

this area is the Lead Bank and other Banks have also their Branches there. But these Banks do not disburse loans in time to the farmers under the Integrated Rural Development Programmes and as a result, the farmers do not get any benefit of the schemes. Every now and then, the farmer community has to face various difficulties. It does not cause loss to the farmers alone, but it also affects the national production. The Central and the State Governments are committed to the rural as well as agricultural development and are favouring the farmers in this regard.

The loans sanctioned for Agricultural production/development are far less than the loans sanctioned to traders and industries.

Very few loans are disbursed to the farmers under IRDP and as a result of that, they do not get adequate benefits of the scheme.

On the principal amount, compound interest is charged. Rules and regulations are not properly followed in disbursement of loans to the educated unemployed. The condition of the educated unemployed belonging to the scheduled castes in my district is very serious and I have been fighting for their cause for the last six years.

Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Union Finance Minister to take following steps to remove the increasing hardships :—

1. Loans should be sanctioned and paid immediately to the selected families.
2. Loans under I.R.D.P. should be disbursed to more persons.
3. Loan distribution procedure should be simplified.
4. Loans should be distributed to the harijan, educated unemployed youths on priority basis under the *Self employment scheme for the educated unemployed harijans youths.*

12.20 hrs.

### MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*CONTD.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Jagnu Nath Kaushal and seconded by Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad on the 25th February, 1987 :—

“That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :—

“That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 23rd February, 1987.”

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Brehmpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Motion of thanks moved so ably by my friend Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal. It is customary for the President to address the Joint Session of Parliament at the commencement of every calendar year, in which he described the achievements as also the shortcomings if any, of the Government in the past year, along with the projections for the coming year. The President's Address given an opportunity to the Government to highlight the achievements and also explain to reasons for any shortfalls in any sector of the economy.

The President at length described the growth of our economy. It has become resilient, self-reliant and self-generating. We are able to raise resources of the Plan domestically and only marginally we rely on foreign aid in areas in which we are deficient, for instance high technology. But then, we should be happy that the policies followed by the Government all these years after Independence have borne fruit and they are correct policies. These policies have been implemented and are being implemented with vigour and greater allocations are being made for the various sectors of the economy.

The utmost concern that the President expressed in his Address is about the grow-

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ing threat to the unity and integrity of the country. Unless the country's unity and integrity is safeguarded, the country will not survive, and survival means the survival of the whole humanity. Sir, in recent years the cult of violence has begun to spread all over the country and more so in Punjab. In Punjab, the terrorist activities have taken toll of innocent lives. It is unfortunate that a few religious fundamentalists in Punjab took the active help of the terrorists who are trained abroad and who are getting assistance and support from foreign powers to destabilise India and work havoc in Punjab. Any mishap, any danger to Punjab is a danger to the whole country. So, he appealed to all the citizens of the country to stand united as one man and fight terrorism and see that in a democracy terrorism and violence have no place. Any political difference could be settled across the table by discussion. So Sir, it is the duty of every one of us to heed to the words of wisdom given by the President in his Address.

Religious fanaticism has no places anywhere and every religion is great in itself. The sole object of any religion is to prescribe a code of conduct and prescribe a way of life for its followers so that they can lift themselves up from the mundane world and reach higher place of consciousness ultimately resulting in communion with God.

I Call India a Federation of Religions. It is a federation of languages. It is an agglomeration of ethnic groups. In spite of the diversities for thousands of years, we have been living in peace and harmony and at no time did any sage or seer advocate violence. Therefore, there is no clash between one religion and another religion. Every religion can be said to be a way and road to reach the God's head. There is only one God, the great architect of Universe. We call Him, we view him in different forms. We invoke Him. We pray to Him for His blessings and favours. But at the sametime, we forget the facts that, in everyone of us, there is divinity, there is God. And we hate our neighbours. We fight with the neighbours and indulge in bloodshed. It is unfortunate. If we

want to strive and survive as a Nation, we should delink religion from politics. Unfortunately, places of religion and worship are converted into political venues. Even arms and ammunition are being stored, thereby desecrating the sacredness, and sanctity of the religious places. So, this has to stop.

The problem in Punjab has become a national problem and the entire nation, all the people, wherever they are, in any State, have to fight the terrorism altogether and see that peace is restored in Punjab. When peace is restored in Punjab, then there will be peace in the country.

The President, then referred to the economic scene and the achievements made by the Government in the past years. The economy in all sectors—whether in agriculture or industry—has registered considerable growth rate. Agriculture has shown much resilience. In spite of three consecutive years of drought and bad monsoon, the production exceeded 150 million tonnes. This shows, how the Indian farmer, taking advantage of scientific and technological developments in this sphere has been able to increase the production. much so, being a deficit country in 1966, when we were depending solely on PL-480-import of wheat—now, we have become a surplus country and we are in a position to export foodgrains, to give to the countries, which are in need and which are suffering from hunger. So, we have been able to build up a reserve stock of over 23 million tonnes, so that even in the year of deficit monsoon, even if there is a low production, we will be able to make up from the reserve stocks.

This achievement in agriculture, I would say is rather confined to the two States—Punjab and Haryana—which have become granaries for the whole country. Unfortunately, production in other States, which have assured irrigation potential, are not able to double their production. There is some increase in production, no doubt, but they have not been able to come up to the level of Punjab and Haryana. This has to be gone into. Every State must be in a position to build up a bufferstock to the extent possible, so

that, they need not every time call upon the Centre to come upto their rescue to supply foodgrains. I can understand the days, when natural Calamities occurred, that famine, cyclones or floods. In that case, the Centre can come to the rescue, but ordinarily, every State must be self-sufficient in food, so that, there should be no drain on Central reserves.

Sir, considerable progress has been made in the production of oilseeds and sugar. In view of this, our import bills on account of import of these two items is reduced and it should be further reduced. I hope by the end of the Seventh Plan, we will be self-sufficient, not only in oil and oilseeds but also in sugar and pulses, apart from wheat and rice so that we will be a surplus State in foodgrains and cereals.

Sir, in the field of industry, considerable rate of growth has been registered. It is between 8-9 per cent. So, in regard to industry, we have become one of the industrialised nations of the world.

We have been given the seventh or eighth place among the 10 industrialised nations in the world; and I am sure, we will become a developed country by the end of the Seventh Plan and not a developing country. The small scale industry is doing very well. The large scale industry and the private sector also should realise that there is a national sector and they have an obligation to the society and they should not merely pocket the profit they make out of the industry; they should take part in development activities in the area in which they function so that they can also come to the rescue of the government; and they should not expect the government to do everything possible for the people. People should also, some how or the other, contribute their mite for the development of the area so that government assistance should be made minimal.

Large allocations been made for anti-poverty programme which is necessary and more benefits have been conferred on the weaker sections as a result of implementation of the programme for the last few years. A large allocation has been made

this year under the various plans for anti-poverty schemes. But we have to see that the money allocated is properly utilized and the real beneficiaries should get the benefits and the money is not wasted and no leakage occurs. The selection of the beneficiaries and the follow up action has to be monitored so that money taken by the beneficiaries is utilized for creating assets and not frittered away for other purposes and the States should welcome our monitoring.

The Finance Minister has mentioned all these facts in the Budget. I will refer to them we discuss the general budget. Therefore, economic scene is very heartening and the economy has become resilient and it can absorb shocks a bad monsoon, drought and we can, with confidence, march ahead.

One of the new policies initiated by the Prime Minister is a new education policy for which Rs. 800 crores have been provided in the budget for 1987-88. This education Policy is highly necessary in the sense that the rural youth has been denied the privilege of higher education, high quality of education because of the poverty that he is suffering from. Now the rural and urban divide will be considerably reduced because a very bright student in the rural area will have an equal opportunity to compete in any examination. He can have an admission to the Navodya Vidyalaya like an urban student so that he can have a place of pride in the society. Apart from this, various legislations had been passed in the last year in order to improve the status of women and give them respectability so that they are no longer treated as mere housewives but they have a rightful place in the society, because 50 per cent of our population consists of women and rightly so government have come forward with a series of legislations to uplift their standard of living and their status in life.

12.35 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI  
*in the Chair*]

Coming to international affairs, our policy of non-alignment has attracted

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attention of the whole world; two-thirds of the world today is non-aligned; it has become a force in the world. We stand for reason; we stand for elimination of discrimination because we believe that there is only one race in the world, that is human race. There is no discrimination on account of caste, colour, religion or creed. This NAM has gained strength

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please conclude now ?

I think you are not able to hear me. You have taken enough time. Please conclude.

SHRI JHANNATH RAO : I will conclude now. In the international sphere our six Nation Declaration about nuclear disarmament has received wide support from the whole world; so also our fight against apartheid and the starting of the Africa Fund, for which the Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Committee. We have done a lot in this respect and are doing still, to eliminate discrimination so that every man in the world is a free citizen and can live with honour and dignity.

With these few words because of shortage of time, I fully support the Motion of Thanks to the President and appeal to everyone to follow the words of wisdom that the President has given to us in his Address so that the country can march forward and the people can live with dignity and honour.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Madam Chairman, I rise to oppose this Motion of Thanks. Madam, the President's Address has been of the usual humdrum and pedestrian variety listing the achievements which the Government is supposed to have got to its credit, or what the Government thinks that it can pass off as its achievements and make the people believe as its achievements. The reason is obvious because the achievements are very little, if anything at all. There is nothing positive. The negative side obviously cannot be brought before the people through the President's Address.

Madam, apart from listing the legislation, and the other economic activities in which the Government has taken part, without giving a comparative basis for an appraisal of these achievements, perhaps the only positive feature of this Address is a recognition, somewhat belated, that communalism, religious obscurantism poses the greatest danger to the nation today. We welcome that at last the Government is conscious and Government has proclaimed this consciousness through this Address.

But Madam, it is not the first time that the Government has recognised that there is such a danger. As long ago as 1968 the National Integration Council was formed. May I ask, how many times the National Integration Council has met ? May I ask what it has done, except making speeches,—the persons attending making speeches ? Has any positive programme been taken up by the National Integration Council ? Has anything been done pursuant to any such programme ? Nothing is stated here. If anything has been done, that has been kept a very carefully hidden secret from the nation.

Apart from the religious obscurantism and communalism which are called 'mefarious forces,' 'a deep malady', and for which the Government progress to take action and proposed national dialogue.

Another thing had been noted in the second paragraph, which states, that the country has to grapple with the challenge of communalism and separatism. Separatism has been separately stated because there are other forces than the religious obscurantism which are also trying to divide the nation. And one of the forces are those maladies which have now become apparent in our own State, West Bengal, through the action of some divisive forces who call their agitation as the Gorkhaland Movement. It is with great sorrow that I say that in this House previously we have raised this question many times. We have asked a categorical answer from the Government and from the Prime Minister as to what he proposes to do regarding this movement, at the point of time when the agitation was growing and gathering momentum.

Unfortunately, nothing has been done. Until today nothing has been done. Only, legitimacy has been accorded to the leader of the movement by the Central Government going into a confabulation with him. And perhaps, in recent future, as that leader, Shri Gheising, has been proclaiming, by 1987 he will have Gorkhaland. May be that he has got some assurance from the Central Government that an accord will be entered into. Perhaps, this will be the fourth or fifth accord to the credit of our young and dynamic Prime Minister, who has become a champion of accords although we have...

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : I seek your permission to make a running commentary on your speech as you tried to do in my case. You failed, I will succeed...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Carry on.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please say to me whatever you want to say.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Madam, I am seeking his permission to start a running commentary on his speech. He tried to do in my case when I was quoting the documents, facts and figures. He said that all facts were wrong, all figures were wrong; the Government had done nothing. So I am seeking his permission to do the same. He failed in his case because the House shouted him out. I am sure, I will succeed. As you tell me I will do that.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : If you seek my permission you do not have it. But if you go on doing it, I am helpless and only Chair can protect me if it so wishes...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him say whatever he wants to say.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Why does he seek my permission ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You do not lose your time and address the Chair. He has intervened...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : The hon. Member may only take this as a part of parliamentary etiquette which you did not observe but he is observing. Why should you object to it ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : He did not ask me to yield. He is only asking my permission that he will intervene whenever he likes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Who are you losing your time ? You have yielded and he has intervened and told me whatever he wanted to say. Please continue your speech.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Thank you very much for cautioning me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Address the Chair and then speak.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There is no mention about the Gorkhaland movement in the Address of the President. It should have been mentioned there because today it poses a great danger and it will be the greatest danger, probably greater than Punjab in the very recent future, in the very near future. In the course of this year or in the next year it will be the biggest problem for India. Government is still unable to take any notice of it.....  
 (Interruptions)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Will you please yield ? A small clarification ? The hon. Member referred to the recent future'. I am a little confused what the 'recent future' means.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Please do not try to pick faults with my English. We are not Englishmen...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Madam, I was a little confused with the term called 'recent future', because recent is past and future. So what is the recent future ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I know that sometimes I may make mistake but I also correct it which you may not have noticed. Unfortunately you are so keen on picking fault that when that is corrected, you do not notice it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please continue your speech, Mr. Datta.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I say that since nothing has been done for containing the evils of religious obscurantism and communalism, nothing has been done by the National Integration Council, let the Government now spell out the policy that it is going to adopt, not only by speech making but by telling what action it is going to take at the grassroot level, what action it is going to take to see that the ethnic differences, the linguistic differences do not cause further division in India. We want a clear answer to this. How this malady is to be tackled by the Government? What is the institutional forum, what is the Constitutional form in which it is going to tackle this problem? This is what we want to know. It has not been stated.....(Interruptions). Unfortunately, Our Constitution has given certain institutions to carry on the work which the Constitution has conferred on these constitutions. One of this is the office of the President. The second is the Cabinet. Then there is the Parliament, then the judiciary and then there is the Election Commission to see that the elections are held properly, fairly and timely to constitute these bodies which are to carry on the Constitutional functions. Madam, it is with great sorrow again that I say that all these institutions are being downgraded, denigrated and undermined. I do not know whether it is deliberate or unintentional or it is because of the result of certain types of attitude towards politics of the Leader of the Government today that this kind of unmeriting of the institutions is taking place. \*\*

It is not that I am revealing any secret. It has come out in the papers, in magazines galore. I do not want to go into the details of this. There are many sordid details which have come to us through all these journals. Nothing has been ever denied by the Government except through sources close to the Prime Minister, and I will read out one or two of those sources, if I have the time, of course.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have been given only twenty minutes.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, I am sorry,—Madam. Again I made a mistake Mr. Prime Minister. I said 'Sir', I should have said 'Madam'. I am sorry.

AN HON. MEMBER : You have to learn by your mistakes.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Yes, I have to learn by mistakes, but let others also learn by their mistakes.

Now I come to the complaints that have been made from the side of the President—I am giving a very short list. It has been a convention for the Prime Minister to call on the President to discuss with him the matters of importance, the matters of policy because the President has a right to advise, the right to ask him to reconsider—not only the Prime Minister but all the Ministers under the leadership of the Prime Minister. This has been the custom in Pandit Ji's days and it has also been the custom later on, but, lately... (Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : No, Sir, this cannot be discussed.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : No. This can be discussed. This is a Constitutional point...(Interruptions).

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : The institution of the President is sacrosanct. It will become controversial by bringing it into the House. You are casting aspersions... (Interruptions).

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am not discussing that...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will examine it. If necessary, I will expunge. In the meantime, I would request you to continue your speech.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : What an advocate for the president ; Wonderful ;

SHRI AMAL DATTA : \*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, you should not have mentioned that, Whatever you have said now, you should not have mentioned. I am not asking you to explain the source. Please continue.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I have not mentioned a single name.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not have said whatever you have said just now.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I have not stated anything which cannot be stated. Show me any rule.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will examine it.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I am on a point of order.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Point of honour, you better say.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a point of order.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA : In terms of English words.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a point of order. Why do you not resume your seat ? If there is a point of order you have to resume your seat.

Yes, what is your point of order.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : My point of order is...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Where is the rules ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will tell you. Yes, what is the point of order ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : He is not a Bar-at-Law.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : He has mentioned the relations which by tradition

should be maintained between the President and the Prime Minister. That is not a point of any discussion or should not be a point of discussion and that sentence which he has mentioned should be deleted from the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what I have told. On a point of order, Rule 353 says—

“No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made a member...”

352 (vi) “use the President's name for the purpose of influencing the debate ;”

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am not influencing the debate.

*(Interruptions)*

President's name can be used but not for the purpose of influencing the debate.

*(Interruptions)*

I am not influencing the debate. Will you please apply your mind ?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. I will give the ruling. There is a point of order, I have to give the ruling.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : He is quoting the press. He says...

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a point of order.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am not quoting the press.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do all the four get up like this ? You may speak one by one.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Listen to me first please. Let me read this Constitution to you. You cannot go beyond the Constitution.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Neither can you.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us hear him first. What is that you want to say, tell me ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am reading Article 74 of the Constitution.

"There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice :

Provided that the President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice, either generally or otherwise, and the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration."

I am saying that the Institution of the President has been set up by the Constitution to act in a certain way, to inter-act in a certain way. The President is to act and interact in a certain way with the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister and that way has now been checked. (Interruptions) This provision of the Constitution has been brought to nullity.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Would you yield ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am yielding.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Thank you.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Nothing to thank. You have always been very courteous.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : You are not even letting me to thank you for yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have yielded. Let him speak.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Madam, I would just like to respond to that particular point. We have at no time at all violated that particular Article that the hon. Member has read. I very categorically say that, (Interruptions) Let me finish now.

Let me also say that our Ministers have been meeting the President continuously. Wherever there is a point at issue, it has been discussed with the President, specially where it is of national interest. For example, when we had the confrontation with Pakistan in the middle of January, I myself briefed the President. I asked the Defence Minister to go and brief the President.

And a full briefing was given. There is no time when issues of national interest are kept away from the President. But we do not like to politicize the post of the President like some Members do, Madam. We like to keep the President above our politics and we will not involve the President in our daily politics and I would request the Member to honour the institutions of this country and not drag them down into politics.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Datta, he has made it very very clear.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There was a point of order which he has already made very very clear. Mr. Dutta, you please go to the next point. Now, don't drag on this point. I have already made it very very clear that you cannot, as per the rule, drag the office of the President. The Prime Minister has also made it very very clear. You please go to the next point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : He can tell us about China.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Perhaps the hon. Member will tell us his stand on China.



(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Mr. Prime Minister, it is not a place for frivolity. May I say that your frivolity has brought has country to the brink of disaster once ?  
(Interruptions.)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : It is not a question of frivolity when we have tensions on the... (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Why do you mention China ?... Have I mentioned about China ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I mentioning China...

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I have never mentioned China in the course of my speech  
(Interruptions) How much do you know about these things ?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I know more about China than you do.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I abide by the ruling. I am not going into the controversy and more regarding the Prime Minister and the President. You are in the Chair and you have to decide.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Than, you go to the next point. Please go to the next point.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TIWARY : I have raised this matter in the beginning itself that all the references to the President should be deleted. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Why are you intervene again ? Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have told you in the beginning itself that I am going to examine the whole thing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Don't delete it. I am requesting that he should apologise for making efforts to politicise the office of President. I do not want the deletion. But he should apologise for the effort that he has made to politicise the issue. But for the Prime Minister who is present in the House, it would have gone into politics. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You can intelligently interpret it in this way.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I cannot help it. I am intelligent, no doubt.  
(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Unfortunately, the rule which has been started with the young and dynamic Prime Minister, in 1985, has taken the country very rapidly through certain stages but without the realisation that everything is not possible to rush through so quickly. Punjab Accord was signed without understanding the implications, as a result of which the Accord has not been implemented. Everybody knows that every time we debate the Punjab issue we say please implement the accord, please implemented this and that. So, it has been signed one and half a years ago. Without understanding the implecations and similarly a far greater danger in the Mizoram Accord because of which the people who agitating on the Gorkhaland issue have got a handle and encouragement. They have been encouraged by the legitimacy which has been accorded to them recently. (Interruptions)

PROF. K K. TEWARY : The House is entitled to know what his Government in West Bengal is doing about the Gorkhaland. What has the West Bengal Government done in respect of Gorkhaland ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : As Minister you have no responsibility. Today the Ministers have no responsibility. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Unless he yields, please don't interrupt him in the middle. Let him continue his speech. If you want to say anything, I think you either ask him for clarifications or raise a point of order. Otherwise, you cannot get up and interrupt him in the middle of his speech. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Datta, please your speech.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They are disturbing me.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I may tell you, please resume your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Madam, our country has decided at the very beginning that we should take to planned development of the country, that *laissez-faire* is not suitable for a poor under-developed country like India. I am talking about the 1950. In 1952 our First Plan came.

What was the apex body for the Plan ? The National Development Council. The National Development Council which is assisted by an informal body called the Planning Commission was deciding how the country should develop. The National Development Council had become a rubber stamping authority. It seems it is a rubber stamping because no meaningful discussion takes place there. But what has become the position of the Planning Commission who used to hold the away ? Even Ministers used to say that 'if this is not approved by the Planning Commission, I am helpless.' If the Planning Commission has not allocated the money, I am helpless.' Now what is the status of the Planning Commission ? Today the Prime Minister can go to any State—he is visiting to States, very good, he is welcome to see for himself the conditions of the people which he had not known about earlier, very good. But when

he goes there, he says, 'I will give you Rs. 400 crores.' 'I will give you this', he said that to Haryana. 'I will give you Rs. 600 crores', he said that to Kerala. In West Bengal he comes, he shows a package of Rs. 1007 crores. But when we analyse, we find that it is only Rs 10 crores. Everything is broadcast on radio, on Television, in newspapers and everywhere that...(*Interruptions*). The Prime Ministers has given us Rs. 1007 crores. We should be elated, we should be jubilant, we should be jumping with joy. But when we analyse we find that it is only Rs. 10 crores, all the rest of the money is going to the pockets of capitalists or the money is being lent to the States to finish a project which should ordinary be a Central Government's responsibility.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Silence please. This is too much. You are not allowing him to speak. I don't like this. I don't like the interruption.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The entire planning process has been shelved today. There is nothing called planning. When the Prime Minister says, this has to be done or that has to be done, they will have to come and somehow see that it is fitted into the plan and not that the planners say that this is what is good for the country. So, the planning process....

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already taken 20 minutes, Mr. Amal Datta.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They have taken away my time. If you do not want to give me time, then I will throw away the papers and go away.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already taken 20 minutes. I had to warn you that so much time has been taken.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Madam, the way the Ministers have been reshuffled like a pack of Cards, that once they are there, they become...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am here. So, why do you interrupt ? I am here. Please take your seats. This is not the way of doing. No, I don't allow. Please resume your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know that, I am telling him that he has been allowed to take 23 minutes, I am cautioning him. Why do you come in the way ? Please resume your seats. I don't want this to continue like this.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : If this is the way the Council of Ministers is constituted, re-constituted, re-re-constituted, again and again. Then what happens is that the people who are treated as cards become like cards themselves and that is what has happened. Today these Ministers are no longer Ministers having responsibility.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Just one second, please.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I want to finish my sentence.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Okay, after a second;

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Just because he is the Prime Minister, he cannot have precedence. I must finish my sentence that they do not take any responsibility any more. They say, everything is to be decided by the Prime Minister and that is what it has become. Instead of collective responsibility, it has become a single man responsibility Government.

Now you say what you want to say.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Madam, I just would like to comment on the point raised by the hon. Member that they have

become like cards. I do not want to argue with that. But I will just say that they are all aces.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Wonderful. Your witticism will go down in history as your single achievement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : How can I conclude ? Everybody is disturbing me including the Prime Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have concluded your speech.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I have to say a sentence.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Similarly, like Ministers, the bureaucrats are also being shunted out. We saw the spectacle of a Foreign Secretary to the Government of India being given the sack without notice, during the course of the Press Conference, in answer to a query put by a foreign journalist.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : He has taken a brief for the bureaucrats.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am not supporting bureaucrats. On the other hand, I do not want them to suffer from the sense of insecurity which will take the administration of the country to a very low pitch in which it is today. Today there is practically no administration. Nobody—in the bureaucracy or the Ministry—takes decisions. In the history of India both the Ministers and bureaucrats have reached such a low level of morale that they are no longer able to take decisions. If any decisions are at all taken rarely these decisions are never implemented.

