

power plants in our state? Will you not help Rajasthan where your own party is in power or will you help only those States where Opposition Parties are in power? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This submission made by you is also wrong. In our eyes all the states in the country are at par. The Government does not discriminate between Opposition ruled States and those where the Congress party is in power. For us the whole country is one.

MR. SPEAKER: You should never say that this state belongs to the opposition and that state belongs to us. All the states are our own because we belong to this country and we are all united.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you people are holding high posts and rule the whole country. On the contrary, we are poor people and are the representatives of the poor farmers. Therefore, we make demands for electricity from you.

MR. SPEAKER: I will put pressure on him to provide electricity to Rajasthan.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: I submitted here also and I have repeatedly made submission to the hon. Prime Minister also to provide more powers and electricity to Rajasthan so that we may become powerful enough to fulfil the daily needs of our poor population. Today the biggest problem in our state is that of food. If Shri Rajiv Gandhi had not been our Prime Minister, we would all have starved. Words fall short of appreciating him for the assistance extended by him to our state. Therefore, I request him to help us and he gets displeased as to from where coal be made available. It is the duty of the Government and not ours to provide coal. The Government should provide electricity in Rajasthan so that it may progress.

MR. SPEAKER: This is enough. We have recently provided 210 megawatts power to Rajasthan.

12.57 hrs

STATEMENT RE: CLARIFICATION OF
CERTAIN REMARKS MADE BY PRIME
MINISTER DURING QUESTION HOUR
ON 27th FEBRUARY 1989

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yesterday, during the Question Hour, I made some remarks. And reading the newspapers this morning I got a feeling that some erroneous message has gone which is not quite what I have said.

First, I would like to clarify that at no point did I say or imply or use the words that the opposition was unpatriotic or anti-national. These words were not used by me. That is not what I meant. What I did say, which I have no hesitation in reiterating, is that at least one Member of the opposition has been raising the issue of Khaistan and the re-formation of States within the Union. And, I have not seen anybody in the opposition taking that up as an issue. I have not accused the opposition of raising Khalistan as an issue and I do not accuse them of doing that. But if they are truly committed to fight the terrorist, I would like them to take action against that Member.

Sir, I have also got some letters from very senior members of the Opposition appealing for some actions to be done, showing softness on terrorists. And, this is the sort of double standard which makes it difficult to fight terrorism.

Lastly, I would like to say that yesterday

[Sh. Rajiv Gandhi]

in the heat of the discussion I mentioned the CPM. I meant to mention all the Communists because the CPI, the CPM, the other Leftist Parties have been fighting the terrorists and have been taking a nationalist stand. I want to thank them and congratulate them for that.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say that apart from the Congress and the Leftist Parties, many people from other Parties have also been killed and our hearts go out to them. They were all patriots. They stood and fought for the unity and integrity of our nation.

Lastly, if the Opposition wants to come out clean on this issue, I would like them to take a positive stand against terrorists. I would like them to show the nation that they will not allow any member of the Opposition to pander or softpedal to the terrorists in any way.

If anything I have said has hurt Members of the Opposition, I am sorry about that, but I would like them to correct it by action. Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The house stands Adjourned for Lunch and will meet here Again at 2 O'clock.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at six minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.
[MR. DEPUTY—SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

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

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Vyas, I thank you have completed your speech.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): I have not completed, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already taken 12 minutes. Now, try to finish it in two or three minutes. I give this time as a special case.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was making submission regarding electricity. I would now like to say something about the problem of drinking water and other problems facing Rajasthan.

The Government of India has set up technological mission and is also formulating a big scheme to make drinking water available through it. There are still 5 thousand such villages in Rajasthan where drinking water is not available. The technological mission should formulate a very big scheme to make drinking water available there so that the people of Rajasthan may get drinking water.

Similarly, the technological mission is also engaged on adult education and education. Sir, Rajasthan is one such state where literacy level is the lowest in the country. Only 20% of male and 12% of female are literate. Therefore, maximum emphasis should be laid on education there. The technological mission should make the maximum efforts in this field too so that maximum number of people there may get educated there and thereby may be able to contribute in making our country economically prosperous.

Similarly, dairy development may also become helpful in Rajasthan because half of its area is desert and nothing except cattle rearing can be practised there. Therefore, this technological mission should also put in a lot of efforts for dairy development so that the people of Rajasthan may get an opportunity for their economic development