

perhaps that I have been part of this House for long years, and have grown in veneration of it and its traditions.

I had privilege to fight and suffer for the freedom of our country. After Independence, I have served this great nation in my own humble way. This House also I have served, though from different positions and in other capacities. I have lived with it great moments in the nation's life. But to be called to the Chair is quite another thing. For the Speaker's Chair is an awesome and lonely place in the House. And, this Chair has traditions of its own. Illustrious men about whom references have been made in this House today, have filled it with great ability and distinction. And, I am following close upon one who has been vigorous as the Presiding Officer of this House and steered it through very difficult times and who brought to this office uncommon gifts in uncommon measure. Legion has it that the throne of Vikramaditya had this quality, that whosoever came to occupy it, inherited the king's wisdom. This great Chair, I like to think, will also have something of this quality. There are then quite a few here who have been as long in this House as I have been; and there are many who are zealous of its traditions as the Chair is expected to be. I am confident too that the goodwill that has seen me installed in this place, will ever be available to me in the orderly conduct of the proceedings of this House. These auspicious auguries for success are more than any incumbent could wish for, and which I consider to be on my side as I assume the responsibilities of my demanding office to-day.

On this occasion, need I remind you of what must always be foremost in our minds, viz. that this Parliament as the people's prime institution must ever be primarily concerned with the people's cause, that it has ever to ask itself as to how far it vindicates itself as an instrument of socio-economic regeneration, how effective it is in subserving the great end-purpose of

democratic existence. The debates within our walls, and our practices and procedures, in other words, will always have to be geared to the fulfilment of this central aim. We can ill afford the luxury of preoccupation with more forms, losing sight of the substance. If we keep this in view in whatever we do in this House. I have no doubt we shall not be labouring in vain.

The Speaker is but a servant of the House and as such he equally belongs to all sections in the House. He is expected to discharge his responsibility, impartially and judiciously. I shall follow this golden rule as long as I occupy this Chair. Rules and regulations as framed by this House and traditions set down by my great predecessors will be my guidelines in conducting the business of this House. It is one of the duties of the Chair to maintain firm and fair control to keep up the dignity and decorum of the House. I shall ever seek your cooperation in this task.

May I, once again, express my deep gratitude to all of you for the trust you have placed in me and look forward to your indulgence and cooperation in the House at all times?

13.38 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MINISTERS

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Sir, I have pleasure in introducing to you, and through you to the House, my new colleagues: Shri Bansi Lal, Minister of Defence; Dr. G. S. Dhillon, Minister of Shipping and Transport; Shri P. C. Sethi, Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers; Shri H. K. L. Bhagat, Minister of State in the Ministry of Works and Housing; Chowdhury Ram Sewak, Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and

[Smt. Indira Gandhi]
Family Planning; Shri Vithal Gadgil, Minister of State (Defence Production) in the Ministry of Defence; and Dr. V. A. Seyid Muhammad, Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs.

13.39½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ORDINANCES ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT UNDER ARTICLE 123 (2) OF THE CONSTITUTION

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) issued by the President under provisions of article 123 (2) of the Constitution:—

- (i) The Income-tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 8 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 9th September, 1975.
- (ii) The Election Laws (Extension to Sikkim) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 9 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 9th September, 1975.
- (iii) The Indian Railways (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 10 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 25th September, 1975.
- (iv) The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 11 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 25th September, 1975.
- (v) The Equal Remuneration Ordinance, 1975 (No. 12 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 26th September, 1975.
- (vi) The Regional Rural Banks Ordinance, 1975 (No. 13 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 26th September, 1975.
- (vii) The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 14 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 26th September, 1975.
- (viii) The Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Ordinance, 1975 (No. 15 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 8th October, 1975.
- (ix) The Maintenance of Internal Security (Third Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 16 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 17th October, 1975.
- (x) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 17 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 24th October, 1975.
- (xi) The Unit Trust of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (No. 18 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 31st October, 1975.
- (xii) The Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Ordinance, 1975 (No. 19 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 4th November, 1975.
- (xiii) The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture) of Property Ordinance, 1975 (No. 20 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 5th November, 1975.