

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : I second the motion.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत हुआ :

“श्री जी० एस्० ढिल्लों को, जो इस सभा के सदस्य हैं, इस सभा का अध्यक्ष चुना जाये।”

Motion moved :

“That Shri G. S. Dhillon, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House.”

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री यशवंतराव चव्हाण अब वह प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं जोकि उनके नाम में है।

Shri Y. B. Chavan may now move the motion standing in his name...(Interruptions.)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : As it is the same, I do not deem it necessary to move it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) : सभापति महोदय, प्रक्रिया के नियमों के अनुसार यदि एक ही आशय के प्रस्ताव हों तो उनमें से पहला प्रस्ताव लिया जाता है और शेष गृहीत समझ लिए जाते हैं। लेकिन अभी आपने श्री यशवंतराव चव्हाण को इस बात की अनुमति दी कि वे उसी आशय का दूसरा प्रस्ताव रख सकें। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या प्रक्रिया के नियमों में परिवर्तन किया गया है या किसी नयी परिपाटी का पालन किया जा रहा है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कोई परिवर्तन नहीं किया गया है। नियमों में यह है कि जितने भी प्रस्ताव यहाँ पर उपस्थित करने के लिए आये हों उन के सम्बन्ध में मैं कहूँगा कि वे उपस्थित किये जायें अब चव्हाण साहब चूँकि स्वयं अपना प्रस्ताव उपस्थित नहीं करना चाहते हैं इसलिए अब वह प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है।

अब मैं उस प्रस्ताव को आपके मत के लिए उपस्थित करता हूँ जोकि श्रीमती इन्दिरा

गांधी ने रखा है और जिसका अनुमोदन श्री राज बहादुर ने किया है।

Now, the first motion moved by Shrimati Indira Gandhi will be put to the vote of the House. The question is :

“That Shri G. S. Dhillon, a member of this House, be chosen as the Speaker of this House.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The motion is unanimously adopted.

मैं घोषणा करता हूँ कि श्री जी० एस्० ढिल्लों विधिवत् इस सभा के अध्यक्ष निर्वाचित हुए हैं।

अब मैं बड़े हर्ष के साथ श्री ढिल्लों को अध्यक्ष पीठ पर आसीन होने के लिए आमंत्रित करता हूँ।

I declare that Shri G. S. Dhillon is duly elected as the Speaker of this House. Now, I have great pleasure in inviting Shri G. S. Dhillon to occupy the Chair.

[*Shri G. S. Dhillon was conducted to the Chair by the Prime Minister (Shrimati Indira Gandhi) and Shri A. K. Gopalan.*]

11.28 hrs.

FELICITATIONS TO THE SPEAKER

[**Mr. Speaker** (Shri G. S. Dhillon) *in the Chair*]

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : It is a privilege, as Leader of the House, to offer felicitations to the Speaker, Shri Dhillon.

I am sure that every fellow-Member of the New Lok Sabha, irrespective of party affiliation, will join me in assuring Shri Dhillon of the fullest co-operation in maintaining the honour and high traditions of the House.

In electing Shri Dhillon, we are not merely following the convention that the Speaker should be re-elected. We are ex-

pressing our regard for a person of great conscientiousness and courtesy.

The last two years in the House could hardly be called placid. There were storms, big and small, difficult constitutional issues, battles of procedure, some points of order threatening disorder. Shri Dhillon steered the House ably through all these troubles, always upholding the basic principles of parliamentary conduct, never losing the affability and candour, which are characteristic of him.

Students of constitutional history are aware that in the long conflict between Parliament and monarch, the Speaker was the spokesman of the citizenry. When the supremacy of Parliament was established, he became the symbol and repository of self-restraint which is the basis of self-government. So, when we obey the Speaker, we are obeying a part of our own conscience.

In our own national life, the Speaker has been accorded an eminent position. By his temperament and personal qualities, Shri Dhillon is worthy of his office.

Mr. Speaker, I offer you greetings and good wishes. We know that your Chair is not one of roses. It will be the endeavour of this house not to make it one of thorns.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Palghat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me first of all congratulate you on your re-election to this august office for the second time.

With your permission I would like to point out to you the new situation that has arisen after the recent elections. The ruling Congress Party has been returned with an overwhelming majority in this House and naturally, there will be a tendency to ignore the opposition and browbeat the opposition also. But apart from this obvious fact, there is another important phenomenon which I would like to point out to you. The ruling party has got a majority with the support of some of the opposition parties. So also, many members of the opposition parties who are here had been elected with the support of the ruling party. I do not know whether anywhere the opposition has helped in organising the ruling party and the ruling party has organised the opposition. I do not know whether there is any such case. There is an over-lapping of the roles of the ruling party and that of the

opposition parties and so there is a consequent sharing of the roles between the ruling party and the so-called opposition parties. In such a situation it is for you, Sir, to decide who represents the real voice, the dissentient voice in the House and who in fact is the real opposition. I hope you will be careful enough to ensure that the real opposition gets its proper share of opportunity and right to raise the grievances of the people in the country.

In this connection, I hope you will excuse me when I say that, as far as we are concerned, our experience in the last Parliament has not been very happy. Very often when the problems of the working people, the economically and socially exploited and oppressed people have been taken up they have been rejected sometimes on the basis of technicalities of rules. The narrow interpretation of rules and other technicalities have been used to suppress the ventilation of the grievances of the workers, the peasants and the toiling masses. We hope that hereafter you will be more fair or over-fair in using your discretionary powers under the rules than you were before.

In the end, I promise you that you will have the fullest support from my Group in conducting the proceedings.

