

[Mr. Chairman]

friendly by nature, he was held in high esteem by all those who knew him.

Shri Bhardwaj was a Member of this House from July 1980 to July 1986 and took active part in the deliberations of the House.

Shri Rohit Manushankar Dave was one of the founder-members of the Congress Socialist Party, and a veteran freedom fighter. Born in May, 1908 at Surat, Shri Dave was educated at Surat and Elphinstone College and Law College, Bombay.

A lawyer and a journalist, Shri Dave was the Editor of 'Janata', a weekly organ of the Praja Socialist Party. He played a major role in prompting the activities of the Indian National Theatre. He had made a deep study of Marxism as also of Buddhism and was a Sanskrit scholar.

He represented the State of Gujarat in the Rajya Sabha from April 1958 to April 1964.

In the passing away of Shrimati Fathema Ismail, the country has lost a noted social worker and freedom fighter. Born in February, 1903 in Bombay, Shrimati Ismail had her education at the Universities of Bombay, Cambridge and Vienna.

A dedicated social worker, Shrimati Ismail set up a society for the education of disabled and crippled children. She also took active part in the freedom struggle and the "Quit India" movement.

Shrimati Ismail's dedication to social work earned for her national recognition when she was awarded "Padma Shree" in 1958. The State Government of Maharashtra conferred on her the title "Dalit Mitra". She was nominated to this House in 1978.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Dr. K. Mathew Kurian, Shri Satyendra Prosad Ray, Shri Ramchandra Bhardwaj, Shri Rohit Manushankar Dave and Shrimati Fathema Ismail.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe one minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hd. Members then stood in silence for one minute).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved families our deep sense of sorrow and profound sympathy.

Felicitations to the Chairman

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I felicitate you on your election as the Vice-President and as the Chairman of this august House? ... (Interruptions)....

In you, Sir, we have a renowned and highly respected figure. You have held high offices as Chief Minister, as Cabinet Minister, as the Congress President and, most recently, as Governor.

We welcome you as the Vice-President and as the Chairman of this House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have been a scholar and an authority on international law and the Constitution, on history, and more especially on our culture. As a teacher you have taught many of the Members sitting in this House. Now you will be their mentor and guide. We are privileged, and indeed fortunate, to have you at the helm. The position you hold has been held by many highly respected and admired figures in the history of our Parliament. Let me assure you of the fullest cooperation of the Government, and I have no doubt that your wisdom will prevail over this House.

Thank you.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of myself, the other members of my party, the CPM, and by other colleagues in the Opposition, I join the Prime Minister in offering our warmest felicitations to you on your assuming the august office of the Vice-President of our country and

as Chairman of this august House, Rajya Sabha.

Sir, you have been in active politics for a long time, and we too are still in politics. And, therefore, from one way we are at the same wave length. You will surely, therefore, appreciate our requirements in the Opposition while presiding over this august House. The ruling party, by virtue of its majority, will have the final say-good, bad or indifferent. But before that the Opposition must be given the opportunity to place their point of view. Earlier, the dignified persons who held this august position here, particularly Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, Dr. Zakir Hussain, and lastly who is now the President of our country, Shri R. Venkataraman, had looked to this particular point, and I hope you will follow their foot-steps and give the Opposition a hearing on various issues that this House will confront from today onwards when it will be in session.

Sir, again I offer our felicitations and welcome you to this House as Chairman of this House. Thank you.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the Anna-DMK and on my own behalf, I congratulate you for having been elected to the office of Vice-President of our Republic. It is a matter of great pleasure to know that you have been elected unanimously by both Houses of our Parliament. After Dr. Radhakrishnan and Justice Hidayatullah you have been elected with consensus of all political parties. It shows your eminence and remarkable enlightenment, fairness and judicious approach. Sir, in maintaining the dignity and decorum of this House the Anna-DMK extends its support without any reservations. May I remind you that the dignity and decorum of this House is maintained not only because of the cooperation from all political agencies but also by the personality which holds office?

Sir, the paramount responsibility of this House is to protect the interests of

the States. That is why it is called council of States. Unfortunately during the post-independence period transgression into the jurisdiction of the State has become a regular feature of the Government. Unless it is properly checked, the purpose and the very objective of this House will be undermined. The AIADMK Party is always at your disposal to maintain the prestige of this House. Once again I felicitate you.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party, Telugu Desam, and myself, I offer you our warmest felicitations on your assumption of office as Chairman today. Sir, your election to this high office has a special significance in that you have been a consensus candidate of both the ruling party and all the opposition parties. Sir, while agreeing to the consensus, we have put ourselves in a disadvantageous position. We know that. We have to be guided by you and we have to be more restrained perhaps because of the obligation we have taken upon ourselves. We felt that among the candidates considered, you are the most ideal and fit to occupy this office because you combine in yourself age with wisdom, wisdom with tact and tact with statesmanship.

