

**Motion of Thanks on the President's  
Address Contd.**

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): Madam, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President and who have given us the benefit of their observations, suggestions and criticisms. Madam, the subjects covered are quite a few and it may not be possible for me to deal with each one of them in detail within the time available to me nor do I think it necessary because many of the Members would have dealt with local matters, local complaints or something to be done on the development front and so on in particular regions, in particular States or districts on which we don't have to devote the time of the House. I undertake to send short notes on each one of those items raised by the hon. Members here if they pertain to local questions. That would be the best way because I may not even be in full possession of all the facts now and it would not be proper to give an answer or attempt an answer on the basis of incorrect or incomplete information. The tone of the President's Address, Madam, focuses the foremost concerns of the Government on the nation. In 1992, the President began his speech by addressing the question of economic reforms. That was at the top of the agenda at that time. Considering the urgency, considering the economic situation prevailing then, it was but natural for the President to be fully concerned about

that and to mention that as the first thing in the Address. In 1993, the focus was upon the survival of India as a nation and the survival of its secular character. We were too close to the Ayodhya incident and after that, the riots; the country got itself totally detached from the first programme of development. We were under great stress and it was again but natural for the President to start the Address with a clear reference to that State of affairs. This year, Rashtrapati ji has spoken of the mood of optimism; an optimism he has elaborated as one of accelerating the pace of economic growth strengthened by a reassuring verdict of the people in favour of reforms and against the forces of communalism. Now this is the context which is relevant today. We have achieved quite a few things during the last two or three years and we are on the point of making a real dent on the main problem of poverty. Reforms have enabled us to reach a stage where we can look with a certain amount of optimism at the future. We can see the graph of industrialisation and the graph of investment going up steadily and, therefore, the President was good enough to say that we are looking at the future with optimism.

The important aspects touched upon by the President start with the law and order situation, the situation of the Ayodhya issue and then goes on to the economic aspects of the reforms programme. As we know, the reference heard now, before the Supreme Court is being Right now, there have been voices

raised against this particular reference. There have been suggestions that a reference under some other provision should have been made. This has been said. But now actually the reference is being heard by the Supreme Court and I would appeal to the House. I would appeal to every one concerned that we are very close to a disposal, very close to an opinion from the highest tribunal, the highest judicial authority of the land and the President has also said that in the light of the opinion given by the Supreme Court action will be taken. This being the situation now, I think we should leave the controversy, such as under which provision it should be done, etc., behind us and look forward to the opinion to be given by the Supreme Court and the action that will be taken in the light of that opinion.

Many hon. Members have spoken about Kashmir and pointed out the areas of concern. I think the question of Kashmir has more or less dominated the debate and it is rightly so because this is a matter of concern. One does not understand why different things are being mixed, the question of human rights and the question of the status of Kashmir. Now, these are sought to be confused by Pakistan. Pakistan has no *locus standi* in Kashmir. But Pakistan seems to be making use of the human rights issue or the human rights angle to butt into the whole thing and create a case—I don't know what kind of case it is—as *locus standi* for itself. I don't see any other explanation about what is happening in

Kashmir. Human rights issues are general to all the countries. There are certain situations in which human rights issues are raised. We respect human rights as much as any other country, any other Government and any other people. But how does it lie in the mouth of Pakistan to raise this issue and, that too, in Kashmir where Pakistan has no *locus standi* except as an aggressor? This beats everybody's thought. There is obviously some obfuscation going on, some confusion being created because the question has become a little odd in the sense that the basic realities, the basic facts about Kashmir have been sidelined and these other matters have taken the centre-stage. It is time that we in Parliament, discuss the matter; debate the matter right from the beginning; right from the day on which the tribals were sent into Kashmir to browbeat the king and to create a particular situation and they were stopped just at the nick of the moment. Some of us remember that moment; some of us had read about it, some of us could imagine very vividly what was happening on that particular day. But younger generation had lost this particular focus and it is time that we educated the people of India by way of a debate in Parliament or by other means. This is absolutely necessary because the people are thinking that Kashmir is a matter of dispute between India and Pakistan. It is not a matter of dispute between India and Pakistan. By no stretch of imagination or by no distortion of facts could it be seen as a dispute between India and Pakistan. I think it is time that we did that. I would very much like a detailed debate on this.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: (Andhra Pradesh) Madam, we all welcome

his comments on Pakistan. But should not the Prime Minister comment on the awkward way in which the United States has been confusing the status of Pakistan with the human rights question?

AN HON. MEMBER: Have patience.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jaipal Reddy, when the Prime Minister is speaking, courtesy demands that you listen to him.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Both are from Andhra Pradesh.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Maybe. They are both from India. He is speaking. Let him finish his speech because it is not proper to break the trend of thought of a speaker.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: What about the five militants who were released when the then Home Minister's daughter was kidnapped?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Madam, we do not have to comment on everything that happens. A statement comes today and an explanation comes tomorrow. Which are we going to comment on? So, let us wait until it is possible for the whole world to understand the case. That is what I am saying. Basically, the main case has been forgotten. The case has been obfuscated. Something has come over the main case. And this peripheral matter or matters are really taking the centre stage. This is what we should unravel. Once it is unravelled, it will be possible for everyone to understand and probably the problem will be put in its right perspective. This is what I am expecting and I am sure this is going to happen. Many of the people today do not understand the case of Kashmir as it really is.

Madam, the measures that have been taken in Kashmir in recent weeks have been, perhaps, detailed by the Home Minister whose statement the other day was quite clear.

