

(II) COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE  
OF SCHEDULED CAST AND  
SCHEDULED TRIBES

SHRI BASUMATARI (Kokrajhar) :  
I beg to move :

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri G. G. Swell resigned from the Committee."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 254 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from themselves to serve as a member of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri G. G. Swell resigned from the Committee."

*The Motion was adopted.*

12.52 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE  
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

MR. SPEAKER : We shall take up further debate on the President's Address. The Leader of the Opposition has requested that a Member of his Party, Mr. S. K. Patil, wants to leave this afternoon and he might be given a chance to speak earlier. I shall call Seth Govind Das afterwards.

Shri S.K. PATIL (Banaskantha) : Mr. Speaker, I hope there will be some lull after this big storm that we were having in the House.

Speaking of the Presidential Address somebody, I think my friend Mr. Hanuman-

thaiya, described it yesterday as a "unique" address. It is indeed "unique" in this sense that it was so lengthy and yet had such poor contents. This is no reflection on the President. Never before had we an address so rich in length and yet so poor in content. Out of 48 paragraphs, as many as 33 of this Address were devoted to extol the achievements of the Government. The accident of 1970, because this happens to be the year 1970, gave the draftsmen an idea that he should sing some lullabies of the decade that preceded and 34 paragraphs were used for this purpose. There is a saying that you have to speak and write longer when the substance is meagre. I can recall a famous incident of the English Parliament, Lord Macaulay spoke for three hours, and just as my friend Mr. Hanumanthaiya was saying that this was a unique speech, one Member then got up in the Commons and said that it was a wonderful speech. Another Member who was sitting next to him said: what was so wonderful about it? He replied: I do not know: there was no substance in it, but it was so wonderful. If that criterion had to be given to any address aptly, it is to this Address.

The new decade provided an opportunity to sing songs of the old one. It must, however, be remembered that it was a decade—ten years—and the present Government need not arrogate to itself all the good things that might have happened in that decade. I do not know under whose control it is, when the President's Address referred to the fact that the prices are well under control. Whose control, I do not know: whether it is the control of this Government or the control of *kismet*, that is, fate. Such statements need not be made in the President's Address unless they can stand the scrutiny of truth. The spiral of prices is ever rising; so also are the hopes of Government to put it down.

I shall cursorily refer to one or two questions before I come to the main subject and that is, the breakthrough in agriculture. For some years, we have been hearing about the green revolution: how green it is, I do not know. But I am anxious that there should be a green revolution. I have presided over the Ministry for a number of years and nobody would be so happy as