

14.14 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS- *CONTD.*

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Hassan):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my thanks for having given me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to only one point about what respected President has mentioned in the first para of his speech:

"..We have reason and justification to feel encouraged at the all round performance. But we still have a long way to go before we achieve the objectives"...

Sir, for the last three years—or rather two and a half years—I have been watching this House. After certain reforms have been promoted by the Government, they try to substantiate that the performance in this country in every walk of life has been good. I do not want to dispute the point. There are some areas where they might have achieved some objectives. But unfortunately, in major areas when compared to the size of the problem, the achievement is totally negligible. The economic reforms are something like a Mantra that is being chanted. In the Venkateswara temple everyday in the morning at five o' clock there is *Suprabhatam*. Just like that our friends on the Treasury Benches always try to say that these economic reforms have bought a miracle in this country.

I wanted to deal with various subjects but the time is very short. Only one to two per cent of the population is praising the structural changes in the new industrial policy or the new economic policy. So, the apprecia-

tion is only through the media which has been controlled by some of the big industrial houses. Those people are trying to build the opinion, they are the opinion makers. Today, in this country people who have no knowledge of what Parliament is, people who have no idea about the functioning of Parliament are not interested to know the real implications of the structural changes or the economic policy changes or the industrial policy changes are the public opinion makers.

I would like to ask this Government have you made progress in the field of unemployment which is one of the major burning problems in the country. Have we achieved any tangible results? Have any time-bound programmes been evolved to solve the unemployment problem, or the drinking water problem, or the housing problem or the communications problem in the rural areas? For the last 35 years I have been active in politics. When I go to the villages I see the same picture which was there about 35 years back, the same thing prevailing even today. I am sorry to say this. This House has got the supreme authority and we are accountable to the people of this country about what we are doing here. I am unable to understand what our friends on the Treasury Benches have to say. Because of the majority whatever we say goes out, without creating any tangible results.

Nearly 14 to 15 million people are born on the foot path every day and die on the foot paths, in the slum areas. Nobody bothers about them. This year nothing has been mentioned about solving the housing problem or what the Government is doing about the drinking water problem. Even the various other schemes have not been touched by the respected President in his Address. I do not find fault with the President. This is only a policy document prepared by the

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Government and approved by the Cabinet, which is read out in the Joint session by the respected President.

Our friends in ruling party always try to say that the economic reforms or the structural changes are going to yield the expected results in next three years. Unfortunately, we have already completed three years. My friend, the former Commerce Minister, in this very same House, instead of three years, has given a lease of life of 20 years for these schemes to achieve the desired goals, to quote that this kind of poverty can be abolished in 20 years. But in 20 years the country can become a major economy in the world.

So, I do not know whether I can live up to 20 years to see what this country is going to achieve after these structural changes or economic reforms or whatever they try to propagate day in and out. The burning problem today is unemployment problem. I would like to warn this Government that if they do not attend to this burning problem- they are under the illusion, impression that they will be able to solve the militant problem in Punjab, Kashmir and Assam a day will come when every State will become a ground for the militants and all the educated unemployed people will become militants. I will take up this issue little later.

Sir, I would like to mention one or two points about the performance of this very House, about the accountability, which has been mentioned by our respected President. I am sorry that I have to repeat what is had said in the last Session. Why I am mentioning about accountability is that the respected President, in his Address, on page 3, paragraph 9, has said "in order to strengthen the accountability of the Execu-

tive to parliament.." Sir, we are accountable to the people, who have sent us here. I want to know whether this Executive is accountable on various issues, whether the Executive has taken cognisance of the importance of this House. In the JPC report, it has been mentioned that some of the senior officers, whether they are from CBI or Banking Department, wanted the approval of the higher authorities to produce the documents or Photostat copies of the documents before the JPC. The JPC is a mini Parliament. And I am unable to understand this. When they denied to give some documents to the JPC, it is as good as denying to this very august House. That means, this House is losing its importance. I am sorry to say this. This House has got all the powers, even to impeach the President or to impeach the Chief Justice of the country or to impeach the Election Commissioner if it wants. Unfortunately, it is not in a position to ask the Executive to mind their ways, to respect the real strength of this House to respect the importance of this House. I am sorry that they tried to bulldoze because they have got a majority in their party system of Government. How long can this be tolerated? This is on point, which I would like to ask the treasury benches and the Government. I do not want to attribute any motives to any individual. I am sorry about the way in which we are denigrating ourselves and the way we are losing the credibility day by day. This is going to reflect on everyone of us. This blame has to be taken by the ruling party.

Sir, today morning, more than one hour time of this House has been consumed for Bofors issue. I am not saying that it is unimportant. Even much more bigger issues had been debated in this House. The JPC had tried to find out where the scam money, Rs. 6000 crore, had gone. But ultimately the JPC was unable to trace where this money had gone. And much more than

that, in this very House a charge was made that one of the Ministers or his relatives had received some amount through cheques from the foreign banks. What had happened to that? Nothing had happened. Nobody had been punished in this country for the last 47 years on corruption charges.

Sir the hon Prime Minister while replying to the No-confidence Motion had said that he was thinking of bringing Lokpal Bill which is pending before this House. What had happened to Lokpal Bill?

He further said that he wanted to widen the area of the Lok Pal. I would like to quote a few lines from his speech. I quote

"During the last one year Government have been making very thorough exercise in examining the possibility of an Ombudsman in our country. There were detailed consultations between the Department of Personnel, the C V C and some key Ministries on the question of bringing the CEOs and PSUs within the scope of the Bill."

So there is no word about what he had said on the floor of this House and there is not even an iota of symptom about bringing this Bill to remove corruption. There may or may not be merit in the corruption charges. Is there any iota of thinking on such sensitive matters? I am sorry to say all these things. In every State every political party or the Government will get this type of blame on corruption charges. The highest forum, that is Parliament is not able to find out remedy for such sensitive issues. This is bringing discredit to the very political system in this country. How long can we fool the people? The time has come when the people have lost faith in the political parties and in our political system. The very system has come to a stake. So, I wanted to mention only two or three points about the accountability

I am going to a very important area of the agriculture. Our hon Finance Minister has said in his budget Speech and I quote

'Our public enterprises generate more internal resources and we reduce expenditure on subsidies.'

I do not understand why he is so much anxious to remove subsidy on public distribution system. The prices of all the essential commodities have gone up very high. The concerned Minister who is in charge of Public Distribution system is not here. In Karnataka one kg of rice in the P D S today costs about Rs 7.05 whereas five years back it was available at a price of Rs 2.00 per kg when we were running the Government. Recently before the Parliament Session the prices of all the essential items were hiked because IMF conditionalities were to be implemented. Unfortunately the poor man has to pay more. The Government tried to defend the price hike as we wanted to give the higher remunerative price for agriculture.

In Karnataka I wrote a letter and in fact I raised this matter in the Consultative Committee meeting. A quintal of jowar was sold at the rate of Rs 180 in Karnataka. However, no Government mechanism has come to the rescue of the farmer who is selling it as a distress sale. So, I think the hon Finance Minister is totally antifarmer and anti-poor. He only tries to appease some industrial houses and some big business houses because they are the opinion builders. He has risen from the status of Finance Secretary Advisor to the Central Government, the Reserve Bank Governor and now the Finance Minister. He may even go as one of the representatives of the IMF or the World Bank. He may be an honest man. But I am convinced that he never bothered about the rural people. He never bothered about solv-

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ing the rural problems.

I am giving a few figures from his own speech. In 1992-93 the outlay for agriculture was Rs. 1050 crores; in 1993-94, it was Rs. 1330 crores and in 1994-95 it is Rs. 2005 crores.

According to him, there is forty - two per cent increase. What is the cost escalation? I am unable to understand what is the cost of inputs. The President in his Address - I know this is a Cabinet's approved Address - says:

"The Government attaches highest priority to the development of agriculture. The timely provision of adequate and reasonably - priced inputs..."

How and with what courage can they say this? The very same House has now constituted various Standing Committees. The Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals has given the report that there is 300 per cent hike in the price of potassium fertiliser, whereas the consumption has gone down by 36 per cent. This is given in the report of the Committee. I am unable to understand why they made the Respected Rashtrapati Ji to tell something to the nation through this House, which is unrealistic. I am sorry to say this. I do not know how long they can try to befool the people by using this platform.

One more point that I would like to make is that in the Fourth Plan, the sectoral allocation for agriculture out of the Plan size was twelve per cent. But unfortunately, in the Eighth plan, headed by our Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao Ji, it comes to 5.2 per cent. How has it declined? Are they really interested to take care of this unorganised

sector, that is agriculture? I am very sorry to say this. I am not biased. I am totally convinced that this section has no voice. They have no capacity to organise themselves and fight for their interests.

Another important area is the irrigation. Irrigation is one of the major inputs or the components of agriculture. This year the reduction is minus six per Cent. The Central allocation for irrigation, which was Rs. 280 crore in 1993-94, has come down to Rs. 261 crore this year, that is, 1994 - 95, which means minus 6.79 per cent.

Just see, Sir, how they have tried to give the benefits. For the agriculture sector there is nothing. For the industrial sector and for other affluent sections of the society, they have tried to give various concessions, whether it is in the form of Import Duty reduction or in some other form. All these things I shall deal in detail when I participate in the general discussion on the Budget. You see, Sir, how they have tried to fool the country. Only one classic example I would like to give. Day before yesterday, the hon. Finance Minister has presented the Budget. I would like to mention one or two points from the Receipt side of the Budget for 1994-95. It is a mockery that the receipt from the Estate Duty is hardly Rs. one crore. Who is going to pay this Estate Duty. I would like to ask this question. Why has he kept this in his Budget document? Estate Duty is going to be paid by wealthy or rich persons. It is paid when a rich or a wealthy person dies and leaves his property to his children or to his parents. In the whole country, for the whole year, if the Estate Duty is hardly Rs. one crore, then either the machinery has totally failed to collect the Estate Duty or perhaps there are some other considerations. Estate Duty is going to be paid by whom, Shankaranand Ji?

Will it not be paid by Birlas, Tatas, Ambanis, or such wealthy people if they die. I do not know how much is their property or how much is their wealth. Will you kindly spell out? Dr. Manmohan Singh is a great honest man. If he dies, nobody is there to replace him! How is India going to cry for that? There was a question after Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, who was there. The country has given the answer.

One crore of rupees is collected as the Estate Duty for the whole year. What is the establishment charge that you are incurring? Is it Rs. 50 crores. Rs. 60 crores? Please spell out. This is how from the tax net, the richer people are going to escape. It is a wanton, deliberate help provided by the Government. It is a glaring example.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you are also a farmer. I know your feelings. I would like to draw your attention to this. We can very well understand how this Government machinery is functioning. Mr. Rajesh Pilot you are also trying to wear turban your Cabinet colleague, Dr. Balam Jakhar and go to the farmers and try to pose yourself to help them in their cause. I am happy that you take the cause of the farmers generously. Another point is gift tax.

What is the revenue you are going to derive in a year—Rs. 5 crores? Why do you want to fool the people? You tell frankly that you are for the richer sections; you are for the industrialists; you are for the big business houses, wealthy people and richer people. Tell us for whom are you going to do all this exercise. How much money are you going to spend on this? Is it not a mockery? It not a hypocrisy? With all pain and agony would like to ask this question. Why should I be a party in this House, as a representative of the people to this? Our hon. respected President has said, on the eve of the

Republic Day while addressing the nation: "Our elected representatives must discharge their duties individually and collectively". What is the duty I can discharge in this House? The President has asked me to discharge this duty. Is this the duty I am to discharge? You have got some majority now. The Government has very well managed from minority Government to majority. It is a major achievement. You have a comfortable majority. Whatever type of skill that you have adopted, I have seen that the Treasury Benches become a majority, the ruling Party. I do not want to go into the details about the way in which they have used this skill to make a minority party into a majority party.

I will next go to one of the major issues. The hon. Finance Minister has said that he is going to bring a bill on National Court for Direct Taxes. Two years back, he mentioned this. What happened to that? He said, he was going to relieve the burden of the High Courts. The cases are pending for years and they are unable to dispose of the cases and the tax arrears could not be recovered. He has mentioned about the National Court for Tariff Taxes. Why is he unable to implement it? Is he so busy in only obeying his masters, the IMF and the world Bank? Why has he made this promise in this very august House?

I do not know. Several cases are pending before the High Courts and so much of mental torture to the parties and whatever the amount that is due, we are unable to recover. These are a few instances. I would like to say how the Finance Ministry is functioning and I do not want to elaborate the various other issues.

