

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, a similar clarification would have been desirable from the Government side. That is what I have to submit.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): This is a deliberate charge on the Government which I deny on the floor of the House.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): Government must give clarification.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA (Uttar Pradesh): I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no order here and you are raising point of order.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: There was an order by way of your ruling.

मान्यवर, जिस तरीके से आपने अपनी रुलिंग में बतलाया है कि माननीय सदन के जिन चार-पांच सदस्यों का नाम चार्ज-शीट में था, न वे अभियुक्त थे और न इसका कोई गवाह है। (व्यवधान) . . . मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस बात का प्रयास किया जाना चाहिये कि भविष्य में . . . (व्यवधान) . . . मैं कमेंट नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मेरा मान्यवर केवल निवेदन यह है कि जैसे कि गृह मंत्री जी की चिट्ठी के बारे में मुझे मालूम नहीं था। गृह मंत्री . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order.

FAREWELL TO RETIRING MEMBERS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today I bid farewell, on behalf of the House and myself, to all those Members who will be retiring after completion of their terms during this year. As Members are aware, this year some Members will be completing their term next month but a majority of them in June or July. A few years back, the six years' term of most of the Members generally

used to come to an end in the month of April.

However, in the last few years, political changes in the States have also affected the elections to the Rajya Sabha, disturbing the normal cycle of retirement of Members in April every two years. Some of you may feel, especially those retiring in June or July this year, that I am bidding you good-bye a little too soon. But this is due to a convention and practice to bid farewell to Members during this month. Parting is always sad and sometimes painful but it is very much a part of life. Some of you may be fortunate enough to be back here and you will be welcome but others who do not come back will be sorely missed in this House where they were with us as colleagues for as long as six years or more in some cases. The friendships that we have developed will, of course, continue in life, but the daily contact and company would be missing.

During this period, we have shared our personal joys and sorrows as well as of the nation. Though we may belong to different political persuasions, may have different ideologies and opinions, yet all of us had only one aim—i.e., the service of this great country and the well-being of our people. We have tried to fulfil this objective according to our lights. In the course of discussions in the House several times, we have had frayed tempers, serious differences but that has left no bitterness or rancour behind.

I have not been here for long and have just begun to establish rapport with you, when the time to part company has come. For myself, I can say that all the Members who are due to retire, to whichever party they may belong, have been equally dear to me and I shall always remember them for their unfailing courtesy towards me as well as to others in the House. Hon. Members, Parliament is not the only forum through

[Mr. Chairman]

which you can serve the country; when you are free from the burden of parliamentary work, I am sure you will find several other avenues and opportunities to serve the weak and the under privileged and do your best to ameliorate their condition and redress their grievances. I hope you would remember all the nice things that happened in the House and forget unpleasantness, if any. We, in this House, wish the retiring Members all happiness, success and prosperity wherever they may be and I hope that they will continue to serve the motherland with the same vigour and earnestness.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): On a point of order, Sir. Several Members would be retiring in 1987. What happens to them? Do we offer....?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That retirement is regular.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, I rise with mixed feelings today at this hour—mixed feelings because it is sad to part company with as many as 70 Members during the next four months. But at the same time, thanks to the uniqueness of the Rajya Sabha, with the retirement of these hon. Members, we will get an opportunity to have the company, to enjoy the company, of some more new Members in this House. Sir, on behalf of my colleagues, who are still members of this House and who will be remaining as Members of this House for some time more, I offer my good wishes to all the retiring Members. Some of the retiring Members were very vocal, while some were not so vocal while some others were mute. But in their own way, they have made their contribution. We have also enjoyed their company, whether as very vocal or vocal or mute Members. Really it will be a sad thing. However, as you have said, here, it was a part of their job. Outside this House, they have other

assignments, to work for the betterment of the people, to improve the welfare of the people. I hope the Members who will be retiring from their Parliamentary job will find good places in other aspects of social and political life. But still, we will be missing them here. It is not—what should I say—a very good thing to miss them. Some may come back and some others may not come back. It has already been decided that some of them would not come back. As long as people like Kalp Nath Rai and J. K. Jain are not coming back, we will surely be missing them. We wish they come back to give us their company because we will be missing a Kalp Nath Rai when speaking like an actor in the Greek amphitheatre. We will be missing J. K. Jain....

