

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

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; We have the time up to 1.30 p.m. The name of Mr. Upendra is there, Mr. Saurin Bhattacharya's name is there. Mr. Gautam has got 6 minutes. If he wants to withdraw, I will be very happy.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
6 मिनट तो मेरी पार्टी के हैं और 10
मिनट मेरे हैं ।

उपसभापति : मेरे खीसे से कुछ नहीं
जा रहा है ।

We have to complete by 1.30 p.m.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, while the President's Address is full of statistics on a variety of achievements of the Government, there are two points which are conspicuous for their absence and since no other speaker has seriously mentioned about them, I think it is my duty here to bring them into focus. First is the question of defence preparedness which has received very peripheral and scant attention in the Presidential Address. The facts which ought to be known to the country are not presented by the President in his Address. In particular, the allocation for defence this year is going to be a mere 2.9 per cent of the GDP. It is the lowest and below the level that prevailed in 1961-62 when we were caught unawares on the question of defence preparedness and we had to face a traumatic war with China at that time. Our neighbour Pakistan is spending 7 per cent of GDP even today and China is spending 24 billion dollars on its defence. We are spending only 6 billion dollars. This lack of preparedness on defence is something which needs to be corrected. And I would disagree with the Finance Minister when he says that he

has made a great contribution by increasing the defence budget by Rs. 4000 crores. Actually all the increase in the budget has gone in the revenue account. There is hardly anything that has been put in the capital account. The capital account is the one by which you make the purchases of equipment, and clearly the revenue account is for expenditure on stores, salaries and so on that may be necessary, but that is not adequate.

In my opinion, the country at this particular time requires a defence expenditure which should be at least 5 per cent, perhaps 6 per cent. The resources for it can be raised. That is not the real, difficult issue. If there is a will, there is a way. If the Finance Minister does not know how to do it or the Government does not know how to do it. I would be happy to show them the ways to raise this money for defence without putting additional taxation.

Economic liberalisation should not be taken to mean lowering our guard. I regret to say that some officials of the Finance Ministry seem to think that the External Affairs Ministry and the Defence Ministry should make suitable concessions so that the IMF and the World Bank are suitably impressed to give them more loans. In my opinion, the danger we face today is at the highest level. Never in the history have we faced such a serious danger, particularly in internal subversion organised by Pakistan. Therefore, we have to seriously consider this question, how to meet the Pakistani threat. This is something which the country has to debate, discuss and take steps. In my opinion, it will not be possible unless we are in a position to give a reply. I am not saying that a reply should be given, but we must have the capacity to demonstrate to Pakistan that, if necessary we can go to war with it and that, if necessary we can break that country into

four, the way last time we broke it into two. This capacity has to be demonstrated. Otherwise, with impunity, the ISI, through all the terrorist groups within the country, will not let us function. It is only a question of a little time. Today we are facing a very serious situation in Kashmir. If you compare it with the situation in 1989-90, you can see how much change has taken place. I would say that there are many parts of India, particularly Tamil Nadu which are on the verge of a similar kind of insurgency unless we take steps. So, this is the first point I want to make.

The second and the last point I would like to make is that a counter-terrorist strategy which the Government should devise, has not been devised at all. The Government has no counter-terrorist strategy. What are we going to do with the various terrorist activities sprouting all over the country? What is the root cause? How to meet it? In fact., the Government seems to be totally paralytic about this.

The tall leader of the country, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, who was also the leader of today's ruling party, was assassinated on specific orders, self-confessed orders of the leader of the LTTE_ Prabhakaran who is only 35 km. from the Indian shore. Not a single step has been taken to bring him here for trial even though he is accused No. 1 in the trial that is going on in Tamil Nadu. I have received a letter from the Foreign Secretary. Mr. Srinivasan, who says that we have not taken up this matter with the Sri Lankan Government because the Government has not taken a view on what to do about Mr. Prabhakaran. This is a shameful admission.

You may remember that I had given notice of breach of privilege against, the Home Minister in the last session when the Home Minister

had first said that we had taken up the matter but Sri Lankan Government had denied that efforts had been made by the Indian Government. So, why is the Congress Party so reluctant to catch the principal assassin of Rajiv Gandhi I do not understand the difficulty. In fact, some evidences which are coming out, shock us. I have with me the evidence of the intercepts made of the messages between Sivarasan who masterminded the assassination in India, Prabhakaran and Pottu- Amman, the LTTE Intelligence Chief. The wireless intercepts were made by our military intelligence. This was made available in March, 1991 to the Intelligence Bureau, but the Intelligence Bureau failed to decode it. Today I have a decoded version of it which clearly shows that they had planned to assassinate Rajiv Gandhi in May 1991, and that information was available in March, 1991. Even though I was a Minister and very often at the then Prime Minister's request I was dealing with the Indian intelligence service matters this was never brought to our notice. It was not brought to this Government's notice either for a very long time till I raised this matter.