The other important issue is the unemployment problem. I will read the very relevant para because it is very important:

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"Government has formulated three new innovative schemes to benefit the poor, particularly the rural women and the urban youth,"

The rural youth has been totally forgotten. That is a different matter.

I am coming to the very important aspect. To implement these important innovative schemes, the Prime Minister has directly taken charge. In para 29, it is stated :-

"To monitor the progress of implementation of the programmes of weaker sections and to provide the direction and thrust required, the Prime Minister has set up a Special Cell in the Prime Minister's Office. This Special Cell will receive feed back from the Implementing Departments and also information based on the field visits and independent evaluations so as to remove all possible bottlenecks in the programmes.

A Special Committee of Secretaries responsible for the implementation of these three programmes."

What is the achievement. I would like to draw the attention of the House to para 27 of the President's Address wherein it is stated:

"To provide sustained employment to the educated urban youth in micro enterprises, a Rozgar Yojana has been launched" (by the Prime Minister)."

"About 1.95 lakh applications have been received so far from youth in different states. So far,

41.275 applications have been processed and recommended to the banks and about 2,000 of them have also been sanctioned."

The PMO is directly involved. 1,95,000 applications have been received under that Scheme. The net result is that only 2,000 applications are sanctioned.

The Prime Minister is directly involved. A Special Cell is there. Secretaries Special Committee is there. Is it a Special Committee of the Secretaries to cover up the blunders committed by their own Ministers? Are they fully engaged in it? Is the Secretaries Committee spending their time in covering up the corruption charges that they are facing without taking any care of the responsibilities that have been fixed by the hon. Prime Minister? What is the present situation? The present situation is something wrong.

The number of educated unemployed registered in Employment Exchanges during January, 1991 is 3,47,00,000, and during January, 1992 it is 3,65,00,000 and during January, 1993 it is 3,67,00,000 Every year it is increasing.

After the so-called Dunkel text that has been signed by our official representatives on 15th December, our hon. Commerce Minister used to say that some of those people who have knowledge about what Dunkel text is, are going to say that something is going to happen to the country.

Now you have taken the utmost care. Why should these opposition people unnecessarily try to attack the Government. [Interruptions] It is a very important issue. Normally I do not like to speak. It is not my habit to speak. I do not unnecessarily waste the

time of the House.

Now there is a news item - "Dunkel to hit job opportunities". The Union Commerce Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee has admittedly said that employment opportunities in the organised sector would be drastically reduced. That was the result of Centre's acceptance of the Dunkel proposal. Are you hearing it Shankaranandji? You are one of the Cabinet Minister. People have voted for us. Government took a stand that they have got every right to act according to our own decision. You want to mortgage this country. I warn you it is not so simple. People will drag you to the streets, be there any amount of police security. Today some of our Parliament Members and Politicians are surviving only on the security forces. Why? If I cannot, I will get out of the public life. I am sorry Pilotji, it is really a burning problem. Can you go and face the people today? How long can you go on like this? This is not a thing where you can laugh. Everyone has to face the music. Every State is going to become a place for educated militants or terrorists. Do not be under the impression that only Punjab has got some terrorists and you have completely eradicated it. They have diversified it to other States. They have been of river out. You have not completed the job. They are in Delhi, they are in Uttar Pradesh, they are in Western U.P. Do not be under the impression that India has become calm and that in one major achievement that you have made. All this is for your own satisfaction. You people are saying all these things just for a temporary gain, for a temporary political gain.

An educated boy who applies for a loan get Rs. 1 lakh with all securities. And there are some influential people who get loans without even loan applications, without even any security or surety. In the bank scam, some of the brokers have drawn

thousands of crores, 800 crores, 600 crores and 500 crores of rupees. What is going on? Why should these so called educated unemployed tolerate it? Have you seen one video cassette "EYEWITNESS" made by *The Hindustan Times*? They had made a survey last month in all major cities and they found out that more than 80 per cent of the youths want to leave this country. That is the opinion expressed in five major cities by our younger generation. About 50 or 52 years back, the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi had given a call 'Quit India'. Now these youngsters, the educated unemployed people want to quit India. They want to honour the feelings of the Father of the Nation who had given the call about 50 years back. That is your achievement. Go and see younger people near the embassies. They are standing in a queue to get VISA to various countries in search of a job. Why? They have no confidence in this country. They have no faith in the rulers. They have no faith in this political system. Do not forget these things. It is not so easy. You may drag it for another two and a half years with all your manipulative policies. Then you have to come the street. The only single factor is that the opposition is divided. That is your good luck, the saving factor.

I do admit that in Janata Dal there are various factions. Knowing that, I would like to tell the ruling party that it is not simple to face the electorate next time. You make a note of this. I come from Karnataka and Shri Shankaranand Ji also comes from Karnataka. It is not so simple. My voice is getting deteriorated because I am going round the State just to take care of friends. With these so-called policies, you are trying to fool them by saying that honey and milk is going to flow in every street. Shri Chidambaram's English is very good. I cannot compete with him to speak in English with such an eloquence. I admit I cannot do

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that.

My last warning to you is that do not neglect the educated unemployed. There are more than twenty crores unemployed including skilled, semi-skilled, uneducated and underemployed. They are dying; they are living on the street, on the footpaths. In such a situation, how can you have a conscience to represent such poor people? Nobody is there to look after them. Rich people are roaring with their wealth; they are enjoying in 5-Star hotels and nobody bothers. And we want to help such people. For tourist promotion licenses are being issued and a proposal worth Rs. 32,000 crore has been approved by the Cabinet. We see all these things in the papers

Everywhere there is corruption. I am not talking about the Bofors which is worth Rs. 64 crore. But what happened to Rs. 6,000 crore? Nobody is talking about the JPC Report; it has been put into the waste paper basket. Or what about Madam Gandhi's 'Call on *Garbkosh*' in 1976? She was able to bury it in 60 ft. depth. Shri George, I think, you remember this 'Call on *Garbkosh*'. The JPC Report has been buried in 60 ft. depth. Who cares for it? Is there any sensitivity on the part of the Government on these issues? If you want to make money, make money. But to what extent? Will it be for one generation or two generations or three generations? Why, what for? your own brother is dying on the street. So let us search our hearts. I am going to blame any particular individual in the ruling Party

In fact, I wrote a letter about the political pensions. Day in and day out, in the readers' column of the newspapers, they try to attack us by saying that as if we people are

meant only for these political pensions and for all such things. As a Member of the Assembly for 39 years, I am entitled to a political pension of Rs. 2,000. But I have not drawn it till today because I know my condition. The whole Karnataka knows about the condition of Shankaranand Ji and about the condition of Devegowda. I unable to understand whether we have a heart which cares for poor sections of the society. People live in water pipes in metropolitan cities like Bombay city, not even in slums but pipes and we are talking about honey and milk in this country after the new economic policy. So, I would like to warn this Government, please do not neglect the poor people under the garb of this so-called economic reforms, under the garb of these structural changes, and under garb of this industrial policy.

You talk of import technology. You talk of foreign capital! What type of technology can you import? Their technology is totally different and it is not going to suit this country. Please remember this.

Ours is totally different. The manpower is so much in this country that you cannot adopt that technology to the conditions prevailing in our country. That is capital oriented technology and ours is manpower oriented technology. You cannot go out of ground reality and convince the people. You may try to fool the people for a day, but not for all the time.

I would like to tell the Prime Minister - whatever may be his intelligence or skill; he may have been able to muster the strength in the House to run the Government for the next two and a half years, I have no jealousy for the achievement. The allocation in some area is increased by 60 percent, 40 percent, 20 percent as per your claim is all confusing. You said that for horticulture the allocation has been increased from Rs. 160

crore last year to Rs. 180 crore this year and the increase is 40 per cent. Do not say all these things as the amount is meagre

My last word of caution is, please apply your mind to some of these burning problems which are now being faced by the country and poor people. Otherwise the country will face a bloodshed. I am going to provoke anybody. But there will be bloodshed in every state, every street, every village and there will be a fight for the survival because hungry stomach knows no respect for law. You may talk about the dignity of this House, respect for the judiciary and other institutions created by our forefathers. But they do not care for these things. Please remember your responsibility and try to come up to the expectations of the people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The next speaker in the list is Dr. Vasant Niwruṭṭi Pawar. But two of our friends want to go for their prayer. Will you accommodate them?

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik) : I will not take much time.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani) : We requested the Speaker yesterday that we should be given a chance to speak early today so as to enable us to attend the Ramzan prayers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is why I made the request to him. The House should also know when such requests are made, it has to accommodate those Members.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR : Okay ; they can speak first ; no problem.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to participate in

the discussions on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address Sir, the President in his Address to the Parliament on 21st of last month has tried to paint a very rosy picture of the situation prevailing in the country. But I am afraid that with the rising prices of essential commodities, with unprecedented unemployment, with retrenchment of workers, with increased inflation, with all pervading corruption, with the situation in Kashmir worsening, with the Ayodhya-Babri Masjid issue keeping people deeply troubled, with these all these issues before us, it cannot be said that there is a steady progress in all fronts and the situation cannot be described to be very satisfactory.

15.00 hrs.

The prices of essential commodities like rice, wheat, sugar and also the prices of gas cylinders, petrol, diesel were raised to fetch nearly Rs. 60,000 crores. Nothing is said about this in the President's Address. All these things were done before the presentation of the Budget. What is going to be the impact of such a hike in the prices ? Everyone can well understand that. This abnormal increase in the prices of essential commodities is going to break the back of the poor people. There is a severe criticism and people have been subjected to a great hardship, due to this, if things continue like this and the prices go on increasing, then, we have to witness more starvation deaths in different parts of the country; and that will be a very sorrowful state of affairs.

Sir, now I will just rush through paragraph 4 of the President's Address at page 1.

"Around this time last year, the Ayodhya issue had cast its long shadow on the national scene. There was a great deal of concern over the possible

[Sh. Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait]

fall - out of the demolition and the riots that followed. Thanks to the inherent wisdom and sagacity of the Indian people, the grim predictions that were being made have been proved wrong. The atmosphere has improved considerably and we can hope for a lasting solution to the dispute. Proceedings are continuing in the Supreme Court on the reference made to it under the Constitution. Government will take appropriate measures in light of the opinion of the Supreme Court.'

One thing is very clear. When the President has said this about the Ayodhya issue, about the Babri Masjid - Bhoomi issue, it is far from reality; and you cannot say that people are feeling satisfied today because of the acquisition of the place of worship and particularly with the reference made by the President to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution. No, it is not so. They are completely dissatisfied with the measures taken by the Government of this country to solve this basic, complex and sensitive issue of Babri Masjid. We must understand that we have been consistently with the Prime Minister when this package came and when it was converted into an Act by this Parliament. The fact of its acquisition and its reference to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution cannot be accepted by not only the minorities in this country, but by every right-thinking citizen, particularly the secular-minded people in this country.

I must say here with pain and anguish that the Central Government has tackled the Ayodhya issue, Ramjanam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue in the most tactless manner in the most irresponsible manner and it is having only vacillation and inaction. I must

also say that there was an active connivance of the Central Government with the fascist forces. I am sure, it is my belief that without the collusion of the Central Government with the fascist forces, the Babri Masjid not have been demolished at all. Others had no powers and you had all the powers—the Central Government had all the powers; they had connived with those to see that the Babri Masjid is demolished.

I must say that from the very beginning the Central Government's attitude has been not find a solution, an amicable solution to this problem and all their attempts have been complicate the issue. Right from 1949 upto 1992, every step taken by the Central Government has only complicated the issue. Idols were placed inside the Babri Masjid on the night of 22- 23, December 1949. At that time, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was at the helm of affairs, with all the powers. The most powerful Prime Minister we had in the independent India was Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. At that time, they were ruling UP and they were very powerful; still, they could not just remove the idols which were planted over there mischievously at the dead of night surreptitiously the mischievous forces. This is, actually, the affidavit given by the UP Government. UP Government have said that the idols were plant inside the Mosque surreptitiously and wrongfully by the mischievous forces at the dead of nights. But, nothing was done. Leave alone that. What happened later on? Who opened the Mosque? Who was responsible for opening the Mosque? You cannot deny the fact that the hand of the Central Government was also there when the lock was unlocked on the 1st of February 1986. Then again, who was responsible for *shilanyas*? *Shilanyas* was performed at the time of the Prime Ministership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1989. Who was responsible for *Shilanyas*? This has actually deteriorated the entire

matter and the atmosphere in the country. That was the reasons why they have miserably failed.

15.06 hrs.

(SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA
in the Chair.)