Sir, as Chief Minister, as Central Minister, as the President of one of the leading parties and as Governor, you have had wide administrative experience. Added to that, you have the political acumen and wide knowledge of constitutional law. Sir, you are a worthy successor to a number of distinguished people who occupied this Chair. Your predecessor, Mr. Venkataraman, has handled the affairs of this House most tactfully. Since he is no longer occupying the Chair here, I can confess that we had a perfect understanding with him. That understanding even extended to confiding in him about our plans for walk-outs and noise in the House. We kept confidentiality and we expect the same type of understanding from you and also the confidentiality which we were maintaining with the previous Chairman.

[Shri Parvathaneni Upendra]

Sir, the people say that you are a leftist. We would like to know by experience whether you turn more to the left or to the right of the House.

Lastly, I know that when you were the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, you had a picture of Lord Venkateswara in your office. You always looked to him. You told me also that whenever you are in doubt, you look to Lord Venkateswara for guidance. In this House, you may not be able to have a picture of Lord Venkateswara, but I will constantly remind you of Lord Venkateswara as a representative of Andhra Pradesh. *(Interruptions)* I won't say as a representative of the Lord, but as a representative of Andhra Pradesh, I will be a constant reminder to you of your devotion to Lord Venkateswara. May he guide you to be more impartial, more tactful and more fair in dealing with the affairs of this House.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Sir, November 6, 1987 is a very important day in your life. You have taken over this august Chair today. On my own behalf, on behalf of my Party, and on behalf of other colleagues here, I sincerely welcome you to this Chair. I say this with feeling because my association with you has been very, very long indeed, a very meaningful association. I do not want to recall my long association now because of paucity of time.

Sir, pedagogy to Vice-Presidency of India is a long journey. You were a pedagogue to begin with in the Lucknow University where I was a student myself. You taught Constitutional History there very successfully. You were not a bad teacher at all. Then fate had a hand in your life, and indeed fate had definitely a hand when you were chosen unanimously to the very important place of Vice-Presidency of India. In this play of fate, both the Ruling Party and the Opposition had a role to play. During the time when Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and the Opposition were differing widely on various issues, we agreed, both the Ruling Party and the Opposition, the Prime

Minister and the Opposition leaders on your candidature; it was a happy augury. And you are the Vice-President of India, you are the Chairman of our House. You have seen life, occupied many places of importance. You were a Chief Minister, you were a Cabinet Minister here, You were a Governor, and now the Vice-President. Besides, you had managed the affairs of the political organisations. So, you have the experience of an administrator as well as manager of political parties. You have the knowledge as a teacher, experience of an administrator and organiser of political parties, and more than all the ability and competence to manage public affairs.

Sir, you are the Vice-President of India. I hope you are the Vice-President without being 'vice', bereft of any vice. You have combined in yourself a long experience and knowledge. That I hope will help you and help us in this House to carry on our task.

Sir, your duty as the Chairman of this august body is very difficult indeed because you are occupying it at a very difficult time. It is not enough to keep the law and order in the House, however, much it is important. It is more necessary, more important to keep up the dignity, the norms, the traditions of this House. More than all this, Sir, it is your onerous responsibility to see that this Parliament, this House of ours, which is a limb of Parliament, a part of Parliament, sheds all its weaknesses, becomes strong. It is fragile for various reasons. There have been onslaughts on Parliamentary institutions in India. There has been considerable erosion of its importance, its relevance even. At this juncture you are occupying this Chair. It is your duty, Sir, not only to uphold the dignity of the House but to keep the balance even between the Treasury Benches and the Opposition.

As the days go on, the accountability of the administration is also affected, accountability of the administration to the Houses of Parliament. As the presiding authority, it is your task to restore its importance, its personality. All of us are one here in spite of the fact that we

are divided between various political parties. Respect for Parliamentary institutions is dwindling in the country and Parliamentary institutions are in a state of crisis, if I may say so. The Government has become very authoritarian and the master, the Parliament has been reduced to insignificance. Therefore, Sir, without taking much of the time of the House, I request you as the Chairman of the House in future to safeguard the interests of both the Treasury Benches and the opposition evenly and the opposition at this particular hour, juncture is very important. Though they are divided, we are one on various issues. This should guide you, Sir, in your role and conduct.

May I, Sir, in the end wish you well and hope and trust your career as the Vice-President of India, and the Chairman of this House, will be remembered for a long time to come. I will be failing in my duty if I don't say one word for your illustrious predecessor, Shri Venkataraman. My colleague has already spoken about him. He did really well and you have succeeded him and also succeeded many many illustrious predecessors.

