

6. The State Government have requested the Central Government for assistance of Rs. 342 crores. 100% assistance may be provided to the State Government by treating the current drought as a natural calamity of rare severity.

16.05 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Shri Eduardo Faleiro to move the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mor-mugao) : Sir, I beg to move :

"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 20th February, 1986.' "

In his Address, the President has made a very comprehensive assessment of the different spheres of national activity. He has really conducted a sort of overview of the State of the Nation. And he has particularly dealt with the economic, political and foreign policy aspects. May I, therefore, begin with that portion of his Address where he has taken most of the time, viz. the economic scene ?

This is also in continuation, as it were, of the last discussion we had in this House ; and that has also been on one aspect of economic problems facing this country. The policies of this Government over the last one year which the President has, in fact, commended in his Address are the reiteration of the traditional policies

of the Indian National Congress, asserted in several resolutions of the All India Congress Committee, and implemented by the different Congress Governments since 1947. Those are indeed the policies which have brought this country from those days in 1947 when we had people in this country dying for lack of food, to the present position, when we are proud to say that it is a credit to this Government, it is a credit to this nation that we have reached a stage where from a condition of poverty, of utter hunger, from a condition even in the '60s when we were living as the saying goes, in a condition of ship-to-mouth, to the present position in which we have a substantial surplus of foodgrains. We are now in a position to export these very commodities for which are people yearned thirty years ago.

The policies of the Indian National Congress have been reiterated by this Government. They are the same policies which this Government is carrying on, if I may say so, with greater enthusiasm, with greater sense of commitment, with a greater zeal and dedication for its implementation.

It was the Indian National Congress again, which saw to it that our industrial situation, which at the time of independence was such that we had to import even pins and needles from England and other foreign countries, has reached a stage today when we are the tenth largest industrial nation in the world, when we are making aircrafts, when we make the most sophisticated machinery. Therefore, we have a situation which is unique, in fact, for any developing country. This has been achieved by the Indian National Congress and the Congress Governments which have been in power for the last more than 30 years, except for the interregnum of three years, to which I shall come later. This is what the Congress party has achieved by going ahead on the path of prosperity and welfare for all sections of the people, particularly for the most deprived sections, and by going ahead on this difficult and narrow path of self-reliance in a parliamentary democracy.

These are not mean achievements. These achievements have not been

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obtained just by the circumstances of the monsoons and of the weather. It is not as if the Green Revolution has been achieved just because the gods have favoured us during some years or some seasons, or the other. The Green Revolution which has put this country in the world map of agriculture, the Green Revolution which is studied in every single Agricultural University of the world, is a miracle in agriculture; and it is studied particularly in the developing countries as a strategy to be followed by all of them to attain self-sufficiency in agriculture. The Green Revolution has been the result of concerted, intensive and systematic effort at building our infrastructure and bringing in technology to the rural areas.

This has been the result, the achievements on the question of foodgrains which I may say graphically have increased from the First Plan in 1950-51 from 15.8 million tonnes to the present position of 146.2 million tonnes; that is 1984-85 figure. This tremendous success has been achieved by the infrastructure which the consecutive Congress Governments have built in this country.

Take irrigation. In 1950-51, in the beginning of the First Five Year Plan, it was of the order of merely 22.6 million hectares which had arisen fantastically three times to 60.5 million hectares in 1984-85. The fertilizer consumption has a history of its own; a history which is extraordinary and unmatched anywhere. We have gone from a paltry 7 million tonnes in 1950-51 to the present position of 8.2 million tonnes, which is more than ten times figure in just 20 years. Similar is the position, as far as industrial production is concerned. Forget about 1950; forget about 1947. We were not manufacturing, as I have said, needles and pins. Just to go to 1960-61 which was the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan. Taking the base year as 1970, the value of our industrial production at constant prices in 1960-61 was just 60; the index was 60, 20 years ago: within 20 years, it has risen to 183.4 which is more than three times; and this has been achieved in spite of world-wide recession; this has been

achieved in spite of successive oil crisis which has damaged the entire world's economy, but, has particularly damaged the economy of the developing countries. This has been achieved in spite of quota restrictions imposed on our export and for that matter on the developing countries by the richer countries of the world. These things have not been achieved just by chance; these things have not been achieved by leaving things to take their own way. How successful has been the policy of the Indian National Congress which this government reiterates with great enthusiasm. How dangerous it is to deviate from this path can be seen from what happens from the tragic, disastrous experience of 1977 to 1980. In these years, as never before what was the rate of agricultural growth? In 1979-80, the opposition parties combined and their rule led destruction to our economy. What economy they left us on the agricultural growth? It collapsed and went down to (minus) 4 per cent; the industrial growth collapsed and went down to (minus) 2 per cent. The aggregate growth of economy collapsed and went down to (minus) 5.3 per cent.

We had been fortunately, rapidly, reiterating again the policy of the Congress Party under the stable, dynamic and great leadership of Smt. Indira Gandhi; under her leadership, we were able to recover it and now we have a growth rate which is of the order of 6.3 per cent; and on this trend, on this line, with the enthusiasm of this youthful government, which has the dynamism of the youths and yet the wisdom of the older generation, we have no doubt that the target laid down by the Seventh Five Year Plan of about 8 per cent of the growth of the economy, will definitely be achieved.

What has been specifically achieved over the last one year? I will not take much time, but I may just point out the substantial achievement over the last one year of this government on the economic front by pointing out at the figures of some of the core sectors.

As far as electricity generation is concerned, it has risen from 156.6 billion units in 1984-85 to 170 billion units.

Gas production in millions of cubic metres—by the users—has risen from 3,401 in 1984-85 to 3,662 in 1985-86. Coal production in the same period rose from 147.44 million tonnes to 154.50 million tonnes. These are some of the indicators. What is even more spectacular and even more important for this Government are the measures taken for the down-trodden, for the poorest, the anti-poverty measures. It was a tragedy, and an indication of how much damage a deviation from the Congress policies can do to the economy and to the people of this country when we say that in 1977-78 when the Congress Party was voted out of power, the people below poverty line were 48 per cent of our population, below poverty line being taken as those households with an annual income of Rs. 6,400 in the rural areas and Rs. 67,300/- in the urban areas at varying prices, by—just now it was said—by the present prices and figures. Forty-eight per cent people were below the poverty line when we were voted out of power. Within two to three years—the gentleman to my right cries hoarse about the poor—they managed to do this for the poor, they managed to increase substantially the number of the poor in this country and just within three years, when they left 1977 to 1979 or rather from 1977-78 to 1979-80 this figure of the poor people, of people below the poverty line rose spectacularly from 48 per cent to 52 per cent. It goes to the credit of our Government, it goes to the credit of the anti-poverty measures adopted in the Sixth Five Year Plan, that within about four or five years the figure of people below the poverty line has now dropped dramatically to 37 per cent. These are 1984-85 figures.

How has all this been achieved? It has been achieved through the growth of our economy in general, that it has also specifically been achieved by the anti-poverty programmes, the IRDP programme, the NREP programme and the programmes which were instilled and introduced in the Sixth Five Year Plan to combat the poverty in this country. It has not merely been the programme. It has been the implementation of the programme and we must congratulate the Prime Minister, the very top

leader of this country, that he does go to the most remote parts of this country, he goes through mud and slush to see how these programmes are being implemented. If this type of inspiring, dedicated and full of zeal approach of our leadership continues we have indeed very bright days ahead we have a sense that the prosperity of these programmes will definitely succeed to the utmost.

Just to show the manner and the efficacious manner in which the anti-poverty programmes have been conducted, I would like to mention the figures which were given by the Planning Commission and by the Central Statistical Organisation of the Government of India.

Sir, to take alone the IRDP performance in the Sixth Plan the total allocation in crores, the targets for 1984-85 was for Rs. 1,500 crores and the goals have exceeded the target by 1766.81 crores, more, therefore, than Rs. 300 crores. The result has been in the increased number of people who come above the poverty line. One hundred and fifty lakh households was the target. That is in the Five Year Plan, out of which, not only 150 lakhs were actually benefited, 15 or more than 15 lakh were benefited over and above the target. The actuals were in fact, for 805 more or 165.62 lakhs. These are spectacular performances. No doubt, that if this line is taken the objectives contemplated in the Seventh Five Year Plan will be achieved, that is beyond doubt as per the performance of the Government at this moment.

The President, for the first time, as I can recollect, in many years has mentioned, at the very outset of his speech, the question of Punjab. I shall like to say here and I have indeed no doubt that all sections, of the House will join me in applauding the Government of this country for having entered into the Punjab and Assam accords. These were acts of major statesmanship. The Prime Minister, rising above a personal tragedy of immeasurable dimensions and committing more than anything else to the unity and integrity of this country, had entered into this historic accord of Punjab at the time when the prophets of doom were saying that at

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would not succeed, that normalcy would not come back to Punjab. We have seen that a democratic option has prevailed. We have seen that against the prophets of doom elections in Punjab and Assam have been carried out peacefully.

It is true that the duly elected Government of Punjab, the Akali Government, has been saying again and again that it stands committed to the unity and integrity of this country. It is undoubtedly true that they did express their total opposition to the traitors that go by the name of pro-Khalistani extremists. It is also true that their performance, the performance of the Government in Punjab, has fallen far short of their promises and statements. Time is indeed running out of Mr. Barnala and Akali Government. Time is also running out for all the political forces who believe that for every situation there is a democratic alternative.

Time is indeed running out for all of us who believe that there is always a way in which the ballot can prevail over the bullet.

Peace has been said as indivisible. What happens in other parts of the world does affect us, does affect every country. Today we are living on the brink of a nuclear holocaust. What does one gain if he tremendous economic progress and political progress if the world is to be blown up. Nuclear winter is a possibility. In fact, what scientists say, it will happen if a nuclear war takes place however far from our country. Therefore, it is a matter to be commended. Therefore, it is a duty of all of us to welcome the peace proposals put forth by General Secretary Gorbachov of USSR and we do expect and hope that there will be a constructive and positive response from the United States administration to these proposals.

