

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

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In a few moments from now, this session of the Rajya Sabha will come to an end. Before I adjourn the House *sine die*, I, on my own behalf and on behalf of the panel of Vice-Chairman, thank the hon. Members for the cooperation extended by them in the transaction of the business of the House.

This being the second part of the Budget Session, the House devoted much of the time to the main Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill, which give effect to the Budget proposals of the Central Government. Moreover, as per our past practice, we discussed the working of three Ministries during the session. As usual, and as is expected, the Members were quite alert in inviting the attention of the Government to matters of urgent public interest through Calling Attention Motions and Special Mentions. The marathon sitting of the House to pass the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Bill will linger in the kinds of hon. Members for a long time to come. The valuable suggestions made by the Members during the two-day debate on the Draft National Education Policy deserve a word of praise.

Throughout, the Members maintained a high level of debate, mostly in a cool and calm atmosphere, in a spirit of give and take, though on occasions, the atmosphere was tense, and tempers were frayed albeit for a short while, but this is all part of the democratic system that we have adopted.

For some Members, this may be the last session of the Rajya Sabha, as their term will expire sometime in June or July this year. Some of them may come back while others will find other avenues to serve the people and the nation. I wish them all a happy and fruitful life.

I thank you once again for your kind cooperation.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for some of us this is the last day of our term and I am very much thankful for the extremely good cooperation and accommodation shown to us by the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, other Members of the House and the Secretary-General of this House. Sir, I only want to place on record that one thing which was very much in our minds this time was the casualty of Special Mentions and Calling Attention because the Government business was more. Because, the Government business was so much. But whether we are here or not, I would request the Leader of the House to allocate more days of session of Rajya Sabha so that more Special Mentions and Calling Attention find place. They are very important in the business of the House. I once again thank you very much. I also thank the staff for all the kind cooperation they have extended to me.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am also one of the Members who will be retiring at the end of next month. In the rough and tumble of politics one is not sure who will come back and who will not. But as Shakespeare said in *Romeo and Juliet*—“Parting is such sweet sorrow that one can always go on saying goodbye till it will be tomorrow.” When as a young Member I came here in 1980, little did I realise that the experience in this House, in Parliament would be so exciting, enervating and exhilarating. In fact, I can call it an unforgettable experience. This House is the Council of States or the House of Elders as it is euphemistically referred to. The debates which went on in the House were always of a high order and it was a real education even though most of the Members had themselves a lot of distinction and come from very experienced background. I can go on and on narrate my experiences in this House. But I think I would rather wait to write some memoirs hoping that I will come back...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will send me a copy of it.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: Surely. Before I conclude, I will be failing in my duty if I did not place on record one thing which many of us forget, and that is a word of praise about the Secretariat Staff of the Rajya Sabha including the Chamber Attendants. I have never found anywhere else such a band of enthusiastic persons, whether it be Secretary-General or his able assistants or even the Chamber attendants, ever willing to help a Member in the discharge of his parliamentary duties. This is something which I think many Parliaments the world over must learn from us. And also a word of praise about the press who always took note of whatever was said by Members if it was worth mentioning and even if it was not, I think they added their comments. With these words, I would like to thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, and your colleagues on the panel and our most genial Leader of the House and our Parliamentary Affairs Minister who now and then provided rasagullas to us. I would like to conclude in French—*au revoir*—till we meet again.

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, at the very outset I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all those who occupied the august Chair which you are occupying just now. I think they have all been very fair to me and I would like to thank them all. I would also like to thank the Secretarial staff led by the Secretary-General, who have been of great assistance in helping us, helping me in particular whenever I needed any assistance from them. I remember the day when I came here for the first time, when I entered the House for the first time, a colleague sitting by my side told me what counts in this House is lung power. I haven't ever heard such a thing. I asked him what he meant by lung power. I know as a doctor everyone has lung and it has only the power of inhaling and exhaling. But this power of lung was not known to me. He explained, you can shout, if you can raise your voice and say things which should not be said, probably you will be heard not merely by the Chair but by the whole House. But at that moment I had to make up my mind whether I should make use of my lung power or not. I am happy to

say today that I have succeeded in not using this lung power, and I am sure in a House of this type which has a certain tradition, where the main aim is policy-making. I think we should try to stick to this particular approach. I would like to thank all Members of the House, particularly the people on the other side who have shown me such consideration which is very rare to a man from the opposite side.