Sir, in the end I wish you the best.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश): मान्यवर भारतीय जनता पार्टी की ओर से और अपनी ओर से मैं आपको त्रिवार बधाई देना चाहता हूँ।

पहली बधाई इसलिए कि आप केन्द्र में वापस आ गये हैं। तीन प्रदेशों में राज्यपाल के पद का और उसके दायित्व का गम्भीरता से और गरिमा से पालन करने के बाद केन्द्र में आपकी वापसी स्वागत योग्य है। यहाँ से आप सारे देश को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं, इसलिए हमें प्रसन्नता है। दूसरी बधाई इसलिए कि उप-राष्ट्रपति के नाते आप राज्य सभा के सभापति हैं और देश के इस दूसरे सदन से, महत्वपूर्ण

सदन से सदस्य के नाते नहीं, लेकिन सभापति के नाते आपको सम्बद्ध होने का अवसर मिला है। मान्यवर, बिना राज्य सभा में रहे राजनीति का पूरा प्रशिक्षण, पूरा अनुभव पूरा नहीं होता। मैं यह अनुभव लेता रहा हूँ। राज्य सभा यह दूसरा सदन है। यह दूसरे सदन की जिम्मेदारी का ठीक तरह से पालन करें इसकी ओर मेरे मित्र ने संकेत किया है। आपको राज्य सभा को देखने का भी अवसर मिलेगा और राज्य सभा के संचालन के दायित्व का भी आपको पालन करना होगा। तीसरी बार बधाई इसलिए दे रहा हूँ जैसा कि अन्य मेरे मित्रों ने कहा आप भारत के उप-राष्ट्रपति के महत्वपूर्ण पद पर सर्वानुमति से चुने गए हैं। आज जब सत्ता पक्ष और प्रतिपक्ष के बीच में ठनी हुई है, जब तलवारें तनी हुई हैं तब आपका निर्विरोध सर्वसम्मति से निर्विचन यह भारतीय लोकतंत्र की शक्ति का प्रकटीकरण है। अगर सत्तापक्ष इसी तरह से युक्ति-युक्त रवैया अपनाए और प्रतिपक्ष का सहयोग लेने का प्रयत्न करे तो सब मामलों पर नहीं तो बहुत से मामलों पर राष्ट्रीय सहमति का विकास किया जा सकता है, ऐसे मामले सब के सहयोग से निपटाए जा सकते हैं।

सभापति जी, आपका सार्वजनिक जीवन लंबा और अनुभवों से परिपूर्ण है। लेकिन राजनीति के साथ आपने जीवन के और पहलुओं की उपेक्षा नहीं की है। अनेक भाषाओं पर आपका अधिकार है, अनेक विश्वविद्यालयों में आपने शिक्षा प्राप्त की है। अनुभव की यह सारी पूंजी उप-राष्ट्रपति के नाते, इस सदन के सभापति के नाते हमें लाभान्वित करेगी, यह मैं आशा प्रकट करता हूँ। आप भोपाल में जन्में, भोपाल एक देशी रियासत थी। मैं भी एक देशी रियासत में जन्म लेने वाला व्यक्ति हूँ। उस समय स्वाधीनता के लिए लड़ने के लिए लोकतांत्रिक सरकार की स्थापना के लिए संघर्ष करना कितना कठिन था और उस कठिन परीक्षा में से आप निकले। भोपाल के मुख्य मंत्री के पद

[श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी]

को आपने अलंकृत किया और फिर आपकी सफलता की यात्रा शरु हुई, लेकिन इस सफलता की आपको कीमत भी चुकानी पड़ी है। आज मुझे गीताजिनि का स्मरण हो रहा है। भाई भाकन हमारे बीच में नहीं है। एक वज्रपात हुआ वे राष्ट्रीय एकता के शहीद बने। आपकी पीड़ा शब्दों में प्रकट नहीं की जा सकती है। श्रीमती शर्मा की वेदना भरी जवानी में, भारत की राजधानी में इस तरह से वे निर्मम हत्याएं। आपको जब-जब हम देखते हैं, हमें पंजाब की त्रासदी का स्मरण होता है। यह वान बार-बार हमारे मन और मस्तिष्क में टकराती है कि आजादी की स्वाधीनता के 40 वर्ष बाद देश में यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण परिस्थिति क्यों पैदा हुई? मगर उस शोक को आपने पी लिया है, देश की सेवा के लिए उस जहर को आपने कण्ठ में धारण कर लिया है। आपके मुख से एक भी शब्द ऐसा नहीं निकला, जो कटुता पैदा करने वाला हो, जो भाईचारे का खतम करने के विघटन-वादियों के मनसूबों को पूरा करने वाला हो। उस दिन हमारी नजरो में आपका सम्मान बहुत बढ़ गया।

आप हमारे सभापति के रूप में बड़े हैं। इधर बठने वाले हम सच्चा में कम हैं, मगर हमारे तर्कों में ज्यादा बल होता है। कठिनाई यह है कि तर्क गिने नहीं जाते और स्वरो की गिनती होती है। लेकिन पक्ष और विपक्ष में आप निःपक्ष भूमिका निभायेंगे, इसका हमें विश्वास है। इसी आशा से, इसी विश्वास से हमने आपको निर्विरोध निर्वाचन में सहयोग दिया है। मैं राज्य सभा में दूसरी बार आया हूँ। कभी-कभी मुझे लगता है कि राज्य सभा अब... (व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : जब-जब लोक सभा का चुनाव हारते हो, आ जाते हो।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : जी हाँ, जब-जब मैं लोक सभा का चुनाव हार जाता हूँ तो परलोक सभा में आ जाता हूँ। पहले भी मैं लोक सभा में