Then, what happened on the 6th of December 1992, the blackest day in the history of the country? That was the day when the Babri Masjid was demolished. That too had happened with the connivance of the Central Government. I say this because the National Integration Council had given a black cheque to the Prime Minister on the 27th November 1992 to do anything he wants to protect the Babri Masjid. Again, Parliament gave him the power to protect the Babri Masjid. What about the Supreme Court? Supreme Court gave only the permission for a symbolic *kar seva*. It has directed that nothing should be demolished nor anything should be constructed and the *status quo* should be maintained. Who should maintain the status quo? It is the Central Government who will maintain it. They were just watching the situation when lakhs and lakhs of *kar sevaks* were gathering there on the 6th of December. They took no steps to stop those *kar sevaks* from gathering there. It was your responsibility. Then, what happened?

No doubt, there is the Constitution, the sacred Indian Constitution. Under Article 356 of the Constitution, they could have dismissed the Kalyan Singh Government. Military is there; but they could not send military to protect the Mosque. Nothing was done. It is vacillation and inaction and nothing more than that. They did dismiss Kalyan Singh Government. But, when? It was only after the Babri Masjid was demolished. At 4.30 p.m., Babri Masjid was demolished and

at 6.30 p.m., Kalyan Singh Government was dismissed. It is a joke. It really a joke that Kalyan Singh Government was dismissed after the demolition of the Babri Masjid. Whatever events have taken place after that, we all well know. So I hold the Central Government responsible for the demolition of Babri Masjid. I say Shri Narasimha Rao was responsible for the demolition of the Babri Masjid; and he cannot escape the responsibility at all. Therefore, I say that this matter has been tacked very badly and it is because of this that all such developments are taking place.

Before the demolition of the Babri Masjid, we sensed danger: we met the Prime Minister not twice, but thrice and pleaded with him to protect the Mosque. He failed miserably. Then again, you may refuse today and say that you have not promised. Here, the Home Minister has said the other day that the Prime Minister did not promise. It was wrong. We, 35 respectable persons or the leaders in India, had approached him. Scholars were there, Member of Parliament were there, leaders were there, I was there. Shri Owaisi was there and journalists were there. Before us, the Prime Minister said on the fateful night of 6th December 1992 that the Babri Masjid will be rebuilt at the same spot. He gave assurance. That was again reiterated on TV: the whole world has witnessed. He said that the Babri Masjid will be rebuilt. Now, they are going back on their word. This is how, They are dealing with the Babri Masjid issue, right through. They have only complicated the issue.

Now, we have been always saying that there should not be any acquisition. Acquisition has set a bad precedent to the place of worship. We are against the acquisition of the place of worship. It is against the spirit of the Indian Constitution and it is against the rule of law of the country.

[Sh. Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait]

All these things were done and the matter is today in the Supreme Court. We are even opposing its reference under Article 143 of the Constitution because we can understand that as far as reference under Article 143 is concerned, there is no meaning in it under the present situation.

The President has referred the matter for an opinion. That too is a vague reference whether building of this character existed sometime before the demolition of the mosque. It has no meaning. It is a vague reference. Even if the Supreme Court takes it up and gives an opinion, it is only an advisory opinion. It cannot be mandatory. So, it cannot solve the issue. Today, the entire issue is before the Supreme Court. It is being argued whether the acquisition is proper or not. Whether reference under article 143 is maintainable or not is being discussed in the Supreme Court today. It has taken 15 months for the Supreme Court to start hearing this reference under article 143. We are told: "We have referred the matter to the Supreme Court under 143. So, we will immediately take a decision." That was said here. We advocated for article 138(2) of the Constitution

The matter has been referred. That is what the Prime Minister told us in December, 1993. It will take 40-50 years. It is just a joke. In case the Government is sincere, all cases can be consolidated. This matter can be referred to the Supreme Court under article 138(2). Then, we can have a Special Bench constituted for the purpose. It can go ahead with the day-to-day hearings. And this matter can be settled. You can get ready with the verdict within a year or two. It is possible. That matter can be settled. That is acceptable to all. In case a consolidated case is handed over to the Supreme Court

and if the Supreme Court after hearing the arguments and going through the evidence gives a judicial verdict, then, we have to accept it. That will solve the matter. But 'no'. They have taken the entire matter under article 143. That is not going to solve the matter at all.

I must say that this matter was complicated by the prime Minister of the country and by the Central Government of this country. They went back from their promises. They promised to protect the mosque. But they failed to protect the mosque at the same spot where it had existed. But they failed. Therefore, what I want is that immediately this ordinance, which shall become a law, should be repealed. That means, this acquisition should be repealed by which all those cases will become alive. All the cases should be consolidated and referred to the Supreme Court under article 138. Therefore, what I want is that reference under article 143 should be withdrawn immediately because it is not going to solve the issue.

In case you are going to refer the matter under 138, there will be another chance to settle the issue. Otherwise, there is not going to be any hope for a solution unless Government of India takes proper steps in the matter. I wish that the Government understands the ground realities and takes a proper decision in the matter to solve this complex issue.

Our colleagues in the Kerala Government said that they were going to fight. The Kerala Assembly has passed a resolution that there should be amendments in a package and acquisition should not be made. This is just for public consumption. Our colleagues are there in the Government. It is only a political hypocrisy. They talk against article 143 and talk against the acquisition. But today, they are a party to the reference

to the Supreme Court under article 143. Outside, they are against it. This is a sort of a mockery. It is a sort of political dishonesty. It is going on. That should be exposed so that the people understand it.

On page 9, in para 36, the President has said in his Address:

"The long awaited reservation of vacancies for other Backward Classes in the services under the Government of India became a reality on 8th September, 1993 when the present Government issued orders for 27 per cent reservation for other Backward Classes. With this, one of the most important aspirations of the other Backward Classes of the country has been met."

I welcome this step and I am happy that 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes is going to be implemented. I welcome it because you know fully well, Madam, that minorities and backward classes have been suppressed for centuries together in this country by the domination of upper castes. And if they are given 27 per cent reservation today, it should be welcome. I support the recommendation of the Mandal Commission but we want that it should be on the lines Kerala Government. Here, I want to point out that we have been demanding reservation for Muslims as minorities as a backward class which is socially and educationally backward. When it comes to reservation for backward classes, Muslim minorities should also get reservation and for that, they must have a fixed quota. It is not just enough that 27 per cent reservation is given for backward classes. Muslims should get a quota of reservation either under that 27 per cent or outside that 27 per cent reservation that is given to the backward classes. Therefore, a quota should be fixed for the Muslim minorities throughout India as they

are backward educationally and socially. Then alone, we will feel that justice is being done. Otherwise, justice will be denied to the Muslims also and this quota should be filled on the basis of population. This is what I have to say. Presidents; Address does not present the correct picture of the realities prevailing in the country. It does not give the picture of injustice done in the nation, particularly to the Muslims in regard to Babri Masjid issue. Now, I also demand that reservation should be given to the Muslims on the basis of population. Government must understand these realities and take steps so that all injustices are removed. Please find out an amicable solution to the very complex and sensitive Babri Masjid issue so that there is peace and communal harmony in the country. Due to demolition of Babri Masjid, the first casualty was secularism. Today secularism has become a farce and communal harmony has become a casualty. Our face stands tarnished throughout the length and breadth of the world today because of the demolition of the Babri Masjid. Therefore, I want the Government to understand the realities and give justice to all sections of the population. Then alone, there can be communal harmony and we can say that India really believes in secularism and democracy.

[Translation]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad) : Madam Chairman, the President's Address pronounces the Government's policy. We go through it and feel that whatever the President has stated will be implemented.

The President in his Address announced that Rs. 500 crore will be provided to the Minority Finance Corporation, but when the Budget was presented no allocation was made to this effect. Therefore it is

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simply disobedience of the President, it is something very surprising but the practice is continuing. You might recall that the President in his Address had appreciated the performance of Shri Surjit Singh Barnala in Punjab. But not even a year passed there-after that he was removed. This kind of disrespect to the President's Address should not be there whatever the President announces in his Address must be fulfilled.

Similarly, the President in his Address had made a detailed reference to the State of Affairs in Kashmir. Kashmir happens to be a State having Muslim majority. But here we discriminate between Hindus and Muslims of the State. Camps have been set up for the Kashmiri Pandits migrant and they are also paid Rs.1000/- to Rs.1500/- per month as relief whereas about 150 Muslim families have been living under the open sky in Hyderabad. They are also not given any relief there is no relief camps nor any facility for them. They fulfill their basic necessities by means of begging. If anybody gives them food out of sympathy, the police harass them. An incident to this effect occurred in Mallapalli area of Hyderabad and it was published in all the local newspapers.

On the other hand police force them to give their photographs. They are reluctant because they feel that if the terrorists come to know about them they would kill them. Why does the Government adopt such a discriminatory attitude? There should be equality for all.

Sir, some of the youth from Kashmir met me personally in Hyderabad and requested to help them to get admission in Medical Colleges and Engineering Colleges. Non-Muslim Students do get admission in the colleges of Delhi but not even single Muslim student succeeded in getting it. When

I was asked to give them admission I readily agreed because we run a private medical college. Education Act is under implementation in Andhra Pradesh and the Congress Party is in power there. I am ready to take 50 students but an amendment should be made in the Act. However the Government is not willing to do even that. Justice is not being meted out to Muslim migrants from Kashmir who are in Hyderabad. Just now at 2.00 p.m. I was coming from my home 34, Ashok Road. Two Muslim women came there and said that they were hungry and they wanted something to eat. They said that they had none to look after them. Is there no justice for them? I fail miserably to understand the prevailing state of affairs. Moreover about eight hundred Muslims were arrested under TADA in Hyderabad and were kept illegally for 8 day in lock up and were beaten mercilessly. They were given electric shocks and released only after eight days. All the newspapers published their photographs relating to the atrocities committed against them.

Sir, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is not present in House at the moment. He had personally come to Hyderabad to look into the matter. After all what is all this? Everywhere in Rajasthan, Bombay, Gujarat etc. people are being taken into custody under TADA. If at all they play traitors role to the country they must be hanged for it. We do not support them. But that does not even mean that a person should be kept in prison for one year or more without any trial. Two young girls of 16-17 years age have been kept in custody. They were doing their intermediate when they were arrested and were kept in prison for one and a half year. Their mother is also in custody. Can't the Government treat even these women with sympathy? If they are really there, they must be produced in the court and prosecuted. But the Government do not want to hand over such persons to the law.

They are just arrested and beaten up. A news was published in the newspaper that in Hyderabad there are six police and one task force was deployed in each of these zones to arrest the people. It is said that they demand Rs. five thousand to Rs. fifty thousand to set a person free from custody. So much so that the people have transferred their properties in their names. After all some body has to challenge the gross misuse of power and the injustice being done on such a large scale. The Government cannot suppress the people in this manner. Despite a continuous deterioration in the situation the Government do not want to find a solution to it. This matter is being raised time and again in the Parliament and the State Assemblies and even then no action is being taken in this regard. It appears as if the session of state Assemblies and the Parliament are the annual ritual or Urs where we pay our homage and go. Nothing concrete takes shape. The Government can well imagine what would be the situation in the country if people lose faith in democracy.

For how long people will tolerate this? We run colleges for minorities and take no financial aid from the Government. Inspire of this we are asked to admit 50 per cent seats by non minorities candidates. We admit that we are ready to take not 50 but 75 per cent candidates from non-minorities but only with a condition that 25 per cent seats in Government colleges should be given to our candidates. The State Government is not ready to agree to this rather they want us to agree to them. There is a provision in Article 30 (A) of the Constitution for the minorities. But it is gathering dust if there are legal provision for minorities: the hon. Minister of Human Resources should advocate for the matter. What is all this? A committee of 9 judges gave their verdict in favour of the minorities but despite that such incidents took place there particularly in the States

where Congress party is in power. For how long will the present situation continue? People of our community are backward. There are no colleges, no jobs for them. If they run their own colleges even then they are not allowed to do so. There is a limit to injustice.

Neither there is any court nor law for us. With regard to the protection of the structure of Babri Masjid the National Integration Council and the Supreme Court gave adequate rights to the Government but despite that the structure was demolished. Then another atrocity was committed on us. We were deprived of our right to go to the court on the Babri Masjid dispute. We cannot approach the court. The previous case was withdrawn. The Land was acquired and now the Government propose to make a reference to the Supreme Court under Article 143. On the one hand we speak volumes about our achievements and advancement in the science through which man has been able to land on the moon. Whereas on the other hand the Government is going back to trace the history to find whether something was there about 1000 years ago. After all, why do such things happen? Though we made it clear that we were ready to accept the verdict of the court even if it went against us. But the Prime Minister was perhaps afraid and there is a proposal to make reference under Article 143 to the Supreme Court. The case would have been fought in the court and we would have accepted whatever verdict was given by the court. However, the Government is not ready to do so. Even then they talk of secularism. Praising oneself does not help to restore secularism. The restoration of secularism needs our support when the minorities particularly the Muslim community of this country say that there is secularism in this country only then will the world accept your claim. However contrary to it, we are being deprived of

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everything, we are being made an object of ridicule in every respect.