So, I would like to know what the Government is going to do to catch the main assassin of Rajiv Gandhi. It is now going to be almost three years, but not a single step has been taken, as per the confession of the Foreign Secretary. I would like to know whether you have something to hide and whether you do not want him to come here. Then, please tell us about it so that we would know exactly what your position is and we can take necessary steps accordingly.

Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:
Mr. Upendra. Mr. Upendra, let me be very honest with you.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh) :,
Yes, I will take ten minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN;
No. You do not have ten minutes. We have to go till 1.30. So you will have, to curtail your time.

SHRI P. UPENDRA; I cannot speak for less than ten minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN;
Prof. Bhattacharya has also to speak.

SHRI P. UPENDRA; That is not feasible. Better I do not speak then.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN;
it is not in my hands.

SHRI P. UPENDRA; So, I withdraw my name. Let him speak for ten minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN;
Mr. Upendra, you can request Mr. Saheo whose Resolution is coming up at 1.30. If he gives you five minutes, I have no problem. It is not in my hands, because my time is Private Members' time. You can understand that.

SHRI P. UPENDRA; I withdraw my name then.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN;
Why do you withdraw? You speak.

SHRI P. UPENDRA; Let him speak properly instead of my speaking for five minutes.

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal); I do not know how it was decided that the remaining two besides the one from the BJP, would be allowed to speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; Nobody will be allowed to speak. You please speak. Do not waste time on that.

PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA; In my fairly long period in the House, I have not seen such an insipid statement, such a listless statement to be going in the name of the President. It is a dishonour to me who will honour the motion where no worthwhile issue has been

discussed in the speech of the President. I was flabbergasted to note and after the demolition of the Babari Mosque, they have come out that nothing serious has happened.

What historical account can it be said? The widespread riots that spread have been glossed over with this verbiage which is to the credit of this Government. Such things should not be done. It is not something which is to be tried. The speech of the President does not make any reference to what his counterpart in the United States of America has been doing with India's prestige and India's cause. His

Ministers including the Prime Minister are acting in a manner, which is strengthening the position of the Clinton Administration, I had an occasion to make a special mention

Here that the Prime Minister of the country requested Mr. Clinton after his statement to make Pakistan speak with us. This was clearly internationalising Kashmir and inviting a third party to the Kashmir dispute, which has repeatedly said is against the policy of India. How does Mr. Clinton or that lady Robin Raphel, come into this matter? What was it that made the President or his Government keep a complete silence over this US infringement of India's

internal policies, as we claim Kashmir to be so? But that is not all. Ma-dam, I have here a reply to a question put by me to the Finance Minister. He made a statement. The Finance Minister while making light of the irritants to India by the US President said that as a super-power, the US imposed its will on other countries. Then he belittled his own country. Perhaps that is part of the jibberish or reforms. He belittled the country by holding that we are a small element in the calculations of the United States of America. As a humanity it is ridiculous. But when dealing with the Opposition within the country, they have no humanity. When dealing with the opposition from the super-powers, there is all the humanity. This is the situation

which really harms the cause of the country, the prestige of the country and the honour of the country. It is such a Government in the hands of which the unity, honour and prestige of the country are not safe. It has been evinced repeatedly by this Government. Even yesterday the Prime Minister said, "We cannot run after Pakistan." At the same time, this implies that we cannot run after the U.S.A. This is an approach which should have been set at rest by the speech of the President. But the contrary has been done to mention these aspects in the President's speech. So, there are many other aspects which deal with it. The Address also provides us a rosy picture regarding the economy of the country. It has now been admitted on all hands that the picture is not as rosy as the speech of the President portrayed or as the Budget portrayed. So, what is very clear? The country's interests are being bartered really for nothing, not for the development of the country. This is the situation which we are bogged down in. If the President's Address had portrayed this situation, then, they would have done a real service to the country. Thank you.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: Thank you, Madam Deputy Chairman. Madam, this Address which is a policy document of the Government has many glaring omissions. First of all, I would like to point out the absence of any reference to the electoral reforms; and the document which the Chief Election Commission had sent to the Prime Minister as far back as 10th February, 1992. In the absence of the Government's response to the suggestions of the Chief Election Commissioner, now he is issuing orders day by day and piecemeal orders in regard to the electoral reforms which will not add to the credit of the Government. The Government should immediately call a meeting of the political parties and also discuss with the Chief Election Commissioner

about the changes suggested and comprehensive electoral reforms should be brought through a legislative process.

