

[Sh. Vijay N. Patil]

I urge upon the Government to open specialised hospitals for cancer treatment on the lines of the Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital, Bombay in Delhi. The present Government hospitals, especially Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi should be upgraded for cancer treatment. Last but not the least, films on the dangers of smoking, need for early cancer detection and causes of breast cancer should be shown through Government media.

- (v) Demand for timely and effective measures to meet the drought situation in Kalahandi and Bolangir etc. districts of Orissa

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir, severe drought situation is prevailing in the economically backward districts like Kalahandi, Bolangir, Padampur and Sambalpur in the States of Orissa causing far-reaching misery for the people already under the grip of continuous drought.

Apart from taking all effective measures to meet the present situation, a time-bound, all round effort with adequate central financial and technical assistance should be undertaken in these areas as a part of our constitutional commitment under Article 371 of the Constitution. Measures should be taken for day farming, soil conservation, mass scale afforestation, utilisation of water resources through various irrigation projects and water management. Agro-based industries should be set up. Permanent solution for drinking water both for man and animal should be made.

12.19 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE  
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS — *Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri V.N. Gadgil and seconded by Shri R.I. Bhatia on the 23rd February, 1989:—

"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 21st February, 1989."

[Translation]

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the motion of Thanks on President's Address.

The Hon. President has reminded us of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. All the great leaders like Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Pandit Motilal Nehru, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Frontier Gandhi, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel and others were with Gandhiji in his struggle for freedom of the country. India attained freedom. But Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was the person who, accomplished the task of laying the foundation for new development, established democracy, implemented the Planned development programme, formulated India's foreign policy and started a new era of advancement.

There is no alternative to the path shown by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Hence, we are all pleased and express our support for the tribute paid to Pandit Nehru by the Hon. President. The people of this country and even the entire world are grateful to that great leader. Despite all the odds and adverse circumstances, the Government of India under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been functioning smoothly. They have succeeded in maintaining the economic situation and the pace of economic development in the country. India has made progress in the field of Agriculture, Education, Science and Technology etc. Our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi deserves Congratulations for this. He achieved greater heights in the international affairs last year. The basic policy of the country has been to create an atmosphere of world peace and discourage the arms race and atmosphere of tension in the world. The people in the world realise that it is because of the efforts made by the Prime Minister of India that the two big powers agreed to reduce the number of medium range missiles. The Prime Minister of India has played a major role in this regard. India and China, the two big nations in Asia started a new era by improving their relations. Again he deserves our congratulations for this.

Hon. President has expressed deep concern and has asked us to be vigilant to our universal values and ideals in this materialistic world. He is right in this regard. Since times immemorial, India has been a beacon light to the people of the world. This country has taught character building to the world.

"Etaddeshe Prasootasaya Sakashad  
Grajanmanya Swamswam Charitram  
Shiksheran Prithivyam Sarvamanava."

Our forefathers have taught character building to the world and the people in the world have followed them. Such great leaders have been born in this era too. The great

leaders like Swami Vivekanand, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi fall in the same tradition. They have guided the world in various aspects social, national and personal. This is for this reason the Hon. President has expressed his concern over the possibility of losing our ancient eternal values and India's identity in this materialistic world following consumer culture. We are greatly grateful to the Hon. President for this. Our Hon. Prime Minister has also been emphasising upon safeguarding our heritage. Loss of heritage would mean loss of India's identity. Hence Dr. Iqbal said,

"Yunan Mishro Roma Sab mit gaye  
jahanse,  
Kutch baat hai ki hasti mitati nahin  
hamari."

That is why our country has shown the right path to the world. Our esteemed religious 'gurus' and maulavis, reverend saints and leaders who are our ancient heritage not only followed the same tradition but preserved our culture also. It is they who shown the world the way to spiritualism. This way our heritage has remained protected. Our hon. Prime Minister has take a decision and has started considering that democracy should be taken to the grassroot level so that rural people could execute their development work by formulating plan at panchayat or village level itself. We should formulate schemes at block level and village level and they should be approved at that level only. Further, these schemes should be implemented too at the grassroot level. The masses have readily agreed to adopt this line of thinking. Even Mahatma Gandhi wanted that panchayati raj should be established in the country and the masses of our country should themselves take decision regarding formulation of their developmental schemes and implementation thereof. Keeping this in view panchayati raj was started in 1960 by our leader Pandit Nehru

[Sh. Umakant Mishra]

on the recommendations of a Commission. Since then, this system has been in vogue in a number of states but not in the letter and spirit it should have been. The whole country welcomes the hon. Prime Minister's decision to strengthen the panchayati raj and the local bodies. This is a good indication that the hon. Prime Minister has initiated a dialogue on it. The people of our country have welcomed this. This is good that panchayati raj is established and the local bodies are given more powers but the way muscle and money powers are gaining importance in our country these days, democratic decisions are not allowed to prevail upon in some local bodies. Therefore, my suggestion is that in stead of indirect elections, direct elections should be held. All elections, whether it is the election of gram sabha, block level or that of the chairmen of zila parishad, should be conducted directly. In indirect elections, muscle and money powers play a major role and right decision is not reached at. Unscrupulous and undesirable persons capture these institutions. Therefore, besides the establishment of panchayati raj, I would like to suggest that the Government should conduct direct elections. I have been waiting for an opportunity to say something on science and technology which has made or is making rapid advancement throughout the world. Today the whole world has made tremendous progress in the field of science and our country has also made a big leap in the fields of agriculture, industry and science. In the absence of science, neither man nor his society and country can progress. Our hon. Prime Minister has taken a decision and has initiated a discussion as to how best the farmers, labourers and agriculture labourers can be benefited with the application of science and technology in the rural areas. This is so because unless these people are benefited by it, only a few vested interests will take advantage of it. Our hon. Prime Minister has made efforts so that farmers in rural areas

could be benefited through science and technology. In this connection, a number of technology missions have been set up and most of them are doing commendable work with regard to supply of drinking water and removal of illiteracy etc. My suggestion is that the missions which have been established should also be monitored properly because a heavy expenditure is being incurred on them. Moreover, it is also essential so that public money may be utilised properly and the public may be benefited by it. We heartily welcome and appreciate the steps taken by the hon. Prime Minister to benefit the masses through application of science and technology in rural areas. We hope that our villages and towns will develop with the help of science and technology. Our hon. Prime Minister has resolved to eradicate poverty and unemployment and steps are being taken in this direction. Various schemes such as N.R.E.P., R.L.E.G.P., I.R.D.P. etc. are under operation. Measures have also been taken to eradicate poverty but the problem of educated youths in our country is getting very serious. Leave aside youth with High School certificate, Inter, B.A., M.A. or Ph.D degrees, there is a large number of doctors, engineers, diploma holders in B.T.C., IT.I., B.E. etc. or those with technical qualifications who are unemployed and this is causing resentment and dissatisfaction among them. My submission is that the Government should make such amendments in the schemes and formulate the Eighth Five Year Plan in such a manner that the educated and technical trained people may get employment. Otherwise the speed by which their number is increasing may take an explosive shape one day. My submission is that the Government should pay attention to this problem before the situation goes out of control. Especially educated youths such as doctors, engineers, diploma holders etc. are required to be provided immediate employment lest the situation in our country should assume serious proportion. I hope that the Government

will take steps in this direction.

In the end, I would like to speak briefly about the Opposition which plays an important role in democracy. The Opposition is a co-partner in the development and success of democracy but it is unfortunate that the Opposition in our country is very irresponsible and does not perform any creative work or give any creative suggestion. It rather performs destructive work and provides destructive suggestions. Its attitude has become destructive. As such it is a divided house but it lacks direction, ideology principles or programmes. They are prepared to dip down to any level for the sake of power. Opposition in our country is encouraging communalism and has been instrumental in spreading regionalism, linguistic problem, secessionism and terrorism. Opposition of the kind we are having neither does any good to development of country nor for progress of democracy. Nor could socialism be brought in the country by them. We need a healthy opposition where as they are fragmented lot, some are leaning towards right, some are to left whereas some are centrist or communalist and I do not know how many more isms are prevalent. Only a part of such 'ism' is sufficient to destroy democracy in our country but where 15-20 such groups are in existence, it is a great threat to our country. The people of our country do not like such attitude on the part of the opposition of the country. Last year the Opposition Members hurled allegations on the Government and its leader elected by crores of people and thus tried to defame the country in the world. Therefore, the attitude of the Opposition is very abhorring and condemnable. If Sir, I would therefore like to cite a couplet:

*'Barbad gulistan karne ko bas ek hi ullu  
kafi hai,  
Har shaakh par ullu baitha hai, anjaam-  
e-gulistan kya hoga'*

Thus if Opposition exists everywhere then

the future of democracy in our country not be safe. The people know that under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Congress is the only party which can protect democracy in our country, strengthen the nation and lead it towards progress. With these words I support this Motion and thank you.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur): Sir, I am thankful to you for having given me the opportunity to speak because I rise to support the Motion. This year is apparently the year of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru's centenary and we should bear this things in mind that if he had not been the Prime Minister of India, the picture of India would have been quite different. The perspective given to India by him has brought forth fruitful results. We built our country on the perspective of democracy, socialism, secularism provided by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. Today it is alleged that there is tension in the country. In spite of there being different religions, languages and regions, India is united and the reason behind this is only that we got a perspective under the leadership of Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru. The only remedy for all the problems during the past was that there should be such a Government in the country in which there should be justice for all sections of people and regions and we are following this till date. Despite all these problems India is standing at the threshold of 21st century. We are proud of having so much for the past 103 years when Indian National Congress was formed. These achievements are our own. If there were some mistakes, we have learnt lesson from those deficiencies and mistakes and then we marched ahead.

I remember that one day Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had said in this very House that

"Khuchh is tarah taya ki hein ham ne majilen, gir pare gir kar utte aur phai chal pare".

[Sh. Mohd. Ayub Khan]

We have learnt from our mistakes and deficiencies and we have been able to march ahead. Even today we are not afraid of our opponents. I want to say it quite clearly. We should be conscious and make appraisal of our deficiencies and go ahead with them with new determination. For that we should look to it that if a lacuna the administrative structure as run developed by Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru has developed certain deformities and if some people want to take undue advantages of our deficiencies in order to serve their personal ends or to gain a cheap leadership, we wouldn't allow them to exploit us on that account. Today we have to make an assessment of those disparities if they exist somewhere at the regional level. Today we take pride in it that a silent change is setting in which has resulted in big strides in the field of technology, machinery, energy and almost in every field. Even in the matter of rural development there is undoubtedly some deficiencies, but in the country side we find a silent change is taking place. Today our cattle's breed has improved. There is an increase in the agricultural production and overall yield of the farmers due to our technology and scientific aid. Still there is undoubtedly a large population living below the poverty line and we want to take certain such measures so as to shake of this excessive burden of poverty before we step in the 21st century. We should keep a watch on our population explosion which has become unbearable and ecological imbalances also need attention. There are irretentions at some places and we should remove them and take them into their right perspective. We should not allow the secessionist forces, some selfish elements or some leaders of the opposition to exploit our weaknesses because sometimes our people are swayed by these emotions. Therefore it becomes the responsibility of the Government to remove the distortions, deformities and weaknesses wherever they exist.