I can give you hundreds and thousands of examples, but there is no time.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Decisions are taken by the Government, no bureaucrats. What is again wrong with you today.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Ours is a poor country. We are always saying that there is a resource crunch, because of resource crunch that we cannot complete the poverty alleviation programme. It was because of the resource crunch that we could not complete rural drinking water supply scheme to the villages.

But it does not occur to the Prime Minister to observe austerity. The style of living, the style of going around the world spending huge amounts which our Prime Minister has established is something which we do not appreciate. We do not appreciate it. Please understand that. Everybody must live austere in India including the Prime Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The dangers of personal diplomacy, has been only too apparent. It has come out in the papers, and it has not been contradicted, that there has been talk between our Prime Minister and the Pakistan Prime Minister at Bangalore. I am reading it out from the *Sunday* :

“Again, during his meeting with the Pakistan Prime Minister Junejo, at the Bangalore SAARC summit, Rajiv Gandhi, according to Pakistan minister of State, Zain Noorani, gave an understanding that the Indian army exercises in Rajasthan would be scaled down. But the Indian Foreign Office and the defence Ministry were completely in the dark about any such understanding. The Prime Minister's office, so far, has neither confirmed nor contradicted this claim of the Pakistanis.”

So, it boils down to show that the Prime Minister had private confabulation in the course of the diplomatic journeys abroad or here and the minutes of which are not recorded. The Government do not function accordingly. Supposing it is true—I do not know whether it is true.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : If you want, I will tell you now.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Yes, please do so. You should have done it earlier.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : You have not asked me earlier, so I have not done so earlier.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : This came out earlier and you should have not contradicted it.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : I do not bother about the trash that is printed in all these magazines. This Government... If you want an answer, I will give you an answer. First let me say that this Government does not bother about all the trash that is printed in all these rubbishy magazines.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : But even then...

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Second, I am answering the specific question. There was no private confabulation anywhere. Government officials were sitting and took notes at every meeting that we had. Foreign Ministry officials were there because it involved a foreign country. There was no discussion about scaling down the size of the exercise. I have categorically said that we will not be guided on the size of the exercise by any other nation. It is our own decision and we will take that decision to our convenience and our objective. There has been no scaling down of the exercise at all. What I did tell them was their perception of the size of the exercise and the exercise that we were actually holding was different. Because of newspaper reports and other things like the things that you have read, which is based on total rubbish, they believe that the exercise was much larger than we were actually holding and, as is the normal practice, before such exercises we are giving a briefing to defence attaches from most of the Embassies, giving them a rough idea of what the exercise is about. I would request the hon. Member not to get carried away by all the rubbish he reads in the media. (*Interruptions*),

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken more than 35 minutes. I do not allow you further. Please conclude. I request you to conclude your speech. Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You give me some time. I do not mind their shouting. But only thing is do not take away my time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request you to conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You have taken away my time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have allowed you more time because your time allotted is only 23 minutes. I have given you 35 minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The Government have given us a very rosy picture of the economy.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am going to conclude with only a few words, with your kind permission. I am winding up. I am always appealing to you. Let me say a few sentences. (*Interruptions*).

The Government has given the over-all growth of the economy in a way that is really deceptive. They have said that the growth is 5%. (*Interruptions*). This 5% growth is something they say they have been able to maintain because of their achievements in the economic field. Now what are the achievements? It boils down to two things. One is agriculture side and the other is industrial side.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are going to the next point.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Yes. I am I am explaining/what growth consists of. Growth, consists of agriculture, industry and services. Now there has been no growth in agriculture and no growth in industry. There has been growth only in Services. I am sorry. I shall rephrase it. There has been the same rate of growth in agriculture as the year before, not any more. There has been same or little less growth in

industry than the year before, but there has been a spectacular growth in Services. Services means that sector where people are paid for their services including the Government sector, including, bureaucracy, including Defence. (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : Have you seen the agricultural growth?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Agricultural growth has been at no time during the last three years more than 2.2%. The Government is only considering two years. In these two years, agricultural growth has reached 2.2% whereas for industrial growth, it takes the same credit. But the credit vanishes away if one looks at the annual survey itself. I would ask Mr. Tewary to look at the annual survey. The annual survey itself shows that even according to the new index, the growth rate in 1982-83 was higher.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is too much. You have to conclude. I do not allow you.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am winding up. According to the new index, the growth rate in 1981-82 was 9.3.

In 1984-85, it was 8.6; in 1985-86, it was 8.7. This year, it is between 7 and 8. So, it is less than that of the three previous years. This is what you are trying to show as your great achievement. It is through the statistical jugglery which the Prime Minister has resorted to in a Press Conference when he compared the 1985-86 industrial production figure, on the basis of old index with the new index figure of this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your time is up. Please sit down. I am requesting you to please resume your seat. Conclude your speech. I cannot allow you. This is too much. Please conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Madam, I have to fight with them and with you also. What has happened in agriculture is, over the period of years, for the last 15 years,

[Shri Amal Datta]

a real growth rate of 2.2% has been maintained in agriculture and that means, it is just equal to or less than the population growth. So, the per capita income from agriculture has not increased at all. When we see some islands of prosperity in agriculture in Punjab and Haryana or elsewhere it only means that agriculture poverty has been redistributed throughout the country and we in the Eastern regions have become poor. Some people have become richer. I do not mind it. But the Government has no programme for redressing this regional imbalance. This is an unfortunate thing...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call upon the Minister to move the motion. I am requesting the Minister to move the motion.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The shining picture of industrial, agricultural national economic growth which has been projected in the Address is a false Chimera. It is a mirage. It is nothing more than that. Much of the growth in the so called sunrise industries like electronics which is our Prime Minister's favourite has come about by more imports. You import components and then apply screw driver technology and say that your industrial production has gone up. Today we are living beyond our means. We are importing industrial components and assembling them. Our foreign exchange reserve is less than what this country owes to the foreigners or NRIs who have deposited the money in external accounts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please resume your seat. It is enough. I will request the Reporters not to report whatever he speaks hereafter. This is too much.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I am concluding. If this Government reveals the whole picture—the President's Address is hiding many things—it will stand condemned before each and every Indian.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. I would request the Reporters not to report whatever he speaks.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : .....We have this much of understanding that our conditions has not improved. This Government must realise this fact and make some efforts to improve it. Improvement in agriculture is impossible without land reforms which has where been mentioned in the Presidents Address.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Madam-Chairman, I would like to propose and request that this House continue with the debate dispensing with the lunch hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I hope the House agrees to the proposal.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. You please resume your seat. Shri Arjun Singh.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : Now, I will continue.

[Translation]

The hon. Member has not only not been headings your instructions to conclude his speech but has also lowered the decorum of the House. But in spite of it, he has not been able to make his intention clear to us; perhaps he is not clear in his mind.

13.19 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You have not understood that. (Interruptions.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruptions now.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I have suffered from the maximum interruptions and nobody could protect me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : \*\*

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member thought that since he lacked facts, he could substantiate his statement by imputing personal motives and levelling charges. He said a lot of things about the Hon. Prime Minister that he visits the States and takes stock of the situation there and announces schemes and that his style of functioning is to project his own image and he does not place the district as a whole in the fore. If he gets annoyed, a lot of people become victim of his annoyance.

I would like to submit humbly that we as well as all those people who are below the poverty line, for whom every day dawns as a burden, want that our Prime Minister should become impatient and get annoyed in respect of those things which are hurdles in the task of building the future of those people and in respect of those things also which have remained as obstacles till now in the fruitful implementation of our schemes. So far as the reaction to the Prime Minister's visit to the States and making announcements there is concerned, I would venture to say that this is an example of ingratitude. After all, where did he make the announcement? He made the announcement in the State of the hon. Member and it is the hon. Member himself who is displeased.

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, his popularity has been affected?

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You have not understood what I said.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I have understood.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : I will explain to you...

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : You do not have to explain to me. I understand fully. You do not have to explain.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What he has said will not go on record. Nothing will be recorded. Only the Minister's speech will be recorded. Do not take any note of what he has said without my permission.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You will never give me permission because \*\*

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : What is this? What do you mean by \*\*

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South) : You cannot cast aspersions on the Chair like this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please continue.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall take no note of the things said by him without your permission.

I was only saying that if the Prime Minister, after paying a visit to a State and taking stock of the situation there, has no right to make announcements for the progress of that State, for its development and for the eradication of poverty there, then who else has the right? I would like to know this from this august House? Whatever he has said, he has said to give momentum to the programmes in each State and accelerate its development.

While raising the Gorkhaland issue, it has been linked with separatism. I feel there cannot be a more candid statement than the one made by the Hon. Prime Minister in the House, and these made by the hon. Home Minister in both the House, and the one made by the Prime Minister himself at Darjeeling. In spite of all this, if you nurse any doubt, then it is you only who are responsible for etc. I would like to say that it is evident from the figures furnished by the hon. Home Minister in the Rajya Sabha that with the type of confrontation you have created

[Shri Arjun Singh]

there, it is clear that you have done it, keeping your party interest in view instead of making efforts to maintain law and order there

[English]

(Interruptions)\*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever is being said without my permission will not be recorded. Only the main Speaker, Shri Arjun Singh, will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*\*

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that the Hon. Prime Minister signed accords and everybody knows the background in which these were signed. When a nation embarks upon the path of progress and intends to achieve that progress on democratic lines, then it faces all round opposition. There are all types of challenges—economic, social and political. This fact has been amply proved during the last forty years of Indian independence. If the Prime Minister signed accords, he signed them with only one aim and that aim is to strengthen the foundations of Indian democracy and to examine those problems within the democratic framework and then to solve them in democratic way. The guns and bullets have no place in a democracy and do not lead us anywhere. If the Prime Minister did it, he did so to strengthen the roots of democracy in the country and enhance its glory.

I would like to remind this august house that when the question of holding elections in Punjab came up in this House after the Punjab Accord, each and every Opposition Member rose and said that elections should not be held because there would be blood-shed during the elections. At that time the statement made by the Hon. Prime Minister and the other things observed by him will ever echo not only in

this House but also in the history of democracy in this country. He had observed that if the democracy survived we shall also survive and if the democracy did not survive, we also could not survive. What could be better proff of his sentiments, his faith and commitment towards democracy.

If you view the interests of the country and the resolves made by the country during the last 40 years against which none in the country ever raises his finger, as also if you view the history of policies and programmes of the last 40 years, the progress made by the country is clearly evident. And then they are questioning us today. It is an irony which goes to prove that the views expressed by the hon. Member are neither based on political integrity consistency nor on political conviction. On the contrary they reflect only political opportunism.

I would like to submit that the Punjab Accord only symbolised the process of trust. The Prime Minister signed that Accord with a person who displayed mutual trust and faith. A lot of things were said about this also. The Accord, which was signed in the interest of democracy, has proved its propriety and usefulness. Today, everybody is saying that the stand Mr. Barnala has taken is in the interest of the country and democracy.

Had Shri Barnala been influenced by religious fanaticism, He could not have taken the stand he has taken today and would not have been able to proclaim today in the interest of democracy, the country, as also in the interest of Punjab that he would welcome the bullet but would always take a stand in the interest of the country. Today, you are raising your finger against on Hon Prime Minister who inspired such sentiments and such stand.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Let it be put on record that I have not said anything against Mr. Barnala. You can go through the record.



MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever you have said is on record.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Why do you put words which I have never uttered ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to remind the hon. Member that the hue and cry raised by a handful of Members cannot change the course of history. History is created only through sacrifices and struggles. One such glorious day in the annals of history was 15th August 1947, when the freedom fighters changed the course of history by their sacrifices and struggles and due to them our country achieved independence. The sacrifice of Gandhiji brought about an end to communal fanaticism in the country and established a new awakening. With the help of this awakening we have been able to establish norms so as to bring a new order in the country. We want to march forward taking all the people together. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Another 40 years will be required for that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave this awakening a touch of nationalism and as a result thereof important works of nation building took place under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : That is your main advertising platform.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The sacrifice of Shrimati Indira Gandhi kindled the flame of nationalism which shields the unity and integrity of the whole country and will continue to protect us in future

also and will guide us when we are in a state of indecision.

With this heritage our Hon. Prime Minister wants to lead the country to a path where everyone will get equal right and equal opportunities and also we will be able to reach that goal of development which we have resolved to achieve.

I would like to refer to those few points which His Excellency the President has particularly mentioned in his Address. A revolutionary experiment has been started in the field of education. Earlier, a system was developing in the social and economic front with an unspecified priority. Our Prime Minister has put an end to this system and resolved to introduce an education system which would be in the interest of the common man. I can say that this revolutionary experiment will not only build a better future for those children who will become leaders of the country in the times to come, but it will also help in realizing the long cherished goal of the Congress Party in building a socialistic pattern of society. This socialistic thinking will help us to achieve that goal enshrined in the Constitution for which the Congress Party strives and which the leader of our party has resolved to achieve.

Secondly, His Excellency the President has referred to the safeguarding of the interests of the weaker class and the have-nots of this country. It is reflected in the Budget also. India is a country of the poor, where workers, farmers, factory workers live. The more we are able to safeguard the interests of Adivasis, Harijans, poor people, backward classes, the greater will be their development and the country will also make progress. His Excellency the President has underlined this important thing in his Address and the hon. Prime Minister has also spoken about this in the Budget. They have expressed their sentiments that they propose to achieve that goal and they will make every effort in this direction.

But I would like to say that we should not remain complacent, because the vested interests want to maintain the *status quo*. They want to damage our self

[Shri Arjun Singh]

confidence by inciting the people in the name of parochialism, casteism, religion and language. They want that we should deviate from our values which had been the base of our history of the last five thousand years. We shall have to be very vigilant. We should understand this thing that those people who raise issues in the name of casteism, provincialism and parochialism, are against those poor people workers, Harijans, Adivasis and backward classes on whose welfare the welfare of our entire country depends. We will not allow their evil designs to succeed. We shall not allow them to mislead the society. The respected Prime Minister has capability, courage and self confidence to take the country forward with dignity. The House resolves that under his leadership India will achieve the goal which would show light to those lakhs and crores of exploited people who are struggling for a better life. They are even prepared to make sacrifices. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is leading these crores of people. He will not deviate from his path by what has been said here. India will go ahead and will create a new golden history of its achievements.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM (Gaya) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks to President's Address. The Address of the President deals with the performance of the Government during the last year and the programmes concerning all the sections of the society for the coming year. In his Address the President has mentioned that there are some people in the country who want to serve their political ends in the name of language, casteism, parochialism and who want to undermine the unity of such a big democratic country which is providing leadership to the entire world so far as democracy is concerned. The evil designs of those people who want to run the country in the name of religion will not succeed. I would like to contradict what Shri Amal Datta was saying just now. If one goes to Dhanbad Railway Station and on the border areas of Bengal whether it is Asansol or Burdwan.....Amal Datta ji .....

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should address the Chair.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to remind him, through you, that if you enter the State of West Bengal, you will find that the names of the stations etc. in Hindi have been deleted except what is written in English and Bangla and he talks of 'Akhand Bharat'.....(Interruptions) .....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Let us find out where such a thing has been done.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : You accompany me. I can show you. You talk of 'Akhand Bharat'...(Interruption).....

SHRI AMAL DATTA : May I know whether by not speaking in Hindi, one is undermining the concept of 'Akhand Bharat'.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : This country cannot be run in the name of religion. Such persons are the enemies of the country. You can see their history of 1942. They opposed the Quit India Movement. This has been the character of CPI and CPI (M). We are loyal to the country and support 'Akhand Bharat'. I do not want to say anything more on this subject.

There are as many as 25 crore Harijans and Adivasis in the country. The President has spoken about them in this Address. Ninety poor people belong to this category. Welfare programmes are being undertaken in various States under the leadership of the Prime Minister for the upliftment of 25 crore Harijans and Adivasis about whom the President has made a mention in his Address. We would like to convey our thanks to the Prime Minister who himself made convey physical verification to find out whether the funds being released by the Centre under NREP and DRDA to various States are being utilised properly or not. You can see the history of the country. It is not a small thing that the Prime Minister

of India has gone to the Adivasi belt to see couple manifestation of the programmes himself.

I would like to say one more thing to you. The Government have launched an anti-poverty drive. You may release and allocate any amount of funds for this purpose and issue number of any guidelines to the bureaucrats, but they do not want to achieve the targets set by the Prime minister. Earlier, there was a privileged class of I. C. S. and I. P. S. officers in the administration who were respected in the whole country.

Now I.C.S. has been replaced by I.A.S. They are entitled to all those privileges, which were earlier available to I.C.S. I understand that whatever guidelines you may give to them, until and unless there is a change in the administration, you will not be able to achieve the targets for which you have initiated various schemes. Today, a bureaucrat is more powerful than a Minister. We make petitions, we put up applications that there are such and such works pertaining to the villagers of a particular village which is pending and their work is not being done. Now the officers and bureaucrats have started asking me "why do you talk to the Minister, tell me", I will do the work". This is the present state of bureaucracy. I would like to ask the Government, through you, that the department itself should be vested with the full powers of punishing them. If any I.A.S. officer is to be punished, or to be suspended, there should be no need to seek the concurrence of the Cabinet. You should delegate this such power, otherwise the bureaucracy will destroy democratic set up. Today it is destroying democracy and we go on delivering lectures here.

Responsiveness to people is a point in the 20-Point Programme, But today where is responsiveness. There is responsiveness at the collector level in the district. But at the district level your administration runs on caste basis, it has been polarised on caste lines. Whatever good work there might be, if a person belonging to that caste is not working there, the work cannot be done. How far the proliferation of the

administration on caste basis justified? If it happens in the police, at the district level, at the collector's level, at the B.D.O's level, then responsiveness becomes meaningless. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Prime Minister through you to bring changes in the administration which was based on Kings Commission Report. Otherwise, it will be a very sorry state of affairs. We will continue to deliver lectures and pass vote of thanks on the Address of the President and nothing will happen.

So far as the question of supply of safe drinking water is concerned, I would like to submit that India is a country of villages and even today there is no provision of drinking water in 2,31,000 villages. Till now people in 2,31,000 villages in India do not get safe drinking water. They fetch water from rivers or drink impure and dirty water of tanks and ponds. As a result of this, children of our Santhal Pargana have been suffering from jaundice. We had thought that at least after 40 years or independence we shall be able to provide safe drinking water to the people of our country. But till now, people of 2,31,000 villages do not get safe drinking water understand that drinking water is a sensitive subject and the Chief Minister should monitor this work.

Now let us come to land reforms. I understand the pace of progress expected in the matter of land reforms has not been achieved. Whatever land was allotted to the people, was not made properly they were not told as to where their land is located. At some places they did not get land documents and even if they got them, the B.D.O. and the Tehsildar did not inform them about the location of the land. What is the use of such an allotment of land. It should be physically verified if they have actually received the land or not and the collector should be instructed to ensure that land has been actually handed over to them and it is in their physical possession. This is the reason that atrocities on Harijans and Tribals are on the increase these days. Gaya and Jahanabad, the place to which I belong, are very sensitive areas. In those places, land was allotted and documents were handed over. But the allottees of

[Shri Ramswaroop Ram]

the land were not told about the location of the land. Today when he asks about the location of his land, the police and landlords connive together and declare that he is a naxalite. What is the reason for the incidents which took place in Araval and Kansere. Today, when he talks about his rights or fights for it he is called a naxalite. Therefore, I request you to expedite the work regarding land reforms and ensure that commitment in this regard is fulfilled and justice to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is provided. You might have come across many cases that poor people are sent to jail under section 107 and murderers booked under section 302 get acquitted with the help of the police. At least the cases of those people, who have been in jail for a period of ten or 20 years and there is nobody to bail them out, may be sent to the Lok Adalats so that the Act is implemented effectively.

What these words I convey my hearty thanks to the President.

**SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur)**

Mr. Chairmen, Sir, His Excellency the President in his Address, has given indications about the performance of Rajiv Gandhi's Government, their future policies, and the challenges being faced by the country.

Sir, within this short span of two years, no nation, leader or Prime Minister can achieve so much success, provide so many directions, on have been achieved by Shri Rajiv Gandhi within his two years' tenure.

Within his two years' tenure the greatest achievement of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is that he has instilled a sense of confidence in the minds of people that he is capable of preserving the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country and at the same time he is able to maintain the pace of development. He has assured the country and the world that he can bring highest glory to the nation in the field of economic policy and foreign policy by following the ideals and policies of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Prof. John Galbraith — who recently visited India and is also an ex-ambassador of U.S.A. in India—a few days ago, expressed the views that India has made an unprecedented progress in the field of agriculture and it would emerge a great industrial power within a few years. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has decided to make use of Science and Technology to speed up development in every field of economy. Programmes like technology mission are being launched to fulfil the minimum needs of the people. Under this mission drinking water will be provided to problem areas in the country and illiteracy will be removed, and children will be provided education and communication facilities will be made available within a decade.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has taken a bold decision and decided to change the education system and made endeavours to link the same with life, livelihood and removal of poverty. It is a great task, it is not an ordinary work. It is hoped that he will be taking such bold decisions and solve the problems relating to the administrative set up, language and culture also.

Mr. Rajiv Gandhi took the decisions very honestly in the interest of the country and in the interest of the democracy for solving the pending issues and signed the Punjab Accord, the Assam Accord and the Mizoram Accord. These accords were signed in the interest of the nation as also in the interest of democracy. Those persons, who criticise these accords, are not wellwishers of the country they do not understand the spirit of the country's democracy.

Sir, Shri Rajiv Gandhi went to villages and hill areas and apprised himself of the difficulties of tribal people, Harijans and the poor and himself saw their problems. He is determined to solve their problems.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been successfully following the foreign policy formulated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. Today India is leading the Third World countries and the big powers of the world, whether U.S.S.R., U.S.A. or the European powers treat India's views all the seriousness, listen to them, consider them and pay

attention to the same. It is not an ordinary achievement. It is certainly a great achievement within this short span of time.

Sir, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has resolved to raise the standard of living of the people of the country through the use of modern science and technology as well as to preserve the ancient cultural heritage of India. According to him, if we forget our spiritual and old values, our materialistic progress in spite of our having achieved progress in every field will be of no use. That will have no meaning. This is his high thinking. We are all grateful to him for it.

Sir, besides these achievements, among the challenges like language fanaticism, parochialism etc., which have been referred to by His Excellency the President, fundamentalism is the most serious one. Sir, fundamentalism and religious fanaticism are two different things. Religion is a great thing. I would like to submit that fundamentalism and religion are two different things and they cannot be linked. The high ideals for achieving salvation and the highest human values are called religion. Religion is a medium to establish rapport between man and man. The scholars have said about religion:—

*"Name : dharmay mahate, dharmo dharyati praja."*

We bow our heads to that great religion which preaches people to live amicably and which sprouts love in the hearts of the people and not jealousy or animosity. But this is a fundamentalism which is posing serious danger to the very existence of democracy and the country. Communalism or what we call fundamentalism is a black cobra or a poisonous snake, which if not crushed, may pose grave danger to our democracy and country. Fundamentalism is at its height in Punjab. Sir, communalism, whether it is Hindu communalism under Balasaheb Deoras, Sikh Communalism under Bhindrawale or Tohra or Badalji or communalism under Muslim league or Mus'im Majlis or communalism under some of our friends, whose names I do not want quote, is posing danger to

the democracy and the integrity of the country. The nationalist parties and the politicians will have to ignore their electoral interests to combat fundamentalism. Unless political parties of the country, whether it is the Janta Party or the BJP or Lok Dal or any other party, ignore their electoral interest, the fundamentalism, regionalism and language fanaticism cannot be rooted out from the country. For this purpose the leaders of all the nationalist parties will have to sit together to think over it and decide the matter. They will have to ignore their political interest. Then only they can maintain the unity and the integrity of the country and protect the democracy. This is the only way to solve the problems of the country.

I am happy that our Prime Minister has called upon the people to be prepared to combat the fundamentalism in the country. If we do not do so, it will certainly harm the democratic system in the country and the country will be disintegrated. This menace will destroy the democracy. Almost all the leaders and people of the country have expressed satisfaction that Shri Surjit Singh Barnala has taken a very bold step. Shri Surjit Singh Barnala has accepted the challenge of fundamentalists occupying the Akal Takht. Shri Barnala has said that he believes in the high values and ideals of religion and he follows the high principles of Guru Nanak and Guru Govind Singh and he would continue to have faith in the Akal Takht so far as religion is concerned; but he does not want that politics should be guided by the fundamentalists or there should be interference by fundamentalists in the democratic set up. The bold stand taken by Shri Surjit Singh Barnala is praise-worthy and the whole country should support him at this hour.