The second omission is in regard to the corruption at many places. There is no mention about the expected papers relating to the Bofors scandal. What is the Government doing in that respect to expedite the enquiry? There were many other scandals also. One of them is about the advanced jet trainer and also the procurement of the electric locomotives by the Railways which was criticised. There was a lot of things written about that.

There was a Lokpal Bill which was withdrawn by the Government. I do not know the fate of this Bill. But the time has come now for the Government to consult all the political parties and bring forward a Lokpal Bill so that all these complaints of corruption at various places particularly at the highest places can be looked into.

Madam, there is a reference to the Kashmir problem also and also the so-called steps being taken by the Government. But there is no mention about the political process which has to be initiated in Kashmir. The human rights issue in Kashmir is being highlighted in every international forum. I do not know what will happen today in Geneva. But India is being shown in a bad light. In this respect I particularly welcome the Government's decision to allow the international organisations like the Amnesty International and also taking the Ambassadors of certain countries to Kashmir so that India's position is clear. They can also understand the terrorist activities there and the support Pakistan is giving to these terrorist organisations.

It also doesn't mention about the plight of the Kashmiri pandits who

are languishing in caraps in Delhi, Jammu and other places and who want to go back. But there is no mention about that. The Government is not able to assure them protection.

Then the Ameilican attitude parti cularly in regard to Kashmir. Several statements have been issued by the Clinton administration whicli are objectionable. And, I am particularly happy that the Home Minister Jias given, in categorical terms, the stand of the Government on this issue. They should have gone a little far. (her and "varned the American Adnistration about the interference in our internal affairs. In this connec- ri'on. I would like to mention the ineffective diplomatic effort in Washington. I feel some more effective diploimatic activity is necessary in Washington which is lacking now.

We make political appoit), ments in the case of ambassadors. Sometimes they prove to be misfits. And the time has come to review some of these appointments.

The Address mentions the law and order situation in the country. Of course, it lis true that Punjab has turned the corner. There is peace in Punjab. But, what about the politi- cal process political solution? The Punjab problem might have been solved temporarily. Unless we take-up the political issues also, the problem is likely to revert. As regards Assam, though ther is improvement, there are allegations that innocent people are being killed by the army and these are to be inquired into thoroughly and no bad name about to the army should come.

Similarly, in the north-east, there is a feeling of alienation because the people do not have a lot of facilities whlich are required ther. Particular ly, they are lacking in transport facilities, etc. and the people feel so rabout it. That has to be attended to. Similarly, in the south also, the Naxalite activity in Andhra Pra. desh and elsewhere is acute and se-

veral kidnapping and murders are still taking place. There are communal tensions and caste tensions in various parts of the country and there lis no reference to that and how the Government would like to tackle these problems. Several times in the House, We have raised the question of atrocities on women and the weaker sections, etc. The Address conveniently ; omits any reference to these things.

I have got two more points. Once lis tile question of autonomy to the electronic media which we promised and the Bill was passed as early as in August, 1990 and it also received the assent of the President. But there is no indication when the Government is likely to implement this Bill. And, there is a lot of confu- sion about the new changes which are being lintroduoed. There is a panicky reaction to the so-called satellite invasion and the Government is trying to meet this situation by introducing film-based programmes on our televllsion also. I am shocked to see some of these programmes even on the national chaimel. We find a number of programmes which are a poor imitation of the western programmes being put up on our television also. There should be a firm Commitmert from the Government side as regards the date and since when the Prasara Bharti Act will be implemented.

Then there is the Centre-State re-lations issue. There is no reference to the implementation of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre.State relations. That also is not being done. Then there is the question of the demand for smaller States, particularly States like Uttarakhand and Jharkhand. The Government has promised and most of the political parties have agreed on that. That also has not been "trended to.

There is a specific reference fn the Address to the visit of the Prtident

and the Prime Minister to various countries. In this context, I would like to make a very unhappy reference. When the President goes abroad, proper care is not being taken about the protocol matters here. I happened to be in London in July last year when the President made a private visit there. Not only he was not properly received, there was not even a line that came in the British Press or in the electronic media. We have a large set-up of the Press section in the Indian High Commission there. But they could not manage even a press reference to the President's visit there. The President, even on a private visit, is the President of the country and proper protocol arrangements should be made and the Government should advise him properly if such arrangements are not possible. With great pain I refer to this aspect because I was a witness there. I felt very sad about it

The last point I would like to make is with regard to containing the population growth. Though the President mentions in his speech about that, there is no concrete plan. I have repeatedly said it and in the Committee on Human Resource Development also we recommended that the one child policy should be adopted in this country as China has done. That is the only solution to this problem. These problems have to be attended to and I hope the Prime Minister in his reply would indicate the stand of the Government on these matters. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Mathur, for giving four, five minutes out of your time. Now, we would start the Private Member's Business. (Interruptions)

