

Prime Minister Narendra Modi : Reply on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address (27-02-2015)

I am here to reply on the motion of thanks to President's address. But I would also like to thank honourable members of this house. It was a very good discussion. I heard views of around 60 honourable members and around 40 honourable members have expressed their views in writing. In a sense, it has been a quite useful discussion. Lots of topics have been discussed and specially, our leader of opposition, Mr. Kharge ji and many senior members of other parties have also expressed their views on various topics.

The President, in his address, mentioned several problems being faced by our country and the measures being taken to tackle those problems. It is true that several honourable members believe that a particular thing could have been further improved. I take it in a positive manner and these expectations are of a great importance, no matter whether they have expressed by the ruling party members or by members of opposition. Also it demonstrates your belief that these problems will be resolved probably in this current period only and so it is a good thing.

Some members have objection that we are only changing names of the previous schemes. I do not believe that the issue is of any scheme or the name of that scheme, the real issue is whether we can resolve the problems for which the schemes are being run. There can be an issue of the scheme being new or old, but we all know that these are long-standing problems which we have inherited from our predecessors and that we are trying to resolve these problems. They blame us that we have just changed the name of the scheme and that actually it was launched by them. I believe that we should not be critical of such issues, rather we should feel proud of them and should be happy to know that in the quest of resolving issues, the thought process of people of this side or of that side, or of the people who were previously spearheading it or by new set of people who making efforts but what really matters is that we all are thinking in the right direction.

Secondly, I remember that once we were criticized for not participating in freedom movement and Atal ji gave a very precise answer – “Where were you during 1857 war of Independence?” So it is just an example to demonstrate that these types of questions have no relevance over the longer period of time. They say, we introduced ‘Nirmal Bharat’ and you changed it to “Swachcha Bharat”. My reply is that during the year 1999, Atal ji launched a “Total Sanitation” project, and I would like to ask, if “Nirmal Bharat” is a same project with a different name? Therefore, I believe that core issue is problem, not the project's name. Cleanliness is a problem of our country and it is more related to our mindset. And I always think of poor in my mind when I talk about sanitation campaign. According to Word Bank's report, diseases caused due to lack of sanitation, costs Rs. 7,000 to an average poor, and if there are five members in family, then it would cost Rs. 35,000 and therefore we all are responsible to maintain cleanliness. It is also associated with woman's honour. Even today, women in village have no option but open defecation and they have to wait till it gets dark. So issue is not who launched the project, the issue is of woman's honour and a right to live. And therefore, when we think about Sanitation, we say “we have to get this rolling”. Do you know why lots of girl child stop going to school? The main reason which comes to ones's mind is the unavailability of Girl-Child Toilets in their school.

So rather than blaming each other, we should focus on solving these issues and therefore, we have promoted this campaign of sanitation and these three points always revolutionises my mind. This campaign is not an inaugural function, it must run forever and we all should do it. None of us would like to live in a dirty environment but we should ourselves begin the Sanitation Drive is what we are not very keen about. Shouldn't we ask 125 crore people of this country to be a part of it? And I am happy to know that during her yesterday's speech, Supriya ji talked about it and mentioned that it is a good campaign and how we MP's could become a part of it. She asked this in front of this house. I believe MPLAD funds should be used for this campaign and people will definitely appreciate it, since they liked this campaign.

A media group told me that during the Kedarnath calamity that they collected an amount of Rs. 4 crores. During earthquake in Gujarat, we worked and we collected Rs. 3 crores. But we recently we launched a television campaign regarding Sanitation and people gave us Rs. 400 Crores. So I would like to say that no matter how you do it - through politics or via social policy, society is going to appreciate it. So rather than focusing on project names, if we focus on problems and in this way we can achieve a lot.

One of our Honourable Members, Mulayam Singh ji during his yesterday's speech made a good remark that Modi ji talks a lot about cleanliness but the Assi ghaat project is still incomplete. I did not know how to react because I was wondering if Mulayam Singh ji was giving the report card of Uttar Pradesh government or Central government? And secondly, this project is running since last three months. You can imagine the amount of garbage lying there. Assi Ghat is the identity of Varanasi. Mulayam Singh ji would agree that it was Lohiya ji who lead sanitation project in India after Mahatma Gandhi. And just because of this reason that a leader from a different party, that is, Lohia ji started this campaign so Modi ji should not be a part of it should not happen. If Lohiya ji said or initiated something good then Modi ji should also feel proud to follow that path. And therefore, for your information, this project is still running due to huge amount of garbage lying there.