And many Members of Parliament told me that it was a timely statement, it was a statement which was made at the moment it should have been made. So, I would not like to add anything to that. All I can say is that there has been an improvement in the co-ordination of our actions. We are proceeding to a point where the involvement of the people of Kashmir in the matters of administration will become possible. We have been thinking of several alternatives in that respect. I have discussed with leaders of the Opposition and got their views. I think, we will find a useful way of involving the people until such time as the Constitutional and legal, democratic setup is installed there. But before that—I have said it several times; some friends have said, 'Why are you talking about this all the time? I am not talking about this alone all the time—what I am saying is, before we are able to do that, the terrorist activities should be put down, and the conditions should be created for installing that set-up in Kashmir. We have largely succeeded, but we have not completely succeeded. This has to be admitted because there is a never-ending stream of terrorists being sent from Pakistan—trained, armed, funded and what have you. When this happens, it is not really easy to have a process of democracy instituted in the State. So, it will take some time. But as I have said time and again—and we all believe in this, we all subscribe to this—not an inch of the Indian soil should be without democracy. We are committed to democracy everywhere in India; and Kashmir is no exception. If it does not have that set-up today, it must have it and we are determined to have it.

Madam, coming to the demands for creation of new States in the country, I will not go into the rights and wrongs of it. I can only say that we have rights and wrongs of it. I can only say that we have to find solutions for imbalances within a State, within the context of the State.

and not start breaking up once again because that will be an endless process. I think Government is not in favour of carving out new States now. The question of Jharkhand, for example. We are thinking of a Council Legislation has been passed by the State Legislature. We have pointed out that certain things need to be amended and it is at that stage. There has been some hesitation. But that hesitation is only a matter of time before it is removed. Wherever such arrangements are necessary, the arrangements have to be made in the context of, in the framework of, States, whole States; keeping them as whole.

The same thing goes for other demands in other States. I would appeal again to hon. Members and the people in the various States not to come up with these demands because it will embroil the country into something from which we cannot come out. We know what happened at the time of the States reorganisation. We know how many years it took. Finally, so many problems are thrown up in this kind of thing; disintegration, breaking up of States etc. Some cases are even now pending, after thirty or forty years. It is not a good thing to get ourselves diverted into other channels. It is good to have whatever arrangement is feasible, within the context of the State, and implement that scheme.

Now, with some reluctance, we had agreed to the Development Boards, to the constitution of Development Boards, in Maharashtra. You can argue on both sides. But since it is a Constitutional provision, since it has been provided in the Constitution itself, to carry out the Constitutional provision, whatever be the pros, whatever be the cons, ultimately we have to fall in line. That is how these Boards came into being. We have still to see who they work when they are constituted. But to start now another process of

carving out new States would not be in the interest of the country.

Therefore, this is how we would like to tackle all the problems of imbalance, problems of backward pockets in States; problems of ethnic and other minorities asking for their special cultural and other rights to be protected. All these things can be done by certain devices which are available to us in the Constitution itself and we should not really resort to carving out new States. The North-East, Madam, has been on the whole, peaceful, with the exception of Manipur, where we had to impose President's Rule. Before President's Rule was imposed, we tried a long time, considered giving the State Government an opportunity to put things right. We had a number of meetings with them. The Home Minister and others visited the State just to see how things could be put right under the State Government. But finally, we came to the painful conclusion that a short stint of President's Rule was necessary to put things right. This has been perhaps, vindicated in the sense that after President's Rule has been imposed, there has been, comparatively, some improvement and we hope that the improvement will continue. The conflict between two tribes is a very unfortunate thing. The whole of the North-East consists of many, many tribes. If this inter-tribal conflict becomes the order of the day, then the whole area would be plunged into conflict. I think, we should see to it, the Government will see to it, that this is controlled at the earliest. This has been done in Manipur and wherever this occurs, it will have to be done. We just cannot afford this kind of conflict anywhere.

Now I would like to say a few words on the economic policy. As I said, the President has clearly expressed optimism on the economic reforms undertaken two years ago and the way reforms have worked.

We agree with what all he has said and we think that the optimistic prospect of the future is already visible. I have had interaction with other Governments and the business circles, investors and a whole lot of people who are active in the economic field. On a personal note I should say that I have not met so many businessmen at any time in my life before, but we have to deal with them and I have found that they are quite impressed by what India has to offer. They are not impressed just for the sake of formality. The difference between the attitude of these people, these investors two years ago and their attitude today is so clear to me that I am really expecting them to be as good as their word. Some of them have come. They have started taking preliminary steps for investment. All this is going on and during the last one year there has been a perceptible increase in this activity. On one single day we cleared as many as seven huge mega power projects, which is quite an encouraging thing because power is really wanted in this country—badly wanted. The farmers are complaining that they do not get electricity even for a couple of hours during the whole day. This is not really the way of either industrialising the country or improving agriculture. So, the first necessity in the economic field is the generation of power, more power. Now this is becoming possible at last. In addition to what the Planning Commission has decided to have within our own means in the Eighth Five Year Plan, we are now, for the first time, going to have extra power. I am glad to say that because this has not happened before. We were falling short of the targets set by the Planning Commission itself. In the Eighth Five Year Plan it is said that the country needed 48,000 mw, but they said that they could not go beyond 30,000 mw taking into account the available resources. Now, is it really desirable, is it wise on our

part to say, "Okay, go ahead with only 30,000 mw?" Even for the Eighth Plan you are falling short by 18,000 mw. What will happen in the Ninth Plan? And if this 18,000 mw spills over to the Ninth Plan, what happens to the regular things that are going to come in the Ninth Plan? This means, on the whole you will be perpetually falling short of power for the next 20 years, 30 years, 50 years. This is not on. In a country which really wants to industrialise in a big way, this is not on. Therefore, the most important necessity today, the programme today, is the programme of power generation. I am glad to say that after the clearances of these seven projects—and some more in the offing which I know about, but I do not want to describe just now—the position is going to improve. It is not easy to do this because there are lots of divided responsibilities in the generation of power. The State Electricity Boards are there. Everything goes into their hands, and every thing depends on how they deal with what goes into their hands. The investors may come. We may give clearances, but beyond giving clearances we have nothing else to do. There is no role of the Central Government. We are a federal polity, and, therefore, power is squarely in the State List, and the State Electricity Boards will have to manage it. And we all know how the State Electricity Boards are managing it. They may be having their own genuine problems, but the result is that the management leaves much to be desired.

