

Prime Minister Narendra Modi : Reply on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address (07-02-2019)

Madam, Speaker, I rise to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. As the Head of the Government, I extend my gratitude to the Hon. President for his stewardship in guiding the nation and also for elaborating on the vision of the Government. This Government is known for its honesty, transparency, welfare of the poor and caring for them and also for keeping the national interests at the top priority and for taking action against corruption and for working actively and expeditiously. I still remember the television images where it was shown as how the currency notes were stashed in the pockets.

Today, in the discussion many Hon. Members like Hon. Mallikarjun Khargeji, Shri Bhartruhariji, Shri Venugopalji, Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badalji, Shri Dinesh Trivediji, Shri Md. Salim ji, Shri Saumitra Khan have expressed their views.

An effort has been made for a meaningful discussion and the manner in which the House has listened to it. I would like to extend my thanks to those who have expressed their views in the House as well as the entire House that has encouraged them. In this discussion, there has been criticism, there have also been some incongruous comment and some people have spoken whatever pleased them. However, I understand that this being an election year, one has to say something or the other. Therefore, it is quite natural that they acted under that impulse. However, equally true is the fact that once we leave the House to face the people, we have to account for whatever we have done for the people as this is the election year. I extend my good wishes to all of you for a healthy competition in the forthcoming elections.

I would also like to welcome crores of youth who are going to cast their vote in the Parliament elections for the first time in this country. They all deserve to be commended because acquiring one's right to vote is no mean achievement. We all should welcome our new generation that is going to cast its vote for the first time for the 21st Century Parliament elections because they are going to become part of in the policy making process of the country. Therefore, I extend my congratulations to the new young voters and I believe that the new generation will play an important role in giving a new direction to the nation.

Madam Speaker, when we talk of a new India, we talk of hope and conviction whereas it is equally true that a person or society drowned in hopelessness cannot do anything either for their own self or for the younger generations. Only those can do this who are full of hope and conviction. Wailing and weeping people can, at most, likely to find 5-10 sympathizers, those who have resolved to bring change will never be seen around such people. Talking of a new India, I would like to quote Swami Vivekananda who had said that our experiences of the past was a necessity because it is through such experiences of destruction and unrest that will emerge India of future. It has sprouted and soft leaves have come out. The new India is now started blossoming into a grand flourishing tree." It is one's faith in adverse circumstances that leads to the path of growth and development. A promising nation always challenges the challenge. Such a nation overcome the challenges but those who evade the challenges invite more challenging situations. Therefore, we have been engaged with all our capabilities to counter the challenges and fulfil the hopes & aspirations of the common people of our country.

Today, reference was made to some facts of 1947. It is good but when we talk of history, we divide the period into BC and AD. Today's speeches which touched upon the period between 1947 to 2014, gave me the impression that perhaps the

speakers had devised their own definitions of BC and AD. For them it seems, BC stands for 'Before Congress' which implies that they don't believe that there had been any development in of the country before Congress, everything was in dumps in the country before Congress came to existence, and AD for them means 'After Dynasty' implying that whatever accomplishments were made, had been made after them only. However, we have to compare in order to evaluate and we have no reason to believe it to be bad. Why should we get so perturbed?

What was the situation four and a half years ago and what it is today? How have we progressed in these four and a half years. During these years, India has jumped to sixth place from tenth or eleventh place in economy during these four and a half years we should not forget the fact that the people sitting in the House, who are hard to be spotted now had eulogized the achievement of India reaching at 11th rank in world economy. I fail to understand how those who considered reaching 11th rank a matter of pride but now find the 6th rank so disappointing. As compared to the past, India is witnessing more Foreign Direct Investment. The power of 'Make in India' is setting new standards of manufacturing. Today, India is the second largest steel producer in the world. India is also the second largest mobile phone manufacturing country in the world. Today, India is the fourth largest manufacturer of automobiles in the world. India is also making record production of crops and milk. If there is any country in the world that can claim to have consumption of cheapest as well as maximum internet data in the world, it is India. The way Start Up ecosystem has cemented its place in the country, today, it is in a position to challenge the largest multinationals in the world. The aviation sector is also making rapid strides. However, if you are in Opposition then it becomes imperative for you to oppose, whatsoever be the situation. I do not say that you should not oppose, of course, you should. Certainly you should criticize Modi and also criticize the policies of the

Government. It is fine and is very necessary in democracy. However, I feel that in the process of criticizing Modi or the BJP, we start criticizing our own country. This does not lead to the nation's welfare. None of us should criticize or bring a bad name to our country even in our wildest of dreams. There are many things to mention; what kind of name they are bringing to the country by holding press conference in London? They held fake press conferences and today they are telling that they have not said anything. It is much better for me to remain within the confines of my dignity.

Today, Khargeji was saying that Hon. President made a mention of exactly those things in his address which are repeatedly said by Modi in his public speeches. It implies that through this assertion, it is self-proven that we do not indulge in double speak, what we utter inside the House, we also say it in public. I am extremely grateful to you that you have registered this thing that we always speak truth whether it is in public rally or in the Lok Sabha. The Prime Minister speaks the truth and the President also speaks the truth. Now, the problem is that you have bid good bye to the habit of listening to the truth.