डा० गोविन्द दास (जबलपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप के इस सर्वमत से चुनाव के लिए मैं आप को हृदय से बधाई देता हूँ। इसके पहले भी आप इस सदन के सर्व मत से ही अध्यक्ष चुने गये थे। आपने जिस योग्यता और निष्पक्षता के साथ सदन के कार्य का संचालन किया वह प्रधान कारण है जिस की वजह से आप फिर सर्व-मत से इस सदन के अध्यक्ष चुने गये हैं। सर्व-मत से अध्यक्ष चुने जाने पर जिम्मेदारियाँ और बढ़ जाती हैं।

मुझे वह दिन याद है जब सन् 1925 में इस सदन के अध्यक्ष थे ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट द्वारा नामजद किये हुए सर फ्रेडरिक व्हाइट/हमने 1925 में श्री विट्ठलभाई पटेल को खड़ा किया था इस पद के लिए। उनके खिलाफ खड़े हुए दीवान बहादुर टी रंगाचारी/श्री विट्ठल-भाई पटेल को 58 मत मिले थे और श्री

[डा० गोविन्द दास]

रंगाचारी को 56 मत मिले थे। इस प्रकार केवल दो मतों से श्री विट्ठलभाई का चुनाव हुआ था। इतिहास फिर से दोहराया गया और सन् 1934 में हमने श्री सावलंकर जी को खड़ा किया इस सदन की अध्यक्षता के लिए। उनके खिलाफ खड़े हुए सर कावसजी जहाँगीर और कावसजी जहाँगीर की हार भी दो ही मतों से हुई। दो बार हम यह बात देख चुके हैं।

इस के बाद हमने उन सब अध्यक्षों को देखा है जो समय समय पर इस सदन के अध्यक्ष होते रहे हैं।

इस सदन का नियन्त्रण कुछ समय पहले बड़ा कठिन हो गया था। मैंने दुनिया के लगभग सब देशों को देखा है और वहाँ की इस प्रकार की सभाओं को देखा है, लेकिन जिस प्रकार का हो-हल्ला हमारे यहाँ मचना आरम्भ हुआ वैसा हो-हल्ला कम से कम मैंने दुनिया के किसी देश में किसी सभा में नहीं देखा। उस समय भी आप अपना नियन्त्रण रख सके और उस नियन्त्रण के कारण आप इस सदन की कार्यवाही को चला सके। इस सदन के नियन्त्रण के साथ साथ उससे अधिक आप को अपने पर नियन्त्रण रखना है। अपना नियन्त्रण मानव जीवन में सब से कठिन बात होती है। मनुष्य इस बात का प्रयत्न करता है कि वह दूसरों पर नियन्त्रण रखे लेकिन वह अपने पर नियन्त्रण नहीं रखता। इसलिए मुझे इस बात का विश्वास है कि आप इस सदन के नियन्त्रण के साथ अपने पर भी नियन्त्रण रखेंगे और इस सदन की कार्यवाही अब फिर उसी मर्यादा के साथ चलेगी जिस प्रकार उसको चलना चाहिए।

अन्त में मैं फिर आप को हृदय से बधाई देता हूँ।

SHRI K. MANOHARAN (Madras North); Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the D.M.K. Party in Parliament, I take this opportunity to congratulate and facilitate you on your unanimous choice as the presiding deity of this august body.

This is the second time that you are adorning the Chair, the highest office of the country. You being the lynchpin of parliamentary democracy had been an effective instrument for the successful functioning of the parliamentary democracy. Once you are elected as the Speaker, you become a non-party man. You are neither a man of the Government nor a man of the Opposition. But you are a man of the entire House.

The qualities of the Speaker are well-known. The first and the foremost quality of the Speaker is the impartiality and independence which I am sure you have in abundance. A sense of humour is a part of the mental equipment of the Speaker. You have proved yourself in the past that you are a man with a sense of humour and through humour you have kept the House in order.

If I am not mistaken and misunderstood, let me say that you should have patience, courtesy and consideration. After the landslide victory in this country of a particular party in power and the complete demolition of certain political parties which are reactionaries in this country, with due regard to Shri Pilloo Mody for the debacle, the complexion and the composition of the House has been completely changed. The ruling party not only has a comfortable and absolute majority but it has a two-thirds majority which I am sure will provide stability as well as endurance throughout the country.

So far as the Opposition is concerned, I am sorry to state that there is no full-fledged Opposition now which could function in this House. More than 350 Members belong to the ruling party. Here, there are some groups. The topmost group is led by my hon. friend Mr. A. K. Gopalan, their number being only 25. The second group is the C.P.I. which has 23 Members and the third group is the D.M.K. with 23 Members. I doubt very much whether there is any full-fledged Opposition here to function. So, my request to you is that your affection and consideration must be shown towards those weakest sections of the House and for those Members who cannot catch your eye.

I think, it might be a healthy trend or might not be a healthy trend because the Opposition is very weak. But I am in cli re

to believe that the process of consolidation of democratic forces with ideological affinity has started functioning in this country. The fifth Lok Sabha is the manifestation of that polarisation in which the D.M.K. believes.

Lastly, I can promise you on behalf of the D.M.K. Party in Parliament as has been said in the past also that we will maintain dignity, decency, discipline and decorum in this House. While I say this, this should not be allowed to be one-way traffic by the ruling Party of this Parliament.

And lastly, Sir, I assure you that we will all co-operate with you in conducting the business of this House in a way that is expected of it.

Once again, as Leader of the D.M.K. Group in Parliament, I congratulate you and cheer you up for the noble task that you have undertaken to function in this House.

Thank you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the CPI Group, it gives me great pleasure to extend our heartiest congratulations and felicitations to you on your elevation for the second time to the august Chair which you occupy. All of us know from our experience in this House for the last few years that the responsibilities of the Speaker are exceedingly difficult to discharge to the satisfaction of everybody concerned. There are occasions Sir, when Members on this side of the House or on that side, do not feel entirely happy with the way that the Speaker conducts the proceedings and, may be they have grievances which may or may not be justified regarding his impartial conduct of the proceedings. All I wish to say about you, Sir, is that during the last one and a half years or so that we have seen you, we have been convinced that you have tried your utmost, an no human being can do more than that, to be as impartial as it was possible to be...*(Interruptions)*...though it was not always that all Members were equally satisfied.

Sir, you have invested the Chair with the dignity that it deserves and you have always proved to be, as others before me have said, so even-tempered, so polite and courteous to all members and so patient that, if you do not misunderstand me, there are occasions when your very patience makes some of us impatient. You have a difficult

task to perform and I assure you on behalf of our Group that you will have our fullest co-operation in the conduct of business.

