

18.32 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCES

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, I rise to thank the hon. Members for the way they have contributed to his rather turbulent session. And I would also like to compliment you, Sir, on the manner in which you have conducted the business of the House in spite of turbulence and in spite of quite a few moments of tension. This is the way democratic institutions function. Since we are adjourning the Session, I would like to give my compliments and also my best wishes for a very good inter session period which is what we will expect. We will have many important occasions and events perhaps during the inter-session period.

I would also like to thank the staff of Parliament for their hard work and the press for their full cooperation in reporting the proceedings.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, my senior colleague and the leader of Opposition Shri Vajpayeeji is not here. He has gone to Lucknow today, in the morning due to the sudden demise of a colleague.

With the Prime Minister I also thank all of you for your full co-operation in this session. This Monsoon Session will remain a memorable session from its beginning to the end.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Because of its thunder and noisy scenes.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: My view point is that during this session the leader of the Opposition was changed and there was a time when it so appeared that the leader of the House will also change. The last week was also memorable, there were two incidents when discussions were stopped and later suspended. On the whole it was a good Session. Especially for the reason that after a long time it was the first session in which Question Hour was not disturbed. Question Hour was held daily without any hindrance and there were very few occasions when Members tried to gather in the Well of the House. There were few such occasions and it will be good for the House if these could be reduced gradually. But on the whole this Session could be called satisfactory, at least I can express my satisfaction over it. I thank you, your Secretary, all

your colleagues and all the Members for their Co-operation, and contribution in the present Session.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Speaker, Sir, I agree with all that has been said here. I wish to express our sincere thanks to you in the manner in which you have conducted business and presided over the deliberations. I wish to thank the Secretariat and also the Press. There has been no doubt some turbulence, as the Prime Minister has referred to, but probably he is going to face more turbulence immediately after we rise. (Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): You need not bother about that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one thing I am sure, whatever turbulence is there and whatever difference of opinion is there, everybody will agree that every Member tries to put forward views which will ultimately help the nation as a whole. This should be the objective and I am sure we are guided by that consideration. Obviously, our ways are different, our programmes are different, otherwise, we will not have different political parties. That is the glory of this House. My only regret is that in this Session we could not pass the Religion Bill.

I see here that the hon. Prime Minister is being disturbed by the powerless Power Minister. There is no power in Delhi. Everybody is complaining about it. Why do you disturb the Leader of the House? I think you are functioning only here and not outside.

I request that a Special Session should be called and properly drafted Constitution (Amendment) Bill and other Bills be passed. The Dunkel proposal also should be discussed in this Special Session.

Of course, there is a change in the Leader of Opposition. That is their own internal affair. I do not know what will happen to this Government also after today's meeting.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU (Madras Central): You have no business to comment on this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have no sense of humour. (Interruptions)

All right. I do not bother about the Congress Party at all.....*

MR. SPEAKER: Those words will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

* expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): With due respect to you, I think that sort of language is not called for.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:.....*

MR. SPEAKER: That will not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I believe we have been able to dispose of many important legislations. We have had discussions on various important subjects and I am sure in future also, with your guidance, we shall be able to perform better. In spite of the obstructions of the present Parliamentary Affairs Minister, we shall be able to achieve significant progress in future.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been a tradition to express such feelings at the end of a Session. Hon. Prime Minister has said that the Session was turbulent. Turbulent is called "hangami" in Hindi. It was a turbulent session from the beginning to the end. Even today, newspapers are full of such news items. As the Prime Minister has also said and we also hope that inter-session period will remain peaceful, and I hope that the country do not have to face the drought situation and I also hope that there will be plenty of rainfall in those areas where there has been less rainfall during this season.

Lot of work has been done during this session. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the beginning of this session you were worried about it but the way in which the Opposition has worked during the session they should be thanked by the leader of the House. The opposition has discharged its responsibility properly. We helped the Government in its working by sitting late and we were ready to sit late even today.

*Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, now this House is going to adjourn and you have made observations on some specific subjects, especially on the implementation of Mandal Commission's recommendations. I hope that Mandal Commission's will be implemented during inter-session period. Hon. Prime Minister today, a meeting of your party, is going to take place. Congress party can take any decision but I hope that the Tenth Lok Sabha will continue in next session also. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, the Seventh Session of the Tenth Lok Sabha comes to a close today. Throughout the Session, you used to make longer speeches, I used to enjoy them. At the fag end I would be making a little longer speech and I hope that you would show me some indulgence. Because I would be reporting on the business transacted in the House.

During this Session, which commenced on 26th July, 1993, the House held 24 sittings lasting over 160 hours. On the first sitting of this Session, a Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers was moved. The discussion on the Motion was taken up on that day which spread over three days. On 28th July, 1993, after Division, the Motion was negated by the House. 460 Questions were listed as Starred of which 120 could be orally answered and written replies were given to 4908 Questions. Two Half-an-Hour Discussions were also taken up. 20 Statements on important matters were made by the Ministers while 127 matters were raised under Rule 377. Two Calling Attentions regarding delay in the implementation of Supreme Court's directions in the matter of capitation fee being charged for admission to medical and engineering Colleges in different States, particularly, in Karnataka and issue relating to Narmada Sardar Sarover Project for review and rehabilitation measures were also taken up.

Coming to the legislative business, 15 Bills were introduced in Lok Sabha. 20 Bills were passed by the House, important among them being the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Bill, 1993; the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Bill, 1993; the Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1993 and the Constitution (Seventy-Seven) Amendment Bill, 1992.

