, would not get more than three seats. But the people of Tamil Nadu are the ultimate judges. They have trounced the DMK Front. ...(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, why are you disturbing all the time? Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Sir, rule 349 (i) says:

"Whilst the House is sitting, a Member—

(i) shall not interrupt any Member while speaking by disorderly expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner."

MR. CHAIRMAN: All should abide by this rule, SHRI Jain.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Yes, Sir. I am pointedly pointing out that the hon. Member has been a senior Minister in the Government of India. If he has to say anything, he can say it later on. He is not allowing him to complete EVEN one sentence. If there is any expression against the Chief Minister, he can raise it on a point of order or on a point of clarification. But he is not permitting him to speak. I want your ruling on this, Sir. I want you to kindly ask the hon. Member to observe this rule and also Rule 349 (ix).

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already said that all the Members should follow these rules.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Including the DMK Members!

MR. CHAIRMAN : All, not only DMK Members.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, the Democratic Progressive Front. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Perhaps this is your last sentence.

SHRI VAIKO: Sir, I will complete the whole sentence within two minutes and then finish:

[Shri Vaiko]

The Democratic Progressive Front headed by the AIADMK came with flying colours. We have thirty Members in this Lok Sabha. So, what happened to the astrologers, pollsters and soothsayers and also the so-called opinion poll experts? The people gave their verdict in Tamil Nadu for three reasons. One is: A stable Government under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Secondly, they were mortally shocked over the bomb blasts in Coimbatore and the people have given their verdict against the failure of the Tamil Nadu Government which has not delivered goods to the people over the past two years. Because of this thing, to bring truth to light - our friends are very much agitated - the Central Government should order a CBI inquiry about what happened in Coimbatore. I would request the Government to order a CBI inquiry. Then the real culprits who are occupying high places in the Government of Tamil Nadu will be brought to light. ...*(Interruptions)*

I think from the core of my heart the hon. President of India for having delivered the Address. I thank from the core of my heart the electorates of Sivakasi constituency who have sent me here to take part in the deliberations. Therefore, I would appeal to my friends on all sides to support this Motion moved by my friend and colleague, Shri Shanta Kumar.

With these words, I commend the Motion for adoption and conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:-

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 25th March, 1998."

Hon. members present in the House, whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, my, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the amendments they would like to move. Those amendments only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of amendments treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the officer at the Table immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (Bikaner): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the motion moved by Shri Shanta Kumarji and seconded by Shri Vaikoji regarding Thanks on the President's Address.

In fact, the President's Address is the statement of the Government about its policies but this statement is called President's Address as it is delivered here in this House by the Hon. President himself. He has made some suggestions and we honour such suggestions. We study it thoroughly, analyse it and try to make improvements in it and then we say what we think about it in this House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in fact, President's Address is an account of the working of the Government but this Government has come to power very recently and, hence, there is no question of reviewing its working. This President's Address reveals the hopes and aspirations of the government. Certain issues have not been touched upon and the hon. President has praised Election Commission for conducting free and fair elections in the country. It is correct that the people of India have faith in democracy. Our country is an example of healthy democratic system, whereas we see that democratic system has failed in several countries around us. This is the only country where people are vigilant and working efficiently in democracy. We want that our countrymen should remain vigilant. This is the best system which creates brotherhood and keeps us in touch with the common man. In spite of difference of ideology there is no personal hatred or enmity between people. Problems are solved through discussion. Hon. Advaniji and Shri Naik are present in this House. We have found that in spite of difference of opinion or views, there is no bitterness among us. I wish that it should not be there at any moment. Today we are witnessing some events which are creating apprehensions in our minds that it may not do any harm to high ideals of our polity or serious differences may crop up among us. We talk of unity and try to solve problems with consensus or work for the welfare of our motherland, and hence rift should not be created in our society.

You have also seen that in this President's Address, hon. President has given some very good hints. This is our own country and we should work collectively for the welfare and progress of the country. Just now Shanta Kumarji was saying and I agree with him that we should work collectively as it signifies progress. Even if we take the instance of a family, the one with cordial and harmonious atmosphere makes progress and contrary to its attitude of confrontation leads to a fall. Democratic system is the means to avoid this confrontation. Someone has rightly stated that.

[English]

"Democracy is a hard core granite, but it is surrounded by a host of conflicting ideas."

[Translation]

These ideas and suggestions do not frighten us but we face them courageously and create some new ideas out of that. It has also been stated in the President's Address as to what are the duties and responsibilities of persons running the Government. Shri Vajpayee is not present here. He is my friend and closely associated to me. I wanted to congratulate him for assuming this high office because this office is not paternal property but a kind of trust of the people of this country who elect us and send us here so that we could work for their welfare. Sometimes we and sometimes you may occupy this office, no one should feel hurt by it. You as well as we, all are well aware as to how and why this office is given to any party by the public.

At the moment the Prime Minister is not present in the House. I would like to congratulate him but there are apprehensions in my mind about his way of functioning. He is my friend and I have great regard for him. I felt that he would stick to his stand principally and morally. I felt that he would be firm on the statement made by him. But it has not been so. There may be some compulsions which have brought change in his ideology, or such a situation might have been created for which he might have felt pressurised and tried to cover up certain facts.

Therefore, I would like to say that if he had been here, I may have asked him, why such a thing has happened. Why he has done so? It was not expected from him. If he had worked in a manner, rising above the party lines, it would have helped both the country and this House. All this is correct because you are the Prime Minister. The way the work is being done has created a sense of fear for the country. I have a fear in my mind that whether this politics has constrained to selfishness or to just capture the power. This power has become a curse.

Shrichandji, a nephew of Choudhary Chhotu Ram was a legend. He died as the Speaker of the Haryana Assembly. One day he asked me Balramji, which the most serious disease. I replied it was T.B. and cancer. He called me innocent and on my request he told me in his Haryanvi tone that it was the game of power which was the deadliest. To get power, people use all unfair means and even change colour i.e. take recourse to defection.

I had read Giridhar's Kundaliyan regarding money. He says:

"Keh Giridhar Kavi Rai Jagat mein yeh rang dekha. Bin paisay yar jagat mein virla hi dekha."

If we add power with it, it reads:

"Keh Giridhar Kavi rai jagat ka yeh rang dekha
Bin takat yar jagat mein virla hi dekha."

Now-a-days power is important. To capture power, people show love and affection and even change their ideology. I have seen my own followers switching over sides.

"Hamarey hi tarashey huey pathar key sanam,
Aaj mandir mein Bhagwan baney bathey hein."

What can I do? I, too have to bear this with a heavy heart and it is not a new happening. Shri Murl Manohar Joshi is not present here. He has rightly stated that the opposition itself is not forming the Government and even creating obstructions in our way. When there will be no Government, how this House can run. I would like to ask Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. On what basis he has formed the Government with the alliance of so many parties. It is a matter of principle and our objective is to maintain a cordial atmosphere of friendship. Government should not be formed on the basis of deals. Therefore, I urge to consider the situation.

I read a story of 'Mahabharata' narrated by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. There was a great warrior whose chariot flew above the earth during the war of Mahabharata. Once he used unfair means to kill a demon. The demon was killed but his chariot got stuck into the earth. I wish it should not happen with Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Therefore, we should think about the way the things are to be done. Brotherhood is something which emanates from both the sides. I want to tell that there is a wide gap between the preaching and practice but I do not want to pin point the names here. I only request that it should not happen. I do not want to point it out but the very beginning was not good. I don't want to name any person but my feelings have been hurt. Why an attempt was made to denigrate an individual. One must think before saying something against the other. One should stick to one's words. However, if a person did not keep his words, he lets the human being within him down. A person should think before saying anything. I am saying all this because I have a fear in my mind that it may not become a routine. Once a rat crossed over a businessman and he started crying. There upon the accountant asked his master as to why he was weeping, it was only a rat to this the master replied that he was afraid lest it should become a habit of the rat.

The second thing has been said about Hindutava. I understand and feel proud of myself that I am a Hindu but my religion believes in humanity. My religion envisages "Yatra vishwa bharati ek nidam" which means this world is just like a nest and we are its inhabitants and this belongs to us.

[Shri Balram Jakhar]

Sarve bhavantu Sukhinah
Sarve Santu niramaya
Sarve Bhadrani pashyantu
Maa Kashachet dukha bhag bhavet.

14.44 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the chair*]

I also believe in Hindutava but being a Hindu means to me I love one and all. Therefore there is difference between man and being a man. I only want that there should not be any difference between what we preach and what we do. I want that you should stick to your point. Vajpayeeji said it and you removed it from the agenda. I am very glad. But did we really do justice, could this country believe it? Why will it not believe, that I don't want to mention here. Rather you should make it clear as to what in the History behind this? Why did it happen later on? An assurance was also given in this regard. Same assurance was also given to the Supreme Court, despite that why was it violated, what was the reason for it? Therefore, we have fears in our psyche. Somebody has said a couplet. I don't think it is unparliamentary because I am not levelling any allegation against anyone. I am changing that too. He was saying something wrong in such a manner that they had no option but to believe them. Here an assurance was given, an assurance was also given in the Supreme Court, therefore, we had to trust them but that was not kept. Advaniji is sitting here. He is like my elder brother. I would like to ask him about it. I agree that all the quarrels confrontations, differences can be removed, harmonious relationship will be there among the people and we will not quarrel with each other.

"Kyon aaps mein lade, sange mecl par,
Ismein nukasan - a safar tera bhi hai,
mera bhi hai
Mat gira is ghar ko, yeh ghar tera bhi hai,
mera bhi hai."

We all have to live in this country. Then, why should we quarrel with each other. I want that you should give us such an assurance here so that nobody says afterwards that we should do it in such a way. We have to come closer. I want to say that. That is why, I want to say that we should follow what we should preach.

[English]

"Saying and doing, let them not be two different things. Let it be one single thing, and then I agree with Shri Shanta Kumar. It is then that we can create heaven on this earth, we can create harmony and we can create something which will be a good thing."

[Translation]

There would be fragrance all around, there would be morally - do you follow me?

Now it remains to be seen as to what we want to do further. You have said a lot, so many good things are mentioned in the National Agenda. If these are translated into reality, Heaven would descend on the earth, we need not long for heaven. You have said every thing-that poverty would be eliminated. ...(*Interruptions*).

It appears that we want to create a utopia, where everything would be all right, nothing would be wrong. But I have an apprehension that it might not turn out to be a tale of a poor man who used to earn Rs. 20 per day. He had a wife and two children. When she started cooking food in the evening, he went on saying that they would purchase a buffalo tomorrow we will have 15 kg of milk. But he did not have one thousand rupees. Bank loan facility was not available at that time. For four days he continued to repeat all these things. His wife told him that he has gone mad, neither he would have one thousand rupees nor would he buy a buffalo. After three days children felt bewildered and they said "Father we feel that whether or not, you buy a buffalo it does not matter but you please keep on talking about such things because it is good to listen such things. Is it not a thing to feel happy like that? You might have said these things to make us feel happy. As you have said unemployment would be removed, there would be spread of education, there would be happiness and harmony all around, medical facilities would be provided for good health, education facilities would be provided to women and every facility would be made available. But have you done the ground work for it? I want that there should be some spade work for these things, give us a draft proposal so that we could say something or show something that these are the things which we want to do.

I will pick up one thing from your national agenda. You have mentioned about unemployment. But I would like to take up agriculture first since agriculture forms the base of our economy on which the progress of this country depends. I will cover all aspects while dwelling on this point. Agriculture is the basis of our progress, it is the backbone of the country's economy. Agriculture is the means of subsistence for 75 per cent population of this country. If it is in a sound position then financial position of the farmer would improve which in turn would lead to flourishing of industry and the country would also be prosperous. I would like to tell you that I have studied the functioning of the Agriculture Ministry and tried to bring about certain changes in it. A lot of work has also been done on this count. But a little success has been achieved so far. For

instance the average income of this country is Rs. 8. We find that 74 per cent of the people get only Rs. 12 and the remaining Rs. 7/- are shared by 26 per cent of the people. This is some thing amazing which we have to set right. How long this arbitrary distribution of income will go on? We will have to stop this trend only then things would improve. You have said that 60 per cent of funds would be provided for agriculture but under which head 60 per cent of funds would be spent in agriculture sector. Whether we will provide, this funds for agriculture or irrigation or spend it on children's education or provide it for power generation or for its supply or for roads or for construction of school buildings. In all, how many fields of activities can be covered with this fund. The agriculture sector still sets 60 per cent of funds. There is nothing new in it. But I want to know as to what do you propose to do in order to make up for the reduction in investment in agriculture sector.

The average size of holding in India is about 0.48 hectares today. It has reduced to this extent. We have seen three generations since 1950. With the ever increasing size of families and subsequent fragmentation and re-fragmentation of land, the size of holdings have reduced considerably. If this trend continues, then at one stage 74 per cent of our people who are at present dependent on agriculture would prove to be a burden on agriculture because more people would become dependent on it when actually it can afford to feed them. How will you create matching employment opportunities for them and how the arrangement of education would be made for such a large number of people? The main reason for starvation in the country is unemployment among people. People migrate from villages to cities in search of jobs and live in slums. This is because there are no industries and employment opportunities in villages.

We had kept this in mind right from the very beginning. You have announced that agricultural yield would be doubled by doing cultivation in waste land. But how this would be done has not been mentioned. The buffer stock which was 50 lakh tonnes in 1950 has increased to 192 lakh tonnes. The day on which I demitted the office, it was 137 lakh tonnes. Then people did not even think of importing foodgrains from abroad. The farmer has given us a lot, but we have given him nothing. You should ensure that he should at least get his due. If arrangement for irrigation is made, there would be no waste land, and country would progress and the lot of our farmers would altogether change.

I am tired of writing letters about the Rajasthan canal. Even when I was in Punjab, I used to write about that. People are dying due to non-availability of water there. I have been writing about it for the last eight years. A study was also conducted there by sending a team and it had

submitted its report. On the one hand, people are dying due to non-availability of water, on the other scores of villages submerge in flood waters. No body is there to look after their houses. That land in Rajasthan is so fertile that if proper arrangement for irrigation is made, we can have bumper crops in that area. Land can be irrigated and foodgrains can be grown there.

Advaniji, I want to tell you about the Narmada canal in Gujarat which is nearing its completion. I had got constructed that canal when I was the Agriculture Minister. I had told Keshu Bhaiji that time, I also told his predecessor Chief Minister, and the then Prime Minister as well that water is released at full flow to Saurashtra where there was salt in the soil and hence the entire project would be in jeopardy. If you provide water for irrigation through drip system, the production would increase three-fold and the face of that area would be changed and farmers would become prosperous. There would be greenery all around. I know it because I, myself, have done it.

I therefore, want to say that full attention should be paid towards agriculture. I had made a provision for subsidy. Devegowdaji is sitting here. I had made a provision of 70 per cent subsidy. He raised it to 90 per cent. Women and other people were also given benefits. I held Devegowdaji in high esteem for this act since he is the only Prime Minister who kept this thing in mind. But despite that farmers do not get funds for whom these are meant. The State Government does not provide funds. They just show on papers that five thousand rupees were given but virtually give nothing. This money belongs to farmers which we want to give them in the form of grants.

Govt. provides 100 rupees as grant-in-aid to dig the canal but only rupees ten reach there. If the actual amount reaches there, the farmer can double the output. I had pursued this matter with Shri Manmohan Singh and got it cleared. You should also see as to why it is not possible perhaps just because something lacks here that is why I am telling you.

I do not know, what happened to our agriculture policy. It has been debated four times here in this House. Four committees were also constituted for it but nobody knows what happened to their recommendations. The policy draft stated that the agriculture sector will not be brought under income tax net and will also be accorded the status of industry. It will be free from all those troubles as I am well aware as to where our farmer suffers. Even outsiders say that income tax should be imposed on agriculture. However they are quite ignorant about the agriculture. Such people should be taken to villages and if such a person is made to stand in the fields in the noon, he or she will be struck by sunstroke and if such a person is taken to the fields

[Shri Balram Jakhar]

at night while watering the crop, he or she will certainly catch pneumonia.

At present, the work of the Ministry of agriculture is being looked after by the Prime Minister. It will be appreciated if he does some concrete work there but he does not have much time for it. He should constitute the cabinet, if possible, give the portfolio of agriculture to Shri Sompalji as he has vast knowledge of agriculture and particularly of irrigation. If it is not possible, please agree to one of my suggestions. In the past, our party has given Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* When unity is achieved we shall talk about it. ...*(Interruptions)* In the past too, we have given you Prime Minister- Shri V.P. Singhji Chaudhary Charan Singhji, Shri Chandrashekharji, Shri Devegowdaji, Shri Gujralji - and some are there with them as well. ...*(Interruptions)* Take some more from us on demand. This is up to you. We have given you Shri Buta Singh and Virendra Vermaji. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI (Haridwar): You have given so many but you yourself had not switched to this side. You are expert in agriculture If you cross over, everything will be all right. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM-JAKHAR : There is difference between me and them. I have stuck to certain principles throughout my life, and now I would not compromise at this stage of my life. ...*(Interruptions)*. I just cannot do like that. A man should hold the ground firmly. ...*(Interruptions)* The storm can demolish the high buildings. I am only a foundation stone and thus not afraid of it at all. I am not at all scared that I would fall down. I know my limits. I have not learnt to fall down or to indulge in mudding. I am a citizen of this country. This country is my motherland. I am prepared to sacrifice anything and everything for it. I would like to earnestly emphasize that poverty can be alleviated only when farmers are made prosperous and women are educated. The women contribute more than fifty percent in the agriculture sector yet they do not get their due respect. I had made some efforts for their agricultural resources. Where have the Krishi Vigyan Kendras gone? The whole work has come to a stand still. ...*(Interruptions)* What is happening on the research and development front? The huge foreign loan would ruin us. The increase in production of wheat has come to zero percent. We will suffer badly. The work on genetic resources should be initiated. I had mooted this proposal but it did not get through. You should accord top priority to it. The foreigners would ruin us completely. They are to get patent on rice and 'neem'. You should get it nullified. You must think as to what you have to do, I want to help you. I do not intend to fight however we should also not allow anybody to suppress us. I would state the fact I intend to say. I would

also like to say something about insurance.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala): The congress people have constructed their sprawling bungalows at the sites allotted for the Krishi Vigyan Kendra. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : I am not concerned with anyone, be they congress people or any other big personality. In fact, I only care for this country. Leave alone what the congress people have done to me? ...*(Interruptions)* But the congress is my base and we have faith in the congress. It has affection and a feeling of patriotism for this great land. We fought for the independence of the country. We have got the legacy of martyrs. No other party has such background. I would also like to say few words about the industrialisation-Agro Business Consortium. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI : You have spoken about the land. The land is there. Had your Government made any efforts for reclamation of that land, we might not have to import foodgrains. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Perhaps you do not know about it. If you want to do something concrete in that direction then, you should adopt the method, I am telling you. Unless irrigation facilities are made available, the vast area of waste land can not be reclaimed. If we want to get production from it; we will have to save this land from waterlogging and arrangement of life irrigation should also be made. Go and see in my constituency Bikaner. The work started by the congress party there eight years ago has come to a stand still. Shri Shanta Kumarji had stated that irrigation facility had been provided there. I had stated while sitting in this chair that you people had conferred a great deal of dignity on me by electing me for ten years.