Sir, my friend, Mr. Gopalan, made a passing reference to what he considers to be an unprecedented development that some Parties of the Opposition could co-operate with the ruling Party even in the Elections. Well, I don't think it is so very surprising, Sir, because in this House, no more than one occasion, during the last one and a half years, because of an unprecedented situation which had arisen in the country, there were many occasions in this House when many of the Opposition Parties including the Party led by Mr. Gopalan did offer their fullest co-operation to the ruling Party. *(Interruptions)* That was because those were major issues, policy issues on which these Parties felt it necessary to stand together against those forces which wanted to challenge the very supremacy of this Parliament and that is why we had co-operated. Mr. Gopalan's Party also had co-operated and those forces which tried within this House to wreck the Constitution and undermine the supremacy of this Parliament had to be defeated outside as well. But, I agree with Mr. Gopalan that it is the voice of the toiling people, the exploited and the suppressed which has expressed itself in unmistakable terms in the Elections throughout the country and I do hope, Sir, that the voice which has been raised in every corner of this land and expressed itself through the ballot box, will also be given the fullest opportunity by you to be heard within the four walls of this House too.

Sir, the Opposition, though reduced in numbers, I think should not be so defeatist, as Mr. Manoharan and Mr. Gopalan tried to make out...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Quality is better.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : This Opposition, even though dwindled in numbers, is quite capable of looking after itself. But nevertheless, it will look to you as the custodian of the House to provide your protecting umbrella for our legislators' rights. Because, faced with this steam-roller opposite, Sir, occasions no doubt will arise when it will be only you, to whom we can look for protection of our legitimate

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

rights and I hope that it will be forthcoming.

Finally, if you will permit me, I will say this : I know it is one of your many difficult tasks ; it will take a little time for you to recognise all the new faces that are here— all the new Members whom we all heartily welcome on all sides of the House. Particularly, Sir, on behalf of my group, I must express my pleasure and my joy at the very large number of very young men, irrespective of parties, who have been elected and sent to this House by the voters of our country. Irrespective of which party they belong to, there are quite a large number of them present here today. I greet them from the bottom of my heart ; and I wish this, though it may be an unconventional thing to wish. We know, in this House, we have often talked about so many different lobbies that are operating, visible or invisible. I wish from the bottom of my heart that a new lobby, a Youth Lobby, cutting across party lines, will come into existence and will function, reflecting in this House the voice of the future generations in whom the destiny of our country rests and whose energies and new consciousness have expressed themselves also very forcefully in this election.

Sir, I do not wish to take more time of the House. I assure you once again of our fullest cooperation with you in seeing that the business of the House is properly conducted. I offer you, once again on behalf of our Group, our heartiest congratulations. Thank you.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) :
मैं भारतीय जन संघ की ओर से और अपनी ओर से भी आपके निर्वाचन पर आपको हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ ; आपका सर्वसम्मत चुनाव इस बात का प्रमाण है—यदि किसी प्रमाण की आवश्यकता हो तो—कि आपको सदन के सभी वर्गों का समान रूप से विश्वास प्राप्त है। आप के निर्वाचन की महिमा और भी बढ़ जाती यदि आपके नाम का पर्चा केवल मन्त्रियों द्वारा नहीं अपितु विरोधी दलों के प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा भी दाखिल किया जाता। अगर सत्तारूढ़ दल आपके निर्वाचन के सम्बन्ध में विरोधी दलों को

विश्वास में लेने की शालीनता दिखाता तो यह अधिक अच्छा होता।

केवल सदन में ही नहीं, अध्यक्ष का निर्वाचन बाहर भी निर्विरोध हो सके, इस तरह की पद्धति डालने की जरूरत है। स्वर्गीय श्री मावलंकर ने जब वह अध्यक्ष थे, तब यह सुझाव रखा था कि एक बार जो सज्जन लोक सभा का अध्यक्ष निर्वाचित कर लिए जायें, उनका बाहर भी चुनाव में विरोध नहीं होना चाहिये। वे निर्विरोध निर्वाचित हों और सदन में अध्यक्ष का आसन ग्रहण करें। उस समय उस सुझाव को स्वीकार नहीं किया गया। आज उस पर पुनर्विचार करने का वक्त आया है। इसके लिए जरूरी होगा कि सत्तारूढ़ दल अध्यक्ष को बदलने के लोभ का संवरण करे। इसके लिए यह भी आवश्यक होगा कि एक बार जो अध्यक्ष हो जाए, उसे दूसरे चुनाव में निर्वाचित होने के वाद राज्य पाल बना कर दिल्ली से दूर भेजने का प्रयत्न न किया जाए। जहाँ तक विरोधी दलों का सम्बन्ध है उन्हें भी यह फैसला करना होगा कि यदि अध्यक्ष निर्दलीय उम्मीदवार के रूप में चुनाव में खड़ा हो, तो उसका विरोध नहीं किया जाना चाहिये। लोकतन्त्र में स्वस्थ परम्परायें विकसित करना आवश्यक है। इस दिशा में जितना प्रयत्न होना चाहिए था, वह हमने नहीं किया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय अभी सेठ गोविन्द दास ने इस सारी कार्यवाही में इतिहास का पुट मिलाने का प्रयत्न किया। उन्होंने स्वर्गीय श्री बिट्टल-भाई पटेल का स्मरण दिलाया। हमने स्वर्गीय पटेल का चित्र इस सदन में लगा रखा है। वह केवल सदन की शोभा बढ़ाने के लिए नहीं है। हमारा प्रत्येक आचरण, और विशेषकर अध्यक्ष का प्रत्येक पग, स्वर्गीय पटेल की बुद्धिमत्ता, निर्भीकता, निष्पक्षता और दृढ़ता से प्रेरित हो कर चले, इस बात की आवश्यकता है।

भारत सबसे बड़ा लोकतन्त्र है। यह सदन

भारतीय जनता का सर्वोच्च प्रातिनिधिक सगठन है। स्वाभाविक है कि यह सदन जन-भावनाओं को प्रतिबिम्बित करने का एक सबल और सक्षम माध्यम सिद्ध हो। यह भी आवश्यक है कि इस सदन के द्वारा शान्तिपूर्ण आधिक और सामाजिक परिवर्तन की प्रक्रिया को बल दिया जा सके।

अध्यक्ष के नाने आप को इस सदन की गरिमा की रक्षा करनी है। इस सदन के अधिकारों का संरक्षण करना है। इस सदन के सदस्यों के अधिकारों का भी बचाव करना आप का दायित्व बन गया है। हमें विश्वास है कि आप के नेतृत्व में यह सदन भारतीय जनता के प्रति अपनी जिम्मेदारी को पूरा कर सकेगा। अध्यक्ष के लिए तब यह जरूरी है कि वह सदन की मर्यादा बनाये रखे, वहाँ यह भी आवश्यक है कि वह जनता की व्यथा को जागीराने के लिए सदस्यों को भयंकर प्रदान करे। ज्वलन प्रदोष पर यह सदन देश की मना-भावनाओं का मजबूत प्रतिबिम्ब बन सके इस रूप में इस सदन को विकसित करना आवश्यक है।