The Geneva Conference was a major step in de-escalation of world tension. Much substantial progress might not have achieved, but a dialogue which had been interrupted for a long period of time, has been re-started and that itself is a major achievement. This achievement is due not

merely to two parties who were present there, but because there was a third party there apart from the United States leadership and the Soviet Union leadership. That third party was invisible. Though invisible it played a major role. Without this third party the Geneva talks would not have taken place. And the third party was indeed the world public opinion—the world public opinion that wants peace, that world public opinion that wants de-escalation of tension, that world public opinion that wants a future safe for self and for future generation. In building this world public opinion, the Prime Minister of this country along with five other leaders of regional powers all around the world—some of them involved in military blocs—took this initiative of coming with concrete proposals of de-escalation of tensions and for peace. The role played by the Prime Minister and the Government of India on the question of South Africa particularly at the Nasau Conference is very noteworthy, because many countries are taking a very hard line on this issue—countries which are not prepared to come out against the odious racist regime in South Africa, and against odious racist system of apartheid. It was due to the good offices of our Prime Minister in particular that a compromise, a negotiated type of understanding was worked at. And then we have the group of eminent people who will try to find a peaceful solution to the question of South Africa where we have a great honour for us, and Indian, Sardar Swaran Singh as one of the distinguished members. However, I should think and I believe that the contribution of this Government over the last one year has been spectacular and unique in the field of foreign policy, in the field of our relations with our neighbours. Never before since independence has the sub-continent been free of tension, has this atmosphere of friendship or attempt at friendship prevailed, as at present. Of course, we are having problems with Pakistan, and situation with Pakistan and the manner of reaching an agreement with Pakistan is difficult. And it is difficult because Pakistan, the Pakistani ruling oligarchy perceives India as a threat which is in existence, a threat not because of its size, a threat not because of the military strength of India—because Pakistan now

is well armed—India is a threat to Pakistan because here there is a secular country, because here there is a democratic country, and this secular democratic country stares on the face to the Pakistani oligarchy which has been preaching and trying to convince its people that the countries in the sub-continent have got to have a communal element, have got to be theocratic in nature, have got to be authoritarian and dictatorial in character. The Pakistani leadership is having on its border a country which is secular, the Pakistani leadership is having on its border a large country which is democratic and committed to parliamentary democracy, a large country which is respected all over the world. I will mention here that just in January last, a survey was conducted at the United Nations to find out which are the countries that can influence world opinion more, and the results were United States, Soviet Union and, immediately in the third place, India as the country that is most respected in the world, a country that is most respected amongst the international community. This is definitely a threat the Pakistani oligarchy. How can they convince their own people that a theocratic regime must exist when just across the border they have a secular region? How can they convince their people that a dictatorship and a military dictatorship is a must when just across the border, for more than 30 years, in the face of enormous problems, we have fared a parliamentary democracy? This is the threat that they perceive. This is the only threat that they perceive from this side of the world. Our responses and our initiatives in the Indo-Pakistani dialogue must be corresponding, must hold the same dimensions of their reactions, of the statements, of the deeds of Pakistani leadership. And while we have a measured response in these initiatives, we must build bridges with the people of Pakistan because there is a very large constituency in this country and an equally large constituency in Pakistan, a constituency for peace, a constituency for cooperation, a constituency for friendship between our two countries. We have so many things in common. We have a common history, a common cultural heritage and we must be friends, we must live together for the prosperity of both the people who, in fact,

are in many respects one. Over the last one year this dynamic Government has gone ahead with the task of nation-building. The challenges have been many, the challenges have been many always in the history of this country, the challenges will continue to be there for five years, for ten years, for a century to come, but what is important is that the people of this country should be one. It is really immaterial whether one belongs to a group which constitutes 80 per cent of the population or whether it belongs to a group that constitutes ten per cent or two per cent of population. The question is not of statistical break up, the question is of political, social and national unity and integrity. Whether we belong to this group or that group, whether we profess this religion or that religion or no religion, we are all equally patriotic, we are all equally children of Mother India, we are all equally loved by Mother India. Nobody should have any doubt about this point that there are forces at work whose aim is only to disturb our unity. Religious fundamentalism is on the rise. Religious fundamentalism, one has to be clear, is nothing more than a later-day version, a crude and more obscurantist version, of Fascism. Fundamentalists are Fascists. Fundamentalists are Anti-social elements and they must be dealt with as such. What is essential to meet the tasks ahead is that the people of this country, irrespective of religion or language or race or region of this country, must work together. Let us crystallise unified national energy. Let us not get involved in unnecessary confrontations that dissipate national energy. If we are together we shall undoubtedly win, we shall undoubtedly build a future full of prosperity, peace and harmony for ourselves and for generations to come. We shall undoubtedly overcome all our difficulties. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

“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

[Mr. Chairman]

both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 20th February, 1986.' "

—Now, Mr. Zainul Basher to second the motion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Motion moved by Shri Faleiro.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the President has reviewed the work done by Government during the last one year and outlined the programmes and policies to be followed by Government in the following year. The President has mentioned some challenges facing the country. He referred to those anti national elements who have reorganised themselves to engage in subversive activities against the country. We know fully well that the anti-national elements have always been active in the country. Such elements, whether in the guise of politicians or in any other guise have always jeopardised the interests of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we remember very well the period between 1971 and 1977 when attempts were made to overthrow the Government through agitations. Although this attempt did not take the form of violence yet they took to streets to overthrow the legally elected Government and to demand the resignation of the Members of Legislative Assemblies and of the Parliament who were elected according to the law and the Constitution and this attempt continued unabated. Between 1980-85 these attempts took a violent turn. At the time of elections in 1980, Assam was passing through a great upheaval. It became difficult to hold elections there. When attempts were made somehow to restore peace in Assam, the situation in Punjab took a serious turn. In Punjab, some elements organised themselves on communal lines and started mayhem in an unashamed manner. The aim behind such bloodshed was to alienate Punjab from the rest of the country.

A sacred place like Golden Temple was converted into a fort and all activities

spreading disturbances and violence emanated from that place. The life of the law abiding citizen did not remain secure in Punjab. The economy of the Punjab had been fully derailed and it appeared that the fire which had engulfed Punjab would prove disastrous but our Government dealt with the Punjab situation with iron hand. The Government reluctantly took some strong steps to control the Punjab situation and we had to pay a heavy price for it. Our popular Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi who was not only leader of our Party and country, but was also a great leader of the world, had to sacrifice her life to sustain the unity and integrity of the country and to restore peace in Punjab. Shri became a martyr.

In that atmosphere, the responsibility was entrusted to a young man. In December, 1984 when elections to the Lok Sabha were being held, elections were not being held in two states, Punjab and Assam. All these problems posed grave challenges for those who lived and believed in democracy because the two states situated in the far East and the far West of the country were not participating in the elections and that their representatives would not be coming to Lok Sabha. Elections to Lok Sabha were held in December, 1984, at a time when the country faced this challenge, the atmosphere in Punjab and Assam was tense and there was danger to the national integrity and unity of the country. But the people of the country standing like a rock gave massive mandate to our young Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress Party.

This massive mandate was in support of the integrity and the unity of the country, to strengthen the economy of the country and to take the country forward.

After becoming the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi said first of all he wanted to solve the problems of Assam and Punjab in the interest of the nation. The Prime Minister was the son of that mother whose body had been riddled with bullets by the extremists. Bitterness in his heart was natural. Anybody whose mother has been assassinated by some persons

will feel bitter but the Prime Minister when he took the reins of the nation in his hands, had no such feelings. He was determined to maintain national unity and peace in the country so that the people could lead a respectable life.

After he became the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had two options before him. One was to let the tense atmosphere in Punjab and Assam continue indefinitely or alternatively, this atmosphere should be removed and the people of Punjab and Assam should also be associated with the democratic system and they too should be given a chance to lead a respectable life as respected Indian citizens. This is the background of Punjab and Assam movements.

The Prime Minister, when he concluded the Punjab Accord, had this thing in mind that the situation in Punjab should not remain tense indefinitely. In this connection we appreciate the Akali Party leader, Sant Longowal who had a similar attitude to this problem. When he met the Prime Minister, a respectable agreement of the Punjab problem was concluded and peace was restored in Punjab. But the forces who wanted to alienate Punjab from the country were also not sitting idle. They assassinated Sant Longowal also, like Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Two sacrifices were made in this country for Punjab. For maintaining the unity and the integrity of the country two persons, Shrimati Gandhi and Shri Longowal were assassinated. Elections in Punjab were held subsequently and democratic system was restored there. In this connection a large section of the people of Punjab should be acclaimed for honouring the Punjab Accord. Why should not have they done so? This accord had given honour and respect to the majority of the people of Punjab.

In this country there was a feeling of hatred against a section of the people who had links with extremists and who had killed the Prime Minister. I have no inhibition in saying that our sikh brothers who live not only in Punjab but in other parts of the country also have made a name for themselves and earned honour

in the society with their hard work—be it in the field of trade, industry, agriculture or armed forces. To some of our Sikh brothers who were feeling a little depressed, Punjab accord gave them respect and honour.

It was hoped that the Punjab Accord would solve the problem of Punjab. Of course, there were minor difficulties as to which part should go to Punjab and which to Haryana but all these difficulties could have been solved on the negotiating table under the terms of the Punjab Accord but we are sorry that the Punjab Accord was concluded with good intention and was acclaimed and accepted by majority of the people in Punjab but today again the clouds of uncertainty and disturbances are hovering on the horizon of Punjab. Today extremists are again raising their heads and Punjab is facing the same situation it faced before the Accord and the elections. Even today, innocent people are being murdered there. The Golden Temple is under the control of the extremists. They have taken possession of many other gurudwaras as well. It appears that Akali Dal is facing a big dilemma and is not able to decide what to do and what not to do. But the President in his Address has rightly pointed out that it is the responsibility of the people who are running the Government in Punjab. It is their responsibility to isolate the extremists. Disruptive activities in Punjab will not be tolerated. The Accord which the Prime Minister signed was in the interest of the country and its democratic set up. But no Prime Minister, be it Indira Gandhi or Rajiv Gandhi, would ever tolerate alienation of Punjab from the rest of the country of formation of Khalistan. No person who loves this country and loves its democratic set up would ever tolerate it.