हारने के बाद आया था। मगर तब राज्य सभा कुछ अलग थी। क्षमा कजिये, अभी कुछ महीनों का मेरा अनुभव अच्छा नहीं है, अब जो पीठासीन हो, जो सभापति के आसन पर बंटे हो, वे अगर मेरा पूरा वाक्य भी न सुनें और बीच में काट दे और फिर रिपोर्टों को कह दें कि यह लिखा नहीं जायेगा, तो हम तो बेमौत मारे गये। मैं इनज्जता हूँ, ऐसी हत्याये अब सदन में कम होनी चाहिये।

अब बात कहने का अवसर, यह सही है कि बात समय से कही जाये, संसदीय प्रक्रिया से उठाई जाये। अभी हमारे मित्र, जो बहुत उत्तेजित हैं, उनको उत्तेजना को मैं समझ सकता हूँ, उनको हमने कहा कि लंका का मसला हम उठायेंगे, जोर से उठायेंगे, इस सरकार को कंधारे से खड़ा करेंगे। लेकिन अभी नहीं, अभी तो सभापति को मान और फिर सरकार पर प्रहार।

सभापति महोदय, मैं चाहता हूँ कि आपके सभापतित्व से राज्य सभा अपने पूव गौरव को प्राप्त करे और आपके सहयोग से यह सदन देश के लोकतन्त्र की न केवल दृढ़कन बने, बल्कि देश के लोकतन्त्र को सबल बनाने का एक साधन सिद्ध हो।

इन्ही शब्दों के साथ मैं पुनः आपको बधाई देते हुए अपना आसन ग्रहण करता हूँ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, भारत के उपराष्ट्रपति एवं इस माननीय सदन के सम्मानित सभापति पद पर निर्विरोध सर्वसम्मति आपके निर्वाचन पर मैं अपनी और अपने दल-लोकदल की ओर से आपको बधाई देता हूँ एवं आपका स्वागत करता हूँ। पिछले बहुत वर्षों से आपके सार्वजनिक जीवन की मुझे जानकारी है। स्वतंत्रता-संग्राम के वयोवृद्ध नेता, भोपाल के मुख्य मंत्री, कांग्रेस के प्रेसिडेंट, भारत सरकार के कन्वन्तिकेशन मिनिस्टर, विभिन्न प्रदेशों के राज्यपाल

की हैसियत से जिस प्रकार आपने कार्य किया है, उसी के फलस्वरूप ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि इस माननीय सदन के इस पद को जो आप सुशोभित कर रहे हैं और सर्वसम्पत्ति से आपने सभी लोगों का अपनी कार्य शैली से सम्मान और विश्वास प्राप्त किया है, मुझे यह विश्वास है कि इस सदन का आपके नेतृत्व में, आपके समानाधिकार के काल में गौरव बढ़ेगा। आपके निर्वाचन में इस सदन के सभी सदस्यों का जो विश्वास रहा है वह विश्वास, आपके द्वारा इस सदन का कार्य-संचालन अति अधिक निष्पक्षता के साथ होगा, उतना ही अधिक इस सदन का गौरव बढ़ेगा, उतना ही आपका गौरव बढ़ेगा, उतनी ही इस सदन के कार्य-संचालन में आपको अधिक सफलता मिलेगी।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं पुनः हृदय से आपकी सफलता की कामना करते हुए आपका गौरव बढ़े, इस सदन का गौरव बढ़े, आपको बढ़ाई देता हूँ और हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ।

SHRI N. E. BALARAM (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of myself and my party I offer my felicitations. I know that you are a great scholar and a man of rich experience in politics. I am very glad that you have been elected as the Chairman of this House and the Vice President of this country. Once again I would like to offer my felicitations to you on my behalf and on behalf of my party.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman on behalf of my DMK party and on my own behalf I whole-heartedly welcome you on your election as Vice President of this great republic and the Chairman of this illustrious House. We all know you have a brilliant academic career. In fact, you have been in the teaching profession and for a long period. For nine years, you taught law in the Lucknow University and then you taught law at Cambridge also. Here I would say, perhaps after Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan you are the only teacher to have come here to occupy the highest post. So, it is a great tribute to the

teaching community of our nation. I think Dr. Zakir Hussain was also a teacher. So, you belong to that noble tribe of teachers who can guide us. Sir, many of your students are here as Members. So, you have got a very good lobby here. In fact, I would say, our House is also very much like a classroom—not like your Cambridge University but like a village school. You have to meet many recalcitrants more often, but, Sir, you can counsel and conduct the House in a nice manner.

Sir, I for one would not accept that this is the House of Elders. No, it is not a House of Elders, it is the Council of Estates, a part of our federal system. Therefore, Sir, we have got certain traditions. As hon. Vajpayee was saying, we have noticed that our words had been often butchered. In this House there had been a tradition to raise many important public issues after the Question Hour. Somehow or other that right of the Members has been taken away. Therefore, I would request you to restore that pristine glory of this House once again and give us back the right that we have lost. That is my request.