You have also said that Modi is destroying the institutions in the country. We have a proverb "Ulta Chor, Chowkidar ko Danthe" (The Pot Calling the Kettle Black) here there is something to think. The emergency was imposed on the country by Congress while you have been saying that Modi is destroying the institutions. The Chief of the Army was called a hooligan (gunda) and it was done by none other than the Congress people and still it is said that Modi is destroying institutions. Army was insulted by the Congress people and still it is being said that Modi destroyed the institution. Fake conspiracy theories are launched and it is said that coup is being staged to bring a regime change in the country, think how damaging it is for the pride of Indian Army. You are not aware of the true picture, you might have played politics for few weeks but you do not have an idea as to what sin you have committed. I think it has inflicted a

deep wound in the hearts of our army men. It is simply unthinkable that Indian Army would attempt any coup, it has never happened since independence whether we have been facing bad days, whether our country was led by weak Prime Ministers and weak Government, whether we were led by a majority government or coalition Government, our Army has never indulged in such sinful act. Well, I do understand that according to you we have done really bad. We all are responsible people. We should be mindful of making such irresponsible statements that our Government is indulging in destroying institutions.

The Election Commission of our country can be a role model for the entire world. All our political parties abide by the decisions of the Election Commission even with some minor grievances. Are we the one who are going to destroy even this institution? Today we are destroying it. Can we have some productive thinking in this regard? Similarly, I am surprised on shifting the blame of your failure on EVMs. Today the whole nation is discussing the Budget while you are just busy blaming EVMs. Why are you so much afraid, what has happened to you?

Congress even tries to threaten the judiciary. The kind of remarks which are made by the Congress people against the decisions of judiciary is unprecedented. Whether the decision of the judiciary is good or bad, we have to respect it because ultimately, we have to protect our institutions. However, if something is not to our liking then it does not mean that we should utter or write anything. You are trying to threaten the judiciary by taking resort to the device of impeachment and you are trying to strike at the foundation of entire structure, and you are blaming us for that.

This Congress party had called the Planning Commission a 'bunch of jokers'. You know it very well who said it. Today, you are eulogizing the Planning Commission and the same Planning Commission was called as a

'bunch of jokers' by one of your former Prime Ministers. The institution should be respected. You have started to only recite this phrase but you have to look into your own deeds also.

Article 356 has been misused by you hundreds of times. You dismissed the elected governments and the Article was misused by Shrimati Indira Gandhi alone many times and it resulted in forced dismissal of governments for many times. Do you remember which anniversary corresponds with year 2019? I would like to remind my friends from Kerala when in 1959 Nehruji was the Prime Minister and Indira Gandhi was the Chief of the Congress, at that time she visited Kerala. We do not have an idea as to what she observed there, nevertheless, as soon as she came back, elected communist government in Kerala was dismissed. This year 2019 is the anniversary of that event. On what basis do you talk about the respect and dignity of institutions? What have you done to the country? Do you need to be reminded of your actions against NTR Government? What did you do with MGR? Not only this, your deeds tantamount to diluting the decisions taken in the Cabinet by tearing them in press conferences. What kind of institutional sanctity and respect you are talking about? Therefore, before you point any finger towards Modi, you should be equally mindful that remaining four fingers are getting pointed towards your ownself.

Khargeji is a decent person and there cannot be any difference of opinion about it but we do not know what compulsions he is facing. I would reiterate time and again before the House that he is a very decent person. It is also true that he has said that I should avail first aid, however, he was asking this after 36 hours whether I need first aid. I am grateful to you that you are showing concern about us in your capacity as a senior Member.

Hon. Madam Speaker, one of the biggest reasons at the root of all these problems is that a poor person, who had never seen the corridors of Delhi, has

challenged such a large sultanate, which they are not being able to tolerate. They believe that the seat of power of this country is their property. It belongs to their master. They cannot accept the fact that a person from nowhere can come to power. This intoxicating thought is creating problems.

Hon. Madam Speaker, now parties are blaming each other. Let me also make it clear that you have ruled for 55 years and our Government is only 55 months old. See the extent of cleanliness during 55 years, it was 40 percent in 2014, but today, in four and a half year it has crossed 98 percent in 55 months. More than 10 crore toilets have been built in four and a half years. Those who say that this Government is for the rich, I am glad that I have built toilets for the 10 crore rich people of my country. They are rich for me, they are my faith, they are my life, I live for them, I have come here only for them. 12 crore gas connections were provided in 55 years and 13 crore gas connections have been provided in 55 months and that includes 6 crore Ujjwala connections. You can imagine the speed at which work is done and for whom it is done.

Nationalisation of banks has been done. They indulged in rhetoric in the name of the poor, played politics for winning elections and getting votes, but in our country, in 55 years, only 50 percent people had bank accounts, now in 55 months we have become successful in achieving cent per cent target. It pinches you. We have provided electricity in 18 thousand villages. You have stated that before 1947 there was no electricity in any village in this country. Before 1947, there was no electricity in any village in this country, you are starting from there only. It is the same thing as I mentioned about B.C. and A.D. This Government has done so much work in the last 55 months. There were not so many obstacles after independence, there was not so much opposition, there were not so many laws, there was not even such widespread media, if you had the intention to work at that time, then every village of the country could be electrified in the first two decades. The work which should have been completed in twenty years, is now being completed by me. Not only this, look at your manifesto of 2009 and

2014. You have mentioned in the manifesto of both 2009 and 2014 that you will supply electricity to every household within 3 years. It is in your manifesto. I am surprised you have not eradicated poverty, you have not fulfilled your promise to provide electricity within 3 years in 2009 and also within 3 years in 2014 and today I have to work day and night to provide electricity to every household. We have completed the task of providing electricity to two and half crore families and in the days ahead we will have the pride of achieving hundred percent electrification, I can assure you this. There are certain people who will try to mislead, but the figures will tell the facts.

After 30 years, in 2014, the people of the country have elected a Government with an absolute majority. The country experiences as to what happens when there is a Coalition Government and now even bigger Coalition is going to be formed. If an absolute majority Government is formed, it can take many decisions and it can work at a greater pace.