14.00 hrs.

Sir, I have a few suggestions to make and I shall conclude my speech within two minutes. I would like to submit that a bold step should be taken to amend the Constitution without bothering about the electoral prospects so that the political parties based on religion are banned and a provision be made that the leaders who instigate religious feelings to serve their

[Shri Umakant Mishra]

ends will be punished. If we do not do this, the country will be disintegrated by such elements. You should take note of the conspiracy that is going on to disintegrate the country whether it is a case of boycotting the Republic Day celebrations or a case of Ram Janam Bhoomi or a case of Babri Masjid or some other case. These cases show that some conspiracy is going on and that should be nipped in the bud otherwise the country will face disintegration. A provision to this effect will have to be made in the Constitution. A common national religion and a common civil code will have to be formulated. The Constitution refers to a common civil code. It says that efforts will be made to formulate a common civil code. But it should not be confined to efforts only; rather we should make it a reality. There should be one national religion in, which high ideals of Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Christian religions should be incorporated which may be in the interest of this country and the entire humanity. I would also like to submit that provisions of national anthem, national flag and official language in the Constitution should be implemented strictly. Our hon. Prime Minister has raised his voice for the world peace and against the atom bomb in all the international forums of the world. Not only am I aware of it, but also the whole world is aware of it. Now a scientist of Pakistan Dr. Abdul Qadir has said that Pakistan has manufactured atom bomb and it can use it when the country is in danger. The Government will have to change its policy towards the manufacture of atom bomb. The people are prepared to bear a little bit of inconvenience for the sake of changing this policy. The country needs atom bomb. The great sanskrit Bharavi has said,

*Jwalitam ne hiranya retsam.  
Sayma kelanti bhasmnaya janah.*

[English]

Nobody can dare to touch the burning fire. When the fire is turned into ashes, every body runs on it and walks on it.

[Translation]

India will have to manufacture atom bomb for protecting its honour and indepen-

dence. With these words, I support the Motion.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I oppose the Motion of Thanks on the Presidents' Address. No doubt, it is customary, but the things that we had expected in the Presidential Address, are lacking. The failures of the Government have been covered up in it. Whatever shortcomings were there in the functioning of the Government, have been overlooked and the basic, essential things required for the development of the country, as also the problems before the country have been totally ignored. No plan has been placed for the near future which may inspire and encourage crores of neglected, exploited and the suppressed people of the country. The Address does not reflect it. There is the problem of communalism in the country and it is a very serious matter.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

14.04 hrs.

Just now, one of the hon. Members said that Rajivji has made notable achievements within a period of two years. It is not a question of two years. As a matter of fact, you furnish details about your performance for one year only and submit programmes for one year. The question is that barring a couple of years' rule, a big party like Congress, which has a long history and has made a number of sacrifices, has been ruling the country for the last 40 years. Despite that, communalism is on the increase. Today the situation has become so grave that all of us have to sit together and think over it. Why does it so happen, we must look into it. Is the party in power not responsible for this? The history of the party in power shows that it has bowed before fundamentalism and fundamentalists. A number of States are going to the polls. As has been told by one of our hon. Members, we must overlook party interest and electoral prospects and fight against communalism. But even today, as find in the electoral adjustments that the ruling party has entered into electoral fac's with such parties. Today, the whole nation feels

concerned about the present state of affairs in Punjab and everybody has a word of praise for the bold steps taken by Mr. Baranala. But if the steps, that have been taken in association with all the parties, remain confined to some mass meetings, then our aim to isolate the terrorists cannot be achieved. Until and unless persons belonging to all the parties, unite together at the grass root level and go from village to village and fight against it, we cannot raise the self confidence of those people who are feeling frightened and forge unity among them. We cannot unite them. Even after 40 years, regional imbalance still persists in our country. It is a great problem. Situation in many States is very explosive, but it has not been mentioned in the President's Address. It is a matter of great distress. I would now confine myself to Bihar only. In our Sixth Five Year Plan, per capita, allocation of funds to Bihar was Rs. 974, Tamil Nadu Rs. 1351, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 1573, Gujarat Rs. 1971, Haryana Rs. 1971, Haryana Rs. 1602, Maharashtra Rs. 1741, Orissa Rs. 1671 and so on. We are all aware of the fact that in the matter of minerals, land and mines, Bihar is not lagging behind any other State in the entire country. But even then it is called the most backward State. Be it industry, agriculture or power and irrigation or planning, Bihar is the most backward State in all these fields. I am only quoting the example of Bihar. Besides Bihar, there are other States which are backward. If we continue to allocate the funds in this manner, if the process of development proceeds in this way we shall not be able to develop the whole country properly. If development is confined to a few States only, it will not be construed that the whole India has developed. The root cause of problems like terrorism, casteism, language and religion etc. in party politics and backwardness. In order to solve these problems, we should treat all the states at par and try to take them ahead.

It is a matter of great distress that the problem of unemployment has not been mentioned in the Address in its proper perspective. Poverty is a curse for our society. If we have not been able to remove poverty and unemployment in a

period of 40 years, then it is a matter of great shame for us. 2,80,00,000 unemployed persons have registered their names on the live registers of the employment exchanges in the country, but we have not made any provision to remove this unemployment. There has been a long-standing demand that the Constitution should be amended and 'Right to Work' should be included in it. Persons belonging to all parties have raised such a demand, but this right is not being given to the people even today. Without including 'Right to Work' in the Constitution, you cannot provide jobs to people.

Billions of rupees are being spent on 'Self Employment Scheme'. Two days back I visited my constituency and enquired from the Industry Department in this regard. They themselves admit that the sons of rich persons are cornering the funds allocated for this scheme thereby depriving the people who should actually have been benefited by it. The reason for such a situation is that a lot of corruption is prevalent in it and the poor do not have money to bribe the officers. This is the reason that the purpose for which you chalk out schemes and want the persons to become self reliant is not served and they do not get any benefit out of these schemes, because they are not in a position to bribe your officers. When we raise questions in the House in this context, you do order enquiries, but it bears no fruit. It is therefore, essential that monitoring agencies are set up at district level so that the benefits of the schemes reach the beneficiaries in the true sense. You should make arrangements that the poorest, backward people and people living below the poverty line are benefited from this scheme. Strong action should be taken against those who sabotage the scheme and act as middlemen.

As it is, the Government makes announcements about its achievements or about removal of poverty. In the President's Address itself it has been stated that 550 million mandays will be created in the coming year. We are unable to understand as to what these mandays are? Whenever we ask how many persons have been raised above the poverty line, the

[Shri Vijay Kumar Yadav]

only reply we get is that so many persons have been benefited so far. In other words we are being given the list of beneficiaries. Whenever we raise this question in the lower committees, we get this very reply. But I would like to know through you if the person, whom you give Rs. 100 is considered to have been benefited? To-day the question is not of giving Rs. 100. It is not the scheme of the Central Government that somebody may be given Rs 100 and some other may be paid Rs. 400. But they do not get work for even for 100 days during the year. Whatever work is given, the wages are so low that it is insufficient to raise a person above the poverty line and in this way one can never rise above the poverty line. Wrong and fake muster-rolls are being prepared. This is not a healthy situation. When you talk of creating 550 million man days, I understand that it is not possible. Due to the various shortcomings mentioned by me hardly two million persons can be provided jobs. You may go through the situation of any place. I have information about Bihar in particular as I belong to Bihar. There the situation is still worse. To-day itself, there was a question on labour, but it could not be taken up as it was lifted in the end. It was stated therein that the National Labour Institute had conducted a survey to find out the number of persons who have been raised above the poverty line. As it is, you are spending a lot of funds for this purpose and it is a good thing. Everybody had a word of praise for this. We also intend to extend our help for this, so that eligible persons get its benefits in the real sense. But the survey report reveals the situation to the contrary to what has been claimed. You have also indirectly admitted in reply to the question that instead of rising above the poverty line, the people have gone further below the poverty line.

Land reform has been a major programme of the Congress Party. The Congress Party has been laying stress on land reforms ever since the struggle for independence was launched. But for the last many years I have been observing that scant attention is being paid to land

reforms and neither are these being implemented. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, land reform is directly linked with the question of removal of poverty and unemployment in the country. Unless land ceiling is imposed and the surplus land is distributed among the poor, Harijans, Adivasis, people belonging to the weaker sections and small farmers, the land reforms will be meaningless. The problem of unemployment cannot be solved only by providing jobs to some people or by distributing loans in this manner.

There is a long standing demand that a Central legislation should be enacted for agricultural labourers. They are being exploited everywhere and they do not get fair wages. Prices are rising high day by day. With this purpose in view, there is need to enact Central legislation for agricultural labourers. They are still struggling for their just demands.

As a number of my colleagues have already spoken about drinking water, I would not like to waste the time of the House by repeating the points that have already been raised. But I would like to raise a point in regard to the elections, because there is a commitment by the Government that election laws will be rationalised.

In our country, democracy can be strengthened through electoral reforms. But do the people really taken part in it? Actually officers, police with the help of money and use of force take part in it. Till such things continue and radical and basic changes are not brought about in the electoral system, elections are meaningless for the common man. Radical changes can only be brought about in the election system when there is a system of proportional representation in the election laws.

Conveassing for votes is carried on in the name of caste and religion. Votes in favour of a particular candidate are cast with the help of police, officers and by using bullets and rifles. The Congress has made commitment that they would give voting right to all the people of the



country. It is, therefore, necessary to effect electoral reforms in the country.

Sir, I would like to say one more point in the end. Concessions are being given to the multi-national companies in the country and as a result billions of rupees are being remitted abroad. This should be banned, so that the economy of the country is strengthened.

**SHRI K. N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) :**  
 Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support and speak on the Motion of thank, on the Presidents' Address. A number of hon. members have expressed their views in this august House for the last two or three days. I have heard them with great attention. Particularly, the hon. Members have taken about the failures of the Government. It seems to me that the only job of the opposition is to criticise the Government. But I would like to add to it one more major failure of the hon. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. In a democracy and particularly in the Parliamentary system of Government, the opposition has a very important place. That country is very unfortunate where the opposition has no sense of responsibility. There has been lack of responsible opposition ever since the constitution came into force in the country. First of all our First Prime Minister Panditji made efforts continuously, then Indiraji also took initiative in this direction and now Shri Rajivji has made effort for the last two years to inculcate a sense of responsibility in the opposition in the country. The Prime Minister, Rajivji has consulted the opposition on very controversial matters and he always tried his best to create a sense of respect for the opposition in the minds of the people and inculcate a sense of responsibility in the opposition. But, Sir, our Government as well as Shri Rajiv Gandhi have failed in their efforts, because the opposition has not become responsible so far.

Sir, I would like to narrate an old auckaoto. There was a group of blind persons who used to be kept abrist of the day to day happenings of the world by an entaligent personal with normal eye sight. One day, he explained to them about an elephant. But the blind persons

insisted that they wanted to see the elephant by touching it. That person brought the elephant befor them. The one who touched the leg of the elephant thought it to be like a pillar; the ore who touched its ear thought it to be a winnowing basket and one who touched its tail thought it to be a rope. Similar is the condition of the opposition. The situation of the whole country is before them, but even then they do not want to see it. Can one deny the fact that we signed Punjab Accord, Assam Accord and Mizoram Accord and through these accords we succeeded in putting down the divisive forces in the country. As Shri Arjun Singh has mentioned just now that there are some forces in the world who are jealour of our progress and they want to harm our country. They tried their level bast to propagate that the sympathy of the people of Punjab is with the terrorits. But after the elections it has been proved that the sympathy of the people of Punjab and particularly of the Sikh community is not with the terroris.s. No other achievement is greater then this Is this not a major achievement of our leaders ?

In the latest incident, in which a hukumnama was issued, not only the Sikh brethern of Punjab, but the Sikh brethern of the whole country have said in one voice that they would never tolerate interference of religion in politics and they would not allow the disintegration of the country at any cost, What can be a greater achievement of the Government than this ?

There is an Opposition party known as B.J.P. Till a few days back, it had been demanding vociferously that Presidents. Rule should be imposed in Punjab and the Barnala Ministry should be dismissed and army be sent there, But they changed their stand during the agitation which they launched some time back. Now they demand that the Centre should take over the responsibility of law and order there. What a big change in their stand ? It has become clear to the Opposition parties which used to criticise our leaders that the policy of our Government and the Prime Minister is a success. In this way we shall be able to strengthen the unity and integrity of the country.

[Shri K. N. Pradhan]

All these developments have put our country on the crossroads. We have to decide and think whether we should show leniency to the communal elements? The Hindu communal elements in Punjab should not be allowed to raise their head. Communalism should be regarded as treason. Only then we shall be able to combat it.

Not only this, today if anyone insults our national anthem, tears the copy of our Constitution and burns the National Flag it is just treated as a violation of section 144. If we want to preserve the integrity and unity of the country, we shall have to nip this tendency in the bud. We shall have to enact a legislation which may allow imprisonment of such persons at the earliest. There should not be any delay in punishing them.

The incidents which have occurred recently show that we shall have to come with a heavy hand on communal forces and to take a final decision in this matter. A number of other failures have been mentioned.

I would like to draw your attention towards the new education policy. The people including teachers and intelligentsia have been involved in the framing of the new education policy. The education is meant for the general development of an individual. That is why it has been brought under the Ministry of Human Resource Department. It is our endeavour to provide an opportunity for all round development of a child from the very beginning. If the opposition does not understand this basic thing, it is like casting pearls before swines. If they cannot understand this, is very unfortunate for the country.

Do they not know that our country has made progress in the industrial and agricultural sectors in the face of adverse circumstances? Every one is aware of the fact that the weather has not been

in our favour. There have been hailstorms, floods, drought in the last 2 to 4 years. The secessionist forces have been active during this period. Can any one deny the fact that in spite of all these things our country has made progress.

The greatest thing which the Prime Minister Shri Rajive Gandhi has done is that due to his efforts, the people have started reposing faith on the capability of the youth. The youth are now having self confidence in themselves. This is the greatest achievement of our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. No one can deny this. The future of the country is definitely brighter.

The President has said in his Address that the process of reform in the administrative set up has started. The mentality which is a legacy of the Britishers is still there, Urgent attention is required to be paid to end such a mentality. Even today they are not prepared to accept the importance of democracy. You can understand this, if you take into consideration the working of the whole administration. The employees, whether they belong to the corporations, states or autonomous bodies, hold demonstration go on strikes on one or the other demand. One can imagine as to how much loss the country suffers. It is high time when we should form a national wage policy. Besides this we have not adopted a scientific approach to the administrative set up which is there since we achieved independence. A commission should be set up to form a National Wage Policy so that we may give a definite shape to the National Wage Policy. With these words, I support this motion,

\*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakonam): Honourable Dy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion of thanks on the President's Address. On this occasion, I would like to mention certain important things,

Sir, the whole nation and this House applauds the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for resolving the Punjab problem

and helping Shri Barnala to come to power. Shri Barnala is serving the Nation, by tackling terrorism in brave and commendable manner. I appreciate his efforts. I hope that the whole House, will strengthen his hands in his efforts to wipe out terrorism.

Secondly, the credit for restoring normalcy in a State which had seen 40 years of turmoil goes to the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I appreciate the efforts of the Prime Minister and the people of Mizoram and also of the Mizo leader Shri Laldenga in setting the long pending problem in that part of the country.

The Honourable Prime Minister has also given this country a new policy on education. There is a lot of misapprehensions and misunderstandings among many about the Navodaya schools. This misunderstanding must go. The people of Tamil Nadu welcome the three-language formula enshrined in the New Policy on Education. I earnestly request the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development to implement the new policy at least from this new academic year. I also hope that the Tamil Nadu Government would cooperate in this matter. I urge upon the Government to appoint after consulting the State Government a Director of education and, in the districts, education officers to implement the new education policy from the new academic year. I once again state that the people of Tamil Nadu welcome the three-language formula.

Sir, the State of Tamil Nadu is badly hit by drought. Recently, I visited many drought-hit areas in my constituency along with the Drought Relief Commissioner. There is no drinking water available. If that be the case, where will we get water for irrigation? The lakes and wells have dried. Agricultural lands are witho water. Lakhs and lakhs of acres of fields have gone dry. Cultivation has come to a stand still. I think the State Government had conveyed the seriousness of the drought conditions to the Central Government. I request the Central Government, on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, to immediately appoint a Commission to evaluate the damage due to drought and to suggest

relief measures therefor in the State. The Commission should go round all the drought-hit areas in the State and suggest suitable remedial measures expeditiously.

I would, at the same time, put before the House a suggestion. The Honourable Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N.T. Rama Rao had avowed that, whether the Central Government approves the project or not, whether the Planning Commission approves the project or not, he would implement the Telugu-Ganga Project. He has sworn his words like this and has worn saffron dress. My humble suggestion to him, as a Tamilan, is that he should come forward to help the drought-hit Tamil Nadu somehow. Even in Andhra, in Rayalaseema, there is drought and drinking water problem. In case to canals are constructed, under the Telugu.Ganga project, one canal may be taken through Rayalaseema in Andhra, Chittoor, Palamaneru and then to Madras. Second Canal may be let in Palar river so that North Arcot District, Vaniyampadi, Ranipet and Mamandur areas and other lakes can receive water. Palar river will, therefore, get enough water. Now palar river is dry. One can see the sand bed only. Thereafter, the river can flow to Chinglepet and then into the Bay of Bengal. The reason that I make this request to the Andhra Chief Minister is that he resided in Madras, he settled in Madras, he acted in films in Madras and thus, he earned his name and fame in Madras. Therefore, he should have no second thinking in helping Tamil Nadu out of the drought problem. I hope the Central Government will not have any hitch in granting permission to this project.

All rivers originate from one place and the flow is rich in the catchment areas. Even Palar river is originating from Nandi Hills in Mysore. As the water in Cauvery is blocked by building dams by the Karnataka Government, so also the water in Palar river is blocked by building such dams by the Karnataka Government. That is how the Palar river has become dry and the lakhs and lakhs hectares of fields dependent on the river have also gone dry. I therefore request the Government to look into it.

[Sbri R. Jeewarathinam]

Next, the pressing problem is the Sri Lanka problem. The Prime Minister is striving hard to resolve the problem. Many Sri Lanka refugees have come and settled in Tamil Nadu and they have become a big problem to the State. The Sri Lankan Government is wavering on many issues and is not interested in finding a solution to the problem. This has caused many difficulties to the people of Tamil Nadu. I request the Honourable Prime Minister to look into the matter and settle the dispute expeditiously.

I have also an appeal to the Tamil militants. They must repose confidence in India, in Shri Rajiv Gandhi and in the people of Tamil Nadu. They must entrust the job to the Prime Minister as far as the question of settling the Sri Lankan problem is concerned.

I also appeal to the Sri Lanka Government to place their confidence in Shri Rajiv Gandhi to come to a settlement in the matter and leave the matter to the arbitration of the Honourable Prime Minister. I am confident that Shri Rajiv Gandhi would bring about an honourable settlement of the dispute.

With these words, I thank you, sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Gwahati) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Annual Address by the President of India to the Joint Session of the two Houses should be an occasion to inspire Members of both the Houses and through it, the nation. I must regret that this year's Annual Address by the hon. President was not only, probably, one of the longest but it was an exercise in boredom. Not only the Members but even the hon. Minister felt bored—I am addressing this to Smt. Sheila Dixitji. In the Address not only Members but the Ministers felt bored. I could see a feeling of boredom even in the Prime Minister's face. Every member is talking very highly of the Address. But look to the presence in this House and the total indifference of this House to the Address. If the Address had been so inspiring, the

debate on the Address would not have been so.

Sir, in this Address, a number of issues—grave issues or vital issues—were not mentioned. A number of issues were glossed over. The entire Assam has been forgotten in the Address. It appears that the Prime Minister even does not go now beyond the frontier where the frontier of Assam begins. The Prime Minister in a Press Conference has stated that except one Clause all the Clauses of the Assam Accord has been fulfilled. I hope if the hon. Prime Minister would have been here—I am sure he will reply to this debate—I will point out that none of the provisions of the Assam Accord, where the Central Government has responsibility to fulfil, has been fulfilled. Clauses 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 of the Assam Accord deals with the detection and deletion of the names from the electoral rolls. The responsibility upon the Central Government in Clause 5.5 says: "for the purpose of deletion, the Government of India will undertake suitable strengthening of the Governmental machinery". For this purpose of suitable strengthening of the Governmental machinery, the Government of Assam suggested that 10 posts should be created. The names were suggested by the State Government on 17.7.86. The Central Government asked for some revision of names. Telegraphic reply on revision was sent on 5.11.1986. Reminder was sent on 2.1.87. Uptil now, this post has not been filled up. Still, the Government of India says that the Assam Accord, except one Clause, has been fulfilled. Clause 5.7 and Clause 5.8 deals with detection and expulsion of foreigners. The Government of Assam requested for additional staff and the proposal was sent as early as 9.10.85. Government of India wanted further materials. That was sent on 24.1.1986—more than one year and two months before. The Home Minister wrote to the Prime Minister on 30.1.86. Reminder was sent on 23.4.86. Government of Assam communicated on 5.5.86, 4.6.86 and 16.8.86; wrote a letter to the Prime Minister on 30.10.86. Reminder was again sent on 23.12.86. Reply is still awaited and the Prime Minister still says that all the provisions

of the Accord have been fulfilled. After all, the Prime Minister is an honourable man.

Clause 5 of the Assam Accord deals with Illegal Migrants Amendment Bill, the Illegal Migrants Detection Bill. In the last session, it was promised that this Amendment would be brought forward. But the Amendment has not so far come. Even then, the Prime Minister says that all the provisions of the Assam Accord have been fulfilled. After all, the Prime Minister is an honourable Man. In fact, my complaint is that Prime Minister ought not to have addressed the media and conveyed an impression in the country that all the provisions of the Assam Accord have been fulfilled. The best thing for him would have been to have a national debate with us.

Regarding economic development, the Chief Minister wrote personally to the Prime Minister on 4-2-1986 for a separate financial provision outside the State Plan and for creation of a Task Force. But nothing has been done. And yet we are told that the provisions of the Assam Accord have been fulfilled. I can go on and on. On border fencing, there has been only a survey. On the question of victimisation, there is still a point of friction between the Government of Assam and the Government of India because the employees have not been given full pay and allowances. And yet we are told that the Assam Accord has been fulfilled.

On the economic side, there were three promises. One was that the Ashok Paper Mill would be revitalised. The Government of Assam had asked for Rs. 18.53 crores as statutory liabilities and only Rs. 2.84 crores of *ad hoc* grant have been given; the balance amount, in spite of a reminder, has not been sent. So far as refinery is concerned, I get contradictory letters from the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and the Prime Minister. And yet we are told that the Assam Accord has been fulfilled. My point in putting forth this view is not to join issue with the Prime Minister. Let me make that very clear. I do not want to go for a confrontation with the Prime Minister, but the fact

remains that there is a gap between our perceptions on the fulfilment of the Assam Accord; and if such a wide gap remains between the Prime Minister's vision and our own view on this, it is not good for the country. We have seen what happened in Punjab. Assam is a State where, you must remember, extremism is raising its ugly head; it is a State which is extremely vulnerable. Therefore, my point and purpose in putting forth this view is only this: let us sit across the table, the Government of India and ourselves, and let us find out the meeting points; let us try to understand each other as to where the Assam Accord has not been implemented rather than one side claiming that the Assam Accord has been implemented and the other side saying that it has not been implemented at all.

I will go to some other points also. A lot has been said about economic development, and figures have been given. But may I ask the hon. Prime Minister one thing? What type of Budget is it? In the last year's Budget we were told that the deficit would be only around Rs. 3,600 crores and in the mid-term appraisal, during the discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants, we were told that it was Rs. 5,000 crores. And now, in the revised estimate, it is Rs. 8,000 crores. If the original budget estimate of Rs. 3,600 crores goes up to Rs. 8,000 crores, then what is the percentage rise? It is 127 per cent. You let loose a monkey in the counting house. In that case, it would be better if you do not bring up any Budget at all. Where is the sanctity for the Budget? You have no calculation on the economic side because if you had made some calculation on the economic side, the deficit cannot grow so much. In fact, when we pointed out during the budget speech last year that the deficit would go up to Rs. 6,000 crores, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh said that under no circumstances would it go up to Rs. 6,000 crores. And we are making a point again that this year the budget deficit would be more than Rs. 10,000 crores with tremendous inflationary effect on prices.