During the last Session, Demands for Grants of various Ministries were examined by these Committees and their reports were presented to the House. During this Session, 16 Bill were referred to these Committees by the Presiding Officers of the two Houses for examination and report and 10 Reports were presented or laid.

Coming to financial business, balance Demands for Grants in respect of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, which are currently under the President's Rule, were discussed and voted. Supplementary Demands for Grants pertaining to the General Budget and Railway Budget for the year 1993-94 and also Excess Demands for Grants (General) and (Railways) for the year 1989-90 were also discussed and voted.

Three Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 were held—One related to the situation arising out of the recent floods in various parts of the country, second, on drought conditions prevailing in different parts of the country and the third, on the Socio-Economic criteria for exclusion of the "Creamy Layer" from "Other Backward Classes....".

The Private Members continued to evince keen interest in bringing forward Bills and Resolutions in the House. 23 Bills on a variety of subjects were introduced by them. A Bill seeking to provide for the payment of minimum wages and for welfare of agricultural workers moved by Shri Chandubhai Deshmukh was discussed at length and the Honourable Minister assured that the Government proposes to bring forward a comprehensive Bill on the subject in due course. However, the Bill was negatived.

The debate on the other Bill seeking to amend the Constitution with a view to providing that all laws affecting any religion which have come into force after 1st July 1991, shall be void and, in future, any Bill affecting any religion shall be passed by two-thirds majority and shall also be ratified by half of the State Legislatures was moved by Dr. Laxmi Narain Pandey remained inconclusive.

A Private Members' Resolution seeking to create new States of Uttaranchal and Vananchal by Shri Jagat Vir Singh Drona afforded ample opportunity to large number of Members to present their view on the issue. The Resolution was, however negatived.

The Debate on the other Resolution seeking framing of a Uniform Civil Code initiated by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan remained inconclusive.

As desired by the House on 3rd August 1993, the Attorney-General was invited to attend the House on 4th August 1993 to give his opinion on:

- (i) the scope and extent of disciplinary authority of the Election Commission in respect of officers and staff deployed for election work; and
- (ii) scope and extent of authority in the matter of deployment of forces to maintain law and order to ensure free and fair elections, keeping in view the constitutional and legal position that maintenance of law and order is primarily the State subject.

I permitted some Members to ask clarificatory questions and the Attorney General replied thereto.

On 9th August 1993, a meeting of the Members of both the Houses of Parliament was held in the Central Hall to mark the conclusion of the celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Quit India Movement and to pay homage to the Martyrs of the Freedom Movement. It was addressed by the Honourable Vice President and Honourable Prime Minister of India. It was attended by the Freedom Fighters, Honourable Members of Parliament and other dignitaries and Members of the Diplomatic Corps.

On the 20th of August 1993, the Portrait of Former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, was unveiled in the Central Hall by Respected Rashtrapatiiji. The portraits of two other former Prime Ministers are also to be unveiled. It has also been decided to put up the statues of other great political leaders and Parliamentarians in the Parliament premises.

The Parliament could telefilm the proceedings on important issues.

The Standing Committee System could be started and is now in vogue. The administrative and other matters could now be done in a bit more modernised manner.

I am happy to mention that the project of constructing the Parliamentary library building

was approved at the Government and Parliament's level and the work on the same would be started in the immediate future. The library building would provide facilities to store the books, audio and video films, and the reading and hearing and watching rooms and cubicals, the Committee Rooms and an Auditorium. It would help the Parliamentary activities to be conducted in a more modern and effective manner.

In this session, attempts were made to reduce the time taken by the Members to ventilate their views on the unlisted items of the Business. With the cooperation of the Members, Party Leaders and others concerned, it was possible to reduce the time to the acceptable minimum.

On some days, that could be done in an excellent manner. On a few other occasions, that slipped and more time was consumed. The time thus saved was available to the Members to speak on other important topics. We hope that the cooperation in this respect would be forthcoming in a more useful manner in future also, and the objective which was set by us to use the time in a more appropriate fashion would be fulfilled.

The Parliament Sessions provide opportunities and facilities to the Executive to get the laws, Budgets and Policy matters approved and passed, provides opportunities to the Members of the Parliament to hold the Executive accountable and to criticise, guide and advise them. In the process, the opinions and views of the people are expressed through their representatives.

More than that, in the Sessions, the shocks penetrated in the Society are felt and absorbed, giving sustenance, strength and survivability to the system of Democracy and the Parliament.

Strong words and expressions and at times, actions may be used and taken. And yet, the basic underlying understanding of the common objective of the governance and democracy is not forgotten and the amity is not disturbed, beyond a particular limit. That is the essence

of democracy and the parliamentary system. It should be protected and preserved at all cost. It appeared to be done in this short but very intense session, for which all deserve appreciation and kudos.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all the hon. Members for the kind cooperation extended to me and my colleagues—hon. Deputy Speaker and the Members of the Panel of Chairpersons in the smooth conduct of the Business of the House—Shri Nitish Kumar included.

I would specially like to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of various Parties and groups, as well as the Whips for the unstinted cooperation and courtesy extended to us without which our task would not have been easy.

✓ We would like to express our appreciation and thanks to all the officers and others who worked to make the functioning of the Parliament a meaningful and enjoyable exercise. ✓

I would like to thank the press also. But for them, what is discussed would not reach the people and they have done well. We would provide more facilities to them to do their duties.

MR. SPEAKER: Now the hon. members may stand up for 'Vande Mataram'.

NATIONAL SONG

The National Song was played

18.52 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned *sine die*.

18.54 hrs.

The House then adjourned sine die.