The Grand Alliance is not going to win. You may try this in Kolkata. They will not be able to face each other in Kerala. Those who led Grand Alliance were thrown out by the people of Uttar Pradesh.

Due to unstable Government, unimaginable Government, the country has witnessed this situation for 30 years. Now the health conscious society also remains away from adulteration. Healthy Democracies are also remaining away from Grand Alliance.

When a majority party Government is in power, it is a dedicated government and it carries out so much work. Before 2014, you were in power, you should have provided houses to the poor, since 1947 every Government has contemplated upon this issue. Five years just before 2014, your Government constructed 25 lakh houses but our Government has constructed 1 crore 30 lakh houses in 55 months only. These houses are also equipped with toilets, electricity and gas connection. We are not completing this work just by constructing four

walls. Today your party members also approach us to get housing allotment in their area, the money is being deposited directly in the accounts of the poor, there are no middlemen.

It was mentioned in your manifesto of 2009 and also of 2014. I do not know from where you brought the matter of three years, I do not even know what is your definition of three years. You said that in three years, we will connect every Panchayat with optical fiber network and move towards Digital India. The same thing was stated in 2009 and also in 2014. When we came to power, optical fiber network reached 59 villages, it means the idea is new. Now you will say that it was your plan. Well it was your plan, it is written in the manifesto that it will be done, but it is only in writing there. You started this work of the broadband connectivity. In 2014, the broadband connectivity was only in 59 villages and during our Government the broadband connectivity reached 1 lakh 16 thousand villages within 55 months. You continued making promises.

Today Kharge Saheb was in the mood of doing sher-o-shayari (poetry). It is likely that he read some poems on beauty. I do not understand why he liked a line that was about beauty. I know the environment in which you were born and the struggle which your family had to face and I am proud of your family.

If you remember those things, then you do not pay attention to this line of beauty. If it were so, then you would have looked at it and I am reminded of this thing day and night because of you. The lines of the poem are -

“jab kab hijhoot ki baastime insach ko tadapte dekh hai,
Tab maine apne bheetar kisibachche ko sisakte dekh hai.”

What happens due to this business of lies, you should be able to discern it in the poem, but you could not see that. In the same poem, it is written further that if there was a thing called sympathy, but it would have been lost due to their being

in the corridors of power. If it had survived, the next line would have touched your heart. The next line is -

"apnegharkichaardiwarimeab lihaafmeinbhisihranhotihai,
Jis din sekisikogurbatmeinsadkonparthithurtedekhahai."

When you are empathetic, you feel pain, then only it works. 55 years of the Congress - 55 years of power enjoyment, our 55 months - 55 months of spirit of service. 55 years of privilege of power and 55 months of spirit of service. When the policy is transparent, intention is clear and welfare oriented, dedication is firm, then we continuously get a new energy and new inspiration to dedicate ourselves to work twenty four hours for the poor, for the welfare of the country and for the development of the country.

How do you work? I would definitely like to remind the 21st century voters that with what intent this power indulgence went on for 55 years. You can see when Commonwealth Games were hosted. That was a golden opportunity to exhibit the prestige, pride and splendour of our country to the entire world, but at that time, on one hand our players were fighting tooth and nail to win the medals, while on the other hand these people were busy in accumulating wealth through commonwealth games. Let's take the case of allocation of the 2G spectrum; you can see what happened in the matter of the 2G spectrum. This was a result of power indulgence and their intention was benefiting themselves and their kith and kin, while our intention is providing cheap data services and reducing the cost of phone calls. And for that purpose, we are the one who have developed the system of Spectrum Auctioning. About Banking System, what situations you created? They were doing Phone Banking. If the '*Naamdar*' came to know that they needed help, calls were made to the bank and money was withdrawn and sent to them. What the purpose was, who was taking it, where was it being sent, now all this information is being exposed therefore their difficulties are mounting.

One thing cannot be forgotten here that after the independence, total amount of Rs. 18 lakh crore had been given in loan by banks till 2008, loans were given, but the politics then was all about power indulgence, the manner in which they were running the country, you can see the result of 55 years of indulging us power. From 2008 to 2014, in six years this amount increased from 18 lakh crore to 52 lakh crores. This was a result of phone banking, it was the public money that was being looted and nobody was there to question. This was your working. Now, the 21st century voters must be aware, when they were very young, these things were happening and now it is our job to educate them. We have disbursed 7 lakh crore rupees through MUDRA scheme.

NPA amount is the same that you left behind in 2014; it's actually the interest that is building up. The interest amount is building up, but new NPAs are not being added. The interest is building up on the NPA amount left by you. We have brought such laws due to which 3 lakh crore rupees have started to be recovered.

Hon'ble Speaker, we have given 7 lakh crore rupees through MUDRA scheme. We have given it to those, who were not able to provide collateral guarantee and they created self-employment, they created employment opportunities. We have done this work.

Those who ran away, are crying on Twitter that they are left with just 9 crore rupees and Modi has seized their 13 crore rupees. They are crying, tweeting and saying that I get up in the morning only to hear that such and such of my property has been identified and that it is also seized. Their property in any country of the world has been seized. We brought these legislations. We have made this law. You allowed loot and we made efforts to bring that money back by bringing new law.

Speaker Madam, I think that our friends in Congress have outsourced some of the tasks. Well, help was extended just two days back, so at least this much has to be done.

Hon'ble Speaker Madam, this was stated by Congress when the matter of Surgical Strike came up. I am not talking about the film 'Uri' here; I am talking about Surgical Strikes. Congress said that the surgical strikes took place during their tenure as well....