कुछ पूर्ववक्ताओं ने इस ओर संकेत किया कि महावधि चुनावों ने इस सदन का स्वरूप बदल दिया है। प्रतिपक्ष सभ्यता में कम हो गया है। हमारे सामने एक भारी-भरकम प्रचंड बहुमत विराजमान है। इस बात की आशंका है कि यह बहुमत निरकुश हो जाये। इस बात का भय है कि सरकार स्वच्छाचार के मार्ग पर चल उस समय आपको उनपर अंकुश लगाना होगा और हमें भी मदद देनी होगी कि हम भी उन थोड़ा ब्रेक लगा सकें। प्रधान मंत्री और उनकी पार्टी इस चुनाव में माइनारिटीज के अलमबर्दार बन कर खड़ी थी। लेकिन इस सदन में अगर माइनारिटी को किसी से खतरा है, तो वह प्रधान मंत्री और उनकी पार्टी से है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्वाभाविक है कि संख्या में कम होने पर भी प्रतिपक्ष को बाद-विवाद

प्रारम्भ करने, जनता के जीवन से सम्बन्धित प्रश्नों को उठाने और ससदीय मर्यादाओं से भीतर रह कर अपने दायित्व का निर्वाह का अवसर दिया जाये। आप एक बार अध्यक्ष रह चुके हैं और आपको स्मरण होगा कि सदन की मर्यादा बनाये रखने में हमने आपको पूरा सहयोग दिया। उम्मीद है कि हम दोहराना चाहते हैं और विश्वास करते हैं कि सब के सहयोग से यह सदन मर्यादाओं का पालन करते हुए जनता के प्रति अपनी जिम्मेदारी का निर्वाह कर सकेगा।

एक बार फिर मैं आपका हार्दिक अभिनन्दन करता हूँ और आपकी सफलता के लिए शुभकामनाएँ व्यक्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my party it is my privilege to welcome you to this high office and also to offer our sincerest congratulations on your assuming this onerous responsibility, but, may I say that the very dignity of the occasion, to an extent, has been marred by the fact that there has not been prior consultation with the opposition in the matter of election of the Speaker. This has been the practice in other developed countries, that there are always prior consultations with the Members of the Opposition, so far as the position of the Speaker is concerned. That this has not been done in this House shows that probably the ruling party believes as it does, in some way, in a committed Speaker, just as it does believe in a committed judiciary and in a committed civil service. I hope that you will not accept even the remotest implication of having been proposed only by the Members of the ruling party.

The fact that you have been elected for the second time shows that we are very keen in this country to follow the tradition that prevails in other countries of having a continuing, or as it is also called, a permanent Speaker. I hope that this practice would be continued to be followed in future.

This point has been emphasized by many hon. Members that this House is slightly a different House from what it happened to be.

[Shri Shyamnandan Mishra]

the past. If it pleases you, I might say that it is a dismally different House from what it used to be in the past, but although the Opposition is weaker in corpus, let me assure you that it would not be found weaker in spirit, and what the Opposition would demand of the Chair is not compassion, but justice and fairness in treatment.

The other thing which ought to be emphasised on this occasion, and I would be failing in my duty if I did not do so, is that we would like to assure you our fullest co-operation in preserving the decorum and dignity of the House and do our part in fulfilling this task. We have elected you with the fullest confidence that you will do your part, because the authority of the Speaker to my mind is exactly proportional to the impartiality and the objectivity which he brings to bear upon his task.

Since I have known you a little more intimately and personally I have full confidence that you will come up to our expectations. We did not have the good fortune of functioning under you in the previous House but we have known you outside and we have full hope and confidence that you would try to uphold the dignity of the House and the authority of the Chair as we expect of you.

Finally, we would be happy if we are allowed opportunities to attack every excess and corruption of power, to attack every waste of funds and to attack all attempts to take away from the purview, control and criticism of Parliament certain activities of the Government, but we will be sorry, not only sorry but a little politely resentful, if we do not get these opportunities, and if in that process there are certain stresses and strains created, I think the blame should not be squarely placed on us.

12.00 hrs.

With these words, Mr Speaker I would again assure you of our fullest co-operation. We offer you our sincere greetings on this happy occasion.

DR G S MEIKOTE (Hyderabad)
Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Telangana Praja Samiti Members of the Lok Sabha, I have the pleasure and privilege of commending you to this august Office. Some

of us have known you during the past two or three years as a man of jovial temperament who showed at the same time firmness in dealing with turbulent elements in this House. The past two years have shown to the people at large to what extent Parliament could go in the wrong manner. Oftentimes they resented what was happening in the House. On behalf of the Samiti, we have taken note of this and, therefore, we shall try our best to maintain the highest traditions of democracy and whenever occasions arise and we feel like crossing the floor we have taken an oath before our people to resign from our post and seek re-election. We also intend to bring forward a Bill to that effect in Parliament in the very near future.

Apart from that, may I say that ours is a small State group which has won ten seats out of fourteen against the ruling Congress. In the past the Opposition Members as well as Members on the Government side have been very stoutly supporting our demand for a separate Statehood. It is in that context particularly that we have got ourselves elected to this House. We shall try our best to press this matter. May I assure you on behalf of my party that we shall do our best to maintain decency and decorum in this House and co-operate with you in every measure that is brought before this Parliament. May I also wish all those people who have been elected and give them our hearty greetings on being elected to this House. On our behalf may I assure you that we shall co-operate with you. As a small group, oftentimes we may not be able to catch your eye. We expect you to help us with adequate time to speak particularly when we have got to deal with problems of our State. We hope to be able to catch your eye sufficiently so that we can express our feelings adequately.

SHRI P K DEO (Kalahandi) Mr Speaker, I deem it my pleasant duty to congratulate you on behalf of the Swatantra Party in Parliament on your elevation to this high office which you held with distinction in the last Lok Sabha. In the context of the composition of the present Lok Sabha, the responsibilities on your shoulders have become heavier. I request you to see that the sapling of democracy takes firm root in this country and also to see that the

Constitution by which we swore the other day and the fundamental rights enshrined therein are upheld in this House. It is borne out by facts that in spite of priding by the ruling party that they had been given an absolute majority, they have got only 43 per cent of popular votes behind them. It will be a sad day for the country and for parliamentary democracy if the interests and rights on the minorities, however microscopic they may be, are steamrollered by brute majority of the House or by sheer force of numbers hope that the law of the jungle that might is right will not prevail. It will be a great misfortune if arithmetical permutations and combinations and mathematical computations and numbers are going to decide the destiny of this country.