15.00 hrs.

I would like to say that all possible facilities should be extended to Rajasthan as people have to fetch water from as much as 25 miles far off places or face drought. Shri Shanta Kumarji, You have got a lot of greenery in your state. I earnestly want to change the map of Rajasthan. We all should sit together to find out ways to solve this problem, Mutual consultation would certainly lead to the solution of this problem. This issue should not be brushed aside. In fact, what is required is good intentions and right attitude and we people really want to do that.

Secondly I want to say something about insurance. I have formulated this scheme four times but nothing has been done in this direction. I would like to say that this scheme should be completed. Today in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan Karnataka, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh farmers are being ruined. In Andhra Pradesh 60 farmers have

committed suicide. Are we farmers born to commit suicide? The agriculture is the most uncertain industry. Whosoever is to be punished by God, is born in the farmer's house. This applies to us as well. Therefore, I would like to ask as to what is true and what is false?

The presidential Address has made a mention of women also. If you educate one woman, the whole family can not progress and prosper. Therefore, all women should be educated otherwise the development of the country cannot take place. Cooperative sector has not been mentioned in it. In fact it is a very large sector. If improvement is brought about in this sector then basic development can take place. Agro-based consortium and more Harvest schemes were launched which can provide a lot of work to farmers and would also help set up industries in the villages. Our country is the largest producer in terms of fruit and in respect of milk production, our country is about to get first position. In respect of fruit and vegetable production we can compete with China. Our country is in no way lagging behind in any field. But 25 to 30 per cent production is destroyed in packing, forwarding, packaging and comming and it has to be improved upon. If it is possible in foreign countries then why it is not possible in our country. I would like to tell to Shri Advaniji that in the seventh plan, 24 crore rupees were provided to solve this problem and in the VIII plan this amount was increased to 1000 crores of rupees and this amount was to be given on 4 per cent interest. Had this arrangement been made, this problem would have been solved.

Second by, now times are changing and we have to go along with other countries. We have the policy of liberalization and you have talked about 'Swadeshi' which was also subscribed by Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Dayanand. In fact, this is the best policy and we had attained our freedom with the help of 'Swadeshi'. We cannot shut our doors for development. We would take such steps so that we can compete with other countries in every field.

Shri Yaswant Sinha is not present in this House. I want to say something about small scale industries as I had submitted a memorandum relating to small scale industries to him a day before. I earnestly request you to ponder over it. I want to say something about Rajasthan There is no excise duty on the yarn spinned by the spinning mill in Rajasthan but those who have set up handloom, have to pay excise duty to the tune of 25-30 crores. I would like to draw your attention especially to Bikaner. I had brought them here 15 percent loan is outstanding against them. Your Government will render about 20-30 thousand people jobless. This is no way. The mills have been given tax exemption and handlooms have been brought under tax net. It should be withdrawn. You must ponder over it as to what you intend to do.

A mention has been made of languages. All languages are good. They are like pearls in the chain. Everybody loves his language. I like all languages. India is like a bunch of flowers and Hindi was made a thread in which pearls of other languages are threaded and they all make a beautiful bouquet. I do not have any objection. This document has not been printed in regional languages, such as Telugu, Tamil, Urdu or in Marathi. Will it help? Everybody should think over it that we have to provide a proper place to every language, we have to give due importance to every language because they reflect our culture. There is no limit to the literature available in all the languages. All languages are working towards one goal.

The second point relates to external affairs. You have mentioned therein that you want to take initiative in this regard. You and particularly Shri Vajpayeeji are expert in that. Earlier also, he had been the Minister of this Department and still he is in-charge of this Department. We have to talk about the co-existence We have to talk in such a manner that the people respect us and we respect them. This world is very small. If it shatters once, nothing will be left over. The God had created the earth for once. It cannot be created time and again. Nobody can expand it. I, therefore, want to say that our message of fraternity reach the entire world and they do acknowledge that the people of India do have hearts full of affection, they have the desire to live the life to full and progress as well. Decisions to do the things should be taken carefully. Do not take any steps propelled by emotions as that can cause disaster or lower our image. We want to make progress and extend our hands for friendship. 'Yatra Vishwa Bhavati' if we talk in this manner, we should act likewise. If we talk about "Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam", then we should follow that in spirit also.

Sir, I want to say one thing more today. Mr. Barrala is not present here. He had told me something. I had cautioned him that it want to say, should not hurt anybody. He said that the Congress was responsible for spreading terrorism in Punjab. I feel ashamed at such comments as nobody can even think in these terms. I can not understand as to how a person would get his own brother killed. Who will be the resultant sufferer. Whoever is being killed in Punjab, they are our own people and how can we do this to them. We want to do something for those who fought for the country's freedom and sacrificed themselves for the country. Such things should not be uttered.

"Are kya khoob rang badla hai, Jamane ka, apne apno par var karte hain. Pahle marte they yar yaraon par, aaj yaron se yaar marte hain."

I do not want this to happen. This is not a good thing. Even such thoughts are not good. This country belongs to us and we should do nothing to divide it.

[Shri Balam Jakhar]

"Jitni batni thi bant chuki zamin,
Ab to sirf asman baki hai."

What do you want to divide in the country now? What more we want to do. Therefore, we want that the country should progress and there should be feeling of love and brotherhood in the country. Let us work together. But there are certain things which I would like to be included therein and it is for this reason that I oppose it and nothing else. I do not want to add more today because there are other Members also to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any arrangement to ensure free irrigation facilities for the next five years to make the entire unirrigated land of the country fertile." (42)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing compulsory, free and uniform education facilities to the children upto the age of 14 years." (43)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about granting a pension of Rs. 500/- per month from the Consolidated Fund of India to those farmers of the country who have attained the age of 65 years and have no earning children other than a son." (44)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about arranging atleast Rs. 1000/- per month for the livelihood of all retired sport persons, wrestlers and those getting district, State and Country level award in the field of sports and wrestling in the country." (45)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing free medical facilities to those living below the poverty line in the country." (46)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added,

namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about providing 'sulabh souchalaya' for the entire rural population of the country within 5 years." (47)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about setting up of any permanent Finance Corporation to assess the natural calamities and to provide for permanent relief work in the country." (48)

SHRI NARESH KUMAR CHUNNALAL PUGLIA (Chandrapur): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about creation of a separate state of Vidharbha." (49)

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH AMBEDKAR (Akola): I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formation of a separate Vidharbha State which has already been recommended by the State Reorganisation Commission." (59)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the address about the continued rise in the prices of essential commodities." (60)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the provision of jobs to one crore youth every year." (61)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the revival of sick Public Sector Undertakings like IISCO, Jessop, Burn Standard, National Instrument, MAMC, BOGL, Tyre Corporation of India, Hindustan Cables, Durgapur and Haldia Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation, National Textile Corporation,

NJMC, Jute Corporation of India, Bengal Immunity, Smith Stanistreet, Cycle Corporation of India." (62)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address as to the payment of guaranteed minimum wages to agricultural labour." (63)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the recognition of trade union through secret ballot." (64)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about declaring Calcutta and Chennai as A-1 cities." (65)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to take up rehabilitation package for the affected people in and around Raniganj due to large scale subsidence, due to mining operations." (66)

[Translation]

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA (Rajnandgaon) : I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan of N.T.C. for modernisation of mills particularly the B.N.C. Mill at Rajnandgaon as the condition of the Mills is worsening day by day for want of modernisation." (67)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the any central assistance to be given to Madhya Pradesh for the year 1997-98 to meet the losses on account of natural calamities such as earthquake in Jabalpur, devastating floods in Reeva District and loss of paddy and rabi crops worth Rs. 2 crore in the entire state." (68)

That at the of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address

about providing pure potable water in the tribal areas of Bustar and Rajnandgaon in Madhya Pradesh." (69)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the provision of potable water, construction of roads, schools and promoting small scale industries alongwith agro based industries in all the villages of the country." (70)

[English]

SHRI R.S. GAVAI (Amravati) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the schemes for total eradication of poverty." (72)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the National Water Policy." (73)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the anomolous experiences of the past which require appointment of a Commission to review the Constitution." (237)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steep rise in the prices of essential commodities and to take remedial measures." (163)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the schemes to be introduced and implemented to further the cause of educational advancement of minorities specially Muslims." (164)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the low representation of members of minorities communities specially Muslim in the Central Government services and the Public Undertakings." (165)

[Shri E. Ahamed]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the hardships faced by agriculturists in rubber and coconut sectors in the country due to steep fall in market prices of these commodities." (166)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to further strengthen traditional friendly relationship of India with Arab countries." (167)

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the infrastructural development of the North Eastern States including Tripura." (227)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to provide adequate deployment of BSF on the International Border alongwith Tripura and other N.E. State." (228)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fencing of Border to stop infiltration in Tripura and other N.E. States." (229)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about enhancing the funds being provided under Members of Parliament Local Areas Development Scheme (MPLADS) to Rs. 10 crores." (230)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the non-functioning of the telephone exchanges located at Munger, Lakhisarai, Shekhpura and

Begusarai in Bihar." (231)

[English]

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for enactment of a central legislation to protect the interests of agricultural labour." (256)

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARI (Kokrajhar) : I beg to move:-

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about creation of a separate State of 'BODOLAND'." (304)

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad) : I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to reduce disparity in the prices for agricultural and industrial products." (317)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to be taken to ensure free and fair electoral process for the voters of the country to strengthen the democracy." (318)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any policy for uniform development of the country". (319)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any longterm action plan to overcome the decreasing irrigation capacity and drinking water crisis arising due to receding water level in the entire country". (320)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about saving the people from economic and social exploitation by handing over various production units of the country to the private sector as well as from their monopolistic attitude." (321)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to be taken to check braindrain of experts, scientists, technicians and doctors, of the country." (322)

That the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about any action plan for providing unemployment allowance to educated unemployed youth of the country." (323)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reviving the closed industrial units so as to absorb after renovating skilled and unskilled workers rendered unemployed as a result of the closure of these industrial units." (324)

SHRI VITHAL TUPE (Pune) : I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:-

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about streamlining the procedure for the Land development under the Urban Land Ceiling Act." (331)

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am rising to support this Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, and my reasons are that we should consider, at this moment, what are the requirements of time, what are the challenges that this nation faces. As I see it, this new Government is required not only to give a different set up of administration but also to provide a new dedication, a new dynamism and a new devotion to this nation.

A new direction has to be found. Our distinguished friend was just mentioning that so many problems are there, no solution has been found to them, how you will solve all these problems, etc. My answer to that is, if we provide a new awakening, if we serve a new deal to this nation, create a new consciousness in this nation, replace the

culture of callousness, indifference, apathy and cynicism by a positive attitude, by a culture of contentment, compassion, balance and harmony, then we can turn the page of history. We have to see which of the two forces or the two groups can deliver the goods or change the direction. We have to see who has the potential to do so. For the last fifty years you had the opportunity. Unfortunately the position in which we find ourselves today is not a very happy position. So, if we want to turn towards the better end, you must give an opportunity to the other group to show its potential.

The basic point which I would like to make is that this Government has made a very good beginning. In the circumstances in which we find ourselves today it could do this much. I would like to invite your attention to a fundamental thing, to what Dr. Rajendra Prasad had said when we got our freedom:

"I feel that the work that confronts us is even more difficult than the work which we had when we engaged in the freedom struggle. We did not have the conflicting claims to reconcile, no loaves and fishes to distribute, no power to share. We have all these now and temptations are really great. Pray to God that we shall have the wisdom and strength to rise above these and serve the country which we have liberated".

Now the question is: Which is the power or the group which can rise above these temptations and show strength and wisdom? I think in this President's Address there is the indication that this wisdom and strength is possessed by this group. We have extended the hand of cooperation, consensus and conciliation. We want to solve the problems by a new spirit.

I would also invite your attention to what Punditji said. We talk of the "Tryst with Destiny" and a "new awakening when the world was sleeping". But Punditji had also said one crucial point that the long suppressed soul of India is wanting to have a new expression. We just ignored this factor. We did not attend to that long suppressed soul of India. A new awakening had to be done in this nation. A new social and cultural revolution had to be brought about in this nation. Since we neglected it, we find ourselves in such a situation. Which is the power which can relieve this long suppressed soul of India? It is the new force which is now emerging. We want to awaken and give the nation a new consciousness and that is what I want to emphasize.

The day before yesterday our distinguished erstwhile speaker was saying that there was something wrong because we have always been getting a fractured verdict. Believe me, we are not attending to this section of the society. Since the society itself has been fractured, when the social structure has been fractured, when we are not

[Shri Jag Mohan]

looking to the roots of the problem, then the politics would be what it is today. We have to attend to the social and cultural roots and I am quite sure that the productive capacities of the nation will go up, will be suddenly upgraded if we attend to the roots of the problem which have not been attended to so far for the last fifty years.

The first question is this. I would not claim that we are perfect. We have our shortcomings. But the direction which we have chosen, the motivation which we have acquired is more hopeful. It gives us a better chance to improve ourselves.

I will just tell you what the challenges are. I am not criticising the erstwhile rulers but I only want to point out the legacy that they have left for us. What challenges emerge out of this legacy? We may say that we have progressed in this revolution. Shri Balram Jakhar was just mentioning that our production in agriculture has gone up. It is not a question of producing more. It is a question of what has been our pace of development vis-a-vis the rest of the world.

We live in a competitive world. We live in a complex and integrated world. We have to see that new knowledge has come into this world. Have we utilised this knowledge? Have we acquired a greater social and cultural cohesion which the people of other nations have acquired? I will give the figures.

In 1950, India produced two per cent of the world gross domestic product; today we are producing one per cent of the gross domestic product. It has gone down. If we take the industrial production, we used to produce fourteen per cent of the Third World Production and now we produce only six per cent. If we take our share in foreign trade, it used to be 1.6 per cent at that time and it is only 0.7 per cent now. The issue is not whether we have progressed or not. The issue is, what has been the pace of development? What has been the pace of our progress vis-a-vis the world as a whole or even the developing countries? We have shown regression. This is one aspect which needs to be pondered about.

I am not talking about the distant past. Even when we had the so-called 'Reforms era', the Eighth Five Year Plan has been a total failure in respect of infrastructure. There has been an infrastructure-famine. The peak shortage of power, for example was nine per cent at the beginning of the Eight Plan and it now stands at 19 per cent. A total infrastructure-famine has been created in this country.

Let us take the so-called 'Green Revolution'. Even today, it is not a question of production. It is also a question of consumption. Two hundred and fifty million people get

only three-fourths of the calories that are needed; they are hungry to the extent of one-fourth of the calories needed everyday. Five crore people get only half the calories which are needed. So, we are keeping the nation famished. There may not be a famine but they are famished. Everyday, they go to bed hungry. We have to see this aspect also.

I will now give an example from the recent past. I am talking about the reform period. There are about 189 infrastructure projects pending. The cost and time overruns have cost this nation Rs. 31,000 crore. This is not my figure. These are the figures given in the report of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation. These are figures given in the Economic Survey of India. Can this poor nation afford this cost? Who is responsible for this? Why has it happened? It is because we did not have the dedication, we did not have the devotion, we did not have the effectiveness in administration and the efficiency in administration that are needed. It is because we did not tap the potential and the capacities. So, we now have to see which is the power which can give a new direction and bring higher efficiency and higher effectiveness. The Plan was prepared by them; they knew their capacities and then planned and yet their achievement is only this. What does it show?

It shows adherence to superficiality, living in a different world, the United Nation's latest concept of measuring the poverty is called the Capability Poverty Ratio. It depends on your capacity to stay above the poverty line, enjoy a reasonably good health and have a reasonably good food. According to the latest report, in India 61 per cent of the people are below the Capability Poverty Ratio. We may say that we have done this and that. But this is what the United Nation's figures say. What is our answer to this after fifty years of freedom? Why have we been relegated to the ground? Take for example, the poverty alleviation. If we take poor people as defined in the UN paper, 55 per cent of the Indians are below the poverty line. Compared to this, 20 per cent are below the poverty line in China and in sub Sahara it is 47 per cent. We come even below sub Sahara. Such a great cultural nation, such an advanced civilization cannot compare even with sub Sahara.

If we take the extremely poor people of different categories, India's extremely poor people come to 33 per cent; in China it is eight per cent; and in Sub-Sahara it is 30 per cent. So, even there we come lower. Even our own National Home Crime Record says that 18,195 suicides were poverty-driven suicides. So, we have to ask those rulers who have ruled this country for fifty years as to what their answers are to these questions.

What about the human development index? This figure was given by my distinguished senior colleague, Shri

Shanta Kumar. According to that figure, India's position is 136. Only very small countries are below us. There is one more indication, that is gender disparity index. We call this country as Mother India, Mother Universe and Mother Earth. We claim to be the followers of Shakti Cult. What is the position? Out of 136 countries, India is placed at 103, which is even below Iran and Iraq which stand 75 and 93 respectively. So, what is this?