You would be surprised to know that recently Sushma ji wrote a letter to all embassies worldwide, mentioning that we have started a sanitation campaign in India and please share photos of your embassies. And I have seen a lot of photos showing remarkable changes in embassies. Earlier their offices were full of garbage, papers drenched in water which had turned into stone. But are there no facilities in government offices? There are facilities but there is lack of will.

And therefore, it is a noble work which we are putting in our best efforts and it is not only the job of the government or head of the government, it should be done by 125 crore Indians. I thank all those who became part of it and I thank those who have taken this forward. Things like these must not be a part of controversy. During my speech from Red Fort, I acknowledged that the country has moved forward due to the contribution extended by all governments. I praised all the previous Indian governments and I would also like to state that I am not claiming that we have achieved everything in nine months, and nor we believe that this country came into existence on 15 August 1947. This country is legacy of thousands of years. This country has been in existence owing to its sages, saints, teachers, workers and farmers, and not by governments. Governments will keep changing. Country is not because of Government. Country is because of its people. And country is run by its policy and its philosophy. Ideology keeps changing, but the core elements are static and the core elements of India are -

Ekam Sadvipra Bahudha Vadanti

And

Om Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah

Sarve Santu Niraamayaah

Sarve Bhadraanni Pashyantu

Maa Kashichid-Duhkha-Bhaag-Bhavet

Om Shaantih Shaantih Shaantih

May All become Happy, May All be Free from Illness. May All See what is Auspicious, May no one Suffer. May there be Peace, Peace and more Peace

So this is the basic framework of India. Welfare of each and every person is taken care of, and therefore government will keep changing, but the basic framework will remain the same. Some people feel we did not do well in Delhi elections. I would say, that from last three weeks, we have received so many positive results of Panchayats, municipality and municipal corporation elections. We did well in Assam, Punjab and Rajasthan but no one is talking about it.

And as far as I know, Land acquisition Act was introduced by Congress, then why they faced such a historic defeat and lost so many seats. Emergency historically was a very dangerous situation but Congress was not in such dire straits even then in comparison to how they have been routed this time. If farmers were not against this Act, then you would have won the elections. And therefore, the argument appears good for the sake of it but please state true facts only. And hence I would like to say that we should rather focus on solving problems by applying our minds on finding solutions.

Sometimes, we are told that we will or we are about to discontinue MGNREGA or have closed down MGNREGA. I believe that a lot of people question my ability on different issues or my knowledge or understanding of them. You will have a different opinion that in this topic Modi has less knowledge or less experience but most of you believe that I have very good political sense. And that political sense does not allow me to discontinue MGNREGA. I cannot make such a mistake because MGNREGA is a living monument of your failures. After 60 years of independence, people had to dig pits because of you, therefore it is a biggest example of your failures and I am going to propagate this with all my might. I will tell the world that the pits you are digging point towards your wrong doings of 60 years. Therefore do not question my political sense. MGNREGA will not be discontinued and it will rather be propagated throughout the world with all the might possible.

But I would assure you one thing that since I live for the welfare of my country and want to continue living for the welfare of this country hence I will work to find out how I can take out and contribute as much as possible for the poor from this scheme. If we need to add something important to it we will. Do not worry, we will not remove anything but add something productive and put my efforts into it because I believe in letting people know that after so many years of rule who compelled them to dig holes. They should know who has left so many ruins for them and they get aware of these foot-prints left behind by you.

We often talk about corruption. I believe that corruption is destroying our country and I wish that this issue should not be limited to political circle only because this major issue tends to lose its relevance in political circle due to unhealthy discussions. It just gets limited to blame each other and the corrupt people continue to destroy the system. If together we all decide to stop it, then we can get rid of it. Is there any issue which cannot be politicized? Can we sit together to resolve this issue? It is the responsibility of government to run policy driven state and once a state is policy driven, then there is minimum grey area. I am not claiming that all our policies will be error free. It is beyond human's capability. May be we are not able to see a certain problems today but it could be there after 5-7 years, but grey area should be minimum and when the grey area is minimum, then bureaucrats would not get chances of interpretations or deciding priorities. So I believe that governments should be policy driven and country should not be run by an individual. And it should be according to the constitution of India, and then only we can resolve such problems.