Same is true regarding reservation. We were in the ruling party for five years in the Municipal Corporation in Hyderabad. Now, there is provision of 33 per cent reservation for women and the remaining for other categories, where will we go then? We should also be given reservation in jobs, Legislative Assemblies, Parliament etc....*(Interruption)*...

You are ringing the bell so that I conclude immediately. I also know that it is futile to speak here on this subject as it will fall on deaf ears but please let me give vent to my grievances at least. You are not allowing me even to do that. Just as Iqbal has said :

“Yeh dastoor-e-zubanbandi, kaisa hai teri mehfil mein,

Yahan to baat karne ko tarasti hai zuban men.’

You are asking me to hold my tongue.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I did not stop you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SULTAN SAHAHUDDIN OWAISI: Now what should I say. Every Member raises problems on behalf of his people. If you do not like my crying or weeping for the people's woes and direct me to stop, I will be silent. My submission is that injustice is being done to us and it is wrong why do not the Members of ruling party stand up and deny it. I am not saying this on my own. You may visit Muslim mohallas in the city and see that there are no facilities of drainage or

drinking water. In Delhi there are luxurious hotels such as Ashoka and Akbar Hotel with spacious lawns spread over 300 acres. This is our romantic socialism. Shahjahan built Taj Mahal but our Muslim brethren do not even get drinking water. People say that had they been a green plant rather than a human being they could get at least water to drink. We do not get water even to quench our thirst. You may visit Jama Masjid area in Delhi or any other town in Hyderabad or in any other part of the country which is Muslim dominated and you can yourself see the condition in which they are living. No attention is paid towards them, rather even the existing facilities are withdrawn and new laws are enforced there. We are pacified on the plea that if the poor people do not get anything else, their children do get opportunity to get education in primary or High Schools, thus having brighter prospects of employment. The Government of Andhra Pradesh said that 30 acres of land is required for the purpose. We are ready even to pay for it provided we are given the land. After all, what do they want? Should we drift from the path of democracy. How long will the prevailing situation continue? We have almost lost our patience now. Our condition is just like a desperate man who leaves nothing to chance. The Government should not provoke us to reach that point! It would be dangerous for the country. After all how long will we tolerate injustice? There is a limit to it. Atrocities are committed on people of our community under TADA or other laws. We two Members represent about 18-20 crores of people and despite that we are not given adequate time to express our views. I am watching your face expressions, you are looking somewhat uneasy and also a little glad. Even then I have to give due regard to your feelings because you are an hon. Lady Member. Therefore, I conclude before my allotted time. I am also grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Indrajit Gupta.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): Madam, my name was there on behalf of my party. It was announced also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call your name Mr. Pawar, after Mr. Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Madam Chairperson. I have to make a reference of regret to what transpired unnecessarily this morning in this House. One full hour from 12 o'clock to 1 o'clock was simply wasted. The time of the House is precious. The time was wasted because a legitimate demand which was raised by the opposition was completely stonewalled by the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs which was not necessary at all.

The Opposition was only asking him to either confirm or deny whether the papers relating to the Bofors case which are there in Switzerland and which we were told were going to be remitted to the Government of India by the first of this month, have actually been received or not. I think the Parliament is entitled to get that information ; nothing more was being asked. But the Minister went on saying that he was not prepared to say anything. And I think my complaint is justified because factually at 2 o'clock when the House re-assembled after lunch, Mr. Vidyacharan Shukla here again and made a statement for about half a minute, which settled the whole matter; and there was no further agitation; nothing. The House was quite calm. He came and said, "I have verified from the CBI. Those papers have not yet been received; they are with some examining Magistrate there in Switzerland; and he will fix a date later on, and the papers will be sent. ' If he had said that earlier, the

time of the House from 12 to 1 o'clock need not have been wasted in this fashion.

Now I want to briefly remind the House. Of course everybody is agitated, exercised over this Bofors affairs which has been dragging on far so many years; and it is a case, after all, of proved corruption, not proved by us, but admitted by the people in Switzerland themselves. The Bofors Company itself through the Swiss Legal Agency had admitted that they had paid this amount of money to somebody in India, though they said that they could not reveal to whom they had paid it because their laws do not permit that. That money was paid to somebody in India when there was a competition going on between the Bofors and some other company as to which gun the Government of India was going to buy for its Armed Forces. So, there is no question of denying that; that money had been paid to somebody. I do not want to go into all that has happened subsequently.

After all these years, it was established that money had been paid into certain secret account in some of the Swiss banks; and we were trying to find out who were the accounts holders. I am aware of the fact that the people in whose name those accounts are held in Switzerland may not be the actual people who had taken bribe. I understand that. They may be only a cover, a sort of front for somebody behind them, who actually took the money. But it does not matter. It was our money; it was our Government's money and, therefore, we are entitled to know who those accounts holders are. What I wish to point out is that this is not only the instance of this kind; Members are aware of many cases where now allegations of corruption in high places are multiplying all the time. It is like a cancer growing in our society; and this cancer is, what I should say, the proliferation of black-money, which

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is generating this kind of high level corruption; this black-money is being used for this purpose.

Now, I am afraid, in the latest budget proposals which have come there is no mention of this. We are not discussing the Budget just now with great incentives which have been provided by the hon. Finance Minister for the unrestricted growth of the private sector, both domestic private sector as well as foreign investors. I am afraid, this growth of black-money will be further accelerated leading to more and more corruption. We call sort of encouragement as financial criminality is too mild a term. In some countries, they refer to it as a financial criminality.

That is what is being fostered now in our country. The President's Address, Madam, has consciously or unconsciously, I do not know whoever prepared the Address obviously did it consciously, blacked out all reference to this spreading cancer and has given no indication of the type of people who are indulging or who are in a position to indulge in this kind of financial criminality.

I wish to make a reference since I am on this subject. I do not wish to hurt anybody's feelings; I never mention names. Some people are sitting here in this House whose names have been mentioned in this particular news item which I want to refer to.

On the 29th of January, a front page news item has appeared in one of our leading dailies, namely 'The Statesman' giving a list of 42 people, belonging to different parties, who are alleged to have been funded by the same group of people who have been used by the IS to fund the Hizbul Muzahideen and the accused in the Bombay bomb blasts. I do not know what is

the political connection, I cannot easily find it out. But any way this is a case pending in the Supreme Court now.

A public interest litigation was filed by a gentleman, who is known here perhaps to many people. He is a well cartoonist and activist, Shri Rajinder Puri. He has said that these names were obtained from the copies of diaries which were seized by the CBI from two alleged Hawala Operators, Shri S.K. Jain and Shri J.K. Jain.

He has given a list, of 42 people, which was produced in the court. Their names are given in this news item along with the amount of money which they are alleged to have received. Among them, the major number of people come from Congress Party; then from the BJP; also from the Janata Dal; and few from the Janata Dal (Samajwadi) Party. But bulk of the names are from the Congress Party. These are all hon. gentleman. Most of them are Members of Parliament, some of them are Ministers and some are presently Ministers.

I think that a paper which publishes a serious type of allegation should either be proceeded against by way of defamation proceedings in the court, which has not been, done or at least the people who are named among these 42 should have come out publicly with some denial or contradiction, which has not been done.

AN HON. MEMBER: How could they?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: How could they? What is the meaning of how could they? Papers are open to everybody. I may tell you my friend, I do not know who you are but I am hearing your voice, that Shri Chandra Shekhar told me a little while ago when I was mentioning this matter to him.

He said, "When I saw name among these 42"; with his permission I am mentioning his name. I asked "Shall I say this." He said, "Yes you can say it." He said, "I called this man, Shri Rajinder Puri because I know him very well, and I asked what is this you have published."

Shri Rajinder Puri, according to Shri Chandra Shekhar, said,

[*Translation*]

"It was just a mistake, your name was published by mistake."

[*English*]

Next day a contradiction was issued. Well I take that at his face value. I neither know whether these allegations are correct or can be correct or not. But what is surprising me is, you see, the news like this has created quite a lot of sensation and pandemonium among the public who read these papers. But no contradiction, denial or defamation case or anything is coming.

This is very curious, it seems to me, and I want to draw the attention of this House that the hon. Members concerned should really be more serious about this and take whatever necessary action they feel they should take. But nothing has been done.

Then, for example, there are allegations going on here also, quite frequently about some matter concerning the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. He has stated in this House that he does not hold any bank account in U.S.A. But the U.S. authorities, including some police authorities, have investigated and said that he has got an account. I do not know who is telling the truth. But this kind of thing is doing no good to our political structure. The credibility

of our political structure among the people of this country is going lower and lower every day and specially when this kind of serious allegations come. An allegation came that Shri Harshad Mehta sent a suitcase full of notes to the Prime Minister's residence. To this day it has not been proved—I mean, the contents of that suitcase—whether it was Rs.1 crore or what it was, I do not know, whether that was actually accepted or whether it was not accepted.

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati): It was later proved that he never sent it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Nothing was proved. A statement was made, denying it. Neither Shri Harshad Mehta could prove it nor the recipient of the suitcase could prove it. And it is left like that and people are joking now about it saying "Where is that famous suitcase? What about that suitcase?" Is it good? Something should be done to establish one way or the other. (*Interruptions*) Yes, I know it hurts you because your Prime Minister is concerned.

My point is that these cases will go on multiplying, not because of any individual's proclivities, but because of what I said. There are some economic and social forces which are operating. Black money is at the corruption and the more is leading to proliferation of this type of corruption and the more it spreads, people are thinking that, "Well so may people up above, whether they are MPs or Minister or anybody else must have also got something to do with corruption." Is that good for the future of our country? So, I am saying that this is a matter which everybody should take seriously.

The President's Address does not say anything these things. It does not even mention a big event which took place last year, in 1993, a very big event, which was

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the scam, the banking scam. Is it not just a small trivial matter? There is no mention about it! The Government could say that such a thing happened, we set up a Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Joint Parliamentary Committee probed into it, they have submitted their report and the Prime Minister has assured Parliament that follow up action would be taken against people who are guilty ' and all that. There is no mention of the fact that Rs. 8,000 crore or may be more, Rs.12,000 crore people say was involved. Bofors is chickenfeed compared to this Bofors was only Rs.60 to 65 crore. It involved Rs.8,000 to Rs.12,000 crore which was the money of the public deposited in the banks.

Why do public put money in the banks? Because they believe that it is in safe custody when it is in the bank. Even small people like pensioners put money in the banks. But if thousands of crores of rupees go away from the backdoor of the banks by virtue of nexus between brokers, bankers, businessman and so many types of people who are in nexus with each other, it is serious. That money in the hands of the speculators on the stock markets or stock exchanges.

Is it a small matter? Such a thing never happened in this country before. It was affected mainly the public sector banking system, the nationalised banks, about which Shrimati Indira Gandhi had spoken at the time of nationalisation that these are going to be really the commanding heights of the economy. Now what is happening? There is no mention about it in the President's Address. So, I do not know how I can thank him for his Address. There is no use hiding these things. What is the fate of the JPC? The JPC was a body constituted with all the parties, representatives from both Houses

and that Committee laboured - the Chairman was also the member of the Lok Sabha and had produced its reports. Is there any seriousness about taking up those reports? Nothing it is just being hoped that public conscience will be blunted, people will forget, the whole thing will quietly be given a burial.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbanil) : You talk some new points. (*Interruption*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If you do not like it, you are welcome to go out. I am not forcing you to stay here.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: But I am interested to hear some new points from you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Now, you have derailed me.