This being the case, we have to tie up a lot of things. They are asking for counter-guarantees from the Centre. Can the Central Government give a counter-guarantee? Is it possible for the Central Government to give a counter-guarantee for all the generation of power in the States which means that your budget will

not be enough? Is it possible? Is it feasible? Then we have to find a way. So, it is quite a complicated matter. We are looking into it. I am hopeful that with some amount of dissatisfaction from the Finance Minister, with some amount of dissatisfaction from the Planning Commission and with some amount of dissatisfaction from the Power Minister, which I will have to keep at the minimum, something has to be really fashioned out so that power generation projects become possible in the country. At the moment as the matter stands, it is extremely difficult, but we will make it possible, and I would like to assure the House that on power generation we will not be found too deficient. Of course, there will be a gestation period of two or three years, but, then, after that we will be more or less able to generate power as it becomes necessary and to the extent it becomes necessary. In this case of generation and use, generation will not be lagging behind. This is what we will have to ensure because this is continuous programme which may go on for the next 10 years, 20 years, we do not know.

On the rural development side, Madam, I have some very good news for the House. It is not realised generally what a real revolution is coming in the rural areas as a result of this programme. From the Seventh Plan to the Eighth Plan there has been a jump of four times from Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 30,000. We have made a calculation. The Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, convinced me that it is possible for us to fulfil the target of Rs. 30,000 crores in the Eighth Plan because, by the third year of the Plan, we have crossed the half way mark, we are at about Rs. 15,000 crores and odd, and in the next two years we have to allocate only about Rs. 300 crores or Rs. 400 crores or Rs. 500 crores more than what we have allocated

this year, in 1994-95, which is not at all difficult. If we do that for the next two years, Rs. 30,000 crores will be fulfilled, and it will be a historic step. Within five years, within one Plan we would have been able to pump in Rs. 30,000 crores for rural development.

Now, I am coming to the Ninth Plan which is not far off. May be, they will have to start the exercise in the next few months. What do you allocate in the Ninth Plan? I would say, it cannot be less than three times Rs. 30,000 crores.

**SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:** (Uttar Pradesh): How much of it will leak?

**SHRI VIREN J. SHAH** (Maharashtra): Are you satisfied with monitoring the implementation?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** If there is something there, it will leak. If there is nothing there, nothing will leak. So, let us have something and start stopping the leak. Just because you are afraid that there will be leak, if you have nothing, then you get nothing. So, that is not the right approach.

**SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:** The point is how much we do to monitor the implementation and to stop leakage.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:** We can go into these matters, but the point is that I am talking of allocations. I am talking of the picture the Indian countryside is going to present. With Rs. 30,000 crores in one Plan and another Rs. 90,000 or 80,000 or 70,000 crores or whatever coming in the next five years which has never been dreamt of in the history of Planning in this country, Rs. 70,000 or Rs. 80,000 crores were only in the power sector, in the irrigation sector, in sectors other than rural development. Now, this is the big change that is in the offing. Why? Because we will be able to find

money from other sources for these mega projects. This is the substitution that is taking place and this is something welcome in this country, because this lopsided development of India, the infrastructure on the one side and the towns, the villages remaining behind, would create endless tension in the country in the coming years unless we are able to plug this. This is how the balancing is being done. I find that the prospect for the Ninth Plan and the subsequent Plans is extremely good.

Now, we have also taken a decision about 6 per cent of GDP for education. It has been my experience that the best thing for a Government today is to commit itself first. Once you commit the Government, things will happen. Before commitment, if you really start examining and re-examining, you will never be able to come to the point where you make a commitment. That is what happens. It happens in the case of rural development and it happens in the case of education. The announcement was made in that Conference of nine countries with the largest illiteracy, the largest population. We had this Conference during last November of December. In that Conference, after some consultations I said we would be able to reach 6 percent by the end of the century. We are now at 3.7. I do not know whether it is only the Central sector or Centre and States combined, but even if it is 3.7, it should be possible to reach about 4.75 or 5 per cent in the Ninth Plan. When you go to the Tenth Plan, there will be a jump up to 6 per cent. This again is going to be a revolution, because much of the benefits of this will go into the countryside. So, we have a picture emerging, where rural India is going to be totally different from what it is today. Of course we have to be wise in how to allocate these resources, how to spend these resources. That is a different matter. That is a question of mechanics. But the allo-

cations and the picture that emerges, are quite hopeful.

We are also on the point of deciding after consultations with the Chief Ministers that we would have an Education Cess. This is nothing new. We used to have Education Cess in British India, during the days of the District Boards, during the days of the old Municipalities. All that has been abolished. In the interregnum a philosophy developed that everything should come from the State Exchequer and no one need pay anything. Well, that also had its day. Today we have to go back to this stage where we have to get all the resources from wherever they are available and in the matter of education we have to make a special effort. So, all these decisions put together give us some hope for the future, for the next century. This is what we are really preparing for to enter the next century. With a large band of educated workers and technicians etc., we will be in the front-rank of developing countries, which have got maximum development already achieved. I do not say we will become a front-ranking developed country. That perhaps would be unrealistic. But what is realistic is that we will be in the front rank of developing countries where the maximum amount of developed has already been achieved. The picture—as regards the investment from outside the Government sources which is otherwise called foreign investment—is quite hopeful although we need much more of it. As I said, the demands being what they are, the needs being what they are we would need to have much more investment coming into the country within the next two or three years, within the next five years. But whatever has come, has come the way we wanted it. The break-up is something like this. Fuel, oil and refineries—the investment is 17.6 per cent, power 15.1 per cent, food processing 11.3 per cent, chemicals 7 per cent, electri-