Take an example of Coal Blocks allocation... when CAG reported about it then no one believed it in the beginning. Before this, lot of people had heard about scam involving 500 or 600 crore rupees but One Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Crores? Even the country got shocked and imagined that the amount could not be so huge. But recently, Supreme Court has cancelled 204 mines and so far just 18 or 19 coal mines have been auctioned, from which we have already got more than One Lakh Crore Rupees. So you can imagine, when 204 mines will be auctioned, then it is going to be a huge figure, which CAG would not have never imagined. And at that time, they were talking about zero theory!

I am not keen on pointing out mistakes of last government. But I believe that if we move towards positive direction, then we can find the solutions and this is just an example, how corruption free systems can be developed. We can develop such systems which can minimize corruption and I would solicit your best opinions. You may suggest us the best solutions to overcome these problems and we should all try to eliminate those problems.

Most of our honourable members have talked about black money, even those who used to consider it a taboo. So it is good to hear those people talking about black money and I believe that is a great achievement that we have forced the people to speak on this topic. In other words, we have made it a national agenda. They often talk about Supreme Court, but when Supreme Court instructed them to make SIT for black money; they did not honour the Supreme Court. Wasn't it their duty to make SIT without wasting time, once it was ordered by the honourable Supreme Court? It was not done for 3 years despite of Supreme Court's order. Soon after the formation of new government, we decided to make SIT in first cabinet meeting.

When we talk about black money, Swiss Banks are integral part of those discussions. I would like to congratulate Mr. Arun Jaitley ji, who studied international laws and convinced Switzerland Government to exchange vital information, and due to this, we are now able to get information from Swiss Banks. For this, I greet the Finance Minister.

Not only this, I got the first opportunity to attend the G-20 summit conference and met some people for the first time. How did we make use of G-20 summit? Under the Joint Declaration of G-20 summit, we requested them to take stern actions against the practices of Black Money and Drug Trafficking and we will support each other in this fight against black money. To take a decision in this regard we pressurised all the G-20 members to put pressure on the people where we need to put pressure to stop Black Money and Drug Trafficking.

Our efforts will not go in vain. We will always move in the right direction towards our goal and will never move go astray. I can ensure you that no one can escape from this. I request that nobody says that we did this as we were vindictive. We have made promises. A person, not necessarily be a minister but whoever he is and has brought losses for the country and this is why, we need everybody's will power in this context in our country. Government's support and efforts are extremely important, and I can ensure the assembly that we are doing our best and will continue to strive for achieving the final goal, till the end.

We often hear people asking us regarding the new steps taken till now. I will try to illustrate this by citing an example as to how to get work done. At one side, we speak a lot about the welfare of farmers, but when will we find the solution to all the atrocities faced by farmers? There are many ways to help them. Like, we have introduced the concept of 'Per drop-more Crop'! In our country, we have scarcity of water. Entire world is facing the same issue as us. Is this not a responsibility of our government to plan actions for the future in the coming 30- 40 years or are we only going to talk about the benefits of the present? By doing this, we might achieve the political benefits and goals, but this will not benefit our policy towards national goals.

We have also spoken about Soil Health Card. Under this Soil Health Card, we have adopted the mantra of "Swasth Dhara, Khet Hara" (Healthy Earth, Greener Farms). But, we cannot achieve success in this work by inaugurating this by cutting ribbon and lighting (diyas) candles at Vigyan Bhawan. So how does this government work? I brought to the notice of the authorities that as when we visit a doctor for check-up, we are advised to take up blood test and urine test, and post the results of diagnosis, the doctor provides the required medication. In the same way that our body require these guidelines for healthy life, we must provide this insight to the farmers of our country. The farmers must be informed that before they start growing crops on any field, they must try to diagnose the fertility of the soil. We call our nation as our Mother Nation and we are not even

