

19.00 hrs.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittogarh): Sir, the Parliament does not hold the executive's action. It examines the executive's action. It is no one's suggestion that in the inter session period, the Government stop taking all decisions; of course, not. The Government must go forward with its decisions. If your decisions are correct, you will meet with out approval. If your decisions are unhappily incorrect, then you will meet our disapproval. It is as simple as that.

This motion be carried forward to the next session.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): We agree.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, all right.

19.01 hrs

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, the Third Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha and the Budget Session for this year comes to a close today. This has been a long Session in which the House held 49 sittings lasting over 310 hours.

The President addressed the members of both Houses assembled together on 24th February, 1992 in the Central Hall of parliament.. The address was televised live. Thereafter the current session began with oath/affirmation by Members elected from Punjab.

The House discussed the President's Address for more than 16 hours before adopting it unanimously. The discussions

were marked by lively exchanges between Members and speeched of the highest quality were made by many Members. Many of the speeches have been telefilmed and will be available as a permanent record in the Library.

The major part of work in this session related to the transaction of financial business. The Railway and General Budgets for 1992-93 were presented on 25 and 29th February respectively. For the first time, we telecast live, the presentation of the two Budgets and I believe that we have a very favourable response from the viewers.

The Railway Budget was discussed in the House for almost 18 hours before it was passed. The discussion relating to the General Budget lasted for more than 16 hours. The House had a general discussion on the Budget for almost 20 hours; the demands in respect of 8 ministries were taken and the others guillotined after almost 41 hours of discussions; and the discussions regarding the Finance Bill lasted for more than 11 hours. Supplementary Demands for grants, both in respect of Railways and General, for 1991-92 were also discussed and voted and the Budgets in respect of the States of Jammu and Manipur for the year 1992-93 were also passed. In all, 8 Appropriation Bill were passed by the House. The speeches of many of the members in regard to the financial business have been telefilmed and will be available in the Library.

In the field of legislation, the House passed 20 Bills, importing among them being the Representation of the People (Amendment)* Bill, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Bill, the Finance Bill, and the Constitution (Seventy -Sixth Amendment) Bill. The House also referred the Constitution (Seventy-First Amendment) Bill for delimitation of constituencies as passed by the Rajya Sabha to a select committee of the House.

One short duration Discussion under Rule 193 on the latest position on Bofors gun deal investigations was held. Besides a motion under Rule 184 regarding proclamation in relation to the State of Manipur was also discussed.

The House also discussed and adopted 3 statutory resolutions - one seeking approval to the continuance of the proclamation in respect of Jammu & Kashmir for a further period of six months and the other two approving the proclamations under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the States of Manipur and Nagaland.

Four important matters, namely, prolonged strike by the Jute workers in West Bengal, exposure of a racket in spurious drugs run by doctors in Delhi, resentment among tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh over a low prices for VFC tobacco and strikes by share brokers resulting in closure of stock exchanges, were raised through the device of calling attention on which four hours were taken. Twenty Eight statements on important matters were made by various Ministers. In addition, 314 matters were raised under Rule 377.

Notices of 47,370 question were received of which 947 questions were listed as starred, 271 questions could be orally answered and written replies were given in respect of 9715 questions. One Short Notice Question and one Half- an- Hour discussion were also taken up. I learn the receipt of notices for 47,370 questions is the largest ever for a Budget Session. I also learn that the average number of Members giving notices of questions for a sitting is 212 which is double the number for previous sessions. I am extremely happy the keen interest displayed by Members.

As usual, the Private Members continued to evince keen interest in bringing forward Bills and Resolutions in the House.

Sixty One Bill on various subjects were introduced by Private Members. Two Bills - one to restrict powers regarding imposition of President's Rule in the States and the second to give constitutional status to the Planning Commission and the National Development Council were discussed in the House. Another Bill seeking to include manipuri and Nepali languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, which received the support of almost all sections of the House, remained part-discussed. Two resolutions, one for rejecting the proposals pertaining to TRIPS, etc. and the other seeking to give adequate compensation to victims of Bhopal Gas Disaster were discussed during the session. While the former resolution was withdrawn by the House, the latter remained part-discussed.

Considerable time of the House was spent by the members raising various issues during the so-called "Zero Hour", the unlisted business hour. I must compliment the members for focusing attention of the House to a good number of very important and topical matters during this time. On an average, about 75 minutes were spent each day on such matters on which there cannot be any compliment from us to ourselves. I am happy that most of the Members got opportunities to raise matters uppermost in their minds.

I am also happy the progress made in televising the proceedings of the House. During the current session, we have not only continued the telecast of the Question Hour, but also extended it to other important debates. As mentioned earlier, for the first time in the history of Parliament, there was a live telecast of the presentation of the General Budget and the Railway Budget. We also telecast speeches of some Members in debate on the President's Address and on the demands of Ministries like Human Resourced Development, Food and Agriculture, External Affairs, Rural

Development, Civil Supplies, which had been telefilmed earlier. It is gratifying to note that the feed-back from all corners of the country is quite encouraging.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all the honourable Members for the kind cooperation extended to me and my colleagues - the honorable Deputy Speaker and the hon. Members of the Panel of Chairpersons - in the smooth conduct of the business of this House. I would specially like to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various parties and groups as well as the whips of the parties, for unstained cooperation and courtesy extended to me without which my task would not have been easy. I would like to express our appreciation to all the officers and employees of the Parliament for the

cooperation that they extended to one and all also for doing their duties in the best possible manner. Without their cooperation, the House would not have functioned as it did.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHARAO): You are happy and you always make others happy. The moment you are happy, we all become happy.

MR. SPEAKER: I wish all the hon. Members very best till we meet in the Monsoon Session again. The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

19.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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