So, what I am saying is that the President's Address has been prepared after all for him by the Government and, therefore, we should try to understand what is the motive of the people, who prepared such an Address, which completely avoids any mention of these things. And what fate will other Committees have if the JPC's report is dealt with like this? When then debate on the JPC report took place in this House, some Members were trying their best to denigrate such a report, to dilute it and to say that it is not of much consequence. What will be the fate of the other Committees? What will be the fate of these Standing Committees, which are now operating, which are also formed on all party basis? What will happen to their reports and to their recommendations? Nobody will bother about them. This is a part of our system. Is it not? This is a part of our parliamentary system. It all depends on how you look at it. how much you respect

those institutions, and how far you are prepared to carry out what they say or not. We are in a parliamentary form of Government. If you want to have some other form of Government, of course it is a different matter. But so long as this country has been committed to the parliamentary democracy, parliamentary form of Government, multi-party system based on adult franchise, you cannot escape what is called 'parliamentary accountability'. If you want a system in which nobody is held accountable, nobody is responsible, well, that is for you to try and bring about a change like that. But, under the present system you cannot avoid ministerial accountability. And that is why, we were saying that the Ministers, who personally as individuals, may be honest persons, may not have taken a single pie or done anything. But if within the area over which that Minister presides, some such serious mishaps occur, well he also to share the responsibility and he avoid it. This had happened in our own country so many times. And whether it was Lal Bahadur Shastri or V.V. Giri or Shanmugam Shetty or Krishnamachari, these people were not accused that they had themselves taken money or that Lal Bahadur Shastri had been driving that railway train which went on having so many accidents. They had an idea in those days that were accountable for something which went wrong in their Ministry or in their Department. Now these things are going on. I am only pointing out this. There would not be much left to our parliamentary traditions and systems if this is the attitude which we start developing.

Now Sir, one other point that I would like to speak about shortly, briefly, is that I am very happy that Shri S.B. Chavan, our Home Minister, though I was not here unfortunately to hear him yesterday, from what I have read, has really said for the first time on

behalf of the Government what we were wanting. That is a very spirited and a very positive attack on the attempts by external forces to interfere in our internal matters, particularly with regard to Kashmir. This is being discussed here practically everyday. But from the side of the Government, there was always a kind of defensive, negative kind of defensive approach. And the President's Address never mentions it at all.

He never says anything about the fact. The biggest and surviving super power in the world today is deliberately trying to fish in troubled waters in Kashmir and their spokesmen have been coming with so many statements which are patently anti-Indian, and anti-Indian sovereignty. I believe, Shri S.B. Chavan had said something forthright yesterday about this and, if I understand him correctly, then, I congratulate him for that. It would have been better if the President's Address has also included something about this.

I want to point out one thing. It is not correct and it would be wrong to think that what the Americans are raking up is only a question of violation of human rights. That is one aspect of it. They are talking about a civil war. They say civil war is going on in Kashmir. This was said by Robin Raphael in his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations. President Clinton has said that conditions of civil war have been developing in Kashmir. 'Civil war' is a term which has a specific meaning.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): What is happening in Bosnia and Palestine?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You knows as to what is happening. Can we do about it?

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Why the Americans do not talk on that?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I cannot reply because I am not President Clinton. You have to ask him.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Why do you give importance to Kashmir?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I give importance because I am an Indian. If you do not give importance then I am sorry for you. I give importance because it is a part of my country. I do not like foreign people to come and interfere and to challenge even our sovereignty and to say that we do not consider the accession of Kashmir to India to be final. Well if you worry about Bosnia then you should equally worry at least about Kashmir.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: What the Americans talk is irrelevant to us

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Mr. Jaffer Sharief, you have used very brave words and if you were equally brave and not depending on them for money and loans, I would be very happy. Who do you bother about them?

This is one thing. There is still a risk at Geneva in the Commission on Human Rights. A Pakistani motion was already tabled there may be able to get through not because the bigger powers will vote for them the bigger powers it seems prefer to play a sort of neutral role. But there are other smaller countries whom they are trying desperately to who saying that at least we should agree to send some sort of a probing team to Kashmir to see for themselves as to what is going on there. If they succeed in that, that will be a victory for them. I do not think we can agree to such a position at all.

So, our efforts at Geneva which have been stepped up and become more confident and more aggressive from our side have had good results and we should not allow them to slacken in any way.

Madam, I am mentioning only a few points which I find missing in the President's Address. I thought that he would have said something about the recent by-elections which were held in the four States — actually five States. Before the elections our friends of the BJP had been ruling there. In those four States some reversal of fortunes had taken place. I think, some of our BJP friends are a bit surprised They were quite confident that they were going to come back to power. The point, I think, should have been who is responsible for this. Are there some political parties or leaders who should take the credit for having at least, for the time being, saved the country from a take-over by fundamentalists and communal forces? I am happy about it-not that my party has contributed much, it has done hardly anything, as compared to any other party or even the Congress Party, in UP particularly where they were ruling with a strong Government.

16.00 hrs.

The credit must go and recognition should be made by the President of the upsurge of certain social forces which have come up in an unprecedented manner through this election. Those communities and classes of people who consider themselves to be deprived, who have been deprived of their social justice, who have been deprived of their share in political power, who have always been kept suppressed-whether it is the OBCs or whether it is the Dalits or whether it is the minority people or whether it is the tribals came up in a big way through these elections. They may have

been attached to different parties but, on the whole, between them there were some kind of unwritten, unspoken, undeclared sort of understanding that they should defeat these parties which are based on the upper classes or higher classes and which have been exploiting them for so many years, and they succeeded in that

16.01 hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE
in the Chair]

I do not think it is possible for anybody to keep this force down now and you should not try to keep it down also. These communities put together actually comprise a majority of our population and the overwhelming majority of them are poor people, deprived people. The Constitution refers only to socially and educationally backward people. Whatever it is, these communities have managed to assert their identity in no uncertain terms. The same force accounted for the BJP in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and also for the Congress in UP. It should be understood with all sympathy and force what it stands for and what it is and how in actual practice. I would say a sort of a social revolution is coming about in our country.

When the Mandal Commission's report was accepted by V. P. Singh's Government and was announced here, what a hullabaloo went on in the country! Some of the biggest parties were totally against it. They wanted to resist it. They called protest demonstrations. Here, in the city of Delhi, buses and trains were burnt. Some students, boys and girls. I am pained to say, were instigated to immolate. They poured petrol on themselves and set fire. They thought that the meaning of this Commission Report is that since they do not belong to the OBCs and all

that they will never again get a chance of any kind of employment or admission to colleges or anything. It was a wrong idea which was wrongly put to them. Today, couple of years after that, there is not a single political party in the country which is opposed to this principle of reservation of 27 per cent for the OBCs. Reservation for Dalits has been there for much longer. I am not talking about the implementation. Implementation may leave much to be desired still and we have to look to that. But this reservation principle was being bitterly opposed and from the beginning and we said that it should be at least for the first ten years without any kind of economic criterion being injected into it because that will spoil the effect of the whole thing. After ten years, we can review the position and see again what is happening. So I think this President's Address has missed out many of the major factors which are operating in the country and which will determine its future. One is this social revolution of these lower class-deprived classes to whom injustice has been done. In future it is going to be a major factor in this country and all of us have to come to terms with it. It is no use hoping that somehow or other it will recede again or we will have to crush it or do something. If we try to crush it, I think the result will be just the opposite. Their rights have to be respected, their rights have to be enforced, their rights have to be guaranteed and personally we do not think that simply reservation of some percentage of jobs in Government posts is going to solve their problems. They need education badly. Many of them are landless people who require land.

There are many people whose land has been taken away. There are many people who are landless agricultural labourers, small poor artisans and self-employed people like weavers and all that. They need economic help. They need education. They need land.

[Sh. Indrajit Gupta]

reforms, in addition to reservation in the jobs. Only then, this huge segment of humanity can be picked up and brought to the level with others. It is not going to be easy job and it will take a long, long time. Why should we poke at this? In many States in the South, not now, very long ago, there are reservations by law, which are far in excess of 27 per cent. In Kerala, in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, the reservation is not only for OBCs but also for women. They have made two per cent to three per cent for women. Some provision has been made even for the Muslims, minority community. Altogether it is much above 50 per cent which the Supreme Court laid down that the total reservation percentage should not go above 50 per cent. There it is being practised for over years. Do you expect them now that they will pull down their percentage because the Supreme Court has laid down an upper ceiling? They cannot do it. So, we have to live with so many things now. Particularly in the Hindi speaking Northern region, please take some lessons from what has happened in the recent elections. We should firmly resolve that we will do everything possible to help, uplift in raising all these sections who will be a decisive factor in the days to come.

These were three or four points only which I wish to dwell on because I am sorry, the President's Address has been quite silent about them and has not said a single word about any of these things. Of course, we are having a Motion of Thanks. But because of these glaring omissions and inadequacy in the President's Address, I really do not feel very much like registering a motion of thanks, which is a formality.

But I would draw the attention of the Government to the serious lapses because

in the coming days, the Government has to see that the country is socially, properly united it is a difficult job—and we are also able to get over the hurdles, obstacles which are relics of the past. All kinds of relics of feudalism still exist in our society unfortunately. Obscurantist ideas exist in our society. In some places, they are being linked up with religion for political purpose. We have to fight against all these things. Otherwise, a modern society and a modern India cannot be created.

Therefore, I hope that all these things will be taken seriously by the Prime Minister also. So, I look forward to the Prime Minister's reply to the debate to see how far his response will be forthcoming.

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to support this Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by my friend Mr. S.C. Mathur and seconded by Mr. K.V. Thomas.

The President's Address represents the action report and the future plan of action by the Government. We are able to take the review of the situation and it is an opportunity of annual stock-taking. I feel, this procedure, this convention should continue in future. Parliament is a place of debate and it is an opportunity for the opposition where the Opposition should have tried to rise above petty, pre-occupied party bias to use this occasion for the serious discussion on the basic issues and the national problems. But the Opposition have entered into their favourite criticisms and into their state phrases and petty prejudice.

Madam Chairperson, does this Opposition have an alternative plan for the nation? No, they do not have an alternative plan for the nation.

They are not in a position to plan and to give an alternate plan to the nation. They are only concentrating on the criticism of the Government and trying to weaken the Government. That is the sad story of this. My sincere advice to the Opposition is "If you are short of the sticks to beat the Government with, do not take the sticks that will break in your hands and hurt you."

Hon. President has given an appeal to all of you to think of the nation, care for the nation and unite for the nation. I quote what has been said in an Urdu couplet

"VATAN KI FIKRA KAR NADAN,
MUSIBAT AANE WALI HAI
TERI BARBADIYON KE MASHVIRE
HO RAHE HAIN AASMANO
MEIN
NA SAMJHE TO MIT JAOGE EI
HIDUSTAN WALO,
TER' DASTAN TAK BHI HOGI
DASTANO MEIN"

This is the time for us to think of the country and to unite just as we have united in a unanimous Resolution on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir.

We have fought Pakistan untidily. There are many avenues and many points in the President's Address where we can have general consensus and a common programme.

Hon. President in his Address, has mentioned about the emerging optimism and this optimism is basically because of the policies of the Government and the response by the people of our country. The Indian community has a great sense of patriotism and tolerance and we have to struggle hard. Our late Prime Minister, our leader, Shrimati Indra Gandhi, has said and I quote

"Strength never comes from the comforts or smooth path but from the most sternest of efforts."

In the course of the debate, a reference has been made to corruption in public life. We have to deal with this issue without partisan bias or political motives. Corruption is corruption whether it is practised by a person in power or a person who is aspiring to power or by any other. We have to fight it with all our strength at all levels and there will be a relentless war against this great evil. To fight the evil, we have to start a war against this greatest evil of the country.

Hon. President, in his Address in paragraph 6 mentioned about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. I think, the Government's strong will to fight terrorism has been quite revealed by the reply given by our Home Minister in yesterday's debate. I think that is quite a sufficient warning to Pakistan and the United States of America not to interfere in matters of Jammu and Kashmir and not to teach us Human Rights.

In the history of our Parliament, this is the first time we have decided to have accountable executive to the Parliament. It is to have more accountability to Parliament, that we have decided to have the Standing Committees.

No doubt everybody has to be accountable to the electorate and to the country. And this sense of accountability has to be there with everybody. I hope, this sense of accountability will percolate to the lowest level in the democracy. And for this formation of departmentally related Standing Committees, I specially congratulate our Prime Minister Shri P. V. Narasimha Raoji and our Speaker Shri Shivraj Patilji.

[Dr. Vasant Nowrutti Pawar]

We are the largest democratic country in the world, But the nature does not differentiate between the caste, creed, religion, nation or country. The natural calamity was there in Maharashtra and it has also not spared us. In the region of Latur and Osmanabad, a big earthquake has claimed thousands of lives. The Maharashtra Government has responded with a commendable alertness and provided prompt relief to the affected people. The World Bank and all other financial institutions specially the voluntary organisations have done a commendable job. A massive programme of reconstruction is there and about Rs.1000 crores outlay has been sanctioned. I place on record my congratulations to our leader and the Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Raoji and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Sharad Pawarji.