All right, you have everything. Please wait, you have everything. You have been allowed to speak for hours together. At that time the condition of Army was really not good. In a way, you rendered army unarmed. The position wasn't such that anyone could take the decision of conducting surgical strike. Those were the days, when not even bullet proof jackets were available. How could you even think of conducting surgical strike and now you are misleading the general public. They had neither communication devices nor helmets and not even good quality shoes. I am not talking of war logistics, this was general dispensation. In the year 2009, Indian Army made demand for 1 lakh 86 thousand bullet proof jackets which were not procured even after five years till 2014. Now they are talking about surgical strikes. Talking cognizance of the situation our government procured 50 thousand bullet proof jackets in the year 2016. In 2018, our Government provided all the one lakh 86 thousand bullet proof jackets for our jawans.

In 2014, the general public, as they are clever and don't make mistakes, gave us the mandate, however, if the UPA were in the Government then the pride of this country, the Tejas fighter aircraft would have been on land only lying somewhere in the parking area, it would not have flown in the sky. In July 2016, by inducting Tejas into number 45 Squadron of the Indian Air Force, our Government accorded approval to procure 83 Tejas aircrafts. You never bothered about it. You never thought of strengthening the army. Why were you so insensitive to the jawans safeguarding the country? Why did the erstwhile Congress Government chose to ignore and overlook the needs of the Army, Air Force and Navy for 10 years? Imagine the country's predicament if there had

been some escalation by our foes. You have indulged in criminal negligence of such a big magnitude. The country can never forgive you for your misdeeds. Today, modernisation of the army is the need of the hour and I would like to know the reason why not a single next generation fighter plane was ever entrusted to our Army in the last three decades. Not a single in 30 years. Whereas, the military prowess of our neighbouring countries continues to surge isn't it an act of betrayal with the country's security? Shouldn't there be any accountability.

Dada wants to hear the stories of the Rafael deal. Nirmala ji has responded to every allegation leveled by the opposition. The Supreme Court has looked into every aspect of the case and the question is that the Congress Party does not want that our Army, our Air Force, are strengthened. I am leveling a serious allegation. The Congress party does not want that our Air Force becomes strengthened, that Rafael deal should be cancelled, who are you trying to favour? Which company are you trying to favour? ... Who are your agents? Is this the way to treat your country's army? You kept the country's army bereft of arms for 30 years. History stands witness to it.

History stands witness to the fact that Congress Party and its UPA Government has never worked without 'kick backs' in defence deals. I was wondering that they tell lies about Rafael deal with so much confidence. As I looked into the details I realised that they cannot consider any defence deal closed without any kickbacks in the last 55 years of their rule. Some chacha, some mama somewhere..... These Congress people become agitated when they find that the country's Air Force is being strengthened with such transparency and honesty.

They are not in the habit of listening to the truth and hence this nervousness. They are having long faces because we have caught hold of your confidante.

Not one, not two but three confidante have suddenly appeared. Your concern is that how do we catch hold of them, how do we bring them and how we question them? The letters are handed over in a sealed envelope and that is why I can understand your nervousness. As far as black money is concerned, corruption is concerned, we still continue to stay committed to our vision of tackling these issues with zero tolerance. Corruption has eaten into our country like termite. There wouldn't be a person here who wouldn't want the country to be free of corruption. Everyone wants the corruption to be eliminated but everybody is entangled somewhere or the other, that is why they are not able to take any action. We have no baggage and we do not have to oblige anyone and we are not living on somebody's mercy. I am alive with blessings of 12.5 billion people of my country and that is why I have the courage to fight tooth and nail against black money, corruption and have not stepped back in any manner and making continuous efforts in that direction. We have shown the door to 8 crore people who used to be involved in the role of intermediary and middlemen by espousing Aadhar enabled system. What did I do Dada? I did this. The Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act was in force long back, discussions were held in the Parliament, message was given to the world, votes were won on that pretext, but that Act was never enforced. But our Government not only enacted a law on Benami property but also enforced it to attach the Benami property. Today, the people are worried because of this as their property is being attached and it is very natural for them to worry.

Hon. Speaker, I would like to assure the House and the entire country through the House that we are not going to step back from the resolve that we have taken. The challenges are high and mighty and the path is laden with a lot of hurdles, but our resolve is as strong as these hurdles are. Our confidence is as high as these hurdles. You are troubled by demonetization. Post demonetization 3 lakh shell companies which used to operate, take donations etc. have all been

closed down. This transaction would have continued if the old system continued. This is a 55 month old Government which is imbued with the spirit of serving the country, that is why all this has been possible. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code enabled the Government to recover three lakh crore rupees.

Hon. Speaker, another information may perhaps surprise many members in the House. We sent a letter to disparate institutions after forming the Government. These institutions which were funded by the foreign countries had obtained permission under the FCRA Act. We asked them to give an account of the contribution received by them and where they utilised such contribution. No one had to conduct any raid, nor the income tax officials had to visit anywhere. Only a small letter was dispatched. You would be surprised that thanks to a flurry of initiatives having been undertaken by our government over 20 thousand organisations were compelled to close their shops down who would allegedly receive fund from abroad. What did these organisations do? These institutions were influencing border villages, Parliament, the Judiciary and even the judicial process. We have been able to rein in those institutions.... Those twenty thousand institutions? Couldn't you put a check on these institutions? Why did you allow them to run? Why did they enjoy your blessings? What was your interest? For whom were these money laundering conduits made? We are fighting this issue, and we are listening to all sorts of indecent and abusive language and dirty allegations from all across. The only reason is that we have put so many people in trouble, that an honest and truthful government, which is concerned about the interest of the people of the country has come to power. Twenty thousand institutions is a fairly big number. The very big names are closing down and trying to enter the country officially by some other name, things have come to such a pass. You would have noticed it.