I know, Sir, that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made use of you as the personal emissary and you had visited Tamil Nadu many a time and also you returned to Delhi with great success. I know that, Sir, this morning along with all the opposition group leaders I met you. I was simply astonished by your diplomacy and persuasive power. Sir, I do not want to let the cat out of the bag as my hon. friend, Shri Upendra, who told you how he was dealing with your predecessor. I would say that I am very much worried because of your persuasive abilities. We, the Opposition people, have to be very careful with you because you are a type of diplomat who will kill us with kindness. So we have to be careful. With these words, I offer you our whole-hearted co-operation in the conduct of the business of the House.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference and on my own behalf

[Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto]

and as Chief Whip of the United Association of Members of this House, I offer my felicitations to you for being elected as the Vice-President and Chairman of this House. I vividly recall an incident in 1964 when you were the Minister of Industry of the State of Madhya Pradesh. There was a meeting of the Small Scale Industries Board to be held in Bhopal and I, as Chairman of the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce, had also to attend that meeting. We left in a train from Delhi. There were torrential rains and the train got stuck up at a place near Gangapur, I think. You were also travelling in the same train. The first thing that you did on that occasion was that you came out of your compartment and ensured that every passenger in the train got his food. That was your great achievement and I saw how you worked in that capacity. Of course, when we reached Bhopal, the meeting was already over, although you were the Industry Minister there.

I also vividly remember that when you were a Member of the other House, you were also travelling in the same Matador for M.P.s to and from your house as other M.P.s would do. We lived in the same Canning Lane. Sir, you are an embodiment of humility and wisdom and I trust and feel sure that in your hands the prestige of this House will remain secure and safe.

I again offer my heartiest felicitations to you, Sir, and hope that under your kind guidance this House will fulfil the task that has been assigned to it by the Constitution of India.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Sir, I join the Prime Minister and other distinguished Members of the Opposition in extending, on my own behalf and on behalf of my party, heart-felt and sincere felicitations on your being unanimously elected as the Vice-President of this great Republic and the Chairman of this House.

Sir, this House has got its own distinct features and responsibilities to discharge. As it is the Council of States, this House has greater responsibility of looking after the interests of the States which constitute

this great Union of India. You, Sir, as the Chairman of this great House happen to be solely and undisputedly the custodian of the rights and privileges of the Members of this House. We, the Members of the Opposition, are sometimes faced with certain situations in which I would urge upon you, in the interest of the dignity of the House and in the discharge of your responsibility of maintaining the decorum of the House, that you should show us a little more indulgence. We, as you know, Sir, as Members of the House, are always amongst the people, in the midst and thick of politics; There is no virtue in concealing it. And we have to associate ourselves with the hopes and aspirations of the people outside. We are also to articulate their hopes and aspirations. Sir, you have been, in the past, in the very thick of politics and I don't think that you repent for it. It is a glorious part of your brilliant career. You know the emotions, sentiments, hopes and aspirations of the people who are not here, who are outside this House. You have represented the vast masses of our country at different places and you have done it successfully. You have rich and varied experience, and I hope and believe that with your rich and varied experience you would guide us, help us, as Members of this House, with the particular role that we have to play from this side of this House, to discharge our responsibilities.

We in the Opposition, as I have mentioned earlier, have got our own role and we shall play it, and we can play it better if you have the generosity of showing a little more indulgence to this side of the House because on us rests a bigger responsibility to bring about changes in the policies of the Government and the attitudes of the Government.

Again, Sir, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, I extend my heart-felt and sincere felicitations to you. Thank you.

SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA (Assam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I and other Members of my party, AGP, are very happy on your election to the glorious office of Vice-President of this great country and on your assuming Chairmanship of this august House. We think it is a matter of pride for the whole country to have a

man of knowledge and wisdom as the honourable Vice-President of this country.

Sir, the country finds in you a rare combination of the personality of a scholar and the personality of a political thinker and political worker, without any conflict between the two. I hope and believe that your personality will guide not only this august House but also the whole nation.

With these few words, Sir, I, on behalf of my party, AGP, and also on my own behalf, offer my respectful felicitations to you. Thank you.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, 21 अगस्त को उपराष्ट्रपति के पद पर आपका निर्विरोध निर्वाचन हुआ और 4 सितम्बर को आपने उस पद के लिए शपथ ग्रहण की। इस नाते आप इस राज्य सभा के और इस सदन में सभापति का आसन ग्रहण करने का प्रथम दिन है। मान्यवर, आप का दीर्घकालीन प्रशासनिक और राजनीतिक अनुभव रहा है। जहाँ मध्य प्रदेश में आपकी जन्मस्थली रही है, आपकी ननिहाल रही है वही पर आपने अपना राजनीतिक जीवन भी प्रारम्भ किया और राज्य पाल के पद पर आन्ध्र प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र तथा पंजाब में रह कर उन पदों की गरिमा को आपने बढ़ाया है।