The economic stability is directly proportionate to the political stability. And it has been mentioned in the debate in the past that this Government now has come in a majority. Those people who have joined the Congress, they are definitely having a nationalistic mind. The economic performance of this Government is definitely satisfactory. The GDP is four per cent; the inflation rate is between six per cent and 8.4 per cent. The global confidence that we have achieved because of these economic reforms is most important because about Rs.65,000 crores of foreign investment is there in our country. That shows the global confidence in our policy, in our administration and in our Government. It has been said that the confidence is definitely there. What has been said in a couplet, I will again quote it:

*BASHAR NE KHAK PAYA, LAL PAYA
GUHAR PAYA:
MIJAJ ACHHA JISNE PAYA, TO
USNE SAB BHAR PAYA.*

Today our Government is having a very good *mijaj* and that is a sign that there is an international confidence in India.

Hon. President has mentioned about the agriculture. I am just trying to go in between the lines of what the President has mentioned in his Address. We must thank the agricultural farmers of our country for the good production of foodgrains. The storage of foodgrains is about 180 million tonnes. That has been increased by 7.1 per cent. The Kharif production is 99 million tonnes and the Rabi prospects are very good. That is why, our Government has planned the outlay and it has been raised by 26.6 per cent from Rs. 1050 crores to Rs. 1330 crores. That is very important. The policy of our Government is to export the agricultural goods either processed or otherwise. My constituency area cultivates the maximum grapes. Last year, our farmers have exported grapes worth about Rs.32 crores.

And this year, the target is about Rs. 200 crore. This is made possible only because of the export promotion measures taken by our Central Government.

So far as agriculture is concerned, in the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Government has allocated Rs. 1100 crore to the watershed development. This is the most important point in the rural development. That is the crux of the problem. What agriculture mainly needs is water. And now-a-days the ground-water level is going down. So, we have to develop these watersheds and by this development we will be getting about 30 lakh hectares of land for production of food, fodder, fuel and fibre. This dry land farming technology must grow very fast so that we can improve our ground-water levels and definitely the situation of our farmers will be better in future.

Madam Chairman, we have got a special duty to our Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Their welfare is basic to our system and we are determined to help these people who, because of poverty, have been denied the opportunity and their rightful place in the society.

I must thank our Maharashtra Government for renaming Marathwada University as Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Marathwada University. My congratulations to the Government of Maharashtra and the people of Maharashtra for doing such a commendable job. And I must congratulate the people of Marathwada also for such a generous gesture. A long standing demand of our friends has been accepted. My compliments to all those who have translated the literature of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar in various languages. His thought and his views will enrich the society and they in turn will enrich our democracy.

Madam Chairman, our 20-Point Programme is basic for rural development and we are implementing it with more zeal and thrust. The Government is determined to help the women, children and the minorities. Our friend was mentioning about the minorities. And I must say that a National Minorities Finance Development Corporation has been set up and Rs. 500 crore have been allocated for the development of minorities. The new Wakf Bill, 1993 will definitely help in deciding the matters of Wakf

Schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, I.R.D.P., Employment Assurance Scheme, Mahila Samridhi Yojana and Safai Karamcharis Act are milestones in the upliftment of the poor and down-trodden people.

So far as education is concerned, 'Education for All' has been made the target in

the Delhi Declaration. I must thank our Prime Minister who has assured that in the Ninth Five Year Plan, six per cent of the GDP will be allocated towards the educational outlay. That is what is the need and what is the necessity. He has done a right job.

The female literacy, national literacy mission and primary education, these are all our priorities.

The teacher's training and decentralised management will help to achieve our commitment for the education for all. I must say that the female literacy rate has gone up from 29.75 per cent in 1981 to 39.29 per cent in 1991. The health and family welfare programme has been referred to in Para 41 in the President's Address. This is the area where there is a need for all political parties to unanimously exhort people to adopt small family norms and transform the family planning programme into a mass movement. This is one avenue where we should come together and we should not see it from the political angle, because the situation about population of our country every year we are adding about 17 million people. We are having a world land area of 2.4 per cent only and we are nursing 16 per cent of the world population. Our population, as per the 1991 census is 846.3 million which must have by this time increased and must have reached to about 900 million. We have to do something to control the population. This population control has been an avenue where we should not exploit each other at the political level. In the past everybody has made this a political issue and that is why we were not able to do anything. I again request all the political parties to have a general consensus in this regard and to have a target with regard to family welfare that we would like to bring the birth rate to 21 per thousand from 29.3 per thousand right now and we will bring the death rate down from 9.8 per

[Dr. Vasant Nowrutti Pawar]

thousand to 9 per thousand and the infant mortality rate from 80 per thousand in 1991 to 70 per thousand by 2000 AD. The National Development Council is doing a good job in the population control.

About sports I must mention that we are very much proud of Kapil Dev and the national games organised at Pune in Maharashtra. They have served their purpose.

All that I have stated is not a negligible achievement by the Government. The Government is definitely doing a good job. Our engineers, technologists, farmers and workers are building this country. All they need is the support and encouragement from the Government and the people. The Government is supporting them. Let us be proud of all the men and women who are doing their best in building our nation. We are approaching the 21st century and the 21st century will be honesty, integrity, accountability, productivity and quality also. We intend to pursue all our efforts to produce more oil, more electricity, more fertilisers, more foodgrains and more of the basic needs of our people. Our Government and our political system are strong enough technologically and otherwise not to allow our self-reliance to be mortgaged outside by outside funds.

Friends, we must come together. We should march ahead for the self-reliance. We should call this operation forward, faster and forward. In social life or the political life always we realise that: "This woods are lovely, dark and deep, but miles to go before I sleep. We should not forget".

Madam Chairman, with these words I conclude and I support the Motion of Thanks

moved by our friend Mr. Mathur and seconded by Mr. Thomas. Thank you.

SHRI MANAVERNDRA SHAH (Tehri Garhwal): Hon. Member Kumari Uma Bharati, a few days back, had brought to the notice of this House, the law and order situation in UP. She has cited and rightly so, the incidents where the UP Government had failed to protect the minority community from the undesirable elements of the society and failed to enforce the authority of the Government over the district authorities, especially the police.

By implications, they may seem to be isolated cases; but actually, it is an issue of law and order in the whole of UP. Western UP has become 'Wild West'. That has come into existence ever since the present Government has come into power. It has 'Wild West' previously when they were in power and it has again become 'Wild West' now. So much so, they have now abolished the Goonda Act even. All these things have contributed to the law and order situation in the whole of UP. The prevailing situation in Western UP will prove what I am saying. Six districts of UP have now been declared as 'red districts'. After the murder of Kamal Kumar in Harbatpur by Thanedar, even that district in Dehra Dun has been included and named as 'red district'. Hence, now, seven districts of UP have become districts of lawlessness and they have been declared as areas where the law and order has broken down. This coupled with what Kumari Uma Bharati said, would mean that the whole of UP has become a disturbed area.

After the Babri Masjid episode, the Central Government concluded without consulting the State Government of UP that law and order in UP had broken down. They thought that the situation may flare up; and so, they dismissed the UP Government,

they dissolved the Assembly and they imposed the President's Rule. Surely, now when the whole of UP is now a disturbed one with a bad law and order situation, the Central Government is expected to do some thing. Replying to Kumari Uma Bharati's contention, the Home Minister had said that he would refer the matter to the UP Government and would come back to the House. It does not conform to the norms that they have been following in the past. The past norms would have made them take a different stand. It would have made them take a stand which they had taken not only in UP, but in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and in Himachal Pradesh. So, we expect that the Prime Minister will follow the norms that he had laid down in the past and dismiss the UP Government and bring that State under President's Rule.

I am glad that the President has given a signal that from now on, we will be having, not a defensive but an offensive foreign policy. This has been substantiated or carried out by the Home Minister yesterday when he was replying to the debate on the Statutory Resolution on Jammu & Kashmir. This is a thing which is to be done now and I hope that it will not be like 'one step forward and two steps backward'.

The arm-twisting policy of the big brother, USA, became pronounced after the break-up of USSR and the Gulf War. The dictate of USA was begun by President Bush and is being followed vigorously by President Clinton. Unfortunately the biggest democratic country - USA - has no hesitation to weaken another democratic country, that is, India. They do not want us to have a place of influence. They do not want us to be as powerful as we can become. Therefore, I would not like to touch Dunkel report and its details and pros and cons. I would only like to touch the Dunkel issue while keeping this

in mind. Why are negotiations with the Third World being held individually? Obviously, India and like-minded countries have failed to keep the Third World united. Therefore, the big brother is succeeding in its policy of divide and rule. They are negotiating separately because we do not have a common forum.

If the advanced countries have nothing extra to gain by the Dunkel scheme, then why are they so enthusiastic about the Dunkel proposals? It only means that whereas previously - in the pre-independence period - there was political-cum-military colonisation coupled with economic exploitation, it has now become outdated. They want us to be thus economically colonised. Therefore, our Government has to move boldly and forcefully against economic colonisation. That is what is being done by the big powers.

This unclad phobia against India that President Clinton has, also making him support indirectly Pakistan's anti-India functioning; making him hedge anti-terrorist condemnation; making him bless truncation of India; and wanting investigation of alleged breach of human rights.

The meaning of human rights is being twisted. The main emphasis by the international convention on Human Rights is on the word 'domination'. And that word 'domination' connotes distinction, exclusion, retention of preference based on race, colour, ethnic origin, sex of similar other basis. There is no doubt that we have not breached this kingpin provision Domination. That is why our Government has had no hesitation to take diplomats to Kashmir and rightly has no objection to inspection by the Human Rights Organisation on reciprocal basis.

It is surprising that those who live in

[Sh Manavendra Shah]

gallstones are throwing stones. USA's history begins with, more or less, annihilation of the Red Indians, taking over of land of the Indians and doling settlements. And today, the domination of the whites over non-whites prevails. Surely, this calls for investigation by the Human Rights Commission

Pakistan is a bigger culprit. Their maltreatment of their minority Muslim brethren of different sects or of Muslim immigrants from India and misuse of Hindu religious places to the extent of using them as laboratories surely evokes an inquiry by the Human Rights Commission for breach of human rights.

Our Government should, therefore, throw stones at their glasshouses by demanding an investigation for breach of human rights. They stand accused for domination, distinction, exclusion and preference based on either race, colour, ethnic origin or religion.

Of all the countries, USA should have appreciated if they recall their history—that taking steps even armed ones (a) to protect the unity of the country from moves from outside of inside, (b) to protect the territory from foreign powers' direct or indirect aggression and aid to terrorism, or (c) to quash terrorism in one's country, cannot amount to discrimination, distinction, exclusion or restriction and cannot therefore, come under the purview of human rights.

Furthermore, it is certainly a constitutional charge and obligation for the Government to protect one's country and its unity.

With this, madam, I would like to come to another issue, that is, environment. The President has rightly hinted that there has to

be a linkage between development process and protection of environment. We, in the hills of Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi and perhaps in the other hill districts of UP have so far been badly hit by non-linkage. Therefore, we welcome this statement of the President that there will be linkage between development and protection of environment. Now that the linkage has been pronounced, we hope that development specially like roads, canals, drinking water and other development projects where forests are involved will be accelerated. However, I would like to emphasise that the melding is only possible to succeed if the norms for the hills are different from the ones that are there the rest of India. Therefore, the government should apply their mind for preparing norms for the hills so that it becomes a workable proposition. So far, Delhi and Lucknow have merely been appreciative of the situation prevailing in the plains. Therefore, it may be worthwhile to involve the elected representatives of people for amending the norms for environment and protection.

There is another factor which has not been touched by the President and I am surprised at that because I know that the Prime Minister is worried about it and he has been applying his mind to it. That factor is big dams. Big dams bring about many problems other than environment. Human emotional factor, rehabilitation and safety factor are just as much important factors as environment. Therefore, when we think or consider dams, we have to club all these factors together and then come to a decision.