Because my time is short, I will now refer to some other matters which have not received adequate attention. One

[Shri Dinesh Gowami]

the electoral reforms. In the last two years we were promised of electoral reforms. But one piece of legislation which has come and which I welcome is the anti-defection law. But, I believe, even that law is full of loopholes. One is, an artificial definition has been given of 'split' and 'merger' as if split takes place in Lok Sabha, as if split takes place in Rajya Sabha, as if split and merger take place in individual houses. Split and merger of a political party or of parties do not take place in individual houses, in Rajya Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha or in Assemblies. They take place as a totality of a political party. The second objection that I want to take is this. In this, Speaker has been given the power to decide whether a Member has incurred the disqualification or not. Let us not forget that in this country the post of Speaker is not kept outside the purview of party politics. We have not been able to create a convention in this country where the Speaker, as in Great Britain, is permitted to go back to power without any challenge or opposition from the major Opposition Parties. Let us also not forget that there are many Speakers of State Assemblies who, while remaining as Speakers of State Assemblies, have fought the Lok Sabha elections on party tickets, on the ticket of one party or another. Another objection for bringing the Speaker or giving him this power is this. By this you are dragging the Speaker to a court of law. Let us not forget that in the recent past the Speaker was dragged in the Punjab Assembly on the question whether his decision was correct when he decided to disqualify a Member. Luckily at that time the Member changed his mind and the Speaker also took up a position that the disqualification should not be maintained. So, I believe that an amendment should come wherein similarly as in other cases when the disqualification is decided by the Election Commission, it will be decided by the Election Commission.

There is another aspect on which there is total unanimity of the House. That is, the delimitation of constituencies. Today because of a constitutional amendment

there is no delimitation. I can understand that the number of seats should be kept intact. But the constituencies should be delimited. The reasons are that because of the delimitation of the constituencies there may be a feeling of great disappointment or anger. A number of constituencies have remained as reserved constituencies. There the general people are feeling that they have been denied; but there are a number of constituencies where the percentage of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population is more than what it is in the constituencies which are delimited; in 1971. As a result of this people are feeling that they have been denied the right of contest from the reserved constituencies.

I believe that the process of delimitation takes more than two years and if we do not start it now, there will be no delimitation. In fact, I found that this was the view expressed by all sections, irrespective of parties and even the running party has supported this view. So, I urge upon the Government to start the process of delimitation. It may require an amendment of the Constitution.

The other aspect which has been completely left out in President's Address is the urgent need for judicial reform. Today in this country what is greatly lacking is that a man cannot virtually live with dignity. You may fall in a man-hole, you may injure and die, you may have been slapped in the street, but you cannot go to a court of law. Because if you go to a court of law, ultimately—as I come from the legal profession—I know that the only person who will be the gainer would be the lawyer and not the people who win or lose the case.

In fact, the successive Chief Justices of the Supreme Court—whether it is Mr. Bhagwati or even before that—have said that today the courts are groaning under the over-weight of cases and unless something is done for judicial reform, the entire judicial system is likely to collapse. As a lawyer I can tell you that whenever somebody who is well known to me or a personal friend of mine comes to me for advice whether he should go in for a civil litigation, my advice would be that don't

go because if you go in for a civil litigation ultimately it will take 15 years and after 15 years even if you get back some property or win the case, the amount of money and the time that you will have to spend will not be commensurate with your victory.

In a criminal case he is to go through different processes. And our people have so much fear complex of police machinery. They don't get justice. This is one arena where it is very important that we go in for reform.

Now I come to the subject of external relationship. While I was initiating the debate on the SAARC, I made it very clear that this area where the seven countries are composed is the poorest area in the world. 20% of world's population lives in 3.3% of the world's total landmass spread over in these seven countries. We have got only 1% of the mineral resources of the entire world. If SAARC is to be successful then India and Pakistan must come closer and closer.

Today the news—item is that Pakistan is either one step away from the atom bomb or they have already manufactured the atom bomb. The voice is that India should also go for atom bomb. If we go, then other countries will also go, with the result—and let us not forget—that in this budget 25% of our budgetary money has gone for defence purposes.

If we go on spending more money for defence, we will not only have an external threat of atom bomb; but a greater threat of an atom bomb from inside the country. The threat is coming from the Tamilian unemployed youngmen who are today running from pillar to post to get a semblance of a livelihood. Therefore, somebody must start the process where this mad rush for armaments will not continue. I believe that the initiative must come from a country like India. Today people to people I believe, the people of Pakistan want the good of India and the people of India want the good of Pakistan. Otherwise the Pakistan Cricket team would not have got so much of welcome in this

country. I do not know what if done at Government to Government level but I am of the view that there is need for greater contact and cooperation at people to people and even Parliament to Parliament level between Pakistan and India so that misgivings and misunderstandings between these two countries could be done away with. Unfortunately, today our relations with the neighbouring countries are not happy. Our relations, if I may say so, with Pakistan, Bangladesh and China are not happy. This is one of the front where our diplomacy has not fully succeeded. Therefore, while initiating the debate on SAARC I said the Prime Minister's task as the head of NAM was comparatively much easier than the head of SAARC. Therefore, I will call upon the Prime Minister as the head of the biggest, populist, affluent and probably rich and strong country that the initiative shall have to come from India and we hope new initiatives will be taken on the external front so that we can improve our relations with our neighbours. I urge upon the Government to take initiative for greater contact at people to people and ever Parliament to Parliament level with Pakistan and neighbouring countries because I feel there are so many parliamentary delegations coming from European countries and very few delegations are exchanged amongst neighbouring countries.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : With these few words I conclude my speech and I hope the Prime Minister will take note of the points raised by me in the spirit in which I have made and see that the provisions of the Assam accord are implemented. Assam has gone through the agony of a movement for six years and its tranquillity should not be disturbed for any reason even for reasons of lack of communication. I hope the Prime Minister will apply his mind regarding the implementation of the Assam accord and he will give satisfactory reply so that people of Assam may be convinced about the genuine desire of the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM DHAN (Lal Ganj) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my thanks to you for providing me an opportunity to speak for the first time during the last two years. The reference made by the President about the policies of the Government are good and must be implemented. But as soon as we get ready to translate the policies into action, we find that the policies are not being followed properly. The Presidential address this year was a unique one. He drew our attention towards the Communal Virus. He expressed the hope that secular and democratic forces would prevail upon the communal and disruptive forces. After the cruel assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the nation, a resolution was passed in the Constituent Assembly in the year 1948, wherein the Government of India was asked to wipe out Communalism from the body politic of India. After a lapse of about 40 years, the President has asked the nation to take stock of the situation again. At the time of introduction of the above Resolution, the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had stated.

[*English*]

“The Government will take all the legislative and administrative steps to implement the Resolution so that there will be no political party based on religion.”

[*Translation*]

We had thought that communalism will come to an end after the partition of the country, but it did not happen. Even after so much of bloodshed, communalism did not come to an end. Fundamentalists and communal forces continued to strike at the root of democracy, socialism and secularism, as a result of which an Shrimati Indira Gandhi, a leader of international stature, was assassinated. After a lapse of about 40 years, the President has advised us to take stock of the situation. The Government also desires to have talks with all sections of the society for evolving a general consensus at the national level. At the time of partition, a lot of a bloodshed

had taken place, people are rendered homeless and there was massive exodus of population from both the countries. But the hatred and the violence did not come to an end and is still continuing. Communal riots take place every year wherein hundreds of people are killed, thousands are injured and property worth crores of rupees is destroyed. Such things take place not only in the Congress ruled States, but also in other states which are being ruled by the opposition parties. Therefore, it is like cancer. Nowadays the position is so explosive that the assassins of Shrimati Indira Gandhi are being honoured, criminals are being rewarded, anti-social and communal elements join the election fray adopting illegal methods. I was greatly shocked when I came to know through the newspapers that a person running an illegal liquor distillery and instigating communal riots in Ahmedabad, Gujarat won in 5 constituencies in the Municipal Board elections. This has happened in the state which Mr. Makwana represents here. It is surprising that such a person had one in the predominantly Muslim areas. When such things come to our notice, all of us should do some self introspection. The Congress Party signed an accord with the Akalis in 1956. At that time the Akali Party had promised that it would work in the religious and social field and would merge with the Congress Party after the elections were over. But this accord did not work even for a single year. This has been the situation. An accord was signed with the Muslim League in Kerala and we are contesting the elections as allies. The C.P.M had also entered into an electoral alliance with the Muslim League. I would like to know was the call given by the Muslim League to boycott the Republic Day celebrations, not anti-national? Hence, we should fully understand the prevailing situation. When we wish to hold a national debate on communalism, the time available to us is very short and we should make law in this very session to separate religion from politics in order to crash the divisive forces. I have gone through the whole Address of the President, but I could not find any reference to cancer of casteism. The casteism is so well entrenched in our country that it transcends ever religious barriers. The incidents of riots in the



country take place in the name of religion, language, caste and region. The Virus of casteism is no less harmful than the Virus of communalism. May be that the people living in South India do not know it. We, the inhabitants, of North India, i.e. Hindu Rajputs, Muslim Rajputs, Hindu Tyagis, Muslim Tyagis, Hindu Jats, Sikh Jats and Muslim Jats are all united in the sense that they vote in favour of a particular candidate only. In the North, the poison of casteism has crossed the barriers of religion and such things are noticed in our country only.

15.00 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair.*]

There is a state, Bihar in our country where private armies have been formed on caste lines and there as mass scale killings. Arabal and Kansara are two such instances before us. But the local administration remained a silent spectator. The All India Services have also been divided on caste lines. In various states, lobbies of officers belonging to various castes like the Brahmans, the Bhumihar Rajputs, backward classes, the Kayastha and scheduled castes and tribes are found among the officers. The details have been published in news papers and magazines as to how our administration and our All India Services are divided. I do not want to waste the time of the House by repeating the same thing.

We cannot demand the enforcement of rights, conferred on us by the constitution in the presence of these armies. Persons belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are being mass-acred on the pretext of naxalites. It is not as if we fall victim to the atrocities by only upper caste people, only, but it has also been found that persons belonging to backward classes also commit atrocities on people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and they humiliate us and deprive us of our means of livelihood. There is not a single party in India which is above caste consideration while selecting candidates for elections. Every party keeps in mind as to people of which religion are in majority in a particular area, the number of persons

belonging to which caste are more and which person has the chance to win the elections on caste basis. In this way our old traditions have vanished. We should pay attention towards this aspect.

There has been no mention of land reforms to-day. A number of our colleagues expressed their views on this subject and it is a fact that in our country the title deeds of land have been registered in the name of dogs, cats, birds and other animals. The documents are not being corrected. Till land reforms are not implemented in real sense, there could be no welfare of the poor and poverty can not be removed. I would, therefore, like to submit that the land allotted to persons during the regime of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, whether it is for construction of house or for cultivation, has not yet been handed over to the allottees and they have not got physical possession even after a lapse of a decade and lakhs of cases in this respect are pending in the courts. When there is such a situation in our country with regard to land reforms, we should give a serious thought to rectify the situation. Madam Chairman, today, I have been allowed to speak for the first time. As such I should be given some more time. So far as the new education policy is concerned, it is very good, but we should pay more attention towards Primary schools, because these are the backbone of our society. We find that a large number of schools are without any building. Though we talk of operation black board, yet there are not even mats for the children. In my constituency hundreds of T.V. sets have been installed but none of them is working well and the shepherds have broken the T.V. antennae. I feel that funds are being wasted in this manner. When there is such a situation in our country, then what is the need of such a policy and such programmes? To-day, teachers do not attend the schools and most of the Primary schools are running without them. There is talk of non-formal education and adult education but without any results and money is being wasted. In tribal areas Ashram schools and Primary schools are not being run properly. I have myself visited the tribal areas and found that their condition is very miserable. Therefore, whether it is the Special Component Plan or the Tribal Sub-Plan, none of them is

[Shri Ram Dhan]

working properly. In Uttar Pradesh, the state of secondary education is such that mass copying takes place there. Examination Centres are sold for lakhs of rupees. The Examination centres are sold because, the invigilators collect money from the students. As regards the university education, the less said the better. In East U.P., there is Banaras Hindu University where student indiscipline is at the peak. Just as people take shelter in Gurudwaras after committing crimes, people in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh take refuge in B.H.U. Bombs, licensed rifles and unlicensed country made rifles and other arms and ammunition can be found there.

The President has said in his Address about the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and providing justice to them. But whatever is said is not being implemented. Now, the rights, which Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar has given to us in the constitution, are not being protected. There are three organisations for providing us justice, But even those organisations are not in a position to provide us justice. There is a special officer for us who is called the Commissioner for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Secondly, there is a Parliamentary Committee and a thirdly, a Commission is also there. In spite of all these organisations, there is no outcome and nothing concrete is being done to protect our rights. The Task Force of the Planning Commission has admitted this fact. You have to take note of this. I would like to say something about untouchability. Instead of raising the issue of untouchability, we hold discussion about the discrimination between black and white people and the apartheid policy. But we never discuss the discrimination that is being practised in our country. A dog can lick the thali of Panditji, but we cannot touch it. Even now untouchability is in existence in one form or the other. The Shankaracharya of Puri says that if the system of untouchability is done away with in the country, hinduism will cease to exist in this land.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-  
WALIA (Sangrur) : Ramdhanji, what  
Shankaracharyaji had said is not on record

anywhere. We have not read such a statement anywhere.

SHRI RAM DHAN : No, not now. This statement was made much earlier. Conversions had taken place at Meenakshipuram, and a Virat Hindu-Sammelan was held in Delhi. Probably, this is not in your knowledge.

I would like to say that programmes connected with the welfare of scheduled castes are not being taken up in a proper manner. It was said just now that legislation should be enacted for the welfare of women. There should not be indecent exposure of women. But Adivasi women are scantily clad. Is it not enough to make us hang our heads in shame? Is it not indecent exposure of women? Due to abysmal poverty, they have no clothes even to cover their bodies.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Already you have taken more time. Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : I would like to say a few words about reservation. The Constitution provides for reservation for these castes, but agitations and riots are taking place on this issue in the country. Had the State Governments and the Centre taken the people into confidence on the need for reservation in a real sense, the riots would not have taken place. But all the political parties and the State Governments as well as the Central Government are responsible for this state of affairs.

There is a provision for reservation of seats for scheduled castes and tribes in the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies, but there is no reservation for them in the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils. Thus they do not have representation in these bodies. In the absence of reservation, people belonging to these categories are not represented there on the basis of population in the country. I would like to demand in strong terms that if we do not have representation in the Rajya Sabha and the State legislative councils, these bodies should be

abolished. An amendment to the constitution should be brought forward for this purpose.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to conclude Mr. Ram Dhan. Please conclude, and don't go to the next point. Please listen to me and don't go to the next points.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : In the Government services, there is a provision of reservation on the one hand and on the other hand there is a provision of dereservation. Reservation and dereservation both go together. When a person is employed in the Government service, the first thing is to find out whether he belongs to a scheduled caste or a scheduled tribe.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will have to say that nothing will go on record if you do not conclude now. You please resume your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : This is very important for us. In regard to our recruitment in the army, it is said that we do not belong to martial race and as such we are not getting our due place in the army.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everything is important. You have already taken much more time. Now you will have to conclude Mr. Ram Dhan.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : Madam Chairman; I want only one minute to speak on the 20-Point Programme. There is a great bungling in the implementation of schemes under NREP and RLEGP etc.

[English]

MR. CHIRMAN : Please conclude now. I will call the next member. Please take your seat, Mr. Ayub Khan.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Madam Chairman, I rise to support the President's Address.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM DHAN : If you do like this, it will not be good on your part. I would like to say that 60 per cent of the total amount that is earmarked for Indira Awaas Yojna is pocketed by middlemen.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, you are going to the next point. Don't you understand me? Please conclude and don't go to the next point.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : Madam Chairman, it would be better if you do not interrupt me. By interrupting me, you are taking my time, otherwise I would have finished my speech in the meantime.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not taking your time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : Our young Prime Minister is going from village and far off places to see for himself the implementation of the 20-Point Programme. It has come to his notice how the starting mother sells her children. He has himself seen such a thing in Kalahandi. Such a thing is common experience in Orissa. We shall have to see as to what we can do in this respect.

In this connection, I would like to say that 60 per cent of the total amount that has been earmarked for implementing the schemes for the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes under the 20-Point Programme is pocketed together by middlemen, Government Officers and power brokers.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record. Nothing is going on record. You do not understand the difficulty.

...((Interruptions)\*\*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhurjhuru) : Madam Chairman, I rise to support the President's Address. The policies of the Hon. Prime Minister which have been referred to in the Address are really praiseworthy.

The Programme like I.R.D.P., National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme etc. undertaken particularly for the poor in the country are commendable measures. But we should look into the problems faced during their implementation. Attention should be period to the B. D.Os, doctors and overseers etc. Who are associated with these programmes. The funds earmarked for such programmes reach the rural panchayats through district councils to Panchyat Samities. The Government should ensure that the funds reach the eligible persons for whom the funds have been earmarked.

Contract system is in force in our country. There is so much corruption prevalent under this system that all the concerned officers have their fixed percentage in the contract amount. The junior engineer, assistant engineer and executive engineer indulge accept bribes on a large scale. You should, therefore, exercise strict check over them.

The expenditure on conveyance and transport of the Government officers is increasing trimendously. A watch should be kept over this expenditure. Some Members of the opposition parties have spoken about the unity and integrity of the country and the policies of our leader. I would like to say in this respect that it is a fact of history that Kind Akbar took the reins of the country at the age of thirteen. The coronation of Shivaji took place at the age of thirteen and Maharaja

Ranjit Singh as ceuded the throne at the age of sixteen. The history of our country and the history of our civilisation reveals this fact before us. The youthful Prime Minister of our country is just 40 years of age and he wants to take the country to that height of glory which it once enjoyed. The fact is befor all of us. Even though our Prime Minister is 40 years old, yet he is discharging his responsibility in a very effective way. He works for 18 hours a day in the service of the country. The signs of fatigue have appeared beneath his eyes. He is working hard for the country. We should appreciate his efforts and not criticise his policies. We should not forget those people who sacrificed their lives to free the country from the bondage of slavery and who worked for the unity, integrity and secularism of the country. If we forget them, the history will forget us. What for Sardar Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life? He had never thought that the followers of his own religion would indulge in the killing of innocent people. Did Chandra Shekhar Azad secrifice his life so that the followers of his religion would indulge in the killing of innocent persons in a planned way. When the noose was being tightemed around the neck of Ashfaquallah Khan, the British officials asked him about his last wish. He said-my last wish is that this country should see the light of independence one day. Had Ashfaquallah Khan ever imagined that a member of his own community, whose name is Shahabuddin Sahib would call upon the people of his community to boycott the Independence day celebrations. I would like to submit to you that you should keep a watch on the activities of such people. We have to keep an eye on such people who undermine the unity and integrity of our country. Our religion teaches us that one should be loyal to ones country. Those Muslims are not Muslims who are not loyal to this country. Our Quran bears testimony to it. It is clearly written in the Quran. that if the orders of yours ruler are not against the prophel you should obey him. Our Qurah teaches this thing. But our ruler is a youthful and handsome Prime Minister and we should obey him. It is the duty of every Muslim to obey him.

We should not forget the occasion when the debate on the Shahabano case came up in the Parliament. Our Prime Minister took a great risk and did not allow the unity and integrity of the country to be undermined. If we run the country on the basis of casteism, we shall not be able to hold the country together. The coming generation will never forgive us. They will always taunt us that we could not safeguard the hard-earned independence of the country. No religion teaches us to have bad blood with others. Religion preaches us to love one another and live amicably. Had the God ordained only one religion for all of us, he would have created all the creatures in the same race. But it was not the will of God and He created man different from one another. This is His power. There is no difference between 'Ram' and 'Khūda' and 'Wahe Guru' and 'Khuda'. The history bears testimony that although one can win another man by the use of force, but one can not win his heart. The heart can be won by love only. If we want to improve the condition in Punjab we can achieve this only with love and not by use of force. The people of this region have served their motherland. I have myself participated in two wars. The people had served us very much. The jawan regards it as his duty to fight against the enemies to defend the territory of his country. He does not believe in speeches where what is professed is not practised.

He regards his motherland sacred. We should not forget the services rendered by the people of this region for their motherland. We should win their hearts. The Prime Minister is following that policy and its result is before us. The whole of country should support Shri Surjit Singh Barnala wholeheartedly. He has put forth an example which the history will always remember. We should not provide an opportunity to the people to play the role of Mir Jafar and Jai Chand in the country so that the freedom of the country is not jeopardised. They take the support of religion and their community to achieve their ends. Had they raised the issue of welfare of their community; then it would have been a different matter. Their community would have benefited much more if they had raised the issue that there are only

three executive engineers and only one I.A.S officer in Rajasthan belonging to their community. The nation would have also been apprised of it. Those people are harming their motherland who want to earn false fame in the name of religion. Those people have no right to live in this sacred land who insult the national flag and the national anthem. This is the land of rishis, saints. It is and fakirs. It is our duty to honour them.

People belonging to different communities and religions have a right to live with love in this country. The religion does not preach us to fight with one another. Religion preaches us to live amicably. It is our duty to support the policy of the Hon. Prime Minister who wants us to live like brethren.

[English]

SHRI N V N SOMU (Madras North): Madam Chairman, I am thankful to you, for having given this opportunity, on behalf of my party Madam, I rise to oppose this Motion. Our President in his Address said that,

“Our precious heritage of unity in diversity can be preserved only by fighting the divisive forces.”

There was no objection. Now the Government's policy is not unity and diversity. It wants only uniformity. It is forcing the people of this sub continent to follow one particular form of Culture, civilization and language.

The Government is always quoting Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's advice, then and there, if it suitable to the Government. If it is not suitable for them they are conveniently forgetting it. Madam, we are celebrating the birth centenary of the Architect of Modern India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. What did Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru say? “English will continue as long as the non-Hindi speaking people want it”. Now, what is practically going on in the country? Officials in Tamil Nadu are compelled to sing in Hindi. Some hon. Members of Parliament come to Madurai, our holy town in Tamil Nadu and they threw out the Tamil boards.

[Shri N. V. N. Somu]

Is this unity in diversity? Is this unity our Government wants to preserve? Our President himself says that language should not be imposed. He said at Bangalore that only because of the imposition of Urdu Bangladesh was born. We the Tamilians from Tamil Nadu want to retain and maintain our civilisation, heritage and language which is more than 2000 years old. We are for unity not for uniformity.

In this connection I want to say that 30,000 DMK workers were arrested for having participated in the agitation against Hindi imposition. 20,000 persons were put under preventive custody. Many persons died in Jail. Many persons self-immolated. Our leader, Dr. Karunanidhi, was convicted for 9 weeks.

**SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) :**  
Because he burnt the Constitution.

\***SHRI N. V. N. SOMU :** Dr Ambedkar himself had said in Rajya Sabha that he would be the first person to burn the Constitution if it is not useful for the people. Our late lamented Rajaji also said that he would throw the Constitution in the Bay of Bengal if it is not useful for the people.

**SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :** I am on a point of order. We have taken the oath under the Constitution of India and nobody is allowed to say something against the Constitution of India. He cannot praise some one who has burnt the Constitution of India as it is violative of the oath we have taken.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** No point of order. Please continue.

**SHRI N. V. N. SOMU :** Our General Secretary, Prof. Anbazhagan and 9 other MIAs are expelled from the Assembly. So many cases were foisted against us. What for all these sacrifices? Just to save our Tamil heritage and culture.

Madam, I request this Government to give constitutional effect to Pandit Nehru's assurance with regard to English, immediately.

Likewise in Sri Lanka Problem also; the President says that he is "deeply affected by the hardship, suffering and loss of life of the Tamil civilian population of Sri Lanka". "The massive military operations undertaken by the Sri Lanka security forces and the economic blockade of Jaffna area have created further complications" he says.