श्री हुनमदेव नारायण यादव (बिहार) :
श्रीमान, मेरा भी कार्यकाल समाप्त हो रहा है लेकिन अंग्रेजी में जो शब्द रिटायर, मैं रिटायर नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैं 6 साल के लिए आया था वह कार्यकाल समाप्त हो रहा है। मैं सामाजिक सेवा में हूँ राजनीति में हूँ, संसद् के बाहर रहूँ या भीतर लेकिन संसदीय प्रणाली के प्रति अभिषेच बनो रहेगी। गांव का साधारण आदमी था, ग्राम पंचायत का प्रधान 1960 ईसवी में बना, वहां से टेढ़े-मेढ़े रास्ते, ऊबड़-खाबड़ रास्ते चलते फिरते भारत की सबसे बड़ी पंचायत का सदस्य बन गया। यह दिन उस महापुरुष का है जो आज इस धरती पर नहीं है। यह डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया की देन है जिन्होंने मेरे जैसे आदमी को भारत को संसद् में पहुंचाया। मैंने यहां आ कर बहुत देखा, बहुत सीखा, बहुत सुना। गांव से चला था, गांव की बात लेकर आए थे, करोड़ों की वाणी लेकर के आए थे, जो तनहीन हैं, मनहीन हैं, वाणीहीन हैं, धनहीन हैं। उन हीनों की वाणी लेकर इस संसद् में आया था और उनकी वाणी को मैंने यहां सुनाया। सरकार पर अपनी वाणी के जरिये बहुत करारा प्रहार करता रहा। सदन के नेता संयोग से सामने बैठे हैं, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी हैं हमारे विरोध पक्ष के सदस्यों के प्रति हमारी सरकार चलाने वाले लोगों ने कभी-कभी जितने धीरज और साहस और उदारता का परिचय दिया संसदीय लोकतंत्र में यह भी एक शिक्षा लेकर जाएंगे कि सहमति में जिन्दा रहना तो सब सोखते हैं मर्द वही हैं जो असहमति के बीच जिंदा

[श्री हुक्मदेव नारायण यादव]

रहना सीखे। गांधी जी की यही विशेषता थी कि वह असहमति में भी जिन्दा रहते थे इसलिए वे इस देश के महान पुरुष कहलाये, शताब्दी के महापुरुष कहालाये। हम असहमति में भी जिन्दा रहना सीखे हैं। यहाँ से लौट कर जाऊंगा लेकिन एक पीड़ा लेकर के जाऊंगा। हमारे राम कृष्ण जी ने सब कर्मचारियों को धन्यवाद दिया है चतुर्थ वर्गीय कर्मचार, महासचिव से लेकर सब के लिए तो हम लोगों के मन में वह प्यार और सद्भावना है ही जो कठिन परिस्थितियों में भी साथ देते रहे लेकिन गांव का आदमी हूँ एक पीड़ा लेकर जरूर जा रहा हूँ कि भारत को इस संसद् में लोकभाषा, लोकभोजन, और लोकभवन के अरमान लेकर मैं आया था मैं जिसका प्रतिनिधित्व करता हूँ, उसकी छवि को देखने का अरमान शायद अधूरा ही रह गया। भारत की उस लोकभाषा, लोकभूषा लोकभोजन और लोकभवन की छवि यहाँ नहीं दिखायी पड़ी और इसके लिए हम सब नहीं एक व्यवस्था के तहत हम हैं वह दोषी है। सब से तकलीफ यह हुई कि लोकभाषा में हम यहाँ कितना कुछ भी बोलें हमारे प्रेस वाले उनकी बात छापते हैं जो इस देश में मुट्ठी भर की भाषा हैं। जो गिटपिट बोलेंगा उनकी बात समझेंगे हमारे गरीबों की वाणी, झोंपड़ी वालों की वाणी को समझने के लिए प्रेस वालों के पास न कलम है, न रोशनी है, न उनके पास कागज़ है और न उनके हृदय में हमारे जैसे गांव वालों के लिए कोई स्थान है। मुझे इस बात का अफसोस है। करोड़ों की वाणी को प्रेस वाले भी अपनी कलम के द्वारा स्थान दें, न दिये हों तो आगे भी संसद् में करोड़ों की वाणी को स्थान दें जिससे भारत में झोंपड़ी में रहने वाले करोड़ों लोग अपनी उस वाणी को भी सुन सकें जो उनके लिए संसद् में आवाज़ उठाई जाती है। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और सरकार के उन सदस्यों को भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ जो इन करोड़ों की वाणी को सुनते रहे खास कर के सदन के नेता

को धन्यवाद देता हूँ जो हमारे करारे प्रहार होने पर भी मुस्कराते हुए उस बात को सुनते रहे। धन्यवाद।

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE
(SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH).
May I thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, and the panel of Vice-Chairman for the conduct of the House through the turbulence of the Finance Bill as well as the Muslim Womens' Bill and also the tranquility of the Education Policy paper?

Some Members and colleagues are retiring, and I do hope most of them do come back. As human beings we do develop attachments, and however it is 'Ayes' and 'Noes' in the House, but when we are in the Lobby, it is mostly 'Ayes' rather than 'Noes'. And in spite of all Divisions from the Chair, when we are in the Central Hall there were hardly any divisions amidst us.

Here, a mention was made Dhabeje made for increasing the number of days. A mention was made of lung power. When lung power is used, one day is multiplied by several times. But it was not the lung power I have come across the mind power of some of the friends who are retiring and I in particular have been a great beneficiary of many of their suggestions and the light they have thrown on the various aspects of the issues that came up in the House.

I do express my indebtedness to the Members who are parting. But parting, as it is, is partial. It may be parting from the House, but in the larger arena of public life, as Hukmdeo Ji mentioned, there is no parting and it is that arena which is the essence of public life. We stand united and together. We wish our friends the best. With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourns sine die.

The House then adjourns sine die at twenty-one minutes past eight of the clock.