Sir, I request you that you should permit a meaningful and purposeful dialogue on all important issues, and the viewpoints of all sections should be properly expressed.

I would remind you of the motto written there—*Dharma Chakra Pravartaya* for which we all of us have assembled here.

Sir, so far as the Swatantra Party is concerned, I can assure you that we shall play the role of a responsible and constructive Opposition for the common good of the country.

Lastly, I extend our full co-operation to you for conducting the business of the House.

Thank you.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) Mr. Speaker, Sir, we the Independents feel privileged to extend to you our warmest congratulations on your election once again as Speaker of this House.

Sir, your unanimous election shows beyond any doubt the great respect and esteem that you are held in by all sections of this House. During your last term as Speaker in the last dissolved Parliament, you have not only made yourself most popular through your tact and patience, but you showed to everybody in this House as well outside as the fact that you were known for your fairness and impartiality. During these elections, your desire to contest as a non-party man was indeed a laudable thing and that showed a healthy precedent that you as

our former Speaker wished to set, and I feel happy that in you we have a man of great vision.

You, Mr. Speaker, are a man of many parts. You have been a sportsman, a freedom-fighter, a farmer; you have travelled widely and you are a man in whom we have complete faith.

I would like to say one thing on this occasion. You are going to preside over a very crucial part of India's history. I would only like to make an appeal to everybody here as an Independent that now that the dust of the election battle is settling down, it must be the first and foremost duty of all of us in this House to try and work to see that we can remove hunger and poverty, can create employment for all, and that we create a greater and fuller life for our people, and above all, try and build a great India of which we can all be proud.

I would like to make a submission to you, that the question of reverting to an old precedent, as we had in 1952, 1957 and 1962, that even back-benchers have the opportunity to open the debates, should be considered. That should now be started once again. I do not say that on important debates and occasions, the leaders of the various opposition parties according to their number should not get a chance to speak first, but if we are trying to inject socialist thinking in this House, I think even the back-benchers of the ruling party sometimes should get a chance to open a debate as it used to be in 1952 and 1957, and the same should apply to this part of the House also. (Interruption.)

The House is truly fortunate to have you as our Speaker, and I can assure you on behalf of many of us, Independents, that we will do our very best to see that your task is made simpler.

SHRI TRIDIB CHOUDHURI (Berhampore). Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join my voice to the congratulations and warm felicitations that have been addressed to you from all sections of the House. Many Members have referred to the changed complexion of the House and the massive majority that the ruling party has today after the mid-term elections of this year.

It is natural that the opposition, greatly reduced in strength and in numbers, should

[Shri Tridib Choudhuri]

feel a little apprehensive. But as one of those who have been privileged to sit in this House from 1952 onwards, I would, with due respect, like to remind my colleagues in the opposition that the strength of the opposition does not depend only on numbers. I would also like to remind the members of the opposition, with due respect again, that it is not as if that the ruling party has always been to blame for not maintaining the norms and rules of the House. The opposition has also its part to play and it would be well to remind ourselves of the fact that the House gets the presiding officer it deserves.

It would not be out of place to recall here the first turbulent incident that occurred in this House nineteen years ago, the famous Nambiar incident when Mr. Mavalankar was in the chair as the Speaker. The then Leader of the House, the tallest Indian then alive, wanted that Shri Nambiar should be named for the rest of the term of Parliament for the certain ebullience that he had shown. I recall with pride and gratitude that the presiding officer of that day, the great Shri Mavalankar, refused to accept the suggestion of the Leader of the House, who commanded an even greater massive majority than the ruling party has today I would like to remind the Leader of the House today, who has worthily succeeded in her father's seat, that the quality of the House depends much on the way that the Leader of the House and the majority party take their admonitions from the Chair, which Pandit Nehru used to do, and this is the way to build up democracy. We hope all sides of the House will follow those traditions and cooperate with you in maintaining the dignity of this sovereign Parliament.

SHRI S. L. SAKSENA (Maharajanj) : Sir, I have seen three Speakers in this House—Shri Mavalankar, who presided over the provisional Parliament and the first Lok Sabha, Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar and Sardar Hukam Singh. I know what an important contribution the Speaker makes to the success of the working of Parliament. I had not the privilege of serving under you but from what I have heard I am sure you will keep up those traditions.

Sir, you are elected today to be the Speaker of the greatest democracy in this

world. This House represents the greatest democracy of the world and you are its august Speaker. Generally Independent and unattached members do not catch the eye of the Speaker ; I hope you will be very careful to give them proper consideration and protection. It is a historical occasion when you have been elected Speaker to this House.

The Prime Minister has a big majority and I am sure she will use her majority and strength to try to build up a healthy democracy.

With your full co-operation, this House will show how the greatest democracy in the world functions and will become an example to the world of how a great democracy can function successfully.

SHRI M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL (Manjeri) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heartily congratulate you on behalf of my party and myself on your unanimous re-election to the office of the Speaker of the House.

Indeed it will not be a flattery or a mere formality but a statement of fact to say that you on many an occasion of strain and stress in the past in the House have been able to maintain equanimity of mind and balanced judgement. Never did you swerve from your sense of humour nor that of impartiality.

Some friends while speaking on this occasion referred to many a subject and one friend pleaded for the minority in the House. How I wish the same gentleman and people like him have some compunction and consideration which they have been advocating in the House for the greater and larger minority in the country. The safeguarding of the interests of the minorities in the House is in your hands. You have always safeguarded their interests and you will continue to do in the same manner. I am sure, the future will be better than the past. I am also sure that you will add lustre to the high office you have again been called upon to hold.

I once again most heartily congratulate you and wish you all success and happiness

SHRI MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset let me congratulate you on your unanimous election as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

One of the most significant principles of parliamentary democracy has been that there must be a happy balance between the ruling party on the one side and the forces of the Opposition on the other. I admit that the last elections like a seismic disturbance have completely changed out of recognition the composition of the old Lok Sabha. Therefore, it is all the more necessary that the rights and privileges of the Opposition are safeguarded. I have not the least doubt that with your impartial attitude you will be able to give justice to the Opposition. As one of my hon. colleagues, late Barrister Nath Pai had said, "in elections, parties may come and parties may go but what must survive for all the time is parliamentary democracy and parliamentary institutions." But parliamentary democracy cannot survive on the basis of mere rigid rules. It can survive by the willing acceptance by the Members of Parliament of the democratic norms of our democratic life.