Our Prime Minister and our central government carry a big responsibility to keep the country united. The Prime Minister's action in signing the Punjab Accord in national interest should not be taken as his weakness. If the Prime Minister can sign the Accord, he also has the capability of maintaining the unity of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today communal forces are raising their head in different

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parts of the country. These forces are not confined to a particular community, they are present in all the communities and are adopting different modus operandi. But their aim is one and that aim is to endanger the unity and integrity of the country. These forces are present in different forms among our Hindu brethren, Muslim brethren, Sikh brethren and Christian brethren and all these forces work in different ways. Their main objective is to jeopardize the integrity of the country. The communal tension prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir today, which at times takes the form of communal riots, should be condemned. Similarly, the communal riots taking place, or being engineered in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and other places should also be condemned without going into the matter as to who is at fault.

The common man and the rural masses want to live in peace. 75 to 85 per cent population in the rural areas belongs to the majority community but no riots take place there. The riots are confined to the cities and some anti-national forces are always behind these riots. Some forces from within the country are working to endanger the unity and the integrity of the country and there are some external forces are also at work. At the instance of these external forces, the forces within the country are regrouping themselves to gain strength in order to jeopardize the unity and the integrity of the country through anti national activities. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the President has rightly exhorted the countrymen that those who love democracy, national unity and those who stand for national integrity should join hands to counter these forces. But I am sad to say that I do not know how much attention our political opponents will pay to this appeal. I can say that their record so far has been that they have encouraged such forces.

In our country, we have political parties which encouraged communal parties and communal forces. We have political parties and leaders in this country who talk of and try to change the democratically, constitutionally and legally elected governments through agitations. A Janata

Party leader—I do not want to name him, he is also not a Member of this House, Prof. Dandavate may have objection to it but I would not name him—has threatened.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): You may name me if you so desire.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: I have a great regard for you, but I cannot say so about the gentleman of whom I am talking. He has threatened to overthrow the present Government through agitations.

AN HON. MEMBER: He also derails the train.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Now, he will overthrow the Government. Such talks and threats give encouragement to the forces engaged in anti-national activities and are harming the unity and integrity of the country. These people were engaged in such activities between 1971 and 1977. During this period, they used to talk of overthrowing the Government during their speeches at Gandhi Maidan in Patna. They did not talk of overthrowing the Government through ballot box but through agitation, satyagraha, demonstration, sit-in and gherao. Can the Governments be changed through such means in a democracy, Mr. Dandavate? The Government is changed through the ballot box.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is saving grace that Gandhiji is not alive, otherwise, they would have criticised him also.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Gandhiji never advocated overthrowing of constitutionally elected Government of your own. On the contrary, Gandhiji adopted satyagraha.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): You might have seen in the newspapers that that leader has talked about toppling Prof. Madhu Dandavate also. Perhaps, you are not aware.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: At least, I shall be very distressed at Prof. Madhu Dandavate's toppling.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If you continue like this, I shall be automatically toppled.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, such talk is going on that they will topple the democratically elected government through agitations and satyagrahas. The elections are now over. Our party and our Prime Minister were given a massive mandate. Elections are due to be held in four years' time. You defeat us in that election and come to power if you have power to do so, if the people support you, although we know that the way they are carrying on their activities, they would not be able to come to this side for a long time to come. The people do not support them but still they poke their nose in all matters. They are also meddling in the Punjab affairs saying that they were not consulted. After all, what is their standing in Punjab? It is only the congress and the Akali Dal there. On the question of Assam, they say that they were not consulted. We do consult them and should consult them but what is their standing in Assam? In Assam, it is either the congress or the A.G.P. or a third regional party. This rise of regional parties points to the weakness of the national parties.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : This is your weakness as well.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : This is your weakness. How can we strengthen you? Should we give you an injection?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You were in power in Assam, how did they come into power?.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Truly speaking, the rise of regional parties is an indication of the bankruptcy of national parties.

[*English*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Including the Congress Party.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : No. The Congress Party is a Rashtriya Party.

[*Translation*]

We would have been happy had a national party won elections in Assam. The Janata Party won elections in Karnataka, we did not feel unhappy.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : But your Prime Minister has said that they are happy that a regional party has won.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : The Prime Minister might have said that we welcome the choice of the people, but what I want to say is that a regional party came into power because you were not able to provide an alternative to the Congress Party.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Are you unhappy that a regional party has won?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Yes, I am. I would have been happy, had Prof. Madhu Dandavate's party won in Andhra Pradesh because a regional party encourages the forces engaged in anti-national activities by fanning communalism, linguistic feelings and regionalism. Such forces get their strength from regional parties. I do not say that regional parties are anti-national parties, I dare not say such a thing because they are running the Governments but this much I must say that their activities encourage the anti-national parties and anti-national forces. Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are facing these challenges towards which the hon. President has indicated. We shall have to combat these challenges. We love the unity and integrity of the country utmost and disintegration of the country cannot be thought of. To sustain our country's unity and integrity, even if all the people of India have to sacrifice themselves, they will not hesitate. I want to appeal to my friends sitting on the other side that, as the hon. President had said, all those people who have faith in the democratic system should join hands and meet the challenge of anti-national elements collectively.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Eduardo Faleiro has already spoken in detail about the achievements of the Government mentioned in the Presidential Address. I do not want to go in those details but I

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welcome one thing most, mentioned in the President's Address. In the Address the detailed Agriculture Policy has been announced. I welcome and appreciate it.

Sir, It is a country of farmers. In this country 75 per cent people are farmers. They are engaged in farming. There are no two opinions that in the matter of agriculture our farmers have made considerable advancement. In the entire world, India is commended for the miracle achieved by the Indian farmers. There was a time when in this country the foodgrains were not produced even to meet the requirement of our own people and the English used to go to the American market with a begging bowl to arrange foodgrains for the people of India. Now the foodgrains produced in the same country are sufficient not only to meet the requirements within the country, but they are exported also.

Sir, I remember the position prevailing in 1958, 59 and 60. At that time I was a student of Allahabad University. I used to go to my village in Ghazipur district. On my way there was one Saidpur bazar. In that bazar, drums of molasses used to be kept and 75 per cent of people working in our fields satisfied their hunger by consuming it. I recollect it very well. Now a days the molasses is not used for this purpose. People now get proper food.

How is it that foodgrains are being produced in our country in such abundance? The farms are the same, rather the burden of population on it has increased. There has been further fragmentation of land holdings, but the same field gives now more yield. The farmer has done a miracle in this country. Who was behind this miracle achieved by the farmer? It was the Government of India. (Interruptions) The Congress Government. The Government of India provided irrigation facilities, fertilisers, power to the farmers and informed them about the modern techniques of farming, new varieties of seeds were developed and were supplied to the farmers. This is the reason that the foodgrain produced in the country is sufficient not only to meet our own requirement, but we are trying to export it also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our economy is dependent on agriculture. Our Government can help the farmers of our country by formulating a long term agricultural policy. At present, only 20 per cent of our land comes under irrigation. If we are able to irrigate cent per cent or 75 per cent land and provide power and fertilisers to the farmers, then they will produce more than the farmers of the world. But at the same time, it is also necessary that they are provided remunerative prices for their produce.

Prices are increasing. At the moment I would not like to dwell on this subject because Railway Budget is due and General Budget is also due. Till the two Budgets are presented, I would not like to touch the subject. But this much I know that increase in the prices has been effected with a purpose and according to the policy of the Government. For this the Finance Minister has given some arguments also.

17.00 hrs.

Today we have to pay attention to the villages also where 75 per cent of the population of the country lives. In the villages, 50 per cent of the primary schools are without buildings. The children study under the trees. We are also to keep in mind that people have to cover a distance of 25 Kms. to reach a hospital and where hospitals are available, there are no approach roads. The patients die on the way to the hospital. We have to think about them also. We must consider the fact that we have to take agricultural produce to the markets for which roads are not available, transport is not available and other facilities are not available. We have to provide for these facilities. Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we look at the conditions prevailing in the villages we shall find that though we talk of entering the 21st century, our villages have not reached even the 20th century. We have to accelerate their progress and make available to them means of development. We have to step up the pace of construction of schools and roads. We have to think of taking them forward speedily. We have developed much and we have covered a long distance of development but we have yet to go, miles. A Hindi poet has said :

*Is path ka Uddeshya nahin hai shwanti
Bhavan mein tik jaana,*

*Kintu pahunchana us seema par, jiske
aage raah nahin.*

Development has no limit, we have still to go miles. For this money and resources are required. In this perspective we have to think of all the things with a cool mind. The hon Finance Minister has said that he has an open mind and his options are open. Some of our friends in the Congress Executive have opposed the price hike and prices have been brought down to some extent. I am hopeful that a clear picture will emerge after the Budget is presented.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the details of the happenings during the year mentioned in the President's Address show that this has been a unique year in the matter of good and welfare activities. Anti defection Bill was introduced to clean the public life and to effect improvement in it. One year has passed and no defection has taken place. Otherwise upto now many Governments would have been toppled and many Members would have defected from this side to the other side and from that side to this side.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : They come from that side to this side. People do not go from this side.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : May be, anything can happen. (Interruptions) Mr. Reddy, your Party has not been elected, I do not know how you have managed to come here. It seems you have come with the support of Telugu Desam, otherwise you too would not have come.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : You should thank the regional parties that they are the cause of election of such people.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : You have not brought any one, you have not brought even Shri Subramaniam Swami.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : It is good that Shri Reddy

has come, Hum do hamare do.....
(Interruptions)

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : The anti-defection Bill has cleansed the public life. In the legal field, 'Lok Adalats' have been constituted to provide speedy justice, for Government employees Tribunals have been constituted. A new textile policy has been formulated so that the handloom sector gets fillip. A new education policy is on the anvil. Last year many good activities were initiated like converting the barren land into cultivable land, cleansing the river Ganges, making progress in alleviating poverty and industrial growth. Shri Faleiro has given details of all these activities. In this way this year has been a year of achievements and I am fully confident that the coming year will prove to be a better year and Government would show better performance. We shall march towards development with greater speed provided anti-national elements are curbed, law and order is restored and the parties backing these anti-national elements behave properly and fulfil their duties properly.