What is our scientific output? The UNESCO report says that India's share in the world output declined by 32 per cent between 1981 and 1995. Even in the industrial output where we claim to have made a lot of progress, we have not made much progress.

What about unemployment? According to our own estimates, 19 million people are unemployed and another 125 millions are going to be added to this in the next fifteen years. This is according to the yardstick which we have provided. What is the real yardstick? We take 40 per cent of our total population as requiring employment. Whereas according to the latest international figure, 50 per cent of the population must be provided employment. If you take that figure, another nine million will be added to this.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi): What is the solution?

SHRI JAG MOHAN : The solution is that you kindly give an opportunity to other people who can probably do better and bring better motivation to this nation. This is what my thesis is. I am not putting the blame on you.

When we talk about foreign debts etc., we neglect the real issues. We talk about the GDP. What is the GDP? Do not measure the GDP only in terms of money. If you bring more cars on the roads, you say that our the GDP has increased. But you have to see the quality of our life. According to the latest report, what is the genuine progress index? Take, for example, the environmental degradation. Just see to what extent we have polluted our cities, rivers and air.

Forty thousand people die prematurely because of air pollution in our cities alone. Our rivers have become virtually sewers and we are making progress! Who is going to foot all these bills? You see that there are 17 crore people who go to hospitals who need not have to go to hospitals if the environment had been healthy. What we are really exporting is our environment and cheap labour and we call it progress in terms of the GDP!

Look at foreign debt. We say that we have got this much of foreign debt. I am quoting from Shri Sagma's speech during that Special Session. He said that our external debt ratio was 26 per cent of the GDP. Our per capita external debt is Rs. 3286 which is 35 per cent of the per capita income of Rs. 9325. When a child is born

in India, he is born with 35 per cent debt. Who is going to discharge all these? Our future generation will have to pay for this. So, let us not assume that we are all living comfortably.

I do not want to take your more time of yours. Though I have got many points to say I would only want to tell that we are under guise for the FDI, the Foreign Direct Investment, in the infrastructure field. We have also got that. We do not have what is called a jobless growth, we do not have a rootless growth, we do not have a futureless growth. That is what is apprehended by all of us.

If I read all the statistics, it will take time. Unemployment is increasing after the so-called reform period. We have to modify. We have to have a programme in which we have indicated as "बेरोजगारी हटाओ". We have given the indication that we will give greater emphasis on job-creating economic activities and we will do that to that extent. We may not be able to do it in five years but we will do it, definitely. We have set in the right direction.

What I am saying is that we should also guard against neo-colonialism. I will just quote one figure. In the 1980s, the FDIs moved three times faster than the rate of the world trade growth and four times faster than the world output. It means that they are completely dominating the world. At this rate, we will be a different type of a colonial state. Then the decision-making will go into somebody else's hands. We have to guard against this. This is what we mean that we should encourage *swadeshi*. *Swadeshi* means we must have our own potential.

There is a basic point which I want to make. Terrorism and subversion are connected with economic activity. In this world, what is the basic challenge? Are we equipped to deal with this challenge? Seventeen million Kalashnikovs are being produced in the world and sophisticated weapons are available easily. They are easy to be hidden and operated. We can see this network all over India and they are being used in Tamil Nadu, Kashmir, North-East, Delhi and everywhere. But what have we done? During the last two years, what changes have we made in administration and what new thinking have we done to meet the new challenges that have come about? To what extent have we modernised our Police and administration? We are still keeping our same old rigid cadre. New managerial techniques have been forced in the administration. Are we able to become more alert? Most of the terrorist crimes are not being detected and punished. I have got figures but I will not take your time. My only point is, we are really in a situation like what W.E. Yeats says that, when things fall apart, the centre cannot hold.

"Near anarchy is loosed upon."

He said about the world. I would say about India.

[Shri Jag Mohan]

Everywhere, the ceremony of innocence is crowned. This is what I want to emphasise. The worst are full of passionate intensity and the best lack all convictions.

We are trying to bring new forces. We want to get conviction to the best. We want to remove this passionate intensity of the worst. We want to get a new set of conduct, a new set of values to the nation, a new confidence, a new cultural value and a new mindset.

Our friend, Shri Balram Jakhar has now gone. He was saying, "How will you do this? How will you do that?" I was just being reminded of an Urdu verse. It said:

Kuch nahin to khwaabe sahar to dekha hai,
Kuch nahin to khwaabe sahar to dekha hai,
Jis taraf kabhi dekha nahin us taraf dekha to hai.

We want to find a new direction. We will do our best. You have to give the opportunity. We can also explore a new possibility.

Now, I want to say a fundamental point with which I started. What is that point? I said about India. For all these issues which I am raising, let us go and look at a thing beyond the visible horizon. Let us look beyond the party politics and beyond the vote banks. And you will say that we have not done the fundamental job which we should have done. What was that? We must remember that even now, we are being dominated by the undercurrents which really shape the output events. What are the undercurrents which now dominate? The same Mr. Macaulay, the same Mr. Morris, the same Mr. Mill, the same Mr. Marx and the same Mr. Metcalfe. Again, this majority is a minority in which we have been quoted from the British concepts. Our undercurrents are being fashioned by them. What should have been on ourselves. We have become a superficial imitative nation. We first followed with a model of the socialist economy. Then, we have gone wholeheartedly to capitalist economy.

There is no originality in our thinking? What was our great asset? Every nation has a special attribute. Japan's attribute is a sort of a 'cooperative spirit'. The American attribute is 'enterprise'. The British attribute is 'balance'. What is the Indian special attribute? It was the power of the Indian mind which could think very deeply, creatively and constructively which made India, at one time, the mother of old civilisation as Will Durant, the celebrated American historian, put it. I can quote that figure. My distinguished friend quoted the Bhagwad Gita here. When you read the Bhagwad Gita, what strikes you most is the power of the Indian mind. It is not a great philosophical poem. It is not a poem of Lord Krishna. It is also the searching question that Arjuna posed to the inquisitive

mind, the creative mind. He is always very conscious. It is this asset that we have lost.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not stopping you but you are using the time allotted for your party.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I realise it. I think, everybody has taken more than half-an-hour. I have not yet completed half-an-hour. Of course, I will not take more time than what Shri Balram Jakhar has taken. I am only quoting what Will Durent said :

"India was the Mother land of our race, and Sanskrit the Mother of Europe's languages; She was the Mother of our Philosophy; Mother of much of our Mathematics; Mother, through the Buddha, of the ideals embodied in Christianity; Mother, through the village community, of self-government and democracy. Mother India is, in many ways, the Mother of us all..."

What I would like to say is that this power of the Indian mind should have been recreated and we should have reconstructed ourselves in 1947 and thereafter. That would have become original and we could have found our own solutions. We have not done that.

What was our heritage? What are the components of that heritage? What was the product of the mind? It was the concept of Karmayogi. What was the concept of ram rajya? What does ram rajya mean? It means fair and just Government through fair and just means. What does karmayogi mean? It means devoted and dedicated work. Did we recreate them in the terminology which is modern today? ... (Interruptions)

Therefore, what we need today is to recreate these concepts. If we had recreated those concepts in the terminology which are relevant today, our administration would not have been that ineffective, inefficient and full of corruption, as it is today. Had our motivation been on the line of, what I said, fair and just Government through fair and just means, would we have landed ourselves in so much of corruption? Had we that balance and harmony, would we have had this environmental degradation? Would we have had so much of a consumerist society at the top and so many shameless people down below? It is because that we lost the original touch and became so imitative that we are finding ourselves in such a situation today.

What is the challenge? This challenge can be met by the forces which are now occupying the centrestage. As I have said, I do not say that we are absolutely perfect. We have our shortcomings. But the way we have chosen,

the motivation which we want to impart and the basic change we want to bring is the relevant factor. I am quite sure that we would try our best and we would put in our best and there is no reason as to why we should not succeed in giving a new turn and a new direction to this nation ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMED (Madhubani): Bats the bottle and the wine are old, only cap is new ... (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let Mr Jagmohan finish first and you speak only when you are called to do so.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): It seems that he knows much about wine.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN: I do not want to enter into any argument. What I wanted to say is, what were our concepts? What was our value system which we emphasised at the beginning? This is what I wanted to say. These are the under currents which are shaping our polity and administration. We should attend to them if we want to solve our problems.

Shri Jakhar was saying as to how would the Government do it. What I am trying to say is that we have to impart a new dynamism, a sense of dedication and find a new way of doing things. We have to draw inspiration. Only persons with a motivation and an awakened consciousness can do it and it cannot be done by persons who are fighting for small gains here and there. Our problems are so formidable and our legacy so unfortunate that we have to do our best. That is my proposition. There is nothing antiquity about it. It is only to recreate.

I did not want to say this because of paucity of time but since you have raised the issue I would now like to quote Shri Krishna Iyer and he is not antiquated. I believe, all of you know him. What did he say?

He says:

"Manava Dharma, that is our cultural heritage, in its comprehensive sense, more modern than all the instruments of United Nations put together. It is materialistic, ethical moral, spiritual and must be

admitted to be the genesis of human values in their highest cultural sense."

I was just trying to enlighten my friend. If he still feels it is an old bottle with a new cover, I leave it to his understanding. I feel he does not understand it.

In the end I would only quote Tagore to emphasis the meaning of all that I have just said. I have slightly modified it to make it more relevant to the present time. Tagore said:

"Let us Pray where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary deserts, sands of dead habit; where the mind is led forward by Thee into ever-widening thoughts and actions into that heaven purity, freedom and truth, my father let my country awake."

I say, let my country awake into the new freedom, new truth and new justice. That is what I want to impress upon this House. I do not want to repeat all that has been said earlier. I thought this was the fundamental point which needed consideration of the House not only from this side but also from the other side. I have said this in the spirit of conciliation, in the spirit of consensus and construction. It is a matter of re-creation of this nation, re-awakening of this nation. There was a time when Swamy Vivekananda got up and gave a new confidence to this nation. I think it requires another small quotation from Sri Aurobindo because we are still being dominated by the same value system or the same rush for a thing without understanding our roots. He said:

"British rule has been the record success in history, in the hypanasis of a nation. It persuaded us to live in a 'death of the will', creating in ourselves the condition of morbid weakness the hypnotist desired, until the Master of a mightier hypnosis laid his finger on India's eyes and cried, "Awake". Then only the spell was broken, the slumbering mind realised itself and the dead soul lived again."

That is what Swam Vivekananda had created. The dead soul lived again. Now, unfortunately we are under another hypnosis. The new hypnosis is, we are getting Americanisation of the Indian mind, superficial imitative mind. We have to have a new renaissance which will give a new sense and direction to the nation.

I am sorry if I have taken much time.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Respected Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

One would have expected a shaky coalition of this sort to present a moderate and reasonable agenda of governance

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

and that the President's Address would reflect this. But what we see here is, among platitudes certain questionable schemes that would subvert the very essence of our Parliamentary democracy. This Government has gone way beyond the limited breathe imparted to it by its razor-thin majority. The discussion on the Confidence Motion and also the President's Address has revealed this. This Government which will collapse by the bat of an eyelid of some of the new found allies of the BJP, has the audacity to say that they are going to amend the Constitution in a major way and that they are going to appoint a Commission for that.

The Prime Minister has reiterated the Government's resolve to go ahead with its move of amendment of the Constitution. It will have far-reaching consequences. He has put it as though it was the most natural thing to do. This is one aspect of the BJP's unhidden agenda which has unobtrusively crept into the so-called National Agenda. I find it extraordinarily strange that it is stealthily moving up the Government's order of priorities.

What is the rationale behind an unprecedented move to play around with our Constitution? The forefathers of the Constitution, the Members of the Constituent Assembly who drew rich experience from the national movement, did not put an expiry date on our Constitution. They did not see this document that is meant to guide and shape the destiny of this great nation as some sort of a pain killer sold by a haberdeshier in a village market. However, they did not make it inflexible either. They provided for amendments to suit developing situations which arise from time to time. The Constitution has been amended many times, we all know that.

If it is the intention of the Government to update and attune the Constitution to the present times, there is already enough leeway. Then, one wonders why the Government is so anxious to take another look at the Constitution. It is here, Sir, our worst fears are aroused.

There is only one aspect of the Constitution which we cannot amend, it has repeatedly been asserted and pointed out by the Supreme Court, and that is the basic structure. Certain vital Constitutional provisions that make our democracy a true democracy, a democracy in spirit not just in words, are the right to freedom, right to life, the provisions that guarantee certain rights to the minorities of this country. In short, these are the Constitutional core that make this 900 million strong nation stand and be counted as a civilised democracy. It is this core-beware the new-found allies of the BJPI - with which the BJP wants to play

I would like to recall the Prime Minister's reply to the

debate on Confidence Motion where he most charmingly slipped in yet another perverse idea. The hon. Prime Minister, taking the clue from some suggestions made in this House, went so far as to suggest that once elected the Lok Sabha should complete its five-year term. I should admit that this is a tempting proposition for many Members of Parliament. But we should remember that the people of this country voted out the 'Emergency-regime' which extended the term of the Lok Sabha, it was in that connection the Prime Minister made his famous speech and said that this is a parlok sabha. Sir, such clever provisions go against the very grain of democratic polity.

You cannot bring stability though the backdoor. Remember this country where leaders as diverse in their political opinion as Jai Prakash Narayan and E.M.S. Namboodiripad debated in favour of recalling the representatives of the people during their tenure. They said that people should get the right to recall their representatives. And here we have, a monarch of morality wanting to invert such democratic aspirations!

Perhaps, it is not surprising that this morality mask has slipped far too often in the last 15 days revealing the face that is not exactly humane.

Sir, the general belief is that the BJP in coalition will be moderate and will moderate its extreme and divisive positions. Now, I wonder, if the Prime Minister in his endeavour to reform the Constitution will seek the able assistance of his Law Minister, Shri Thambi Durai. He has made a fantastic insight into the penal system. He virtually acquitted an accused in at least six serious criminal cases and, Sir, the accused happens to be none other than his political leader to whom he owes his position and political career.

Neither the Prime Minister in his reply to the debate on the Confidence Motion, nor has any other Member cared to reply to this point. Repeatedly, Members were raising this point. What is the attitude of the Government regarding these cases? Is it the attitude of the Ministry itself? What is the attitude of the Prime Minister? *(Interruptions)* Why are you interrupting? You can reply. I think, the hon. Home Minister would intervene. . . *(Interruptions)*

I would also like to point out that some serious situations have arisen in some of the State Legislatures where the Anti Defection Law is being subverted with impunity. Perhaps, the Government and its Ministers were advocating dramatic changes to the law of the land to see that this has an acceptable precedent. The fact that the BJP, the leading party of the Central Government, is in office in some of these States, should be a matter of concern to all.

Sir, I, as a Member of this House, had witnessed the adoption of the Anti Defection law which was unanimously adopted with great fanfare. It was adopted in the first Session of the Eighth Lok Sabha itself.

Sir, all the Members of this House cutting across party lines reposed faith in the impartiality of the Speaker and he was accepted as the final arbitrator. The faith was not in the individual but in the august office of the Speaker. However, in a matter of 13 years, the conduct of certain speakers on this count has been called into question by the public as well as the media.

Here, what has degenerated is not the law but its implementation. We witnessed in the last couple of weeks the BJP's single-minded pursuit of majority at any cost. I am afraid that in the days to come the provisions of the Anti Defection law will be stretched to many directions.

I am afraid that we may witness it in this House itself. It is here that the office of the Speaker of this House becomes extremely crucial for parliamentary democracy.

Sir, the very edifice of this Government is one that smacks of deceit, betrayal and manipulation. The disturbing sings this Government has given through the President's Address should put any right thinking citizen on the alert. Hence, I oppose this Motion of Thanks on the president's Address.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA (Kaisarganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to you for having given me an opportunity to speak on this occasion. I rise to oppose the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I do not want to oppose this motion of thanks as a mere formality. Rather every true Indian must oppose this Government with sincerity.

The 50th year of Independence which our country is celebrating is the result of the hard word done by the paragon of humanity who wearing a loin-cloth gave a new weapon of non-violent revolution as a means to achieve success to the entire world. Something unfortunate that we are celebrating the Golden Jubilee of our Independence but we are ignoring the followers and the philosophy of this great man. The country cannot be run without remembering him. Those who conceive to be in power will have to remember the name of Mahatma Gandhi and ultimately B.J.P. had to remember him. Everybody knows how much sympathetic you were with Gandhiji during your formative period and how much admiration you have for him while in power. Thank you very much for mentioning

Mahatma Gandhi as a paragon of mankind in the President's Address.

The extent to which a politician respects Gandhi ji is redeemed of his sins to that extent. You have called Mahatma Gandhi as a paragon of mankind just to redeem your sins, but it would have been better if you had called Nathu Ram Godse as the first terrorist of free India. But you don't have that much courage to say so. So it reflects your ideology of double speak because you have different standards when you to the public for votes and while you train your cadres. It is like a wolf in a sheep's clothing. The people of the country must have heard this saying and the children must have read it in books we are really sorry for this Government being installed after constitution of new Lok Sabha and this has been possible because of continuous degeneration of politics and mistakes of our predecessors....(Interruptions) Those leaders who once guided, led and taught us not to compromise with principle have gone to that side. Our leader George Fernandes must be listening to me. We still respect him and will continue to do so in future as well.

No politician or leader dreaming to rule this country can rule this country honestly unless he keeps the social structure of this country in mind and assimilates the philosophy of Gandhi ji. The people sitting on that side have adopted all sorts of means to win the elections.

16.00 hrs.

Vote is not as important as the country or the society. This is the reason that you have prepared the eight page Address of Hon. President in hurry. This Address lacks direction and it is devoid of any policy.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the chair]

16.01 hrs.

Our friend from the congress has stated that it is the same old wine and bottle, only its label is new. What is wrong in it Your? National Agenda is the same and the President's Address is also literally the same. It is not clear to the people as to how you are going to accomplish the task. You have said that poverty and illiteracy will be eliminated and education will be made compulsory.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Do you oppose them?