I remember that there is Sardar Sarovar Dam on Narmada river in Gujarat. Its foundation stone was laid by Pt. Nehru ji and it has recently been inaugurated by me. There were foreign sponsored NGOs behind it. No one tried to check them. Twenty thousand institutions have been closed down. This number could rise because we are now auditing their account minutely.

Hon. Speaker, the 55 years of rule has spoiled the habits of certain parties that they consider themselves emperors and look down upon others. They consider every other dispensation quite low. It is in their nature to insult everyone. It is in their nature to offend everyone. That is why they implicated a judge in a dispute, tried to ruin the entire atmosphere, contempt of judiciary, showed irreverence to the Reserve Bank, humiliating Chief of the Army, insulted Election Commission, humiliated the biggest intelligence agency of the country, insulted democracy- I consider all this as a perversion resulting from a long rule. Mahatma Gandhi had an inkling. He could make out that it was the Congress Party that had the maximum capacity of creating problems. If any party had the maximum receiving capacity of all the diseases, it was the Congress Party. That is why he averred at that time that Congress should be divided. Congress free India is not my slogan, I am just fulfilling the wishes of Mahatma Gandhi ji..... We are commemorating 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary. I have to complete this work as a tribute to him. You may form any alliance but you cannot be spared. For us, our samskars are above all. For us our party is above us and nation above our party.

Hon. Speaker, the Congress Party has accepted this mixed culture-of insulting the Constitutional institutions and encouraging corruption and dynasty rule. Not even a single member of that party can stay away from the dynasty rule, not even a single one because this has become their values. This has become their culture. That is why they can easily indulge in forming such mixed

culture because all of them are followers of dynasty rule. Almost all of them are out on bail.

It is very natural. Even if Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji had secured bigger mandate than my government then the country would have progressed leaps and bounds. I know it, the ones who are your allies today, were there with us then and even at that time they had betrayed us. You may continue to form this grand alliance with these betrayers. Today, there was a reference of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Once he stated and perhaps those who show reverence for him would realise that joining the Congress Party would be equivalent to committing suicide. This is Baba Saheb Ambedkar's statement that joining the Congress would be equal to committing suicide.

Madam Speaker, some Members raised the issue of price-rise in the House here today. These are far from reality, and truth. I want to remind them of two famous cinema songs in our country. One of them was, "Baki Kuch Bacha To Mehngai Mara Gayi Re" and the second song which became popular was "Mehngai Dayain Khaye Jaat Hai". Now the question is as to which tenures these two songs corresponded to? The first song was popular when Mrs. Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister and the rate of inflation was more than 30 percent. The second song was written when there was remote controlled government and rate of inflation was more than 10 percent, then these songs became popular. Inflation and your government have unbreakable relationship. Whenever the Congress party has come to the power in this country, inflation has always increased. During the tenure of Shrimati Indiraji, the rate of inflation had crossed 30%. This is what you have done. Yesterday, some references were made starting from the year 1947. If I start speaking in such manner, then I do not know as to what kinds of things will come out. That is why during the last 4.5 years, the rate of inflation has been maintained at the rate of 4 per cent by the 55-month-old government working with serving attitude. Our government has been doing a lot to help the middle class of the society, because the way

economic activities have flourished in the country, it is very natural that the expectations and aspirations of the middle class will only increase. I believe that during the last 55 months, the country has been experiencing the things which are very essential components for the development and progress of the country.

New aspirations, and expectations are the biggest hallmark of development, which is visible in the country today. Some people considered hopes and expectations as burdens, but I look at these with pride, because they give strength to make developments and progress, and inspire to do justice.

After the introduction of the GST, we have worked to keep the essential goods out of the tax net. You must remember that you used to levy tax on milk also, and I do not know what kind of taxes your Government used to charge. You do not have any locus standi to speak. Prior to the introduction of the GST, the average tax used to be more than 30 percent. What things do you speak? The GST Council decides the rates, and in GST council, the members are also from your party. The Chief Ministers of your party and the people of your government are the members of the said council. Today, 99% or even more goods attract 18% or even less taxation. In this Budget also, we have given tax exemption upto Rs five lakh in the assessment of individual income tax. It is not so that this demand has been raised in our time. When the Economist Prime Minister was there, there used to be such a demand and this demand was raised even in the year 1992, but you never paid attention for so many years. We have paid attention to it. Now, I would like to come to education loan. Our middle class family takes an education loan. We have reduced the interest on it from 15 percent to 11 percent. Due to this, if a young student takes a loan of ten lakh rupees, then he saves an amount of one lakh twenty five thousand rupees while repaying the education loan. Similarly, if a middle class family takes a home loan from the bank, then while repaying the loan to the bank, it saves from 5 to 6 lakh rupees. Our Government have done this.

Our Government has done the same thing with regard to LED bulb. I wonder as to what was the reason that LED bulbs used to be sold for 300, 400 and 450 rupees during the tenure of UPA government? What is the reason that their prices have come down to Rs 60-70 after we formed the government in the centre? Crores of LED bulbs have been sold in the country. You can imagine as to how many hundreds of crores of rupees of the poor and middle class families have been saved. Due to this LED bulb intervention, the electricity bill to the tune of 50 thousand crore rupees has been saved in the country. Saving worth 50 thousand crore rupees per year has been left in the pockets of middle class families. This huge accomplishment has been done through an LED bulb. If I had announced a package of 50 thousand crore rupees, there would have been round the clock discussion in the media, and it would have been the headline of every newspaper. Our government has done the work to help the middle class families of the country by saving Rs. 50 thousand crores.