If law and order is restored in the entire country, we shall make much progress. With this hope and confidence, I once again support the Motion presented by Shri Faleiro on the President's Address.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members present in the House whose amendments to the Motion of Thanks have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their amendments, send slips to the Table within fifteen minutes indicating the Sl. Numbers of the amendments that they would like to move. Only those amendments will be treated as moved and a list showing the serial numbers of those amendments treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member points out any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the officer at the Table without delay.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : The Members who are present here may say that they are moving the amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN.: When there is a large number, you have to give it in writing to the Chairman.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Instead of our waiting again and tabling it, I may say that I am moving my amendments which are standing in my name. Please note down.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may please send a slip.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Actually we had tabled them already. When we stand up and say, it is for them to mark.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : The Office should have prepared a list of those who are moving the amendments.

SHRI V S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Sir, I beg to move amendments 66 to 83 for which I have given notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please send a slip. Just write it on a slip and send.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : I am moving my amendments 1 to 11.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please send a slip.

Shri Mewa Singh Gill.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government has failed to carry out the electoral reforms in the year 1985 as was promised in the last Presidential Address." (1)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address fails to mention any concern about the

wrong telecast and broadcast by TV and Radio particularly in the case of Delhi Bandh news on 10 February, 1986 at 21.30 hrs. on T.V. that the call by opposition parties for Delhi Bandh failed to evoke any response."

(2)

"

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address fails to mention that in recent years newspapers, which in the present media world, are the only free instruments of communication, are becoming increasingly costlier because of levies imposed on and hikes in prices of newsprint."

(3)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address nowhere expresses deep concern about the people losing faith in the judicial system because of serious delay in deciding cases and high expenses involved therein." (4)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address fails to mention deep concern about Government's policy of investing huge sums of public money in public enterprises and taxing the common man more and more by raising the prices of their products again and again without being able to run them efficiently." (5)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address makes no mention of the Government's reluctant attitude and half-hearted measures to check the infiltration of Bangladeshis into India which is a positive risk to the internal and external security of the country." (6)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about Government's failure in honouring its 1983 Agreement with the Delhi University Teacher's Association regarding introducing Professors grade in Delhi Colleges.” (7)

That the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about Government's failure in stamping out the menace of terrorists in Punjab and other parts of the country which is being actively abetted by the training of terrorists in Pakistan.” (8)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about Government's failure in learning and adopting suitable fire preventing measures after the Gopal Tower fire in Delhi which has ultimately resulted in severe loss of life and property in the fire in Delhi's 5-Star Siddharth Continental Hotel on 24 January, 1986.” (9)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take notice of the deep resentment prevailing among Government employees about Government's not taking any positive step to remove their fear of dismissal from service without being assigned any reason therefor.” (10)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address nowhere mentions the acute sufferings and deep agony being experienced by people due to severe drought conditions prevailing in certain areas of Rajasthan; Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka.” (11)

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reduction in the prices of essential commodities like petroleum products, rice, sugar, fertilizers, coal etc. which were enhanced recently.” (66)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention anything about the implementation of the Mahajan Commission Award with regard to Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute.” (67)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about taking up of the long pending Vijaynagar steel plant in Karnataka.” (68)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not spell out any concrete steps for solving the unemployment problem in the country.” (69)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the wide spread discontent among Government servants, consequent upon the Supreme Court judgement in the matter of dismissal of Government servants.” (70)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the concrete steps Government proposes to take to curb terrorist activities in the country.” (71)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

{Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer]

“but regret that the Address does not mention about solving Shri Lankan problem.” (72)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about solving the flood and famine conditions in several states on a permanent basis.” (73)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the necessity of increasing the share of the States with regard to various duties and taxes.” (74)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about making the National Development Council a statutory body.” (75)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not specify the time when the Fourth Pay Commission would submit its report to Government.” (76)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about making AIR and Doordarshan as autonomous bodies.” (77)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not reflect the power-crisis in the country and the steps taken to solve the same.” (78)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the failure of the Government to unearth black money.” (79)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the danger of nuclear war threatening humanity and the efforts made by the Government of India to prevent nuclear war.” (80)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the interference of the World Bank and the I.M.F. in India's economy which has become more pronounced and that the World Bank has been demanding abolition of food subsidies and pressing for reduction of consumption standards of the people.” (81)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention of the establishment of Mangalore Oil Refinery and the Electronic Digital Trunk Exchange Factory in Karnataka, which are long over due.” (82)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the need for implementing the recommendations regarding reservations in Government service of Mandal Commission.” (83)

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any plan to

improve the fate of the people residing in chronically drought affected areas in the country especially in Rayalseema districts in Andhra Pradesh." (84)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the total apathy and disregard shown in the allotment of funds for meeting out the appalling drought situation prevailing in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh." (85)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about electoral reforms as promised in the Presidential Address in 1985." (86)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to eradicate poverty and to bridge the gap between the rural poor and the urban rich." (87)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the negligent attitude of the Government to bring about socialistic pattern of society in the Country." (88)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about imposing of any ceiling on urban property." (89)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely ;

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about reducing

the inequalities of income and expenditure among the people in the country." (90)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to remove the sickness in industrial sector and unrest among industrial labourers." (91)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the travails and tribulations of the handloom workers due to the short-sighted and suicidal textile policy of the Union Government." (92)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the thorough failure of the programmes of NREP, IRDP, DPAP, RIEGP and TRYSEM intended for alleviation of poverty among the rural people." (93)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps for removal of unemployment and underemployment among the rural people and the educated unemployed." (94)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the delay and discrimination by the Union Government in giving Central Water Commissions's clearance for the irrigation projects in some States ruled by Non-Congress Government." (95)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely ;

[Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy]

“but regret that there is no mention, in the Address of effective steps to solve the problem of drinking water in the country.” (96)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the failure of the Government in solving a dispute between the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra over Telegu Ganga Issue.” (97)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the inordinate delay in solving the Sri Lankan problem resulting in the massacre of Tamilians in Sri Lanka.” (98)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps for reforms in administrative system so as to make it more dedicated to meet the growing needs of the country and the people.” (99)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps to make justice speedy and cheaper for the common man.” (100)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the allotment of sufficient funds for afforestation in the country, especially in areas of very low rainfall.” (101)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no

mention in the Address about making ‘right to work as a fundamental right and providing unemployment allowance for the unemployed and underemployed in the rural areas.’ (102)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any concrete steps for eradicating unemployment amongst the educated youth.” (103)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps for giving remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce to improve their lot.” (104)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the development of rural people and agriculturists by providing them good accommodation, medical facilities, better quality seeds and scientific expertise.” (105)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the misuse of AIR and Doordarshan and the need for giving them autonomy.” (106)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the improvement and development of people below the poverty line whose number has increased considerably.” (107)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the effective steps for preventing denuding of forests." (108)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the formulation of a long term plan and allotment of sufficient funds by the Union Government to combat the recurring famine in Rayalseema districts in Andhra Pradesh." (109)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the allotment of funds for taking up in-well bore project for drilling in-well bores at Government's cost in all the irrigation wells in Anantapur and Chittoor districts of Andhra Pradesh which are chronically drought-affected areas." (110)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps for rapid industrialisation in chronically drought affected districts of Rayalseema in Andhra Pradesh." (111)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about steps to be taken to start T.V. Relay Stations at places of historical importance like Kadiri and Penugonda in Anantapur districts of Andhra Pradesh and in places of high altitude like Horsely Hills in Chittoor district and Palakondalu near Pulivendula in Cuddapah district in Andhra Pradesh." (112)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no

mention in the Address about providing school-buildings and other infrastructure for elementary education in thousands of villages clamouring for school-building for elementary education and at the same time spending crores of ruples on Model schools and residential schools." (113)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Union Government's deliberate delay in implementation of Punjab Accord." (114)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps taken to implement the Assam Accord." (134)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government in solving the Sri Lankan problem and to save the massacre perpetrated on the Tamilians" (135)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the deliberate hike in prices of all essential commodities by the Government a few weeks before the Budget Session." (136)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the address about the inflationary trends in all commodities as a result of the faulty policies of the Government." (137)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

[Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy]

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reduction in the subsidy on fertilizers thereby increasing the burden on farmers who are already over-burdened.” (138)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the steps to curtail the enormous wasteful expenditure in Administration, the plan and non-plan sector.” (139)

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated-Anglo-Indians) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Union Government will, when necessary, intervene to protect the linguistic and/or religious minorities, as guaranteed under Article 30 of the Constitution, from educational or linguistic or religious oppression by State Government.” (115)