bothered to understand our soil's condition. We must know if our country's soil is fertile enough to grow crops. Is our country's soil getting infertile and sick due to our ill-actions? Due to the excess usage of Urea in the soil, have we destroyed our nation's soil? When will we understand the seriousness of this situation? We will only witness the outcome, once the soil is tested. Just by introducing the soil testing card will not serve the purpose. I have suggested that we need to have entrepreneurs in each and every village, for testing the soil in labs. We need to train the youth residing in villages who are less educated. Banks should help the youth to build labs by providing loans for the same. This will create an atmosphere in villages, which will lead the farmers to visit the labs for soil testing. Every year, before the rainy season, farmers should get their field's soil tested in these labs, receive the appropriate feedback and attain the knowledge of micro nutrition details of their soil.

Likewise, we know that we have schools and colleges for class 10th and class 12th science students, which provide them laboratory facilities. But in our country, the laboratories remain closed from February till July. They remain closed as the students get busy with their exams and schools reopen by June or July after the vacation. Approximately in an important period of four-five months, these school labs remain empty and unproductive for three -four months. We have suggested the students of 10th and 12th standards, to conduct the process of soil testing as it is not a rocket science and can be undertaken quite easily. The students can undergo soil training, and can conduct soil testing during their vacation and make the labs productive. This will be an extra source of income for the schools, and benefit the youths and people residing in those villages. Our country is poor; we cannot plan to build a lab in a day, as it will be very expensive. We need to incorporate the optimum utilization of our infrastructure as these are the apt techniques used for good governance. These techniques can help us in finding a solution to all the farm problems. And, I believe, once our farmers are aware of the fertility of the soil and its inappropriateness for their crops, they will take proper actions immediately, and save themselves from useless expenditure.

We, often hear people asking that if the petrol and diesel prices went down across the globe, why the prices didn't go down in our country? We always forget that when we entered the government, the situation was horribly unfavourable. Rainfall rate was less than 12 percent. We, then, decided to increase the diesel subsidy by 50 percent and increase the electricity bill subsidy by 50 percent. As a result, government had to face utter financial crisis due to diesel crisis. We have given to the farmers, and those who say we have not given to the farmers, they only remember the present data of October, November and December, but they have forgotten the past data for the months of May, June and July. This is not true; we must understand that the government is there for us. This government is there for the poor, and is wholly devoted to the poor. We have formed the Expenditure Commission for reducing the nation's expenditure. We want to stop the useless expenses incurred in the governance, so that, these can be used for the benefits and development of the poor. We are moving towards the path of Good Governance.

You must be aware that that we are people from different generation. I am still unable to understand the fact that the generation of Xerox prevailed since my childhood, still, I had to visit a Gazetted Officer for getting my certificates certified. I had to stand in the queue, outside MLA's house and outside MP's house. If the MLA or MP was not available at the moment, then one of their assistant used to certify my document using a coin and used to tell me "Your documents are certified". We believe on these stamps, but we have no faith on our own countrymen. We have come up with a rule that the citizens can self-attest the documents and send for verification and once the documents are finalised, original documents can be submitted. You might consider this as a very small gesture, but it has a great importance in the mind-set of people as they believe that the government has full faith in them. In our times, for one work, we had to fill forms in which there were thirty to forty pages. When I saw these forms, I suggested that we do not require such long forms as the government files are getting piled up. So, these forms can be submitted online and the pages can be reduced to the maximum. At several places, long forms have been transformed to one page forms. We believe in the easier access of the infrastructure and facilities. We want to reduce the Red-tape, so that common man can also attain the benefits and we are working on the same. One after the other, we are coming up with new techniques which will be highly beneficial to the common man.

In our country, the retired government employees need to submit the proof of being alive, in the month of November every year to get their pension. They need to submit the proof by visiting the Ex-MP's office. It is alright till a certain age, they get an opportunity to go out of their homes but after a certain age, it becomes impossible to visit offices. Is it impossible for us to change these rules and regulations? We have come up with a technology that will assist them to prove themselves that they are alive by sitting at their homes. We have made the mechanism for sending their Pensions to their homes. This is to show respect and provide benefits to our poor Pensioners.

You must be thinking that in this huge nation, Modi is focusing on smaller aspects. These small things are the root of every problem which not rectified at the right time will lead to another big one, which will encompass all the small problems within itself. So, it is very important to eradicate the small problems first.