cal equipment and electronics 9.7 per cent, metallurgical industries 10 per cent, transportation 4 per cent, hotels and tourism 3.5 per cent, industrial and agricultural machinery 2.4 per cent. So, the charge that is levelled against the Government that most of these industries are only for face powders and cosmetics, that, is, consumer industries are not true. I mean this is the percentage. This is the break-up. Not more than 7 per cent goes into the consumer field. These are the figures which I want the hon. Members to know because this charge is being levelled constantly against the Government that we are going in only for the consumer industries, only for cosmetics, only for this, only for that tooth powder, tooth paste and all kinds of things. This is not true. I would like these figures to be made known to the hon. Members. Of course, there is the other question whether the cosmetic industries, for instance, should be confined only to the elite in this country or they should also be made available to the poor people. The prices slash down. This is a philosophical question. This is a question which this Government has to look into now, Parliament has to look into now....

(Interruptions)... I am not raising that question. I am only answering the charge which has been levelled so far. Although this question is quite relevant... (Interruptions)...

Madam, there has been a lot of criticism about inflation. Since the debate on the Budget is coming up, I am sure that the Finance Minister would be able to take care of that. But I share the concern of the House, I share the concern of the common man, I share the concern of all the thinking individuals in this country that we cannot live with this kind of inflation, 8.4 per cent 8.5 per cent. We came down to less than 6 per cent. Now how is it that we are now at 8.4 per cent or 8.7 per cent? Mostly it has been said

that because we raised the issue price of wheat, rice, etc., this has come up. From the point of view of timing also it is true. But we cannot afford not to raise it. This is something which we have to understand it. If you have to pay well, pay a remunerative price to the farmer. We have at some point of time to get this from the consumer. They will have to pay more. How much more is the question. On that there could be a difference of opinion. Should we jack it up to this extent or a little less or a little more? These are matters of judgement. These are matters of assessment. After taking into account all the relevant factors, we have waited, several months we have waited.... and, at the end of several months, we have had to do this. Now, it is not to say that I am absolving myself of the responsibility I am not. The responsibility of the Government will continue to be to see that this rise in prices is somehow absorbed so

in the economy that this rise in prices is somehow absorbed so in the economy that it will not present itself in the shape of inflation and create distress for the poor people in this country. This has to be done. I agree that this has to be done. Since we have not imposed any taxes, since we have left a huge gaping gap of Rs. 6,000 crores unfilled, it means that we have exhibited a certain amount of optimism and faith in the strength of the economy and the recovering power of the economy. This is how it has happened. It was not difficult to put taxes to the extent of Rs. 3,000 crores or Rs. 4,000 crores out of Rs. 6,000 crores. It was very easy. Many of us were tempted to do it. Well, not too many knew about it, fortunately. But there was a temptation. But, ultimately, when we really wanted to test the economy crucially, on a crucial point, we said, "Let us do it. After all everything can be reversed." But we hope we would not have to reverse it. This is how it has happened. Now we have to see that not only the



price-rise is absorbed but inflation is also brought down. How this is going to be done is a matter about which, I am sure, the finance Minister will take hon. Members into confidence when we discuss the Budget. Now, the other important matter which has been referred to time and again—although there is not much life left in it—is the Dunkel Proposals. Madam, it is quite interesting that this has been discussed earlier. Nothing new has happened. It is going to be discussed once again and I am sure it will be discussed everywhere in the country because it seems to have become a kind of issue. Where there is no issue, something is sought to be created. I would like to say categorically that this is not an issue any more. The Dunkel Proposals will not cause any harm either to the farmer or to the other people in the country. We are convinced about it. We will certainly discuss this in the coming week, perhaps. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, you kindly explain to us. Some of us have not been able to understand that. Bland announcements do not take us anywhere. You kindly explain to us. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala): While addressing scientists, the hon. Prime Minister.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have made this statement several times. In Parliament also I have expressed this very clear conviction that the agriculturist, the farmer, is not going to lose anything. In fact, he is going to gain new opportunities for agricultural production. (*Interruptions*). It is okay. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, please. Please sit down, all of you. We are discussing it tomorrow. You can say whatever you like tomorrow, but not now.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I am sorry, the pitch of our voices is not going to determine the result.

You have the discussion. I am saying that after examining all the pros and cons, I have come to the conclusion, the Government has come to the conclusion, that this is so. You can contradict it. You can certainly express your views when the time comes for a debate. But since it has been cursorily referred to in the debate, I am also referring to it in the same manner, not going into all the details, taking only the agriculture aspect because that is something which has been causing some worry to the agriculturists and all kinds of criticism is being levelled which, I think, is not just.

The President's Address clearly stated the increase in the subsidy under the IRDP, which is now Rs. 4,000/- in normal areas; Rs. 5,000/- in drought-prone and desert areas and Rs. 6,000/- for the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe household and physically handicapped. This is a good increase, and I am sure, this will be welcomed by one and all. The JRY allocations also have been increased and, today, in 1994-95, they stand at Rs. 3,855 crores, which is again a hefty sum. One very important programme which we had taken up about two years back was the supply of improved tool kits to the artisans in the village of India. I am glad to report that the latest figure of the outreach of this programme is about 2,30,000 artisans in 166 districts and an independent survey of the result of this supply of kits has been made by an independent body and they have very clearly stated that as a result of the availability of this improved tool kit with the artisans, he is able to earn more and he has, in many cases, given up the idea of going to a town in search of livelihood. This has happened very quietly, without any fuss and without any fanfare and this is a kind of programme that needs to be undertaken and relentlessly followed in the rural areas because the urbanisation which is taking place today, is really causing problems all around and

