

substandard houses and if those substandard houses are meant for the poor people, that should not be done. The poorest people are also human beings. They should be treated at par with other people. So, only the lowest quality or substandard houses should not be given to them.

The Government should establish more technological centres so that research and development programmes can be undertaken and low-cost housing facilities could be provided to the rural poor—the rural masses.

Now I will say a word about HUDCO. There are tremendous financial irregularities prevailing in the HUDCO. The Government should set up a machinery to go into the details of the financial irregularities which have been reported in different places. That should be taken up immediately.

I will say that all these things can be met if there is a strong will on the part of the Government. I think, since Independence, the Government did not have such a will. That should be emphasised. I earnestly solicit the Government to change its attitude towards the poorest of the poor and bring forward suitable legislation and measures for solving the housing problems.

[Translation]

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the National Housing Policy brought by the Government and would like to submit a few words. The policy of our Government is to uplift the poor. Therefore, it is ready to implement the National Housing Policy immediately. I, therefore, would like to congratulate both the Government and the Ministry for it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may

continue your speech after lunch break.

13. 10 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten Minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

At 14.10 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 14.13 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 14.16 hours again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General made the following announcement.

14. 20 hrs.

Announcement re: Postponement of the sitting of the House upto Forty Minutes past Fourteen of the clock for want of quorum.

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : There is no quorum. The House, therefore, cannot meet; and we may not start the House till there is quorum. Hon. Speaker has directed that the House should re-assemble at forty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14. 43 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at forty-three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*]

ANNOUNCEMENT BY SPEAKER

Non-acceptance of resignations of the Members of the Legislative Committees.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members. I have

to make one short announcement. The resignation given by the Members of the Legislative Committees are not accepted. We request them to participate in the proceedings of the Committees.

SHR RANGARAJAN KUMARA MANGALAM (Salem): We join you, Sir.

MAJ. GEN.(RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): We will abide by your decision, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Right.

14. 44 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : APPROVAL OF
NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY—
CONTD.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kumari Sushila Tiriya to continue.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Housing Policy. I support the resolution of Housing Policy and would like to thank the Housing Ministry. Earlier also, I had said that the policy of the Congress Party had been to uplift the poor and the downtrodden and to provide more and more facilities to the countrymen. Although this Housing Policy was presented in the House in 1992, yet I would like to thank

the Ministry for taking a swift action on it and for implementing it. Besides it, I would like to put emphasis on one or two things.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the year 1987 was declared as *Shelter for the Homeless Year* at international level. I think that in rural areas 18.8 million houses and in urban areas 5.9 million houses were required at that time. If an assessment is done on the basis of the new National Housing Policy, we will need 25.5 million houses in rural areas and 15.5 million houses in urban areas by the year 2001. My submission is that how this policy will be implemented and a house each will be provided to every person in the wake of the fast growing population. Even then I would like to thank the hon. Minister for bringing the policy, which we all are discussing here. This is the step of our party and it is the duty of the Government to provide houses to the people.

I support the Housing Policy and in this regard I would like to draw your attention towards one or two facts. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the minimum requirements in the houses available today.

I hail from Orissa. In Bhubaneswar, the Government has built houses but the facilities of drinking water, electricity, sanitation and sewerage have not been provided there. If a house lacks these basic amenities, it is not worth living. Whenever the Government proposes to implement this housing policy, these things should be kept in mind. Simultaneously, the concerned authorities should also be briefed about this.

There is no drinking water facility in the houses built by the Government in