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
मैडम, मेरा नाम है।

उप सभापति : नहीं, श्री प्राइवेट
मैम्बर का है।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : नहीं, इस पर मेरा नाम है, मैं बोलने वाला हूँ। मैं अर्ज कर रहा हूँ कि कोई जरूरी तो नहीं कि प्राइवेट मैम्बर को 1.30 बजे लिए जाएं।

उप सभापति : जरूरी है।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : मैडम प्राइम मिनिस्टर 7.30 बजे तक भाषण कर सकते हैं।

उप सभापति : नहीं, 4.00 बजे...
(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: When I was assured and I have been given time ■...
(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no assurance.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : कम से कम 6 मिनट मेरी पार्टी के तो आप मुझे दे दें। कांग्रेस के लोगों ने 40 पार्टी ज्यादा लिए हैं और उनके 12 स्पीकर बोले हैं।

उप सभापति : आप ब्राद में बोल लेना।

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: My party is the main Opposition party and only three Members have spoken. (Interruptions)

I request you to give me six minutes, Madam.

उप सभापति : संघ प्रिय गौतम जी, एक बात मैं आपसे अर्ज करूँ।

There should be some accommodation.

अगर आप प्रेजिडेंट के मोशन आफ थैंक्स पर नहीं बोलेंगे... (व्यवधान)...

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : आप मुझे पर्सनल दे दीजिए 5 मिनट।

उपसभापति : मेरी जेब में नहीं है टाइम। मेरा टाइम नहीं होता है, उनका... (व्यवधान)....

I don't give.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : ठीक है, मैं नहीं बोलूंगा, लेकिन मेरी एक शिकायत दर्ज कर लीजिए ।

मैडम, आप जीरो आँवर में एक मैम्बर को तीन साल से कौन्स्टेंटली दस मिनट उसमें और स्पेशल मेंशन में देती हैं ।

I want to make some relevant points, particularly in regard to the downtrodden community of this country has been completely neglected.

इसलिए मैं रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा आपसे ।

उप सभापति : गौतम जी, बँडिए । देखिए सवाल यह है कि मेरे अंदर तो बहुत सहन-शक्ति है, इसलिए आप मेरे ऊपर इल्जाम भी लगते हैं—गलत या असत्य, तो भी मैं चुप हो जाती हूँ कोई दूसरा होगा तो वह यकीनन इस चीज पर आब्जेक्शन करेगा । मैं न किसी को जीरो आँवर देती हूँ, न स्पेशल मेंशन देती हूँ । चेयरमैन साहब सबको देते हैं, जिसको देते हैं मैं उसे अलाऊ करती हूँ । . . . (व्यवधान) . . . एक मिनट चुप रहिए, खामोश हो जाइए । आप रिकार्ड गलत मत करिए । मैंने किसी को जीरो आँवर नहीं दिया, मैंने किसी को स्पेशल मेंशन नहीं दिया, जो लिस्ट चेयरमैन साहब ने दी है, उसके बाहर मैंने अलाऊ नहीं किया है । अगर कोई मैम्बर चुप नहीं हो रहा है तो मैं उसके मुँह में जाकर काँक नहीं लगा सकती हूँ, मैं रिक्वेस्ट कर सकती हूँ जैसे कर रही हूँ ।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : आपने श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा को 12 मिनट दिए आज ही जीरो आँवर में . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

उप सभापति : मैंने कितनी दफा घंटी बजाई है ?

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : और आपने उन्हें रोका नहीं ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; So, please behave properly in the House and next time, don't behave like this in the House. I warn you. (Interruptions) There is a limit to your talking like this in the House I don't get angry. I take everything on me. Somebody the mistake I take on me. HE should not behave like this. There is a limit to behaving with the Chair. I am not going to listen to it Mr. Md. Salim, please take over the charge.

[The Vice- Chairman (Shri Md. Salim) in. the Chair].

Resolution Ret. Unprecedented rise in the Prices of Essential Commodities as a result of hike in Administered price—(contd.)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : Madam Deputy Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity to resume the discussion on the price situation prevailing in the country. The charges that have been levelled by the other side especially the mover of this Resolution, Shri Mathur Ji, were that this Government has ruined the economy of this country. He was quoting various facts and figures for the last two years and stating that this Government has ruined the economy. The prices have gone sky-high and therefore, the common man is suffering. I also gave facts and figures and explained why the Government has forced to increase the prices of the administered items. It is the primary duty of the Government to see that the price situation is stabilised. There is a market force. If the Government allows the market forces to prevail and leave it to the market forces to decide the prices then hoarding and blackmarketing will be there. There will be no price control. Therefore, the Government takes the responsibility of controlling the price situation by supplying grains when