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): You come into our Parliamentary Board.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I am not going to usurp your right. That is why, I said, I wish, they come back. Mr. J. K. Jain should come back to usurp the right of the Chairman to tell us sometimes 'baith jao'. We will also be missing; what should I say, charming ladies or noisy charming ladies. At least, two of the noisy charming ladies we will be missing. Sir, I offer my good wishes to all the retiring Members.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI (Uttar Pradesh): You should say, very active charming ladies.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, since our group leader, Mr. R. Mohanaragam, is going to retire along with the other hon. Members, I have to offer my good wishes, on behalf of the All-India Anna DMK, to all the retiring Members. The hon. Members, who have so far effectively served in this august House, though retiring from

this supreme body, will not be retiring from public life. Their experience, eminence and enlightened activities are essential for the progress of the country. According to Edmund Burke, great men are like landmarks and guide-books. In fact, our retiring Members are more than that. They are like scientific signals to guide our country. These scientific signals, so far operating within this House, are going to operate outside the House. Anyhow, the operation of the scientific signal is available to the public. I do believe, most of the Members including our leader Mr. Mohanaragam will return back to this House to receive our colourful welcome and offer their good wishes when we retire in turn.

Once again I offer my good wishes to our retiring Members.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Sir, there are ebbs and flows in the life of a man. That applies more to the lives of politicians. Sir, politics is a very difficult avocation and Members of Parliament have to shoulder many responsibilities. Politicians, and Members, have to work in different situations, in different climes.

Sir, we, the Members of Parliament, belong to the same political breed—we were talking of the breed just a few minutes back. We all belong to the political breed.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Maharashtra): Indigenous.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: And politics is a public trust, it is not just power. Some of the retiring Members may come back. I have been a Member of Parliament with various experiences. In 1972 I retired and now I have come back. Likewise, those who retire will not retire once and for all. We all retire once and for all when we die. Many of them, perhaps, will come back. Some of them perhaps, as you have already said, will have other

avenues and other opportunities of serving the country.

AN HON. MEMBER: They may come back after sometime.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: National service to which we all are committed is most important. Our loss to the House, I take it, is a gain for the country. They will be serving elsewhere. They may miss our friendship and we shall miss their friendship here. Sometimes I feel that among the clubs the best political club is Parliament. Many Members will miss this club, I know that, but we will be meeting those friends in various other fields. I wish them well. Before I conclude, may I repeat the famous words of Addison, the poet and the essayist, I cannot excell him. I, therefore, bid farewell to those retiring Members in the same words of Addison: "Once more farewell. If ever we meet hereafter, we shall meet in happier climes and on a safer shore." Thank you.

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी (मध्यप्रदेश) : सभापति जी, आपने और मेरे साथियों ने जो उद्गार प्रकट किये हैं मैं अपने को उनसे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। प्रति 2 वर्ष इस प्रकार का कार्यक्रम हमारे सदन में होता है। शायद यह बात ध्यान में नहीं आती होगी कि उस सदन को यह सौभाग्य प्राप्त नहीं है तो हमें पता होता है कि आने वाले 30 तारीख को या जून की 30 तारीख को या जुलाई की चौथी तारीख को हमारा कार्यकाव समाप्त होगा। उस सदन में तो कभी-कभी सदस्य रेल यात्रा करते-करते उनको बंसी लाल जी की ओर से जो अधिकारी है, वह बता देगा कि ठीक है आज तो कोई बात नहीं है, लेकिन आपको शायद पता नहीं, कल रात को आपका हाउस डिजोल्ड हो गया, आप मेम्बर नहीं रहे। ऐसा मेरे कुछ मित्रों से हुआ है।