I remember we have been mocked at in the previous sessions. I don't know if this type of language used was appropriate or not? I was even told, that we are providing visa for entering the Parliament. I don't say anything to people who use such a language, but I just want to mention one thing that at the international level, we must give priority to the assigned commitments that have to be done. In the past, the previous Prime Ministers had to attend these international meetings, present one is doing the same and the future PM's will also have to attend these. If this issue is being mocked upon, then our political status has stooped down to a very low level. People are discussing about these trivial matters. Don't you have other topics to criticise me? I would like to say that if your country was so concerned, then they should have inquired about the time spent by your Prime Minister.

I would like to say that, when I visited Japan, what performance are added in the list of activities. I had gone there to meet Nobel laureate Scientist Yamanaka. Why? Did I go there to get photographed with him? The sole reason for my visit was to understand the Stem Cell Research conducted by him, which can be beneficial for our nation, as I had read about it and this unique invention. Why? I know that my country is filled with the tribal people and they are facing great difficulties in coping up with the dreadful Sickle Cell Disease, which is a deadlier disease than cancer. Those, who have asked about the details of Sickle Cell Disease will know the atrocities related to this disease, which is genetically transferred. Till now, no medicines have been invented for the cure from this disease. A hope has arisen, that with the help of stem cells, the cure for Sickle Cell Disease can be achieved. I had a discussion and we are working on the same direction, with our Science Institute, Bengaluru, in which our young scientists are using the stem cells for finding a cure. I just want all my tribal brothers, who are suffering from this deadly disease for generations, to come out of this pain.

We went to attend G-20 summit in Australia and where did we go? I went to meet the Agriculture Scientist for our farmers. I went to their labs, where they had researched and introduced the successful ways to grow grams in the worst soil fields, to attain more output per hectare. It was there in my mind, so I decided to go and meet them.

We are lagging far behind in the production of pulses. Our country is in utter need of pulses. Poor people need protein in their food to nutritional benefits. Our nation's poor people get their set of protein from these pulses. If our farmers start producing pulses at a progressive rate of more output per hectare, they will be benefited with extra pay, and also, it will be beneficial to the poor people. So, I spend hours with those scientists in Australia to know the key to produce more pulses for our farmers. What ways can be adopted for producing more grams and pulses? I spend time with them to know these keys to their success.

I visited one more scientist there who has discovered something novel in bananas. I wanted to understand this as I was not aware of it completely. I sat with him, visited his lab and facilities. He had successfully introduced higher level of nutritional values in a banana, like more vitamins. Banana is not a fruit for the rich my brother and sisters, it is the fruit for the poor. If a banana is produced with more nutritional value, with more vitamins in it, with such discovery each and every poor citizen of my country will be able to eat banana with more nutrients and will gain more strength. When I visit any other country for any work, my mind is always surrounded with the welfare of our poor, tribal citizens and farmers. I always strive to attain anything across the globe that will be beneficial to my poor brothers and sisters. I want to use my time adequately when I visit any other country, and for the need of the poor, I always tend to find new techniques and probabilities to improve their standard of living.

We have spoken about People Money Scheme, which was there in our time too. It has been 40 years after the nationalisation of the banks, and the sole purpose behind the nationalisation was to benefit the poor. But, we can see that the poor has no reach to the banks and the banking system, and financial system has become the main factors for their inclusion. If we are planning to introduce any such scheme in the future, we need to start here. We had announced on 15th August that we will complete our aim before hoisting our flag on 26th January. Within the deadlines, were we able to achieve our goals or not? The poor citizens are not allowed to enter the bank doors and the clerks, wearing coats, pant and tie, don't even come out of their air-conditioned rooms. One of the bank clerks, a friend of mine, visited the huts of poor people, he even went till their houses. Isn't it possible for the government to inspire and bring a change in the mind-set of people? This has been taken care of and I sincerely appreciate the Banking Sector for this achievement. They have taken this responsibility and fulfilled their goals. Under this system, we have heard a lot of leakage issues in MGNREGA. Now, we have MGNREGA money, accounts for People Money, Aadhaar cards and this had led to the reduction in leakage and the money directly goes to people's account. This is one of the benefits of People's Money Scheme.