He stops with that. what next? For the last four years we are crying like anything. But no action is taken. How many Tamils are killed so far? How many Tamil Woman were raped, humiliated and destroyed? Even the Tamil children are destroyed in the mother's womb itself. We are talking philosophy for the last four years. Is this Government not able to stop the genocide in Sri Lanka? Negotiations after negotiations Parthasarthy, Bhandari, Chidambaram but no solution yet. Mr. Jayawardene has proved that he is not for political solution. They why is this Government hesitating go take military action? Is it not true that this Government had solved the Bangla Desh problem in 15 days? Was that political solution? No. It was achieved only by military intervention. Why not military action in Sri Lanka is being taken? What is the answer? Blood is thicker than water. I request at least now let this Government act quickly and efficiently.

Our President says that "we uphold the unalienable rights of the palestinian people. We support the liberation struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa". I welcome it. But why is this Government not upholding the unalienable rights of Tamilians in Sri Lanka? Why is this Government not supporting the liberation struggle of Ceylon Tamils, as it did in the liberation struggle of Bangla Desh? By the time this Government wakes up, I think, the entire Tamil race would be wiped out in Sri Lanka.

Mizoram is given statehood. I welcome it. Statehood for Arunachal Pradesh I welcome. But why not for Pondicherry? Because that is also a Tamil State? Pondicherry is more populated than these two States. Please give statehood to Pondicherry also.

Madam, I welcome that the president has spelt out the provision for safe drinking water for all villages. The Villages should be given adequate water supply not only for drinking but also for agricultural purposes. At the same time, the urban people are struggling for drinking water. The people of Madras city are suffering like anything by water scarcity. Ladies stand in the queue all through the night to fetch a bucketful of water. Day and night we can see the women folk, office-gears and school children standing in big queues. The Government should take all possible steps to quench the thirst of the Madras city. At the same time, Tamil Nadu is facing a severe drought. People are suffering much. I request this Government to pay special attention to the drought problem in Tamil Nadu.

Our president says that industrial workers have made a notable contribution to raising production and productivity in the last two years. But what is the encouragement given to them? The workers' community has been demanding 10 per cent as minimum bonus for the last several years. The increase demanded is just 1.67 per cent. The Government is very adamant in not increasing the quantum of bonus. I request this Government that it is high time that it should increase the quantum of bonus to ten per cent.

Likewise, in my constituency Ambathur Madras, India Forge, a very big factory, is closed for the last three years. Nearly ten workers died of poverty. I wrote to late Shri Anjiah, I wrote to Shri Sangma, I wrote several times to the State Ministers of Tamil Nadu also, but still the problem is not solved. Thousands of workers are affected by this closure. So, I request this Government to take over this sick unit and save the starving workers.

Sir, it seems the president has questioned the T.V. coverage policy. Recently, in Madras on pongal Day, transmission was started in kodaikanal, linking some more areas of Tamil Nadu. A function was held in Madras T.V. Station. Only Congress leaders and Congress M. Ps. were invited for that function... (*Interruptions*). You please listen Mr. Kuppaswamy,

In Madras, three M. Ps. are there myself, Dr. Kalanidhi belonging to DMK, and Shrimati Vyjayanthimala Bali belonging to Congress—but in the function, Mrs. Vyjayanthimala Bali and Mr. Palariyandi, the Tamil Nadu Congress President, were invited. The place where the function took place comes under Madras Central, from where Mr. Kalanidhi is represented. But neither he was invited nor I was invited. Only Mrs. Bali and Mr. Palariyandi were invited. Other party leaders were not invited. This kind of partisan attitude should be stopped immediately. Public representation, irrespective of the political parties, should be given due regard and respect.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Madam, Chairman, the Address of the president of India is a very valid document on which this House is discussing and expressing itself. Today, the concept has come during the course of discussion and earlier discussions also, that we require that religion and politics in this country have to be separated and the Prime Minister, in his unequivocal terms, has said that if need be, we will also have a Constitutional amendment to that effect. Today, a communal chaos is going on in this country. I remember a few years back, I had seen a film in which a Muslim elderly man finds a Child on the roadway and he does not know what religion that child belongs to and how he should treat him whether he is a Hindu or a Christian. At that time he sings a song and I remember that very couplet :

*Na To Hindu Banega Na Musalman Banega,  
 Insaan Ki Aulad Hai, Insaan Banega.*

That is the spirit that we ourselves should imbibe in us so that the country's problems with respect to communal harmony are resolved. I would say that before we have an amendment of the Constitution to separate politics from religion, we will have to touch many fundamental articles contained in the Constitution.

We should approach the Supreme Court of India, as I said, as an abundant caution, because sometime the court have

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

their own ways of interpreting things. In Keshwanand Bharti case they decided that there is something like the basic structure of the Constitution. It cannot be altered. Tomorrow in case we bring in constitution amendment, they may say religion forms part of the basic structure of the Constitution and you cannot alter it. Therefore, we have to take an abundant caution so that we, this House, is not embarrassed in the court of law.

Secondly, before even enacting any law of having constitutional amendment to separate religion from politics, we have to see as to whether through Government medium have we to popularise religion? If some Hindu diety is shown on the T.V. Hindus may say it is very pleasant. Likewise the followers of other religions may feel that as pleasant if their diety is shown. But let us keep religion to ourselves at homes. Let Government as a body not project any religious procession or any religious thing. I may say let us not project any religion rather than projecting all. In this course we may do injustice to somebody and things like that. Therefore, this media to be used for projecting religious festivals and religious things should be stopped by the Government.

Superstition is linked with the religion. Some of the things we believe only because of our being superstitious minded. We think by superstition that hitting another caste or doing something to other caste, is inherent in the religions. We go even to that extent.

Of course, enacting a law is of no use. But at least we should have a law we should amend the Indian Penal Code saying that if anybody spreads rumours, or superstition among innocent persons, he should be punished. That should be considered as a serious offence. There are the measures by which we can achieve the object. In your own State, Madam, today I have read the news that worshipping some diety by woman in nude is still regarded as a part of the religion. We have to create scientific temper in the mind of the people.

Indiraji was very much concerned and perturbed by this. We have used these terms creation of the scientific temper in the 20 Point Programme.

Another aspect that we should tackle is education. As Prime Minister has also stressed this point, to eliminate poverty we may take up so many projects but that may not ultimately eliminate poverty. If poverty has to be eliminated, it can be only through the medium of education. Therefore, the main education policy that we have put forth before the country should be adhered to and implemented in all sincerity. It is not necessary that we should give direction to the States. Unless you amend the Acts of the State Government, new education policy will not be implemented. Old Acts of the State Governments are based on the old policy. All the legislations, rules framed by the State Government should be amended. Suggestions may be given by the Central Government in this regard. Otherwise the State Governments are not going to take any forward legal step in the matter of implementation of the new education policy.

Our teachers teach in the schools. Sometimes our teachers are not efficient. There must be constant supervision over them. If we find that any particular teacher is not imparting education in a proper manner, that he is not perfect in his subject a condensed course or some training should be given to him so that our education policy and programme is not affected in any manner.

Secondly, as far as poverty alleviation is concerned, I would like to point out the problem of my constituency, that is, Pernem Taluq in Goa, where small agricultural labourers and the farmers took loans for poultry and piggery rearing some two or three years ago. Today, these people are unable to repay the loans because they are in genuine difficulties and unable to sell the poultries and piggeries. They could not run them despite their best efforts. Sir, it is a question of a few lakhs of loan involved in this. In many States like Maharashtra, Karnataka etc. loans worth of crores of rupees have been written off.



But in a tiny place like Goa where loan of a few lakh of rupees has not been written off. The files concerning this matter come to the Central government for approval and here various queries are raised. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the Central Government kindly to review the loan facilities and write off those loans.

Sir, lastly, unless we make appointments in the vacancies now existing in the Supreme Court, important matters remain unheard. There is a case in a Goa. Our "Land to the tiller Act" which was challenged and struck down by the Goa judicial Commissioner's Court, is now before the Supreme Court of India. The Goa Government has gone to the Supreme Court on appeal. However, because there are no sufficient number of judges, the Supreme Court has not been able to hear the matter, as a result of which though the tenants in the entire Country have become the owners of the land, the tenants in Goa have not become the owners of the land. Similarly, the Land Ceiling Act has not come into force in Goa. There is hardly any place where Land ceiling Act has not come into force in this country except in Goa I would, therefore, request the Centre kindly to look into this matter and do justice to the people of Goa. With these words, I thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thank on the president's Address moved by Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal.

[Translation]

\*SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Madam, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address which the President was pleased to deliver to both Houses of parliament.

Government's performance despite many hurdles on the economic and industrial front over the last year is really commendable.

Further, the efforts of Shri Barnala in tackling terrorism in his State must be

appreciated by one and all regardless of caste, colour, religion and political inclinations.

In line with the Seventh Five Year Plan, there was 5% growth in the economy, last year. Due to failure of monsoons continuously for 3 to 4 years and the consequent drought conditions as well as due to floods, the agricultural production has suffered. Though the production of pulses and oilseeds was less, there has been considerable improvement in the food front. The food production exceeded 150 million tonnes this year.

Industrial growth in the last year was 7.5%. During the last year we earned Rs. 1200 crores of foreign exchange by export of capital goods. I hope that there will be rapid industrial and agricultural development in the country in the coming year.

In 1986, there has been an increase of 30% of handloom cloth production over the last year. We have earned Rs. 2000 crores as foreign exchange by export of these clothes. However, I earnestly appeal to the Government to a pressing problem in my constituency. Many mills in my constituency are closed for a long time. Thousands and thousands of employees are out of employment. The State Govt. or the Central Government must come forward to take over these mills. In India nearly 1½ crores of the poor have been provided with housing facilities. This is a matter of great pride.

As far as drinking water problem is concerned, nearly 45,000 villages have been provided with drinking water. At the completion of the 7th five year plan I hope there will be no village which will suffer from drinking water problem.

Madam, In my constituency, Coimbatore in many areas like palladamtalua, Sular, Thirupur, Perur, Madukarai, and Esakkarai, there is no drinking water available. I request the Central Govt. to immediately take up this problem and tackle it. I fear the State Govt. is not

[Shri C.K. Kuppuseamy]

doing anything to alleviate the miseries. Even after 40 years of independence we are lacking in basic amenities like drinking water. Our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken it to solve on a priority basis.

NREP, RLEGP and IRDP, are being successfully implemented under the 20-point programme for upliftment of the masses. I would like to convey to this House that the Govt. is keen on implementing the programmes vigorously in the coming year.

In power production our position is not satisfactory. Coimbatore, an industrial of Tamilnadu is not getting electricity even for agriculture. The farmers are facing hardships to irrigate the fields. The authorities are shutting off electricity during day. This causes difficulty to agriculturists and industrialists. The authorities should be directed to supply electricity during day. I also request the Govt. to establish a thermal power plant in Coimbatore.

The nationalised banks have netted Rs. 186 crores as profit during 1986. Madam, branches must be opened in every nook and corner of the country; in every village and in every backward area so that loan facilities reach the poor and the needy easily.

We are proud of our food production which has exceeded 156 million tonnes. We have been able to export rice and earn good amount of foreign exchange. The Govt. have taken steps to distribute rice, wheat, sugar and clothes to the poor at cheaper rates but the State Govt. is selling the so commodities at higher prices. This is a serious thing.

As far as the rate of inflation is concerned, the Govt. has brought it down to 10% from 22% which was the rate two years ago. This has strengthened the economy.

Lastly, about massacre of Tamils in Shri Lanka. We have debated in for the

past five years and I had been insisting for a solution for a long time. The Central Govt. should take steps to prevent the killing of innocent Tamils in Sri Lanka and a permanent solution must be found. I conclude with thanks for the opportunity given.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Presidential Address. I am very happy to note that it has been said about Punjab in the beginning that :

[English]

"Under the leadership of Chief Minister, Shri S S. Barnala, the State Government and the people of Punjab, have shown exemplarily courage in upholding the values of secular democracy. The people of Punjab have always been in the fore-front to defend the unity and integrity of India." Again, he states :

"In flagrant violation of the sacred tenets and traditions of the great religion founded by Guru Nanak, a small section has turned religious functionaries and holy shrines into instruments of terror and subversion."

[Translation]

We express our thanks to the country for giving so much honour to the people of Punjab and feel that the sikhs and Hindus of Punjab, Barnalaji, Akali Party and other parties have honoured the principles which the entire country has supported.

I would like to say two-three points raised in the Address. This is about how to check the fundamentalists. I would like to give my view to the country through this august House. They charge that the Centre as well as all the opposition parties are using Barnalaji in their confrontation with the Akal Takht. This is their argument. But fortunately crores of sikhs have given verdict that they would not allow the disintegration of the country. I would like to say that reference has not

been made to the Punjab accord here. It would have been better if reference had been made to it. When Punjab Accord was signed, a state of euphoria prevailed in the entire country. I was with Santji when we went back from Delhi. There we were given a rousing welcome. Whatever technical interpretation you may give to it; but it was thought that after the signing of the Punjab Accord, the bad days in Punjab were over and there would be no question of Sikhs leaving the mainstream now. The army personnel detained in Jodhpur jail would be released. They did not understand its technicalities, but through its letter and spirit they assumed that Chandigarh would be handed over to Punjab and in lieu thereof some Hindi speaking areas will go to Haryana. When boundaries are demarcated, nine hundred Punjab villages will be transferred to Haryana and the position of river water as on 25th July, will be maintained. Thereafter, we had thought that the provision relating to introduction of Punjabi in the neighbouring states will be complied with. The Ranganath Misra Commission was set up and we had thought that the person who had indulged in riots, would be punished ..  
*(Interruptions)...*

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : Why do you bother about that? There are half a dozen religions. Why do you transgress on them?

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : This is the path of justice. In this manner the Gurudwara Act will be enacted and we had expected that the climate which had continued for long would disappear and an atmosphere of love and goodwill would be created. In this connection I am of the opinion that these things have not been fulfilled so far. I am not used to level accusations against anybody. You are aware of my habit. If there was any shortcoming, some compelling circumstances, were prevailing due to some compulsions, then we should remove them immediately and work in this direction, so that we could proceed much ahead. They say that Sant Longowal had to sacrifice his life for again which is illusory. Now

Shri Barnala may also meet the same fate. I say that it is necessary to strengthen our Jawans and ourselves for the country's sake and for centuries, our country has been strengthening itself and the patriots. If we cannot strengthen the hands of the patriots, then traitors will gain strength.

I would like to say that after Shri Longowal, Shri Barnala has been acting with firmness. We are braving the bullets in the discharge of our duties. In this House it may appear, but we know the circumstances through which we are passing what is the position of our families and children. As such, as has been requested to you time and again, you should extend your wholehearted support to Mr. Barnala.

SHRI MOOLCHAND DAGA (Pali) : The whole country is extending its wholehearted support to Mr. Barnala.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : That is why I am saying that you should extend your wholehearted support to Mr. Barnala. With the help of Mr. Barnala, a few irritants, which are there, would also be removed.

16.00 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

I would like to say one thing more. A study on Punjab should be conducted because terrorism is an off shoot of the economic problems there. I do admit that the smugglers and the fundamentalism also give a boost to terrorism. Foreign powers are also creating trouble in Punjab and economic difficulties and unemployment have also left no future for the youth. The youths are feeling dis-illusioned and are being driven to terrorist activities. I am explaining to you the ailment; its cure is in your hands and in the hands of the country. I would like to submit to you that we are now working with an open mind. A special study should be undertaken about Punjab where 84 per cent of land has been brought under cultivation and the remaining land is covered by roads, bridges and canals. There is no scope of bringing even a single per cent of land under cultivation, in future. In spite of

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

all these, the situation in Punjab is very bad. For the last one and half years, industries with an investment of Rs. 840 crores have been set up there and there has been 15 per cent rise in rice and wheat production. I would, therefore, like to submit that arrangements be made to provide employment to the youths of Punjab in C.R.P.F. and B S F. and in other such organisations by undertaking a special study on Punjab. In the coming years, one lakh jobs may be created and more industries may be set up in Punjab.

The sikhs have a grievance that all the Sikhs have been branded as terrorists through television, radio and the Press during the last 3 to 4 years. Now, the trend has been reversed. I also praise that now everything has been set right. Now the terrorists have been isolated and identified everywhere.

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR**  
(Durg) : It is not being done now.

**SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA** : I have already said that now everything has been set right. Hon. Members know that I never cast aspersions and I am not casting aspersions even now. I am saying that such a complaint was there earlier. Now such a grievance has vanished all of a sudden. Such a feeling of goodwill must be encouraged.

I, therefore, suggest that a seminar may be held on television and radio whereby the country could come to know about contributions of the people of Punjab for the independence of the country and if four or six seminars are organised, complaints would automatically vanish. In the end, I would like to say that much less has been said about the farmers in the Presidential Address. I would like to submit that this year, beginning from 1st April, 1987 to 31st March, 1988 may be observed as 'Farmers' year' and this year discussions be held and investigations be made to consider the economic, social conditions of farmers, their problems, the future of their children and other facilities and

concrete steps be taken in this direction. I would say that my friend talks a lot when he is excited. never try to take political advantage. You have helped us a lot in this hour of crisis. You have extended this help for the reason that the problem of Punjab is the problem of the whole country. You are doing everything to help the people who are face to face with this problem. That is why I would submit that you should not mind if some harsh words are said by those who are facing this problem.

With these words, I express my thanks to you.

**THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI)** : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Mr. Kaushal. There has been discussion on this subject in this August House for the last many days and a number of our honourable friends have expressed their views on it. A lot of things and a number of issues have come up. I shall confine myself to the issue of national integration. The Hon. President has spoken about national integration, national unity and the forces which are, presently, raising their head to disrupt the unity of the country and to weaken the country. Our brother, Mr. Ramoowalia was speaking just now. First of all, I would like to congratulate all those parties who had organised a convention at Chandigarh yesterday. I feel that when all the parties sit together on a common platform, it carries much weight and it has much impact. An impression is created in the country that all the political parties share common views on national issues and the integrity of the country. I would like to congratulate all those parties, which had participated in the convention. It also gives me much pleasure that slowly and gradually, a feeling and awakening has been aroused among all political parties that we all should get united and think above party lines if we wish to keep the country united. It will be in the interest of the country.

So far as the question of bringing about unity, integrity, peace and tranquility in the country is concerned; there can be no compromise with anybody in this regard.

No compromise can be made with the forces detrimental to the security of the country. No compromise can be made in regard to the policies intended to take the country forward. I feel that a good beginning was made at Chandigarh, today. I hope that our countrymen will understand the dignity and importance of such conventions. I hope that such conventions like the one they held at Chandigarh, will continue to be held at times. We are with Mr. Barnala in this regard. As it is, His Excellency the President referred to this thing in his Address.

Mr. Barnala and others, who are there in his Government and the people of Punjab deserve congratulations as they are facing the difficulties. They deserve congratulations for the courage with which they have accepted this challenge and they deserve all help from us. I feel that there is nothing to make a propaganda about the help being extended to them. They are being extended this help with honesty and an open heart so that their courage and morale is maintained, because a step in the right direction has been taken by them. His Excellency the President has stated in his address that religion and politics should not be mixed together, because mixing of religion with politics would prove to be fatal for this country. I would like to say alongwith this that certain forces are working in India which are getting support and encouragement from abroad. At the instance of a handful of persons, these incidents are taking place in Punjab. I don't take all the Sikhs as terrorists. There are, certainly, some persons among them, who are taking undue advantage of the situation. Today a small spark has posed a challenge before us. If you allow to spread it, it will weaken the country. It gives me pleasure that the people of this country, particularly the sikh brethren living in Punjab, have understood this thing. I don't want to repeat this thing, but everybody is aware of it. It is a fact that—may it be the struggle for the country's independence or the post independence struggle—all the people had got united and achieved the freedom for the country. On this occasion words of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad come to my mind. He had said—even if a call is made from heaven to accept independence but with the condition that hatred between

Hindus-Muslims and other communities would increase, I would not accept such an independence. Before freedom struggle and even after that, a large number of people had struggled hard and they had a picture of a united India, in their mind. When we compelled the Britishers to leave this country, we did not have huge financial resources or weapons or ammunition with us. The powerful weapon we had was patriotism and unity and integrity of our country which forced the Britishers to leave this country; otherwise they would have never left this country. The Britishers were not sure whether the black Indians whom they were ruling, would be able to run the country. But the policies and principles intended to boost and encourage the development of our country were adopted by our leaders and took this country forward. I have no hesitation in saying that today India is one of the few countries of the world, whose voice is heard and given due importance. This country was led by leaders with foresight. In 1947 India became independent but unfortunately the country was divided. At that time a resolution was adopted by the framers of the Constitution against the rising trend of mutual hatred and communalism about which a reference has been made in the President's address. This evil of communalism has been chasing us since independence. Some forces which wanted to disintegrate this country by external attacks, have now realised that it is not possible to break it by external aggression, because our country fights back external aggression unitedly and becomes even more stronger. Therefore, if it can be weakened and disunited, it is only possible through internal dissension. They have understood that it is only in the name of religious fanaticism or in the name of regionalism or language that the country can be disintegrated. These forces are creating challenges for us. If we have to preserve the unity and integrity of our country and take it towards the path of progress, we have to understand these tactics. It is only the internal dissensions which have impeded our progress and development. The hon. Members of other side have been saying only one thing since yesterday that we have made no progress and they are even talking about the destruction and disintegration of the country. I would like to submit to

[Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai]

you with folded hands and I do not claim that our Prime Minister or our party has done whatever it had proposed to do, but now it has started its work. The works of progress and development have now been initiated. If you go on painting such picture of the country before the people that no progress has been made, country is sliding back, the poor are becoming poorer, the rich are becoming richer and the gap between the rich and the poor can never be bridged, I would like to ask you whom are you benefiting by saying so. You are creating an atmosphere of disappointment and frustration among the people that our country is not progressing; rather it is going backward. Today, we are self-reliant in the field of foodgrains production which is a sign of progress. Our country has achieved self-reliance in the sphere of industries, cloth and education which is a sign of progress. About 50 years back we used to go abroad for learning, we used to beg for foodgrains and clothes from other countries, but now it is a matter of pride for us that a large number of students from several countries come here for higher studies. They come here to learn from us, they demand something from us and learn something from us. Is it not a matter of pride? Is the progress and development our country has made, in the field of science and technology not a matter of pride for us? At the time of independence, our population was between 30 to 40 crores. At that time we had no enough food to eat. We used to import foodgrains from other countries to meet our requirement and we could hardly arrange a square meal for our people. The starvation forced the parents to sell their own children. Today our population is about 70 crores which is about double the population at the time of independence, but now the farmer is meeting the requirements of 70 crores of people with his hard work. Is it an ordinary achievement.... (Interruptions) You are correct when you say that a large number of people are also living below the poverty line. But you just imagine that during the Bengal famine, when our population was merely 36 crores, lakhs of people had died of hunger and mothers had sold their own children. I do not claim that today all the people are getting two square meals

a day, but I can definitely claim that God forbid, famine like Bengal famine will never occur in our country. People of our country are getting their meals due to the hardwork of our farmers.

I am sorry to state—if I say any thing wrong, I may be corrected—that when family planning programme was being carried out at full swing in 1977, our colleagues of the other side used it as a political weapon and took full political advantage and pushed back the country at least 15 years back. Therefore, what I want to say is that on such issues we should sit together and rise above party interests to think over them and should not try to take political advantage to them. I would say that whatever is happening in Punjab, is all for deriving political advantage and similarly the recent call given for the boycott of the Republic Day celebrations on 26th January was also for the sake of safeguarding their own leadership. It will not be good if we mix politics with religion. Religion is a personal affair and it is our own faith. If I believe in Islam, that is my own faith and nobody can deprive me of it. If some Members sitting in front of me believe in sikh panth, nobody can deprive them of their faith, but the question is that if we mix up politics with religion, that will be harmful to the nation and to our own community for which we stand. I do not say that problems are not there. Minorities have their own problems and the majority has its own. Everyone has his own problems. Just now, Shri Ram Dhan was talking about the Harijans and the Scheduled Castes. Our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and even all our earlier Prime Ministers, Shri Nehru, Shastri, Mrs. Indira Gandhi had every clear views, because we belong to that political party which has certain policies and principles. Today we are standing by those policies and principles and are facing so many challenges.