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY (Visakhapatnam) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government are considering proposals for reduction of the size of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and also reducing the job opportunities considerably.” (125)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government have failed to implement its earlier decision to provide job to at least one person of every displaced family in the Steel plant area of Visakhapatnam.” (126)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government have not so far decided to pay market rate of compensation for the lands acquired from the displaced persons in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant area.” (127)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the fire accidents in Steel Plants at Rourkela, Visakhapatnam, Visakhapatnam Port Trust and Siddharth Continental in Delhi which have caused huge loss of life and property.” (128)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the progress in construction of Steel Plant at Visakhapatnam is not satisfactory because of uncertainty of grant of funds by the Centre.” (129)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that several public sector undertakings are incurring heavy and recurring losses inspite of huge investments and programmes undertaken for their expansion and modernisation.” (130)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Centre has not so far cleared several major and multipurpose projects in various States.” (131)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the Government have failed to clear Telugu Ganga and Polavaram Projects in Andhra Pradesh and also to arrange a meeting of Chief Ministers concerned in respect of Vamsadhara and Icchampalli Projects." (132)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the recent policy of indiscriminately allowing the multinationals to edge out even the public sector projects like BHEL, ECIL, HMT etc. which have proved technical competency and expertise to undertake certain works now being entrusted to the multinationals." (133)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY
(Kurnool) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the expeditious clearance of very important national projects, like Telugu-Ganga Project, Polavaram Project and Champalli Project, which have been pending clearance with the Union Government for a very long time, inspite of Government of Andhra Pradesh's best efforts to take up these projects for immediate execution, so that the wastage of precious water of rivers Krishna and Godavari could be avoided." (145)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the reasons for the steep hike in the prices of essential commodities, wheat and rice, fertilizer, coal and petroleum products." (146)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the fact that the entire economic structure has been violently upset by the steep fall in the value of the rupee on account of the soaring of prices of all commodities." (147)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that no expeditious steps were taken to avoid the failure of the Mathew Commission for implementing the Punjab Accord." (148)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the implementation of the Anti-Poverty Programme has not shown any tangible results and that there has been no firm commitment in tackling rural poverty and in bringing agrarian economic growth and progress." (149)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that no attempt has been made to avoid bureaucratic delay, corruption and inefficiency." (150)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address that the public sector undertakings have not shown any improvement whatsoever and that the losses in the public sector undertakings are steadily mounting up to a staggering figure of Rs. 2,000 crores per annum." (151)

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to check the erosion of top soil in different hilly areas of the country including Darjeeling hill.” (172)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to include Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.” (173)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to grant regional autonomy for the people in the three hill sub-divisions of the district of Darjeeling and contiguous areas in the neighbouring district where the Nepali speaking people are in majority within the State of West Bengal.” (174)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention of or providing more Central assistance for overall development of hill areas in the district of Darjeeling.” (175)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to develop tourism in the district of Darjeeling which is one of the most beautiful tourist areas in the world.” (176)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to take over the closed and sick tea plantations in all the tea growing States.” (177)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to expedite the implementation of Rs. 43 crore Revamping Project for the tea gardens in the hill areas of the district of Darjeeling in West Bengal.” (178)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to relax the restrictions on foreign tourists in the district of Darjeeling.” (179)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to set up a Sainik School in Darjeeling.” (180)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to enforce labour legislation awards of the tripartite agreements, etc. in the interest of the working class.” (181)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to ensure strict enforcement of provisions of the Provident Fund Act and Scheme framed thereunder in the interest of the workers.” (182)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to solve the problem of reservation of seats in the Sikkim Legislative Assembly.” (183)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to set up a television centre at Siliguri.” (184)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to expand the All India Radio Station with the facility of Studios at Kurseong.” (185)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to introduce a direct train from New Jalpaiguri to New Delhi.” (186)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to introduce a super fast train from New Jalpaiguri to Calcutta.” (187)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to seal the border with Bangladesh and save the people of border areas like Islampur, Chopra and other parts of West Dinajpur district in West Bengal from the atrocities and plundering by the anti-social elements coming from across the border.” (188)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government in taking effective steps to minimise accidents in coal mines.” (229)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to consult all Central Trade Unions and standing Labour Committees before bringing any labour legislation for enactment.” (230)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government in formulating uniform policy for giving loans to the people of rural areas by nationalised banks.” (231)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to reduce the interest rates on loans given to marginal farmers and share-croppers.” (232)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to bring down the prices of steel and cement.” (233)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to protect the handloom weavers of the country.” (234)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the equitable distribution of river waters for irrigation [purposes among various States.” (235)

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address regarding the threat to the integrity of the country from increasing communal and caste feelings and the steps taken to tackle the menace.” (236)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to implement the land ceiling laws.” (237)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure to end the vast disparity in the prices of agricultural commodities and industrial products.” (238)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to enact a central legislation for agricultural workers.” (239)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to provide house sites to the landless poor and necessary financial assistance to construct houses.” (240)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the clear and firm policy of the Government regarding nationalisation of industries.” (241)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address regarding the punitive steps to be taken for deliberate violation of reservation order for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.” (242)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to grant regional autonomy to the Nepali speaking people in three hill sub-divisions of the district of Darjeeling within the State of West Bengal.” (243)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for providing more central assistance for the development of hill areas in the district of Darjeeling.” (244)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to develop tourism in the district of Darjeeling which is one of the most beautiful tourist areas in the world.” (245)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to undertake concrete measures to revamp and rejuvenate the tea industry in the tea district of Darjeeling.” (246)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to provide pension to agricultural labourers, widows and disabled persons.” (247)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for exempting the poor and marginal farmers, bargadars and agricultural workers from the payment of agricultural and other Government loans and interest on co-operative loans throughout the country.” (248)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure to put curbs on consumption by the rich.” (249)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the curtailment of powers of the State Governments.” (250)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the miseries and difficulties faced by thousands of Tribal people displaced in the course of implementation of different projects in the country.” (251)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the fact that the fruits of development are beyond the reach of a large section of population.” (252)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to evolve a policy to eradicate mass illiteracy from the country.” (253)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to fight against all obscurantist, communal and undemocratic ideas in the field of education.” (254)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for inclusion of Nepali, Maithili, Manipuri and Dogri languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.” (255)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government in checking the recurrence of flood havoc in the country.” (256)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret in the Address there is no mention that planning would be decentralised right upto the village level.” (288)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address fails to mention that the objectives as adumbrated in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 would be redefined, and the responsibility for overall planning and licensing of industries would be transferred to the States.” (289)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for setting up of a nuclear plant in West Bengal.” (290)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for setting up of a HMT unit in West Bengal.” (291)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the per capita availability of many essential articles which are far short of the goals set in the early years of planning.” (292)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the large number of Bills passed by the West Bengal Assembly which are pending President's assent since long.” (293)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the accidents in mines resulting in the death of several hundred mine workers.” (294)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the danger of the elitist education sought to be introduced by the proposed new education policy.” (295)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to acquire surplus land in the country and distribute the land to the landless labourers.” (296)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the minimum wages for working people.” (297)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to implement the directive principles embodied in articles 38 to 50 of the constitution.” (298)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to guarantee the trade unions their rights of collective bargaining and other trade union rights without any discrimination.” (299)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to set up a Committee consisting of sitting judges of High Courts to rectify the existing erroneous working class consumer price index.” (300)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the mismanagement and maladministration of industrial units taken over by the Government.” (301)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the U.S. and Pakistan which are trying to destabilise India through their nefarious activities of aiding and encouraging secessionist forces in the country.” (302)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention of U.S. imperialism which is trying to encircle India by

establishing military bases around our country and by supplying sophisticated arms to regimes hostile to democracy.” (303)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the root-causes which harm the unity and integrity of the country and the failure to define ways to weed them out.” (304)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need to immediately implement compulsory and universal school education in the country.” (305)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the sinister role played by the multinationals in the third world by passing on their discarded technologies.” (306)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for abandoning the Government's present policy of wooing the multinationals.” (307)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to take long term measures with a view to alleviating the obnoxious effects of Bhopal tragedy.” (308)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the problem of rehabilitation of refugees from Bangladesh in the country.” (309)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the inability of the Government to amend the Constitution to make ‘right to work’ a fundamental right.” (310)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the increasing atrocities on women in the country.” (311)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the increasing menace of dowry and dowry deaths in the country.” (312)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address has failed to mention about the historical importance of Supreme Court judgement on the Shah Bano Case.” (313)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address has failed to mention about the need for setting up of a ship repairing yard in West Bengal.” (314)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for setting up of a ship building complex at Haldia in West Bengal.” (315)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for setting up of an electronic unit in West Bengal.” (316)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for expansion and modernisation of the Durgapur Steel Plant, Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur and IISCO, Burnpur and Kulti Work.” (317)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the delay on the part of the Central Government to clear the West Bengal Government’s proposal to set up new Power Units in the State.” (318)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the institutional arrangements made for setting up of a IDPL’s unit in West Bengal.” (319)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for reopening of closed industrial units in West Bengal by nationalising these units.” (320)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention that unemployment allowance would be given to the unemployed persons till they get job.” (321)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention that the post of Governor will be abolished and alternative institutional arrangements made for maintaining channels of communication between the Union and the States.” (322)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention that the subject of education would be reverted into the State List.” (323)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address fails to mention that there is need for special grants for universities which the States cannot meet.” (324)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for deletion of—

- (a) Concurrent List and the transfer each of the items covered by it to the State List ;
- (b) article 248 and introduction of an explicit provision so that the residuary powers vest with the States and not with the Union ;
- (c) Need for deletion of, or amendments to, articles 249, 252 and 254 so that no State could be deprived of any legislative powers which belong to it without its prior concurrence ;
- (d) articles 200 and 201 in their present form and making it obligatory on the part of the Governor to give Assent to all Bills passed by the State Legislature on items belong to the State List.” (325)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address fails to mention that the articles 247 and 254 would be so amended that the Union Government's powers to legislate on items belonging to the State List do not exceed beyond a period of six months.” (326)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention that the State Governments would be allowed parallel jurisdiction over radio and television.” (327)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention of the need for adequate financial help to the States which are affected by the drought, flood and other natural calamities.” (328)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address fails to mention the increasing insecurity in the rail travel.” (329)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address fails to mention the increasing rail accidents and derailments.” (330)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the fact that the countryside is still outside the purview of the public distribution system.” (331)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the prevailing bonded labour system in the country.” (332)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the child labour system prevailing in the country.” (333)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to give land/property rights to refugees from erst-while East Pakistan now settled in various parts of the country.” (334)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to locate one unit of Bharat Electronics Limited in West Bengal.” (335)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the failure of the Government to have a policy of national minimum wage.” (336)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the threat being posed to the peace and security of the world by U.S.A. due to its policy of heavy militarisation.” (337)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