We have poor people in our minds, but in the name of poor, we do not want to play politics. By serving the poor, we have got an opportunity to serve our Gods. So, when we work for the development of the Poor, we keep this in our minds, and we strive to find ways for their upliftment.

I would like to share some facts about the sanitation work going in our country. There is a requirement of 4.25 lakh toilets approximately in schools. Out of which, we need to build 1.5 lakh new toilets and the rest are required to be repaired and maintained. New online portals have been created and mapped. Through this portal, we come to know the required number of toilets at a particular address, all the details have been worked out, and I am very satisfied with the results. Approximately 60-65 thousand toilets have been built for the girls till date. I would like to appreciate the work of all the MPs and many MPs have actively participated in getting this work done. MPLAD funds and CSR have been used in the areas. Areas, where the district officers were actively present, they have worked at a faster rate and I have full faith, in the coming days, you can also ask the collectors and district officers about the status of work done and you will get the answers from them. You can also write to these officers to know the status of work. I believe that in the month of June, with the new session, all the work related to sanitation will be complete during the vacation. And, I believe that this is for everyone and we need your support in achieving our goals.

See the effect of cleanliness. Its impact on Tourism is impressive. One, we have introduced Online Visa and Visa on Arrival and another Clean India Mission. Both of these initiatives have a combined effect on tourism. Tourism has increased significantly in comparison to the last year. In lot of things because of the negative advertisements, the tourism prospect gets hurt significantly but despite this due to these better arrangements, tourism has got a significant boost in India.

Well now we talk of the disaster management. There is no government who has not faced any calamity, any disaster in its tenure. The Governments have had to take measures for disaster reliefs. But the methods of disaster management can be changed. When the floods came in Jammu and Kashmir, the first thing which I did was to prepare the list of all the Central Government officers from Jammu and Kashmir and to send them there first. I send the then Home Secretary and others who belonged to Jammu & Kashmir for a week. Why? Because we can't shed our responsibility by providing cheques for relief funds! This will not suffice. We have to stand by them with our full strength.

When cyclone Hudhud came, I personally visited there. I went to Kashmir several times. I personally and very closely discussed with many Groups in Srinagar, I celebrated Diwali with them. Why? Just to sensitize the other people in the Government about their responsibility. We can't leave the people affected by the flood to their own fate and destiny. This is why the approach of this Government during disasters is not of an escapist rather we take the responsibility with sincerity and sensitivity. Our efforts are to provide relief from the disasters with channelizing all our strength and resources in a right direction.

Here, I am listening interesting things about the Land Acquisition Act. We should not be proud that whatever we have done is the best and nothing better than that can be done. When the Land Acquisition Act was enacted we were with you. In order to pass the bill, we did not create any obstacle. We knew and in fact everyone knew that you are passing the bill hastily in order to take political advantage. Despite that, we supported you. We want to ask you that it took 120 years to see the drawbacks of the law in 2013 which was enacted way back in 1894. For the last 60 years, the country and its farmers were dependent on the same law, which was enacted in 1894. Who is responsible for the loss to the farmers? And, today when you made this law we supported you. Thereafter, when our Government was formed, the Chief Ministers of all the States, of all the political parties requested with one voice to do something for the farmers. The farmers would die without water, they require irrigation, Irrigational infrastructure, they require roads in the village and poor in villages need houses to live in. But such law was created in which your Chief Ministers also supported it but that Act is not doing any good to us. These were the words of all the Chief Ministers of all governments. This country talks about federalism and federal co-operation. Have we become so arrogant that we do not bother about the concerns of our Chief Ministers? Are we so high and mighty that we become indifferent towards the problems of States and their Chief Ministers? Should we not listen to them, should we not respect their positive feelings? And what is their demand for the welfare of the farmers!

I met a group of army officer. They have their own reservations for this Act. What will they do? They complain us because we supported you for enacting this. Now tell me how will we establish Defence Installations, which cannot be established with this law? Should we write that we want this place to establish our nuclear infrastructures? Then, it will be better that we write to Pakistan, that we are working on this project at this address!