Some people mention that there are secessionists in Kashmir but it is not only today that they are there. They have been there for a long period but we have to face them. Last year our Government and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has taken certain initiatives in Assam, Srilanka and at several other places. An accord was also signed in regard to Kashmir which is being implemented. Today some people are against this accord. With their gestures they are trying to reduce this accord into shambles. Though there may be some drawbacks in the follow-up-action by the central Government, we should not go in for new experiments but we should work with the present system and face the secessionists. We should look into the factors which provide an opportunity to our opponents to create disturbances on that account.

As Mr. Soz has stated that the Central Government should have a sympathetic attitude in this regard. If there is a black-out for a period of constant four days in Kashmir Valley, the people will certainly have to face a lot of difficulties. If road-traffic stands disrupted for 10-15 days merely on account of one day rains the position of Civil supplies in that area can easily be imagined. How is it going to make the people self-sufficient and provide them with jobs. Our youths already remain idle for six months due to snowfall and again, even for the remaining six months they are bound to remain idle. It is a matter of concern.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to by what time a rail link will be provided for Jammu and Kashmir. At present the rail link is available only up to Jammu and there is no rail link for Kashmir from Jammu onwards. Although the railway track is being provided in Udhampur but the pace of progress of work on it is very slow. Due to rains and snow the present link between Jammu and Kashmir becomes inoperative for a period of '5 days. It disrupts the entire business activities and the secessionists

take undue advantage of the situation. Hence you are not supposed to sit over the problem. The people of Kashmir have always been very loyal to their land. Today on this occasion when we are going to celebrate the birth centenary of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru I would like to make a mention of it that the people of Kashmir have high regards for him. It is because of it that even today Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and we are also proud of it. In the year 1947 it was Kashmir where Mahatma Gandhiji had seen a ray of light because in those days people had cherished certain principles and they were of the view that their accession is possible only with India.

We should promote our tourist industry. We have come to know that tourist services are being extended upto Pengcong lake, Tasomoralecur and on Leh-Manali road. It is a welcome step. I would also like to request you to bring Nubra Chothong on the tourist map and tourists should be permitted to go there. Similarly a rail track should also be provided upto Katra-Vaishno Devi which is visited daily by 20 lakh devotees. Due attention should be paid to it.

With these words I conclude.

**SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS** (Bhilwara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion of thanks on the Address of the Hon. President in parliament During the last 40 years nobody has helped Rajasthan in the way Mr. Rajiv Gandhi paid attention particularly towards Rajasthan and provided assistance to it during the last year.

During the last 40 years Rajasthan has been facing continuous famine and we have been throughout affected by it. Due to famine, neither drinking water nor the foodgrains nor fodder for animals is available. The way last year the Congress Government under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhiji helped the people of Rajasthan, can never be for-

gotten. Last year the Congress Government provided an assistance of Rs. 650 crore to Rajasthan. During the last 40 years the Government never provided an assistance of that much of amount for famine -relief. Even the total amount of assistance rendered so far does not come to that year the assistance provided by the Congress Government in the form of provision of drinking water, foodgrains and grass for animals and opening of separate camps for men and animals to save their lives, are definitely highly commendable. Not only in Rajasthan but in all other states like Gujarat which were struck by famine the Government had provided full assistance. For this gesture Government deserves thanks. I also want to make a mention that the Government have provided a higher amount of assistance to Gujarat as compared to Rajasthan being the total amount provided to them was to the tune of about Rs. 750 crores in case of Gujarat. Last year quite a large area of India was affected by famine and the way our Prime Minister visited these famine-affected areas and provided help to these people is definitely commendable.

Similarly a large amount to assistance was provided to the flood-affected areas also. Last year our Government disbursed an amount of about Rs. 2500 crores to the different flood and famine affected areas to help the people to be stand on their own legs is definitely very appreciable. I would like to submit that we should be provided complete facilities to fight out drought. I made several requests to Shri Sathe who is present in the House to the effect that for the desert areas where water is found at a depth of 500 feet and cannot be drawn out without the help of power, the Centre should be more generous in providing electricity there. Shri Sathe recently visited Kota to inaugurate a gas based power plant and at that time the Chief Minister requested him that four power plants based on coal be set up in Rajasthan. I do not know what statement was made by

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Vyas]

him but the newspapers reported that the hon. Minister did not agree to the proposal.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I gave the clarification but this does not work. You know that statements which go against us received more publicity. I clarified this at that time also that regarding the demand of 4 thermal plants, information for the source of coal linkage has been sought. In principle, the Government have no objection, the Government expedited the work of Anta plant and is prepared to set up even more plants. The Government is also considering to give 30 megawatt solar thermal. Whenever gas is struck there, we are prepared to provide them as much power plants to Rajasthan as needed by it and there is some sort of blank cheque for them with regard to supply of power. I am myself submitting this but you are interested in setting up coal based power plant but tell me from where coal could be provided for them. Unless you tell this what clarification do you expect from us.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Coal will be provided from Kapurri.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have enticed him to give some or the other clarification here. I am grateful to him for having done so. I am intervening Shri Virdhi Chanderji as he referred to about supply of coal. In this regard, I am to submit that the said coal is of lignite variety and cannot be used for thermal plants. With the help of that coal, some lignite-based plants will be set up at Barmer and Palana. The Centre is definitely taking action in this regard and 2 atomic based plants are also being set up there. We are grateful to the Government for this as well. In Kota 4 thermal units have been sanctioned out of which three units have already been

set up and the fourth will also be set up but even that is not sufficient for our requirements. Therefore, we have asked for 4 more plants from Shri sate.

12.54 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Another question is regarding the source of coal. It will be provided from the places where it is extracted, which is either Bihar, Andhra Pradesh or West Bengal. The Government should manage coal from these areas and set up coal-based power plants in Rajasthan so that the people of Rajasthan may get more electricity. If at all confirmation is required, you may get it confirmed by hon. Speaker himself as to how much people are suffering due to power shortage in Sikar and Jhunjhunu. Electricity should be supplied to us for our entire desert area because it is a primary need for us. The Government should certainly set up 4 power plants in Rajasthan so that the farmers there may increase their production to the utmost and their economic condition may improve rapidly. It is extremely essential to make such a provision.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I submitted this earlier also to Shri Vyas kindly not to misunderstand me. I have not at all any objection for it and you may set up 8 plants instead of 4. These are projects run by State Government but it is you and not me who are to arrange coal linkage for them. We are ready to provide it. But how can we set it up without any coal linkage?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: I will make requests again and again and his anger is not going to deter me in making demands from the Government and it will have to provide them. If the Government functioning under Shri Rajiv Gandhi will not help us, who else would help us? Will the States ruled by Opposition parties help us in setting up

power plants in our state? Will you not help Rajasthan where your own party is in power or will you help only those States where Opposition Parties are in power? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This submission made by you is also wrong. In our eyes all the states in the country are at par. The Government does not discriminate between Opposition ruled States and those where the Congress party is in power. For us the whole country is one.

MR. SPEAKER: You should never say that this state belongs to the opposition and that state belongs to us. All the states are our own because we belong to this country and we are all united.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you people are holding high posts and rule the whole country. On the contrary, we are poor people and are the representatives of the poor farmers. Therefore, we make demands for electricity from you.

MR. SPEAKER: I will put pressure on him to provide electricity to Rajasthan.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: I submitted here also and I have repeatedly made submission to the hon. Prime Minister also to provide more powers and electricity to Rajasthan so that we may become powerful enough to fulfil the daily needs of our poor population. Today the biggest problem in our state is that of food. If Shri Rajiv Gandhi had not been our Prime Minister, we would all have starved. Words fall short of appreciating him for the assistance extended by him to our state. Therefore, I request him to help us and he gets displeased as to from where coal be made available. It is the duty of the Government and not ours to provide coal. The Government should provide electricity in Rajasthan so that it may progress.

MR. SPEAKER: This is enough. We have recently provided 210 megawatts power to Rajasthan.

12.57 hrs

STATEMENT RE: CLARIFICATION OF  
CERTAIN REMARKS MADE BY PRIME  
MINISTER DURING QUESTION HOUR  
ON 27th FEBRUARY 1989

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yesterday, during the Question Hour, I made some remarks. And reading the newspapers this morning I got a feeling that some erroneous message has gone which is not quite what I have said.

First, I would like to clarify that at no point did I say or imply or use the words that the opposition was unpatriotic or anti-national. These words were not used by me. That is not what I meant. What I did say, which I have no hesitation in reiterating, is that at least one Member of the opposition has been raising the issue of Khaistan and the re-formation of States within the Union. And, I have not seen anybody in the opposition taking that up as an issue. I have not accused the opposition of raising Khalistan as an issue and I do not accuse them of doing that. But if they are truly committed to fight the terrorist, I would like them to take action against that Member.

Sir, I have also got some letters from very senior members of the Opposition appealing for some actions to be done, showing softness on terrorists. And, this is the sort of double standard which makes it difficult to fight terrorism.

Lastly, I would like to say that yesterday



[Sh. Rajiv Gandhi]

in the heat of the discussion I mentioned the CPM. I meant to mention all the Communists because the CPI, the CPM, the other Leftist Parties have been fighting the terrorists and have been taking a nationalist stand. I want to thank them and congratulate them for that.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say that apart from the Congress and the Leftist Parties, many people from other Parties have also been killed and our hearts go out to them. They were all patriots. they stood and fought for the unity and integrity of our nation.

Lastly, if the Opposition wants to come out clean on this issue, I would like them to take a positive stand against terrorists. I would like them to show the nation that they will not allow any member of the Opposition to pander or softpedal to the terrorists in any way.

If anything I have said has hurt Members of the Opposition, I am sorry about that, but I would like them to correct it by action. Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The house stands Adjourned for Lunch and will meet here Again at 2 O'clock.

*The Lok sabha adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the clock.*

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

[MR. DEPUTY—SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE  
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS— *Contd*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Vyas, I thank you have completed your speech.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): I have not completed, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already taken 12 minutes. Now, try to finish it in two or three minutes. I give this time as a special case.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was making submission regarding electricity. I would now like to say something about the problem of drinking water and other problems facing Rajasthan.

The Government of India has set up technological mission and is also formulating a big scheme to make drinking water available through it. There are still 5 thousand such villages in Rajasthan where drinking water is not available. The technological mission should formulate a very big scheme to make drinking water available there so that the people of Rajasthan may get drinking water.

Similarly, the technological mission is also engaged on adult education and education. Sir, Rajasthan is one such state where literacy level is the lowest in the country. Only 20% of male and 12% of female are literate. Therefore, maximum emphasis should be laid on education there. The technological mission should make the maximum efforts in this field too so that maximum number of people there may get educated there and thereby may be able to contribute in making our country economically prosperous.