If one has to assess any political party, he should go through its policies and principles, intention of the party and its leader. All these things are there in the Congress party. We have clearcut policies and intention and our leader is Shri Rajiv Gandhi who is our young Prime Minister.

He wishes to serve this country and wants to take her ahead on the path of progress.

But today the question is being raised by our colleagues of that side that it appears that Government have no policy or Shri Rajiv Gandhi is deviating from his policies. If you present such distorted facts to the people, that will cause much harm to the country. Today, I can definitely say that all these forces are trying to weaken the Congress party at any cost. Today, some misguided persons think that they can divide the country by using religious fanaticism. But I would like to tell them that now the people of India will never tolerate the division of this country.

Besides, I was talking about the question raised by Shri Ram Dhan. I would like to tell him that we have provided reservation for the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes. We have made efforts to uplift them. Suppose a mother has four children and one child is weak, extra arrangement is made for his good diet so that he may become equal to other children...*(Interruptions)*.. This is what is happening.

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA (Tonk) : There is no complaint against the mother. But the question is of those three brothers who raise objection to providing milk to their weaker brother.

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : I would like to tell you that the policies of Congress party have always been very clear. Our policies regarding the problems of scheduled castes and minorities have always been very clear and today also they are very clear. But from where this D.S. 4 has come up. The organisers of D.S. 4 are misguiding the youths for their own political ends and asking them to rise against the Government because no benefits have accrued to them.

I would like to submit that today we have to fight at two fronts. One is the social front. We have to compel the society to accept the fact that we are all one. The main problem with us is that we still have the people of that generation

which had practised and encouraged untouchability and had oppressed these people. But the Congress Party had passed a resolution in 1932 for abolition of untouchability. This resolution was passed by Pt. Govind Vallabh Pant who himself belonged to an orthodox family. But the Congress Party had its own basic policies and that is why, this resolution was passed. We still have to fight against such mentality. Our battle is still continuing against those people who are creating hurdles in these things. We are still fighting against the people of such mentality. Our effort is to solve the problems that may relate to temples, mosques or gurdwaras. We want an amicable solution to the problems which may not affect any religion. We should all unitedly find some solutions to such problems. Why should any third person interfere in our own affairs to solve our problems? Are we not able to solve our Problems? We should create such an atmosphere in our country as may facilitate us to find solutions to these problems.

Some issues could not be solved till now, because of some political interests behind them. We can find solutions to our problems if we rise above political interests. Mahatma Gandhi had given a slogan of love and peace to our country. Even today maximum number of people believe that we cannot go ahead without maintaining peace. Our country has not only raised its voice against injustice and oppression in our own country; but it has also raised its voice against injustice and oppression being perpetrated in other countries of the world.

I think that we all should help in promoting this atmosphere which has been built up now. The Budget which has been presented by our Hon. Prime Minister, who is also the Finance Minister, reflects the entire President's Address. It is a fact, as Shri Ramoowalia had said, that there is unemployment in Punjab as well as in every State. You should remember that only with a view to removing this unemployment.....

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : I had said that in Punjab the

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

agriculture has reached a saturation point and there was no scope for further expansion. Therefore, unemployment is increasing.

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Punjab has been sanctioned such a big coach factory at Kapurthala only to remove unemployment there.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-  
WALIA : We need more such projects...  
(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : The Government also wants that some more assistance should be provided to remove unemployment and the burden on land should also be reduced by setting up small and big industries (Interruptions)...

Coming to the Budget, unless direct taxes are levied or there is some sort of increase or decrease in taxes, or the prices people do not appreciate the Budget. But if we go through the Budget presented by the Hon. Prime Minister, we shall find that greatest emphasis has been laid on it for the removal of poverty. The Budget aims at formulation of programmes to remove poverty on the one hand and promotion of education on the other hand. It seeks to produce men of calibre through imparting good education, which would be helpful in taking the country forward. Under the education policy, more attention should be paid towards the basic education. At present, we are facing the menace of communalism, disparity, casteism, untouchability etc. We should incorporate those things in the Basic Education Policy which may be helpful in removing all the evils, because the mind of children is just like clay and it should be moulded in the right direction. An hon. Member, probably Shri Gill Saheb has said that the old education policy is being given a new name. If the programmes of the Government are discouraged from the very beginning in this manner, how can things be changed? You do point out deficiencies in it, which we shall try to remove. But you should not present the case in a way as if nothing has happened in the country.

I would also like to say a few things about the housing policy. For the first time, more provision has been made for housing in the Budget. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are three basic needs of a man—food, clothes and then a house. The Budget lays greater emphasis on meeting this primary need. Efforts have been made in it to contain inflation. The interests of the farmers have been taken care of. Schemes have been introduced for the removal of unemployment. Anti-poverty schemes have also been included. You have rung the bell. So while concluding my speech I convey my gratitude to you and support this motion.

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY (Ballia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the President's Address. I respect and support the sentiments of His Excellency, the President expressed in the Address. The President has laid greater stress on the unity and integrity of the country. It is our moral duty to work for it. It is a fact that people of every religion and every section of the society have made their contribution to the struggle for the independence of the country and the country has gained independence due to their cooperation. Under such circumstances it becomes the moral duty of the people of every religion and section of the society to work for the unity and integrity of the country in the same zeal with which they worked during the struggle for the independence of the country. As pointed out by the President there is no doubt that so far as the development and defence of the country is concerned, the country has made much progress during the last 40 years. As was pointed out by Shrimati Mohsina, the opposition parties say that the country has not moved forward even an inch. But I think that if one honestly judges, he will find that the country has made much progress during the last forty years. As Shrimati Mohsina has said forty years ago we were lagging far behind in the production of foodgrains and cloth and we used to depend on foreign countries to meet our requirement of these things. But due to the efforts of the Congress Party and the Government we have become self-sufficient in these forty years. We do not import cloth from other countries. We



are producing all those things in our country itself which we require in our day to day life. We have set up factories for this purpose in our country. There are engineers in the country who are meeting the requirements of the country. The need of the hour is that we should remain vigilant so far as the progress and defence of the country is concerned. During the days of struggle for freedom we compelled the Britishers to leave the country on the strength of our unity and the slogan, 'Inqilab Zindabad. The engineers of our country are producing superior fighter planes and weapons and today we are ready to face any big country. It is apparent that we have taken our country much forward in the last forty years and we are alive to the security of the country.

I represent Ballia district in the eastern region of Uttar Pradesh. I would like to express my views on the backwardness of that area. I hope that the Government will give serious attention to my suggestions and implement them. Uttar Pradesh is a very big state and is not lagging behind in comparison to other states in the country. The eastern region of the state is much prosperous. But, unfortunately, districts like Ballia, Ghazipur and Azamgarh in the eastern region of Uttar Pradesh are very backward. The main reason of this backwardness is that there are no broad gauge lines in these districts. In the absence of broad gauge lines, no industrialist is inclined to set up industry there. We have represented to the Prime Minister several times that if we want to work for the betterment of the people and particularly those of the Ballia district, the narrow gauge lines should be converted into broad gauge lines in the Ballia district so that leading industrialists may set up industry there and the educated youths may also get some employment. The labourers of that region will also get jobs. When hon. Mohsina was the Railway Minister, I raised the matter with her that narrow gauge line, particularly of Ballia district in eastern Uttar Pradesh should be converted into broad gauge line. She gave an assurance that efforts would be made for the development of the eastern region. But, unfortunately, nothing has been done and the narrow gauge line in Ballia district has not been converted into broad gauge line.

I would like that the Government should consider the matter seriously. My another suggestion is that until the narrow gauge line in Ballia district is converted into Broad gauge line, the State Government and the Central Government should at least set up two factories there so that the unemployed educated youth as well as the labourers could get jobs there. I do hope that the Government will think over it seriously. I would also like to give suggestions with regard to the agriculture there. There is lack of irrigation facility in Ballia district. 10 to 11 years back work on the construction of a canal was started in Ballia so that the water of Sharda canal could be brought there, but, unfortunately, the water of the Sharda canal has not reached there to date. I would ask the Central Government to put pressure on the State Government to complete the work on the construction of the canal early so that the land in Ballia may get water for irrigation and the farmers may also be able to increase the agricultural production. Majority of the people in Ballia are farmers. We had represented to the hon. Agriculture Minister that if they want to work for the development and prosperity of the farmers, they should set up an Agricultural Science Centre there so that the boys of the farmers of Ballia may learn new techniques about agriculture from there and contribute in the development of Ballia. In this connection I have met the hon. Minister for Agriculture and he has assured me that very soon something will be done development of Ballia. I am sure the hon. Minister will accord his approval for the setting up of an Agricultural Science Centre. Ballia is a district which is hit by the floods of the Ganga and Ghagra rivers every year. Every year floods cause havoc there. The area has not been protected so far from the floods of Ganga and Ghagra rivers. That is why there is acute poverty in that area. We have to request the Centre for relief. The centre also gives some relief in the shape of foodgrains just to console the poor there. But the Government should take some concrete steps there. Several villages of the Ballia district have been washed away due to erosion caused by the Ganga river. The Government spends every year crores of rupees there, but it has not taken any

[Shri Jagannath Choudhary]

concrete steps to protect Ballia from the floods permanently. I would like that the Government should think seriously over it and some permanent work should be got done so as to save Ballia from the erosion and the floods. We have represented to the Prime Minister and the Railway Minister that the narrow gauge line from Indara to Ballia which is there in between Varanasi and Bhatni, should be converted into broad gauge line. I would request that the Government should think over it seriously. The distance between Indara and Ballia is just 62 kms which is not a long distance. If this scheme is cleared, the eastern region will undoubtedly develop. The people will also be able to travel on Ballia-Azamgarh-Ghazipur broad gauge line. It will benefit the workers as well as educated youths there. With these words, I welcome the President's Address and I support it.

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : Sir, welcoming the Motion of thanks to the President's Address, I wish to mention these points. It is a well-balanced address. It gives a full and detailed picture of the achievements of the previous year and programmes and policies for the future.

In the previous year, we were faced with problems arising out of religious, casteist and communal conflicts, problems due to fundamentalism and problems of language and region. Apart from these there are the chronic economic problems. Also, there was the problem faced by external threat. There was a turmoil due to anti-national and anti-social activities.

These challenges have been met with courage and determination and this Government has done the best and biggest job by preserving the basic principles of democracy, secularism and socialism and safeguarding the unity and integrity of the nation within a given time under difficult circumstances.

Let us hope and trust that the coming year would be a year of peace and

harmony. It would be a year of peaceful and speedy implementation of the developmental programmes. The anti-social and anti-national activities would greatly hamper the development of the activities of the nation, unless and until, there is peace. There would not be any developmental activity, if there is no peace. It cannot be carried out effectively. If the developmental activity is not carried out effectively, that would affect the poor people greatly. So, what is necessary is the united stand and we have to meet the challenge together, irrespective of religion, caste, community. We have to take the problems as national problems or national challenges. Unfortunately, fissiparous and parochial feelings are dominating and we are thinking in terms of race, religion, caste and community, but we have to think in terms of national identity and not in terms of Tamilians or Punjabis or Bengalis. We should think in terms of Indians. The danger to our country is not from outside from Pakistan or from China but, it is within ourselves. It is inculcating a feeling of national identity alone, which would take us to the desired destination and goal. In continuation of Punjab and Assam Accords, our Prime Minister has managed to carry out the Mizoram Accord also and election was conducted and the Congress (I) lost the elections. So, it was the verdict of the people and it has been taken with honour and goodwill. Though the Congress (I) lost the elections, but the principles and policies of the Government won. These Accords are carried out with the national interest and not with the party or personal interest. So, the conciliation prestige of the Government is upheld. There are difficulties in the implementation of the Punjab Accord, within the targetted time or date. There are problems and sub-problems. Time would come, when it will find its own solutions. The high expectations and hope generated for carrying out these Accords would find way for implementation. Chaotic conditions prevailed in Punjab and the Election was conducted and Mr. Barnala formed the Government and now he emerged as a champion of secularism and democracy. In this regard, he made a very good contribution to the nation and he deserves to be appreciated. He faced a very hard

challenge and today he is gaining support from the nation, from Punjab and the peace-loving people of this country. So, all political parties should unite together for the solution of this problem of this sensitive border State by treating it as a common national problem. Let us hope and trust that the struggle or fight against the practice of mixing religion with politics for political gains or the interference of the religious leaders in political affairs in the administration would not win and the Punjabis would continue to exhibit their goodwill and valour and also patriotism and unity, as they have exhibited in times of war, national struggle and also national necessities.

Kashmir is another sensitive border State, and our Prime Minister has established a smooth atmosphere there also, by his foresight.

Regarding foreign policy, our Prime Minister has established contacts with foreign countries by exchanging visits and by hosting the Heads of Government of foreign countries in our country and strengthening the relations with them. This has given us opportunities to discuss and find solutions for the problems faced by us and by other countries also.

With Pakistan we have held discussions on many occasions for the establishment of peace and normalcy and for de-escalation of tension in the sub-continent. To a certain extent, there is peace in the sub-continent. A atmosphere of friendship prevails in the entire sub-continent. But until our problems with Pakistan are settled, there cannot be complete peace and harmony in the sub-continent. India cannot be complacent as long as Pakistan is receiving sophisticated weapons from USA.

Regarding Sri Lanka, it is a delicate and sensitive problem that confronts us. There is at present an extraordinary tension uncertainty and danger in the Tamil areas, due to the military operations, military atrocities and economic blockade there. Admittedly, there are human rights violations in Sri Lanka, and they have to be stopped at the earliest. India has been

consistently vigilant in taking continuous steps to solve the ethnic problem, ever since the riots there in 1983. The present stalemate has to be broken, and resumption of negotiations has to be there, for a political settlement in Sri Lanka. Our country should not stop negotiations till an amicable settlement is arrived at.

Drought conditions prevail in some parts of our country. Tamil Nadu is faced with an unprecedented drought condition, and consequently there is scarcity of water both for agriculture and drinking purposes. The forecast is that in the coming days, the difficulties will be very severe. Timely, appropriate and suitable remedial measures have to be taken at the earliest. Only then will the State be able to get over the situation. The Centre should allot an adequate amount to Tamil Nadu, and also send a team there to assess the intensity of the drought conditions that prevail there.

Regarding anti-poverty measures, I may point out that a speedy implementation of such measures is taking place. When Congress (I) was voted out of power in 1977, the percentage of persons living below the poverty line was 48%. In 1980 it was 52%. In 1984-85 the figure was 36.9%. The target for 1989-90 is 25.8%.

It is through the anti poverty measures like I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P., R.L.E.G.P., also 20-point programme of the hon. Prime Minister that upliftment of the poor people and the backward people can be done; and also due to enhanced allotment of fund, as is mentioned in paras 32-33 of the President's Address that implementation of the various schemes can be completed. As a result of speedy and effective implementation of these programmes, the percentage of poverty line has been brought down.

SHRI D.B. PATIL (Kolaba) : The President's Address is supposed to be a very important document; and in that document it is expected that true situations should be reflected. But I am very sorry to say that the true situation in the country about unemployment, about poverty, about discrimination between agriculture and

[Shri D. B. Patil]

industry is not reflected. If time permits, I will discuss about it in detail later on.

So far as the communal situation in the country is concerned, it has been discussed at large and a satisfaction has been expressed in the President's Address about the turn that it has taken in Punjab. It has been appreciated by the government, by the nation and by all the political parties the stand taken by Barnala Government and the Akali Dal. Very recently, they have declared politics and religion should not be mixed. Now, the Akali Dal itself, with this experience, actually, they are doing that; they were relying on religion and practising religion and politics together. But, now, they have taken a different stand and it is a very welcome stand. But, still, we have to see, to what extent Mr. Barnala and the Akali Dal withstand the pressure which is being developed in Punjab. Let us hope that they will withstand that pressure and act as they have declared that politics and religion should be separated.

About other communal factors between Sikhs and Hindus, between Muslims and Hindus, this has taken a very serious turn in our country. What is happening in Ahmedabad? For petty reasons, this communal riot has taken place and hundreds of innocent lives of Muslims and of Hindus have been lost. Very recently, this communal riot took place only because a particular person was arrested. That particular person was said to be anti-social and he had been detained under the provisions of law. But that of law has been elected in the Ahmedabad Corporation in five Municipal Constituencies. What will be the effect of this incident? The fact should be very well reflected where we are going towards. A person who is anti-social, anti-national, a person who had been detained in the jail because of anti-social activities is being elected by the people of this country in five constituencies. Will this not have any bad effect on the people of this country? So, the government has to stop all these things. But, according to me, nothing is being done by the government to stop this trend, because this trend is very dangerous. It is very easy to advise Mr.

Barnala and the Akali Dal that they should separate religion and politics. But what about the other political parties which are supposed to be secular and saying that they are secular parties, allowing everybody to be a member of their own parties; membership is not restricted to a particular religion. But coming to relying on religious and communal sentiments, some papers are not only relying on religious and communal sentiments, but also nursing religious and communal sentiments, including the ruling party.

What has happened to the Muslim Women's Divorce Bill? It was simply a fact that for nursing communal tendencies with a communal approach that Bill was passed. It was very clear to everybody in this House. If that is going to be the case, it will encourage communal feelings, this why or that way, and it is going to destroy the whole nation, and I feel that all the political parties should understand this. They say that Mr. Barnala has taken a good stand, that he has done a good thing. But are we not to be blamed? We are not blamed here, because Mr. Barnala is in the dock. We have put him in the dock, we are also in the dock and we should be treated as persons responsible for this factor. Because the time at my disposal is not much I will not deal with this matter in detail.

Then I want to mention one or two other factors. The common man is concerned about the price increase. It is said in the address that there is a widening gap between the wholesale price index and the consumer price index. Simply saying that there is a gap between the whole-sale price index and the consumer price index does not suffice. What are the attempts made by the Government to eliminate this gap? There are no attempts to eliminate this gap. Because there is no attempt on the part of the Government, the middle-man is looting the consumer, he is looting the producer with the conscious connivance of the Government. "With the conscious connivance of the Government" I have said because it is the duty of the Government to see that the consumer is not being looted. It is the duty of the Government to see that the producer is not being looted. What has happened to the case of selling

of garlic? The producer might have sold his goods at the rate of hardly Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 per kg; but in the market for some time, for some months, it was being sold by the traders at the rate of Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 per kg. What is the Government doing in this matter? The Government was a very silent spectator to this; It means that the Government does tolerate the middleman who loots the consumer, who loots the producer, and I would urge upon the Government that this attitude will not help the agriculturist and the poor. Simply saying that there is a gap between the consumer price and the wholesale price and lamenting for it will not do. It is the duty of the Government to close the gap and to reduce the gap further. Instead of that, nothing is being done.

Then about agriculture. Agriculture is neglected as against the industrial sector. If we say, about investment, about encouragement given to the industry and the agriculture and a comparison between them will show that agriculture—we will certainly see it—that is being discriminated as against industry. Amongst agriculture itself, in the irrigated area and non-irrigated area, there is a vast difference. All benefits like fertilizers, subsidy and cooperative credit all these benefits which are supposed to be given to the agriculturists are supplied to the irrigated sector and the agriculturists there alone get those benefits. In non-irrigated area where the agriculture is rain-fed, or where it is all dry land farming they are not properly treated. They are not being properly looked after. The Government is totally negligent so far as that sector is concerned.

So far as the drought prone areas are concerned, in our country there are areas where there is drought repeatedly. In some States they had drought once, twice or even continuously for some years and now in Maharashtra, Karnataka and in some other parts of the country there has been drought repeatedly, no once or twice but continuously every year. But the Government has not done anything, what it should have done there. The Government of Maharashtra has asked for Rs. 150 crores. So far as the drinking water is concerned, assistance to the agriculturists is very

meagre and they are suffering because their crops have been lost. And the Government has hardly given Rs. 25 crores or Rs. 30 crores and because of this insufficient assistance the work which has to be done to meet the scarcity condition in Maharashtra is not being done properly. I would urge upon the Government that this should be looked into and permanent measures to remove these conditions in those drought prone areas should be taken. How those problems can be solved, how a particular investment has to be made, all these have to be looked into. Certain allocation has to be made, because in those drought prone areas the allocations are very very scarce. This is not fair.

17.00 hrs.

Unemployment problem has been discussed at length here. So I will not say much about it. But the hon. Prime Minister has said in his Budget speech that computerisation is going to help reduce unemployment. I myself do not understand this argument. I have discussed this matter with many of our friends and common people too and nobody has understood this argument. I urge upon the Members of the ruling party and the Government to explain this factor as to how it is that computerisation is going to help reduce unemployment. It can be argued that we will produce more and so more people will be employed. Then there will be more production and jobs. Here I would like to point out that so far as production is concerned, the production is already in plenty. It is very good to give a clarion call to produce more. The hon. Prime Minister is very much interested in more production. We are fighting for more production. But if there is no purchasing power with the common people, then what is the use of having production only? Now cloth is available in the market in plenty; grains are available in plenty, but the common people do not have the purchasing capacity to purchase cloth and grains. They cannot have two square meals a day. They cannot have sufficient clothing for themselves. This factor should be taken into account while saying so. The purchasing capacity of the common people should be increased.

[Shri D. B. Patil]

I would like to draw the attention of the Government to an important issue which has been pending since 1956. There is a border dispute between the Government of Maharashtra and the Government of Karnatak. Certain people in boundary areas want to join Maharashtra. When the linguistic State were formed in 1956 at the time of reorganisation of States it was expected that certain parts in between the boundary would be given to Maharashtra. Since then these people are expressing their desire that they should be allowed to join Maharashtra. So far as democracy is concerned, in democracy the will of the people is more important. Since 1956 in all elections—Lok Sabha, Assembly, Zila Parishad, panchayat—they have expressed their desire by winning the elections to join Maharashtra. But till now justice is being denied to them.

About drinking water, Government has again said that there is not sufficient drinking water so far as thousands of villages are concerned. It is very very disappointing that even after 40 years of independence we are still not able to provide sufficient potable water to the villages. For bigger cities like Bombay drinking water is being brought from hundreds of miles by laying big pipes. But so far as villages are concerned, they are being neglected. In Maharashtra, more than 25000 villages are suffering from want of potable water. Even in rainy season there are hundreds of villages where water has to be supplied through tankers. I would urge upon the Government to look into this and take immediate steps in this direction.

So far as President's Address is concerned, it is expected that true situation should be reflected in the Address. I do not expect that the Government will accept and should accept all the failures. But the Government should take cognisance of the true situation in the country. Even though Government is not prepared to accept all the failures, it is duty bound to assess the situation in the country and act upon it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) :  
Mr. Chairman, Sir I am grateful to you

for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address and it is my pleasure to express my views on this occasion.

The President in his Address has reviewed the achievements of the Government for the last one year and has expressed his views about Government policies to be adopted during the year 1987-88. Some Members have said that our country has made no progress, but I would like to say that if you compare present India with India in 1947, you will find that there has been a great change. The President in his address has laid special stress on strengthening our democracy, secularism and socialism. Certain internal and external forces are posing threat to the unity and integrity our country, but it is the farsightedness of our Hon. Prime Minister that he made serious efforts to solve all the problems and he has succeeded in it to a great extent. Recently we witnessed intensive deployment of armed forces along Indo-Pak borders ; but due to the farsightedness of our Hon. Prime Minister, the problem was solved through mutual talks and it was thought that war was not a right thing. The Government is committed to strengthen the country and eradicate poverty. Therefore, it becomes our duty to pay special attention towards the progress of our agricultural sector and Industrial sector. In this regard I would like to suggest one or two points. Special attention should be paid towards all industries which are run by the private and public sectors, so that units under them may not close down. If we encourage private sector, I think, the capital will concentrate in a few hands only and that will weaken the country. Therefore, Public sector should be encouraged and in addition to it, strikes should be banned, so that production may increase and country may become strong. So many factories are run by the private sector, but it has been observed that during the last year, many of the cotton mills have been closed. The closures are resorted to by the Mill owners in orders to sell the land of their Mills. Therefore, the sale of such lands should be banned. I would also like to suggest that I.A.S. officers should not be appointed in Public Sector organisations and some other officers should be appointed

there, so that they can be made accountable if the organisation runs at a loss.

