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JOINT SITTING OF THE HOUSES
OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, May 6, 1961/Vaisakha 16,
1883 (Saka).

*The Houses of Parliament met in joint
sitting in the Central Hall of Parlia-
ment House at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME ADDRESS

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur):
On a point of order....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There
can be no point of order before the
proceedings commence.

Members of Parliament, I welcome
you all to this Joint Sitting of both the
Houses of Parliament. This is a uni-
que occasion in the annals of, in the
history of, our Parliament since its
inception. I hope and trust that good-
will will prevail among all sections
during the deliberations, that they will
be conducted in a spirit of harmony
and peace, and that as far as possible,
an attempt will be made by all sections
to arrive, if possible, at an agreed
solution.

TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF PANDIT
MOTILAL NEHRU

Mr. Speaker: Before we proceed
further with the work assigned to us
for the day, I would like to pay my
humble tribute, along with you, to the
memory of one of the most illustrious

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sons of our land, Pandit Motilal
Nehru.

Today, his centenary is being cele-
brated all over our country, without
any distinction of either party or
colour or creed. Though he was born
a prince, he made himself a prince
among men quite early in his life. He
was a lawyer and made his mark in
that capacity. He was, no doubt, in
those days, a moderate politician, but
soon, he changed over into almost a
revolutionary. Jallianwala Bagh
marked a change in his career. He
agreed to be the Chairman of that
committee, and after he found out
about those atrocities, he was easily
converted and became one of the fore-
most disciples of Mahatma Gandhi.
The manner in which he shed all his
old clothes and from a prince's life
began to lead a very hard life and
never hesitated to go to jail as often
as it was necessary shows that he
was an outstanding figure, who made
his mark and who has left behind him
a mark to be copied by all of us.

So far as we parliamentarians are
concerned, he has left his indelible
mark within the precincts of this
House; at a time when the vista was
bleak, and when there was absolutely
no chance of dislodging the previous
rulers, he, here, as a bold fighter in
the Opposition, as leader of the
Swaraja Party, laid strong foundations
of democracy for all times to come,
which we can usefully copy. May
his memory be ever green!

Though he is not physically pre-
sent with us, his stately figure both
in his person and in his spirit is here
in this Hall to inspire us. Let his

[Mr. Speaker]

spirit dominate over all our deliberations and guide us to our destination.

He could have easily lived a full hundred years to see the fruition of his efforts both inside Parliament and outside, but he did not live to see it. If, during those days, there had been a responsible government, then, on account of the many resolutions which he threw out almost unanimously and defeated the Government, he, in a responsible system of government, could have changed the Government and taken up the Ministry himself, but he did not do so. Fortunately for us, he has left and made a gift to us of his illustrious son who has taken that place and who is guiding the destinies of our land. There is not a single member of his family, whether man or woman, who did not sacrifice and place his or her all at the service of the Motherland.

He was a great statesman. He drafted a Constitution in those days. He was a bold fighter. He fought without rancour and took defeat without bitterness.

Let us follow his example today. Let his memory be kept alive in our minds. Let our parliamentarians take his lesson to heart and make this Parliament one of the, if not, the, most outstanding Parliaments of the world.

Now, let me proceed to the work before us.

DOWRY PROHIBITION BILL

LAI'D ON THE TABLE, AS PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES WITH AMENDMENTS AGREED TO

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur): I have got a point of order....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am coming to his point of order.

We are meeting today in pursuance of a summons issued to all Members of both Houses of Parliament to meet

and deliberate and decide upon matters of difference which have arisen between the two Houses. Formally, I shall ask the Secretary to lay the Bill over which we are going to have discussion and with respect to which amendments on points of disagreement have to be tabled, on the Table of the House. Let that Bill be formally laid on the Table. Thereafter, I shall hear the point of order.

Secretary: I lay on the Table the Bill to prohibit the giving or taking of dowry as passed by Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha with the amendments agreed to by both the Houses.

11.05 hrs.

POINT RE: PROCEDURE

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी (हमीरपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज का जो यह दोनों सदनों का मिला-जुला सत्र बुलाया गया है उसके लिये प्रक्रिया में प्रोसीजर में, जो लिखा हुआ है वह इस प्रकार है :

"The Secretary shall issue a summons to each Member specifying the time and place for a joint sitting."

इसमें यह नहीं बतलाया गया कि कितने समय की सूचना दी जानी चाहिये। लेकिन साथ ही साथ ७वें रूल में लिखा हुआ है :

"At any joint sitting the procedure of the House shall apply with such modifications and variations as the Speaker may consider necessary or appropriate."

जहां तक मेरा ख्याल है, इस सत्र का बुलाया जाना परम्पराओं के अनुकूल नहीं है। इस कारण या तो इस कार्रवाई को स्थगित कर देना चाहिये या अध्यक्ष महोदय इस पर अपना मोडिफिकेशन जारी करें।