Our Defence officers and military personnel are worried that what will happen. Isn't it necessary for our defence, for us? Had we committed any sin, any crime? Some mistakes remain there and is it not our responsibility to correct it, to rectify it? Well this is a small measure to correct this mistake. You have tried it, you have done it, and we are not denying this. But, if something is left which is needed, we want to add to that. This is why, we want your cooperation. Please do not weigh it with politically. And, I assure you that I am myself ready to make changes in it if you believe any single provision is against the welfare of farmers.

And I would like to seek your attention towards Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, North East, Orissa, and Eastern Andhra. In the western part of India, even in the villages, there is some infrastructure. Roads are built in the villages. If someone is worst affected by this law then it is the Eastern India. The Chief Ministers of eastern States are worried and screaming that it is time for us to move forward and you are putting hurdles in our development. Whether the regions in Eastern India should not get the infrastructure as that of the villages in Western part of India? Whether they should get those facilities or not? This is why I say that I respect for what you have done and I am proud of you.

I request you to cooperate that we rectify the drawbacks left in the Act and make it better as we have time. It is an attempt to correct the deficiencies and that too just for farmers. I urge to honourable members of the House that do not make it a subject of honour. After this law is enacted, I will give full credit to those who originally enacted it and that too publicly. This is not for politics.

I have heard the difficulties faced by Chief Ministers. I myself had been a Chief Minister. I know that we make laws sitting in Delhi without having any knowledge that how much problems the States can face. In a way I am their representative because I have been in that league for a very long period and therefore I know their pain.

Yes! If there is anything against the farmer in this Act, I am ready to rectify it. There still might be some drawbacks but our job is to rectify it again and again. This is not our work but you may have to take political gain from this. I do not have any problem. You take out procession, rallies, but also take decisions for the country and therefore I would urge that we go over it instead of going above it.

Our North-East! We are going with Act East Policy. I still believe that I am a wanderer. I am fortunate that I have got an opportunity to stay at least a night in almost all districts of India. I have been a wanderer for 40 years of my life and I have been in North East for a significant time and therefore I know that there is a great possibility of Development. It has capacity that it could become Organic Capital of the nation. I frequently visit North-East. If it would have been my political aspirations, then I would go to the places where I can gain 60-80 seats but I spent 2-2 days in North East where I have few seats. I do not have political motive in this. Rather I feel, it belongs to my country, and I have to care about it and I

have to connect with them. The way western India has progressed, the eastern part has to be developed to match them at least. Whether it is my Bihar, my Bengal, my Assam, my North-East, or my eastern Uttar Pradesh, I ought to bring them at par with western parts of India. We cannot develop one part of the country at the cost of other and make other crippled. That is why I want to focus on them in development and I would like you to help me in that.

We have talked a lot about Co-operative Federalism and Federalism. But you know what used to happen! In railway the bridge is ready but there is no connectivity at either end. The bridge is hanging in between for 2-3 years. Sometimes, there is connectivity at both ends but bridge is not being built. Why? Either we don't like the Government or there is no coordination among Departments. This goes for years and years.

There are hundreds of such projects. Railway goes to a village and a subsequently a village starts developing in one part. Now a pipe line is required to carry water to the inhabited area, the Railway becomes stubborn and takes two years to give them permission to lay the pipeline. What is their fault irrespective of any Government that they are deprived of the Water? After getting into power the first good thing which we did was to clear all the pending proposals and I proudly say that I have successfully cleared all such pendency. We did not see the Government there before clearing it. This is the way of development and we are trying in that direction.

In our country we require a lot of 'Permissions'. Therefore, I connected Railway with all the Departments. I advised Departments to work together with cooperation. Cooperate with all the States. The Railway flourishes and other get neglected is not the definition of development. Therefore, I talk of Co-operative Federalism. We must address the concerns of those States. The country will not progress boasting about self-achievements. Rather the States need to be promoted to make the country flourish.

When I was the Chief Minister of the State, I always stressed that for India's development, the development of Gujarat is imperative. I always kept this mantra in my life and shared with others also. Today I again say that in order to make the country prosperous, the states need to flourish. To empower the country, the States need to be empowered. We can imagine this. When we formed the Government, we enhanced the Mineral Royalty to one and half times. Who will be benefited with this money? This money will go the States. Which States have more minerals? The States of Eastern India whose development I was talking about. That will benefit the country.