मान्यवर, लोकतंत्र सत्ता पक्ष और विपक्ष दोनों के आधार पर चलता है उस सदन में विपक्ष की संख्या कम है और आपने स्वयं कहा है कि सभापति के नाते आपका काम एक एम्पायर की तरह है। लेकिन मान्यवर, यह समझता हूँ कि जहाँ संख्या के आधार पर, बहुमत के आधार पर, निर्णय होते हैं, वहाँ पर जो कमजोर वर्ग हैं, मेरा मतलब विपक्ष से है, जिसकी संख्या कम है, उसके लिये आपकी ओर से विशेष संरक्षण और आपके विशेष आशीर्वाद की जरूरत है। मान्यवर, इस देश की प्रथम व्यवस्थापिका, सेंट्रल लेजिस्लेचर के जो प्रथम भारतीय

अध्यक्ष थे, श्री विठ्ठलभाई पटेल, उन्होंने अपने स्वागत भाषण में कहा था कि :

"I belong to all, and I belong to none."

मैं सबका हूँ और किसी का भी नहीं हूँ। मान्यवर, इसी तरह से पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने उनके चित्र का अनावरण करते हुए इस देश की संसद में कहा था कि

"Speaker is the symbol of the nation's freedom and liberty."

मान्यवर ठीक यही बात आपके लिये भी कही जा सकती है। आज आप उस गरिमामय पद पर हैं जिस पर डा० राधाकृष्णन, डा० जकिर हुसैन, श्री बी० बी० गिरी और आपसे पूर्व श्री वेंकटरमण रह चुके हैं। इन चारों विभूतियों ने इस देश के राष्ट्रपति के पद को भी सुशोभित किया। मान्यवर, श्री मारन की इस बात का समर्थन करता हूँ और कहना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्व के कुछ वर्षों में इस सदन के सदस्यों के अधिकारों में कटौती हुई है। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि उन अधिकारों की आप रक्षा करेंगे और उनको पुनर्जीवित करेंगे। आप सदन के रक्षक हैं और इस सदन के जितने भी सदस्य हैं, चाहे वे सत्ता पक्ष के हों या विपक्ष के हों, उनके अधिकारों का आप संरक्षण करेंगे इस आशा और विश्वास के साथ मान्यवर मैं इस देश के लोकतंत्र और उसके द्वारा आपके उज्ज्वल भविष्य की कामना करता हूँ।

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-President and Chairman, Sir, I rise only to add my voice to the sentiments of felicitations and welcome that have been already voiced by so many distinguished Members of the House.

Sir, knowing you as I have been for the past so many years, I have known that you have never allowed differences in political opinions to affect personal relations or your fight for the just rights of everyone. Sir, you have added lustre and distinction to the various high offices that you have

[Shri Tridib Chaudhuri]

occupied in your varied and distinguished career. I hope and have great confidence that you will add greater distinction to the office that you have come to occupy as Vice-President and Chairman.

Thank you.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA (Punjab): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is my proud privilege to felicitate you on behalf of the Akali Dal and on my own behalf on your election to the august office of Vice-President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

You, as Governor of Punjab, endeared yourself to all Punjabis, and it is to your credit that, in spite of being in politics for such a long time and having held important organisational and administrative offices, you have managed to remain non-controversial and command the confidence and respect of all parties. It is a great achievement, and I am sure you will adorn this office with credit. I wish you, Sir well and look forward to this House performing its constitutional and political duties with competence while maintaining its decorum as the House of Elders under your able guidance.

Thank you, Sir.

12.00 Noon

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, it is making the Ministers happy because the Question Hour is over.

श्री बंकल 'उत्साह' (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
मोहतरम,

आप आए बज्म में ले कर
चिरागे दिल का तूर,
अब उजालों से अन्धेरे दोस्ती
फरमाएंगे ।

हमारे आदरणीय अटल जी का और
हमारा सम्पर्क सन् 1957 से है। इसलिए
उन्हीं की तरजुमानी में कर रहा हूँ दो
लाइन में अपने प्रधानमंत्री जी के माध्यम
से आपको सपपित कर रहा हूँ :—

गौरव और खुशी के धन से
खुद को नालामाल किया,
अन्धों से स्वागत और दिल से
आपका इस्तकबाल किया,

उस ने दिया जवाब अनोखा
इस ने अजब सवाल किया,
इस हाऊस में बैठ के हमने
क्या-क्या नहीं कमाल किया ।

शोर-शराबा हंगामों में वक्त
का आदर कर न सके,
अपनी बातें मनवाने को
फिर भी बहुत मलाल किया ।

अदर बैठ के अखबारों की
हर पुरखी में उलझे रहे,
बाहर क्या क्या बीत रहा है,
यह भी नहीं ख्याल किया ।

राजनीति के रा से ता तक
कुछ पहुँचे कुछ डूब गये,
अक्सर इस खींचातानी में
देश का रूप निडाल किया ।

†[شروی بیکل ات ساهی (انپریڈیش):
مہترم -

آپ آئے بزم میں لیکر چراغ دل کا نور
اب اجالوں سے اندھیرے دوستی فرمائیں گے
ہمارے آدوں نے اٹل جی کا اور
ہمارا سمپرک سقہ 1957 سے ہے -
اس لئے انہیں کی ترجمانی میں
کر رہا ہوں - دو لائن اپنے پردھان
مন্ত্রی جی کے مادیہم - آپ کو
سمپریت کر رہا ہوں -