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : I do not oppose them. Perhaps you do not know how people live in the villages. There are still such districts where 70-75% people live in jhuggis....(Interruptions) Figures are available (Interruptions) I was born in such a family....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rajvir Singhji, since you have initiated this, you please listen to him quietly.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Sangmaji have rightly pointed out that you have even failed to mention the constitutional provisions in the President's Address. The Directive Principles enshrined in the Constitution are being implemented by the Government as part of their responsibility and it has been provided therein, that free and compulsory education would be provided to children upto to the age of 14 years. You hurriedly mentioned it as a Primary Education in such an important document. There is least seriousness about. You want to run this Govt. by hook or by crook or by political maneuvering so that supremacy of the elite class is established in this country. You do not conceive anything else. It we go through the history of your main organization, Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, we find nothing positive if.

Was there any threat impending to Hindu religion when Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was formed in 1925? There was no danger to it. At that time socially backward and down trodden people were standing by Gandhiji in order to get freedom. Had we got freedom at that point of time, the rule of the people of deprived classes would have been established in our country. In 1921 when Satyagraha started by Gandhiji turned out successful, then only Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was formed with a view to create strife between Hindus and Muslims. You had helped in forming Government at the centre earlier also. When the cause of the people deprived over the ages was being taken up in parliament and Mandal Commission report was implemented, you started talking about liberalizing Lord Ram from the captivity and launched a movement to build a temple of Ram. It would have been better if Mr. George had been sitting here. He was defining Hindutava. He quoted the lines "Saare Jahan Se Achha Hindustan Hamara." He mentioned the name of Gandhiji. He had pointed out that Gandhi had rightly called India as Hindustan. It would have been better if Mr. George were here as in that position he could have reacted in case I said anything wrong. I would like to read out whatever Mr. George spoke in Hyderabad on 20-21 March, 1993. If I read out the whole statement it will take much time. I would like to read out only one paragraph from his statement.

[English]

"The run-up to the destruction of the Babri Masjid saw a virulent campaign of hatred by the Sangh Parivar towards the Muslims not much different from what was unleashed against the Jews in Germany when Adolf Hitler was making a bid for power. The new definition of nationalism being synonymous with Hindu Rashtra has in it echoes of the slogan of the exclusivity and superiority of the German race that was given by Hitler. And with it, the Sangh Parivar has not only given a new dimension to the two-nation theory of Jinnah, but

has, even if vicariously, provided justification to the many insurances in different parts of the country".

[Translation]

Mr. George had made such remarks in Hyderabad about Sangh Parivar. Now the definition of Hindutva is changing. All that goes in history remains unchanged. The children of coming generation will also read it. So, what kind of direction are you giving to them? If you have come to power, that does not mean that you should confine yourself, to merriments and serving personal and political interests, it is also for giving a new direction to new generation. The man who is sitting here as Our Home Minister was in Ayodhya at the time when the mosque was being demolished there. When the history will be written, will this fact be skipped over that when BJP led Government was formed, it made an appeal to maintain secularism though Babri Mosque was demolished at its instance and the Home Minister of this Government was present there while mosque was being demolished? What could be the greater contempt and mockery of secularism than this difference in percept and practice. It is right that if the policy of secularism is done away with, then the very face of this country will get changed altogether.

Sir, however lengthy speeches BJP people may deliver, this country cannot be saved by their oratory. If this country has to be saved and kept intact then this is possible only if the concept of secularism provided by Gandhiji is followed. I would like to quote here the words of Gandhiji.

"Hindustan belongs to all those who are born and brought up here and do not regard some other country as their own. Therefore it belongs to Indian Parsees, Jews, Christians, Muslims and other non-Hindus as much as it belongs to Hindus. The free India will not be favoured by Hindus only, rather it will be governed by Indians, the basis of which will not lie in the majority community of any particular religion belief or sect, rather it will be in the representation of total majority in a secular form. I can surmise a situation where in people of various minor communities join hands and turn Hindu into a minority by joining hands. The representatives will be elected on the basis of their services and ability. Religion is a personal matter which should have, no place in politics. The foreign rule has divided the people of this country in an unnatural manner. When the foreign rule would be no more here. We will laugh at our foolishness as to how we adhered to these false ideals and slogans."

Sir, the name of Gandhiji has been mentioned, but if we really want to follow him, we will have to shun this sort of foolishness.

Now when these people have come in the Parliament, they claim to be secular whereas after demolition of Babri

Mosque these very people used to go around asking for votes and sticking posters with the wording "we did what we had promised."

You cannot become followers of Gandhiji by merely mentioning Gandhiji as the paragon of mankind in books or until you remove the difference between what you preach and what you practise.

Sir, Shri George Fernandes had stated this the other day and I want to repeat his point again today that you want to establish the rule of the elite class in this country. Taking recourse to religion you want to keep crores of Dalits and Backwards of this country out of power. This policy won't work. Gandhiji had once said if Hindus are in majority here, they are in majority because they are still compelled to accept the truth that they have to lead a woeful life. Our Prime Minister and the Home Minister are the representatives of those Hindus who are leading a comfortable life and their number is very small. The number of Hindus who are leading a difficult life is more in comparison to those Hindus who are leading a comfortable life. Nobody can stop those Hindus who are leading a difficult life from mobilising. The minorities as well as the followers of other religions would also join them.

Sir, this is a minority Government, about which it is being said that it will complete its full term but we want to say that this Government won't survive beyond six months. With these words, I oppose the motion of thanks on Presidents Address. . . (Interruptions) We would remove you not by renouncing politics but by doing hard work.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (Garhwal) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the motion of thanks on the Presidents Address. This time the President's Address which is a declaration of policies of the Government, is a historic address wherein Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has made a commitment that an initiative should be taken to remove the difficulties, problems and sorrows of the people of this country. He has indicated and resolved to build a New India so that our country may restore its past glory and may flourish and prosper. The people and the Government would endeavour to accomplish this task. Such type of commitment has been made in this Address. This country has a glorious past. We should try to bring back that very glorifying culture, high traditions and character into our life and incorporate these very qualities in the Government of this country. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, They do not want to listen.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM : If they do not want to listen, thus may leave the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are also contributing.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI AVSM : This Address has been delivered with this view point and the Government has pronounced its policies. I want to congratulate the Government for this and express my gratitude towards the hon'ble President for presenting his view point before the House.

I would like to express my views within the allotted time on some of the points mentioned in the President's Address. But prior to that, I would like to present my view point on certain other matters. During the vote of confidence and even today it was said that this Address is highly ambitious. Hon'ble Jakhari used the term 'utopian' and even former Minister of Communications Shri Verma also stated somewhat sarcastically that how that all would be possible? I would like to submit before the House that keeping in view the atmosphere of gloom in the country, and the sense of pessimism which has engulfed the mind of every individual you won't be able to restore the confidence of the people till you formulate long term constructive programme and tell the public about the direction to which you want to take the country.

You will have to tell the people about your farreaching objectives to clear the atmosphere of despair which has been created in the country. We will have to make them feel that the Government exists or there are some people who want to take steps for the upliftment of the country. They want to do something besides indulging in mere rhetoric and for this it is necessary to put forth some objectives before the people of the country. Many people jeer at the slogan - 'India is a great country.' In many places in Delhi one comes across the banners bearing slogan 'Mera Bharat Mahan Hai.' Some days back, I saw an autorickshaw where it was written that out of 100 people, 99 are dishonest, even then My India is Great. It has taken a deep root in the psyche today that all people are dishonest. How is this impression created? Nothing is going to deliver goods for this country, let everything happen, because it hardly matters. Corruption has become order of the day. There had also been corruption in the past. I have experienced all this during my childhood that corruption did exist earlier also but people would conceal the money received as bribery at that time and they would utilize it stealthily. But what has happened today? Corruptions has become a courtesy today and we have huge bungalows and elegant buildings and a man who does not indulge in corruption and does not take bribe, people say about him that he does not know how to make money by using his positions. (Interruptions) If you want to make any comment just for the sake of it, you may do that but please spare sometime to think seriously about the country. Only comments are not going to serve any

[Major General Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri AVSM]

purpose .. *(Interruptions)* You should speak on the issues and ideas seriously. You have sent Sukh Ramji to us having trained him for fifty years, things cannot be changed over night.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : You have made the man deputy C.M. from whose house Rs. 4 crore hard cash were seized. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Khanduriji, please continue.

(Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not replying to the points raised by him as per your directives. He may not agree to my points but he should atleast listen to me seriously. He should sit in the House seriously at least sometime, how long this waggery will continue. Where this country has reached after 50 years of Independence.

The guidelines which have been given in the Address are in order to arouse the self-respect of the country, the people of the country, may get a chance to actively participate in national activities and the country may get an impetus. The Prime Minister has made it clear on Saturday that no time frame has been set for each task, some task would be completed in one year and the others in two years, five-ten years and so on. But, we should at least make efforts in that direction. If you think it wrong to move in that direction then tell us. But simply to jeer at if we say that we will provide education and employment to all, is not good. Is it wrong to make efforts, is it wrong to make a mention of these objectives? Therefore, I urge upon the House to understand the motive behind all these things.

Now I come to the points contained in the Address. First of all, I take up point number 28 which relates to Uttranchal. I express my heartiest gratitude to Hon'ble President and the Vajpayee Government that they have accepted the long-standing demand of my area and have resolved to implement it. I, on behalf of the people of Uttranchal, am really thankful to the President, Atal ji and his government and express my gratitude. I also express my gratitude to the BJP and its 13 allies, for including this in the National Agenda. *(Interruptions)* During the vote on Confidence, apprehensions were raised that creation of small States such as Uttranchal, will weaken the country. I would like to request those members to please realise as to why they are making demand for a separate state. In 1994 when agitation for creation of Uttranchal was at its peak, I had said at that point of time that we wanted to create Uttranchal to make this country stronger. If

something is detrimental to the interest of the country, we would not want Uttranchal at all. We have not been demanding Uttranchal to weaken the country rather we want that this small region which is geographically different should become so strong that the country should be proud of it and I want to assure this House that within seven to ten years this region would become self-sufficient. It would emerge as a strong state economically as well as in terms of other resources of which the whole country will feel proud of. There are so many other things which people are unable to understand. For instance, take the case of the Planning commission. The Planning Commission is adopting same set of norms for Delhi as well as for hilly region. Criteria adopted for the Mount Everest are also the same as are adopted in case of plains. According to the Planning Commission, the targets set for Primary Health Centres in our country have almost been achieved. When we approach them for this purpose, they tell us that as per their criteria quota is completed. But there are hundreds of such villages in my area where a pregnant women has to be carried to a Primary Health Centre on a hillock by trying her with a chair which takes six to seven hours to reach there. If any conveyance is available, then we could reach the Primary Health Centre in three-four hours.

Similarly there are thousands of villages without drinking water facility though the Ganga and Yamuna are flowing through our area. Therefore, the demand for a separate state is not to weaken the country but to give impetus to faster development. In fact, the Geographical conditions are such that constitution of a small and administrative unit in this area would speed up the developmental process and bring prosperity. However, petty politics is being played on this issue also. Shri Shivshankar ji had alleged that day we wanted to create smaller states because we were in the Government. Though his colleague and Congress party member Shri Muttemvar ji who sits just behind him, had during the 'Presidential Address' demanded for a separate Vidharva state. You are opposing but your colleagues are demanding for smaller states. Therefore, you need to ponder over it seriously. I do hope that the Government would soon bring a Bill in this regard. The government should bring the Bill in the next Budget Session and all parties should support it.

The point four dwells on the issue of consensus. I feel that this is the key of Government's policies. Whether the Government is in majority or in minority, unless the country is run through consensus, it can not propose and progress. I would like to cite an example. The Congress party had two third majority in 1984. Had you people run the Country through consensus, all the problems could have been solved, but some vested interests who are there in all the political parties did not let it happen. The atmosphere for politics of consensus could not be built up and ultimately

what happened is known to all. Through politics of consensus, several things could be achieved therefore, such an atmosphere should be built up in the country. The atmosphere of mutual distrust should go and we all should strive to build consensus at least on the vital issues in the largest interest of the country.

I had made a suggestion during the 10th Lok Sabha to sort out some issues and strive to solve them without playing politics. But I have found when we deliver our speeches, we look upward as to what is going to be published next day. Therefore, Members generally take their party's line and also aim at their own publicity.

For election of Pope, all the cardinals are locked up in a house and nobody is allowed to enter until they reach consensus and how much time it may take and when the decision is reached, white smoke comes out of the chimney indicating to unlock the doors and when they come out no one can ask as to what happened inside as the decision is a unanimous one. We should also adopt this policy. The leader of all the political parties should sit together to ponder over various problems confronting of one nation be it the problem of population or health or education. Then, only we can reach some solutions. This Government talks of consensus. This is an optimistic view. I hope and earnestly request all people to select some vital issue and endeavour to solve them with consensus.

My next point is that the Government should work and this is now new idea. the people also want that this Government should work. I recall when Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government was constituted in 1984, he was asked as to what kind of government it would be to which he had said:

[English]

"My Government will be Government that works.

[Translation]

Some journalist had asked him whether the previous Government was not working then he had said",

[English]

My Government will be the Government that works faster.

[Translation]

The need of the hour is that something concrete should be done. we had pinned great hopes on that leader. I was in the Army those days. He was a young leader and also enjoyed two third majority in the House, we had developed a nation that he would dynamically improve the lot of this country. Particularly in the Mumbai session of Congress

party, he had declared that power brokers would not be tolerated any more His leadership aroused new hopes among the people of this country but everything come to an abrupt end. Therefore, I would like the Government to do something concrete, instead of showing its performance on papers only.

Where does our country stand even after completing 50 years of independence? How much money has been spent so far, is a matter to be discussed at length, but Government would have to act in real terms and that too with a feeling of accountability. Those who have a good performance should be given incentives whereas punishment should be given to those whose performance is below the standard.

Our country has progressed during last fifty years, but not in a systematic way. Over these years rich because more rich whereas the poor became poor I want to cite an example. Present culture is the culture of five star hotels where 5 to 6 thousand rupees are charged per plate. The people going to such hotels do not go there to satisfy their appetite. They take only a bite or two and the food left by them is thrown in the dustbin, where hungry dogs as well as children pounce on that food. But alas! even there the dog dominates over the human being and man finds it difficult to snatch the food from the dog. In the same five star hotel a man pays fifteen thousand rupees for a night stay whereas a poor man living on a pavement does not find even a blanket to cover himself. God know how many people die of cold wave in Delhi itself.

Our country is overburdened with debt for which just now the statistics have been given by Shri Jagmohan ji. I do agree that the country has progressed but due to the growing population and faulty planning, the pace of the progress has been very tardy. We should solve the problem of population explosion by consensus for which in 1991, a proposal had came before the 10th Lok Sabha.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude because I have got a very long list of members of your party.

[Translation]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI
AVSM : A mention has been made about women in para 13-14 and unemployment has been mentioned in Para 16. The problem of unemployment in a very complicated problem. Nothing can be achieved by only creating jobs. In our education system, only certificates of high school, graduation and post-graduation are given. Until this system is changed and education is made job oriented, no improvement can be brought in the field of education and the country will not be able to progress.

[Major General Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri AVSM]

Secondly, everyone is interested in Government jobs today. The reason behind it is that although there are several schemes for self-employment, so much corruption and red tapism is involved in their implementation that they do not prove to be effective. To solve the problem of unemployment, the self-employment scheme should be made effective.

So far as the relation between the Centre and the states is concerned, powers should be given to the States, but the corruption which has spread at the panchayat level with empowerment, should be checked. Same is the case with Jawahar Rozgar Yozna also cases of mis-conduct are being noticed in villages also and there is a need to correct it.

A mention has also been made about security. It is regretful that we have given a back seat to security in this political scenario. We mention about national security council and other things related to security. The country is being misled in regard to confidential matters and there is a tendency to hide facts. This mentality should be changed and an alertness should be kept. I am also regretful to say that justice has not been done with the armed forces. I can say a lot in this regard, but there is scarcity of time. The mentality adopted in this regard can be expressed in the following words-

[English]

God and soldiers are remembered in distress and difficulty. Distress over and difficulty resolved. God is forgotten and soldiers slighted.

[Translation]

Such mentality should not be adopted.

In the end, I would like to say one more thing. Discrepancies have arisen because we have lost our culture, behaviour and character. A mention has also been made in the address in this regard. I expect from the Government that it will propagate right culture and behaviour and make character building efforts for the youth and people of this country. They should be able to sacrifice in the interest of the country. With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the Hon. President's Address.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Bapatla): Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to mention a few words on the President's Address to the Joint Session which was read out by the President.

It is the practice that whenever there is an election,

manifestoes are presented to the public and out of the manifestoes if one party gets elected, programmes will be chalked out and those things will be mentioned in the President's Address. Here, the national Party, the Bharatiya Janata Party, has given to the public a manifesto with its programmes and given it a go by in preparing the President's Address. In between, they have created another document called the National Agenda for Governance.

