

A man of varied interests, Dr. Kailas was the organiser of the Annual All India "Kavi Sammelans" and "Urdu Mushairas" at Bombay.

Dr. N.N. Kailas passed away on 8 February, 1994 at Bombay at the age of 84 years.

Shri T. D. Muthukumarasami Nayudu was a Member of the Second Lok Sabha during 1957-62. He represented Cuddalore Parliamentary constituency of the erstwhile Madras State.

Earlier, he was a Member of the Madras Legislative Assembly during 1952-56.

He was a social and political activist. He was always a supporter of co-operative movement. He took keen interest in the proceedings of the Lok Sabha.

Shri T.D. Muthukumarasami Nayudu passed away on 9 February, 1994 at Cuddalore at the age of 93 years.

Shri Shiv Ram Rai was a Member of Sixth Lok Sabha. He represented Ghosi Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1977-79.

Earlier, he was a Member and the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1952 to 1957.

An agriculturist, he took active part in the Indian Freedom Movement.

An active political and social worker, Shri Shiv Ram Rai served as the President of the Azamgarh District Council. He also served as the President of the Farmers' Association.

He actively took part in the proceedings of the House.

Shri Shiv Ram Rai passed away on 11 February, 1994 at Azamgarh at the age of 93 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and, I am sure, the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

13.14 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while.*

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*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kapil Dev has enhanced the prestige of the country by creating the world record.  
*(Interruptions).*

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13.17 hrs.

RE: INCREASE IN PRICES OF  
CERTAIN COMMODITIES OF  
COMMON USE BY THE  
GOVERNMENT ON THE EVE  
OF BUDGET SESSION

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before you

ask for laying of Papers on the Table of the House I would like to make a submission.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the Budget Session and common people look towards it with hope and fear. Budget session has its own importance. Budget proposals have a sort of sanctity. But the Government has put a heavy burden on the common people by increasing prices of essential commodities, before the commencement of the budget session. The Government has raised the administrative prices of the items being used by common man. Wheat, rice and sugar have become costlier. LPG cylinders' prices have been raised by Rs. 15/-

Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now we were discussing "Agni" and praising our scientists. Now for the price hike of LPG cylinders, on whom should we shower our praises. Prices of petrol and high-speed diesel have been increased. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per an estimate, the price hike will result in a burden of about Rs. 3000 crore. To what extent, this burden is proper, it should be debated. I seek your intervention into the matter. *(Interruptions)*... Is it proper to put so much burden on the common man by the Government order just before the commencement of the Budget Session. I am emphasizing on the word "proper". Mr. Speaker, Sir, by merely saying that "the Government has the authority" is not going to serve the purpose. The Government can not act arbitrarily. May be, the Government has been able to manipulate majority in the House but we will not let its arbitrariness go unchallenged.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a question of propriety. Is it proper to increase prices in

this manner just before commencement of the Budget Session? Finance Minister is not present. Firstly, the prices of LPG and sugar were raised; subsequently the prices of wheat, rice, petrol and high-speed diesel were raised. Now, what is the importance of waiting for the Budget to be presented on 28th February. Is the session of Parliament meaningless? What calamity would have taken place if the Government had not raised the prices? Commencement of session could have been waited. You are not giving due importance and respect to the House and you are ignoring the process of the Budget. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government is permitted to behave arbitrarily, then, proceedings of the House and budget will become meaningless. I, therefore, want your intervention in this matter. Sir, you advise the speakers of several other Parliaments of the World; can not you advise our own Government? What is the justification in raising prices in this way? Is it necessary to make a mockery of the Parliament? Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to have your opinion on this issue.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Budget session is meant for such debates. You can take up this matter later on.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Sir, Kapil Dev has created a world record which has enhanced the prestige of the country. The Lok Sabha should felicitate him. *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We will discuss all these things afterwards. Not today.