Similarly, dairy development may also become helpful in Rajasthan because half of its area is desert and nothing except cattle rearing can be practised there. Therefore, this technological mission should also put in a lot of efforts for dairy development so that the people of Rajasthan may get an opportunity for their economic development

and means of progress may be made available to the farmers in that state.

There is a great need to develop Rajasthan in these three things through the help of technological mission. Efforts need to be made for this. Our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is constantly making efforts to develop such states and the country as a whole with the help of these technological missions. Therefore, there is an dire need to make these provisions.

With regard to Public sector in our state, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister for having laid the foundation stone of Zinc Smelter Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 750 crores in Rajasthan some time back. But the demand of a mica paper mili has been laying pending there for a long time and this scheme belongs to my district Bhilwara. Such mills have been set up in Bihar and Andhra Pradesh but it has not yet been started in Rajasthan. There is a dire need of it there so that people may get employment. One more plant should be set up there to extract groundnut oil. A co-operative society has been established there and 6-7 such plants have been set up in the co-operative sector in Punjab, U.P. , Gujarat etc. but no such provision has yet been made in Rajasthan. When the hon. Prime Minister toured our state, he assured us that this mill would be set up in our state. Therefore my submission is that this demand should be accepted at the earliest so that the state may be benefited.

I would like to submit something regarding Panchayati raj because I consider myself to be a product of it. I first of all became the sarpanch, then tehsil pradhan, followed by pradhan, M.L.A. and M.P. I am not the son of a rich person who gets elected as an M.P. straight away. I was only a poor farmer and started my life from the very grassroot.

I was fully associated with the Pan-

chayati Raj and it is very essential to strengthen this system. If at all we want to see the farmer to achieve economic prosperity. We must, as has been said by the Hon. Prime Minister, adopt the Panchayati Raj System. There should be decentralisation of power. Plans are being made by the Government of India and the State Governments as well. But what is their outcome, where are the benefits of these schemes. They do not reach the villages. Panchayati Raj can become strong if the Panchayats, the Panchayat Samitis and the Zila Parishads are strengthened and funds are made available to them from the district fund. Our objective to remove poverty and solve the unemployment problem will be achieved only when the Panchayati raj system is strengthened and vested with powers. In this system also, as has been said by some hon. Members, some wrong persons have entered and they are trying to misuse these institutions. Every effort should be made to get rid of these elements and facilities should be provided to these institutions. The problem of unemployement could be solved through the cooperative movement and economy could be made stronger. This task should be completed at the earliest so that various schemes may be completed early. This work should be completed by the next year end.

I wished to say a lot but had to yield to your order as you say that the time is very short. Therefore, with these words I conclude.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion of thanks to the Presidents Address moved by Shri Gadgil.

The country is celebrating Nehru Centenary these days and the steps taken by the Government to let the country proceed ahead are highly commendable. Our leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi toured the whole world

[Sh. K.D. Sultanpuri]

and countries of the world have regard for the 'Panchsheel' policy. The guidance based on this policy that India gave to the countries of the world is rarely expected from any other country. When Maldives was attacked recently by mercenaries, the Prime Minister of our country made all out efforts to provide protection to the island so that it could run its Government peacefully. Steps have also been taken in the direction of enhancing bilateral relations with Sri Lanka, Nepal and other neighbouring countries. Rajiv ji deserves our congratulations for this. A reference to extremism in Punjab has been made in the President's Address. This extremism is in operation with the assistance from some other country and the assistance still continues. Our leader declared war against the extremism and a mention to this effect has been made by the hon. President in his address that until and unless extremism is contained, we can not sit in peace. Steps so far taken in this direction are highly commendable. We held talks with Shrimati Benajir Bhutto after restoration of democracy in Pakistan and since then our relations with that country have improved. The Government will also make efforts to wipe out extremism spreading in Kashmir. More and more central assistance should be provided to State like Himachal Pradesh, Tehri Garhwal in U.P. and the area bordering Punjab so that such situations do not arise in these states. To-day the opposition people are not present here. Our leader never said any such thing that they are not with the country and he also never said that they are sympathizing with Khalistan. Rather the C.P.M and C.P.I. always extended their support to the state of affair prevailing in Punjab. For these people democracy can be established only when we talk of Fairfax or about removing Rajiv ji from power. During the days of Shrimati Gandhi also we saw the same attitude with these people who were making a demand "Indira Hatao aur Desh

Bachao". This was their slogan. But they have no leader. Every member has constituted his own group. There are several people who, even though not Members of the Lok Sabha, have constituted their own group. What guidance men of this type could give to the people of this country. The steps taken by our Government to solve the unemployment problem are quite laudable. While the Government is taking steps to provide employment opportunities to the educated unemployed and also strengthen the economy of our country, it should accord priority to improve the lot of Harijans and other backward people irrespective of their belonging to any community viz. Rajput, Brahmin etc. No teacher is prepared to accept a posting in for flung areas and people living in these localities qualify the exams in third divisions only. As a result of that they are not able to face any competition and their names are not registered in any employment exchange though they put up hard labour to strengthen the country. The farmer cannot maintain his livelihood from the produces of the land under his possession. That is why they need employment. So far as employment is concerned very few village people can join the nationalised banks and few Harijans, Adivasis and other tribals can join banking services because vacancies are filled through Competition exam. these people do not get ample opportunities to Compete in the examination. This is the reason that a number of posts in these banks remain vacant and the Government is not able to fill the backlog. The same is the position with regard to various central undertakings. In these undertakings also the Harijans and Adivasis do not get any opportunity as the backlog remains unfilled. It is not so that these people are not capable to come through any completion. If they are provided all the facilities they can also show their mettle. But the Government does not fill the backlog and does not provide necessary facilities to these people to enable them to qualify the competitive examination. You

should look into it. If you want to take the country ahead, those shortcomings must be overcome. To-day Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh is not present here. He claims that it is the credit of his party which provided the voting right to young people of 18 years old. On the contrary this was a decision taken by our leader in the recently concluded session of the Congress in Madras that the youths will be given this right. It is the decision of the Congress (I) that boys and girls of 18 years old should be given the voting right so that they may land a helping hand in strengthening the country. Shri Dhillon, former Speaker of the Lok Sabha says that he views in the daily television advertisements that a girl when she attains 18 years of age is being considered to marry. But for the boys marriageable age is 21 years. He is of the view that the age limit for both the boys and the girls should be made equal so that both of them could go to the polling booths together to exercise their franchise. This view is expressed by learned and experienced people here. Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh is the leader of the Janata Dal. Earlier he used to be with us. He left our party, joined them and became its leader. I am astonished to note that they do not have any leader with them. Because whoever leaves our party and joins them becomes their leader. After becoming their leader people of his category start making statements that neither he will become the Prime Minister nor any Minister, he will not accept any seal power. They use to say the same thing here also.

I come from Himachal Pradesh. The farmers of the State of Himachal Pradesh raised their production of apple, potato and vegetables and supplied them to different parts of the country. They deserve our thanks for this. But the farmers living in far flung areas still pass their days in difficulty in this modern time even. There are no roads in these areas. They bring the products on their back to road sides and then only the products reach market places. I,

therefore, request the Government to provide road facilities to them. This will help them get remunerative prices for their products and strengthen their economy. Lease deeds of land have been given to Adivasis and Harijan in these areas, but they have not been given actual possession. The land has been acquired by some other people. The Government should hold an enquiry into it so that possession of the land could be given to the right persons. This will enable the poor people work in their fields and maintain their livelihood. The state has a capacity of generating 20,000 MW power. The Government did a commendable job by according approval to Nathpa Jhakadi project in Himachal Pradesh. This is a big project where 1500 M.W. power will be generated. Similarly, there is Koal dam which will be constructed with the collaboration of U.S.S.R. Besides these two big projects, survey of many other projects has also been completed. I would therefore, request that work on all these projects should also be taken up.

Now I request the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting to establish a powerful television centre at Simla so that maximum people of Himachal Pradesh may get facility of watching the television programmes. There are some border areas also and people of these areas should also know about other parts of the country. There are many districts in Himachal like Kinnour, Rampur, Kulu and other interior areas, so much so that even high altitude areas of Simla, where neither television programmes can be seen properly nor any television centre has been established there. It is my submission that after survey, Government should set up some television centres in the aforesaid areas so that all the people may be benefited through the programmes of Television. secondly, telecommunication system in Himachal Pradesh is also not working properly. even after taking decision on opening new post-offices in hilly-areas, these have not been set up in 2-3 years. I would

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ask the hon. Minister that post-offices should be opened immediately after taking a decision to that effect. Our many town post offices have been closed and post-masters have been transferred from there. I am at a loss to find any reason of closing the post-offices which have been in existence since British period. I would request the hon'ble Minister to arrange to reopen all such post-offices.

There are many cantonments in Himachal Pradesh since British period, perhaps, their total number is 7. Civilians also live in these areas but cantonment authorities create great problems for the civilians. They have no shops of their own. Every shop is auctioned every year. This practice should be stopped. I want that the people living in these areas should be permitted to construct houses according to their own will. They cannot construct their own houses in cantonment areas at present because army authorities do not permit them. I would request the hon'ble minister to take immediate steps to remove the difficulties of civilians living in those areas. Such situation should be created in all the cantonment areas like Kasauli, Sapatou, Jatoog, Dagshai cantonment etc. so that residents of these areas could run their business smoothly and their economic situation is improved.

20 Point Programme has been discussed in detail and has also been included in the President's Address but it is not being implemented in the cantonment areas. This programme should be implemented there as well Benefits of 20 point programme should reach all the poor, scheduled tribes and backward people of the whole country without any discrimination. In cantonment areas, many Harijans, scheduled tribes and people living below the poverty line are deprived of the benefits of this programme. The Government employees of Himachal Pradesh are

being paid equally to the Punjab Government employees but you should give them more facilities due to hilly region so that they may not resort to agitation every now and then and may work for the development of the State. With these words, I am grateful to you for allowing me to express my views and I support the Motion.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have allowed me to express my views. I rise to support the Motion of Thanks which has been moved by Shri Gadgil on the President's Address. First of all, I want to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi because a condition has been developed in Rajasthan in the past due to drought which was perhaps unprecedented. More than half the cattle-wealth and every native of Rajasthan suffered because of this drought, but our hon. Prime Minister went from place to place in Rajasthan and assessed the situation and arranged the assistance Rs. 6.5 crore on behalf of the central Government. Rajasthan Government also contributed rupees 2 crore in addition to the amount of Rs. 6.5 crores and in this manner Rajasthan could be saved. Rajasthan could face the drought, save the cattle wealth and also improve the economic condition of the people. Many concrete steps have been taken there with this amount. Particularly, wells were dug to provide drinking water and irrigation facilities were provided and school buildings have also been constructed with that amount.

I and people of Rajasthan will always remain grateful to our hon. Prime Minister. The tradition of Rajasthan is that our people have always been faithful. People of Rajasthan have never remained behind in making supreme sacrifice for the sake of their country. People of Rajasthan are great patriots. We will have to ponder over dangers both from inside and outside the country. It will not be proper, if we find ourselves unable to save

the country today. Independence has been won after making great sacrifices passing through fiery tests and if we fail to protect the country, coming generations will never forgive us. Therefore we should forget all the differences and save our country.