whatever needs to be done including the Rs. 90,000 crores I was talking about, to be pumped into the villages, this should really prevent the people from going out of the village into the towns just for ordinary work. I mean, it is not intellectual work in which education is needed or great skills are needed. That of course, will always happen. But just for the sake of making both ends meet, if the village people leave their hearths and homes and start living in slums in towns, in big cities like Bombay etc., then this country will have a very great difficulty even in the urban areas, in managing its urban areas. We know the wherever there is a big hospital like in Delhi, a lot of people come to that hospital from rural areas. If you take the statistics of patients in any big hospital in Delhi, at least 40 per cent of the patients come from rural areas from 100 miles, 200 miles or 300 miles, because there is a big hospital here. That is why in Delhi, I remember, there was a plan of having satellite hospitals, seven or eight of them in Delhi itself. I am sure that programme is going on. This is the kind of decentralisation of very sophisticated facilities to be made. I am glad that in the basic medical facilities, this is being done. Some very good hospitals are coming up in the rural areas. In the next five to ten years, if this multiplies, then the pressure on urban hospitals will certainly reduce and in addition, if livelihood is available, if the source of income is available in the rural areas, that is the only thing we can do to create conditions of balance and also stop urbanisation which is taking place in a ruinous way at the moment and if we do not stop it, then it get out of hand.

Madam, the Government had introduced three schemes on the 2nd of October, 1993, one exclusively for women, one exclusively for the rural areas and one for the urban youth—not very educated but moderately educated youth—who are in a very large number. I am glad to say that

all the three programmes have now picked up and they are now going on as the President has informed the Parliament. There is a Special Cell looking into this in the Prime Minister's Office and they are actively pursuing these programmes and the programmes have as I have said, picked up.

Now, the allocation which was in 1993-94 Rs. 600 crores has been doubled in 1994-95 and now it is Rs. 1,200 crores for the programme of Employment Assurance Scheme in the RPDS blocks. There are 1,572 blocks where for a hundred days in a year, which is supposed to be the lean season, during that season, work will be made available to those who are prepared to work.

On the programme of Mahila Samridhi Yojana, I am glad to say that, including Jammu and Kashmir, the women have responded very well indeed. Now the present figure is about 5 lakh accounts opened and more than Rs. 6 crores deposited. This would not have been even imaginable in normal times that the women from small villages would come forward and deposit this amount. Of course, they have to do much more; Rs. 6 crores is a very small sum; may be, it should be 600 or 1,200 whatever.

But then, by and by, we will be able to reach a stage where the women of this country whose empowerment is one of the duties of the Government, cast on the Government, will be able to think of saving for themselves and keeping the money under their own control, under their own dispensation, and this is the first step in the process of empowerment. It is not so much earn-money or give-money; although both things happen, that is not the main purpose. The main purpose is to create self-confidence in the women of the country. Now this programme also has been progressing very well.

I may also inform the House that the Backward Classes Financial

Corporation has done a very good job. Authorised share capital, as the hon. Members know, is Rs. 200 crores. It has been set up and it has assisted, so far, 80,768 persons; that is it has taken off and the people are taking advantage of it. In the coming months and years, I think, it will be able to help even a much larger number of persons. I can only say.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JIBON ROY: (West Bengal): I would like to know whether the Government of India will do anything regarding land reforms.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: This is not a Question Hour.

श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम, मैं नेशनल मायनोरिटी फायनेंस एंड डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन के बारे में पूछना चाहता हूँ। आपने एग्रीअन्स किया है और वायदा किया है, क्या उस पर भी आप कुछ रोकथाम डालेंगे?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The National Minorities Finance and Development Corporation is going to be set up shortly. I may tell you why it has taken even this time.

आपको पता है कि मायनोरिटीज के हिस्सा में हम दम्तूरी तौर पर कोई चीज अलग नहीं बना सकने हमारा अडान, हमारा दम्तूर इस बात की इजाजत नहीं देता है। तो उसके लिये कोई न कोई एक तरीका हमें निकालना पड़ा। जहम कामयाब हुये हैं उस तरीके को निकालने में और मैं समझना हूँ कि उसके हिस्सा में सबसे ज्यादा फायदा इस कॉर्पोरेशन में मायनोरिटीज को मिल सकता है। इस बात का यकीन हम दिला सकते हैं, लेकिन उसकी जो माख है, उसका जो स्ट्रक्चर है... (व्यवधान)

कमारी रोज खाण्डे: आपको क्या सिम्पैथी हो सकती है? बी० जे० पी० को क्या सिम्पैथी हो सकती है?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Let me explain this:

उसकी माख, उसकी नोड्यन, उसका स्ट्रक्चर कुछ थोड़ा अलडदा होगा। वह कोई मामूली हमारे जो दूसरे कॉर्पोरेशन

हैं उस तरह से नहीं हो सकता है, इसलिये उसमें जरा देर लगी है और मुझे यकीन है कि यह चीज होगी।  
(व्यवधान)

SHRI K. R. MALKANI: You are communalising the economy... (Interruption). You are communalising everything.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: The new Wakf Act is before Parliament. I am not aware as to when it is going to be passed but it is the property of the House.