Our economic progress has been appreciated even by the western countries and the main reason of it is that our farmers and agroscientists have worked very hard to achieve it. Today India has become very strong from economic point of view and we have enough buffer stock of foodgrains from which we can feed our poor people for quite a long time. Besides, the main sign of our progress is that our import has considerably decreased as has been referred to in the President's Address also and our export has increased considerably. It will make our country stronger. In addition to it, so many programmes have been initiated for the rural development under the Twenty Points Programme. Various schemes have been initiated under I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P., but I would definitely say that every year Government increases the allocation for poverty alleviation programmes and we receive statistics that so many people have been brought above the poverty line, but in rural areas, poor people are not getting proper benefits out of these programmes. It should be properly monitored, otherwise we shall continue to get false figures showing that so many people have been brought above poverty line, but the actual position will be something else. Therefore, I would request you that it has created much discontent among the people of the weaker section and now they have started saying that it will be better, if Government money is not given to them. Therefore, I would request that the money given to the poor under IRDP should be given directly and the strength of officers and middlemen should be reduced. It would be more beneficial to the poor, because half of the allocation is misappropriated by the officials and the middlemen. It is a hard fact.

Sir, the New Education Policy is being implemented. Our Government is trying to remove disparity in the country by this education policy, because under this policy, the people belonging to the poorer section of the society will get good education. But so long as we do not pay attention towards our basic education, the disparity cannot be removed. The gap between the rich and

the poor or the high and the low can only be removed if we adopt a uniform system of education throughout the country. If uniform system of education is not adopted, I think, disparity will exist for quite a long time and conflicts within the society will continue.

17.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Capitalism creates hurdles in the way of socialism and as such we should were capitalism. Like land ceiling, we have to put a ceiling on wealth also, because our wealth is accumulating in the hands of a few persons.

Even today we are following the legacy left behind by the British. We should think over it that we are Indians, we have our own civilization, culture and traditions and we should follow them.

Sir, many things have been said about the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes. First of all, I would say that full reservation should be provided to them as provided in our Constitution. Vacancies reserved for them are not completely filled and as a result, there is great resentment among them. The rights given to them under our Constitution should be implemented properly and reserved posts in services should be filled. I find that the people of weaker section, harijans, farmers and workers are not getting proper assistance.

Sir, so many Members have said about delinking of religion from politics. It is a good thing, but it is a debatable topic. Religion and politics should be analysed and defined. The religion is meant to show a person the right path. If the people follow the right path, the body politic will also remain clean. But if religion is mixed with politics, religion will be in danger. Today if religion is distorted, it is bound to have its impact on politics. If good people are there in the society, they will join politics and strengthen our country and society. Therefore, religion has a salutary effect on politics and if we remove it, there

[Shri Ram Pujan Patel]

shall be no check on us and may go wayward. Therefore, the need of the hour is that we should not misuse religion and disist from superstitions. Therefore, the politicians should think over it, because if we do not do some good work in our society and do not follow the religion, we shall continue to quarrel among ourselves. I think that the battle which is being fought today is not a battle of religion, but a battle of self-interest.

Sir, repeatedly it is said that ours is an agricultural country and we can take it on the path of progress if we pay more attention on agricultural development. I would like to remind the hon. Minister of Agriculture that in a public meeting of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, held in my constituency in November, 1981, it was announced by our Agriculture Minister that a Soda Ash factory would be set up at Phulpur. But it is a matter of regret that the said factory has not yet been set up there. Our former Minister of Agriculture had said that in place of Soda Ash factory, the Government would set up another Ammonia Plant there. I hope the Government will think over this matter.

In the end, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's address moved by Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal and hope that we all shall make continuous efforts to take this country ahead.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : The religion is a good thing, but in Punjab all conflicts are taking place due to religion.

[English]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON (Arunachal West) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Jagannath Kaushal. While supporting the Motion, I would like to, at the outset, thank the Government and the hon. Prime Minister for conferring statehood To Arunachal Pradesh. Sir, in the President's Address, it has been mentioned at paragraph 8 and it has been very rightly said :

8. The aspirations of the people of Arunachal Pradesh for a full-fledged State have been fulfilled by the enactment of Parliamentary legislation to confer the Statehood on Arunachal Pradesh. The new State came into existence on February 20, 1987. A new chapter in the history of the people of Arunachal Pradesh has begun."

The people of Arunachal Pradesh are very happy and on this occasion, as I said, I would like to thank him and the Government of India. Sir, while mentioning about the attainment of Statehood to Arunachal Pradesh, Sir, you would remember that when we had a discussion on the Bill to this effect in this House, I had moved an amendment to the Constitution Amendment Bill, that is, the Fifty-fifth Constitution Amendment Bill. Now, the people of Arunachal Pradesh are happy. But at the same time they want that whatever protections have been given in the case of the people of Mizoram, the same should be given to the people of Arunachal Pradesh also. I would therefore urge upon the Government that before the end of the present Budget Session, that an appropriate amendment to the Fifty-fifth Amendment to the Constitution may be brought forward. That will go a long way in fully satisfying the aspirations of the people of Arunachal Pradesh.

Now, Sir, one of the resentments of the people of Arunachal Pradesh is that the number of seats in the Assembly has been fixed at 40— only one because of its topography and its geographical situation as also its vastness in area, various tribes living in various parts of Arunachal, Pradesh, the number of 40 seats for the Assembly is not sufficient and instead of this number if it is increased to 60, the people of Arunachal Pradesh will feel happy and that they will not have any grouse at all.

Sir, at the time of inauguration of Arunachal Pradesh, the Chief Minister also submitted a Memorandum and also spoke to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard. While speaking about Arunachal Pradesh, everyone is aware what is happening within



the Territory of that State today, particularly in relation to our border problem. Sir, the people who are particularly in the border areas, are a little bit confused and are in a state of uncertainty because of the Chinese incursions. It is quite encouraging when we go through the paragraph No. 47 of the President's Address which is as follows :

47. My Government continues to strive for a just and peaceful settlement of the border question with China. The question remains crucial to full normalisation of our relations. The unfortunate development on the border continues to cause concern. Our position on the border question is well known. We are in discussion with China on the issue."

In this regard this is the genuine feeling of the people of Arunachal Pradesh that we should adopt a stronger kind of policy in respect of our border problem because a part of our territory had been forcibly occupied by them and it is well-known that in 1962 during the aggression also they had forcibly occupied a large number of our areas. That is why the people of Arunachal Pradesh are not very confident as to whether we will get back the land which has been occupied by them so far illegally. In this regard I would like to say on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh that our Government may adopt a little bit sterner policy so that the morale of the people is kept high and adopt a certain attitude, or some kind of encouragement has to be given so that the people do not lose their confidence. In this regard, agreeing to the Amendment, which I have stated, to the Constitution, i.e., the Constitution Fifty-Fifth Amendment and to the State of Arunachal Pradesh Act will go a long way in further encouraging the people of Arunachal Pradesh.

Sir, I would like to say a few words in regard to paragraph 19 of the President's Address. Paragraph 19 says :

"The progress of reform in our administrative system has gathered momentum.

There has been a positive response of the civil servants to the new imperatives of accountability, social responsibility and a new work ethic. Government are determined to carry forward the task of bringing about qualitative improvements in Government management with the cooperation of all sections of the work force."

This is in keeping with the promise and attention of our Prime Minister who wants that India should enter into the 21st century with complete modernisation.

Sir, through the policy is there, yet in practice we are going very slow. This is why I would like to suggest one thing. First, I would like to cite a few examples. Unless we streamline our Administration and unless we reorient our Administration to some extent, the same old system which was obtained from the colonial system is not going to solve our problem. (*Interruptions*). By streamlining and by reforming the Administration, we will be able to achieve quite a lot.

I was just hearing Mr. Patil, who spoke a few minutes before, about the criticism of computerization. I would like to say a few words in this regard also. I would like to cite one example for his information. The cost of paper in India during the last 10 years has gone up four times and only in Banking alone the printing cost has gone up from Rs. 17 crores to Rs. 50 crores during the last ten years. Now, if we can reform our administration, if we can put new things in the administration, it can be made efficient and the expenditure can be brought down. There are 700 to 3000 various forms only in banking. If computerisation takes place, we can cut down the use of papers and the number of forms and thereby much more mandays can be saved and those mandays which are saved can be utilised for other useful purposes. Increase of paper work in the administration means increase in the number of officers and staff and *vice versa*. Therefore, the actual result for the benefit of the people is nothing but more delay, in the present set up. That is why, computerisation is a must and what our Prime Minister is doing at this moment, is very right.

[Shri P. K. Thungon

I was hearing the speech of Mr. Amal Datta. He said, that the Secretary was transferred by the Prime Minister. What is wrong in that? I would like to say that if we do not control the bureaucracy, if we do not streamline our bureaucracy, if we do not reform the bureaucracy, the bureaucracy is going to engulf even the democracy. Sir, what is wrong if the Prime Minister transferred the Secretary? Is the Prime Minister or any other Minister not a representative of the people in this country? Is he not the head of the democratic government? Is he not the head of the Government? I would like to remind my dear friends on the other side that if they take a political advantage out of such cases and if they try to make them as a political weapon, it is going to harm them also. Today we are in power. Tomorrow you may be in power and the same thing may happen. Therefore, I would like to remind our hon. Members again on the other side that it is detrimental to the very cause of democracy. Workers and others rung of employees.

But officers of certain grade do not have unions. Can you deny that even if there is no union for them, they do not have a hold on the government? Therefore, I would like to suggest that there should be some reform at the level top also. According to article 53 and article 154 of the Constitution, the Centre and the State respectively is entitled to appoint officers of various grades. The Government is entitled to appoint of officers. In that respect, if need be, we should not hesitate to make certain amendments also. I will just touch one more very important point, Sir, since there is no time I shall be very brief. Now I am just quoting the last portion of para 4 of the President's Address:

"The situation clearly calls for a reappraisal and Government propose a national dialogue for this purpose."

This is one of the most welcome steps and propositions of the Government. In this regard, I would like to stress that article 25 has got two Explanations. I suggest

that there should be more Explanations. In the name of secularism, if some nefarious activities are taking place, is it not worthwhile to amend or have more Explanations in this regard? The Gurudwara are not meant for keeping terrorists; churches are not meant for keeping black money; mandirs are not meant for keeping other kind of terrorists.

In conclusion, my suggestion is that this is a very good proposal of the Government. A few more explanations should be added to Article 25 of the Constitution. The two explanations in this Article which are already there are, Sikhs can carry Kirpan and the other explanation is that Hindu includes Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism. If need be, more explanations can be added as to what should be done and what should not be done in a Mandir or Gurudwara or Church or mosque.

Is that the spirit of secularism if a minor student is not granted admission in a school unless he converts himself to another religion? Is that the spirit of Article 25 of the Constitution if such situation are created for conversion? In fact such activities lead to so many other serial complications.

Therefore, I suggest that to overcome this confusion and communalism, we may have more explanations in Article 25 of the Constitution.

SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI  
(Sikkim): Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on President's Address.

I welcome the President's concern for national unity and integration. The President has rightly said that the people of Punjab and the Chief Minister Shri Barnala have shown exemplary courage in upholding the values of secular democracy. The need of the hour is that we all should rise above petty party considerations and extend our support to Shri Barnala. I extend my support to Shri Barnala and also to the Central Government for its clear policies and its stand for keeping religion separate from politics.

I also welcome the initiative taken by the Centre for having opened a dialogue with the GNLF. Peaceful approach to all such problems is very much needed. Violence, be it from the agitators or from the Government forces, must be eschewed.

People are very much peace-loving in Sikkim but we are suffering from long time when GNLF movement started because all of us are aware and Government is also aware that the single life-line that is 31A National Highway that joins Sikkim with the rest of the country runs through Darjeeling district and with frequent disruption of this communication, it has enhanced the price of each and every commodity in Sikkim and it even affects the developmental activities in our State. I hope Government will find out some peaceful solution to this problem in the near future.

President in his speech has said :

“Government are committed to safeguarding the rights and interests of minorities. The solemn assurances contained in our Constitution regarding religious, cultural and linguistic matters have been and are being implemented in letter and spirit.”

In this context, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to some of the basic issues that have a bearing on the social, economic and political life of the Sikkimese people. These are (i) seat reservation for the three ethnic groups that is, Bhutias, Lepchas and Nepalis in Sikkim Legislative Assembly ; (ii) grant of citizenship to the Stateless people of Sikkim and (iii) Recognition of Nepali language in the VIII Schedule of the Constitution.

The seat reservation for the three ethnic communities in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly is the most important issue that has been agitating the minds of the Sikkimese people ever since the *Tsong* seats in 1974 and the Nepalese seats in 1979 had been done away with. The issue of the seat reservation needs to be viewed not only in the context of educational, economic, social and political backwardness of these communities but also in the context

of historical, traditional and constitutional aspects. Prior to 1979, during the regime of Chogyal, all these communities have got seat reservations in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly on the basis of parity on the one hand *Bhutia*, *Lepcha* and on the other hand the Nepalese. The Chogyal had recognised the need to maintain the seat reservation for the sake of maintenance of peace and brotherhood amongst these people in Sikkim. This issue was a vital element in the historic agreement of May 8, 1973 that was reached between the Chogyal and the Government of India and the three major parties of Sikkim. The principle and practice of the reservation was reiterated in the Government of Sikkim Act in 1974. General election was held in April 1974 on this reservation basis only. Article 371 (f) of the Constitution recognised it as the State Assembly. Reservation of seats continued after Sikkim merged with the Indian Union even after 1975. But it was done away with by the Janata Government in 1979 in the most arbitrary manner without any justification and without any public opinion. It was Smt. Indira Gandhi who had continued the reservation of seats for the Nepalese even after merger. She had said that justice done to the people by the Janata Government would be undone by her Government. When she came back to power in 1980, we, the Sikkimese people, saw a glimmer of hope when the then Law Minister Shri Shiv Shanker said in Parliament during the Budget Session in 1980 as follow :

“If it is a case of revising reservation for the future, that is a matter which can be taken cognisance of. The hopes and aspiration of the people can also be considered and a new policy evolved.”

In reply to a written question, on the 14th December 1983, the then Minister of State for Home Affairs in the Home Ministry Shri N.R. Laskar said :

“There have been proposals for reservation of seats in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly for the Nepalese and *Tsong* communities of Sikkim origin. Resolution for reservation of seats for the communities of Sikkim origin including

[Shrimati D. K. Bhandari]

the Chung community in the Legislature has also been received in this regard."

Many Memoranda have also been submitted to the Central Government. Chief Minister of Sikkim Shri Nar Bahadur Bhandari submitted this memorandum again to the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi also. The fact is that Sikkim joined the Mainstream only in the year 1975. The State was being exposed to the democratic set up only for the past 10 years. It calls for special consideration of this demand of seat reservation.

The second thing is regarding grant of citizenship to the Stateless people of Sikkim. There is a wrong notion that these people have come from Nepal. Here, I would like to say that these people have not come from Nepal. They are the people of Sikkimese origin. Their names have not been registered in the Sikkim Subject Register because of some of the administrative lapses and the ignorance of the people. These are not people who migrated from Nepal. Recently a high level team was sent to Sikkim for studying the extent of this problem, and I am hopeful that a solution will come in the near future for this also.

Regarding inclusion of the Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, not only in the public forum but in Parliament also many a time it has been raised and the State Legislative Assemblies of Sikkim, West Bengal and Tripura have already recommended the case that the Nepali language should be recognised as one of the languages in the Eighth Schedule. I hope Government will consider this demand sympathetically.

Regarding the new Education Policy, much has been said. It is high time that we started doing something in this direction.

I am sorry to say that nothing has been mentioned in the President's Address

regarding development of industrially backward hilly areas. If we do not think and plan for the development of such backward areas, how can we expect our country to grow equally with reduction of income inequalities and with removal of social and economic disparities?

Regarding preservation of environment, I should like to say that a massive afforestation programme must be undertaken in hilly areas to check floods and drought in the plains.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT (Nandurbar) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in Marathi. I rise to support the motion of thanks to President's address. Hon. President has referred to the situation in Punjab and Shri Surjit Singh Barnala's action in dealing with the situation created by anti-national forces at the instance of foreign powers to destabilise unity and integrity of India. I congratulate Shri Surjit Singh Barnala for his great achievement.

When our Prime Minister was taking measures to deal with the anti national elements in Punjab, Pakistan deployed its army on the border early this year and created tension in the States of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. It appeared that the situation should any time turn into an aggression. For effectively dealing with the situation the Govt. had to deploy its armed forces on our borders for maintaining strict vigil. Our Prime Minister held talks between the two Govts in Delhi and brought about an agreement creating the hope of peaceful atmosphere in both the countries in near future. I congratulate hon. Prime Minister for his success in solving this problem amicably.

The thrust of the revised 20 point programme is on removal of poverty. Under this programme, our Govt. created

\*The speech was originally delivered in Marathi.

more employment potential for the rural unemployed. Many other programmes like upliftment of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, equal status to women, employment for the youth, environment protection, power supply and new education policy also received top priority under new 20 point programme.

In the States of Punjab, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa, Tamilnadu, and many other States a new scheme of organising cultural festival was taken up. Supply of potable water, prevention of diseases of children, increase in the production of edible oils, expansion of communication net work, family planning programme with its emphasis on two children norm, health, education nutrition are some other high lights of this programme which will enable us to achieve all round development. IRDP was also vigorously implemented. But the representatives of the people were not involved in the implementation of this programme. I request that in future representatives of the people should be associated with the implementation of these programmes.

The implementation of NREP and RLEGP created employment of 5 lakh many days in rural areas. All these programmes meant for poverty alleviation should be effectively implemented in future. I am sure that our Govt. will spare no efforts in making the programmes outlined in the President's address a success. I am sure that effective implementation of these programmes will greatly contribute to individual and social development.

Our Prime Minister is very keen about the development of adivasis and backward areas. But we have not achieved the development of these areas due to tardy implementation of the schemes meant for their welfare. Inadequate expansion of TV net work in these areas in an instance in point. The adivasi area of Maharashtra from which I come is adjacent to some adivasi area of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. But I am sorry to point out that this entire adivasi belt comprises three States in deprived of TV facility. I request the Govt. to take immediate steps to

remedy the situation. In the matter of railway lines also this area is unfortunate. It is necessary to lay new railway lines in this area.

It is necessary to pay attention to forest cultivation and protection of our forests. There is large scale encroachment on forest land which has affected both adivasis and non-adivasis in this area. Therefore, Govt must effectively implement the scheme of forest protection. Otherwise, the adivasis will have to face great risks. There are many schemes which are being implemented for the welfare of adivasis but in spite of our Prime Minister's keen intention for their effective implementation, their actual implementation leaves much to be desired. I also request the Govt. to undertake a programme for facing drought in this area.

The foundation stone of a factory in Dhule district was laid by Shri Vasant Rao Patil, the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra as early as in 1983. But it is regrettable that the work has yet started.

It is the policy of our Government to ensure the development of backward and adivasi areas and bring them on par with other developed areas. But I would like to humbly point out that while implementing this policy, due attention has not been paid to this area. Therefore, the Govt. should take all efforts to ensure development of this area.

With these words I once again thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak and conclude my speech.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time. A number of points have been touched in the Address and it is not possible to hence I speak on all of them in a short time. But taking into account the problems of the House, I shall make my submission in brief. Very important and good speeches have been delivered here during the last 40 years; but if the leaders are asked to go through a compilation of those speeches it would be clear to them that they did

[Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi]

not practice what they professed. A lot has been said on national integration and national unity. But the question is that those who snatch the rights of the minorities are called communalists. But here it is quite the opposite. Those, who snatch the rights, are called nationalists and those who struggle for the protection of the rights of the minorities are called communalists. How strange it is. Big talks are made. Recently it was alleged that the Government surrendered before the Communal elements by introducing the divorce Bill. But my friends, may I ask you why you want to interfere in my religion. If the Government does not want, it, where is the question of surrender? Did you not protect your religion in this manner? Why had you enacted laws on low slaughter,? Why did you not say at that time that the Government had surrendered? But you want that you should get protection and there should be interference in my religion. When I oppose it, you say that the Government has surrendered before the communal elements. This is a strange logic which has revolted is disturbances everywhere. You should not misconstrue that people will forget this thing after your good speeches. Today education is spreading in the country and people have the capacity to understand your infections You do not say the things which are in your mind and. All these things won't work ; you will have to come with an open heart and give to each and every one his due right. This will prove good for ourselves as also for the country. If you deprive somebody of his rights and accuse him of communalism, then this thing won't work.

The Punjab problem has been referred to in the President's address. In fact, there is a minority community, Sikhs living in Punjab. They have made sacrifices and shed their blood for the protection of the border. Their sacrifices cannot be forgotten. I would say that there was only a very minor problem Had 25000 acres of land been handed over to Punjab, it would not have caused any harm. This land would have remained in India itself and it would not have gone to any other country. We could have solved this issue.

But unnecessarily we allowed this issue to assume such serious proportions, whereas more area of our land is in the possession of the enemies. They ere our brothers only who had shed their blood on the border. We keep it in arived.

In the same way a lot of things have been said here and education is one of the much issues. This thing has also been said in the President's address that the Government will take care of the minorities. I would first like to know if you have some concern for the minorities' what is the strength of Muslims in Government services. The number of secretaries is not yet known is date. So far as I know, it is not even half per cent (*Interruptions*)..... Had you gone through the constitution, you would not have raised such a question as to who is covered under the definition of minorities. It is only under our democratic set up that persons like you put such questions to me. Any way, I don't want to say anything in this regard. I would like to know as to what is our population there.

You talk of communalism, but I would say that the Government is also communal and communalism on the part of Government should also be checked. You go to Andhra Pradesh and see what is going on there. The Government is indulging in communalism and regionalism. It is the duty of the Central Government to check all such things. If the minorities start agitation there, then you would call it communalism. Therefore, it is the duty of the Central Government to check the atrocities being Perpetrated against the minorities in Andhra Pradesh. If the minorities start agitation there, you would call it communalism. Their very existence is in danger in Andhra Pradesh. Now you may see for yourself that the name of a hero, called Hussain Sagar Timan has been wiped out. A statue has been erected there. But there is so much ill will against Urdu that though Makdum Moiuddin's statue has been erected, but his name has not been written in Urdu. Now, I would like to know if it is not communalism on the part of the Government? Is the Central Government taking any action in this regard? No it is not taking any action.

If the minorities of the area rise against this thing, you would deplour it. In this connection I would like to request that with a view to take stock of all these things and to see as to what kind of atrocities are being perpetrated against the minorities and to know as to what sort of injustice had been done to them, a commission may be set up, so that.....

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) :  
 Why don't you go to High Court ?

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Mr. Daga, you are not acquainted with such things. 50 writs have been filed against the Government in the High Court, but in spite of all these... \*The situation is such, that it cannot be described in words. Judgement in a particular writ goes against them, even then that thing continues. Now you tell me, is there any power left with me and do you think that court procedure is so easy. Now-a-days one requires at least Rs. 5000/- to pay to the advocate as his fees to file a writ. Do you think that filing of writ is so simple ? Can an ordinary man file a writ every time Can an ordinary man afford to go to Supreme Court ? Our justice has become very costly. Mr. Daga, you can say so, but this matter deserves due consideration and serious thought.

With this I would also like to speak about education Policy. I would like that Urdu might be given due status in this policy and it should be introduced in schools and all facilities should be made available to the students learning Urdu.

I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI C. P. THAKUR (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, I thank you for giving me time now to speak at the fag end of the session on the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal. I rise to support this Motion of Thanks, I must say this Address is an excellently prepared document. It is just like a

formula which has given the activities of the Government, the achievements of the Government and the future action plan of the Government.

One thing which has not been appreciated by the honourable Members of the Opposition is that in this document there is one novel method of more stress on education and eradication of poverty through education. In the Western World, now there is a cliche that if you want to solve the problems of your country, take care of education, Now the Government and our Prime Minister have realised this importance. They have given adequate stress on education in this document. If we want to improve, if we want to improve our production; if we want to improve our science and technology, if we want to improve our military power, everywhere good education is involved. Therefore, the Government has to go ahead not only in quantitative but also in qualitative aspects of education.