‘ but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the growing pressure from the multinationals for a free run of the underdeveloped countries so that neocolonialism gets back what old colonialism lost.’ (338)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the U.S. naval base in Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean which is a constant threat to the security of the littoral States.” (339)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the rapidly deteriorating international situation and the danger of war due to imperialists pursuing their policy of arms build-up, stationing new and powerful nuclear missiles in Europe, policing of Gulf area and the India Ocean with the expansion of existing bases like the nuclearised Diego Garcia and setting up of new bases.” (340)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the arming of Pakistan with lethal weapons by the United States of America and the resultant threat to the country's security.” (341)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to nationalise all the foreign assets in the country.” (342)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to nationalise the monopoly holdings of our country.” (343)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the increasing impoverisation of the rural masses.” (344)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need-based wage policy in India.” (345)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for radical land reforms in the interest of the peasants and agricultural labourers.” (346)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure of the Government to curb the monopolists and foreign multinationals in the country.” (347)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the fact that the Government is giving further concession to monopolists and multinationals.” (348)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the deteriorating economic situation in the country where the rate of inflation is increasing day by day resulting in steep rise in the prices of essential commodities.” (349)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the all-round attack on the living standards of the people through increased taxation and attacks on the wages of the workers and employees.” (350)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the need for the abolition of contract labour system in the country.” (351)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the Government's failure to ensure equal pay and facilities for working women.” (352)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the failure to reach the goals of per capita minimum income and per capita minimum availability of many essential commodities to majority of population in the country.” (353)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the conspicuous consumption by the affluent and miserable living conditions of the vast majority of the common people.” (354)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that in the Address there is no mention about the mounting unemployment in the country.” (355)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) :
I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the stagnation in the production of oilseeds, pulses, cotton and jute in the country.” (201)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the abnormal rise in the prices of foodgrains despite its

record production during the last year.” (202)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the disproportionate rise in the Consumer Price Index compared to the change in the wholesale price index of the essential commodities.” (203)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the ever increasing number of big and small industries falling sick.” (204)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not express Government's concern of the repeated postponement of the proposed international conference on converting the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.” (205)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention the need to give unemployment allowance to the unemployed persons.” (206)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention the importance of public sector in the economy and measures proposed to be taken to strengthen and make viable public sector units such as timely completion of projects, utilising their full capacity, etc.” (207)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention the need for implementation of a composite price policy ensuring

[Sbri Indrajit Gupta]

remunerative prices to peasant producers, parity between the prices of agricultural produce and industrial products and inputs, limiting and difference in the prices paid to the primary producers and charged from the actual consumers to twenty per cent and guaranteed supply of all essential commodities at controlled prices through a net work of public distribution system by nationalising wholesale traders." (208)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not take serious view of the failure of the Government to revamp and extend public distribution system which is essential for checking price rise and ensuring supply of the daily necessities to the people." (209)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not contain any measures to nationalise jute, cotton textiles, sugar, vanaspati, medicinal drugs and other essential food producing industries." (210)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not take note of the fact that funds allocated for agriculture, irrigation and rural development mainly go to the benefit of the rich while the poor sections are denied these benefits." (211)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not take a serious view of the fact that in most of the States the implementation of the land reforms including the land ceilings and distribution of surplus land to the tiller has come to a dead halt." (212)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not mention that the existing laws relating to the minimum agricultural wages are not being faithfully implemented in a number of States as a result of the influence of the landlord elements on the Government and the administration." (213)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not express serious concern of the fact that even after 37 years of independence nearly one third of the Indian villages are not provided even with drinking water." (214)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not mention the urgent need to enact a comprehensive Central Legislation for Agricultural workers." (215)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not take serious note of the fact that FERA measures are not being faithfully enforced and that they are being defied by the multinationals." (216)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not propose to put any effective curbs on the drain in our national resources as a result of remittances of profits, interest, royalties and dividends by the multinationals from this country." (217)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that the Address does not mention about the growing regional imbalances and steps to correct them." (218)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the mounting unemployment and under employment in the country.” (219)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the failure of the Government to unearth black money effectively.” (220)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the recognition of trade unions through secret ballot.” (221)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not take note of the continuous liberalisation of Industrial policy in favour of monopolists and multi-nationals.” (222)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address fails to mention anything about the increasing menace of dowry and dowry deaths in the country.” (223)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any proposal to reserve 25 per cent of jobs for women in Government and semi-government offices in order to find a solution to the problem of women's unemployment.” (224)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not show any concern over the continued

exploitation of Adivasis by the mine owners engaged in illegal mining operations in tribal areas of Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.” (225)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address makes no reference to the proportional representation as a measure of electoral reforms.” (226)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not show due concern at the growing economic disparities resulting in more and more people going below the poverty line.” (227)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that the Address does not mention about the need of incorporating the right to exercise franchise on attaining 18 years of age as a fundamental right in the Constitution.” (228)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Government failure to curb the growth of monopoly industrial houses in the country.” (257)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about Adult Education Programme and steps proposed to be taken for its reactivation.” (258)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the progress made in the implementation of the National Health Policy.” (259)

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the huge arrears to be paid to the sugarcane growers by the sugar mills in the country.” (260)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the US imperialism as the main factor for not allowing to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.” (261)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the USA as the main factor endangering the world peace and particularly the peace in Europe.” (262)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the growing expansion of the US military base in Diego Garcia and arms build up including nuclear arms there.” (263)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the steps for the inclusion of Nepali, Manipuri, Maithili, Santhali and Bhojpuri languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.” (264)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the increasing tentacles of multinationals in Indian economy.” (265)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any steps for the abolition and rehabilitation of bonded labourers in the country.” (266)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of any scheme to effectively check the terrific floods and drought which occur every year in different parts of the country.” (267)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the measures to solve the problem of mounting illiteracy in the country.” (268)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to grant pension to aged agricultural workers.” (269)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the continued brutal atrocities on Harijans and Adivasis in different parts of the country particularly in Bihar and U.P.” (270)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the malpractice in the implementation of various programmes such as IRDP, NREP and RLEGP.” (271)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely .

“but regret that the Address does

not take note of the anti-working class policy of the Government marked by attacks on the trade union rights and otherwise also by repressive measures and there is no mention of Government's intention of repealing such acts like ESMA." (272)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of ever increasing foreign repayment liability." (273)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the Indian women who victims of obscurantism, semi-feudal outlook and despite equality of sex as proclaimed, in the Constitution, are denied equal treatment including equal wages." (274)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the frequent eruption of communal violence in various parts of the country disrupting the communal harmony." (275)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the growing insecurity among the government employees consequent on the recent Supreme Court Judgement on Art. 311 (2) of the Constitution." (276)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the failure to give compulsory education to the children in the age group of 6 to 14 years as provided in the Constitution." (277)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address to take effective and immediate steps to fill the unfilled posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes." (278)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about granting sufficient funds to ameliorate the condition of the drought-affected people in various States." (279)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about introducing workers participation in management." (280)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about slums in all the big cities and the measures to ameliorate the condition of slum dwellers." (281)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

"but regret that in the Address does not take serious note of the power crisis in the country affecting the utilisation of existing capacity in the industrial sector and steps to be taken to solve the problem." (282)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added :

"but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the interference of the World Bank and the IMF in India's economy which has become more pronounced and that the World Bank has been demanding abolition of food and fertiliser subsidies and pressing for reduction of consumption standards of the people." (283)

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

That at the end of the motion, the following be added :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need for implementing of Mandal Commission regarding reservations in government service.” (284)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the crippling effects of the liberalised import policy on the indigenous capital goods industry.” (285)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the necessity of taxing the agricultural income to raise internal resources.” (286)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the necessity of re-examining the automobile policy and the need to give more stress on efficient and reliable public transport.” (287)

SHRI D.N. REDDY (Cuddapah) : I beg to move :

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the importance to improve and upgrade the lowly bullock-cart, on which depends a great deal of our farm output including transport, and there is also no reference to improve the plough and the hurdles our farmers are facing.” (356)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of the need to develop alternative sources of energy, specially Ethyl and Methyl alcohol on the example of Brazil.” (357)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that stress on population control is missing in the Address.” (358)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address of National drug policy and need to bring all drugs and pharmaceuticals under one umbrella of Health Ministry.” (359)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about enlarging and improving the public distribution system and the need to establish pricing and marketing authorities for different consumer goods to protect producers and consumers.” (360)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to improve productivity in protective foods for the common man, specially vegetable, fruits and milk.” (361)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about a pragmatic approach to low cost housing for the poor.” (362)

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely :

“but regret that there is no mention in the Address about the need to enlarge dyland farming and to increase production of pulses, oil seeds and sugar by

revamping the transfer of technology programmes." (363)

SHRI M.S. GILL (Ludhiana) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I have stood on my feet with your permission and with the blessings of the opposition party, especially the leaders of the Telugu Desam who had given their time to me to participate on behalf of the Shiromani Akali Dal in the discussion on the Presidential Address which was read out before the Joint sitting of both the House a few days ago.

To many of us here in the House and to a greater number outside the House, Shiromani Akali Dal is a party with only regional stature. But history is a witness that this party has risen to the stature of a national party as and when the exigencies of the time so demanded, as and when the lash of events so desired, as and when the national emergency so challenged. Therefore, I am speaking on behalf of this party which has taken a great heroic part in the freedom struggle and the war of independence with all other parties, shoulder to shoulder with patriotic people, shoulder to shoulder with patriotic parties including the Indian National Congress. They have laid down their lives, they have suffered innumerable sacrifices at the altar of the freedom.

I may quote, if you permit me, that during the struggle for independence there were only 120 freedom fighters who were sent to the gallows by the British Imperialism. Out of this 121 people who kissed the gallows 93 persons belonged to the Sikh community—the community which believes in the preachings and teachings of Guru Gobind Singh and Guru Nanak. The harshest punishment which was awarded by the British imperialism on the freedom fighters was that of transportation for life, may be in Burma, Malaysia, Andaman and cellular jails. This punishment was awarded to 2646 freedom fighters of India and out of this 2147 persons belonged to my community. They were Sikhs and they fought in the forefront for the liberation of their mother country. Again 1300 persons were sent down the drain by the bullets of Gen. Dyer and out

of that 679 persons belonged to this community. Twenty-two persons were hit by the bullets of the British imperialism at Budge Budge Ghat far way from the frontiers of Punjab and all those 22 persons were Sikhs and belonged to my community. It is, therefore, when I say that I speak on behalf of the Shrimoni Akali Dal I mean to say I speak on behalf of the ...