Madam, one very important decision that has been taken is that in the next five years, we would move towards abolishing child labour in industries like carpets and also hazardous industries. Now, in fact, this has been one of the very important points of action. But, as Members know, the Indian Constitution has not banned child labour in those terms. Some of the hazardous industries at the moment, are employing child labour which, I think, is against the spirit of the Constitution. That needs to be stopped. Now this is being gone into in great detail and I do hope that it will be possible for us to take these boys and girls out of these hazardous industries and put them to school. All these will depend on the general economic condition because we cannot ban anything under the Constitution, but at the same time, we have to create conditions where this is not taken advantage of. Alternatives are being provided and children will be taken out of these hazardous industries and put to school. It is a massive programme all over the country because we know that in several industries, only children are being put and not adults at all because there is an advantage, as they say that their tender fingers and hands are much better suited to do those things rather than adults. Whatever that may be, we will not allow this to happen and we should not allow this to happen. We will take steps in that direction... (Interruptions)

**SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJARAL:**  
Madam, I would like to submit one thing. Mr. Prime Minister while I have sympathy for what you are doing, kindly keep in mind the type of propaganda that is being made against us as nation. Secondly, it is not only hazardous industries that matter but the exploitation of children almost as a bonded labour in the various industries has to be looked into in detail.

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:**  
Well I take that. I have just placed before the House the position as it is. We have to make a special effort in this direction. Yes, we are getting a bad name as a result of this on the scores of human rights. We will have to attempt to do all these things at the earliest and we will do it with the consultation of the people who are interested and with the consultation of the Members who would like to give their opinions. There is no party matter in this. We can all come together to make this possible.

Madam, I come to one or two matters on external affairs. First is India China relations. Hon. Members know as to how much progress has been made in improving these relations on all fronts. And the latest in these is the implementation of the agreement on maintaining peace and tranquility on the boundary. This agreement was signed when I visited China last year and action is being initiated on this. The first preference and the first priority is to see to it that in areas where there is a total eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation, this confrontation is lessened. It is not easy because certain things have happened and you just cannot measure by a tape and say, "You go here and I will go there." It is not that simple. It has taken some time. This is the priority action that needs to be taken. I see the contours of the agreement on this also and I would like to share my optimism with the House that in this we will have a

breakthrough. That is the latest on the agreement and the Joint Working Group meetings are also taking place. But on that, of course, I will report or the External Affairs Minister will report in the debate in the Houses. But this is the latest and I would like the House to know about it.

There have been some comments about the statements coming from the United States. I have just said that the way one has to respond to these things has to be rather calibrated because you have to read many things in those statements and behind those statements. When explanations come the next day, one has to take both together. In any case, we are not in the habit of kneejerk reactions. We would avoid those things. What the President has said, Rashtrapati Ji has said, in his Address is very meaningful and I would like the hon. Members to see how, in a very dignified manner, he has put the problem. He says: "We look forward to working with the United States towards mutual understanding including on those issues on which such understanding needs enhancement." Now this is a very, very balanced and realistic statement. It says that understanding is needed on certain matters. It says that understanding is lacking in certain matters. It is for us to take his command and see what we can do to bring about this understanding. That is all I can say. In any case, my Home Minister has made a statement. Another point which has been made is about the Indian fisherman who have been fired upon by the Sri Lankan Navy and the Members are rightly very agitated about it. I would like to tell them that I share their concern and we have taken up this matter strongly with the Sri Lankan Government with a view to formulating effective measures to prevent such incidents of Sri Lankan firing on our fishermen. We have sent a team of officials who are right now in Sri Lanka. They have gone to solve

these matters and I hope these things will not recur.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, what about the extradition of Mr. Prabhakaran?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The issue of Kachchathivu Islands may also be taken up along with the Tamil Nadu fishermen.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: This is an issue which is the outcome of an agreement. Now we have to go into it and if there is anything which is disadvantageous to us, we will have to examine it in greater detail. It is not possible to give an abstract reply on this. You know it is part of the agreement. So, let us discuss it. May be, I will have a meeting of the Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu who are more knowledgeable about the issue. If it is working to our disadvantage, well, I will consider.

Madam, these are the main issues which are cast upon. So far as the other local issues are concerned, as I said, we will be sending replies to the hon. Members.

Thank you.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त) : सदर साहिबा, बीच में मداخلत करना मैंने मुतासिब नहीं समझा, लेकिन दो बातें प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब की खिदमत में आपके जरिये से रखना चाहता हूँ।

एक तो काश्मीर का जिक्र करते हुये आखीर में फिर अमरीका के सिलसिले में आपने जो बयान बताया वह निहायत ही खबसूरत लफ्जों में लिपटा हुआ बयान था लेकिन वह हमारे जज्बातों को नुमा-इंदगी बिल्कुल नहीं करता है। आप का जहां पाकिस्तान का जिक्र था वहां हम इस जिक्र को भी सुनना चाहते हैं कि जिस तरह के बयानात काश्मीर के संबंध में हिन्दुस्तान के खिलाफ आए हैं, वह हमने होम मिनिस्टर साहब का बयान सुना, आपकी ज़बान से भी सुनना चाहते

हैं। वह साहबजादी राबिन राकी और खुद प्रेजीडेंट क्लटन का बहुत ही इंटेंपरेट बयान था, उसके मुतालिक कुछ फरमाये।

दूसरी बात आपने डंकल के सवाल पर बहुत ही सरसरी, एक चलती हुई सी बात कही है, हमारी दरखास्त यह है कि वह आपका फसला है, फैसेले तक पहुँचने की दलायल क्या है, वह भी बताये मेहरबानी करके।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): On the International Women's Day today, Madam, I request the Prime Minister to give us some assurance on crimes against women. He talked about the Samruddhi Yojana. But issues relating to women are really assuming tremendous dimensions. The Prime Minister may tell us something about the crimes against women.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA (Bihar): Madam, I also demand that the Prime Minister should make a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Crime is a crime. Crimes against women are the subject matter of...

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE (Maharashtra): Specially of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: ...Special legislation. The Parliament of India has passed many laws. If the hon. Members feel that the implementation of those laws leave much to be desired, they are welcome to tell me what exactly is not working—Is the law defective? Is the implementation defective? Is the rule-making that has been done under the law defective? If they could tell me—of course, we will have our own reports—we will get the matter examined since it has been raised. But it will be helpful if the hon. lady Members of Parliament who have much more insight into these matters could enlighten us. (Interruptions)

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त : सदर साहिब,  
मानरेबल मेंबर, जयन्ती नटराजन के  
बुधवार होने में मुझे कोई इन्कार नहीं है  
... (अवधान)

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala): Madam... (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Please sit down. I will permit you.