I would once again remind the Prime Minister that he has kept the clearance of Tehri Dam in abeyance pending further clarification. In a nutshell, these are the problems:

Safety factor has not been clearly

established so far: Exercise, even after decades, for protecting the environment has not succeeded; Doubts on the design have not been cleared; Rehabilitation compensation offered continues to be a bone of contention; Alternative plans for rehabilitation without environment damage have not been formed; Alternative for the ancestral rights like grant trees free grazing in Government land and forests are not found; Up-river from Tehri Dam and more so, down-river for at least two decades, including all development works and projects which were for the benefit of the people have been stopped on the excuse that the area comes within D Chetra. More decades will also pass before the dam, if made, would be completed. Both the Centre and the State Government are immune to this problem. Therefore, I would demand that development of this Doob Chetra should be re-started retrospectively. The last and just important point is that the Government should respect the law of the land giving protection to religious places. It will be breached if the Tehri Dam is allowed to go ahead. Temples like Swayam Bhu Puranic Sateyshwar Mahadev will go under water. At least the enacting Government which is the present Government, is expected to abide by the law of which they are the author. Therefore, the only alternative left for the Government is to consider converging Tehri Dam into the run of the river type. By this, all the problems that I have pointed out would be solved and would not be there. The Prime minister said yesterday that as far as the hills of UP were concerned, were an earthquake prone area, and so will be reconsidered? I hope he will come to a decision in our favour and make it into the "run of the river dam" With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address has

been moved by my friends Shri Mathur and Shri Thomas. I rise to support it. The hon. President has spoken at length about the economic condition of the country, the security of the citizens and the issues related to the farmers, tribal people and the harijans in his Address. I am surprised the hon. Member of BJP has called it a stereotyped document. The Address reflects the achievements of our party and our untiring efforts for the progress of the nation have been mentioned in it. Some people make mountain out of a mole-hill. I would like to say that since 1947, Kashmir is an integral part of our country and our national flag unfurls there. One of our colleague has gone to the extent of saying that our party is 109 years old and decay has set in and soon we would perish. I think that it is not good to say such things in the House.

Some members have said that the North-Eastern States are burning. The Government could not do anything there. The agitation could not be stopped. I would like to submit that peace and harmony prevails there today due to our Government. The people belonging to opposition parties hold the Congress Party responsible for all the disorder in the country. Did not they say that they were making all efforts for the development and progress of the country. When national front was in power for three years while the Congress was in opposition. What were they doing at that time?

The Bofors issue has also been raised. When we were in opposition, our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi had asked about Bofors. They had assured to come out with a statement by five o' clock on a particular day. This is in record. But no statement was given till five o' clock. Later they promised to make a statement within 15 days but even that was not fulfilled. Some Members have suggested that India must stake its claim for Karachi and Lahore. These are not a part of our country then how can we stake the claim?

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

We are associated with the international community also. How can we raise such issues? We have effectively countered the allegations levelled against us by Pakistan.

Kashmir is an integral part of India which can never be separated. That is the crown of India. Our sacrifices in Kashmir will always be remembered by the nation. Our army have also done a commendable job there. People of the country have been misled by creating an impression that the Congress Party is trying to create anarchy in Kashmir. The Congress Party did not cause any deflection. We simply proved our majority in the House. The opposition parties raised a lot of hue and cry to assert that the Congress Party was in minority; but this hue and cry was created simply in view of the fact that several States are going to poll. Elections are scheduled in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. Your gimmicks and schemes are not going to pay you. I would like to say very clearly that this country is obviously making progress under the able leadership of Narasimha Rao Ji. He was, however, not at all willing to become the Prime Minister. He united every one. The prosperity of the country being witnessed during his tenure is now being praised by everyone. The Congress Party has done a lot for the poor and it is the Congress Party alone that can improve the position of the poor.

When the three youth were killed in Himachal Pradesh I demanded several times in the House that the Government must provide some help to the family of deceased, but this was not done by the Government. Our colleague belonging to the B.J.P. has also just now said that the farmers of hill regions should be provided a remunerative support price. He said that no

remunerative price to the farmers of Garhwal region is being provided. Farmers of all hill regions whether Kashmir of Himachal Pradesh or Garhwal or the hill areas of North Zone should be provided adequate support price. Apple and other fruits are grown in abundance in those hill regions. Farmers have a limited means at present. So nobody can have any objection if farmers are provided adequate price for their produce. Neither railway communication nor any other good communication systems are available in hill areas. They have to travel to distant places to obtain the items of their requirements. The Government should pay proper attention to improve their position. It will make them prosperous. My constituency is near the border of Tibet and China. If prosperity comes to that area, that will also strengthen our country.

I am much surprised to hear what was said about Kashmir. Much has been said about the Hazratbal episode. Ample patience was shown by our army. What has been said in the House in that regard should not have been mentioned. We should not linger on such matters further. We should work together in order to consolidate the country and to ensure its advancement. Our country is a temple. The country cannot make progress if there is some sort of disturbance in the country. You unnecessarily raise one issue after another and business of the House is stalled from morning to evening....(Interruptions) And members of the Opposition Parties still demand clarification. During the Ninth Lok Sabha, there was not a single day when Bofors issues was not raised in the House. There was a full debate for 6 days on that issue and it was the Bofors issue alone that permeated the scene. This is very much in their election agenda and they are of the opinion that this will help them in elections. This time they have, however, not to gain anything be-

cause a mention in this regard has been made during the presidents address which is on record. I would like to say to him that it is not at all proper for anyone to use irresponsible words and that such things should be avoided. He should make his colleagues understand. I have full respect for Jaswant Singh Ji, But i condemn the manner in which he has criticised the Government.

Be it any proposal whether Dunkel proposal or any other proposal, it is not fair to say that farmers are exploited. What I mean to say is that if farmers are likely to get good quality of seeds which may ensure prosperity to their farming, then we must obtain such technology from other countries. We should not go on criticising the deal as some of our colleagues are doing. If our production increases due to some help rendered by some other countries and if for that reason we can get better quality of vegetables seeds, then our farmers should go for that. We will protest if anything is done to weaken the condition of our farmers. Our Government have said that the present agreement is not permanent and that it is only for a certain period. If our country is benefited through it, we will then continue with it otherwise we will drop it.

I would further like to submit that the Government is ensuring progress of the country on every front whether it is the issue of land erosion or irrigation or agricultural production.

We are trying to ensure progress in the field of education. Our Government have made adequate efforts in this regard. Previously these people have no hopes but our government have done a lot to educate the people in our State of Himachal Pradesh. Now we have to see how the Government of Delhi solves this problem here. Your party is an organisation of big hoarders who are

against the interest of the country and who are bent upon ruining it.

While tackling with Babri Masjid or Mandi issue they put saffron clothes and claim that they alone are true devotees of Ram and that others are not. I would like to advise those people to do some work for this country they cannot befool the people by presenting themselves as devotees of Ram by putting on Sainly garbs. They should not consider the people of the country weak and dullards. People know that only MLAs are dragging the issue. They will neither allow construction of a Mandir or a Masjid. I do not understand as to what sort of solution they would get after the construction of a Mandir or a Masjid. They think that they would be doing a service to God by way of arousing religious sentiments among the people and by collecting money for the construction of temple. They have only caused ruination of the country.

I fully support the President's Address and hope that good sense will prevail or those people so that they may contribute to the progress of the country.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarchi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in response to what has been said in the house by Mathur Ji on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. I oppose this motion of Thanks. This Address has been prepared by the men sitting on treasury benches. I would like to refer to the Address to the nation delivered by H.E. The President on 26th January, 1994 on the eve of Republic day.

Sir, I would like to mention this President's Address prepared by the Government to be read in contrast to the call for

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making India self-reliant and to go in for indigenisation given by His Excellency during the course of his Address on the eve of Republic day. The emphasis on Self-Reliance and Indigenisation put by His Excellency. The President on the eve of Republic day is nowhere to be found in his present Address. The President's Address is a cancellation of the call of making India self-reliant given by President himself on the eve of the Republic day and if further reveals how our Government is operating the new economic policy under the pressure of IMF and World Bank. I, therefore, oppose this Motion of Thanks and would like to submit that the Government should rather try to make our country self-reliant and should generate the feeling of indigenisation and should include these things in President's Address.

Sir, the Hon. Member, Sh. Sultanpuri Ji has just now raised the issue of Kashmir at length. The hon. Minister of External Affairs gave a very commendable statement in the House yesterday. Chavan Sahib expressed a deep concern inside the House as well as outside the House about the frequent dubious role of America on the Kashmir issue. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs whether dual policies would be adopted in the country. On the one hand, you express concern inside the House as well as outside the House over the stand of America on Kashmir issue, while on the other you are following the American instructions through IMF and World Bank while preparing the budget. The whole of the country is with you on this issue; but the hon. Minister of Finance is hand in glove with America in the name of New Economic policy. The Budget of India is prepared under the dictates of the IMF and World Bank. What is being done in the name of new

Economic Policy is now before the world. The hon. Minister of Finance is working under the pressure and in instructions of America.

Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Finance Minister, the Home Minister as also the hon. Prime Minister whether our Government would be adopting dual policies. Is it not a proof that our Government works according to the will of America. The Government is under the pressure of America. We are surrendering before America. Our Government signs the Dunkel Proposal. On the one hand you are forcing our farmers to lead a miserable life, while on the other hand you criticise America inside the House as well as outside the House for its stand on Kashmir.

If in some international newspaper, the speech of the Finance Minister of new economic policy and the speech of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs on Kashmir issue are published simultaneously, then our views about America will be a subject of ridicule. This is because the opinions of the two Ministers of the same Cabinet will be entirely different. Moreover, our attitude on these points will be questioned. Through you, I would therefore like to submit that our Ministers and then hon. Prime Minister should bring about a change in our policies. There should be an emphasis on indigenisation in order to make India a self-reliant. The new Economic Policy should be dropped and the government should work in the interest of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similarly I would like to say about Ayodhya issue that after the incident of 6th December, we heard on television that masjid would be reconstructed. I would like to know the progress in that regard following the decision of the hon.

Prime Minister Now the case is being referred to the Supreme Court under Article 143 through which only opinion of the Court will be sought Now it is being demanded everywhere in the country that a final decision under Article 138(2) should be taken and that should be implemented, but that has not been done so far

Mr Chairman Sir in para 17 page 6 of the President's address the point of giving top priority to agricultural development has been stressed The Budget introduced on 28th of the last month is anti-farmers There is no relief for farmers therein It has however been said during the President's Address that top priority will be given to the development of agriculture Despite sharing a huge amount of deficit in the Budget nothing has been provided for the development of agriculture Sultan Puri Ji was just now referring to Dunkel proposals Secretary level agreement on this proposal has already been reached and Ministerial level agreement has to be reached on 15th April A discussion has yet to be made on this subject Satyagrah against Dunkel proposals will be launched from 15th March and we are also to go to the Parliament House on that day Through the provision of Dunkel proposals, farmers are being deprived of the right of storing seeds Prices of medicines are to increase An import limit has to be fixed which is to harm the interest of the country There should be a discussion on the likely adverse impact of Dunkel proposals and the Government should not accept these proposals On a trial basis, the Government imported wheat on higher prices last year We protested against that and launched a Satyagrah in Bombay under the leadership of Sh V P Singh Similarly, the Government have decided to import cow-dung in Gujarat

This is a country of farmers Here

agriculture and animal husbandry are on top priority No other country of the world is ahead of our country in terms of animal husbandry Here compost fertiliser is obtained through cow-dung which is abundantly available in villages Yet the government of India propose to import cow-dung from Holland to manufacture compost fertiliser in Gujarat It is said that the cow-dung of that country contains poisonous thaimene contents That cow-dung is not used even in Holland itself and still the Government of India is to import it, I would like to say that wards of the poor pick paper pieces on roads (*Interruptions*) Where is the Government leading this country to? The poor quality items are being imported to this country

Sultan Puri Ji has also referred here to education The Government claims to achieve cent per cent literacy by the end of twentieth century as also to obtain the target of universalisation of education I would like to know how can the Government do it (*Interruptions*) This Government had announced even last year that six per cent of total budgetary provision would be for education This has however, not been done and yet the Government claims to achieve universalisation of education by the end of the twentieth century (*Interruptions*) mass education, adult education and informal education is being imparted on a large scale in this country but its utility is never checked 80 percent literacy is shown in the documents but these are false claims I come from Bihar Our Chief Minister has given the concept of Charwaha and Pehalwan Schools This year Ministry of Human Resources as well as UNICEF have done a commendable job by accepting the concept of charwaha schools We had requested Shri Arjun Singh to make a survey in respect of Charwaha and pehalwan schools and 113 agricultural farms of Bihar

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and implement it all over the country but nothing has been done in this regard. My other point is about water. Talks were held between India and Nepal to construct a high dam in order to provide water to North Bihar. I come from Bihar. Besides Kamla Balan and Kosi in Adwara Samooh, Bagmati river is there. These rivers can provide fertility to Bihar and in turn Bihar can provide food to whole of the country. Floods and droughts are frequent phenomenon in Bihar. It has been discussed with the Ministry of Water resources a number of times and the Government of India has also discussed it but nothing has been done so far. Last year when the Premier of Nepal visited India he visited Bihar also, it gave us a little hope. It was decided at that time that at first a dam would be built on Kosi and there after on Adwara Samooh and Basmati, but no action has been taken so far. The Central Government shows an indifferent attitude towards Bihar because the people of Bihar did not vote for them and Janta Dal is ruling in Bihar. How long will it continue, how long will you promote regionalism and continue to neglect this region. The discriminatory policy being adopted on the question of Dunkel to the construction of a dam on Kosi has made the people agitate there. This may result into a volcanic eruption of their anger. Shri Dinker Ji has written these lines :

*"Hosh Karo Dilli Ke devo Hosh Karo
Sab Din Na Mohni Chalne Wali Hai
Garm Ho Rahi Hai Dishaon Ki Sansain
Ab Mitti Aag Udgalne Wali Hai. "*

By quoting these lines I want to say that this regionalism cannot go for long. You have ignored Bihar even in the matter of Railway Budget.