I assure the House on behalf of the Praja Socialist Party that we will see that dignity and decorum of the House is maintained. I am one amongst those Socialists who have come to this House not on the shoulders of other parties and you should rest assured that I will not be one amongst those who will precipitate a crisis in which I and my colleagues will be required to go out of the House on the shoulders of the Marshal.

That will not be the basis of our behaviour. Let me assure you that all democratic norms will be scrupulously observed. In this House let me try to recall what late Pandit Nehru had said at midnight before the dawn of freedom. He said, "at the stroke of the midnight hour when the world sleeps, India will wake up to life and freedom and the soul of a nation long suppressed will find utterance." How relevant are those utterances even to-day. To-day, in this new House, in this Parliament the reconstituted Parliament, the soul of a nation long suppressed must find utterance. There are rules regarding the conduct of the House. But, Sir, let me appeal to you—let the interpretation of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business be made in such a way that these Rules of Procedure and Conduct do not come in the way of real reflection of the will of the people outside. Just as the Constitution can be interpreted in a particular way. So as to help the process of social changes, the Rules of Pro-

cedure can also be interpreted in such a manner that they will never become a stumbling block in reflecting through this House the will of the people.

In the end, let me try to tell you very clearly that we, who believe in democratic socialism, will never forget that we belong not to the nebulous Opposition but to the Socialist Opposition. We will always be guided by the basic principle that our attitude will not be determined by the Parties in this House but it will be determined by Socialist policies and programmes. Our attitude will always be programme-oriented and every step taken by us on the floor of this House will always be to further the interests of the democratic socialism to which we have pledged our loyalty for so many years.

I hope, Sir, that in this House, as someone has rightly said, not only the old veterans will get the opportunity to put forward their point of view but your big eye will not miss those who are new-comers and if they have to make a contribution, they will get the opportunity to use the forum of this House to reflect their point of view.

Once again, Sir, I congratulate you on your unanimous election to this highest office of the Parliament.

श्री रामदेव सिंह (महाराजगंज) : इस सदन के पुनः एक बार अध्यक्ष चुने जाने पर मैं आपको अपने दिल की ओर से बधाई देता हूँ। जैसा कि वाजपेयी जी ने कहा अच्छा होता कि शासक दल के नेता प्रस्ताव देने से पहले विरोधी दलों के नेताओं से विचार-विमर्श कर लेते लेकिन उन्होंने ऐसा करना उचित नहीं समझा। लगता है कि शासक दल को चुनावों में इतनी बड़ी मेजरिस्टी मिल गई इसीलिए उन्होंने विरोधी दलों से विचार-विमर्श करना स्वीकार नहीं किया।... (व्यवधान)... मुझे आपसे यही निवेदन करना है कि प्रजातंत्र में किसी एक दल को अत्यधिक बहुमत मिलना प्रजातंत्र के लिए खतरनाक बात होती है। इस सदन में प्रजातांत्रिक मर्यादाओं को पालन कराने का ऐतिहासिक उत्तरदायित्व आपके ऊपर गया है। हम आशा करते हैं कि आप इस उत्तरदायित्व को निभाने में समर्थ होंगे।

[श्री राम देव सिंह]

मैं और मेरे दल के दूसरे सदस्य इस सदन में इस सदन का कार्य संचालन करने में आपको हर तरह से पूरा सहयोग देंगे। देश में इस समय जो स्थिति पैदा हो गई है वह इस बात को बताती है कि आज प्रजातन्त्र के लिए खतरा है। सत्तारूढ़ दल की आज की नेता जो कि पहले भी सत्तारूढ़ दल की नेता थीं, उन्होंने पार्लियामेंट जैसी देश की सर्वोच्च संस्था को विघटित करने जैसे प्रश्न पर भी सदन को विश्वास में नहीं लिया और न ही विरोधी दलों से कोई विचार विमर्श किया—यह इस बात की निशानी है कि सत्तारूढ़ दल की नेता को प्रजातांत्रिक मर्यादाओं से कोई स्नेह नहीं है। उसी प्रकार इस सदन में सत्तारूढ़ दल को जो मेजरिटी मिल गई है उसके नशे में वे तमाम प्रजातांत्रिक मर्यादाओं को भुला सकते हैं। इनको राह पर तथा प्रजातांत्रिक मर्यादाओं के भीतर रखने में यदि कोई एक आदमी समर्थ हो सकता है तो अध्यक्ष महोदय वह आप ही हैं। इस सदन ने वह उत्तरदायित्व आपको दिया है। मैं आपको निर्वाचित होने के उपलक्ष्य में बधाई देता हूँ और आपसे यह उम्मीद और आशा रखता हूँ जैसा गोसाई जी ने कहा है :

प्रभुता पाय काहि मद नाहीं

जब आदमी शासन में आता है, जब उसे प्रभुता और सत्ता मिलती है और यदि वह सत्ता अत्यधिक बहुमत में मिल गई हो तो उस स्थिति में उस पर नशा हो जाने का खतरा होता है—ऐसी बात हमारे शास्त्रों में कही गई है। आप इस सदन के अध्यक्ष हैं, सर्वस्व हैं, हमें आशा है कि आप इस सदन की मर्यादाओं का पालन करेंगे और इस बात को देखेंगे कि विरोधी दलों के सदस्यों को उनके अधिकारों से वंचित न रखा जाये। आप उनके अधिकारों की हर प्रकार से रखवाली करेंगे। इस आशा के साथ मैं एक बार पुनः आपको अपने दल की ओर से बधाई देता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : I have got in this list the names of three or four more Hon. Members who wish to speak. It is quite a pleasant thing to hear the praises. But, I am more concerned with the advice and the warnings. And, I do hope, the other hon. Members will try to be as brief as possible.

Now, Mr. Rao Birendra Singh.