*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have expressed your opinion in your own way and he has done it in his own way. Session is meant for such debates only.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, when you allowed the Leader of the opposition Shri Vajpayee to speak, please allow us. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why have they boycotted the Joint sitting of the Parliament?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please listen to me; the entire session is for discussion on such issues. You have expressed your opinion by keeping quiet and he has expressed his views in his own way. The issue is before us and it will be debated upon but not on the first day. From tomorrow onwards, we will discuss it.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that Vajpayeeji has done a good job by raising this issue. We are all agitated over it. Had you not allowed him to speak on the issue, we too would not have said anything.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot allow all the 545 Members to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): We will inform the press. We will do that. But, first of all, they should be allowed to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a right to tell as to why did we boycott the Presidential Address?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You can do it in a systematic manner later on. You have given your views. It is not necessary to pull on like this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the practice of increasing prices just before the presentation of the Budget is growing day by day. Now the practice has become so much regular that presentation of Budget has become meaningless, it is just like the presentation of account by an accountant. Price hike in all the commodities reveals the extension of new economic policy and such decisions are being taken under the directions of powerful countries. It seems that the country is being led to a wrong direction and there is apprehension that we will lose our self-dependency. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we boycotted the Address by the hon. President to show our resentment over the Government's decision to raise the prices of foodgrains, oils, LPG and all other essential commodities on the eve of Budget Session.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry that you are not allowing me to speak, I would have concluded only within two minutes.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is raising the point.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Why is he raising it now and why did he not raise it earlier? Do they want to disturb the entire system?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are the Leader of the party. You need not repeat the issues.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I know that. With due respect I would like to say that I have been elected to Lok Sabha for the fifth time.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not saying it with due regard though you intend it.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: If saying one's point emphatically is regarded as disregard, then I am sorry.

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I would like to say only this that we take this issue of raising the prices on the eve of Budget Session seriously. The presentation of Budget in the House has its own sanctity. This Government has been violating this

sanctity from the day it has come into power. I oppose it strongly. We are sorry that we boycotted the President's Address, but we vehemently condemn the Governments wrong action.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We have decided to boycott the President's Address because Government has resorted to increasing the prices of essential commodities like petroleum products, LPG and of the issue price of wheat, rice and sugar. The Government is trying to collect Rs. 6,000 crores. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, this entire session is for that purpose. You can raise all this afterwards:

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This method of increasing prices just on the eve of the Budget Session renders the Session a meaningless one. And we consider that this is a very serious issue because the Central Government is adopting the policy under the diktat of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Already, a large number of industries have been closed down.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not an occasion for this kind of a speech. You should understand it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Our nationalised industries are being privatised now. This is most improper on the part of the Government to raise the prices just on the eve of the session. We

[Shri Basudeb Acharia]

are here to discuss all these issues. What is the use of convening this Budget Session if the prices of all the essential commodities have been increased. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We will not get any opportunity to discuss all these things because they have already adopted such measures. They have already increased the prices of these commodities even before the Parliament Session was summoned. That is why, we decided to abstain. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Now we shall take up Papers to be Laid on the Table of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I am on a point of order. *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: What is your reaction to this? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: First of all, you should not pressurise the Speaker to express his views. Secondly, if anything can be done as per the laws, it is legal and if it cannot be done as per the law, it

is illegal. Now you shall have to show that it is illegal.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is not a question of legality or illegality. It is a question of propriety...*(Interruptions)*...

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to pronounce any judgment on this without going into the details.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am on a point of order. To what extend this is correct?

MR. SPEAKER: If you are on a point of order, it is also... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, what is your point of order? I will hear his point of order. Your refer to the rules.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I will come to that.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow you like this. You shall have to tell me which rule has been contravened.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You listen to my point of order, I will make a mention of it.