Mr. Prime Minister, you have said about specific examples. Today, there was a mention in the House that there are atrocities against women. Specially one woman was mentioned today. And the law-enforcing authorities do not even take notice of it. This is most important which we would like you to take note of.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Yes, Madam, I immediately take note of what you have been pleased to say. It is a fact that in the implementation of several laws in this country, the law-enforcing authorities really do not take notice as a matter of duty. They drag their feet. It happens. But since you have mentioned it in relation to these laws, we will see how to tighten the immediate responses of the law-enforcing authorities. And if there is anything further to be done—obviously, something needs to be done since it has been raised by you—what exactly needs to be done, we will go into it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Madam, the Prime Minister was kind enough to explain the position in regard to power sector. I will seek one clarification. Though the new policy in the power sector Mr. Prime Minister, will increase power generation, the cost of power will increase by three times at the minimum, and the infrastructure which you have built up will go down, and the price structure will go against the cause of industries and agriculture it will have a disastrous effect on our economy.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We cannot have any more discussion.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: I want the Prime Minister's reaction. Or, there should be a full discussion on the power question.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We can have a full discussion.

I shall now put the Amendment which have been moved to vote. Amendments Nos. 59 to 100 by Shri Triloki Nath Chaturvedi. Mr. Chaturvedi, are you pressing your amendments or are you withdrawing your amendments?

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): I press my amendments regarding the Dunkel proposals and the price situation.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: which number?

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: I withdraw all other amendments moved by me, Nos. 59 to 100 except amendments No. 89 and 92.

Amendments Nos. 59 to 88, 90, 91 and 93 to 100 were, by leave, withdrawn.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I now put amendments No. 89 and No. 92 to vote.

Amendments Nos. 89 and 92 were negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, amendments Nos. 129 to 131 by Shri Sangh Priya Gautam. Are you pressing?

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: I withdrew amendments Nos. 129 and 130, and press for amendment No. 131.

Amendments Nos. 129 and 130 were by leave, withdrawn.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 131 to vote.

Amendment No. 131 was negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN Now, we take up amendments Nos. 132 to 137 by Shri Krishan Lal Sharma.

I put amendments Nos. 132 to 137 to vote.

Amendments Nos. 132 to 137 were negatived.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN. Now, we take up amendments Nos. 276 to 280 by Shri Ish Dutt Yadav.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : मैंने पांच संशोधन प्रस्तुत किये हैं 276 से 280 तक। इसमें से चार संशोधन 279 को छोड़कर सब वापस लेता हूँ। इस संशोधन में डंकल के बारे में है और डंकल के बारे में प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो कहा है कि इससे किसानों का अहित नहीं होगा इससे मैं संतुष्ट नहीं हूँ। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है, जो मेरे अध्ययन के अनुसार मेरी जानकारी है उससे किसानों का बड़ा अहित होगा। इसलिये मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से स्पष्ट रूप से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें क्या व्यवस्था है जिससे किसानों का अहित नहीं होगा। अगर प्रधान मंत्री जी संतुष्ट कर दें तो मैं इसको भी वापस ले सकता हूँ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: To-morrow, we have a fullfledged discussion in the House.

अभी प्रधान मंत्री जी बोल चुके हैं। वे बोलना चाहें तो ठीक है।

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Madam, in general, I just want to say that the recommendations also contain a provision that certain provisions will apply unless there is a national law, a national legislation, to the contrary. Wherever we find that any of the provisions, *ipso facto*, is against our interests, it is open to move a national legislation in this Parliament and see that the effect of the provision is not there

on India. That is how it is. I am not talking of one area or the other. This is a provision which is there.

श्री ईश दत्त यादव : प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो आश्वासन दिया है, इस पर मैं विश्वास करके अपना संशोधन वापस लेता हूँ।

(Amendment Nos., 276 to 280, were, by leave, withdrawn.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Amendments Nos., 281 to 287, moved by Shrimati Chandra Kala Pandey.

श्रीमती चंद्रकला पांडेय (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : मैं अपने संशोधनों में से केवल 283 पर स्ट्रेस देती हूँ। इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं है कि मंहगाई बढ़ती जा रही है। अपने अन्य प्रस्तावों को मैं वापस लेती हूँ।

(Amendment Nos. 281, 282 and 284 to 287, were, by leave, withdrawn.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No., 283, moved by Shrimati Chandra Kala Pandey, to vote.

The question is:

That at the end of the Motion, the following be added, namely:—

"but regret that the Address does not mention the price rise of essential commodities which has made common people's life a hell."

*The House divided*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Ayes .. 68

Noes .. 91

Ayes—68

Agarwalla, Shri Parmeshwar Kumar

Amin Shri Mohammed

ANIL KUMAR, SHRI (Bihar):

## B

Baby, Shri M. A.  
 Bakht, Shri Sikander  
 Balanandan, Shri E.  
 Bhattacharya, Prof. Saurin

## C

Chanpuria, Shri Shivprasad  
 Chaturvedi, Shri Triloki Nath

## D

Dave, Shri Anantray Devshanker  
 Dutta, Dr. B. B.