The second important thing in this document is stress on the problem of Punjab. That is really a vital problem- Now something about the accord. There has been some criticism regarding the philosophy of the accord, But certainly the principle behind the accord has not been appreciated much by the public or by the Members of the Opposition. This accord by our prime Minister has not been done for any political gain. There are two aspects of this accord : one is the political and another is the national. Here the nationalism prevailed over the politics. I must say that the history will remember Mr. Rajiv Gandhi as one of the graetest nationalists. If you analyse all the records and the accords, whether in Punjab, Mizoram or in Assam, every where the people of those provinces have been brought back into the national stream, We can say that we have not succeeded in Punjab But there also a democratically elccted Government has started functioning- One thing which we have not appreciated much is there are trained people to sabotage it There are trained terrorists, Who are trained by the well advanced countries of the world.

18.00 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I request that the sitting of the House may be extended upto 1830 hrs so that all the hon. Members, who are sitting in the House and who want to participate on this debate, can speak today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think, the House agrees to sit upto 1830 hrs.

MANY HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will sit upto 1830 hrs. You may now continue.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : As I was saying, in Punjab, it is not only the bullets of the terrorists that we have to counter. They are the trained people, who also spread anti-nationalism and we have to have commandos trained in nationalism and who can counter anti-nationalism of the terrorists by nationalism. That aspect needs to be appreciated.

I agree with the hon. Members who expressed the view that Shri Barnala should be supported. In the last session of Parliament also, I said that Shri Barnala's hands need to be strengthened.

18.01 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

He is one person who has stood like a rock against religious fanaticism and fundamentalism.

There is another problem which has to be looked at from a different angle, and that is the problem of army deserters. They reacted in extremely unusual conditions at the spur of the moment. Except those army deserters who are charged with murder or similar other offences, in the case of other deserters, the Government should take a sympathetic attitude. All the deserters should be assessed by psychiatrists; their mental condition should be assessed and on their personal bonds, they should be released. It must be appreciated

that if you imprison one person in a family, you make the whole family anti-national. We have therefore, to do some rethinking on this problem.

Then, our foreign policy has been very nicely summarised in the President's Address; we believe in peaceful co-existence. We want friendly relations with our neighbours. But in our foreign policy we are more obsessed with Pakistan than with China. India is a country which is emerging as a major power in the South-East Asia and it should not be obsessed with Pakistan, but with China. If we have to equate ourselves for purposes of military power, we should do it with China and not with Pakistan. If Pakistan manufactures an atomic bomb, we say that we have to change our options. This changing of options should not be there; we have to give a firm direction to our policy. Take the case of Russia, for example. They put moratorium on nuclear tests, but when they realised, that if they do that, they will be left far behind, and, therefore, they started nuclear tests again. Every country has to think in terms of their own existence.

As I said, India is emerging as a powerful nation in the South-East Asia. Not only we have to defend our democracy and strengthen it, we should also take a clear decision on the nuclear policy. I think, the time has come when we should go nuclear, we should not only make the bombs, we should also make advances in other aspects of the nuclear power. Some hon. Members said that allocation of more funds on defence is eating away the money which could have been usefully spent on other development. As we find in other countries, the money spent for defence purposes also creates employment opportunities and adds to the welfare of the country as a whole. Unfortunately, in our country we always import most of the technology and we have not developed our own technology in the defence field and therefore, we have not been able to create so much of employment in our country. I think, we should now do that.

Some hon. Members criticised the Government that they have succumbed to



the fundamentalism in the Muslim personal law. With regard to this Bill, what the Government did was proper and correct. They assessed the feelings of the people and people felt that the time was not yet ripe for this type of a legislation. Therefore, a proper decision was taken that a change should be made only at a point of time when people really want that change, whether it be with reference to majority or minority. When people feel that it should be changed, then a change will come and now the time is not ripe. I also assessed the opinion of the people in my constituency and they felt that this was a sort of an interference. This type of fear was there in their mind.

I have now to thank you for giving me time to speak these few points.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): I have been waiting for three days and now you have given me time to speak. I must thank you. I am hearing all the speeches that are being made for the last three days. The President's Address is almost in the same form for the last two years referring to some points and saying that such and such a thing had happened, such and such progress has been made and so on.

But I am coming to certain categorical points. The national income in 1985-86 is Rs. 195707 crores. Taking into account the country's population which is about 70 crores, if you make a calculation as per the Government figure, the per capita national income is about Rs. 7 per day. And if we take five people as a norm for a family, it comes to Rs. 35 per family per day or about Rs. 1050 per month. I am asking a question in this House whether the average income of a family per month is about Rs. 1050 in this country. I think 85 per cent of the families do not come anywhere near this mark. Only 10 to 15 per cent are earning more and more. We are just equating a begging man with top people like Birlas and Tatas and adding their incomes, we are arriving at an average of the sum total which is not at all realistic. And these are government figures only. They are not my figures.

Per capita cloth consumption is also given at 16 metres per year. But 40 per cent of the population consumes only 2 metres; 30 per cent consumes 9 metres and the remaining 30 per cent consumes about 30 metres. It is the same with consumption of food or calorie intake also. 60 per cent of the people pay more than 50 per cent for their food. All these figures are given by Government only.

Sir, it is true that whatever developments have been achieved in the country for the last two or three years, these developments are benefitting only a very few people at the top level of the society. Their income is increasing. On the other side about 80 to 90 per cent of the people—I am not going to the length of calling all of them poor—are always suffering. That is what is happening in our national economy. But such type of specific things should be brought to the notice of common people by our honourable and respected President. He should bring to the notice of the average man that this is our national income, this is our average consumption and so on and so forth. But the Government has not so far dared to give such type of figures. They are only confusing the issues because they cannot face the public. According to the Seventh Five Year Plan, the average income of the family which is below poverty line is Rs. 6400 in a village and Rs. 7300 in a town. If you compare this figure with the income of about six to seven crores of families working in the fields, in the stone-breaking work, in powerloom sector and in the farms as labourers, you will find that their incomes are much less than the figure worked for a family living below the poverty line. Their minimum wages are never specified. Though our hon. Labour Minister always speaks about their welfare, Government has never bothered to strictly enforce the minimum wages for farm labour, stone-breaking workers, etc. In 80 per cent of the cases, the minimum wages are much less than the poverty line figure and it is really shameful that we are discussing economic plans, poverty and all those things. I do not like to waste the time of the House, but I just want to mention one thing. Today afternoon I had been to Faridabad to see the stone-breaking workers. In Bombay, they were my first

[Dr. Datta Samant]

union. 10,000 of these workers draw Rs. 8 per day after working for 12 long hours. Three people died about a month back and the managers drove away their wives by just giving them Rs. 1000. Not even a single minimum basic law of so many Acts concerning minimum wages is being followed by Government. So, 10000 workers in this stone-breaking industry are suffering in Faridabad. I went there today only as a guest and I have seen these things. So, this is the nature of things. In Bombay, I have seen about 50,000 people are sleeping on the roads and they are all beggars. About 50 lakh people are staying in hutments. You are visualising that their income is going up still, by dividing or subtracting or something like that. Two per cent to three per cent people, who are on the top are getting the benefits. This is the condition of our national economy.

I would like to mention that, our President has failed to mention in his Address regarding the blackmoney. The Amnesty scheme which you have introduced is quite all right. You have conducted some raids also. You have earned some revenue also. Anyway, you have done something. But, the blackmoney which is circulating in this country is about Rs. 50,000 crores. Then what are you going to do with this? The parallel economy is running in this country. As per studies, the income of the tax-evaders is two and a half times more than the income of those people who have been assessed for the taxes. Somewhere taxes are paid and somewhere taxes are not at all paid.

Sir, the public sector which is importing machineries and other things from abroad; the administrative delays, these are all the major sources of blackmoney.

The industrial production has gone up by 8.6 per cent. Now, the Government has changed the calculation by taking the base year as 1980, by adding some electronics and other things. Otherwise, if you take 1970 as base year, it would come to around 5 per cent. How are you

measuring the industrial production? The Government is giving money to the private agencies, by giving money through the banks. They are also giving money to some employees for starting factories. Do you know, what is happening? The private enterprises are swallowing this money. What are they doing for our national economy? What is your control? How much money they have swallowed? This is the major source of blackmoney. If you see the records, at present there are about 5 lakh industries which are sick and more than 10 lakh workers have been thrown out of employment. The bank deposits are swallowed by these private agencies. But nobody is making any effort to check this thing. The same private agencies are getting additional loan. So, I would say this is the source of blackmoney which these people are creating. It is a havoc for our national economy. This Government is sleeping over the matter. So, such type of economic offences are going on here.

If you compare the Consumer Price Index of 1960, the value of the Rupee has gone to 14.60 paise. These are the figures which were supplied by the Reserve Bank of India in October, 1986. This shows, where, our economy is moving.

No doubt, the private sector has done well. About six to seven hundred factories have been set up with more than Rs. 100 crores as their share capital in 1985-86. Their business is quite good. Their turnover is quite good. Their gross profits have gone up. But, they are not doing their business with their money. They are borrowing from the banks. Their borrowings have gone up by two-folds. You see, this is the tendency which is prevailing. Even, if the Tatas or Birlas or somebody else want to start a factory, they have to go in for public borrowing. So, these are the reports of the Government. I have got with me the percentage regarding all these things. These are the important points which I wanted to mention regarding the corporate sector or the private limited companies. In 1985-86, their imports went up by two times and their exports went up by half per cent. So, they are making good business out of this Government money.

In our national economy, the gap between the imports and exports was about 17 crores and it has increased in 1985-86. These are the figures of the Government. How the private sector is utilising the Government money? It is a very important thing and it is high time that the Government should give certain directions regarding all these things.

I would also like to mention about the modernisation and unemployment. I am coming from Bombay. The hon. Labour Minister has given the figure that in 1989, there will be, five comes and eighty lakh people will be unemployed. As per my calculation, over seven crores will be unemployed out of the 70 crore population of this country. Then, how are you going to solve it? The President did not even talk about a single word regarding this in his Address. Last year, nobody touched about this figure during the discussion on the Budget. I asked for it from the Library here. Nobody is giving that figure. I think the Government has failed. You have failed. Your Government does not want to give any specific figure.

I am told you are now going to modernize all these things. What is the modern technology? In the last three years, there were 300 collaborations with multi-nationals. Earlier, during 33 years, there were only 300 collaborations. An equal number is there in the last three years. I have studied the report on foreign collaborations. They have dumped their old technology into India. This is a seller's market. With such collaborations or modernizations, the development of Indian economy will not come about. If such types of things are linked with modernization, I am afraid it will adversely affect our economy.

Now about cotton and wheat prices. Wheat was procured last year at Rs. 165, and this year the procurement price is Rs. 171. The Food Corporation has made another Rs. 1000 crores of black money. It is a black doctor. Money is wasted. One rupee is spent per kilo. The average man is now getting it at Rs. 3.50 a kilo.

A similar thing is happening regarding cotton. This morning I had raised this:

at present, 41 lakh bales of cotton are lying in this country. You have allowed a concession on the import of polyester, and a slight percentage on the purchase of cotton. You allowed them to export. Nobody is allowing the export of cotton. But they export textiles i.e. cloth and garments. They have orders worth Rs. 900 crores. Therefore, from one shirt which is exported, the cotton growers get only Rs 3/-. The cost of the cotton cloth is Rs. 25/-; the stitching man gets Rs. 3/- and it is exported for Rs. 90/-. That is the whole economy. Here, Government has failed; and so, the farmers and agriculturists of this country are suffering.

The President has not mentioned these things in his Address.

There are many more points; but since you have rung the bell, I thank you for giving me some time and close my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Address made by the President before the Members of both the Houses on 23rd of February. It consists of matters relating to all round progress of India, maintaining unity and integrity of the country, honour of the women, providing a boost to agriculture and removal of the shortage of pulses. First, I would like to speak on agriculture. After the nationalisation of Banks, farmers had set up tube wells and irrigated their land. With the availability of irrigation facilities, good seeds and good quality fertilisers, the agricultural production has increased. Just now, it was stated in the House that when our population was 40 crores, we used to import foodgrains from abroad. But with the rise in population, our stock of foodgrains has also increased. For this all the credit goes to Smt. Indira Gandhi. During her regime, farmers were sanctioned loans and all facilities were made available to them. Farmers worked very hard and increased the production of foodgrains. At present there is a little shortage of pulses. The President has said in his address that Rs. 50 crores have been earmarked for increasing the production of pulses so that production of pulses may increase and their

[Shri Bharat Singh]

rates might be reduced and the consumers may be able to get them at lower prices. This will solve the problem of shortage of pulses with the hard work of farmers. I would also like to say that the farmers produce crops by working very hard. But there are certain things on which the Government should pay its attention. The farmer works hard for the whole year but when the crops are ready for harvesting hailstones damage his crops. Sometimes their granary catches fire. The Government should pay attention towards this so that the morale of the farmer gets a boost and he might be in a position to produce more and more. I would like to express my views about unemployment. The D.R.D.A. provided three wheeler scooters as also helped in getting licences to the unemployed educated youth of Delhi so that they could earn their livelihood. Bank loans were provided to petty shopkeepers, rehriwallahs and vendors on a very nominal interest. It is a fact that in the entire country 20 lakh people were helped to bring themselves above the poverty line. The reason is that the Government helps them so that they may become self reliant. Under the 20 Point Programme the poor, the landless labourers, the Harijans were distributed 120 sqyd of plot each in every village panchayat and provision of roads, electricity, water supply were made for them by DRDA. They were allotted plots free of cost. Everyone should have bread, clothes and house and that is why our Government is helping them in this regard. This is the aim of our party. It had been the policy of Indira Gandhiji to raise the poor above the poverty line so that they may become self reliant. Now Rajiv Gandhi is also following the same policy. There are no two opinions that previously there was much poverty. The members of the opposition say that the poor have become poorer. This is not correct. The poor have made progress in comparison to the past. You can see the history of the past 20 years to know as to what transformation has taken place. The people of the opposition speak of 40 years, but I would like you to go through the development of only last 10 years. The water of the Ganga and the Yamuna rivers

has been made available to each and every village so that the incidence of disease is checked and provision of electricity and roads has been made in the countryside. Of course, facility of road link from one village to another is lacking in some cases, but our Government will definitely pay attention towards this problem so that roads are provided there for the facility of the people.

The Government have sufficient stock of foodgrains. Fair price shops have been opened at different places in every city and village. Ten years back there used to be long queues at every such shop, but now people get all things of their necessity at reasonable rates. The Government have taken responsibility to supply foodgrains directly to Fair Price Shops so that the poor people may get foodgrains at cheaper rates. It has always been our endeavour to provide maximum benefit to the poor. There are a number of unauthorised colonies in Delhi which are facing great difficulty. Lakhs of people reside in these colonies. The Government is going to make provision of water there. Tubewells are being installed at different places and electricity is being made available to them. In the unauthorised colony of pre 1981 period, people belonging to middle class category like tailors, conductors from Haryana and Rajasthan are living there. Roads should be constructed in such colonies so that they can go anywhere without any difficulty. Buildings should be constructed for schools whether they are higher secondary schools or other schools, in the rural areas. At present there are two school buildings at Mehrauli and one at Nazafgarh. In the New Education Policy, half an hour has been kept apart for giving education on eradication of untouchability to the small children. We should give such education to our students as may teach them to live with love so that the unity and integrity of the country is maintained and the country may become stronger day by day.

Similarly, there are many things which I have stated like provision of employment to a number of unemployed youths under DRDA. This shows that the Government have done a lot of work for the poor. We

all want that India should become strong and the people should live with love. If the Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians and people of other communities live with love, the unity of the country can be maintained and India would emerge as a powerful nation. If we live unitedly, only then the unity and integrity of the country can be maintained. You might recall that during the freedom struggle, the Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Harijans, farmers and other people of villages together followed Mahatma Gandhiji and due to them India achieved independence. We should work with the same spirit to protect the freedom of the country. I would like to say that if we work hard for the country, the country will become stronger. With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and also convey my thanks to you.

[English]

SHRI SAMAR BRAHMA CHOUHURY (Kokrajhar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a deep sense of anguish and disappointment I observe that the President has practically by passed the problems of Scheduled Tribes, as if it is a ritualistic and routine work.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall extend the time up to 6-45 p.m. so that Shri Choudhury and Shri Daga may complete their speeches, taking ten minutes each.

SHRI SAMAR BRAHMA CHOUHURY : The President has casually mentioned that in the revised 20-Point Programme of 1986 programmes for ensuring justice to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are included. This much and nothing more. The speech, or the Address of the President is a reflection of the policies of the Government. Judging from this point of view, are we to infer that the problem of Scheduled Castes and Tribes have lost their priorities in the minds of this Government ? Otherwise, more time should have been devoted to deal with the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Mr. Chairman, we all will agree that in spite of the special efforts and the special

trust the Government had been giving to uplift the tribal societies, to uplift the Scheduled Castes the achievement is far from satisfactory. Today, what do we see specially in the case of Scheduled Tribes, particularly in the area from which I come, the Scheduled Tribes of the p'ains of Assam ? Their economy is going from bad to worse. We have painfully observed that the pilot projects meant to develop the tribals and tribal areas, the tribal development blocks meant to develop the tribal economy and tribal areas failed miserably. So, in order to improve the conditions, in order to have a better effect, the Government of India have presently switched over to the tribal sub-plans concept. We have been observing that even this tribal sub plan has been miserably failing. In spite of spending crores of rupees to uplift the tribal societies and to develop the tribal areas, tribal people are going more and more below the poverty line. This special effort could not achieve the desired result. Why ? From my long years of association with tribal development works I can say that one of the main reasons of this failure is that these plans, pilot projects, tribal development blocks and the tribal sub plan have failed to involve the tribal people in the matter of implementation of these schemes. Implementation of these developmental efforts has all along been through extraneous agencies. As a result of that, money allocated for the tribal development has been squandered away. In many cases there were sabotage to these efforts by the vested interests. So, unless some means are devised, some agencies are created to involve the tribals themselves in the effort of development of tribal people, no amount of special allocation of money will help and achieve desired goal.

I have seen that the land alienation problem has become more and more acute. More people are uprooted from their villages and thrown away from their areas. As a result the tribal economy has suffered. Agriculture is the mainstay of tribal economy. If the lands are alienated from the tribal people, definitely we cannot expect the improvement of tribal economy.

The tribals are distinct people. They have their own language, culture and

[Shri Sumar Brahma Choudhury]

tradition. They have different ethnic identity of their own. They inhabit particular areas and particular region. So the main tribal problems are preservation of their ethnic identity and their areas. Unless their ethnic identity and areas are preserved, the problem of the tribals will not be solved.

We have seen that wherever autonomy is extended, the tribal areas have done better. For instance, in Arunachal we have extended autonomy. We have given it statehood. We have given statehood to Nagaland. So is the case in Mizoram and Meghalaya. In these areas the land alienation problem has been solved successfully. In those states the achievement of developmental works is much better than in other areas. From that point of view we must learn that to involve tribal people in safeguarding their areas, in protecting their lands, tribals should be given autonomy. The makers of the Constitution visualised this necessity. That is why, they provided provisions to extend regional autonomy, district autonomy to tribal areas. And wherever these autonomies were extended the result was much better. Today what do we see in Arunachal and Nagaland, in Meghalaya and Mizoram?

We see that the sense of insecurity has been removed from the minds of the tribal people and a sense of belonging has been restored in their minds. We must learn a lesson from that experience and take that directions to solve various tribal problems. Today it is seen that just to get the benefit of autonomy, the plains tribals of Assam are striving for autonomy. They are demanding a State called Udyachal. We also see that the hills tribals of Assam are demanding more autonomy a status of autonomous state. The Adivasis of Chhota Nagpur area are demanding Jharkhand. There are the political aspiration of the Tribals. So, I appeal to the Government that as per the provisions of the Constitution, these tribal areas should be given autonomy and the political aspirations of these tribal areas should be fulfilled.

I expect that our young and dynamic Prime Minister will deal with this problem

while replying to the debate. With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit with humility that you should kindly regulate the time. It is the duty of the chair to refuse permission to a speaker on the subject before hand. This creates great resentment. We will be very grateful to you if you kindly regulate the time. If you do not regulate the time, you will not be doing justice to Members. I would not like to use any harsh words against anyone. But this is not proper.

We all have taken a pledge in the Constitution. This Constitution is a living and revolutionary document. If we followed it, there would not have been any unrest, strife, animosity in the country. Article 38(2) says,—

[English]

“The State shall, in particular, strive to minimise the inequalities in income, and endeavour to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities not only amongst individuals, but also, amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations.”

[Translation]

Who will be responsible for it? What is the reason for the unrest prevailing in the country. These are the publications of the Government and not ours. This is ‘Yojna’. Recently, Dr. Melcolm S. Adisaisayga has written an article in it. I have no time to read out this article, otherwise you will say that I have taken much time. In his article he has given the reason for the strife.

[English]

“This coexistence of the few rich and the poor majority stems from the unequal ownership of assets, which inequality seems to be worsening and widening, even as our economic growth accelerates.”

And he has given this picture.

[Translation]

What is the reason that there is strife and unrest in the country? One person is dying slowly. Its main reason is that there is inequalities in the country. Today one state is economically advanced, while another State continues to be backward. Who is responsible for this state of affairs? The regional in balance is increasing. One person is economically sound while another is going below the poverty line. At that time you say that you have got so much stock of foodgrains. I do not want to say much on it.

We have been continuously supporting Barnalaji and we have conveyed our thanks to him. All agree that there is unity in diversity in our country. But in spite of this, killings are continuing unabated in the country at present. You exhort that we have to fight against it and we are fighting against such a tendency. Efforts should be made to put a stop to the killings of innocent persons

The incident, which took place on 12th February should make us hang our heads in shame. The dacoits were in the bank for full one hour and forty five minutes looting the cash. They put bundles of cash of Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 denominations in the sacks and blankets at the point of gun and loaded it in matadors parked outside and decamped with the huge amount of cash. No Minister or leader thought it proper to express his reaction on it. At least 200 persons were present in that bank at that time. They took away about Rs. 5 crores from the bank located in the Centre of the market. Surprisingly, they preferred to take away bundles of Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 denominations instead of the denomination of Rs. 10, 5, 2 and Re. 1. I would like to know who is responsible for this incident? At present, banks are being looted in this way and due to this, expenditure on banks is also increasing.

We believe in the principle of secularism and we have faith in the democratic set

up. We would also like to follow it. But what is happening in the country? In the newspaper of day before yesterday, it has been published with regard to self-reliance.

[English]

In regard to self reliance, the figures were given in the newspaper of day before yesterday. It was stated therein that India is falling into external debt. What is the total external and internal debt? It is Rs. 327553.91 crores. How much is the interest thereon? The interest which we paid during 1985-86 is Rs. 1007 crores. This is the figure as on 31st March, 1986.

[Translation]

This shows how much we are lagging behind in the matter of self-reliance. Even today we are importing agricultural commodities. At present we are importing edible oils worth Rs. 767 crores and sugar worth Rs. 421 crores. Similar is the case of cement also. These are all latest figures. How long will we be importing sugar? Has the country moved forward? Of course, it has moved forward, but we should not be complacent over it. We should not say that we have not done anything. But one thing I must say that we shall have to think as to what progress we have actually made.

In regard to taxation, I would like to say that there has been increase in indirect taxes. In 1950-51 the share of direct tax was 43.3 per cent and today it is 19.3 per cent. The share of indirect taxes which was 56.7 per cent has gone up to 80.7 per cent. In this way share of indirect taxes has increased and consequently the poor have been hit very hard.

So far as education is concerned, do you expect that we will be able to get qualified teachers in the schools in the villages? When lakhs of teachers are not qualified there, how will the new education system be introduced in the villages. We are not consistently following what the Constitution has provided and what we have taken pledge in the constitution. The time allotted to me is very short. I would,

therefore, not like to say much. Even  
this much has been said :

[*English*]

"The World Bank has estimated that given the present state of the education system in India, this country will house 54 per cent of the World's illiterates in the age group of 15 to 19 by 2001".

[*Translation*]

Therefore, I would like to say that we have not been able to take up the work which we wanted to do.

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BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thirty-Forth Report

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY  
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA  
DIKSHIT) : I beg to present the Thirty-  
fourth Report of the Business Advisory  
Committee.

18.47 hrs.

*The Lok-Sabha then adjourned till Eleven  
of the Clock on Tuesday, March 3, 1987/*

*Phalgun 12, 1908 (Saka)*