There was a time when opposition leaders had opposed the purchase of weapons for the protection of the country. It was very shameful. If we ourselves condemn the purchase of weapons meant for security of the country, then can it be called patriotism?

The people like Mir Jafar and Jaichand born in this country should not be allowed to put her in chains again, but if it happens, the history will never forgive us. If these so called leaders of the country become successful in selling the country to grind their own are, this country and her coming generation will never forgive us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to our Prime Minister for the way he has tackled the hazardous situation around the country and for which he really deserves appreciation. He has controlled the situation which was arising out of unfavourable environments in China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangla Desh. It is a matter of pride that he has solved the problems of Punjab, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland. The way our armed forces protected the democratically elected Government of Maldives has set an example, not only in the country but also throughout the world. Our Armed Forces have proved that they work honestly and enthusiastically on slight indication from our Prime Minister. The way our Prime Minister has handled the overall situation in and around our country is praise-worthy.

Mr. deputy speaker, Now I will talk about those people who want to harm the country, specially those sitting on the opposite benches. I do not believe that they would sell the country to grind their own axe. If they do

so, the pious land of India will never forgive them. Besides, I would also like to say that area of Rajasthan is a very backward one. I come from Jhunjhunu. There is a milk dairy plant in Jhunjhunu, although it is fully equipped but it remains closed. I do not know the reason for which it remains closed. It should be opened. Farmers of this area are facing great hardships of milk owing to closure of this plant. I hope that the Hon. Minister will take appropriate action to get it opened.

I thank the Hon. Prime Minister and also Shri Bhagatji that in response to a long standing demand for a T.V. Centre in Jhunjhunu, our hon. Minister Shri Krishna Kumar inaugurated it there. The people of Jhunjhunu are grateful for the same.

I appeal to the hon. Minister to set up an industrial growth centre in Jhunjhunu because soldiers and farmers live in this area. I have made an appeal in writing to set up an industrial growth centre and I hope that the hon. Minister would arrange to set up the same there at the earliest.

Our Rajasthan is still very backward so far railway is concerned. Very little attention has been paid towards Rajasthan in the railway budget for the current year. There is no day time train for Delhi from Jhunjhunu and Shekhavati area even today and no provision has been made for the same until now. I may submit that some link trains should be provided so that people may be able to come to Delhi from Shekhavati, Sikar and Jhunjhunu. A railway line was laid from Dabra to Sinhana for the copper project which is utilised for goods train. I have been demanding for the last four years to attach a passenger compartment in the goods train so that people working in the copper project can utilise the services of this train. But it is regrettable that no such provision has been made even in the current Budget. At least a passenger compartment should be pro-

[Sh. Mohd. Ayub Khan]

vided in the goods trains so that employees and the people of that area could travel by the same.

Shekhawati and Khetri areas in my constituency are hilly areas. All the facilities provided to hill areas should be provided there. This area is facing the problems of water, electricity and roads. All facilities should be provided to them.

Two districts of my constituency are still in dark Zone, where the farmers do not get any facility or subsidy. The subsidy provided for development projects, mainly for digging deep wells, is not reaching the farmers. Many times I have raised this matter of dark zone. I would request that Chirava area in Udaipur district continues to be a dark zone and, hence, it should be freed from dark zone.

There is auto-exchange in my constituency no doubt, but the district Jhunjhunu has not been provided with S.T.D. facility so far I would request to provide that facility also.

There is acute problem of electricity in this area. Even though it is, hilly and desert area, farmers can be easily provided electricity by setting up solar energy and wind power stations. Attention should be paid to it.

The water level in our area is very low and it is difficult to get drinking water. Most of the areas have brackish water. A project was formulated for providing drinking water, but it is only for namesake. Indra Gandhi Canal is quite far-off from our district. If the people of this area could get water from Indra Gandhi Canal, they would get a great relief as they would feel that, after all, they too have got sweet drinking water. A saying goes in our area that blood is cheaper than water, but the residents do not react sharply to it. They are patriots and work for the unity and integ-

riety of the country. They are truly faithful to their leaders. Muslims of that area revere their leader as prophet in the same way they pay obeisance to Khuda. If our leader orders us to jump on fire, we never think of the consequence and simply obey him. We highly respect our leaders. Members of other parties want to divide and sell the country for their selfish interests. Can the nation ever forget how some people have betrayed the country by establishing links with foreigners in Fairfax affair. Coming generations will never forgive them.

With these words, I would request you to fulfil my demands. I support the Hon. President's Address and thank you.

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI (Faizabad):  
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for having given me time to present my views on the Hon. President's Address. I would like to submit some points. The Hon. President's Address presents before us a glimpse of the working of the Government, its policies and achievements and the tasks ahead. This Parliament, this Lok Sabha, which is the supreme body of democracy provides an opportunity or discussions on different issues between the members of the ruling party and the opposition, which in turn help strengthening the democratic system. It is unfortunate that Members of opposition are not taking part in this discussion since yesterday and they are not ready to accept the facts also. There are some leaders of National Front, who do not have the courage to repeat their allegations, which they made outside the House-at Patna Maidan-even when pressurized by the people. These are the leaders who talk of ideals and ethics and are known as the stalwarts of the opposition, but when the Hon. Prime Minister and the leader of Congress Party, Shri Rajiv Gandhi comes out with a statement in the House that in some way, opposition is supporting the terrorist activities in Punjab-whether it is through silent acceptance or having relation

with the person who supports the demand for Khalistan or when it comes to suggesting any way out to check terrorism, all that they do is to stage walk out. They have no answer to this allegation which the Hon. Prime Minister made against them in the House. They do not give any importance to the fact that the reality should be presented before the country through the House.

I have heard it from the wise-men that when human body was created, it was given two eyes so that he could look at a thing from every perspective. Similarly, two ears were given to hear things and consider them from every angle, but was given only one tongue, so that one would properly think before speaking. Other opposition leaders should not do things which the leaders of National Front did one and half years ago. One of them said that he would never accept any post throughout his life, but just after seven-eight months, he accepted a post. As the wise men have given wise definitions of human body, I think that, while using their tongue against the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, against the Congress Government, or the country's set up, the opposition should see the facts, think over them and then speak. Having said this, I shall revert to the Hon. President's Address.

In the Hon. President's Address, on the one hand we got a picture of country's progress, and on the other, there is a resolve of the Government also for the development, integrity and stability of the country and for maintaining the proper position of India in the world. This strong resolve has helped the Government to tide over the severe drought conditions. Despite drought situation, there has been 3.6 per cent growth in our economy. We have also made progress in the field of industrialisation. The 17 per cent increase in bank loan for the farmers speaks for the Government's policy.

Farmers are the backbone of the nation. Their progress in the field of agriculture and

the use of various new farming techniques can strengthen the nation. This has been mentioned in the Presidential Address. We have seen it in practice too. The Government took concrete steps to end corruption. Corruption was not limited to the economic sphere alone but had entered the social and political spheres also. The Government has tried to root out corruption from these places. When the young Prime-Minister hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi took office people had high hopes of him. The first call he gave was to remove corruption at all levels and we have to make efforts in this direction. In the political sphere efforts have been made in this direction. If defection is one of the reasons behind corruption it should be curbed. We should also keep off gang leaders who take advantage of this system during elections. In this direction a step has been taken towards electoral reforms. On behalf of the country's youth I thank hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi for presenting a gift to them by lowering the voting age to 18 years. I would like to give some suggestions in this context. If provisions in the last Bill were necessary we should also see that the electoral machinery is expansive enough to carry on revision of electoral rolls on a continuous basis. Revision work should not be a 10-15 day affair subsequent to the notification of the Election Commission. Revision should be a continuous process wherein the names of people who die are deleted and those who become eligible to cast their votes are added. A separate machinery should be set up for this purpose.

Today we are celebrating the birth centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru. It was he who was behind our Planning process which took shape in the form of Five Year Plans. The progress made by the Public Sector is reflected in the President's Address. The investment made in the Public Sector should be proportionate to the population of the State. I have the figures for Bihar. 10.3% of the country's population lives in Bihar



[Sh. Nirmal Khattri]

whereas public sector investment in the State is around 2.6%. Same is true of Uttar Pradesh. Public sector units should be set up in backward areas. We should find ways to do this keeping in mind the population of every State. My constituency of Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh is a backward area. There is need to set up a public sector unit over there for the development of the district and Uttar Pradesh as a whole.

Recently the Hon. Prime Minister spoke on the system of Panchayati Raj. We have to think of ways to vest them with more powers. Panchayats should be strengthened financially so that they could effectively contribute towards the development of the districts. Elections to the Zila Parishads and Block Samitis in my area have been held but they lack adequate funds for development work and upkeep of roads. Aid can be granted to them separately or through the D.R.D.A. If we want them to be financially strong we shall have to provide them more and more funds so that they can solve their problems effectively.

The Budget shall be presented to the House today in the evening. Unemployment is an important issue affecting our youth. Hopefully, this Budget will throw up some tangible solutions to this problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, obeying your order, I shall end my speech here.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota):  
Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I support the Motion of thanks on the President's Address moved by hon. Shri Gadgil. The Presidential Address describes in detail the progress made by our Government in the past year. While praising the Government's public-oriented programmes. I thank the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for making our foreign policy work towards improving

India's relations with China, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. This is an important development for the whole sub-continent.

The behaviour of the Opposition in the recent past is deplorable. These people do not have any policy. They concoct baseless allegations to tarnish the image of the Hon. Prime Minister, the ruling party and its ranks. All this is being done with the objective of coming into power. They have not clarified as to what would be their economic policy and how they would improve conditions in the country. Apart from criticism they do not seem to have any plan of action. Whereas our Government helped the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan when they were hit by drought for 4-5 years in succession. Government assistance saved lakhs of human lives and cattle wealth. We thank the hon. Prime Minister for taking special interest in helping the people of Rajasthan. He saved the agricultural set-up in the State from collapsing and increased loans to farmers from Rs. 18 crores to Rs. 25 crores. This is also a welcome step.

But problems of farmers are such that we have not been able to solve them till date. They are denied remunerative prices for their produce. They are exploited everywhere. They have to pay many taxes. They are not provided the relief that they need.

Sugarcane farmers and other farmers in my constituency do not get remunerative price for their produce. The entire process should be looked into so that farmers are not discriminated against. They should get reasonable price for their produce and timely irrigation facilities. Their economic condition should become stronger.

The hon. Member who spoke before me mentioned that many applications from farmers for electricity connections are pending. They need connections for pumpsets. Hardly 20-30 connections are provided for a

'tehsil' with a population of one lakh. Small farmers should be provided with pump-sets. As it is, water is not available in Rajasthan and where water is available, no connections are provided. Where connections are provided the farmers have to wait for 10 years. This matter needs to be looked into as ours is a country of farmers. How can we hope to strengthen the Indian economy without improving the lot of farmers?