The stents used in heart disease were very expensive, and our government has made these cheaper. We have made knee implantation affordable. We have provided the facility of dialysis free of cost up to district level. Earlier, the poor had to spend two to three thousand rupees for dialysis. Today, we have done the work of providing this facility to them free of cost. We have set up more than five thousand Jan Aushadhi Kendras. The result of those Jan Aushadhi Kendras is that today, a generic medicine of 100 rupees is available for 30 rupees and it is very noteworthy because the poor families, which have joint families, including people above the age of 60, require medicines for them. By doing so, we have given the biggest benefit to the middle class. Similarly, we have shown concerns about the treatment of the poor. I am surprised that people are worried about Modi's letter in Ayushman Bharat. When the Prime Minister of the country writes a letter, then he takes a huge responsibility, shows a strong commitment and gives confidence to the common people that they should not worry, because the Prime Minister and the government are with them. Today,

this House should be really happy that the poor of this country, who used to treat themselves with normal herbs awaiting death because they did not dare to go to the hospital due to their poverty, are being cared. The poor could not afford treatment of serious diseases and they had no option but just to wait and the family members were left wondering as to what else they have to do for them. The people had been left languishing to fight with serious diseases for two, three or four years, but within more than hundred days since the implementation of Ayushman Bharat, around 11 lakh poor people have already availed the benefits of this scheme till date.

More than 15 thousand poor are getting benefitted, daily, from the 'Ayushman Bharat' scheme. It is our collective responsibility. I have seen that all our MPs write letters seeking funds from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund saying that there are a large number of cancer patients and people suffering from other diseases in their areas. And we continuously provide funds from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. My predecessors have also done the same.

But after the launch of 'Ayushman Bharat', no MP has to write such letters anymore. They have got gold cards, and their work is being done immediately. The funds released under PM fund provided only a partial relief but now under this scheme the entire cost of the treatment is being met. Every Member of Parliament used to meet me with regard to the funds received from the Relief Fund and expressed satisfaction that so many people have got benefited in their area. It has been done in the first week and in the third week. I also write to them. Whoever receives money from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, I write a letter so that I must be sure whether he was really ill or not.

When I was in Gujarat, we did an experiment. People used to avail the facility of the circuit house. They were VIPs and they used to avail such services at concessional rates. There was a manager at the circuit house, and he used to write letters to the guests inquiring whether there was any fault in the

service being provided to them and their spouses ever since their arrival on a particular date. Things came to such a pass that people stopped coming. Even I used to write letters to those patients inquiring about their wellbeing and hoping that the money they received from PMRF helped them in improving their health. Then the transfer of money was also linked to their Aadhaar numbers resulting in the prevention of any money leakage, and abolition of middlemen.

I request all the Hon. Members of Parliament to make sure that all the poor in their constituencies benefit from 'Aayushman Bharat' scheme. I wish for healthy competition during elections. Elections will come and go but we should serve for the cause of poor. There are still two-three months; you have an opportunity to work for their welfare.

Madam Speaker, I would like to deliberate in detail about one issue. We have amended our Constitution to help realize the dreams of the youth who are economically weak but we also tried to see that this would not cause any stress/tension in the society. We have provided 10% reservation to the economically backward without disturbing the reservation system prevailing for SC, ST, and OBCs. This problem did not crop up after we came into power. It was already in existence. But we have shown the courage to deal with it and I am grateful to this House that all the members supported us unanimously in this regard. I take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all of you. Along with this, we have also decided to increase the number of seats proportionately in the education sector too, so as to avoid injustice to others and to ensure that our progress is not hampered.

Despite ruling the country for 55 years, now I will mention about what has been the level of 'SattaBhog' (privileged elitist existence). No standard employment policy was framed during those 55 years. It was not on the agenda for the previous governments to develop a system to generate employment opportunities. There is no adequate system for employment generation. Those who indulged themselves in the frills of power are those responsible for the lack

of employment opportunities in the country. We are making all out efforts to improve the situation since we assumed office. If employment opportunities are being generated in 100 sectors, its numbers were being estimated by considering only 7-8 sectors. The current policy is to evaluate jobs in 100 sectors. A token survey of 7-8 sectors cannot be the basis for arriving at an estimate of 100 sectors. The time has changed today, parameters have changed and the types of employment have also changed. Therefore, today I would like to tell the truth to this House, without any fear, and based on facts; I request the people of the country who watch television to listen to this part of my speech carefully so that you can give a befitting reply to the false propaganda being made by the power hungry lot.

See, about 85-90% employment opportunities are generated in the unorganized sector in the country and only 10-15 % are generated in organized sector. We have to accept this truth that it is 80% to 90% in the unorganized sector whereas it is only 10 to 15 per cent in the organized sector. I would like to furnish some figures in respect of the sector which provides only 10% of the job opportunities. I will talk about this 10% first and then we will talk about the 90%. During the period from September, 2017 to November,2018 i.e approximately 15 months, nearly I crore 80 lakh people started contributing to Provident Fund for the first time. Was it possible without having employment? And out of them, 64% people are below the age group of 28 years. Therefore, the argument made by Khadge ji in the morning has no logic. A person below the age of 28 years is considered as a new job entrant.

Besides, I would like to place one more fact before you. In March, 2014 around 65 lakh people in the country registered themselves for National Pension Scheme (NPS). The number increased to 1 crore 20 lakh in October last year. Was it possible without having any job? Is it fictitious?