श्री राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह (महेन्द्रगढ़) :
स्पीकर साहब, मैं अपनी तरफ से और अपनी विशाल हरियाना पार्टी की तरफ से आपको दिल से मुबारकवाद पेश करता हूँ। बहुत से मेम्बरों को खालूम नहीं, आप तो पंजाब से आते हैं और मैं भी पहले पंजाब से ताल्लुक रखता था।... (व्यवधान)... मैं सवा लाख हूँ जिस तरह से पंजाब अकाली दल यहां सवा लाख है।... (व्यवधान)... मुझे अकेले मेम्बर विशाल हरियाना पार्टी का न समझ कर... (व्यवधान)... मेरे बहुत से साथी और सपोर्टर उस तरफ भी हैं जो कि वक्त पर इधर आ सकते हैं।... (व्यवधान)... आपका इत्तफाक राय से स्पीकर चुना जाना मेरे लिए बहुत खुशी का वायस है। मैंने पंजाब में पांच साल, जब आप वहां की असेम्बली के स्पीकर थे, आपके साथ काम किया। मुझे फक्र है कि मैं पांच साल तक, जिस असेम्बली के आप स्पीकर थे वहां पर वजीर के तौर पर बैठता था और मुझे अच्छी तरह याद है कि किस तरह से आप अपोजीशन के हुक्क की हिफाजत करते थे। आज इस पार्लियामेंट में अपोजीशन की हालत करीब करीब वैसी ही नाजुक है जैसी उस वक्त पंजाब असेम्बली में हुआ करती थी। लेकिन आपके होते हुए कभी अपोजीशन ने यह महसूस नहीं किया कि उनके हुक्क को कभी दबाया भी जा सकता है। आप जिस तरह से वजारत को डांट कर रखा करते थे पंजाब की असेम्बली में, मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि यहां भी आप उसी तरीके से इनको सही रास्ते पर चलायेंगे। आज देश में कुछ नया नकशा है।

हमारी प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहिबा ने कुछ ऐसी पाइड-पाइपर की धुन बजाई कि हिन्दुस्तान की जनता इसके पीछे चल पड़ी और उसे मालूम नहीं कि उसको कहां ले जाया जायेगा और क्या उनका अन्त होगा। आज अपोजीशन का फर्ज है कि जो जादू हिन्दुस्तान की भोली जनता पर हो गया है उसको अहिस्ता अहिस्ता जाइल करने की कोशिश करें और इसके लिए हमें हर कदम पर आपकी मदद की जरूरत पड़ेगी। मुझे इस बात में कोई शक नहीं कि अपोजीशन को आपसे पूरा तहफुज मिलेगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको फिर से एक बार अपनी तरफ से जाती तौर पर और अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से मुबारकवाद देता हूँ।

SHKI VARKEY GEORGE (Kottayam) :
On behalf of the Kerala Congress, I extend to you, Sir, our heartiest congratulations and felicitations. Even though this is the first time our Party is being represented in this House, we are fully aware of the exemplary uanner in which you have conducted the proceedings of the previous Lok Sabha.

On behalf of our Party, I extend you all our support in conducting the proceedings of this House.

श्री बी० पी० मौर्य (हापुड़) : श्रद्धेय अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन में इस सर्व-श्रेष्ठ पद के लिए सर्व-सम्मति से आपकी नियुक्ति हुई, जहां यह इस सत्य की प्रतीक है कि इस सदन के प्रत्येक सदस्य और दल का आपको विश्वास प्राप्त है बहां इस सत्य की भी प्रतीक है कि इस सदन की जननी, देश की जनता का भी आप को विश्वास प्राप्त है। मेरा आपसे नम्र निवेदन रहेगा कि यह ऐतिहासिक घटना इस देश में घटी है। देश की जनता ने बुद्धिजीवियों और श्रमजीवियों ने, जनतन्त्र के आधार पर समाजवाद की रचना के लिए राष्ट्र नेता श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के नेतृत्व में बड़े फ़ैसले लिए/मेरा आपसे नम्र निवेदन रहेगा कि जहां आप इस सदन के दलों के विचारों

को सुने वहां जब बहस चले तो जनता से सम्बन्धित विषयों पर ज्यादा से ज्यादा समय दिया जाये। देखा अक्सर यह गया है कि इस सदन में बहुत ज्यादा समय ऐसी बातों पर चला जाता है जिसका जनता से, देश से और देश के कल्याण से कम सम्बन्ध होता है और व्यक्ति विशेष से ज्यादा सम्बन्ध होता है।

मैं आपको अपनी ओर से, अपने दल की ओर से, बधाई देता हुआ आपसे प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इस सदन में सदैव इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाय कि इस सदन का बहुमूल्य समय ज्यादा से ज्यादा जनता की समस्याओं को हल करके उनकी भलाई पर खर्च हो।

मेरा आपसे यही नम्र निवेदन है।

श्री एस० ए० शमीस (श्रीनगर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा शुमार उन चन्द मामूली खुश-किस्मत लोगों में होता है जिन्होंने अपने जहन, जमीर और जवान की आजादी किसी जमात सुपुर्द करने के वजाय अपने पास महफूज रखा है। इसलिए मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर किसी को सबसे ज्यादा आपकी रक्षा की जरूरत है, आप की हिफाजत की जरूरत है तो उन इंडेपेंडेंस को, उन अफराद को है जो जमायती तन्कीह की तहत नहीं, लेकिन अपने जमीर के मुताबिक उसकी आवाज के मुताबिक अपने खयालात का इजहार करते हैं।

आपको जो लोग जानते हैं उन्होंने अपने तजुर्वे की बिना पर आप की तारीफ की ओर जो लोग नहीं जानते हैं उन्होंने इस बात की ख्वाहिश का इजहार किया कि आप उनके साथ इन्साफ करेंगे। मैं जाती तौर पर आपको नहीं जानता हूँ, लेकिन मैं अपना मुकदमा आप के सामने पेश करता हूँ—अपना मुकदमा जिसमें आपको जज की हैसियत हासिल है। मैं आपसे सिर्फ यह तवक्को करूंगा कि आप इन्साफ देंगे। अफराद को भी उसी तरह इन्साफ देंगे जिस तरह जमातों को इन्साफ देंगे।

[श्री एस० ए० शर्मा]