So many are the instances of excesses perpetrated by official dom that it is hard to go into them all. For example, when a farmer sells his produce in the market the total income of the market is spent in a limited area. The source from where the farmer brings his goods is not checked. His produce should be purchased at the source and the money utilised for the development of the area. It should not be used in a limited area only. This creates dissatisfaction among farmers. These minor issues need our attention.

Schemes such as 'Kutir Jyoti' have been introduced. These should be developed further. Under this scheme, the poor, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should get benefits.

15.00 hrs.

It would be quite beneficial if the target is raised. The Government should pay more attention to link the rural areas with roads. The condition of these areas is bad to the extent that farmers face a lot of inconveniences in taking their produce to the market. There is hardly any block in the country whose more than half of villages are linked with main roads. Hence this work is required to be accomplished on priority basis. We cannot expect the rural areas to develop unless they are linked with roads. So I would like to urge upon the Government to allocate more funds for development of rural areas as also more attention is required to be paid to

provide more link roads in rural areas.

Lowering of voting age to 18 years by the Government is also a good step in right direction which deserves to be appreciated. As regards schemes, no doubt all schemes formulated by the Government are good, but the bureaucracy prevails upon them. It would not be possible to implement the schemes properly unless the workers participation and involvement of local people are ensured. Unless check and balance is ensured and assistance of public representatives is sought for, no scheme can be successfully implemented. The self-employment scheme is a good one, but its implementation has been left to the bureaucracy alone. They sanction loans at their discretion, as a result of which genuine persons are denied to its benefits. All the schemes under operation are good one but due to their faulty implementation, they do not yield good results.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

As regards Public Sector, particularly Banks, I would like to say that development work has been carried out very rapidly after nationalisation of banks and a large number of persons have been given loans. But corruption has also increased side by side. People have to grease the palms of the officials to get their work done. Such malpractices, if not removed, earn bad name for the Government and it has to bear the brunt of it. So radical changes are required to be made in the functioning of banks without any further delay. If necessary, services of experts in the system may be taken for rectifying the defects so that corruption could be checked.

In the end, I would like to submit a few words about Panchayati Raj System. Our hon. Prime Minister has rightly emphasised

[Sh. Shanti Dhariwal]

upon strengthening Panchayati Raj System as it is the need of the hour. But mere slogans and speeches won't do. Panchayati Raj won't be strengthened in the real sense unless adequate financial and sanctioning powers are vested in 'Panches' and 'Sarpanches' of the villages. For the elections sake, Panchayats elections in Rajasthan have been held, but this wouldn't strengthen Panchayatiraj system. The State Government have not made available the amount of grant-in-aid for the last two years. About 80% of Panchayat Bhawans have been lying closed. They do not have money even to pay the salary to sweepers, because their only source of income is grant-in-aid from the Government. In order to strengthen Gram Panchayats, the Government will have to give financial powers to them. A demand has been made to bring a bill in the current session itself for strengthening Panchayatiraj system. To my view, firstly we have to see the relations the concerned State Governments are having with the representatives elected in Panchayats elections and what sorts of powers they have been given or whether their powers have been increased or curtailed. In the States, Government functionaries like BDO and DDO are so powerful that they function in arbitrary manner while the elected representatives have no power. Panchayats should be provided its own source of income and lump sum amount of money should be given to them so that they may be able to draw their annual development plan in accordance with their financial capacity. So long as such provision is not made, it would be going to an eye-wash only which will, in stead of providing any good, will do harm rather. The equal amount which we are spending for urban development is required to be spent on rural development also. Our country cannot progress without this. Priority will have to be accorded to all round rural development. Financial powers will have to be given to Panchayatiraj sys-

tem, so as to minimise the intervention of the State Government in their functioning and provide legal sanction of the decision taken by them. With these words, I conclude and I support this Motion.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on President's Address moved by Shri V.N. Gadgil. History stands testimony to it that our country has been facing floods and drought at one time or the other for the last three years. Besides, we have been engaged in fighting those forces which ought to wreck the unity and integrity of our country. In spite of being confronted by the problem of law and order, India under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi made tremendous progress. It is a commendable achievement and for this our administration as well as concerned persons deserve to be congratulated. Despite several bottlenecks, our growth rate increased from 3.5 percent to 9 percent. As regards inflation, whole-sale price index has come down from ten percent to five percent and consumer price Index from ten percent to eight percent. Similarly, target fixed for banks for agricultural sector has also increased by 17 percent. Similarly, loans to be provided by NABARD has registered 30% increase from Rs. 1800 crore to Rs. 2550 crore. We congratulate the Government for this achievement twenty five million beneficiaries have been benefited under N.R.D.P. Equally impressive achievements have been made by the Government under NREP. But the Hon. Prime Minister wants the common people to be benefited by those achievements. He wants to create a new economic system in the country through decentralisation of powers so that projects could be made and implemented at district level itself. But the bureaucracy is a major stumbling block in the attainment of these goals. These obstacles are created by none less than those persons who are responsible to implement the schemes. It is a matter of great regret that

several measures taken, the Government could not be able to control them. Our future generations won't forgive us for that. The way in which revolution should have been brought in this country, it has not been brought and our dreams were not fulfilled for which history will never forgive us. I would submit something about the procedure of sanctioning loans. The district authorities and bank officials organised a *loanmela* in my constituency Satna 7-8 months ago. But I was neither informed nor counselled in this regard, and all sorts of malpractices were committed in distributing loans. If a buffalo is purchased at a price of Rs. 500/-, it was charged Rs. 1,500/- from the farmer and so on. I furnished all sorts of proofs with affidavits to the concerned authorities, some of them were arrested even. But no further action is being taken against them. If we continue to take lenient view against such persons, all our achievements will be rendered futile. Similarly, the Hon. President in his Address has mentioned the problem of unemployment and price-rise. I would like to make a few points in this regard. In spite of our high achievements, we have not been able to solve the problem of unemployment. I would like to cite an example of my own constituency Satna and Vindhya Prakash where big industrialists have set up cement factories but it is most regretting that the local people have not been given employment there. There is no one there to hear their grievances. All efforts on my part as well as on the part of local social service organisations did not yield any fruitful result and we have lost all hope in managing employment for them in local factories. We often talk about improvement in environment. It is good that the Minister of Industries is also present here. Cement industries emits thick smokes which pollute the entire environment of the area, because no action is taken against those influential industrialists. As a result of this pollution, local people living in a radius of 20 miles suffer from hazardous diseases like cancer, Tuberculo-

sis, eye infections as well as intestinal diseases but administration does not pay any heed to it. The authorities, whether they were of the State Government or the Central Government, are so careless that they give a clean chit to the owners of the factories without bothering about the hazardous effects. The Hon. President has made a mention of the Nehru Centenary Celebrations in his Address and also referred to the various work to be undertaken by the Government at this occasion.

I want to point out one shortcoming here. When we are celebrating the birth centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who was not only a great leader of our country but of the world as well and we have celebrated the birth centenary of late Shri G.B. Pant also, I think that much more needs to be done in this regard. Birth Centenaries of Maulana Azad and Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan should also be celebrated on their respective birth anniversaries. So far, no significant work has been undertaken in this direction. Azad Bhawan was built to perpetuate the memory of Maulana Azad, and his entire personal collection of books were donated to it. The intention behind building Azad Bhawan was that it would be a centre of our culture, civilization and academic activities and will help in establishing good relations with the West Asian and other countries of the world. Similarly, Teen Murti House was dedicated to the memory of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Teen Murti Bhawan and Azad Bhawan are both located in Delhi and in this connection, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there is considerable difference in the functioning of these two establishments. If my voice reaches the Government and if it is interested in paying heed to what I am saying, then it may get it verified that Azad Bhawan which was established to perpetuate the memory of Maulana Azad has been reduced merely to a centre of singing and dancing. I am not against sing-

[Sh. Aziz Qureshi]

ing and dancing and I think that the singers and dancers should be encouraged in every way and they should be protected and patronised but patronising them does not mean that the other objectives for which Azad Bhawan was established should be lost sight of and it should be converted into a centre of music and dance. Even his personal correspondence and letters have not been preserved. I want the Government to pay attention and take necessary action in this regard.

Similarly, the birth centenary of Badshah Khan is approaching and Government should pay attention in that direction as well. Such programmes should be prepared from now onwards which show the right path to the whole country. I had demanded earlier also that the name of Delhi University should be changed to Ghaffar Khan University. I had raised this matter under Rule 377 and other Rules and I also received the reply from the Government that this matter is under consideration, but no action has been taken so far in this regard. I would request the Government once again to re-name the Delhi University as Badshah Khan University so that we are able to pay appropriate tribute to a great freedom fighter of this country.

Similarly, I have made repeated demands during the past four years for setting up of a T.V. centre at Satna. The hon. Minister had also assured us several times that this work would commence shortly but I cannot understand as to why this area is not receiving his attention even after 4 years in spite of the fact that dacoits and terrorists have held sway for centuries in this area and the people are always under their threat. I cannot understand as to why there is delay in providing modern facilities in free India. I demand that a T.V. centre should be established at Satna at the earliest.

There is so much of talent for sports available among the youth, industrial and agricultural labour in our area that if proper encouragement and protection is provided to them, they may perhaps excel in this field. I would demand that for these young budding sportsmen, industrial and agricultural labourers, an indoor stadium should be constructed and the Centre should extend special assistance to M.P. Government for this purpose. With these words, I support this motion and express my gratitude for having provided me an opportunity to make my submission.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the President's Address. The hon. President started his address by referring to the fundamental principles as laid down by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Therefore, first of all, I would like to draw the attention of the House in this direction. As this year is the birth centenary year of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, therefore, it follows naturally that the people of this country who are enjoying the fruits of his efforts which he made to make the country independent, should remember him and follow the basic policies which he gave to the nation. He set before us some very significant principles, namely, democracy, secularism, non-alignment and socialism. But I think that we have not followed his policies in the real sense. I feel that those policies are being eroded. This matter requires serious consideration and the time has come to seriously think about it. So far as secularism is concerned, we have adopted it as a national policy but it is seen that our top religious heads, irrespective of the religion they belong to, including persons like Maulana Bukhari and Shankaracharya of Puri are raising religious issues lightheartedly in order to take undue advantage of the policy of secularism. This is not good. Serious thought should be given to this aspect. Whatever problems we are facing in the country today is the consequence of our

narrow mindedness. Today, parochialism is thriving which is not proper. I shall request everyone to give a serious thought to this aspect.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as the common citizen is concerned, he has kept himself aloof. We hear about the killings going on in Punjab everyday. But the people in general have remained aloof. The Hindus and Sikhs are not divided on this account. This is not due to any political leader but due to the age-old traditions. It is unfortunate that the political leaders who are responsible for governing the country are not following the traditions as the common people are doing. Therefore, it has to be considered seriously by all sections of society as to what are the reasons behind light-heartedness and lack of seriousness that has crept in our political and social life. I would like to draw the attention of the House to this aspect.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to cite an example from my constituency in Rajasthan. During the past 4 years or since the last General Elections, there have been occurrences of Hindu Muslim riots in this area which has led to communal tension. 4 or 5 persons were killed which has resulted in the atmosphere becoming bitter. Nothing of this kind was seen 40 to 50 years ago. I have closely watched the rule of kings in the bygone times. I fail to understand as to why these religious feelings are creating an atmosphere of bitterness in the country in spite of our best efforts. You may be aware that during the time of partition, crores of refugees from Pakistan came to Rajasthan, and crores of Indians went to Pakistan. You may be knowing, and it is a chapter of history now, that barring some areas around Delhi, violent incidents did not occur anywhere else. But, today even in my small constituency, riots have taken place 3 or 4 times and it is a fact that besides the persons who are behind these riots, some political leaders are involved as well. The fact is, that it is the

educated youth who are involved in the riots and not any big leader. This is a dangerous trend because young people of today who have been born in the post-independent period and who should have been more secular, are more parochial. This is a matter which requires serious thinking. I want to cite an example in this connection.

