

1. (1) The National Highways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1992 is hereby repealed.

Ord. 19 of 1992

Repeal and savings

- (2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the principal Act, as amended by the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the principal Act, as amended by this Act."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister to move that the Amendment made by Rajya Sabha be agreed to.

SHRIJAGDISH TYTLER: I beg to move:

"That the amendment made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the amendment made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

The motion was adopted.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIM. L. FOTEDAR): Let me seek his indulgence. He is not responding. His silence means that he is agreeing.

20.32 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, the Fifth Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 24th November, 1992, comes to a close today. The House held 18 sittings lasting over 100 hours.

401 Questions were listed as Starred, of

which 59 questions could be orally answered and written answers were given to 4675 Questions. 61 matters were raised under Rule 377.

In the Legislative field -13 Bills were introduced in Lok Sabha - 10 Bills were passed by the House, important among them being three Constitution (Amendment) Bills, viz., the Constitution (Seventy Second Amendment) Bill, the Constitution (Seventy Third Amendment) Bill and the Constitution (Seventy Fifth Amendment) Bill. The Constitution Amendment Bills were passed unanimously.

The other important Bills passed were the Representation of the Peoples (Amendment) Bill, 1992, the Central Agricultural University Bill, 1992, and the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 1992. The Supplementary demands for Grants (General) were also discussed and the Appropriation Bill passed.

Two Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 were held - one on the effect on farmers due to increase in prices of fertilizers and import of wheat and the second on the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs regarding general situation at Ayodhya.

The Business of the House could not be transacted on four days during the current Session due to the difficult situation in the House on account of the recent events. The

[Sh. M.L. Fotedar]

House was adjourned from 9th to 16th December to give the Members an opportunity to visit their constituencies and organise peace efforts to restore normalcy.

On 17th November, the House took up the No- Confidence Motion against the Government. 57 Members spoke on the motion, which lasted more than 22 hours. The motion was voted out on 21st December. I complement all Members for the mature and dignified manner in which they participated in the discussions. I have no doubt that the problems will be overcome with the cooperation of all concerned.

The House also approved today four proclamations issued by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution, in relation to the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. The debate on the Resolution seeking review of disinvestment policy moved by Shri Rupchand Pal was interesting and useful suggestions were offered.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all the Honorable Members for the kind cooperation extended to me and my colleagues - the Deputy Speaker and the Members of the Panel of Chairpersons - in the smooth conduct of the business of the House. I would specially like to thank the Leaders of various Parties and Groups and the Whips of the Parties for the unstinted cooperation and courtesy extended. On your and my own behalf, I would like to express appreciation to the officers and staff of the Secretariat of the Legislature, for the good work they have done.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI .P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. speaker, Sir, this Session has been tempestuous, eventful, but is now ending on a purposeful note. I feel gratified about it.

We had several anxious moments that the Houses may have to adjourn in a very unusual manner, which perhaps has not happened in the history of Parliament. I particularly appreciate the efforts of the

Leaders of the Opposition Parties in bringing back the House on rails and enabling it to transact its business, although not without a few tremors that had to be expected; that was natural under the circumstances because the entire country was jolted, shaken from its very roots. So, the reverberations of that jolt were to be felt here; and this is what happened.

I feel gratified that Indian democracy has proved, once again, that its institutions can take on extremely difficult situations and can rise to the occasion, can absorb shocks, shocks, which lesser institutions would simply collapse under. This is a matter for gratification to all of us and the people of India.

I am particularly happy that after a lapse of two to four years, the structure, the fibre of panchayati raj which we had dreamt of, which we were expected every session, session after session, to bring India into being, but for some reason or the other, we were not succeeding in doing so, has now become a reality. This is a great achievement and this completes the edifice of democracy; and on this occasion, I would like to remember the lead given by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, making the most determined possible effort to see that this is pushed through. He did not live to see this become a reality, but on this occasion, his memory automatically comes to my mind.

These are some of the achievements of this Session. The other details you have already given. I am, once again, grateful to you; Mr. Speaker, in the manner in which you kept your nerves; kept your cool and under circumstances which were really really trying, if I may say so.

Thank you very much. And again my thanks to all the Members of the House, all Parties, all the Leaders.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Wish you a happy Christmas.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the duty which I rise to perform

here is actually the duty of the Leader of the Opposition but today the Leader of Opposition is not present among us. It was a stormy session and the credit for successfully conducting this session goes to you only. The members from both the sides created a lot of problems for you.

