

12.07 hrs.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over and we are now on the second subject of Motion for election of Speaker. Please take your seats now.

Shri Morarji Desai may please move his motion.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That Shri K. S. Hegde, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House."

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): I support the motion moved by the Prime Minister that Shri K. S. Hegde be chosen as the Speaker of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Shri K. S. Hegde, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Before I ask the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition to conduct Shri K. S. Hegde to the Chair, I would like to congratulate Shri K. S. Hegde on his unanimous election as Speaker. As far as I am concerned, he can be sure of all the cooperation that is available and that should be given. I can assure him that in the conduct of his speakership, he will find me a very helping hand.

This chair is not a very comfortable chair, I can tell him. It is full of thorns, one who sits on this chair has to sit virtually on a seat of thorns. There are pressures, pulls and every other kind of thing from both sides of the House and when you are here, Mr. Hegde, as Speaker, you will have to contend with all these pulls and pressures, but I am sure that having been a judge and also a legislator and with all your varied experience, you

will know how to manage with these pulls and pressures.

Being in the chair, Sir, I can tell you that one should act only according to what he feels is right according to the practices in this Parliament and what is good for democratic functioning of the Parliament and not be swayed either by any subjective or political considerations. I am sure, Sir, that in the conduct of your speakership, you will uphold all these traditions built up in this House.

I now call upon the Leader of the House, our Prime Minister, and the Leader of the Opposition, to conduct you to the chair.

The Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition conducted Shri K. S. Hegde to the Chair.

12.07 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

FELICITATIONS TO THE SPEAKER

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, may I take this opportunity to say how happy we are and how fortunate we are in having you as the Speaker of this great House? You have shown remarkable intellectual integrity in all the work that you have done and have also left a distinct mark in the legal world by making sacrifices, when required, without any hesitation. We are also fortunate that not only you have eminent judicial experience, but you have also the experience of a legislator. Therefore, this happy combination of the two, I am sure, will convert this chair, which was described as a chair of thorns, into a chair of roses. Of course, the roses are never without thorns, but those thorns will not touch you, I have no doubt in my mind.

It is the Parliament, which is the repository of the majesty and sovereignty of the people; particularly this House is the repository of its expressed will and the Speaker is the