In this connection, the BJP President and the present Home Minister, respected Shri Advani, mentioned that the manifesto of the BJP is no longer relevant and the National Agenda is relevant. In the House, he mentioned it.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : What I said yesterday was not what you are saying now. I never said that it was not relevant. I said that so far as this Government is concerned, it would be governed by the National Agenda.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : That is right. That means your manifesto is no more there. . .(Interruptions). The manifesto of yours, the manifesto of the AIADMK will not be there. . .(Interruptions) Please do not interrupt me. When you were speaking, you were asking us to sit down. Now, you please sit down.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KUMARI AVSM: I was not asking you to sit down. . .(Interruptions)

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: When you were speaking, you asked our friends to sit down. So, when I am speaking, why do you interrupt us? Please sit down. You are a disciplined Major. . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Speaker is not yielding. Please do not disturb.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY : I was also the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. We had also prepared the Governor's Address. Some of the ideas and words used in this Presidential Address are hijacked from the President's Addresses made during the time of the Congress Government. I do not think that Shri Vajpayee has written this. Usually the practice is that you ask the bureaucrats to write this, you go through that and the Cabinet approves it. It is the practice. That is why, the President's Address is the rehash of the National Agenda, rather I can say that is a carbon copy of the National Agenda. It does not matter. But it has got tall claims, false promises which no Government can implement even if it is given five years time. High sounding words have been used that they are going to build new India — India free from triple curse of insecurity, hunger and corruption. More than that, they say that they will ensure that no child will

go to sleep with hunger. The sounds no very nice provided they are going to implement then. Why I say this is that Shri Advani has mentioned in this House that this Government is relying on the National Agenda. They have promised so many things in their manifesto. About Articles 370, Shri Vajpayee said, "Why do you raise it when we do not want to do it?" They had mentioned to the people that they would abrogate Article 370 and also introduce a common civil code. We were opposing it and even now we oppose it but they came out with their manifesto. The same thing was done by the TDP, the present friend of yours, when they went back from the promises made in their election manifesto after getting the votes. In 1994 election manifesto, Mr. NIR gave promises to the State that he would provide rice at Rs.2.00 per k.g. — Shri Vajpayee knows it well — would bring down rates of power tariff to Rs.50 per horse power and there would be total prohibition in the State. The present Chief Minister who succeeded him — in whatever manner he succeeded him — he promised in 1996 elections that even the medical permits for the alcohols would not be given. He said that these three programmes were his programmes. He got the votes and it was given a go by. So the TDP had deceived the States, the BJP has deceived the nation. But they have done it in the beginning itself. Perhaps that is good.

I do not know whether the officers have brought to his notice some of the things about primary education to all. This was one of the promises that was mentioned by the President. The solution of providing primary education to all does not lie in the additional expenditure. It is not at all that. As Shri Shanta Kumar had said when he moved the Motion, that the "political will is necessary". The four States that are lagging behind in primary education are be U.P., Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In U.P., the BJP Government is there.

Madhya Pradesh which introduced the Innovation Education Generation Scheme operated by Panchayats has shown results. Whereas the other two States that are ruled by the BJP have not done so. Sir, this thing has to be done by the States and not by the Centre. The Central Government can give directions and can help the States financially with regard to Education. They promised that education will be given to women free upto college level. Sir, you know pretty well that education is in the Concurrent List. Their administration lies with the State Governments. How is the Centre going to implement it? Are they going to take over Education from the Concurrent List or simply treat as a Central Programms or interfere with the State Administration? It is quite vague. That is why I said that the document itself is quite vague.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, about the Agriculture, they have mentioned that 60 percent of the Plan outlay will be utilised

for agriculture. My friend Shri Valke Gopalaswamy was very happy about it. But it is not a new thing. It is already 60 percent. About the Agriculture and agricultural allies including power and technology utilisation, it is already nearly 60 percent. I wish that they should improve upon it.

We should kindly remember to what Dr. Balram Jhakar has said in his speech that out of Rupees Eight you are spending on agriculture, it is Rs.1.75 only which is reaching the farmer. So, there, they have to find a way out. Previously, it was the same Rozgar Yojna, which was introduced by late Rajiv Gandhi, where, out of Rs.100/- spent for rural development, it was only Rs. 17 that was actually reaching the village. But then, he thought of giving it directly, which you all approved it. So, this Government should also do something thinking about it.

More than that, they were kind enough on the day when there was some natural calamity at Midnapore, they sent their Minister and released some money immediately. It was not the question of releasing money, it was not the question of sending people there. The main thing was the concern about that calamity. I agree with them. What they have done is quite correctly.

But there have been 300 suicide deaths of cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. It is a disease that is spreading to other States also. About it, the Central Government has given a few crores of rupees to the States and the States have given Rs. one lakh on account each death and washed off their hands. Is it going to solve the problem of the farmers? One has to find out the route cause of it.

Therefore, I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister that a Committee of agro economists, technologists, farmers and farmers sympathisers should be constituted immediately to go into this aspect and help the farmers. Otherwise, we are put to shame while looking into us by other countries as to how our farmers are being treated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, they have made a mention about the crop insurance. They have rather mentioned 'effective crop insurance'. I do not know what it is. But the present crop insurance is the only insurance against the bank loan, the farmer draws. That is all. If a farmer is there who spends his own money, develops some crop and if it gets destroyed by the natural calamity, there is no insurance at all. He is not permitted to have insurance. There is no insurance such. So, 'effective insurance' means — I am of the opinion — that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will think about something special which will benefit all the farmers. Sir, the suicidal deaths of cotton farmers have taken place because there is no effective crop insurance. Had there been some effective crop insurance scheme, those deaths would not

[Shri Janardhana Reddy]

have taken place and their lives would have been saved.

You have mentioned about states' reorganisation. You want to carve out Uttaranchal in Uttar Pradesh, Vananchal in Bihar and Chattisgarh in Madhya Pradesh. I want to remind the Prime Minister that when I met him in Rashtrapati Bhavan during the Vice-President's swearing-in ceremony, he just mentioned to me about carving out smaller States and I told him that I would be sending him a note about this. He was then the Leader of the Opposition. It was written by an eminent economist and administrator Shri B.P.R. Vittal who gave clear analysis. He was the one who argued for smaller States, but now he has gone back saying smaller States are a burden over the State exchequer. I have sent those papers to the Prime Minister and I received an acknowledgment of the receipt of that letter. I hope he might have gone through it. For historical reasons he might have accepted two or three but please do not open a Pandora's box in this matter.

You have mentioned that morality and ethics in the foundation of the Government. I wish it were. But we have seen in Uttar Pradesh 91 Ministers where a pandal is needed to have Cabinet meeting; where a man involved in a murder case is holding charge of the Ministry of Science and Technology to improve murder technology; and men dealing in illicit liquor has been made the Minister of Culture, to have that culture developed! So, if you say that BJP has nothing to do with the Uttar Pradesh Government, it is all right. But, if you want to bring the same culture and morality, I am sorry, God only save this Government.

In this President's Address, there is an appeal for consensus approach, but your double-talk, double-speak and double-cross is seen everywhere, including in the Speaker's election. I thought this Government is out of deals. You made a deal with Kumari Jayalalitha; you made a deal with Kumari Mamata and I thought it would end with Shri Sukh Ram. But you ended with Babu Deal. You mentioned in Lucknow that talks are going on for TDP's joining the Government. That is not a new thing. We know that they are going to join your Government the moment they fielded their candidate for the post of Speaker and got your support.

In Lucknow, Shri Vajpayee mentioned that stability has been achieved yesterday. Yes, you won the confidence vote. I congratulate you on that. But stability does not lie on numbers alone. The TDP supported you with eleven votes. You won two more votes by nominating unethically two Anglo-Indian Members before getting the Confidence Vote. Usually it is not done, it does not matter, you got it done. But what happened after that? Shri Babu Khan, a Minister

in the State, a Muslim friend of ours coming from a good family, has resigned from the Telugu Desam Government. Does it show that the country has got confidence in your Government? Can it give a stable Government if a community is not having confidence in your Government? You are telling that you have kept out all the programmes that will create problems to certain other communities.

Shri Chandrababu Naidu has been shouting from the rooftops, 'Look, Fernandes is there, Hegde is there, Mamata is there, Jayalalitha is there; they will safeguard the interests of secularism. Do not worry'. But yet Shri Babukhan, a very good follower of the Telugu Desam has resigned because they have voted for a Government in which a particular community has no confidence. Stability is not a mere number. You may get a hundred-vote majority but that does not mean confidence. You may get the majority here. As Shri P.A. Sangma has rightly said, you got the confidence vote here but you lost the confidence of the public. That is why, you have had to deny that there is a hidden agenda. There is a hidden agenda. This agenda is not the real agenda.

They want to formulate a national policy on population. The same people objected when Shrimati Indira Gandhi introduced family planning in 1976 in a big way. They agitated, giving out all sorts of circulars and finally they got her defeated. The same party is coming out and saying that there is going to be a national policy on population.

The last para, i.e., para 42 says, 'It also marks the 50th Anniversary of the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi. Is it sincere? The R.S.S. Chief ... (Interruptions) It is much talked about and I am not a new man to give this information in this House or outside. When Prof. Rajendra Singh was asked, 'What is your opinion about Nathuram Godse who killed Gandhi?', he said, 'Godse was motivated by (the philosophy of) akhanda Bharat. His intention was good ...' How can they say that they think about Mahatma Gandhi's martyrdom and that they are the inheritors of the fruits of sacrifice made by Mahatma Gandhi and other freedom fighters?

I have got great respect for Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee though I have not got ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : Mr. Chairman, sir, Gandhiji has always been respected in this country and will be respected in future also. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY : The R.S.S. was established in 1925. It did not participate in the 'Simon

Commission, go back' movement in 1928; it did not participate in the Satyagraha movement in 1930; it did not participate in the Satyagraha movement again in 1932; it did not participate in the individual Satyagraha in 1940 and it also did not participate in the Quit India movement in 1942. How can they claim that they are inheritors of freedom? Though not all, at least some of them say that they have got connections with the R.S.S.

They want to develop a national water policy, at the instance of Ms. Jayalalitha or whoever it may be. It is good. A River Valley Authority has to be there. This is an important need for the country. The other day it was said that water is just like or more important than petrol. According to them, this is a stable Government and not a weak Government. The construction of the Alamatti dam against the interests of Andhra Pradesh should be stopped. Ms. Jayalalitha has put in certain conditions; we do not know whether Shri Chandrababu Naidu has also put in conditions or not. But we, the Andhras, request you to stop the construction of the Alamatti dam. It is being constructed against our interests. Similarly, in the Upper Thungabadra, the interests of Rayalaseema is involved. They are against the Bachawat Award.

I hope the Prime Minister will look into these problems. I am of the opinion that he would survive. But I want to tell him a story. Three people were crossing a rivulet. In the midst of the rivulet the water started gushing. One Shiv bakt prayed, 'Shiva, Shiva help me'. Lord Shiva came and put him out. Another was a Vishnu bakt. He prayed, 'Krishna, Krishna help me'. Lord Krishna came and rescued him. Third one prayed, 'Madurai Meenakshi help me, Kanchi Kamakshi help me, Kanakadurga help me'. Madurai Meenakshi thought that Kanakadurga will help him and Kanakadurga thought Madurai Meenakshi will help him. But at last he was washed away. Now, you have got to look at the various fingers. Mr. Prime Minister, on the day you moved the Motion of confidence you told us, 'I did not wait for the finger of the referes to rise'. Now, you have to watch Jayalalitha's fingers; Mamata's fingers; Babu's fingers; Samata's fingers and Hagde's fingers. I hope their fingers will not point you. But you have to watch. Thank you.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE (Outer Manipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity to put forward in this august House points of concern of the North-East in general and Manipur in particular which is beset with all kinds of problems. The need of the hour is to bring back peace immediately. There might be differences of opinion and views. There might be ideological differences among different parties. But I plead to support me and I hope even if there are differences of opinion and views, I would not be shouted down. I plead for your support and for a patient hearing. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Go ahead, nobody will shout.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Thank you. What I have observed from the first day till today is that all the hon. Members from the ruling party as well as from the opposition wanted to be listened to. It is not an advice from me. I am a new person to this august House. What I would like to say is that even if there are differences of opinion, I feel that reasoning should prevail in this august House. I feel ashamed at the way we shout at one another. I feel like crying because this is where our people have sent us to reason and to sort out the nation's problems. I am not advising. This is the pain in my heart which I have just spoken out.

Sir, human rights have been violated in the North-Eastern region. the North-East which is beset with violence and problems is groaning in pain. I am happy that I could be present here to tell the hon. Members of this august House as to how such we are suffering over there. The need of the hour, I mention again, is to bring back peace immediately.

17.00 hrs.

Law and order problem is at its lowest ebb and violations of human rights at their zenith. We have been crying for so many years but till today, the same thing is happening and no change is visible.

Sir, we have got too many problems to speak about. I do not know how many minutes you are going to give me. I am a new Member. Hence, Mr. Speaker Sir, I would request you to let me finish my points in the interests of our people and the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may go on. Since you are making your maiden speech, nobody will interrupt you. But kindly be brief as far as possible.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Sir, apart from the economic problems, there are a lot of other problems. As a human rights activist, I would also like to bring it to the knowledge of this august House that the Armed Forces Special Powers Act should be lifted immediately. Under the imposition of Armed Forces Special Powers Act, People are suffering; people are dying. If the Armed Forces Special Powers Act was meant to solve the problems of the North-East instead of solving them, it has aggravated the situation. The Armed Forces Special Powers Act was imposed in 1958. The imposition of this unpopular Act is not at all accepted by the people of the North-Eastern States. We cannot accept this as it has not at all solved our problems. We also cannot understand as to why this Act had to be imposed on the North-Eastern States even before the problem of insurgency came about. Sir, I plead that this Armed Forces Special

[Kumari Kim Gangte]

Powers Act be lifted from the North-Eastern part of our great country. If the North-East is a part of this great country, please hear the cries of the people and listen to their groanings.

17.02 hrs.

[DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

Sir, One of the factors which brought problems to the North-East is our economic backwardness. As regards to communications, there are no rail links to many parts of the North-Eastern States. Particularly, Manipur has no rail link. The nearest railhead from Imphal, which is the capital of Manipur, is Guwahati and the distance between them is more than 580 kilometers. So, we need rail links.

Sir, We need more land routes also. There are just two National Highways. The National Highway No. 39 is not being used by the people for many compelling reasons. The National Highway No. 53 should be made a double so that the State which is right in the border with Myanmar would have a link with the main stream. There are also only two flights direct from Imphal to Delhi in a week. Flights should be increased.

We need more National Highways for linking border areas and States to the mainstream. The National Highway from Moreh to New Somtal that is, the border town between India and Myanmar, should be linked to Jaribus via Churechandpur. This will bring economic development to the people of that area and also improve trade and commerce. This will arrest shifting cultivation and preserve environment. This will enhance the overall economic development of the State and the north-eastern parts of India. This will also enhance better trade with neighbouring countries like Myanmar, in pursuance of the free border trade policy of our country. Sir, water resources should also be exploited. We have the Loktak hydroelectric project which generates about 105 MW. Out of this, only 12 per cent has been given to the State. We are buying power worth about Rs. 43 crore which has affected the economy of the State very badly. So, the Loktak project should be handed back to the State. 12 per cent of the generated power given free to the State is not justified.

Sir, The commercial and nationalised banks in Punjab have waived off loans to the extent of Rs. 50,000. The people in my State are economically backward and especially because the whole State is now in turmoil, commercial and nationalised banks should be instructed to do what has been done in respect of the people in Punjab.

In the case of Departments like forest, Agriculture,

Social Welfare, Family Welfare, Industry, Horticulture and for all the Centrally-sponsored schemes, the Central Government should bear the expenditure cent percent. At present, the State Government bears the expenditure to the extent of 25 per cent while the Central Government's share is to the extent of 75 per cent. So, these schemes cannot be implemented in time because the North-Eastern States are suffering from financial constraints.

Sir, Next, I come to Health. That people are suffering from malnutrition and different kinds of diseases. Many people have to rush to other States for better medical facilities. The State's economy has been affected badly as a result of this. There is no infrastructure available in so far as the field of health is concerned. In my State, hospitals require to be modernised. Here again, better poor people are the most affected. They are not able to go outside for better medical facilities.

Sir, I think, Manipur and other adjoining areas get the highest rainfall in the country. In spite of this, almost all the North-Eastern States have drinking water problem. This needs to be solved immediately.

Sometimes, even during the rainy season, for many many days the people suffer for want of safe drinking water.

Sir, I come from the Outer Manipur Parliamentary Constituency. The Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency, in the valley, though the people have voting right yet they do not have any candidature right. I call it a violation of political rights. So, more Parliamentary constituencies should be created so that these people who have been denied their political rights of being candidates are given their political rights.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

KUMARI KIM GANGTE: Sir, I hope, I am not violating others' rights. But I would like to speak for a few more minutes.

Sir, at the moment, in the 50th year of India's Independence, people are suffering. Our countrymen in the North-eastern India and especially in Manipur are suffering from hunger, thirst and from deprivation of every basic human needs. People are hungry; people are fighting for survival. It is a shame for our country that our people there, are suffering so to this extent. I do not know how many of us have visited these unfortunate people. --

Sir, I would like to quote a few facts and figures. Right now, about 15,109 houses have been burnt down. About 1,11,284 people have been displaced. Some people are living in the jungles due to violence. The people in the Outer Manipur Parliamentary constituency, in the hilly and remote areas are suffering because of lack of communication

facilities. During rainy season, one cannot even travel by a jeep. One has to walk on foot. As a result, people cannot even reach the HQS of the hill districts. I know, right now, people are living in caves. Could the hon. Members of this august House imagine of such things? I am not exaggerating facts. I am quoting figures. 1,508 people have been killed. The education of about 12,993 students have either been affected or they have been unable to continue their education.

Independence has no meaning to these people. The people of the older generation, who could remember the rule of the white man, the British rule - I am ashamed to say - are longing for the rule of the white men. They told me that at least in those days, when the white man ruled our country, they were safe; and at least their lives were protected. But in the 50th year of our independence, people there do not know what Independence is, for they are not independent in the true sense of the word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRIMATI KIM GANGTE: Sir, finally, I would like to plead with the hon. Members of this august House to remember these people and also to immediately take steps to help and rescue these people from all these tragic problems.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Machhalishahar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my view before this House.

Sir, after 50 years, this House has got an opportunity to discuss a Motion of Thanks in which many novel concepts have been added. The foremost issue mentioned in this Motion is about consensus. In this regard, I would like to state that a Government is formed on the basis of majority but only majority is not sufficient to run the Government, rather consensus is necessary. Members of different parties with different ideology contest from the same constituency. Elections are held and the person who get the maximum number of votes get elected and represent the whole constituency. He represents not only the people who cast their votes in his favour but also the other people who live there. When the elected representative visits his constituency, people there irrespective of political parties to which they belong to talk about their requirements and give suggestions also. Being a sensible and responsible Parliamentarian, he does not ignore the workers of other Parties. He gives same importance to the requirements and suggestions of workers of his own party as well as of other parties. I would like to know as to why we can not have such experiment in the Union Government. When the Prime Minister spoke about consensus it was

not taken seriously. This concept give rise to a new ideology that we want to run the Government with consensus of all political parties.