گورو ازر خوشی کے دھن سے خون کو
مالا مال کیا
آنکھوں سے سوائکت اور دل سے آپ کا
استقبال کیا -

اس نے دیا جواب انوکھا اس نے عجب
سوال کیا
اس ہاؤس میں بیٹھ کے ہم نے کیا کیا
نہی کیا -

شور شرابہ ہنگاموں میں وقت کا اور
کو نہ سکے

اپنی باتیں منوانے کو پھر بھی بہت
ملا کیا -

اندر بیٹھ کے انہمازوں کی ہر سرخی
میں الجھ رہے

بہار کیا کیا بیت رہا ہے یہ بھی نہیں
خیال کیا۔

راج نیت سے را سے تا تک کچھ پہنچے
کچھ توب گئے۔

اکثر اس کھینچا مانی میں دیش کا
روپ بھال کیا۔

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
सभापति जी, आज आपने जिस पद को
सुशोभित किया है, माननीय नेता सदन,
विभिन्न पार्टियों के नेताओं ने जो आपको
बधाई दी है मैं उससे अपने को सम्बद्ध
करता हूँ। सभापति जी, मैं आपको
वयोवृद्ध तो इसलिए नहीं कहता क्योंकि
आप उम्र में मुझ से थोड़े छोटे हैं परन्तु
जो पद आपने ग्रहण किया है आपने
मुख्य मंत्री के पद से ले कर केन्द्रीय
मंत्रिमण्डल में तथा मेरी पार्टी के अध्यक्ष
पद को, राज्यपाल पद को विभिन्न पदों
को सुशोभित कर के आप यहां तक पहुंचे
हैं। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है डेमोक्रेसी जिस
का जनता और नुमाइंदों से संबंध है जिस
देश की जनता और नुमाइंदे सजग तथा
सावधान होते हैं उससे उसका गहरा
संबंध है। परन्तु सदन से डेमोक्रेसी का
बहुत गहरा संबंध है। पक्ष और विपक्ष
का तो यह कर्तव्य होना चाहिये कि
सरकार के सही कामों का दिल खोल कर
के समर्थन करें उसमें संकोच न करें।
डेमोक्रेसी तभी सफल होती है। सरकार
का यह कर्तव्य होता है कि विपक्ष के
सही सुझावों को मान लेने में उसे कोई
संकोच नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं गुरुपद-
स्वामी जी से इतना निवेदन करूंगा कि
उन्होंने सदन के अनुशासन का दायित्व
आप पर छोड़ दिया है मैं उन से कहूंगा
कि सदन में अनुशासन का दायित्व सभी
सदस्यों का है चाहे वह विपक्ष के हों या
पक्ष के हों। अटल जी ने बहुत भावपूर्ण
बधाई दी है उससे मैं अपने को सम्बद्ध
करता हूँ परन्तु जो पक्ष और विपक्ष की
तलवारें तनी हुई हैं उससे मैं सहमत नहीं
हूँ। डेमोक्रेसी में वाक् युद्ध और तर्क
युद्ध होता है तरन्तु तलवारें नहीं चला
करती हैं... (ब्यवधान)

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : (मध्य
प्रदेश) : मतलब वही है।

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : वह मतलब
मेरी समझ में जरा देर से आ रहा है।
मैं यह कह रहा था कि डेमोक्रेसी में
विचारों की तलवारें हों मगर जो तलवार
... (ब्यवधान)

एक माननीय सदस्य : मतलब वही

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल : सभापति जी,
मैं आपका हृदय से सम्मान करता हूँ और
आशा करता हूँ कि आपके द्वारा यह सदन
और इस देश को डेमोक्रेसी सुरक्षित रहेगी।
इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको पुनः शुभ-
कामनाएं देता हूँ।

*SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM
(Kerala): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am
very happy to offer my sincere felicitations
to you in Malayalam, my mother tongue.
I fully associate myself with the sentiments
already expressed by my distinguished col-
leagues here. Sir, on behalf of my party,
the Kerala Congress from the small state
of Kerala in the southernmost part of this
large and great country, I offer my heart-
felt felicitations on your being elected as
the Vice-President of the Republic and
Chairman of this august House. Sir, you
have held many high positions before oc-
cupying this high office. I wish you all
the best in your new assignment as well.
May God bless you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Prime
Minister, Honourable Leader of the House
and Honourable Members, I am most
touched by the warmth and kindness with
which the Prime Minister and Honourable
Members have welcomed me to this House
and the generous sentiments expressed
here. It is with humility that I have enter-
ed upon this office. I pray that I may be
enabled to uphold the high traditions of
the Rajya Sabha. I am conscious of the
invaluable contributions made by my great
predecessors including specially Dr. Radha-
krishnan, Dr. Zakir Hussain and Shri R.
Venkataraman. I shall endeavour with
your cooperation to follow their light in
materialising the will of the House.

*English translation of the original
speech delivered in Malayalam.

