

not on this occasion, perhaps in the future—I do not say this with reference to a particular context—I say this generally, it will be sad day-when people will tear off our Constitution. It is a sad day when people will violate the oath of office. It is a sad day when people will violate the oath of secrecy. It is a sad day when people will bend every rule, every law, every principle, just to occupy positions of power. And if those are the men and women who want to govern this country in the name of law and they will march towards the seats of power by bending every rule, bending every law, violating every oath, tearing up the constitution, I believe, Madam, that the people of this country are intelligent to know these leaders for what they are.

Madam, as I said, the Government has acted with great restraint. We have lived with adventurous journalists; we have lived with backstabbing colleagues; we have survived. Why have we survived? We have survived because we adhered to certain basic principles that have been bequeathed to us by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indiraji. We have not shown any anger at anyone. We have not rushed to take action against anyone and I do not think we wish to do any such thing. If during the last three weeks, we have shown the greatest restraint it is because we do not wish to prejudice the larger conspiracy case, the prosecution of which will be launched very shortly. There is a duty to the people of this country to bring to book those who will conspire against the State and conspire to wage a war against the State and conspire to assassinate the Prime Minister. There is a duty to law; there is a duty to the statutes which Parliament has made; and above all, there is a duty to those who are accused of a crime. We cannot forget that duty also. If I speak with great restraint and great reserve, I should not be understood as not willing to share information. I am bound by the law. The duty to the people, the duty to law, and the duty to those who will be accused of

a conspiracy restrain me from sharing more information. But I am glad that the hon. Members who have spoken in this debate have understood the gravity of the situation. In fact, they have highlighted the dark forces which are conspiring to destabilise the country. The name of the game is destabilisation. Let us not runaway from that harsh truth. In the next weeks, in the next months, the game will be played with greater vigour. We have to be on our guard. The people of the country have reposed faith in Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and those who have been elected and placed in this House are on this side of the House. Therefore, the onerous duty is upon us. They can run away; we cannot. They can walk out of this House; we cannot. They can say, "We shall not look into the Thakkar report."; we cannot. They can say, "We do not care for the law."; we cannot say that. They can say, "We do not care if there is a larger conspiracy."; we cannot say that. They can say, "We will violate the oath of office and violate the oath of secrecy."; we cannot do that. We have to function with responsibility, restraint and reserve.

I am grateful to hon. Members for the suggestions which they have made. I am grateful to them for the broad support they have extended to the action that has been taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Thakkar Commission. I have learned from this debate and I assure hon. Members that we will improve upon our performance. We will ensure that there is a foolproof security system for the Prime Minister. And we will ensure that the forces which conspire to destabilise the polity and system of this country will never succeed. With that, Madam, I thank hon. Members for participating in this debate.

VELEDICTORY REMARKS ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chidambaram.

Before I adjourn the House *sine die*, I would like the Members to spare a few more minutes. We have spent more than 155 hours in the sittings of the Rajya Sabha and so, I do not think that it is going to be very strenuous if they spare just five minutes for the Chair.

Honourable Members, the first part of the Budget Session of the House is about to be adjourned *sine die* in a few moments from now. Before I adjourn the House I would like to thank all the honourable Members on behalf of the Members on the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and on my own behalf for the kind co-operation extended to us by all sections of the House for the smooth functioning of the House.

This being the Budget Session of Parliament, we discussed the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, giving outlines of the policy of the Government, financial matters of the Government through the Railway, General and Punjab Budgets and passed the relevant Appropriation Bills, taking most of the time of the House in this Session. In all, we had 25 sittings. We sat for about 155 hours excluding lunch-break and adjournments discussing important matters. We passed two Bills and returned nine Bills to the Lok Sabha.

Members had the opportunity to raise matters of public importance through 194 Special Mentions. Ministers made policy pronouncements through eight statements in the House and Members had the opportunity to seek clarifications. The House discussed important matters such as the settlement arrived at between the Government of India and the Union Carbide Corporation regarding the compensation to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy, functioning of the Government Hospitals

in Delhi and the crisis in the jute and textile industries through Short-Duration Discussions and Calling Attention.

On more than one occasion during this Session, some unpleasant and unsavoury developments took place in this House. When we adjourned for the Holi recess, there were scenes on the question of placing the Thakkar Commission Report on the Table of the House which we discussed today. When we met after the Holi recess, the Report was placed on the Table. But then controversy started as to what is the Report and what is not. In the process, a great deal of precious time of the House was lost and although we settled down to discuss the Report after lunch recess today, we did so only after witnessing unusual and somewhat noisy scenes on the issue.

Once again I thank all the honourable Members and the leaders of the various parties and groups for the co-operation extended by them in conducting the proceedings of the House. I also thank the staff of the Rajya Sabha including the Watch and Ward personnel all of whom gave their full co-operation. Many ~~shair~~ ^{shair}es have been quoted here and I would also like to mention a couplet of the great ~~shair~~ ^{shair} Dr. Mohammad Iqbal. Keeping in view the high ideals of democracy and our Parliament, I think it is very appropriate to quote that here now and I would quote in urdu first and, for the convenience of Mr. Chidambaram, I will explain it in English also.

“ऐ ताहिरे लाउती, उस रिस से मौत अच्छी,
जिस रिस से आती हो परवाज में कोताही”

This is our Parliament of which we are so proud. The poet says to the high-flying bird in the skies that if it is to stoop down to the bottom, it should not do so because it is better to die than to stoop down to the lower heights even for food.

"अपनी ऊंची बुलंदियों में उड़ते हुए पारिदे, अगर तुझे अपने दाने के लिए भी अपनी परवाज को जमीन पर गिराना है तो तू धूँख मर जा, मगर अपनी परवाज से नीचे मत उतर"।

9.00 P.M.

मैं यही सोचती हूँ कि हमारे हाऊस की, हमारे देश की जो गरिमा है, हमारी पॉलिटिक्स की, हमारी सियासत की जो गरिमा है, उसको अगर हम कायम रखें तो किसी भी मसले पर, किसी भी बात पर हमें उन उंचाईयों से नीचे नहीं गिरना चाहिए।

यह 4 बात कह कर — शायद हमारे पार्लियामेण्टरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर साहब कुछ कहना चाहते हैं — आपसे विदा लूँगी।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Madam, I join you in extending my heart-felt thanks to all the Members of this House for the valuable and unstinted cooperation during the days when we were able to conduct the House smoothly and perfectly well.

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY (Uttar Pradesh): Except Ram Awadhesh Singh and Jethmalani.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Including them.

Madam, through you I extend our whole-hearted thanks to the Chairman and also to the panel of Vice-Chairmen who played their role successfully and well.

Madam, the Secretary-General, the staff, the Watch and Ward — all of them cooperated with us very well for the conduct of the House.

Though the Session was short, sometimes it was turbulent. But with your charming, persuasive manners you were able to contain the tides and winds

in this House...(*Interruptions*) and we were enjoying perfect calm and serene atmosphere in spite of the turmoil sometimes. So, on behalf of the Members of this House, I convey you also special thanks for conducting the House so marvellously.

I thank all my colleagues and also my colleagues on my left for full cooperation extended to us during these days.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): On behalf of the Opposition, I convey our thanks.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Madam, since the House will be in recess on a very important day, may I wish you a Very Happy Birthday on the 13th of April? (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We all join. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. That happens to be the day when we had the 'Jallianwala Bagh'. It reminds us of the great history. And that also happens to be 'Baisakhi'. I think that is more important than my small birth in India.

Thank you very much. Thank you once again.

I adjourn the House *sine die*.

The House then adjourned *sine die* at three minutes past time of the clock.