Sir, a truth cannot be complete unless we incorporate all types of ideologies and thinking in it. An arch is constructed by putting up the bricks in a horizontal and vertical fashion. It keeps it strong and steady. In the same way, if both sides of the House i.e. the ruling benches as well as the opposition try to evolve consensus in national interest, certainly the country can come out of all difficulties and circumstances which we cannot overcome only because of disagreement between political parties.

One more point which I would like to make is that it is a convention of the House or a political tradition that members belonging to opposition parties rise to oppose the motion or a bill moved by the ruling party. If a person makes up his mind to oppose the issue, he will definitely try to collect facts to prove his point. If a person expresses his views on the basis of merits and demerits and in the interest of nation, then that issue will not confine to a single person or a party but will extend to the entire House and the entire country. Then the Government will be bound to accept that.

Therefore, when we talk about consensus, I would like to tell my friend that we want to rectify the mistakes committed by your party in the same way as we want to rectify the mistakes committed by our own party — (*Interruptions*) If your view is to perpetuate the mistakes which had been there and if in your view that is 'Yoga', you are a 'Yogi' in the real sense of the term. If rectifying the mistakes is 'Yoga' then I will be 'Yogi' because I want to say goodbye to bad things and want to adopt good things. In passage of time, we will learn new things.

I am grateful to the people of the country who use their franchise at the time when there was no stable government and elections were held frequently. Through this House, I would like to pay my gratitude to the people of the country who have shown their interest in democracy.

I would like to thank my friend Shri Balram Jhakar who is a senior and experienced member of this House. He has raised all the positive issues and aspects. He was applauded for this by the treasury benches also. If the House continues to run like this, then this Government which enjoys majority in the House will be able to run with the consensus of all parties and can convey that message to the nation. I don't want to go into detail on all the points as the time is less, but one of the important point is that we have been worrying about the backward casts and backward people since the last 50 years. They have been provided with reservation in services. This was an appreciable step. But, had the previous Government

[Shri Chinmayanand Swami]

identified the regions that could not be brought into the main stream due to the Natural and Geographical reasons the hon'ble member from Manipur who was just speaking, would not have expressed her tribulation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the demand for the separate States whether it is for the Vananchal or for Uttaranchal which the Government has promised to create, is justified because those, regions were not properly taken care of during the last 50 years. Had these areas been declared backward after studying their requirements and accordingly, the schemes for their development formulated then they would have been brought into the main stream during the last 50 years and there would not have been a demand for separate states. The demand for the separate home comes in only when someone is devoid of justice in his own home, and if inequality is there. I would like to make a humble submission that this problem is not only confined to the small provinces but in the regions also. Many of our friends, including friends from the opposition, may concur to the fact that all the parliamentary constituencies are not progressing with the same pace. The region from where I have been elected, is a complete rural area, there is only one Municipality in the whole parliamentary region and that too of third grade. The whole constituency consists of villages only. There may be many more such constituencies. Every parliamentary constituency is given the amount of Rs. one crore for development purpose which is meant for the developed as well as for the backward regions. I think it would be better if before giving the money it is identified that which region is lagging behind in which field-whether it is industrial backwardness or the educational one.

Whether they are economically backward or lagging behind in the field of agriculture, a proper study should be conducted in this regard. The areas which hitherto remained devoid of the fruits of developments will also be benefitted from the opportunities of developments provided to the nation. I knew a village in the district Chhindwara of Madhya Pradesh, which is situated at such a depth where sun rays hardly reach. There may be many such regions. There is a demand for creation of Uttaranchal Pradesh around Chamoli which has not been visited by a single officer till date. . . (Interruptions)

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am talking about my constituency ... (Interruptions) I am talking about the last 40 years ... (Interruptions) why are you reminding me, better try to see yourself. When I went to a village for campaigning, the people of the village told me that leave aside MP's, I was the first candidate to visit the place. The determination reflected by this Government to remove regional backwardness is praiseworthy and it can definitely be a basis for the prosperity of the country.

Another important point related to drinking water is a matter of regret that in Delhi, the capital of India, one can get milk for Rs. 10 or 12 per litre but mineral water is available at the rate of Rs. 15 per litre. Even after 50 years of Independence we have not been able to provide drinking water to the people. Today, milk is cheaper than water. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a proverb that "As the king, so are the subjects. Today the responsibility of relieving people from this chaotic rule rests upon the shoulders of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, whenever I visit my constituency, the people of the village always put forward the demand for installing Handpumps, 'Bumba' to get the drinking water. There the people quarrel over the matters as to why the handpump is installed near other's house, why not near his house. I just wanted to relate that here in the cities. Where two taps are installed in a single room, there in the rural areas people are earnestly longing to get even single tap. The tap that has been installed have a story of their own. They gives water only on the day of installation and then it goes dry. Now, the question arises as to, who will maintain them? Their nut bolts and washers wear off and nobody comes forward to take the responsibility of repairing them. A time bound programme that has been mentioned to implement drinking water scheme, certainly sounds important and effective. I think it is the most important necessity which has been looked into. In my view, a man can live without food but he cannot live without water. I would like to express my gratitude to the Prime Minister for attending to the necessity which is a basic need for the rich & the poor alike.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been worrying about the environment since long would like to relate an example of some programmes formulated to purify the air and the water. Ganga Action Plan was formulated, Ganga Authority was constituted but the condition of Ganga water is such that using it for the drinking purpose is a far-off thing, it is not even fit for bathing. From Social and Religious point of view Ganga is considered as a holy river. In courts too the people used to swear in the name of Ganga and it was trusted and accepted. In its roof lies the fact that the Ganga was considered as the holy river and anyone who swear by it, is considered to be speaking truths. The river Ganga, on the banks of which crores of people from India and abroad used to come, today, has been polluted all over, even the water of Ganga is not pure, it is also been polluted. Effluents of six hundred factories are regularly being released into ganga and no measure has been taken to check it. Fake N.O.C's are issued. The factory owners have submitted the certificate but they didn't stop releasing the effluents of their factories into the Ganga. Even effluents of tenary and smoke of leather are also released. This is the state of our environment. Even the quantity of garbage

collected in the villages is sufficient enough to provide light to the villages and we can yet also fertilizers and manures for the fields but no such scheme has been formulated to use this waste for the improvement of the environment besides using it for providing light and using as means for increasing production. This is the first time that this matter has been looked upon with a positive approach.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the condition of industries in this country is deteriorating. Earlier, there were traditional industries in the country, with the time they were converted into the small scale industries. Had those industries been provided sufficient protection, raw material and necessary infrastructure, these small scale industries right have faced the challenges of this Nation themselves. Since the small scale industries are found mostly in the under developed and undeveloped towns the villages might get job in them and earned livelihood but no such effective policy has been formulated on the national level.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Swamiji, we will take up matters under Rule 377 at 5.30 p.m. you can continue with your speech with the consent of the House. Thereafter, we will take up matters under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First, we will take up matters under Rule 377 you can continue your speech after that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central): Mr. Subramaniam Swamy was not present in the House on 28th. We were worried about him. At last, he has come . . . *(Interruptions)*

17.31 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

- (I) **Need to provide Financial Assistance to the State Government of Karnataka to solve acute problem of potable water in Kolar District**

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar): Kolar district in Karnataka State is facing acute shortage of water due to lowest rainfall. There is no river or canal system in the area. Due to scanty rainfall, the water level has gone down to 600 ft. in many villages, thus creating scarcity of potable water. Due to non-availability of water, irrigation facilities are almost non-existent and it is seriously affecting the

crops. There are about 4,000 tanks, which were constructed nearly a hundred years back and these are terribly silted. De-silting of the tanks is the only way by means of which the water level can go up. Similar position exists in Tumkur, Chitradurga, Bellary, Raichur and rural Bangalore. The scarcity of water is further aggravated by the fact that there is a lot of fluoride content in the water, which results in decay of teeth and bone cancer.

I would appeal to the Prime Minister to provide the sum of Rs. 1,000 crores to undertake the desilting of tanks and reducing the fluoroide in water. This is the only way for provision of safe potable water and raising the water level.

- (II) **Need to Provide Ration at Subsidised Rates under Public Distribution System to the People living below Poverty Line in U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the erstwhile Government had made arrangements for providing ration to those living below the poverty line throughout the country but this system is being grossly misused. So far the Government of U.P. has neither prepared any list of those living below the poverty line nor issued the ration-cards to such rural people.

So it is requested to check the black-marketing of food grains allotted for poor people. Proper arrangement of distributing food-grains to these people under Public Distribution System must be ensured.

- (III) **Need for Free Movement of Agricultural Produce throughout the Country**

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr Chairman, Sir, Whenever the farmer community of our country produce the maximum quantity of the crop in a specific year, instead of getting incentive they are always exploited—There is steep fall in the prices of the crop whether it is sugarcane or potatoes or paddy or wheat or cotton in that year. The restrictions imposed on the free movement of Agricultural produce or products or by-products of the Industries based on agriculture also cause economic exploitation of the farmers.

Therefore, I request the Government to formulate such a policy in the country so that no State Government should impose a restriction on the free movement of agricultural produce or products or by-products of the Industries based on agriculture in the state. If any State Government imposes such restrictions arbitrarily no central assistance should be provided to them.

*Texts were treated as laid on the Table

(iv) Need to set up a Commission for Creation of a Separate Mahakaushal State out of Madhya Pradesh

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the entire Madhya Pradesh is backward, particularly its about 20 districts in Mahakaushal region are very backward, including Jabalpur, Reeva and Sagar Division. Creation of Mahakaushal State is as essential as the states of Vananchal, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh for its all-round development. There is a need to set-up a Commission to delve over creation of small-states throughout India. My humble submission is that a commission should be set-up for creation of Mahakaushal state.

(v) Need to start Broad Gauge Conversion work between Agra and Bandikui

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the inauguration of broad-gauge Agra-Bandikui line has already been done but the work has not yet been taken-up thereon due to which trains for southern-India are not being run on this route. The direct trains for Chandigarh, Haridwar are also not being run resulting in loss of revenue of lakhs of rupees per day besides posing inconvenience to the public. Therefore, the work of gauge conversion of this line should be taken-up immediately.

(vi) Need for separate authorities for Jammu, Srinagar and Laddakh for Selection of candidate for Jammu and Kashmir Medical College and Dental College

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT (Jammu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, students and several social and political institutions have launched movement against irregularities in the admission list of Medical College and Dental College of Jammu and Kashmir due to which law and order situation in Jammu is being adversely affected. It is, therefore, requested that lists already released may be cancelled and separate competent Authorities should be constituted for selecting candidates for three regions of Jammu and Kashmir, namely, Jammu, Srinagar and Laddakh so that resentment among the people can be assuaged.

(vii) Need to Enhance the Quota of Foodgrains to Uttaranchal under New Public Distribution System

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been an acute crisis of foodgrains in the hilly region (Uttaranchal) of Uttar Pradesh due to the introduction of New Public Distribution System by the previous Union Government. Under the New Public Distribution System which formed part of the Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government, ten

kilogram of foodgrains is being given per ration card per month throughout the country. Prior to the introduction of the New P.D.S. from 1.6.97 there was R.P.D.S. System in 89 development Blocks of Uttaranchal region particularly keeping in view the fact of that region being inaccessible lack of production of foodgrains there, non availability of regular market and open market shops in the region. Under that system 40-45 kilogram of foodgrains used to be issued per ration card per month. I had raised this issue during the 11th Lok Sabha also but no action was taken by the then Union Government.

The former Prime Minister had himself assured while delivering a convocation address in the Pant Nagar University of Uttaranchal region on 21.6.97 that the problem relating to the foodgrains crisis would be solved within three days. But so far there has been no enhancement in the quota of foodgrains being supplied to the Uttaranchal region. I would, therefore, urge the Government to reinstate the R.P.D.S. in the Uttaranchal region and enhance the quota of food grains so that the poor people be saved who are dying of hunger.

(viii) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to State Government of Bihar for Construction of Bridges on Kiul River

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Begusarai Constituency several children, women and men have died in river Kiul as there are no bridges near Rehua, Surji Ghat and Surya Garha. Immediate arrangements should be made for constructing bridges of these three places. Since the State Government does not have adequate resources, I would request the Central Government to allocate additional funds for construction of these bridges.

(ix) Need to provide Financial Assistance to State Government of Andhra Pradesh to Mitigate Hardship being faced by farmers of the State

[English]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH (Narasaraopet) : In recent months in Andhra Pradesh more than three hundred cotton growers have committed suicide apart from various other families because of heavy indebtedness to banks and other financial institutions.

This type of suicides was unheard of not only in Andhra Pradesh but also in the rest of the country. So, I appeal to the Government of India to send some experts to study all these happenings.

I also request the Union Government to provide financial assistance to the State Government to mitigate the hardships of farmers.

(x) Need to cancel Government order converting certain fine varieties of paddy into common

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machillipatnam) : Sir, widespread discontentment and frustration is being caused to farmers of this country who are adversely affected by the orders issued by the Food Corporation of India through the Government Order, dated 16-9-1997 where in paddy varieties 2067, 2077 and 1001 have been converted from fine to common, thereby reducing the prices by Rs. 30/- per quintal. All these years they are recognised as a fine variety and the price fixed by the Government of India was Rs. 445/- per quintal. Suddenly, by this new Government order, the price has been reduced to Rs. 415/- . Each farmer is put to a loss of about Rs. 1000/- by this decision. Hence, keeping in view the plight of the suffering farmers, I request the hon. Ministers for Agriculture and Food & Civil Supplies to cancel the above Government order of 16-9-97 and save the farmers from huge losses and also inform the Food Corporation of India accordingly.

(xi) Need to clear proposal of State Government of Orissa for setting up Pipalpanka Reservoir Project on the River Rushikulya in Gunjam District

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Berhampur) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the urgent need of implementing the Pipalpanka reservoir project on the river Rushikulya in the Ganjam district of Orissa. The execution of this project is very necessary to meet the need of water for the Integrated Steel Plant which is being set up on the Gopalpur Coast in Ganjam in that State. The Steel Plant being set up by Tata Steel will need 60 million gallons of water per day. This requirement of water for the plant is designed to be met by the proposed Pipalpanka reservoir project.

The site for the Pipalpanka reservoir project has been selected after considering the techno-economic feasibility of a number of alternative options including desalination of the sea water and location of the dam at other sites. The proposal has been pending with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for clearance.

On execution of the Pipalpanka project only four per cent of the forest land of the area would be sub-merged. It will not have any adverse impact on the flora and fauna of the region. Moreover, 1178 hectares have been identified in the nearby Gajapati district for compensatory afforestation.

Besides generating employment to the local youths, the plant will earn valuable foreign exchange and meet the growing demand of steel once it starts commercial production. As such, I demand that the Pipalpanka Project

in the Ganjam district of Orissa be accorded forest clearance at the earliest.

(xii) Need to Enhance Financial Assistance to States of West Bengal and Orissa for providing Relief to Tornado hit people

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): A severe tornado has of late devastated a number of villages in West Bengal and Orissa. The total amount of loss in terms of money relating to the property in the twenty villages of West Bengal is approximately Rs. 50 crore. The Central Government's financial assistance from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to the tornado-hit people forms a very small part of the total cost of rehabilitation needed for the people. The Central Government is, therefore, urged upon to enhance the quantum of financial assistance from the Centre's own fund and release the same immediately to the State Government in view of its limited resources.

(xiii) Need to provide Financial Assistance to State Government of Uttar Pradesh to Solve Acute Drinking Water problem in Eastern part of the State

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Koshambi, Allahabad and Fatehpur districts of eastern U.P. are facing acute shortage of water and thus people in these districts are facing severe problems. Wells have become dry as level of ground water has gone down. Tubewells and handpumps are not lifting water. There is a danger of cholera breaking out as the water available there is dirty.

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to make adequate allocations to the State Government to enable them to tackle the problem of water shortage in the above mentioned districts. as it is a matter of public importance.

(xiv) Need to Provide Special Central Subsidy to the State of Tamil Nadu for setting up Effluent Treatment Plant for Tanneries in Tanneries in Dindigul District

[English]

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN (Dindigul) : A huge number of tanneries in Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu face closure leading to the lay-off of several hundreds of workmen. The closure becomes a statutory necessity because the tannery owners are not able to pay their contribution towards setting up of Effluent Treatment Plants. The failure to instal Effluent Treatment Plants leads to the spoilage of Agricultural land as well as other forms of pollution.

[Shri C. Sreenivasan]

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to provide special Central subsidy in lieu of tannery owners' contribution for immediate setting up of Effluent Treatment Plants so that the livelihood of hundreds of workers can be protected and the loss of foreign exchange earned on account of leather export is also prevented.

- (xv) Need to declare Patna Airport as International Airport to boost export of agricultural products.**

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Green vegetables are produced in abundance in the Northern Bihar but the agricultural producers can not earn profit due to lack of sufficient marketing facilities. Last year the production of potato was so much that the farmers could not even arrange the labourers to dump the rotten potatoes. If cargo handling or any other facility is made available at Patna Airport, then these green vegetables can be exported to other countries where the demand is very high. Not only the farmers of the Northern Bihar would get proper remuneration but it would also lead to boost up the exports.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to declare Patna Airport as an International Airport at the earliest, for which an assurance was also given by the then hon. Civil Aviation Minister last year.

- (xvi) Need for a Special Package of Financial Assistance to Tornado Victims of Orissa**

[English]

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Amid the inconsolable cries of the survivors, relief and rescue operations are not satisfactory in the recent tornado victim villages of Orissa. The Government should make a special package of financial assistance for reconstruction of houses, institutions, buildings and immediate provision of drinking water over and above the regular assistance of Prime Minister's Relief Fund and Central Relief Fund.

- (xvii) Need to create more Employment opportunities for youths**

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Unemployment problem is emerging as the most burning problem of the country. According to the last report published in July, 1997, total number of registered unemployed youth in the country is three crore and ninety-seven lakh. Out of this, West Bengal has registered unemployed youths amounting up to 56 lakh.