[Mr. Chairman]

The Rajya Sabha as a deliberative body can bring to every issue an outlook of mature, dispassionate and sensitive contemplation in consonance with the lofty idealism of the stalwarts in our nation's history. The House thus has a vital responsibility to fulfil *vis-a-vis* the past, the present and the future. While we address ourselves to this task, the eyes of the world outside perceive our every mood and motion. The people of India hope unflinchingly to benefit from the wealth of patriotism, knowledge and wisdom that abounds in this House. I am fortified by the presence here of personages who have been in the forefront of our national life and have long parliamentary experience. Their contributions from day to day will be an invaluable element in our proceedings. Equally, I am happy that the House has hon. Members who while young in years have the marks of wisdom on their brow. As a Persian saying has it

“बुजुर्गी बा अकलस्त ना बा माह-ओ-लि”

That is, a person is respected as an elder not so much by the age in months and years as by the wisdom he displays. So I would like to repeat that this is the House of the Elders. So in the House I look forward to dignified discussion guided purely by perceptions of the national interest and I hope that in doing so, hon. Members will be mindful and considerate about each others rights at all times, more especially when a coincidence in their views eludes them. We could with advantage keep in mind what Voltaire is said to have stated “I might disapprove what you say, but I will defend to death your right to say it.”

वैसे भी हिन्दी में कहावत है “निन्दक नियरे राखिए...”

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : “आंगन कुटी छवाय”

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I do not have to complete it. It is perfectly in consonance with our own thought emanating from ancient origins. The Rigveda enjoins :

“आ नो भद्रा, कृत्वो यन्तु विश्वतः”

On my part I pledge myself to do all that I may during my term of office to enable you to participate in the deliberations of

this House in due and appropriate manner.

Once again, I thank you most sincerely for your most generous words of felicitations. I offer my salutations to the ganayaks. मैं आप सब गणनायकों को प्रणाम करके अब कार्य का श्रीगणेश करता हूँ।

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, with a heavy heart, I would like to bring.... (Interruptions).

SHRI V. GOPALASAMY (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Prime Minister, you please sit and listen.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Friends, just a minute.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह (बिहार) : प्रधान मंत्री को इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए। जब उनमें सुनने का धीरज नहीं है, ऐसे प्रधान मंत्री की देश को जरूरत नहीं है।

श्री सभापति : आप कृपया अपनी जगह लें। आपकी बात...

What you have said, that is in my mind. But just a few minutes for laying Papers on the Table of the House and then you will have your say. As I promised. I will not come in the way. (Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) I strongly resent the way in which the Members has behaved by shouting at the Prime Minister. (Interruptions).

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: I have a right to say. What is wrong in it?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: He requested the Prime Minister to stay here. There is nothing wrong in that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. I would just like to remind that there is a saying:

का विष्णु को घट गयो;
जो भृगु मारी लात,
क्षमा बड़न को चाहिए,
छोटन को उत्पात।

तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस दृष्टिकोण से हम देखें, तो सब काम अच्छा चलेगा।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Sir, I am on a point of order. I can understand the difference of opinion. But my hon. friend Mr. Gopalsamy used the word * This is condemnable.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: I have got my right to say. What is wrong in it?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: What is wrong in it? It is unparliamentary. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. (Interruptions).

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, I am drawing your attention to remove a particular word* from the record.

ठाकुर जगतपाल सिंह : (मध्य प्रदेश) :
ऐसे शब्द का प्रयोग करना अच्छा नहीं है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति महोदय, संसदीय कार्य मंत्रीको प्रधान मंत्री जी को यह बता देना चाहिये था कि प्रश्न काल के बाद आपको बधाई देने के पश्चात् हम श्रीलंका का मामला उठाना चाहेंगे। अगर प्रधान मंत्री उपस्थित रहते, तो अच्छा होता।

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Are you supporting his conduct? It is surprising.

क्या आप उनके कांडक्ट को सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. I understand that the issues are coming up in Lok Sabha also and as the chance is, both the Houses meet at the same time. Consequently, sometimes, it becomes difficult. So, it is understanding on all sides that is needed. That is what I will request and I think, my friend will agree that such words should not be used. They will not form part of the proceedings.

*Not recorded.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Central assistance for Employment Generation Works in Uttar Pradesh.

*1. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken on the memorandum submitted by the Uttar Pradesh Government on the 16th August, 1987, seeking Central assistance of Rs. 67.66 crores for Employment Generation Works in regard to starting of special programmes for rural labourers;

(b) whether the said amount has since been sanctioned and given to that State; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh in their memorandum for seeking central assistance had sought Rs. 529.84 crores under Employment Generation Scheme, including Rs. 67.66 crores for Rural Engineering Services. A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 100.62 crores has been approved to the State Government under this head.

Appraisal of prevalence of drug addiction

*2. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recently asked the States and the Union Territories to provide detailed appraisals on the prevalence of drug addiction in their areas and also to submit proposals on measures to tackle the problem effectively;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued in this regard;

(c) whether any States Government have since sent their proposals to tackle.