In a village under Mangeha Police Station, a dispute took place in which 4 persons were killed. I reached that village 3 or 4 days after the incident. I talked to the Hindus and Muslims who were under tension at that time. I asked them that when they have been living in peace for centuries, then why did they quarrel now? They said that they were not involved in the clash nor were they interested in getting involved and that they had been living in peace for centuries. In the meantime, someone mentioned it to me that the festival of Dussehra was approaching and would be celebrated after 7 or 10 days and that the local headman or the Patel would kill Ravana as per the custom of the village. Incidentally, that Patel was a Muslim. I inquired that when a riot has taken place and 4 persons have been killed and there is so much of tension prevailing, will a Muslim Patel come to participate in the Dussehra festivities and kill Ravana as per the custom? I was informed that this has been the tradition and that the Patel will come and play the role of Rama and will kill Ravana. This sort of feeling exists in spite of the prevailing tension. They told me that they are strongly united and the riots were engineered by outsiders. Thereafter, the Patel said that he had made contributions to the funds which were required to make the kiosk of Lord Hanuman. These were the words of a Muslim Patel.

I have submitted that before independence the local ruler ruled in the name of religion. He was a Hindu and his name was Braj Raj. But there was so much of goodwill among the people that the Muslim Patel

[Sh. Jujhar Singh]

would kill Ravana and religious sentiments were not exploited. Today, in the post-independent country, when we have adopted secularism as the basic principle, so much of divisions have been created that the values set before us by Pandit Nehru have been badly eroded. In fact, I would say that we, the politicians, regardless of the party we belong to, are responsible for it and it is unfortunate that we do not take this responsibility seriously.

As regards democracy, it is true that elections are held every 5 years but now-a-days violence and money power play an important role. I contested the election for the first time in 1952 and I have been contesting every election since then. I have seen those times as well as the present. I think that the spirit of election today is not what it was 40 years ago. Elections results do not reflect the actual feelings of the people. So many allurements are given to the voters and we should not take them in a light-hearted way. We should give this matter a serious thought. Today, all of us will have to think of the measures for strengthening our democracy.

I want to draw your attention to the new policies formulated by the Hon. Prime Minister.

The Hon. Prime Minister has laid great emphasis on strengthening the Panchayati Raj and it is a good and welcome decision that they want to strengthen the Panchayati Raj.

In this connection, I may say only this much that the number of educated people in villages has been increased and they are as educated as we are here in this House. The Pradhan, Sarpanch and Pramukhs of the villages are highly qualified and they behave in responsible manner because they are

directly connected with that land. The time has come when we should delegate more powers to them.

I would like to state that there is three-tier system of Rajasthan Panchayat Raj. It is working well and therefore it should be introduced at other places also. But it has been observed that in the elections for Gram Pradhans and District Pramukhs, the people from cities come and contest. Therefore, only those people, who are associated with villages and have business activities there should be allowed to contest elections. The elections were held in our villages six months ago and it was observed that some undesirable elements secured the party tickets and contested those elections and consequently spirit of Panchayati Raj vanished. The manner in which our Prime Minister wants to strengthen the Panchayati Raj should be translated in letter and spirit in villages. If somehow the people from cities manipulate and contest these elections in villages and if they win, then they will act in an arbitrary manner and spoil the entire structure of villages. I, therefore, would request you to strengthen the Panchayati Raj and give priority to the people from village itself and not allow the infiltration from outside.

Our Prime Minister has decided and formulated a new policy to accord priority to women in every field of life. I also agree with the view that without the progress of women, country cannot make any progress. I request you to give adequate representations to the women in every field. But it is regretted that at present the number of educated women in villages is very less.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): The ladies might not possess degrees but they have capability. They can give better performance than men.

**SHRI JUJHAR SINGH:** I respect the feelings of women and I agree that they should be given priority in every field of life but reservation policy creates tension in the society. The tension should be removed. The Government should definitely give preference to the poor, ladies and people of Scheduled Castes but at the same time, steps should be taken remove the tension which is increasing in the society. Today people do not have patience to listen to the truth. Therefore, efforts should be made to remove the misgivings which are cropping up along with good things. It is in interest of the country.

Our Prime Minister has initiated a very good scheme of food processing. It will help in development of villages and the cultivators will get remunerative prices for their produce. In this connection, I urge that the processing unit should be set up in villages. It will serve no purpose if they are set up in cities. Since formation of this Ministry, I have been requesting.....(*Interruptions*).... I want to say that there is rich production of oranges and citrus plants and there is lot of wastage also. The crops worth crores of rupees are damaged. I had requested him to set up the processing unit at Bhiwani Mandi of Jhalwada. Thus, a beginning would be made and people will also come to know about the setting up of new Department.

I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views. Although I wanted to speak a little more but as you are ringing the bell continuously, I conclude.

[*English*]

**PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla):** Mr, Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks proposed by Mr. Gadgil and seconded by Mr. Bhatia on the Address of the esteemed President to the joint session of both the Houses of Parliament on 21st of this month.

The President has surveyed the economic scene and I feel very happy that he has generated quite a lot of hope with the people. The President feels, and I agree with him, that the public sector has performed well and the rate of growth has satisfactory. The President also felt that the industrial growth exceeded eight percent per annum in the past four years. In the infrastructure sector, there has been good initiative. As per the nuclear programme, India is somewhere on the world map and I express my satisfaction.

Getting the advantage of the democratic process and planning to the grass-root level, the Prime Minister's idea of organising what is now known as third tier, is a very welcome idea. I am a member of the Consultative Committee on Personnel etc. where the Prime Minister presides over the meetings there was a sub-committee which formulated these recommendations. I have the privilege of knowing how best the Prime Minister wanted to contribute to the idea of organising the village level, the panchayat level, the Block level and the District level. District is the focal point for all development in India and benefits of the development must trickle down to that level, Therefore, this idea received great attention from the esteemed President and I am very happy on that account.

Coming to international relations, the President has expressed satisfaction over the fact that the Prime Minister tried to organise very good relations with China. I won't say, there is a break through but there are signs of relations getting cordial with China and it is a very heartening situation.

As for Pakistan, the Prime Minister took initiative during SAARC meeting to organise better relations and there is some hope. After all, a democratic Pakistan is better for us than the situation of military dictatorship. I hope that India and Pakistan will come



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closer despite the stress and strains that some obscurantist elements try to generate.

In some areas I would have desired the President to express. Even briefly it would have been sufficient, But the President has not touched upon these subjects. I will now come to rural poverty. It is a broad area. In fact, the poverty line needs to be redefined. There are figures which I do not accept. Some people say that so many people have come over this side of the poverty line. But I see that the rural poverty is growing because the rich people are getting richer and that is the defect in the planning. I will come to that later.

Sir, our development has been patchy. I have all along felt that Jawaharlal Nehru deserved. We deserve him. For a decade more, had he lived, he would have reviewed the process of planning which he had started. Anyway, there is a patchy development. Some areas are totally feudal and some areas are totally capitalistic and when I say how the dogs are treated in the big business man house, I remember that in the slums men and women and swine live together and men and women do not get better treatment. Of course, our country is democratic. We have done planning and we have so much to our credit. We should be proud of our achievement. But the situation is there. So, I feel pained to say that the President did not say a word about slums which are growing, not only in Calcutta, not only in Bombay but even in Delhi where there are no big industries and we have not arrested the slums coming up in these cities. In R.K. Puram you can see how slums are growing and I would wish that the esteemed President had mentioned something about the slums and how these could be removed. Then, Sir, there are so many areas which have not been touched and I would not like to go into them.

Sir, the esteemed President has mentioned about the New Education Policy which will be for our society. I feel that Education deserves a lot of attention because that is the basic thing for all development. The Human Resources Development Ministry is not just the Education Ministry now. It is a very important Ministry and this Ministry should take the responsibility of Education policy. Now, we must have feedback and we must review whether this policy answers the aspirations of the Ministry. The Human Resources Development Ministry has to look into the things. Now, what is happening in the universities? They have given a long rope to the Universities. I will not be springing a surprise on this House. I may inform that the Court of Aligarh Muslim University had not been meeting for years now. Can the Vice Chancellor have the authority to refuse to meet? Several Members of the Parliament are the Members of the Court of Aligarh Muslim University. I am happy as a Member of the Court of Jawaharlal Nehru University, the meetings take place there regularly. What right has the Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University to refuse to hold a meeting of the Court? Can this be tolerated? Can this licence be given to a Vice-Chancellor? What does the Ministry of Human Resources Development do? Now, you see these people get into the Chair and how they refuse to come out of that Chair. There is some vested interest in holding this Chair. Now, he is refusing to vacate. The President should have mentioned that the Universities will have courts and the courts will meet regularly, the same Vice-Chancellor goes somewhere and in order to get extension, he says.

[*Translation*]

*The only way to save Urdu seems to be that its script should be changed.*

[*English*]

This is not acceptable. Urdu is not the

language of the Muslims. But we can never accept to change the script. That is the basic thing. Urdu should receive as much treatment as it deserves. So, the same Vice-Chancellor has the cheek to say, before the very nose of the President of India who is the Visitor of the University, that the Court is not meeting. It is an insult to this House that six Members of this august House are the Members of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University and the Vice-Chancellor has become a despot. He should be removed from that Chair and he should be made answerable to the Parliament. This is what the President should have done.