Who will be benefited from the gains of auction of Coal? All this money will go into the treasury of the State. Some States would not have imagined that they will get more money than their budget. Is it not the way to strengthen States in the Federal System? Now, we are providing 42% share on the Finance Commission's Report. Even the Finance Commission is not unanimous on this, they have dispute among them. We could have taken advantage of it but we did not want to because of our commitments on the fact. States should be rich, they should be strengthened and therefore we are giving 42%. The Amount is not trivial. You will be surprised to hear the amount. Some States does not have their treasury of that size to hold that amount.

Moreover, more funds will be provided separately for Panchayats, Municipalities and Corporations. Apart from this, in case of any calamity or disasters there is provision for more funds. If I combine all these, then it will come around 47-48%. You will be amused to know that for the first time after Independence, 62% of treasury is with States and 38 % with Centre if we take into account the total treasury of all the States and the Centre. I would like to attract the attention of all the heads of the States on this fact. For the first time we have reversed the order by decreasing the treasury in Delhi and enhancing the treasury of States. We believe that states should be made stronger, states should be given opportunities for growth and we are doing it by shedding the political aspirations. The country does not progress with prejudices, with selective colours. If we see the colour of flag then it is Tiranga (Tricolour) and we do not see any other colour.

Respected Speaker, madam! Our country is burning in communalism because of political reasons and this is going on since long. It has disintegrated the country, has broken the hearts. But they ask us about our role. Today I just want to say to the House that on 27 October, 2013, I was in Gandhi Maidan in Patna, where bombs exploded, innocent people were massacred. There were millions of people, the environment was very foul, and the blood was flowing. In such a situation, every words emanating from the heart of man is complete truth without any manipulation.

Blood was flowing, people were dying in the shadow of arms and bombs and at that time in my speech I asked to whom Hindus want to fight- Muslims or poverty! I asked, Muslims whether they want to fight with Hindus or fight against poverty? And I said we had enough fight now let's Hindu-Muslim come together to fight against poverty. It was my voice in Gandhi Maidan in Patna amidst bombs, guns and bullets.

And therefore do not speak irresponsibly on imaginary facts. This is clear to every person who loves this country that India is full of diversity. Unity in diversity is the hallmark of our country, and that is our strength. We are not in favour of bringing complete uniformity. We are a party to Unity, and the upbringing of all the communities and their nurturing is only possible in Indian soil. It is characteristic of India and I would like to

say that our Constitution is the expression of thousands of years of our contemplation. Our Constitution reflects the hopes of common men of India, their wishes and aspirations and country can work well upholding the dignity of constitution. Country can't work outside the norms of the Constitution. No one has the right to break the law. Nobody has the right to discriminate on the basis of community. Everyone has the right to walk along and it is my responsibility. I am in government, and it is my responsibility to decide the functioning of government. I am saying this and I have been saying it repeatedly and I am saying it to one who talks rubbish in the name of community. I am not saying that today I have thousands of means to shut your mouth. I don't waste time on these, but I want to state clearly our commitment. I have been saying this repeatedly that my government has only one religion- India first, the sacred book of my government is - the Constitution of India, the only devotion of my Government is devotion to India, the only worship of my Government is welfare of 125 crores people of India, the only working style of my government- is "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas" and therefore we want make nation progress with the Constitution and within its limits.

'**Ekum Sadvipra Bahuda Vadanti**' has been our philosophy. Truth is one; sages call it in the different ways. We are the people who say it.

And not only that, it is the country where Guru Nanak Dev has said -

'Sab Mehi Rab Rehiya Prabh Ekayi, Pekh-Pekh Nanak Bigsayi'

The one God pervades within all. Beholding Him in all Nanak is delighted. It is our elemental knowledge, and therefore it is our tradition, we are the ones where

'Satyen Dharyate Prithvi Satyen Tapte Ravih. Satyen Vayvo Vanti Sarv Satye Prathisititam.'

We are working with the same mantra and so when I say "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas", I also need your cooperation in this "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas" because we have to achieve development for all.

Once again I would like to thank the gentlemen who have put up their views here and the valuable thoughts put forward by them would be tested and our endeavour would be to apply them wherever applicable in the welfare of the country. Once again I would like to thank honourable President from heart and I expect he would keep guiding us.

With this expectation I thank all!