The Government of India should take all necessary steps and treat this acute problem on the top priority basis. Employment opportunity is to be created by this Government, otherwise these youths who will be burnt with anger, will be causing agony to the society.

- (xviii) Need to Harness the Non-Conventional Energy Sources of Sunderbans in West Bengal**

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): The area, in and around Sunderbans home to the world's largest mangroove swamp and the Royal Bengal tiger is fast emerging as a show-piece of the success that could be achieved by harnessing non-conventional energy sources. The people of the Sagar Island and the Gosaba Island have already been benefitted by renewable energy sources.

I wonder the Government has at this stage carried on surveys in the area for assessing the potential for power generation from non-conventional energy sources such as wind power (54,000 MW) tidal waves (79,000 MW), mini hydel (10,000 MW) bio-mass (35,000 MW) and bio-gas (1 lakh MW).

I would suggest, through you, Sir, that the present emphasis on big projects was not correct in view of the low capacity utilisation and time cost overruns. I would suggest that the Government should immediately take up the task of processing the potential of Sunderbans energy source.

- (xix) Need to set up a separate 'Purvanchal' State out of U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : There is disappointment and resentment among crores of people because there is no mention in the national agenda of creating a separate state, the "Purvanchal State" by including 22 districts of eastern U.P. Even after 50 years of Independence, 5 crore 30 lakh people of this area have been suffering from poverty, starvation, illness, shortage, illiteracy and unemployment due to ongoing misplanning. These regions which have total area of 25,844 sq.k.m. and 27 parliamentary constituency had a glorious history in the freedom Movement. This land of Lord Shiva, Rama, Buddha and Mahavir had given a new light and mythological, religious and cultural heritage to the entire world. We have got message and new direction from this land of Sufi Saints and renowned literature. Here 50% of land remain unirrigated though Ganga, Yamuna, Saryu, Rapti, Ghagra, Kuano and big Gandak rivers are-flowing here. Only 12 lakh 8 thousand people of the above area are employed and 31 percent youths of the total population have migrated in search of jobs. The annual per capita income of this

area is below Rs. 3000/- inspite of the fact that the area is rich in natural resources and endowed with high fertility of land. The Literacy rate is only 38 per cent there and the rate of women literacy is only 20 per cent. The all round development of small states like Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, Pondicherry prove that rapid development takes place in smaller states in comparison to big states. There is wide spread resentment among the scarcity stricken people of Purvanchal which may prove explosive at any time.

Therefore, the Union Government is requested to create a Separate Purvanchal State in public interest to ameliorate the lot of the people of eastern U.P.

(xx) Need to improve the lots of Handloom weavers of Madurai Tamil Nadu

[English]

DR SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Madurai) : About two lakh people of Madurai who represent handloom weavers and their family members are greatly suffering because their output of cloth is not being lifted by Co-optex, a Tamil Nadu State Public Sector unit.

This is causing economic hardship and leading to an alarming rate of suicides. The hon. Minister of Textiles must intervene or alternatively purchase the entire production with assured purchase for the next five years. A Government claiming to adhere to Swadeshi policy cannot afford to ignore the handloom weavers.

17.45 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS-Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chinmayanand may continue his speech now.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : I was making submission about small scale industries. Small scale industries are normally established in undeveloped towns and villages. These industries get raw materials directly from those villages where they have been established. Not only they get raw materials from these villages but workers also come from there which ultimately benefits the farmers. The peasants also get remunerative prices for their produce on the spot. Apart from this the uneducated people of those villages get employment and they become economically independent. But what happened during last fifty years?

Policies were formulated keeping the big industries in mind instead of giving protection to the small scale industries only crocodile tears were shed for them. The small scale industries have not been provided infrastructural facilities like power, water, motorable roads or any railway lines nearby which could enable them to transport their goods and even they don't have any facility to market the goods they produce. The small scale industries the paper industries of Uttar Pradesh are not in a position to function and are on the verge closure because these paper industries use the wastes of sugarcane for manufacturing paper. I think if we address ourselves to the problems of small scale industries and sort them out only then they could be made functional properly. I think if protection is given to the small scale industries the multinationals engaged in the production of pickles, sauces, papad and namkins etc. Wouldn't stay here. These challenges would automatically be met by our small scale industries. And the multinationals would be confined to the high-tech areas only. For it, this government will always be appreciated.

Another important point is with regard to water policy. Perhaps India receives the maximum rainfall. In view of the heavy rainfall in this country Bhagwan Shri Krishna had propounded in 'Gita' - "Annat Bhawanti Bhutani Prajnyatat" This country has got blessing of the water from heaven. But we could do nothing to store it. The rain water flows out to sea through nullahs and rivers. If we would have constructed ponds or small dams not only we could have met our irrigation requirement but underground water level would not have gone down to such an extent. We would have drawn water from much above the present level. I hope that the policy makers would have made provisions for storage and proper utilisation of rain water in the water policy, which is being formulated.

I would like to draw the attention of the House towards an important issue. Many successive Governments have spoken about providing 33 percent reservation for women. But in order to play an effective role and present their case properly. Be it House of Parliament, assembly or Panchayat, so far no provision has been made to give them free education. They should essentially be educated by making education free upto graduation level. This government only made an endeavour to establish the age old tradition of Saraswati and Sharda but has also provided an effective and golden opportunity to brighten the women's talent. This act of government is worth appreciating.

I want to draw your attention on one more point. In our country a number of children are not taken care of by their parents who are nurtured by us sanyasies. There are hundreds of such whom we are nurturing and providing food and education. A national policy should be formulated for them, as has been announced. People are taking undue

[Shri Chinmayanand Swami]

advantage as there is no restriction on number of children one can have and country has to bear the burden. Therefore, it would be better if the problem of population and the education of children are taken together. People should have right to procreate but they should also be made responsible to bring them up to educate them. You go towards Jaipur or Agra you will find that on entire stretch children, who are just 5-7 years of age, are washing the utensils in roadside dhabas. I really feel shame when I see the future of this country, which earlier was known as a land of Gopal and Prahalaad, engaged in such a menial job. Therefore, it is important to pay attention on the children. This government wants to ensure their education, proper rearing and employment in future. So, the coming generation will be benefited by this magnanimity of the government. I am thankful to the government for this.

This is the last point which I want to make. People in this country talk about social justice but what do they mean by that. Whether it is a social justice to incite people of one caste against another? Is this a social justice to abuse other castes in the name of progressiveness? It will be desirable not to treat any one forward or backward on the basis of their castes. We know that people are identified with their country and vice-versa like people of Japan, America, China, Britain or known as Japanese, American, Chinese and British respectively. But it is perhaps only in India where hardly anybody calls himself as Indian. We are still divided on the basis of castes. Till this situation prevails, social equality will remain distant dream. Therefore, the resolution of the government to bring about social equality is a welcome step. We can't be faithful towards our motherland unless we have national unity. So long we are divided on caste basis this country can not prosper. Therefore, it's a welcome step to make every section, every individual and every citizen of this country aware of his rights.

I know this government has a lot of challenges. to face but I do hope that this government will be able to meet those challenges. Not only this government is going to complete full five years term under the leadership of hon'ble Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Advanijee, but it also has potential to fulfil the wishes, which were left unfulfilled during last fifty years. Thus, the whole country and this government will open new horizons for this country.

With these words, I support the motion and conclude.

[English]

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH (Bharatpur) : Sir, I rise to speak on the Motion relating to the President's Address

I speak from this side for the first time. It was my good fortune to sit on the other side from 1984 to 1989. As things might turn out, perhaps we will be able to exchange places in the very near future.

I have respect for the shrines of the minds of the authors of the president's Address. But I must say that it is a document-and I say this with very great respect- that reads like a rather expensive laundry list because it has been taken out from the manifesto of the Bharatiya Janata Party, which has Shri Vajpayee on the front cover and the back cover has Shri Advani. Perhaps, that is a mistake. It should be the other way round.

Then, we have the National Agenda for Governance which was produced after the elections. Then we have the Address of the president of India. Now, I am not sure whether the Members of Shri Advani's Party are committed to the manifesto of the B.J.P. or to the National Agenda or to the President's Address or to Shri Golwalkar's book. Shri Chandra Shekhar in his intervention quoted from this book.

Shri Golwalkar's book is not available in the library of Parliament. I tried to find out why, but it is not there. I happen to be the Secretary of the Jawahar Lal Nehru Memorial Fund, and it has a copy of this book. I shall not tax you or the Members of the House by reading from it but it is worth suggesting that the younger Members and the newer Member of this Parliament make an effort to read the book. All I can ask with great respect which I have for Shri Advani, one of the great leaders of the country, is does he agree with what is said in the book or does he not? Yes or no, the answer is very simple, and I shall await his answer.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Were you not there when Shri Chandra Shekhar referred to it?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH (Bharatpur) : I heard him.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I said, at that time, that so far as this often cited quotation is concerned, the author of the book himself did not agree with it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): But what about your view?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Do you not agree with the book?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI: I do not agree with those particular portions which are cited again and again that there is a reference to Nazi Germany and minorities. I do not agree with it.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Sir, I am not quoting any

passage from the book, I am asking you whether you agree with the philosophy and thrust of the book or you do not. You can say 'yes' or 'no'.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : That is hardly a question.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Do you want me to put it differently? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The book has so many ideas with which I may or may not agree. I know that out of that only one portion is quoted again and again.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I know that Advaniji is careful with his language. I know that he is a lover of words and phrases as I am. I most respectfully and humbly ask him: "Do you agree even broadly with the philosophy of this book or not?"

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: That is not a question.

17.56 hrs.

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Shri Natwar Singh, are you a journalist that you are asking that question time and again? This is not a Press Conference. You make your speech, but do not ask the same question time and again. Why are you putting that question again and again when he is giving a categorical reply? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am requesting the hon. Members to please sit down. Shri Natwar Singh, please address the Chair.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : May I request you to extend the time of the House?(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the time is six o'clock. With the consent of the House, we will extend the time.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : With your permission and through you, Sir, may I request the Members to consider extension till seven O'clock?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Let it be up to eight O'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First, let us extend it up to seven O'clock and we will see later. With your consent, I extend the time by one hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. BAPIRAJU (Narsapur): What we are doing every time is that we are extending it by one hour. The Government is also like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You know about the procedure and everything.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : The hon. Member was asking me to make my speech. I do not think that the Minister of Home Affairs needs his support. He is quite able to look after himself.

Now, Sir, for the whole day, we have been hearing about the so-called sins of omissions and commissions of the Congress Party for the last 45 years.

I was surprised to hear my dear friend, Shri Jagmohan, of all people, castigating the establishment because he was a very important and a high profiles member of that establishment for the better part of his life. I appreciate the spirit in which he spoke because I think he raised profound metaphysical and intellectual questions which should be discussed in the House. That is what we are for.

I have spent 45 years of my life studying foreign affairs.

I shall speak about the references at page 6 and references in these two other documents to the foreign policy of India. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Foreign Minister of India in 1977-79. Did he change one iota of Jawaharlal Nehru's foreign policy?

18.00 hrs.

He was the Prime Minister for 13 days. Did he make any change in the foreign policy of India? There have been other non-Congress Governments in the centre. Has any Government, any Foreign Minister, made any basic, fundamental change in the foreign policy of India which has stood the test of time? There has been a national consensus on foreign policy. They may deny it if they wish. But they cannot.

The framework for the foreign policy of India was drafted and was drawn up by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, not in 1947. He spoke about non alignment at the Tripuri Congress in 1938. He addressed his mind and intellect to international problems and India's place in it in 1927 at the Brussels Conference on anti-imperialism and India's foreign policy is not tied to any doctrine and I want to remind Shri I. K. Gujral - he is not here - that the very strength of our policy is that we have not embraced any dogma or any doctrine because dogma and doctrine are enemies of thought and new thinking. The strength of our foreign policy is that from the day that we got independence, we did not subscribe to the assumptions of Cold War. Non alignment was born not in Bandung in 1955 or in Belgrade in 1961. It was born long before

[Shri K. Natwar Singh]

independence. What I find is that in the address of the President there is a perfunctory reference to Non-alignment. It is the core of our foreign policy. It is fashionable now to decry non alignment.

I appreciate the fact that the National Agenda for the 1940s, 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s is different. We are living in a different world. If the nonaligned countries could get together to fight racialism, colonialism and imperialism and work for disarmament, the same group with the leadership of India which, I am sad to note has not been given for the past two years, should be able to assert itself again on the new agenda and it should produce new ideas in non alignment and use that movement, as an instrument and vehicle for gathering public opinion to prevent the hegemony of one single power.

I ask this Government. Why is it not possible for them to do so? It is because they are a Government on crutches and the crutches consist of prominent warlords. We have already heard Shri George Fernandes. I have great respect for Shri George Fernandes the has spoken about Tibet, Srilanka, Burma I to share his views on Burma. They are complex issues involving the relationships between nations, the lives of millions of people the has pronounced on serious matter. He is a senior, very experienced, member of the Government. There are 125 foreign Embassies and High Commissions in Delhi. They report to their Government on what confusion exists on particularly sensitive issues where words are important, precision is important. It is stated on page 31 of this document, of the election manifesto:-

"Re-evaluate the country's nuclear policy and exercise the option to induct nuclear weapons"

Fortunately it does not find mention here. Of course, Shri Golwalkar wrote his book before the atom bombs were exploded. So, I do not know what he would have said. But I am very glad, Mr. Prime Minister, that your Party and you, as the most distinguished member of that party, along with Shri Lal Krishna Advani, have abandoned what is stated on page 31 which reads as follows;

"Re evaluate the country's foreign policy and exercise the option to induct nuclear weapons."

I am glad that you abandoned your nuclear adventurism.

It is one thing to make a public pronouncement on the nuclear policy while in opposition. It is quite another thing when you are in Government. So' with folded hands, I appeal to you that the maximum amount of verbal restraint must be used when matters of this high importance are discussed or mentioned outside this House.

Then, we have heard on foreign policy that we shall try our best to become Members of the Security Council of the United Nations. How other colleague have dealt with the other matters in the President's Address. I am only talking about the foreign policy.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has agreed with the foreign policy of India all his life. He has quoted Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I must say that I was a bit surprised when he spoke about his visit to China in 1979 in rather complacent terms because he knows that his trip to China was aborted. It did not produce the result that they said it did. The result of a breakthrough in the border dispute came when Shri Rajiv Gandhi went to China in 1988 and met Mr. Deng Xio Ping. That is a fact. It is not my imagination.

I want to know from the Prime Minister one thing because he was not here when I said this. Mr. Prime Minister, will you make fundamental changes in the policy framework laid down by the then Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru or will you not? I do not think you will, because you are now sitting in the same place where Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru sat for seventeen years. He thought deeply he reflected, introspected and exchanged views with others and arrived at those conclusions. He felt that he Hindustan, Bharat Mata and Bharat Varsh India, was not just any country; it was a concept; it was an idea; it was a destination; it was a pilgrimage; it was a fulfilment and this country could never be a camp follower of any other country.

And Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said this long before the Jan Sangh was born, long before the Bharatiya Janata Party was heard of. I do not know if the RSS had any views in 1947 on foreign affair. So, I want to place on record, through you, and humbly before the Prime Minister and his colleagues in his Government that the manner in which foreign policy has been dismissed in this document is totally inadequate.

We are a country of hundred crore people. Our voice counts. When the Prime Minister of India goes abroad, he does not go as a leader of a particular party. He goes there as a representative of one billion people and I am sure that he will never forget that. Mr. Prime minister, you were good enough, broad-minded enough to refer to the fact that a Congress Prime minister elected to send you to lead the Indian Delegation to the Human Rights Commission. I humbly request you that now you are in Government you will return the compliment when the occasion arises... (Interruptions)

What I am trying to say is that the consensus that has been built on foreign affairs has been built over the last fifty years. I want that consensus to extend to other areas. Mr. Prime Minister, the leader of the Congress Party,

even before you took oath, said that we would offer constructive cooperation. We maintain that. I am not going to refer to what happened in the first two days in the House. Other people referred to it. I only want to confine myself to the debate on foreign affairs.

I have just one more point to make. I will take one minute. I am not an expert on Finance. But the President's Address has not touched it. I hope that when the Budget comes up before this House, we will talk about the VDIS. The idea was that the funds from the VDIS will be devoted to infrastructure, to basic minimum services like pure drinking water etc.

I am interested to know from my friend the Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha if the VDIS funds are being used properly. He has great experience in Government, much more than anybody else with perhaps the exception of Shri Jagmohan on how modern Government runs because the difficulty that is going to be there for you, is that most of you has to learn the techniques of modern Government. It is not easy. Shri Yashwant Sinha knows a great deal about it. I will be interested to find out from him as to what is being done by the States to the amount given on the VDIS.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN (Dindigul) : Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on behalf of my party the AIADMK under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Jayalalitha in support of the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

I take this opportunity to place on record my deep appreciation for presenting a very honest programme of action for the Government under Shri Vajpayee. I am further grateful to the hon. Prime Minister for including in the National Agenda 33 percent reservation for women, granting official status to Tamil along with 17 other languages and a solution to the Cauvery River water dispute as per the demand of Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Jayalalitha in the interest of Tamil Nadu.

I must also thank the Vajpayee Government for releasing 300 megawatts of power to Tamil Nadu from the North Eastern power grid at the request of Dr. Jayalalitha to save the people of Tamil Nadu from the power shortage due to the Chief Minister's misrule... (Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, he should not be allowed to read it. He should not make allegations. As per new rules, he should not go through the written speech... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. He is a newly elected Member. He has taken permission from the Chair to read his speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : As per the rules, he should not read a written speech. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : How can he read a written speech? I want your ruling on that. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, he is newly elected Member, He has the permission of the Chair to read it. He has taken permission from the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What is the permission you have given? You are setting a wrong precedent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a wrong precedent. Shri Baalu, please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : He is senior Member. He was there in the Tenth Lok Sabha. How are you going to allow him?... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you arguing?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb the new Member.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri T.R. Baalu, you are a senior Member. Why are you interrupting like this everytime? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are setting a wrong precedent... (Interruptions)... You are sitting in the chair for the first time... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): He is not a new Member. He is a senior member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri T.R. Baalu, it is a funny objection. You cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

*Not Recorded

MR. CHAIRMAN : They are objecting to your reading. You may speak in your own language.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri T.R. Baalu, please sit down now.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Karnal): Mr. Chairman, being a senior Member I know that in the House as per rules an Hon. Member can only read the statement laid by the Government otherwise there is no rule regarding reading a speech. I have not seen anybody reading the written speech till now. I want your ruling in the regard.. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): Sir, he can use the notes. He cannot read the whole thing, I agree.. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : But he is reading everything.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri T.R. Baalu, please sit down. It is not a good thing to interrupt like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sreenivasan, please complete your speech.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Sir, I am not reading. I am just referring to some point... *(Interruptions)*... Let me speak in my own language - Tamil. Sir, kindly cooperate with me.