Now, Sir, I will briefly touch the economy of Jammu and Kashmir State about which our esteemed President did not say anything. Mr. Chairman, some people have raised fingers against the accord between the Congress and the National Conference of Jammu & Kashmir State. They are very much wrong. The accord will stand because the accord has been signed for the upliftment of the people of that backward State and my party wholeheartedly supports this accord between not only Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Dr. Farooq Abdullah, but between the Congress(I) and the National Conference. After all, these two parties have been secular parties, nationalist parties, and they stood all the time for secularism, nationalism and democracy. There was no difference of opinion. So, we tried to bury the hatchet and we came forward for an accord and that accord will stand because through the accord we want to organise a very great economic development in that backward State. But, Sir, there are some problems which the Central Government should look into. First is that this is a very wrong thing. For years it has continued—the proportion of loan and grant made available to the Jammu and Kashmir State. If you compare Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir State—I will not go to North-Eastern States because I am not satisfied how the funds are

being spent here. But that is a broader question that I found lot of wastage and corruption etc., but I cannot give the details now. But as for comparing the two States, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir State, they have the same topography. Of course, Himachal Pradesh is in a better position because it is connected with Delhi, it is connected with Punjab, it has good road system and it is nearer the capital of India and it has received so many benefits in the public sector industry. But Jammu and Kashmir State has lagged behind. Yet, Himachal Pradesh is receiving 90 percent of all the funding which comes from the Central Government, Himachal Pradesh receives 90 percent as grant and 10 percent as loan and Jammu and Kashmir State receives 70 percent as loan and 30 percent as grant. And some of the people pretend to be wiser, maybe in the Government, and tell us, 'Why do you worry? Money comes from the Central Government this way or that way.' They are absolutely wrong. I am a student of economics. When you make plan allocation, you take away a chunk by way of principal amount and you take away a great chunk by way of interest and what we get is only a wage bill. There is no scope for development in Jammu and Kashmir State. I am not quarreling in the vein of a person who has animosity. No, we are friends, but we must understand, we cannot leave it to the wisdom of a Planning Minister or a Finance Minister. We have to join our heads and understand because the average Kashmiri, the average member of the Jammu and Kashmir society, is very much annoyed with the Central Government on this treatment because we don't have money for development. It is a question of development and something should be done and this advice should not be given by those people because sycophancy is not going to help this country, you come to brass tacks and feel the situation as a nationalist. The Jammu and Kashmir State is an integral part of India, no power on earth can separate Jammu and

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Kashmir State from the Union of India. It is a union of hearts. But one thing is, we must take care to see how Jammu and Kashmir will be developed as an integral part of this great country.

Sir, I was raising this issue today and I differed with Mr. Kalpanath Rai. We have no electricity. You have the richest potential of electricity, more than 18 MW, I don't say, 'Harness that potential only for the Jammu and Kashmir State.' You harness that for the entire country. There should be a National Grid, but give us some electricity. There is shut down for four days in a week. That adds to the situation of some miscreants who raise hullabaloo there and that difficulty has to be removed. Why I was crossed with Mr. Kalpanath Rai and I wanted Mr. Sathe to answer the question was because when he became Minister, he was perhaps not believing in the chair that he was holding, and he shot circulars to us saying 'give suggestions'. I put one or two circulars in the dustbin, but the third circular I answered, and I spent three hours for it, and thereafter he took no action. He cannot create a *tamasha*. He should have gone to Srinagar because I had raised this problem here because there is a shut down. I told Mr. Sathe, 'Give us electricity.' There is enough electricity in Salal. We could not take that electricity because there are no transmission lines. Mr. Kalpanath Rai cannot brag here. He is a Minister and he is answerable to me, answerable to the people of Jammu and Kashmir State. They must work. Why didn't you go to Jammu and Kashmir State where there is power shut down for four days in a week? And you will produce a statement here and try to enlighten me.

Therefore, Sir, so far as power shortage is concerned, if it is due to transmission line, somebody must be responsible for that. Why do not we have transmission line? Mr. Sathe,

of course, came out with the statement that he knew the misery and he would find a solution. But it will take a long time. Till then, who is going to wait. You give us some relief in the near future.

We have a very sizeable problem of educated unemployed. The reason is, long before many States in India took to reforms, we were the people who performed the role of catalytic agents. In several States in India, there was no land reform. It goes to the credit of Sheikh Abdullah, Shere-e-Kashmir who introduced land reforms and gave the land to the tillers. Similarly, we made education free from class one to M.A., Ph.D. We are now facing a funny situation. If the Government of India does not come to our rescue, then the problem will remain. Of course, the Press writes very sharply to the situation. Every time they even compare the situation of Jammu & Kashmir State to that of Punjab. There is no question of that. The problem is when there is no electricity, no development, road gets closed, sometimes even petrol is to be sent by air and educated unemployment is growing, then somebody has to find the solution. Therefore, I must give credit to the Prime Minister who tries to rise to the occasion, tries to solve our difficulties. But I feel, bureaucrats are not ready for that. This is no occasion. May-be I bring a motion whether the country is being run by politicians or being run by bureaucrats. Several times, the Prime Minister made promises to us. Those promises are not being redeemed. One of the Secretaries had crossed sword with me because it does not touch his skin. It touches the skin of the politicians. Therefore, the promises made by the Prime Minister to the people of Jammu & Kashmir should be redeemed.

Finally, I feel there is growing inflation in the country. We suffer the most because we are in the far flung areas. It is not mentioned in the President's Address. We suffer the most because we have a difficult terrain and

we bear the transportation cost. Therefore, inflation in Jammu & Kashmir is at the highest peak.

Finally, I must thank the esteemed President for his thought-provoking Address.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri V.N. Gadgil and seconded by Shri R.L. Bhatia, on the Address made by the President of India to Parliament on 21st February, 1989.

15.54 hours

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

At the outset, I must say that as compared to the conditions that prevailed in this country at the time when the hon. Prime Minister the performance of the Government was remarkable under very unusual circumstances took charge as Prime Minister, the President has rightly given a gist of achievements made during the last one year and he has also rightly given a review of the total development of this country during the last 40 years, this year being the birth centenary of the hon. late Panditji. It is a joy to note that democracy, secularism, socialism and non-alignment which are the real pillars of our modern nationhood have gone deep into this country. As we all know, it was, during one of the darkest hours of history of this country that four years back, under the gloom of the assassination of Shrimati Indiraji, a massive mandate was given to the Congress and under the dynamic leadership of our beloved Prime Minister Shri Rajivji, the reigns of administration have been taken. The challenges that we had to face were several both within the country and outside. As many hon. Members have pointed out and also as mentioned in President's Address, our problems with China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri

Lanka and throughout the border of our country, were tremendous. But, we are fortunate that we faced them very boldly, and with the initiatives taken by our Prime Minister, today we are in a better position to consolidate the work which has been going on here during the last 40 years of our independence.

Four years back, the question was not the real development of our country. It was the question of the very survival of this country and whether the unity and integrity of this country could be retained and whether we will be able to withstand as a nation. But, fortunately during the last four years under the dynamic leadership of our Prime Minister, we are today a great nation.

Coming to the development both the Address of the President and the Economic Review, give a very rosy picture of our economy. In spite of the unprecedented drought in one part of the country and the fury of the nature in some other parts, the Economic Survey has projected an over-all growth of 9%. It has been proved that the liberal industrial policy initiated in 1985 has shown good results. For the fifth year in succession, there is a record growth of 8% in industrial production. These achievements are the result of the implementation of the new industrial policy by reducing the procedural impediments to industrial growth, increased emphasis on capacity creation, upgradation of technology etc. For the first time in the last several years, the rate of inflation has come down considerably both in the whole sale price index and in the consumer price index. However, the Survey has also warned us to be more cautious on two of the major areas: One is with regard to the balance of payment and the other is with regard to industrial sickness. Despite 24% growth in exports, the trade deficit is estimated to be Rs. 6,600 crores. It has been revealed that this deficit was largely due to the increase of imports which come to about 27.54%. Unless very

[Sh. A. Charles]

careful monitoring of our import export policy is done, in spite of the over-all growth, there will be tremendous pressure on the balance of payments. Hence it is essential to design our policy in a manner which discourages as far as possible the use of foreign exchange for production and assembling of unessential goods.

The Economic Survey has also revealed that the growing incidence of the industrial sickness could prove to be a very serious problem.

16.00 hrs.

It has been reported that there are about 1,60,000 sick units which have been financed by the nationalised banks alone. The outstanding bank credit involved is about Rs. 6750 crores in these sick units. It is really regrettable that no serious attempt or study has been made to identify the real cause of sickness in these units and chalk out a scheme for making them viable. I would like to point out just one area where such sickness prevails i.e. the Textile industry. A sum of about Rs. 750 crores was earmarked in the Seventh Plan for the modernisation of textile mills. In answering one of the questions in the last Session of this Lok Sabha, it was reported that out of the sum of Rs. 750 crores, almost Rs. 650 crores had been spent but no real results on modernisation have been achieved. It had also been answered in this House that no real study was made, no monitoring was made and no substantial improvement was made in spite of the modernisation. So, the sum of Rs. 750 crores was almost a waste. In one of the Study Groups conducted, I was able to go to Calcutta to see one of the textile mills there. When we were meeting the workers, we asked them about the problems of that particular mill. The workers stated that there were several reasons like power shortage,

lack of raw-materials and insufficient working capital etc. (*Interruptions*) They had stated that these were the reasons for sickness apart from making modernisation. The pity is that Rs. 750 crores were spent for modernisation but no effort was made to solve the other constraints such as non-availability of raw-materials, etc. No effort was made to provide sufficient funds for working capital and providing sufficient electricity for the mills. Unless all these are taken together, I am afraid, the desired results could not be achieved. I would, therefore, strongly plead that a study on this be kindly made to improve the position. I would suggest that the financial institutions must be asked to monitor the progress when funds are given to various industries. The real problems must be sorted out and improvements should be made for the development of these industries.

I would conclude my speech by pointing out only one aspect. When all these developments are being made, I am sorry to say about the role played by the Opposition in the last four years. Instead of being a constructive Opposition, they have been always trying to find out some sticks to beat the Government. We know what has happened yesterday and today. In the last two years, they have been unnecessarily bringing all sorts of allegations personally directed towards the Prime Minister. The National Front or the other Opposition has only one programme to see somehow or the other the Prime Minister is removed from power. They have no programmes for the uplift of the common man. They have no programmes for the development of this country. They have no programme for solving the unemployment problem, mass poverty prevailing in the rural areas, and removal of illiteracy etc. But their only programme is to see that somehow or the other the Prime Minister is removed from power. There are persons who are waiting to occupy that post. That is a very unfortunate state of affairs. Even,

three days back while the discussion on the Bhopal Gas Tragedy was going on, a discordant note was struck and certain things were made out by one of the leaders of the Opposition. It was stated that the three hundred million dollars was agreed to five years back i.e. in 1985 and if that amount was put in a bank, it would have grown into 500 million dollars. But one fact remains to be taken note of. It was reported that the sum of 300 million dollars were to have been paid in 10-20 years time. So, the whole thing was distorted and a picture was given that the Government have no concern for the hapless people. What I could find out is that instead of having such a passive critical role, the opposition should also come forward and cooperate with the policies and programmes of the Government. Here there is an occasion to build the whole country together because our whole endeavour is to lift the weakest, the poorest of the poor. With these words, I again thank the President for his Address and I support the Motion.