I would like to conclude by citing an

example about the economic policy of the Government. It is stated in the President Address that the new economic policy which was started in 1991, is a dynamic one and is working smoothly. I have to copy of the reply to unstarred question No. 895 of Rajya Sabha, in which the Finance Minister has given the details about the foreign exchange. The Government says that these data are upto 31st december, 1993 and a total amount of 23,650.580 million U.S dollars was taken as a loan out of which an amount of 12,020,279 dollars was spent and an amount of 11,630,301 is still laying with her.

I through you, wish to state that foreign loan taken for different schemes is not even spent on them. A provision of Rs. 46,000 crores has been made in the recent Budget to pay the interest on the foreign loans. It clearly states that such loans are taken for merriment and not for any good. The balance amount of the loan, which is not utilised, is also not used properly. On the contrary it is said in the President's Address that the economic policy, initiated in 1991 is working effectively.

In the last, I would like to conclude by making a mention about reservation. The other day it was being discussed in the House that 27 percent reservation has been made as per the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. It does not say about any age relaxation. It has agitated the students. I would request the Government that at least 5 years age relaxation should be given to the students and they should be given at least three chances. The Government should make an announcement to this effect in its reply. Merely making a provision for reservation is not going to solve the problem. If reservation is not provided in technical and non-technical institutes then candidates of Backward Classes will not be

[Sh Nawal Kishore Rai]

able to get an admission in these institutes Nothing is mentioned in this regard in the Address I want that Prime Minister should make an announcement while making reply in this regard Reservation to these people should be given in proportion to their population

With these words I conclude

SHRI SYED MSUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) Mr Chairperson, Sir, I oppose the motion presented by Shri Mathur on the President's Address

17.20 hrs.

(MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *(in the chair)*)

There was mention about Ayodhya in the President's Address, I do not want to go in details in this regard but I want to know why the Government referred the single point reference to the Supreme Court? If court gives its verdict that there was a structure at this place then what will you do or what do you intend to do in this regard? You have not yet told this thing clearly Ours is a very ancient country There are many such cases, why do you not refer them to court? Many cities were built and ruined in our country then what will happen to our ancient laws? There was restlessness in large scale in all over the country after the incident of 6th December, which is still there Few days back there were riots in Kanpur You had promised to form composite forces for every community but even a single word is not mentioned in President's Address in this regard Probably, you might have formed your own composite force in which Sh Chavan, a Maharashtrian Shri Pilot an O B C of Rajasthan Shri Ranjithan and Shri P M Sayeed, a Scheduled Caste Member

for Lakshadweep are the members of that force I think in this way an anti-riot force has been formed

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, yesterday, the Jammu & Kashmir Issue was discussed in the House, I also want to give some suggestions in this regard Yesterday our Home Minister dared to openly criticise America and thus encouraged the people of Kashmir They are fighting against terrorism My suggestion is this that we should also pass a resolution against America as we have already passed a resolution against Pakistan A message to encourage the persons who are fighting against terrorists, should be conveyed to them The Government should take some concrete steps for the rehabilitation of the ruined persons A policy should be announced in this regard

It is said in the President's Address that prevails in every nook and corner of the country but there is restlessness in Manipur, Nagaland and other North Eastern States You do not try to understand the feelings of the people there The Government's duty is to solve the problems but in order to remain in power you always try to complicate the matters You should get rid from such tendencies It is a matter of regret that an impeachment motion was put forth in the House against Shri Ramaswamy Justice of Supreme Court for the charges of corruption The whole world was watching but the Government did not give any positive opinion You helped him while the people were watching the whole scenario and Justice Ramaswamy, who had promised to resign remained unmoved

What to say about corruption, even today children in every nook and corner of the country ask one another what is there in the briefcase?

[English]

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati) Don't repeat baseless things. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : I have not named anybody.

[English]

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA : Why do you believe criminals ?.... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : If it is baseless then do not make uproar. I can speak louder than you. If it is baseless then why did you not give notice in the Privilege Committee of the House against Harshad Mehta, why did you not file a case against him in the court ? You do not feel ashamed but I feel ashamed. Besides being the leader of the House, he is also my leader, that is why I feel ashamed (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please maintain order in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : I have not named anybody. I have only asked this much that what is there in the suitcase. People repeat it and they do not feel ashamed. It may be a baseless thing for you. I know your standard. Recently, when a Corporation Bill in respect of Air India and Indian Airlines was presented in the House and the issue of Air tax also come in between and when a decision was taken in this regard, you uttered the word 'shame' and

you passed the same Bill here by thumping the tables. I can only make this comment that you are a bunch of .

I leave the adjective for the public. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is not yielding

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : We know he will not yield. He does not have the answer, so why should he yield ?

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Dunkel Proposals are to be discussed, so I would not like to speak more on this subject. I would only submit that preparing Budget on the directions of foreign countries is just bowing before them. I feel that it is due to this fact that on the situation in our country is worsening day by day. Industries are getting closed, 47,724 industrial units have become sick and at the same time the Government deny that this would lead to the retrenchment of labourers. But I have gathered figures in this regard. I would like to submit that owing to the strike and lock out during the year 1991-92, the mandays, loss reduced from 34.57 million to 21.15 million. However, the workers are not responsible for it, subsidy is being withdrawn gradually on various commodities including fertilizers, PDS etc. With regard to PDS, my only submission is that whenever the matter is raised the Government reiterate that since the Government is bound to pay higher prices to the farmers for their produce, therefore, the issue Price is being raised in PDS. But this is absolutely wrong. I would like to place before you the figures of

procurement rates and the rates of issue to PDS. During 1991, the Government procured wheat at the rate of Rs. 225 per quintal in the months from April to June and issued it at the rate of Rs. 280 per quintal in January 1992. Similarly in the months from April to June 1993 they procured wheat at the rate of Rs. 330 per quintal but are selling it at the rate of Rs. 402 per quintal now. This is not something done by outsiders or traders, rather the Government itself is doing it. Thereafter it is kept under cover and cell system and claim that the stock is rotting, thus ultimately sell bulk of it in the open market. On one hand subsidy is being withdrawn while on the other hand the farmers are deprived even of the benefits of the supports price announced by the Government.

In the end, I would like to mention 2-3 points more. You observed that day before yesterday when the hon. Minister of Finance presented the Budget here, the economic survey had already been submitted there prior to it. The total percentage of people living below poverty line during the year 1983-84 was 44.8 which declined to 39.3 in 1987-88. For me below poverty line is a indicator which indicates to those people who cannot afford to spend more than Rs.50 in a month.. (*Interruptions*).. Regarding inflation, I have my own point of view, what is your point of view is your job to know, to know. I am telling you about my own point of view that about 40 percent people in this country live below poverty line. The hon. Minister of Finance while presenting the Annual Budget announced enhanced the direct tax start to Rs.35000 and gave relaxation to those earning upto Rs.50,000 per year. But has the Government given any relaxation to those living below the poverty line? Those who cannot afford to spend even Rs.50 per month have also to pay indirect taxes. If they buy even a match box

in the market they have to pay 10 paise for tax. Whom the Government is giving relaxation by burdening them? To those whose annual income is Rs. 50,000/-? What is the intention of the Government behind it?

No doubt, there is an Anti Dowry Act in the country under which giving dowry is illegal and a number of voluntary women organisation's continue to fight against it. However, even now-a-days the incidents of bribe burning for dowry do take place. Now the hon. Minister of Finance has exempted the tax on dowry upto Rs.1 lakh.

[English]

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati) : This is totally a wrong interpretation.

SHRI SYED MASUDAUL HOSSAIN : Then what is the difference between gift and dowry?

[Translation]

Please tell me, what is the difference.

[English]

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA : You cannot go on depriving the women their right share...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

You are in favour of giving relaxation to people of higher classes by burdening the poor

In the end I would like to speak a few lines about Dunkel proposals. We have bowed down before the Dunkel proposals by agreeing to sign the document. The Government claims that there is no alternative to it. But what will be it's consequences?

[Sh. Kirip Chaliha]

Even today poor people have no money to buy medicines. Will they be able to buy medicines or educate their children after the document is signed? They will have no means of livelihood. Farmers will find it difficult even to buy seeds.

The way the present Government issued administrative orders for an increase in the prices just before the presentation of Budget, has been a matter of great distress to the people. The President's Address has been rendered to just a formality, and it is improper to associate the Hon. President with it. The Government does what it wants. However, it is not justified on their part to make a person holding such a dignified and prestigious post to deliver such a speech.

I oppose the motion that has been moved in the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Mr. Vijay Kumar Yadav stands for chance. Mr. Mangal Ram Premi wants to go for train and he wants to speak before him.

I think, you should also accommodate others, whenever there is a need.

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI (Bijnor) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the President's Address. I am also thankful to Shri Yadav who agreed to let me speak first. Just now our colleague Shri Sultanpuri and several other hon. Members pointed out that the Hon. President has not left any scope for anything to be undone. My submission is that the President has just

repeated what he said in his Address last year. Is it not shameful? The Government has not fulfilled those promises.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the plight of Safai Karamcharis. Last year also the President has stated in his Address that a commission would be formed for the Safai Karamcharis. The same thing has been repeated again this year. The constitution of the 'Rashtriya Safai Karamchari Ayog' is said to be the most significant incident of this year but my submission is that it is the most unfortunate incident.

Last year, the Government had promised to constitute commission. No commission has been constituted for the poor strata of society. A Bill to this effect was also introduced in the House last year, and it was passed with vice vote and widely appreciated. However, the commission has not been constituted so far. The Government has made the President give untrue statement that the commission has been set up. It was stated that a sum Rs.1200 crore was allocated for the welfare of Safai Karamcharis. But there is no account as to what was done with that money, and that whether they do have the money anymore or not. I feel that if at all there was some money, the commission would have been constituted. The Government is not at all ready to constitute the commission. If commission is constituted, funds would be required, and since there are no more funds, the Government made the President give an untrue statement. Giving false statement regarding the welfare of poor strata is beyond my understanding. It is all being done indirectly by the Government. Last year as well as this year an assurance was given that the commission would be constituted. The hon. Prime Minister had announced from ramparts of the Red Fort that the Commission would be set

up Similar statement was given in the Parliament by the President. But no steps to this effect have been taken.

There has been a long standing demand for creation of 'Uttarakhand' in our neighbouring state. The Bhartiya Janata Party Government in Uttar Pradesh sent a proposal to the centre in this regard in 1992 but the Central Government has not so far accepted the proposal. The reason is that the Central Government is not interested in it. It does not want prosperity of that region. According to a rural saying if good education is available in villages, every one in village will cast his vote sensibly. Now being illiterate they cannot decide to whom they should vote. That is why the Central Government does not want spreading of education and is not interested in creation a new state which can ensure development of that region. If a separate Uttarakhand is creating, I will then be the first man to prove its justification and would show how the region makes progress. But the Government lacks the courage to creat it. As a matter of fact the Government does not want to see the prosperity of at region.

I do not have much time at my disposal since I am scheduled to go somewhere else. I would therefore like to submit that the Government should set up a commission and should accept the demand for creation of Uttarakhand. If whatever has been promised in President's Address is fulfilled, there will be no problem left in the country. The issue of Kashmir will also be automatically solved. With these words I conclude and express thanks for providing me an opportunity to speak. I oppose this Address since it is a bundle of false promises. Therefore, I oppose this.

17.44 hrs.

[English]

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1993-94.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1993-94.

[Pleased in Library at See No. LT 5445/94]

17.45 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - *CONTD.*

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. President's Address contains the policies of the Government to be followed in future. I hold the President's Address reflects the achievements of the Government in an exaggerated manner. It should however, also reflect the failures of the Government, only then a balanced policy for future can be formulated. This is however, not done. The Government is busy in self praise and goes a long way in self praise and goes a long way in self exaltation.. [interruptions]

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : There is no Minister here. That is not the place for a Minister. He should apologise first for that. What is this?