*I would like to emphasise the point I was making here now. I feel that it is only due to the mismanagement of affairs by the present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu that things have come to this pass. It has resulted in power shortage which has taken its toll... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, am I not making myself very clear?... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : There is no translation. . . *(Interruptions)* He should have given an advance notice for this.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi) : Shri Baalu, do you object to his speaking in Tamil?... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Sir , I am on a point

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

of order. It is the chair should be taken to read the written speech. You were also an Hon.Member. You must have read it. Only honourable speaker has the right to give permission. You should look into this matter. You should allow him only if he has taken the permission to read the written speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please cooperate with the Chair.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : He has not given an advance notice. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know the rules and procedures.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri C. Sreenivasan, you should not read your whole speech. If something is there, you can quote from that.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri T.R. Baalu, please sit down. I have already given him the instruction in this regard.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Is the hon. Minister teaching him?... *(Interruptions)*... He has gone and spoken to his Member and passed on some message... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI: Sir, I had only gone and asked him to give his speech without reading.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I request you to please go through the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you may please take your seats.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: I have got due regard to the Chair. You may please go through the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record. If there is anything objectionable, I will remove it.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Kindly listen to me, Sir. You may go through the record. There is a conversation between an hon. Cabinet Minister and the Member concerned in Tamil: "Ellam Appadithan Pesara, Neeyum Pesayya"... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI : He has imputed some motives. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Chair. If any objectionable expression is there on the record, I will remove it. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, Why do you unnecessarily waste the time of the House? Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. Please listen to the Chair first. Shri Baalu, if any objectionable expression is there, I will go through the record and remove it.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the Chair.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a senior Member. If any privilege issue is there, you may come in a proper way later on.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): It is my submission to all the Hon. Members that this is extended time. It is extended so that more and more Members could deliver their speech and if you waste the time on technical points only then.. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: If I scold you, do you keep quiet? As a Parliamentary Affairs Minister you should protect the interests of the hon. Members.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: On the request of the leaders time has ben extended upto seven O'clock so that more Members could express their views and you are just wasting it on technical points.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: My request to the hon. members is not to make provocative speeches. This is a discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address. That is why you may speak whatever you want to speak in a calm and quiet manner. There should be no provocation.

*Not Recorded.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : In Tamil Nadu there is a very dangerous and critical power cut.

Is it correct? I want to verify this. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. Do not address other hon. Members.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : In the last elections, Dr. Jayalalitha canvassed for a stable Government with Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ably leading the BJP. In Tamil Nadu the AIADMK and allies have got thirty out of forty seats. The people of Tamil Nadu have fully rejected the DMK. Shri M. Karunanidhi should have resigned immediately but he has not. We want ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What do you make out of this sentence? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, what is wrong in it? This is not correct on your part.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, please sit down. What is wrong in it?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, give me one minute. Your party will get a chance. You can speak whatever you want at that time.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is wrong in it? What is wrong in what the hon. Member has spoken?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your feeling?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : I think, the hon. Member may know some English. You can just check up the record. There is no subject, predicate or object. What can I make out of this sentence?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sreenivasan, Please conclude. The allotted time is over.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : I request the hon. Prime Minister to recall the findings of the Sarkaria Commission against Shri Karunanidhi. Justice Sarkaria has said and I

*Not Recorded.

[Shri C. Sreenivasan]

quote 'Mr. Karunanidhi has indulged in corruption in a scientific manner'. The findings should be revived by taking them out from the cold storage and Shri Karunanidhi should be chargesheeted. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Is he allowed to . . . *(Interruptions)* He is fooling everyone here. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, you will get a chance. Why do you disturb him?

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The charge should not be partial. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your party will also get a chance. You can condemn whatever you want at that time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU: If we can make out something, we can rebut it. But we cannot make out anything. *(Interruptions)** What can we do? *(Interruptions)* Let him speak in Tamil.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not good on your part. If some intelligent people are there, they can speak in English very well. What is there in it?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am removing from the records that comment made by the hon. Member. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you please allow him to speak in English.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): When he started speaking in Tamil, it was Shri Baalu who objected to it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Shri Dhananjaya Kumar, you are a senior Member of this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please sit down. No provocation please.

SHRI VAIKO : Sir, I will take only one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Let us not unnecessarily waste the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing anybody other than

*Not Recorded.

Shri Sreenivasan to speak. Please sit down.

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : There are continuous caste and communal riots in Tamil Nadu. This morning our hon. MDMK leader Shri Vaiko has mentioned about the Coimbatore bomb blasts and how Shri Advani was saved from the danger.

This is hightime the Central Government should act by dismissing the Tamilnadu Government headed by Shri Karunanidhi and restore peace in the State. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, I call upon all patriotic Indians to support BJP's Government for the success of the policies of the BJP Government.

With these words I support this Motion.

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD (Muzzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion of thanks on the President's Address. A reference has been made about child labourers in the Address. I would like to ask as to how do they become child labour. They become child labour in the state of hunger and helplessness. No parents want their children to become child labourer. But when they are not in a position to provide food to their children they think it is better to send the children to work than die of hunger. So hunger is the compulsion which make parents send their children to factories to work there. If the Government really wants to abolish child labour system in the country it should open residential schools in every Panchayat where poor children living below the poverty line should be given admission and they should be provided with food, clothes and education upto Matriculation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, another point which has been mentioned in this Address is that unemployment would be removed. The Bharatiya Janata Party has given a slogan that it will remove unemployment. But it has not given any outline as to how it will remove this increasing unemployment. Until and unless Government supply power as per demand, it cannot remove unemployment from this country. No industry, no factory, no agriculture and no educational institution can run without power. Today power is required in every field and demand for power is increasing day by day. There can be no development without power. I thank the Congress Government that due to its policies and efforts power generations from 743 Megawatt in 1950 has increased to 86,000 Megawatt now. There is still a gap of 21 percent between demand and supply of power. As long as this gap between demand and supply is not removed, unemployment cannot be removed. The Government has neither taken any decision nor made any suggestion about its programme as to how it will remove unemployment. If the Government really wants to

fill this gap, it should concentrate on non-conventional sources of energy. It requires time and money both. If the Government has money, it can generate 54000 Mw of energy from wind which is a non-conventional source of energy. If you want to generate energy from conventional sources, it will be expensive and time consuming which is not in the interests of this country. 79,000 MW of power can be generated from sea waves. 10,000 MW of power can be generated by installing small Hydel projects. All this can be done within a year. I would like to draw the attention of the Prime Minister that to remove the gap of the demand and supply of power they should concentrate on non-conventional sources of energy so that their slogan of removing poverty may become a success.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been mentioned in para No. 38 of this Address that corruption and corrosion of values in our polity, as well as criminalisation of politics, stems from flaws in the electoral process. To ensure free, fair and fearless elections and to prevent the use of money and muscle power, Government should introduce a comprehensive Electoral Reforms Bill for which considerable ground work has already been done. But my submission is that no suggestion has been made to eliminate criminalisation in politics. Please provide informations to all the Members about the ground work prepared for the bill. In order to check criminalisation of politics, as a first step booth capturing and bogus voting will have to be stopped.. (Interruptions) May be, it happens everywhere. At some places bogus voting takes place and at some places ballot papers are stamped in the polling booth at the point of the gun. Both are some things. Either it happens in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh or Delhi .. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH : In your state people get help of the commission . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj): The ruling party in Bihar reverts the result of the elections with the help of Collector .. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH: Had this been the situation we would not have been elected. .. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. No interruptions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: You may have come but in my case there was a lead of more than two lakh votes. However, in Chhapra we were trailing.. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (Tenali) : Sir, if he is going

to cast aspersions on collectors etc, will you consider expunging those things from the records?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : If the collector wouldn't have given the certificate, how we could come?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (Vidisha) : Please tell this to the member who is sitting behind you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : No cross-talking please. If anything is wrong, I will expunge it from record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : If you are an elected members am I a nominated one? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Unnecessarily you are standing up every time. Please sit down. No cross-talking.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is this? I am requesting the hon. Member not to interrupt. No cross-talking please.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my maiden speech, therefore, I would like to say to the members ... (Interruptions) Ministers reply, they don't deliver speech. I am delivering my first speech here, therefore I would request you not to interrupt me. Election commission has reconciled to the fact that it is not possible to stop bogus voting and booth capturing. About 80 percent of the amount earmarked for preparation of identity cards has been spent. Even if a little more money is spent and identity cards are issued to all, even then booth capturing and bogus voting cannot be stopped. For that you will have to make a law that while voting, both identity card & ballot paper should be dropped in the ballot box simultaneously. In that case if a person would go to cast the bogus vote or capture the booth, he will have to arrange for the identity card. That would be a problem for him. And if he succeeds to do so, he will again be facing problem because he would have to face the vigilant and honest polling officers. Therefore, after issuing identity cards to all the voters, if we make it mandatory that while casting one's vote, both the ballot paper and the identity

[Capt. Jai Narayan Prasad Nishad]

card should be dropped, it will help. No outsider or criminal would be able to cast the bogus vote. More over, if some officer, himself wants to cast bogus votes in favour of his candidate or party, he would not find such an opportunity. Criminals come, capture the booths, cast bogus votes and go away. But if such a system is introduced, that would help to prevent the criminals being elected to the House.

Election commission has increased the security money with a view to limit the number of candidates and hence reduction in the size of ballot paper. In this regard, I would like to say that by increasing the security money, the size of ballot paper will not be reduced, who will stop the dummy candidates? If each candidate brings six dummy candidates, the number of candidates will increase. Thereafter, if people like Dharti-Pakad, Aasman-Pakad etc. contest the election, how could the size of ballot paper be reduced. If a candidate fails to get sixteen percent votes in the election, you forfeit his security. There is a provision of punishment also. I am of the view that it should be made compulsory for each candidate to secure 1 percent votes. If a candidate fails to secure one percent vote in the elections, a provision for imprisonment of six month should be made for violation of fundamental right & misuse of government machinery. If a candidate is not able to secure even one percent vote, he should have no right to contest the election. I am giving these suggestions for consideration. It is upto you to accept or reject them. Keep on levelling charges like the ballot box was changed, etc. and defame others.

The other point is related to money power. You are going to remove that. It is my suggestion that during election, leaders should be stopped from entering others constituency. If you have your own organisation, you go among the people. There is no need to go to the constituency of others to seek votes. If your organisation is strong and you have your workers in all the Panchayats, your policy will definitely reach to the people visits of leaders increases expenses and encourages casteism. As I belong to Nishad community, I am sent to area dominated by Nishads. Dalit leaders are sent to the dalit dominated areas, and religious leaders are sent to religious places. This increases communalism and casteism. Use of helicopters during election should be banned, which would improve our image among common man. We contest election once in five years.

We must always visit our constituency and should know the problems of the people and try to solve them. If there are 200 members in your Panchayat and at the time of election if one member is entrusted with the responsibility of looking after the needs of 10 families then

the responsibility of one Panchayat is to look after the needs of 2000 families. It is easy for a member to look after the needs of 10 families. You can visit 2000 families in a day. The day when Poll is to be held, you can ask the voters of 10 families to cast their votes. For this purpose, there is no need for loud speakers, posters and banners, but you have to work hard and go to the people.

In this connection, I would suggest that the Government should fix a ceiling that a candidate cannot spend more than Rs. 50,000 on his election. No candidate should be allowed to use more than two vehicles so that one should not try to be fool the people with money power. If you really want that there should be improvement in the method of election and criminals should not be elected to Parliament and actual representative of the people should be elected then you should do all these things. You have not mentioned any such provision in the President's Address, therefore, I oppose this Motion of thanks.

SHRI BASHIST NARAYAN SINGH (Bikaramganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

I would like to begin with the memories of one great personality of this country. Late Lok Nayak Jaiprakash had gone to Dhanbad. A huge crowd had gathered in his public meeting in Dhanbad. After this when Jaiprakash Narayan ji returned to Patna, he was very much perturbed, sad and restless. At that time, we got the opportunity to stay with him. We asked Jaiprakash Narayanji about the reason for his sadness. At that time Jaiprakash Narayan ji had given this reply and today I would like to mention that in this House because the reason for his sadness is very relevant in today's context. He said that hopes and expectations of people with this movement has increased and the people were pinning high hopes on the J.P. Movement. He further told that he did not know how he was going to fulfil the hopes and expectations of the people.

Today, I would like to mention that context because there is certainly some difference in the expectations of the crowd during J.P. Movement and the crowd which is associated with today's movement. The crowd which gathered during J.P. Movement was such that they wanted to establish dialogue between the people and Parliament. That was also one of the objectives of that movement. But the context of the crowd which gathered during the meetings of Prime Minister of India Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji has changed. Through this movement efforts were being made to create co-ordination between people and the rulers. At present there was no Charismatic personality before the people but this huge crowd gathered in the meetings of one such person who has become Prime Minister People expect that perhaps their problems can be

solved. In the President's Address, mention has also been made about socio-economic aspect. However, this aspect has not been discussed in detail here. I am talking of socio-economic aspect because in this very session, where as the Finance Minister has discussed about economic problems and financial system of our country, our Defence Minister has discussed about the defence problem of our country. Both of these situations are painful. There is a need to get rid of these problems. The Finance Minister had stated in his speech that the estimated expenditure is more in regard to the government exchequer. The Defence Minister had stated in his speech in this very session that 52 crore population of this country are sustaining themselves on a meagre sum of rupees ten. There can be no more terrible picture of our country.

I am of the opinion that if all the issues emphasised in the President's Address are addressed honestly and effectively, many of the problems being faced by the country today would be resolved. Some of the issues are being raised in the country for the past two-three years. Hon'ble President has also mentioned them. Even today, these issues are subjects of discussion and they will remain so in future also. For example, the Hon. President has mentioned about giving 33 per cent reservation of seats to women. One more important point was mentioned in President's Address for which I would like to appreciate. We, the people of Bihar not only Bihar, but also the people of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh are perturbed about the backward areas in this region. For this, a commission will be set up, which will give priority to the development schemes meant for that region, so that it can also progress in comparison to the rich and wealthy states. Special attention has been paid in this regard.

In the President's Address, several points have been mentioned. If due attention is paid on them, the process of making a good beginning can be initiated. It has been mentioned that provision for giving free education to women upto graduation level will be made. This is neither an ordinary issue nor an ordinary programme. Besides this, there are also other similar programmes.

Many questions and issues have been raised here. The most important being 60 per cent budgetary allocation for rural areas and other issues relating to rural structure have also been raised. In the same way agro industries have also been mentioned. If the country is made self dependent in the field of agro industries, only then it can be saved and make progress. Today, we are facing another dangerous situation. Foreign companies are entering in the field of Rajasthani "Bhujia", papad and 'sandal soap' which is manufactured in Mysore. Today, these companies are posing danger to our agro industries. So we should promote small scale and cottage industries to solve this problem

This has also been specially mentioned in the Hon. President's Address. This is a beginning in the right direction and country can move towards a new goal, if this is implemented with the consensus of all.

I would like to mention some more points. Plans were formulated earlier also, are being made even now and will continue to be formulated in future also. The Government, the Hon. Prime Minister and his Cabinet has to think over on some issues such as putting restrictions an extravagant expenditure as well as restricting the limit of expenditure. Only then development of the country is possible.

If on the one hand the tendency of people to live in luxurious houses and to spend lavishly is not checked and on the other developmental programmes are also formulated but there is no increase in earnings and the number of people sleeping on footpaths is increasing, the Government has to think how the country should be run? Today, there is a need to control this tendency.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to raise two points - One relates to the increasing number of labourers who have migrated to Delhi and secondly, the House should pay full attention towards their problems. Labourers from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh come to Punjab, Haryana and Delhi in search of livelihood and are forced to sleep on pavements. There is need to pay special attention towards welfare, security and improving the condition of these migrant labourers who are being discriminated. If we see the number of labourers in Delhi, we find that about twenty percent of the migrant labourers are from Bihar. Why the number of Bihari labourers is increasing? The main reason is that they are not getting employment opportunities in Bihar and the rays of development have not yet reached there. Some of the schemes which were launched till now and the central establishments situated there, are on the verge of closure and some of them have already closed down. The industries, whether of Dalmia Group or some other group, have become sick. The industrial set up as well as other business activities in Bihar are getting closed down. Same is the situation of irrigation project in Bihar. The irrigation projects started by the Britishers have also collapsed in Bihar. There is a need to provide central assistance for new irrigation projects in Bihar so that the state can come at par with other states.

I would like to make one more point that the people of backward states are migrating to other states in search of livelihood. Their unemployment problem can be solved only when there is scientific utilisation of man-power. There is shortage of land and capital in Bihar. Application of science and computers should not be to such an extent that the labourers are rendered unemployed. It is necessary to look after their interests also ... (Interruptions)

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: Please say something about Bihar also ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASHIST NARAYAN SINGH: You are asking me to speak about Bihar. Is there anything for name sake in Bihar? Is there anything like law and order prevailing? Tell me *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Narayan Singhji, please conclude. Only one minute is left.

[Translation]

SHRI BASHIST NARAYAN SINGH: When there is no administration in Bihar, the Government has no moral right to continue ... *(Interruptions)* with these words I conclude.

19.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 31, 1998/Chaitra 10, 1920 (Saka)