I would like to give figures. Every year the non-corporate tax payers declare their income while filing income tax return. They give salaries to

their employees although they do not get salary. About 6 lakh 35 thousand new professionals have started their work during the last four years in the country. When a doctor sets up a clinic or nursing home would he not employ people? When a Chartered Accountant opens his office, would he not employ 2 or 3 persons? I would like to say that this is formal sector which is only 10 per cent of the entire sectors and 6 lakh, 35 thousand professionals have been provided employment therein.

Let us now give figures of the informal sector. In informal sector, transport sector provides maximum employment in which unorganized worker are working. During the last four years about 36 lakh trucks or commercial vehicles have been sold and about one and a half crore passenger vehicles have been sold.

More than 27 lakh new autos have been sold. Are these vehicles purchased only for keeping them in parking? Are these vehicles not being used or not being serviced or not being maintained? According to an estimate about 1.25 crore persons got employment during the last 4.5 years in the country in transport sector.

The number of approved hotels have increased by 50% in hotel industry. Are these hotels lying vacant? Are they not providing jobs to people? About 1.5 crore new employment opportunities have been created in tourism sector. Taxi Aggregator Service is expanding in the country but my colleagues in opposition believe that all App base companies are not doing business. Are cars are being run without drivers? Drivers are getting jobs in this sector.

More than 4.25 crore persons got loan for the first time under MUDRA Scheme. These persons have started their work but they are not covered under job data.

More than 2 lakh new common service centres have been set up in rural areas of the country. People got job in this sector also. Earlier, STD booths were shown as employment and figures thereof were laid in the Parliament also.

Today, 2 lakh common service centres are working 18-20 hours. 3-5 young persons are working in each common service sector.

The highways are being constructed with double speed. New airports are being set up, railway stations are being modernized. Crores of new houses are being built. Are these sectors not providing employment? The youth of the country is becoming self-reliant. Skill India, Start Up India, Stand Up India, Mudra Yojana etc. are our initiatives for self-employment in the country.

Madam Speaker, the youth of our country is directly connected with future of the country. But along with this please pay due attention to how the farmers are being taken care of. Just compare the Budget documents and see how much you spent during your tenure and how much we spent during our tenure. What was your investment for procurement under MSP wherever your Governments are and please compare it the with the figures of the BJP Government. If you see these figures you will understand how to take care of farmers. You can see the clear difference between 55 years of privileged elitist existence and 55 months of service to the farmers. Merely focusing on the electoral outcome, focus you have used the ploy of Farmers Loan Waivers, during your 10 years of tenure. It was mere strategy. Befooling and beguiling people for 10 years through such mechanisms, you have tried to reap electoral fortunes. And you call them 10 Year Plans?

To win 2009 elections you had announced waiver of loans. The amount of loan against farmers was Rs. 6 lakh crores. They created a big hype about it. Of the total loan amount of Rs. 6 lakh crore and only Rs. 52,000 crores were waived off. And who were the ones who got this benefit? It was the VIPs and those in the upper echelons who got benefitted out of this and the poor farmers have to take loan from money lender at huge interest rate. They were reeling under loan interest but you did not care about them.

The CAG Report was laid on the Table of the House at that time. You were not paying attention towards it as massive corruption deals were going on.

The 2G, Coal and what not. About 35 lakh persons were found non-eligible under the Rs. 52000 crore loan waiver scheme as per the CAG Report, but they were getting money. Brokerage was there in this scheme also. Our intentions and thinking is very clear about welfare of the farmers. We could also opt for loan waiving scheme. But while bringing the scheme, we thought about empowerment of farmers. Earlier there were 99 pending irrigation schemes and today you are criticizing 'Pradhan Mantri Irrigation Scheme'. As I told, I had to inaugurate those schemes for which foundation stones were laid during the times of Nehru ji. We have completed 99 pending projects by spending thousands of crores of rupees.

We have emphasized on new Mega Food Parks, new cold storages. The work is being done expeditiously to set up 22000 rural haats. We have provided online facility through e-NAM to the farmers for sale of their produce so that they can get remunerative price of their produce.

Madam Speaker, we have decided to give Rs. 6000 annually to the farmers in this Budget. There will be long term benefits of this decision. About 12 crore farmers are going to be benefitted by it. Your schemes (of the earlier governments) were merely benefitting about 1 to 1½ crore farmers or a maximum of 3 Crore farmers in some cases. And that too they were meant for only the Big Farmers. Those small and marginal farmers with one to two acres of land were not covered under these schemes. But this scheme takes into consideration those farmers with One or two acres of land the 85% of the farming community which was left behind. And 12 crore farmers will directly get the benefit into their bank accounts. There will be no middleman and benefits thereof are transferred to their bank accounts directly. I am astonished that some States are saying that they are not going to implement this scheme of Modi. But ask the farmers of that State that do they require Rs. 6000 or not. You do not have to give a single rupee from your kitty. This is going to be transferred directly in their accounts. Some people try to get mileage out of it

and announce that they do not want this scheme. They should think about farmers. They are not willing to implement 'Aayushman Yojana' They should pay attention towards poor instead of indulging in politics.

These farmers do not get loan waiver who take loan from money lender. I would like to give example of Karnataka. The farmer's leader from Karnataka is sitting here. The farmers Prime Minister Hon. Devagowda ji use to tell everyone that he is a son of farmer...(Interruptions)Your Government has made several announcements and you are saying that Modi has got votes through announcements. You made announcement about loan waiver of 43 lakh farmers. This is according to Government's record of Karnataka. But only 60 thousand farmers got this benefit so far. Your Government is making tall claims 'loan waiver is in ten days.' In Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh letters are yet to be issued. You are making tall claims.