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Instead of the word 'my' you should say 'our' community.

SHRI M.S. GILL : Again at the time of emergency this is the party which has risen to the occasion and fought for the liberation of the people of India who were tied down hand and foot under the law of emergency. I am speaking on behalf of that party. Particularly I want to bring to the notice of this House and through this House to the notice of millions of people who are living on the shores of India—fishermen, workers, labourers and also millions of people who are living in the valleys near the lofty Himalayas and the people working in the fields and the mines. I want to bring to their notice that there is a party which has fought for the freedom of India. But on the other hand a particular action was taken on behalf of the ruling party to paint us dark, traitors or extremists.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Not at all. Sir, this is totally wrong. We have always high regard for the Sikhs.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to point out this much that Shri Meva Singh Gill has stated very good things but he may also add to what he has already stated that the person who has delivered this Address also belongs to their community, he is also a sikh.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI

H.K.L. BHAGAT) : May I add one word for the information of the hon. Member ? Sikhs are one of the most patriotic people in this country. None of us in the ruling party has ever called them traitors. We have always said they have been patriotic. Individuals may have been killers ; individuals may have been terrorists and individuals may have been murderers but never the Sikh community. They are one of the most patriotic people.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : We are proud of Sikh community.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : We have always said so. Please correct yourself and do not repeat it again.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : They have fought, died and suffered with the Congress. The Akali Party has also made great sacrifices for the country.

SHRI M.S. GILL : This is what I am saying. Akali Party has made so many sacrifices for the people of the country.

17.15 hrs.

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

[*Translation*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mewa Singh ji, you are giving a very good speech. I would request you not to say that the ruling party has tried to defame the entire Sikh community. This is not true. This goes on record. No Member belonging to ruling party has ever said so.

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GILL : The party never passed such resolution. But some persons who get the opportunity say so.

AN HON. MEMBER : Nobody.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.S. GILL : Now, I would like to discuss on the President's Address. At

the very outset, I would say that this Address is the statement of studied silence, statement of omissions. This is a statement of promises forgotten, this is a statement of promises unfulfilled and the assurances and commitments betrayed. In this Address, I would say that particularly law and order situation in the country has not been mentioned deliberately. Particularly, the growing gap between the rich and the poor has not been mentioned. Particularly in this Address, the misery of the people has been omitted to be mentioned. A deliberate attempt has been made to cover up all these things by certain phraseology, I should say, bombastic phraseology, and the truth has not been brought before the people of the nation. Today, we get up early in the morning to read that several persons have been killed, mutilated and roasted alive in the flames of communalism. Today, we woke up in the morning to know that there are groans, moans of the ladies and young brides who had been roasted alive for the sake of insatiable lust for dowry. Every knock at the doors of the people, today is a note of death-knell. We have seen that the calmness of the dusk and dawn is the calmness of the death and despair. Today the story of law and order inside the four walls of the house is the story of in-laws and their hang orders and outside the four walls the story of law and order is the story of outlaws and their loot orders. Today, we see that the story of the day is the story of curfews. It is the story of imposition of section 144 Cr. P.C. It is the story of valley of bullets. This is the story of today's time. Today the story of the night fall is the story of those who fall down in the deep dungeons of yesterday because we find these people shelterless, who are empty stomach, who are bare-footed and who have nothing to eat. This is the story of the night-fall and you will find them on the pavements of the cities, cosmopolitan cities and now they are increasing day by day. This is the story which we are facing and the President's Address has deliberately omitted this aspect of the life of the people. I would say that it was not long ago, here in this capital, in the cities of the Northern India—it was in Bokaro, it was in Kanpur—we have seen a tragic drama unparalleled in the history of civilisation, unsurpassed in the history of

hatred and we have seen that it was here quite close to the Ministry of Home Affairs, under their very nose, under their very eyes, a drama was enacted on the banks of Jamuna. It was here that infants and toddlers were snatched away from the arms of their mothers and torn as under in the name of unity of India. It was here that in the name of Akhand Bharat Mata that mothers and sisters were subjected to gang rape before the eyes of their sons and brothers. It was here that persons were caught hold of and they were made to dance the dance of death by putting burning rubber tyres round their necks. It was here that several persons were caught hold of, they were beaten, they were decimated and cut into pieces in the name of integrity. It was here that houses were burnt, jhugis and jhonparis were burnt ; it was here that such a great yagna was performed. All these things happened before the very eyes of the Home Ministry. All these facts have not been mentioned in the President's Address.

Punjab looked towards this august House, to the echelons of high power, but not a finger was lifted, and not a voice was raised against this holocaust. These aspects have not been mentioned in the President's Address.

A question is writ large on the face of millions of people : who reigns India ? Whether it is Lord Rajiva of Congress (I) or Lord Shiva, the Lord of death, despair and destruction. That is the question. This question should have been gone into in the President's Address, but it has been deliberately left out.

On the one hand, we see that the gap between the rich and the poor is increasing day by day. We find that the high-rise buildings are coming up every day, and simultaneously, we find that the slum areas are also getting doubled and tripled in the depressed areas. That is the situation. On the one hand, some people are becoming rich, on the other hand, the people are becoming increasingly poor and poor day in and day out, and the teeming millions of India cannot make their both ends meet. The number of people below the poverty line is increasing. I dare say

that the number of such people has not been reduced in previous years, but it has gone up. Black money to the tune of Rs. 36000 crores is in circulation in this country and it is creating hell in our country. That is the reason the prices are rising and people are becoming poorer. On the other hand, we are talking of our achievements. Our achievements are not the achievements of this Government.

The green revolution in our country is not because of the Government ; it is because of the hard labour of the Punjab farmers and others. This is due to the hard labour put in the fields by those people who are not paid well. This is not due to the efforts of Government alone and there is no mention of this in the President's Address.

AN HON. MEMBER : Labour comes from Bihar, Orissa and other places.

SHRI M.S. GILL : We are thankful for that. But, here the question is efforts of the Government in this regard. The point is the major effort is on the part of the farmer and the farm labour. That is why this green revolution has come. It is not that we have brought about these things only with the efforts of the Government.

With these words, I oppose the motion of thanks on President's Address.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Motion of thanks on the President's Address I would like to say a few words.

Political will is needed to run the country and only the congress Party has this will. This party has been active since 1947 when the country was partitioned. We owe the progress of the country to the congress.

The country has made considerable progress in the field of education and health. The progress has been possible because the Congress Party remained in

[Shri Anadi Charan Das]

power continuously. The congress party has been in power except for two and a half year period. I do not agree with the contention of the Opposition that there has been no appreciable progress in the country. There has been consistent and significant improvement. Now the food-grains are available to all. Previously, famine was a recurring feature in Orissa but now the situation has improved a lot. The credit for it goes to the Congress Party.

Our Prime Minister has fulfilled the promises he had made. Zamindari system has been abolished. We have brought about land reforms and enforced land ceiling in the country and as a result thereof we are in a position the export foodgrains to other countries. All these works have taken place on large scale.

It was the dream of Gandhiji, Nehruji and Indiraji to bring socialism in the country and that dream has been realised. Our Prime Minister is committed to the establishment of sovereign democratic republic in the country which he is trying to fulfil.

The President has in his Address dwelt on the performance of the Government last year and outlined the programmes and policies to be followed next year. I whole-heartedly welcome it. It is only due to the policies of Government that nationalisation of banks took place, moneylending system was abolished and black money was unearthed. The people who were victims of exploitation to-date have been freed from it.

The Opposition have been saying that the country has deviated from the path of socialism. I think they do not know the meaning of socialism. The definition of socialism in our country is different from other countries. All the programmes, whether IRDP, RLEGP, NREP or Programmes for Harijans and Adivasis or programmes for backward areas or the hill areas, have been formulated for the eradication of poverty. What more can be done ?

Unless a ceiling on property is imposed in the same way as ceiling has been imposed on land holdings, we shall not be able to secure the benefits for the poor people which we intend to provide them. If a single family has multiple sources of income, we shall not be able to create sources for others. It has been envisaged under RLEGP to provide employment for at least 100 days in a year but this is not being implemented properly at the implementation stage. It was at the instance of our former Prime Minister, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi that the Planning Commission formulated programmes to provide benefit to each and every person but RLEGP has not been successful in this respect because of the failure to identify the persons to be covered under this programme. This is not the case of a particular State. Be it Andhra Pradesh or any other State, everywhere the beneficiary does not get the benefit. They do not get work for 100 days. Therefore, the implementation of such programmes needs to be improved so that people can get the benefit.

The President has in his Address said that the 20 Point Programme will be improved further. We hope that it will be done. The Government must ensure that no single family possesses more than one house. A one-family one-house norm should be adopted. Unless this is done, we shall not be able to curb exploitation which is going on in the country and neither shall we be able to benefit the poor because only a handful of persons will corner all the benefits. The President in his Address has said that next year the 20 Point Programme will be revised so as to benefit the poorest of the poor in the country. In the case of Harijans and Adivasis the main drawback is illiteracy. Therefore, education should be given top priority so that these people may make progress and take advantage of the benefit properly.

The Prime Minister has laid stress on the importance of cleanliness. Everyone should cooperate with him in this respect so that cleanliness is brought about in every sphere of society. In the end, the President has laid stress on the unity of

the country. After the accords were signed in respect of Assam and Punjab, elections were held and democratic Governments were formed in those states. But some anti-national elements are not cooperating with the Government. I would like to point out that there is unabated increase in the population of the country. Previously the population stood at 45 crores but it has doubled now. The Government should take steps to curb the growth of the population.

With these words I again support the President's Address and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir : I rise to support the Motion moved by the hon. Member Shri Eduardo Faleiro, and seconded by the hon. Member Shri Zainul Basher, thanking the President for his Address to our two Houses. The Address given by the President on the first day of the Session naturally contains the achievements of this Government made during last one full year. It also mentions fully the major trends in our economy, and ends with an outline of some priority areas for the next year.