MR. SPEAKER: Both the sides helped me a lot.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Our democracy is the biggest democracy in the world, which is live and conscious in all respects. If there is a storm outside then it certainly would have an effect in the House too. But we have to keep alive the light of democracy in this storm and I am very much hopeful that our democracy would come out from the present situation and become more and more powerful. The bitterness could not overpower the fraternity. Time and again we have been able to instill our faith and dedication in the democracy and I believe that the democracy as well as the future of the country ultimately rest in the hands of the people of India. They have a great expectation from us that we would keep alive the democracy in India. We too are performing our duty in this regard. But, in future if there is any danger to democracy, it is my firm belief that the people of India would be able to save and resplend the light of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the year is going to an end. We will celebrate Christmas after two days. It is one of our national festivals. We will exchange good wishes and then after a few days there will be the new year, and with the best wishes for the new year, I would like to extend you my greetings for the new year.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have seen many Speakers, right from Shri Mavlankarji to you. I am not praising you but we are thankful to you for the dexterity with which you have performed your duty during the last session. We regret that we could not hold water as per your expectation, we would keep it in mind in the next session.

[English]

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: May I wish you, all the Members and people of the country a Merry Christmas and a very happy new year.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House has returned to normally after reaching at a collusion point. Whatever the cordial and friendly atmosphere we are witnessing in the House today, for all this the credit goes to you. You did not lose your patience despite the disturbing situation prevailed a number of times in the House. This House did very important job. Atal ji has rightly stated that whatever happens outside has its effect in the House. But we will be able to get rid of it and keep the country united. The biggest achievement of this House is to take a step in the direction of decentralisation of power. We have tried to fulfill the dreams of Gandhiji by passing the 72nd amendment Bill. I do not want to criticize at this moment. I was very much expecting it from the Prime Minister as he is not only the Leader of his party but also the leader of the House that he would certainly do something in this respect and he did it too. We have passed the 72nd and 73rd amendment which is in true sense a big step towards giving a material shape to the dreams of Gandhiji. It is also a big step towards realizing the dreams of Gram Swarajya of Jay Prakash Narayan and Chauhambha Raj of Dr. Lohia. This step will certainly influence the next generation and the country.

When this Bill was presented in the House third time, everybody was saying that this Bill is an ill-fated one. The first Government which moved this Bill had to go and the Second one also could not get it passed now the third one will also go without getting it passed. This was being discussed in the galleries and Central Hall of the Parliament House. The persons like me, who believe in the decentralisation of power, were in anguish. I appreciate all the parties which have shown the unprecedented harmony in passing the Bill in the Joint Committee. Everybody wanted

[Sh. Nitish Kumar]

that this Bill be passed and the rural people may get their due rights. This session of the house on this occasion was a historical one, it will be remembered forever and the 10th Lok Sabha will also be remembered for this great act. This session of the 10th Lok Sabha efficiently dealt with this Bill which was being described as an ill fated one. I hope that it will be able to remove the tension prevailing among the people as well as an ill fated atmosphere prevailing in the country and pave a new way for the development and progress of the nation. Today, we find an atmosphere of tension prevailing in the society and I hope that the Parliament will sort out a way in order to overcome this tense situation and to save the country from disintegration and make it more strong. This is the main speciality of the Parliamentary Democracy and this speciality very well exists in our democracy. This institution will get strengthened and give a direction to the world.

With these words, I thank you and also congratulate you, I also thank the employees of the secretarial and media persons for their good cooperation.

SHRIBHOGENDRAJHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today it is the last day of the session. We have had sweet and sour moments, but we are concluding it in a sweet atmosphere. We have a civilization and traditions which goes back to 5000 years. We have a history of unity in diversity and we will continue to have this capability to solve the forth coming problems. Differences are natural, but despite these differences we will march ahead unitedly. The House has done a great deal of work and has shown an extraordinary patience under your leadership. I convey my greetings and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express our heartfelt thanks on behalf of Telugu Desam Party to you, to the Deputy-Speaker and to other members of the panel of Chairman, who have given us an

opportunity to express our views on several important Bills and other matters that have been discussed in this House.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not congratulate you for the way in which you have efficiently and orderly conducted this House in most trying times as our respected Prime Minister has said.

Sir, presently the country is passing through a very grave crisis and we are all returning home after conclusion of this Session with all hope that normalcy will be restored, again communal harmony will be restored and our country will raise its head again with all pride in the comity of nations.

Sir, I thank you once again for giving me an opportunity to say these few words.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Vajpayee, Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Bhogendra Jha and Shri V.S. Rao for the good words that they have said about the Presiding Officer. The success in transacting the business in the House belongs to all honourable leaders, the Members and to the staff of the Secretariat.

[Translation]

SHRINITISH KUMAR: Let us get ready for a feast.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we are told that Shri Vajpayee was born on 25th of December.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): Happy birthday to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, we would like to congratulate him in advance. I wish him on behalf of all of you.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): Now I have come to know about the venue of the party

[English]

20. 55 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Normally
bachelors do not tell their age.

20.54 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: We would also like to
convey our merry Christmas and a happy
New Year to the people of this country.

As per the decision taken in the General
Purposes Committee and as per the
consensus arrived at between the leaders of
the Parties, the National Song 'Vande
Mataram' would be played now before the
House is adjourned *sine die*.

20.54 hrs.

The National Song was played

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The
House stands adjourned *sine die*.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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