SHRI P.A. ANTONY (Trichur): Madam Chairman, I support the Motion moved by hon. Member Shri Gadgil. The President's Address to both Houses of Parliament reflects the real picture of the nation. It reflects the economic life as well as the social and political life. The President has put every issue in its proper perspective. It highlights the success achieved by the Government in tackling some of the very difficult political problems which had created a lot of bloodshed, whether it is the problem of insurgency in the North East or the violent agitation by the Gorkhas in Darjeeling, our Prime Minister has been able to solve them through negotiations. Today there is peace in the North East and in Darjeeling. If you can just remember what an amount of violence prevailed in Darjeeling only last year and what the condition was in the North East a couple of years back, you will be able to better appreciate the change that has come over in these areas. Any impartial observer will

agree that there is a qualitative change in the situation. This has come about as a result of the conscious policies followed by the Government under Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Even in Punjab the situation is not what it was last year or the year before last. The firmness with which the Government dealt with the terrorists has certainly produced good result and any observer of Punjab scene would agree that the terrorists have suffered heavily both in men and morale. The President has in his Address, said that the Government would depend on the people of Punjab who have stood up against the terrorists to find a solution to this problem. I sincerely hope that with the effective involvement of the peace loving people of Punjab, the problem of terrorism would be solved. The President has said in his Address that grievances would receive due attention of the Government. If the young men and women of Punjab have a grievance, the Government is there to look into them and redress them. They need not have any doubt about it. What is now required is political approach by which these confused young people could be changed away from the path of violence and confrontation.

The President's Address presents before the nation a very bright economic picture. Over the past four years, the Government has taken a series of steps to increase the pace of development of the economy. Liberalisation of industrial licensing, increased import facility for critical equipments needed for increasing production etc., were some of the important steps taken in this direction. As a result of such steps the economy got a fillip which is showing good results today. The industrial production is poised to exceed the Plan target. When liberalisation was done, my friends from the opposition raised a hue and cry but the result is there for all to see. Similarly the growth of agriculture is commendable. The agricultural production have gone up despite a serious drought in many parts of the country. Had the econ-

[Sh. P.A. Antony]

omy not been in good shape we would not have been able to neutralise the effects of drought. The economy is in a good shape because the policies followed by the Government were correct. These are the facts which nobody can deny.

The President's Address speaks about the Government's achievements in foreign affairs. In fact the steps that we took in Sri Lanka and Maldives have received appreciation from the world leaders. When the Prime Minister decided to send IPKF to Sri Lanka some people criticised that step. But the time has proved that the Prime Minister was right. The timely intervention of the IPKF saved Sri Lanka from breaking up. Even the quarters in Sri Lanka hostile to India had to admit that the IPKF has done a good job. Same is the case about Maldives. When the integrity of that country was in danger we sent our forces and saved them. India has a role in this region and we have played that role commendably. It is the timely steps taken by the Prime Minister which has produced this result.

Now, the institution of Governor is under attack. In all the Opposition ruled States the Governor's office is being attacked by the Chief Ministers. There is a common pattern of attacking the Governor's post in all these States. Governor is the agent of the President and he has to see that his State is going according to the constitutional directions. If there is a State which is indulging always in the activities which are against the nation and is doing anti-national activities, naturally the Constitution attracts that the representative of the President and the guardian of the Constitution, the Governor, should act. So this is only a political gimmick.

These States are doing an anti-centre campaign for political purposes. But they are doing a very great disservice to the nation.

That will cause the destabilisation of the country. Some of the Opposition leaders say that Governors must be appointed in consultation with the concerned Chief Ministers. There is no position like this now. Supposing the appointment of a Governor is consulted by the President with the Chief Minister and if the Chief Minister is not prepared to agree with a person or any person, what is the alternative for the President? He has to appoint the very same person. So, it is a contradiction. There is no substance in this argument. The intention of this attack is not sincere. They wanted a political campaign against the Centre.

The President's Address mentions about the emphasis on Panchayat Raj. Our Prime Minister wanted to strengthen the grassroot level of our local bodies. It is of course the policy of the Indian National Congress although it was enthused by Mahatma Gandhi even before independence that these Panchayats have to be re-structured as smaller Panchayats and self-Government. But some people are criticising the Prime Minister for this decentralisation of power. At the same time they wanted to get more power from the Centre. But they don't want to share the power with the local bodies. If democracy is to be succeeded, the grassroot power and decentralisation has to come into force. Whenever there is implementation of decentralisation there is success and more things are done to the people.

I have an example of a place where I come from. In my own town the Municipal Council is the local body which runs the Electricity Department for the area. That means it has a licence under Indian Electricity Act. I was also a Member of it. The local body people have got more involvement and power to conduct this electricity distribution in Kerala. In Kerala this is the most efficient institution as compared to the State Board. This is because ordinary people have direct access to the administration and they control

this local body. Ultimately if you can share the power with the people that will be the greatest thing which we can do. We cannot govern the country from Delhi or the States from the State capitals. It is only local bodies which can govern the people and do service to the people.

Therefore, I support the Motion and congratulate the Prime Minister for this and especially the President for his Address.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is grateful to the Hon. President for his Address to the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament and I support the Motion of Thanks on the Address of President moved by Shri Gadgil and seconded by Shri R.L. Bhatia.

The base of Indian Democracy is social evolution, social transformation. Our leaders adopted it as a system of development.

This evolutionary process is based on the democratic set up and in order to secure it certain targets have been set by our constitution makers and their first aim is to provide social justice to the people.

In the preamble of Constitution, assurances have been given by our constitution makers that the social, political and economic justice will be provided to all people. Thus the first and foremost obligation of this House and Government is to provide social equality and equal status to all so that every citizen of the society may have a sense of pride and inculcate sense of equality in himself.

It is very necessary to raise the economic status besides raising social status because in the preamble of Constitution where on one hand the commitment to provide social justice has been made, on the

other hand the assurances to provide economic justice have also been made. A concept of planned development to improve the economic condition of the ordinary man of the country had been given by late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, whose birth centenary is being celebrated. We are glad that the new experiment, and a new concept of planned development propounded by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru has been proved very successful and other socialist countries whether Russia or China feel that in reality that system has been proved more successful and beneficial to the nation in comparison to the other systems.

So far as the programme of raising the status of economically weaker people is concerned, Pandit Nehru gave us certain outlines and Shrimati Indira Gandhi gave it a practical shape and gave Poverty-eradication-programme to the nation.

Besides this, our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi visited these villages and has personally contacted these poor people and formulated a new programme for them after listening to their sufferings. Under this programme, we want to raise the standard of the poor people living below the poverty line. First of all, we should identify them. I would like to request the Government to chalk out a scheme at Government level to identify the actual people who are actually poor. At present, the poor people are identified by Gram Panchayats. It has been observed that in the elections of Gram Panchayats, Groupism works and as a result thereof identification done by them is not believed to be genuine. An economic survey of villages should be conducted and the statistics of poor families on the basis of that survey should be prepared. Then on the basis of the report of that survey, the statistics should be placed at the panchayat samiti level or district level. People should be given opportunity to file objections in this regard. After incorporating all this, definitely, such data would become



[Sh. Ram Singh Yadav]

available with Government to provide real information as to the number of such poor families living below the poverty line in particular villages, panchayats, blocks and districts. This data should be revised from time to time. In case standard of certain family is found to have been raised then it should be excluded from the list and this should be noted there that the family does not live below the poverty line. You cannot make genuine identification of the poor until and unless it is done.

We generally depend on the development officer for getting information. I suggest you to conduct an economic survey of rural areas for identification of the poor people.

If we are really interested in the economic development of our country, we should make efforts to provide infrastructure facilities to the farmers, labourers and villagers. Unless these are available to the above categories of the people, we cannot succeed in removing unemployment from the country. Unemployment is the main problem of the nation. Hon. President has also mentioned about unemployment problem in his Address. Effective measures should be taken to get over this problem. It requires an industrial estate to be set up at every gram panchayat level to enable the youths to get the jobs there.

You know that 75 percent people are engaged in agriculture. No more people can be absorbed there. In view of the increasing population, this problem of unemployment can be removed by absorbing more people in industries. I request you to establish industrial belts in rural areas.

The housing problem in the villages also needs attention. The poor people have no house to live in. The Government have formulated a National Housing Policy but in

order to give it a practical shape, the Government itself should take the responsibility. They should acquire the surplus land which may be handed over to Panchayats and local bodies for construction of the houses to maximum number of the poor people.

Finally, I would like to say that the Hon. Prime Minister wants to grant more rights to the gram panchayats to enable them to help the poor people living in villages. We have also given a thought to the democratic decentralisation. The democratic decentralisation means decentralisation of power and power should be decentralised right upto Panchayat level in villages. For the democratic decentralisation of the power, it is necessary that we should adopt three-tier system under which powers should be given to the gram panchayats, panchayat samities and district councils to enable them to meet the needs of the local people. Therefore, in order to make this three-tier system more effective, I would like to suggest that the programme given by our Hon. Prime Minister should be considered by this House and adopted so that it may be taken to statute book and its implementation may be started properly. In this decentralisation of power, Gram Panchayats, Blocks and Zila Parishads should be given more economic powers in the fields of industry, education and medical facilities so that they may serve the cause of the rural poor.

It is a matter of serious concern that there is a big imbalance between our imports and exports. We will have to make concrete efforts to remove this imbalance. Only that Government can make its economy strong whose balance of payment position is sound. Today, our imports are exceeding by Rs. 6601 crores as compared to our exports. Since April, 1988 to December 1988, our imports have exceeded by Rs. 6601 crores to our exports. Thus it is evident that the position is out of control of the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of External

Trade till now. It is essential that we control our balance of payment position and save valuable foreign exchange.

Finally, I would like to congratulate jawans and officials of the Indian Army for the role they have played in Srilanka and Maldives to strengthen the democratic values there and which has received world-wide appreciation. Our Prime Minister also deserves congratulations for his farsightedness in the matter. He has put the nation into high esteem and the people of the world have appreciated that India wants to strengthen democracy not only in her own country but in neighbouring countries also. In the SAARC, our Prime Minister has given impetus to the principle of cooperation and has made efforts to establish cordial relations with neighbouring countries particularly with China and Pakistan. For this, we are really thankful to him. On behalf of the House, we give our thanks to the Hon. Prime Minister along with the Hon. President for his full co-operation in taking the country forward.

I am very grateful for the opportunity given me to speak.

[English]

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** As announced earlier, the House stands adjourned and we will re-assemble at 5 P.M. for the presentation of the General Budget.

**16.29 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha adjourned till Seventeen of the Clock*

**17.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seventeen of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

GENERAL BUDGET, 1989-90

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER:** The hon. Finance Minister.

[Translation]

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir...

**SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur):** This has been a convention. Let him speak please.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Many things depend on conventions. I never asked you to violate any convention. Am I not right?

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:** I have to say only one thing to Mr. Shankar Rao. Shri Shankar Rao is going to present the Budget. I request:

"Bagia ki rangat bane rahei,  
phuleo ko tang nahei karna  
mali ka rutba bana rahei,  
he Shankar tandav mat karna."

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Chavan, Bharatnatyam will do.

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN):** Sir, I rise to present the Budget for the Year 1989-90. The Budget is an instrument for achieving the basic objectives of planned development which, broadly, are growth, modernisation, self-reliance and social justice. In each of these areas, we have made substantial progress. There are clear signs of an acceleration in the growth rate of our economy during the eighties. The pace of modernisation, particularly in industry and infrastructure has increased greatly because of the policies pursued by us for the past few years. The