Sir : As far as the achievements of last year are concerned, the major achievements of this Government, I should say, were Punjab and Assam Accords. They have been achieved by our Prime Minister. In those two States, for a long time there was no democratically-elected Government. And in a democracy, it was not proper to have two States, especially in a federal set up, without democratically-elected Governments. Similarly, they were also not represented in this House. And it was but proper that the two States should be represented in this House as early as possible. From this parliamentary point of view, the Accords in both the States had a great significance. I should, therefore, say that it was a feather in the cap of the Prime Minister to have achieved these two Accords.

When the Punjab Accord was signed,

many of the Opposition leaders also prophesied that there would not be peaceful elections in Punjab. But the word of the Prime Minister proved true, and the elections in both the States, particularly in Punjab, were very peacefully carried on ; and as I had stated earlier, a democratically-elected Government came in power. The greatest danger or the greatest enemies in this region are the terrorists and extremists who want to de-stabilize the elected Government, and to continue the continuous confrontation as far as this Government is concerned. Therefore, the major work or task of the Government in Punjab would be to put an end to this extremism, and to enter the main-stream of India and to show that like rest of India, there is peaceful government, and steps have been taken towards prosperity of that State. Some difficulties have arisen out of that Accord also. Mathew Commission could not give a solution to the transfer of the Capital, namely, Chandigarh and also the transfer of certain Hindi speaking areas in Punjab to Haryana. Therefore, the implementation of that Accord is also passing through some rough-weather. But I am sure that under the leadership of our Prime Minister, soon, solution would be found out, as far as implementation of that Accord is concerned. I will appeal to the Akali Government in Punjab to deal with extremists and terrorists firmly and also rise above party politics and sectarianism and cooperate with the Centre in arriving at a happy solution, as far as implementation of Punjab Accord is concerned.

The Assam Accord has also resulted, as I stated, in the institution of a democratically elected government in that State, and soon that State also will take strides in prosperity and continuous progress.

Now, after dealing with this main achievement of the Government, I may also refer, in short, to the major trends in the economy which are also taking us to prosperity and giving good trend to the economy of this country. I may not go into details regarding achievement in this field. Several figures have been given by the first speaker on this Motion. Other details are also given in the President's Address. I will deal critically with one or two aspects in this regard.

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

As far as the textile policy is concerned, my constituency, namely, Bombay is intimately connected with the implementation of the new textile policy. We are, of course, awaiting, the full implications and the results of this textile policy throughout the country, but in particular certain problems have arisen, as far as Bombay is concerned, In the year 1983-84, in Bombay 13 textile mills were taken over pending nationalisation; and it is now reported or rather leaked out in the Press the other day that even though the Centre has taken over 13 textile mills, losses are being incurred in 10 mills out of 13 and therefore it may not be possible to nationalise them. My submission and appeal to the government would be that when these textile mills were taken over, new textile policy was not announced at all : mills were taken over according to the old policy. Therefore, the same test of viability may not be applied as far as these mills are concerned; and full trials will have to be given for the viability of these mills; and only because at present 10 mills are making a little losses we cannot say that we shall refuse to nationalise them. Full opportunity will have to be given because it is a question of thousands of textile workers in Bombay who have been unemployed. Even in these mills which are being taken over, full employment has not been there; only some workers are employed, and others are facing still unemployment. If we ultimately decide not even to nationalise these mills and merge them with other units, then the problem of unemployment will arise as far as Bombay is concerned.

There is a suggestion reported in the press that some of the land of these mills can be sold in order to raise funds for making viable these textile mills. It will also be a disastrous step as far as these mills are concerned, because in Bombay land is now like gold pieces. Especially the lobby of builders is after these mills and after those who are incharge of these mills to persuade them to take decisions so that the land will be sold which they will take charge and earn crores of rupees as profit. Therefore, I would caution the Government not to fall in trap in

selling of lands of these mills which have been taken over by the Government. These should be immediately nationalised and a strenuous effort should be made to run them and to employ all the workers who are there.

I would also refer to a very urgent problem regarding the policy of the Government to curb the growth of consumption of petroleum products. Unfortunately, the opposition parties raised this issue under the device of an adjournment motion and, therefore, there could not be free discussion in this House. One party was driven to the lobby of 'Noes', the other party was driven to the lobby of 'Ayes'. My submission is that there should be re-thinking and close thinking on this issue.

As far as the Government's options are concerned, I know they have been stating that there are hard options, and that Government had to increase the administered prices in order to curb further consumption of petroleum products in this country. There are many authorities which have been contesting this position. I would refer to the opinion expressed or observations made by one of the Members of the Planning Commission itself. Mr. Abid Hussain, while inaugurating the ninth meeting of sub-committee for review of chemical industry on 18 February, 1986, observed that he had told the Prime Minister that the public sector units should not be allowed the easy option of showing profit by jacking up the administered prices. The public sector must be made to toil hard for improving its returns and earning profits. They should not be given money easily by allowing such prices increase." Now, this is the opinion expressed by one of the Members of the Planning Commission, who is still a Member of the Planning Commission. If this is so, then we cannot say that the only option before the Government is to raise the prices and bridge the gap by raising prices of these petroleum products. I feel that there are other methods also available to the Government which may kindly be considered and closely examined by the Government even at this stage. For example, the rapid growth in the consumption of energy has been put before us, but as the figures

show, India's per capita consumption of oil is woefully low at 0.4 barrel per annum as against 21 barrel in USA, 13 in Japan and five even in a developing country like Argentina. So, compared to these countries, we cannot say that our consumption has gone up so much and we must take immediate steps to stop it. Further, I may also point out that in the Mid-term Appraisal of the Sixth Five Year Plan, it was estimated that the consumption of petroleum products would be still higher than at present. I have got certain figures to show that. The demand for petroleum products in 1984-85 was originally estimated at 45.55 million tonnes at the time of the Sixth Five-Year Plan formulation. This I am quoting from the Midterm Appraisal of Sixth Plan, August 1983, pages 70-73. So, at that time also it was estimated that the demand for petroleum products will be 45.55 million tonnes. As against that, in 1984-85 our demand has been only 38.5 million tonnes. So, even our own estimates were that the demand would be more than what it is at present. Therefore, my submission is that this point may be closely considered and examined. It is not that the demand for petroleum products has gone very high, beyond the estimates, and, therefore, it must be curbed immediately by hiking the price. It does not also stand to experience that by raising the prices, consumption will go down. All these years, whenever the prices were raised, as far as the petroleum products are concerned, there never has been decrease in the consumption of petroleum products. The shock of this remains only for a few weeks and within a short time the consumption is restored back to the original position. Therefore, this remedy which the Government has resorted to namely, increasing the prices of petroleum products in order to curb the consumption, does not stand to reason according to the past experience.

My further submission is that several other measures could be taken to curb the consumption of petroleum products. In deed, since long these measures have been suggested but we have not implemented them. For example, the Kapoor Committee Report is gathering dust. Various other Reports suggesting measures to be taken for curbing the consumption are on

record and they are not being implemented as far as this aspect is concerned. Therefore, my submission is that those measures may be taken. I do not suggest that rationing may be introduced. It may perhaps create practical problems, but as far as the industries are concerned, as far as the private and public undertakings are concerned, we can put a curb on them that they should reduce their consumption, say, by 5 per cent or 10 per cent. That will have immediate curb on the consumption of petroleum products as far as the industries are concerned. So, whatever steps had been taken to conserve petroleum in the mid-seventies in the wake of the international oil crisis have already been reversed. At the time of the international oil crisis we had suggested and we had taken several steps to curb this. But now they have been reversed. Now we are trying to curb the consumption only by hikes in the administered prices. Therefore my submission is, this will have to be looked into again. If any remedy can be found out then they may be thought over, as far as this aspect is concerned.

So far we have encouraged the automobile production for the last many months. Suddenly at the last moment now we are trying to review the whole policy on that count. My submission is that perhaps it is too late now to try to reverse the whole policy. We should have done it earlier. We should have thought about this earlier than today and that would have helped us from this point of view.

Therefore my submission is, as I stated, even though at that time it was merely in the form of an Adjournment Motion, a real full-scale discussion should have taken place. A national debate has to take place because it is a fundamental economic policy. None should stand on prestige. As far as this issue is concerned, the real truth must be arrived at by examining all the aspects of our policy. From these points of view, my submission is, the economic priorities which we are going to decide and which we are going to examine, must be looked at from the national point of view, not from any party point of view or from any sectarian point of view. The real interest of the nation must be taken

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

into account and then the policy should be framed accordingly.

This Address by the President contains several good achievements. Several good trends are also shown. But there should have been no misunderstanding. I say this because one of our colleagues was referring to the Delhi atrocities not having been mentioned here. In this respect he was making a mistake. The first President's Address took place on January 17, 1985. Those incidents are prior to that. This Address will not contain any reference to incidents which had taken place prior to the last Presidential Address. So, from that point of view, that criticism appears to be based on some sort of misunderstanding as far as the Presidential Address is concerned.

The last point that I want to touch only cursorily is this. As a student of the Constitution, as a student of Parliamentary Practice and Procedure, I would like to point out to the Government very humbly that the purpose of the President's Address is not merely to say about the achievements of the Government. This is 'the cause of the summons which is given to us'. The President has summoned us to meet in Parliament. President's speech

is the 'cause of the summons'. Why are we called? Future plans at length should have been mentioned. Hereafter at least I hope that the constitutional experts of the Government will apply their minds to this aspect. The purpose of the President's Address to Parliament is only to give the cause of summons. Why are you summoned? What are you going to do? So, from that point of view, mere vague references to policies alone are not sufficient. What are the concrete steps which you are going to take? What are the concrete subjects which you are going to discuss? What is the concrete legislative business which you are going to undertake not only in this session but throughout the year. That should be indicated at least hereafter in the President's Address.

With these words I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House now adjourns to meet again at Eleven of the clock to-morrow.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the clock on Wednesday,
February 26, 1986/Phalguna 7,
1907 (Saka).*