MR. SPEAKER: Otherwise, I will hear you after Shri Advani. You sit down now. This is how you want to treat the House.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): This House has become irrelevant.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): This House has been taken for a ride by the Government. *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are absolutely correct in saying that everybody should have proper regard for the House but we are opposing the Government mainly on one point. We are of the opinion that normally the Government has a right to enhance the administrative prices but just 2-3 weeks before the commencement of the Budget Session if the administrative prices of diesel, petrol, rice and wheat are increased, it is not proper. As a result of it, a burden of 3000 crore will be put on the people of the country in addition to the Budget burden and it is what our leader of the opposition has told you that this act of the Government is not appropriate. We can raise our voices against this improper act. I remember that when I was a Member of Rajya Sabha at that time the

Chairman of that House had criticised the Government for enhancing the administrative prices. I remember well that incident till now. If you also act in the same manner, nobody can pressurize you for that.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: That is right.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: We are opposing the Government. The Government has committed a contempt of the House. It has tried to bypass the House by increasing the Administrative prices just on the eve of the Session while....

*[English]*

No taxation without the peoples' representative agreeing to it.

*[Translation]*

It is a basic principle and that is why the Budget is presented otherwise Budget has no meaning. So we would like to protest and we want that you should also support our protest.

*[English]*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I do not want to refer to...

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I do not want your rule. You may make your speech

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I do not want to refer to those Rs. 6,000 crore which have been collected already, even though it is more than the amount of resources collected by the Budget. I am not referring to that because it has been referred to already. I am also not referring to the immediate direct price rise because of the enhanced rates or duties on petroleum and diesel. I am also not referring even to the falsified data of Wholesale Price Index. From 8.2 per cent, this week, it has risen to 8.5 per cent as the rate of inflation of the year.

All these are provisional figures and it will surely be converted into a two digit rate of inflation. I do not want to refer to that also because others have referred to it. *(Interruptions)* Please bear with me. I am referring to something else.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think that you are not going to get time for this afterwards?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: In the same style of bypassing the Parliament, of being afraid to face the Parliament, while several Bills are before the Standing Committees, while several Bills are already introduced in the House, the Government is not hesitating to impose ordinances on the country. Therefore, I am on this point also that these papers which are going to be laid by the hon. Minister, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, giving explanation about the ordinances on Air Corporation should not be laid today. This is also an act of bypassing the Parliament. These Bills were pending before the Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to make the statement, if you want to, at that time.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The same story is true about the Banking Regulations Act. Why should there be ordinances when the Parliament is going to sit, when the Bills are there?

All these indicate that they want to bypass the Parliament of which you are the highest representative. And, therefore, Sir, we are appealing to you that as the custodian of all of us, including them, you have to tell them, update them, as Shri Advani has very correctly mentioned.

MR. SPEAKER: May I tell you that you need not tell me what I should do? You leave that thing to myself. This is indicating that you are not powerful enough to make the point.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: While electing you, we have decided to help you to the best of our ability. Shri Advani has very correctly mentioned about it and I was also there, at that time, in the other House.

In that House when we drew the attention of the Chairman, the Chairman did upbraid the Government for doing this kind of things. We naturally expect, since we have come over from that House to this House that the hon. Speaker also will be in a position to upbraid the Treasury Benches and the Government. This is all that we want from you, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): They are deliberately denigrating this Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: I can appreciate the concern which the Members have expressed. But this Session is exactly for this purpose from tomorrow onwards.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, we protest against the policy of the Government and we stage a walk out from the House.

13.34 hrs.

*Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and some other hon. Members then left the House.*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we also stage a walk out from the House in protest against the policies of the Government.

13.34  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

*Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other hon. Members then left the House.*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we also stage walk out from the House against this attitude of the Government.

13.35 hrs.

*Shri Sharad Yadav and some other hon. Members then left the House.*

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

13.35  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Proclamation issued by the President in relation to the State of Manipur etc.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): On behalf of Shri S.B. Chavan I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the proclamation (Hindi and English versions) dated the 31st December, 1993 issued by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Manipur published in Notification No. G.S.R. 802(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1993, under article 356(3) of the Constitution.
- (ii) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) dated the 31st December, 1993 made by the President in pursuance of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the above proclamation published in Notification No. G.S.R. 803(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5319/94]

- (2) A copy each of the Reports dated the 5th October, 1993 and the 31st December, 1993 of the Governor of Manipur to the President (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5320/94]