I would like to tell that Rs. 50-60 thousand crores had been waived off once during the ten years. Only the upper layer of 2-3 crore farmers have got benefits thereof. Our scheme is on annual basis. If we calculate figures of ten years, it comes to Rs. 7.5 lakh crore. There is huge difference in amount of Rs. 50-52 thousand crore and Rs. 7.5 lakh crore. We have made special provisions for farmers involved in fisheries, animal husbandry under 'National Kamdhenu Commission'. They will also get 'Kisan Credit Card Benefits'. We thought about their welfare. Our Government is sensitive towards them. You would say that this was done during your time also. Yes, it would be but whether it has come during Modi's Government. We are trying to complete pending projects of earlier Governments happily.

I would like to mention about vaccination. The scheme was there because the mother and child should get its benefits but it was not happening. The poor, tribals, dalits, persons belonging to deprived classes were not getting its benefits. We have launched 'Mission Inderdhanush'. We have expanded its scope and successfully implementing it. The benefits of the scheme were not

reaching the poor during your tenure but and we are trying to provide benefits to the poor.

We have launched Skill Development and Self Employment Schemes for school drop outs. We have trained lakhs of youth under 'Skill India Campaign'. The people of the communist party were demanding for welfare of unorganized labour since then. About 40-42 crore unorganized labourers are there. For the first time 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Mandhan Yojana', has been launched and provision of pension of Rs. 3 thousand was made for them. The Communist Party of India could not do it. But one Government has done it. The fishermen of the country demanded a separate Ministry for them. We have made provision to set up a separate Ministry for them in this Budget.

The traders have an important role in economic activities of the country. Nobody was thinking about them. We have merged DIPP with Department of Promotion of Industry Internal Trade so that there will be a department in the Government of India to take care of interests of the traders.

The Nomadic Community is there since centuries. The earlier Governments used to exploit snake charmers and paraded them before the foreign tourists. These Governments did not pay attention towards them. We have decided first time to set up a board for welfare of Nomadic Community so that they too can get benefits of the schemes. When I was in Gujarat, I was working out a scheme for homes for the people of Nomadic Community. I wanted that their children too should get education. They said that they did not have houses so how their children could go to schools. I provided houses to them and I am saying it with pride that their children are working on computers. They are leading quality life. We should do work for the welfare of such communities.

Madam Speaker, Sushmaji has made several statements about foreign policy and I do not want to go in its details. Today, India has an important place at the global level. Other countries now give attention to our

policies. Now, India gets due respect at world fora. Please see the Paris Agreement. Before the finalization of Paris Agreement, India was consulted telephonically by big countries.

Today, India has made its place. Palestine and Israel brothers are our friends, although they do not have good relations with each other. Similarly, Saudi Arab and Iran do not have good relations but both of them are our friends.

We did not give importance to NRIs. I am happy that now all political parties are giving importance to them after we have made efforts in this regard. NRIs are our strength. They are spreading our schemes. The 'PravasiBhartiya Divas' even organized in Banaras was the event in which maximum representatives had participated.

The world has accepted 'Kumbh' as heritage event. Earlier Governments were considering 'Kumbh' as communal. But today delegates of all countries are visiting 'Kumbh Mela'. The officials of Embassies of other countries have visited there and unfurled the flags of their countries there. This is the strength and soft power of the country. Earlier we had ignored it. Today, we are emphasizing on it and successfully moving towards this direction.

Madam Speaker, I would like to assure to the people of India through that we are striving and working to achieve the targets set by us in 2014. We are going ahead with the resolve to fulfil our dreams, making efforts for optimum utilization of resources of the country and we are fighting constantly for the welfare of the country. We have been doing it and will continue do it. This is my assurance to the country. Efforts were made to undermine me during the discussion on No-Confidence Motion in 2018. I put my views before the country and the world in the midst of the slogan shouting for 1 hour 30 minutes to 1 hour 45 minutes. I would like to wish you good luck that you get an opportunity to prepare yourself to bring No-Confidence Motion in 2023. These are the sentiments for the service to the nation. They have reduced themselves to 40 from 400 owing to their bloated egos. We have risen

from 2 to current position due to service to the nation. And you are living in falsehood. I request you Mr Kharge, you are a senior member of the Parliament, compare the figures of progress made in the country from the time of its independence in 1947 to 2014. If you study them you would find only your failures. Other nations during this time period have crossed several mega challenges but we remained sluggish even though we had the potential as your policies had neither vigour nor life. You did not have the vision. You have focussed only on 5 or 15 organisations. You have never made efforts to provide water and electricity to farmers.

We did it in 55 months. We will achieve this target. Mr Kharge, you are from Karnataka. Why you have read sayings of Basvanna in the morning after so many years. If you have read it 25-30 years back then you would not have followed the wrong path. The sayings of Basvanna should be placed in every house of Congressmen. These saying must be placed in those places where your Governments are functioning which could prevent your wrong doings. Do not put picture of Modi there as people think that they would land in problem. Do not worry, Modi will create fear in the mind of persons who are looting the country as people have given mandate to me for this work. The thieves and looters were not afraid of anything in the country and led to its relentless ruin. Our Government will create fear in the minds of such people.

Madam Speaker, in the end I would like to conclude by reciting this couplet:

‘Suraj JayegaBhi To Kahan, Suraj JayegaBhi To Kahan
UsseYahinRahnaHoga, YahinHamariSanson Mein,
Hamare Rago Mein, HamareSankalpon Mein
HamareRatjago Mein.
Tum Udas Mat Ho, Tum Udas Mat Ho,
Ab Main Kisi Bhi Suraj Ko DubneNahiDunga.’

Thank you very much.