## G

Ganesan, Shri Misa Rr.  
 Gautam, Shri Sangh Priya  
 Giri Prasad, Shri N.  
 Goswami, Shri Ramnarayan  
 Gujral, Shri Inder Kumar  
 Gupta, Dr. Ishwan Chandra  
 Gupta, Shri Narain Prasad

## K

Khan, Shri Mohd. Masud  
 Kohli, Shri O. P.  
 Maheshwar Singh, Shri

## M

Maheshwari, Shrimati Sarala  
 Majumdar, Shri Tara Charan  
 Malaviya, Shri Satya Prakash  
 Malhotra, Prof. Vojay Kumar  
 Malkani, Shri K. R.  
 Maran, Shri Murasoli  
 Mathur, Shri Jagdish Prasad  
 Md. Salim, Shri  
 Mehta, Shri Chimanbhai  
 Menon, Prof. M. G. K.  
 Mitra, Shri Ashok  
 Mohammed Afzal *alias* Meem Afzal,  
 Shri  
 Mohanty, Shri Sarada

## P

Padmanbham, Shri Mentay  
 Pandey, Shrimati Chandra Kala  
 Paswan, Shri Brhamadeo Anand  
 Paswan, Shri Kameshwar  
 Pillai, Shri Ramachandran

## R

Rahman, Shri Mohd. Khaleelur  
 Rai, Shri Ratna Bahadur  
 Rajagopal, Shri O.  
 Raju, Shri J. S.  
 Ram Ratan Ram, Shri  
 Rao, Shri V. Hanumantha  
 Reddy, Shri Jaipal  
 Roy, Shri Jibon

Samantaray, Shri Pravat Kumar  
 Saqhy, Shri T. A. Mohammed  
 Sarang, Shri Kailash Narain  
 Sen, Shri Ashis  
 Shah, Shri Viren J.  
 Shastri, Shri Vishnu Kant  
 Singh, Shri Digvijay  
 Singh, Shri Jagannath  
 Singh, Dr. Naunihal  
 Singh, Shri Shiv Charan  
 Sinha, Shrimati Kamla  
 Sivaji, Dr. Yelamanchili  
 Solanki, Shri Gopalsinh, G.  
 Som Pal, Shri

Trivedi, Shri Dineshbhan

Upendra, Shri P.

Veerappan, Shri K. K.  
 Venkatraman, Shri Tindivanam G.  
 Viduthali Virumbi Shri S.

Yadav, Shri Ish Dutt  
 Yadav, Shri Ranjan Prasad



NOES—91

## A

Abrar Ahmed, Dr.  
 Ahluwalia, Shri S. S.  
 Alva, Shrimati Margaret  
 Antony, Shri A. K.

## B

Bali, Shrimati Vyjayantimala  
 Bhandare, Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant  
 Bhardwaj, Shri Hansraj  
 Bhatia, Shri Madan  
 Birla, Shri Krishna Kumar

## C

Chaturvedi, Shri Bhuvnesh  
 Chavan, Shri S. B.  
 Chowdhry Hari Singh

## D

Dard, Shri Jagir Singh

## F

Faguni Ram, Dr.  
 Fotedar, Shri Makhan Lal

## H

Hariprasad, Shri B. K.  
 Hashim, Shri M. M.  
 Hashmi, Shri Shamim

## I

Iqbal Singh, Shri

## J

Jacob, Shri M. M.  
 Jadhav, Shri Vithalrao Madhavrao

Jichkar, Dr. Shrikant Ramachandra

## K

Kailishpati, Shrimati  
 Kalita, Shri Bhubaneswar  
 Kalyan, Shri Mohindar Singh  
 Kataria, Shri Virendra  
 Khaparde, Miss Saroj  
 Kore, Shri Prabhakar B.  
 Korwar, Shri Gundappa  
 Krishnan, Shri G. Y.

## L

Lenka, Shri Kanhu Charan

## M

Majumdar, Shri Sudhir Rajan  
 Malaviya, Shri Radhakishan  
 Manmohan Singh Shri  
 Matang Sinh, Shri  
 Mathur, Shri Manmohan  
 Meena, Shri Moolchand  
 Mishra, Shri Shiv Pratap  
 Mohammad Yunus, Shri

## N

Natarajan, Shrimati Jayanthi

## P

Pachouri, Shri Suresh  
 Padmanabham, Shri Mentay  
 Patel, Shri Ahmed Mohmedbhai  
 Patel, Shri Urmilaben  
 Patel, Shri Vithalbhai M.  
 Pragada Kotaish, Shri

R

Rafique Alam, Shri

Rao, Shri V. Hanumantha

Rao, Shri V. Rajeshwar

Ratan Kumari, Shrimati

Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh

Reddy, Shri G. Prathapa

S

Sahu, Shri Rajni Ranjan

Salve, Shri N.K.P.

Sanadi, Prof. I.G.

Sarma, Shrimati Basanti

Sen, Shri Ashis

Shinde, Shri Sushilkumar  
Sambhajirao

Singh, Shri Dinesh

Singh, Shri K.N.

Singla, Shri Surinder Kumar

Solanki, Shri Madhavsinh

T

Thakur, Shri Rameshwar

V

Verma, Shrimati Veena

Y

Yadav, Shri Ram Naresh

Yadava, Shri Ranjan Prasad

Yonggam, Shri Nyodek

The Motion was negatived

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now there are amendment Nos. 288 to 291 by Shri S. Madhavan. ... (*Interruption*)

SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Madam, I withdraw my amendments.

The amendment Nos. 288 to 291 were, by leave, withdrawn.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Motion to vote. The question is:

That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of the Rajya Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 21st February, 1994."

The motion was adopted.

#### PLANE ACCIDENT AT INDIRA GANDHI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are very sorry that there was a collision of planes at the Airport. An Aeroflot plane totally caught fire today in Delhi. A Sahara aircraft collided with an Aeroflot plane while landing at the Indira Gandhi Airport this afternoon. The casualties are not known. This has not been mentioned. The police said that the Aeroflot plane turned into a huge ball of fire as it ignited. The fire was still raging. This is according to the UNI. The reporting time is 15.47. So, we do not know the details.

Now we have an Half-an-Hour Discussion.