कुछ लोगों ने शिकवा किया है कि पार्लियामेंट का नक्शा बदल गया। पार्लियामेंट का नक्शा बदलना तो जरूरी था। इसलिए कि मुल्क का नक्शा बदल गया है। मुझे खुशी है पार्लियामेंट जो इस चेन्ज को रिफ्लेक्ट करती है इस मुल्क में रूमुमा हुई है। लेकिन एक बात मैं सरकारी बेंचों पर बैठे हुए मेम्बरों से कहना चाहता हूं खास तौर से वजीर आलम से और वह यह है कि पार्लियामेंटी डिमाक्रेसी का खासा यह है कि रूलिंगपार्टी रूलस, इट इज अपोजीशन बिहच स्पीक्स। मुझे उम्मीद है कि वह अपना फर्ज पूरा करेंगे। मैं यकीन दिलाता हूँ कि रियासती असेम्बली में मैं साज तक वन-मैन अपोजीशन की हैसियत से काम करता आया हूँ। अगर सारा अपोजीशन भी अपना दम खम खो बैठे तब भी एक आदमी ऐसा पाया जायेगा जो अपोजीशन का रोल अदा करेगा।

आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया है।

श्री शिवकुमार शास्त्री (अलीगढ़) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस महान सदन में भारतीय क्रान्ति दल का नाम जीवित रखने का दायित्व इस समय मेरे ऊपर है, और मैं अपने दल की ओर से आपके सर्वसम्मत निर्वाचन का हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी विरोधी पक्ष की ओर से अपनी दुर्बलता हर चिन्ता प्रकट की गई, पर जनतंत्र से स्वस्थ विकास के लिए विरोधी दल को अपनी दुर्बलता पर चिन्तित होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। यह दायित्व तो शासक दल का है कि वह स्वस्थ विरोधी दल को कायम रखे। आप समझते हैं कि चाहे विरोधी दल के सदस्यों की संख्या नगण्य हो और चाहे इस प्रकार के विरोधी दल के सदस्यों की संख्या अधिक हो जो सरकार के अब तक के समर्थक रहे हैं। उनकी कुश्ती विरोधी में ही सही मिली हुई

मानी जायेगी। आज इसका कोई महत्व और दायित्व विशेष नहीं है। जो स्वास्थ्य विरोधी दृष्टिकोण को उपस्थित करे चाहे संख्या में कम ही हों उसका ही विशेष महत्व है।

मैं अपने दल की ओर से आपके सर्वसम्मत निर्वाचन का स्वागत करता हूँ और आपको बधाई देता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : I am deeply grateful to the honourable Members for the honour they have bestowed on me by electing me to this high office for another term. I am also grateful for the kind and generous sentiments expressed about me by the Leader of the House, the Leaders of the Opposition Groups and other distinguished friends.

As I take the Chair today, I am reminded of the onerous responsibilities attached to this high office, and yet, if I approach my task ahead with faith and hope, it is not because of any exaggerated notion of my own ability and experience, but because I feel reassured by the generous promises of willing co-operation which I have just received from all sections of this august House.

I take this opportunity to place on record my gratitude to the members of the Fourth Lok Sabha for the co-operation that they gave me in conducting the proceedings amid great strain and stress which the political atmosphere then prevailing caused to every one. But for the sudden dissolution of the House, I should have given expression to my feelings to them personally. I do so now and thank them all for the consideration and goodwill that they showed to me throughout my Speakership of the Fourth Lok Sabha.

Friends, the people of our ancient land have always been known for their tolerant attitude towards differing views, creeds and opinions. It is for us to see that this great national quality fully permeates and enriches the deliberations of this august body, composed as it is of eminent representatives, from all parts of our great land representing diverse shades of opinion.

I need hardly emphasise that discipline, or rather self-discipline, is a prime prerequisite for the smooth and efficient functioning of Parliament. Parliamentary government, it is rightly said, is government by discussion. Here in this House—the

symbol of the people's sovereignty and the highest forum of our Nation—every Member has the fullest liberty to express his own views remembering that the liberty of every other Member is also the same. It becomes necessary, therefore, to exercise self-restraint on the contents and the tenor of speeches. In other words, the spirit of mutual goodwill, understanding and respect should dominate the atmosphere, thus keeping it free from acrimony. This in turn calls for a disciplined mind, which will respect the rules and regulations and the well-established conventions of parliamentary conduct and debate. To the extent to which persons holding divergent views, or ideologies, exhibit the qualities of tolerance, 'give and take', and make an effort to understand the differing points of view, to that extent only, parliamentary government stands the chance of being successful.

There was a time when the Legislatures could deliberate without being too much in the public eye. Now all is different. With the growing political maturity of our people and rapid development of mass media, more and more people are closely watching our performance in the House—not only the thought-content of what we say, but the actual results we are able to achieve in terms of the common weal, that is, the economic and social welfare of the people. As such it is but proper that all of us in this House should have a live awareness of the needs aspirations of the common man and so conduct our business that the results sustain and promote faith in parliamentary institutions.

Sitting in this Chair, I am today reminded of my illustrious predecessors like Shri Vithalbhai Patel, Shri G. V. Mavalankar and other distinguished Speakers who adorned this Chair and laid high traditions of judicious and impartial conduct of parliamentary business. It shall be my earnest endeavour to live up to this exacting requirement to uphold the dignity, decorum and privileges of this House, and to ensure equal and just treatment to all sections of the House. I am sure that the House will fully co-operate with me in this endeavour.

I am sure that the high sentiments voiced here today by all sections of the House would find fulfilment in their unstinting co-operation to the Chair in conducting the business of the House from day to day in a dignified and purposive atmosphere, free from rancour, with love for all and malice towards none.

May our deliberations be marked by a sense of dedication and service to the cause of the Common man, so that he sees in them an answer to his pressing problems and realises that we are marching forward triumphantly in the war against hunger and want. I thank you again in all humility for the honour you have done me in electing me as your Speaker.

The House is different in composition with new fears and hopes. I quite visualise new problems and new situations. I am quite adaptable and I assure you that I shall get used and adjusted to the new complexion and the demands of this House very soon. Jai Hind.

12.45 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN—(Contd.)

Shri Rattanlal Brahman (Darjeeling)
 Shri Samar Mukherjee (Howrah)
 Shri Bijoy Krishna Modak (Hooghly)
 Shri Saroj Mukherjee (Katwa)
 Shri Robin Sen (Asansol)

MR. SPEAKER : Any other hon. Members ? No.

The House stands adjourned to meet again half an hour after the President's Address on the 23rd March, that is, tomorrow.

12.48 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till half-an-hour after the conclusion of the President's Address on Tuesday, March 23, 1971|Chaitra 2, 1893 (Saka).