यह जो छः साल का कार्यवधि है, उसके कारण इस सदन के सदस्यों का संसद् से निकट का संबंध हो जाता है, और परस्पर भी काफी गहरा संबंध बन जाता है। आपने यही कहा कि यह केवल एक मंचमात्र है, जिसके द्वारा हम देश की

[श्री लाल कृष्ण अडवाणी]

सेवा करते हैं, और भी कई हैं, लेकिन बाहर जाने के बाद भी मैं समझता हूँ कि संसद के सभी सदस्यों को, राज्य सभा के सदस्यों को इस बात का आभास होगा कि लोकतंत्र में और जिस प्रकार की परिपाटी हमने स्वीकार की है, उसमें यह सर्व-शक्तिमान और सर्वोच्च मंच है। उसकी प्रतिष्ठा, उसकी गरिमा जहाँ पर भी हम रहें, वह वनी रहे इस प्रकार का हमारा व्यवहार, हमारा आचरण, हमारी सेवा हो।

मुझे इसका विश्वास है कि सब लोग इसका ध्यान रखेंगे। इस बार के नामों को ही देखें, तो स्वीकार करेंगे कि काफी वजनदार हमारे साथी हैं जो हमको छोड़ कर जा रहे हैं। उनमें राजनीतिक वजन भी है और कुछ-कुछ में राजनीतिक वजन के साथ-साथ शारीरिक वजन भी है, दोनों हैं। ऐसे सब साथी विदा हो रहे हैं। कुछ वापिस आएंगे और जो कुछ वापिस आएंगे लगता है कि उसी कारण शायद नाजमा जी यहां दिखाई नहीं दे रही हैं, मारग्रेट जी भी यहां दिखाई नहीं दे रही हैं, जिनको लगता है कि हम तो रहने ही वाले हैं, इसलिए हमें कोई विदाई कार्यक्रम में होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। तिवारी जी भी दिखाई नहीं दे रहे हैं। इन सबके प्रति मैं शुभ-कामना प्रकट करता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि यह सुमधुर संबंध बने रहें।

धन्यवाद।

श्री वीरेंद्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आदरनीय सभापति जी, इस हाउस के बड़ी संख्या में माननीय सदस्य कुछ समय बाद रिटायर हो रहे हैं। देश के नव-दश वर्ष में जो पहली जुलाई से प्रारम्भ होता है, नया सदन होगा। नये चेहरे देखने को मिलेंगे, बहुत से पुराने मित्रों के दर्शन इस हाउस में न हो सकेंगे।

मान्यवर, जो रिटायर हो रहे हैं सभी को और जो नहीं आ सकेंगे उनको मैं खास तौर से हार्दिक सदभावना, शुभ कामना-उनके अच्छे स्वास्थ्य के लिए, उनके अच्छे देश के प्रति कार्यों के लिए, मान्यवर करता हूँ। जो विचार आपने

और माननीय नेता विरोधी पक्ष ने रखे हैं हृदय से उनके साथ अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ और यह अपेक्षा करता हूँ कि सभी दलों के नेताओं से और ट्रेजरी बेंच के नेता जी से कि अगली दफा सभी इस बात की चेष्टा करें कि बेहतर से बेहतर आदमी जो देश के, समाज के, गरीब के और किसान मजदूर के हित में आवाज उठाने के लिए जोर से आवाज उठा सकें, ऐसे आदमियों को आगे से सदन में भेजें।

मैं यह भी उम्मीद मान्यवर, आपके माध्यम से करता हूँ कि जो माननीय सदस्य रिटायर होंगे, वह देश की एकता, अखण्डता, साम्प्रदायिक एकता के लिए जितना आज तक कर रहे थे, अवकाश प्राप्त करने के बाद उससे कहीं और अधिक लगन और दिलचस्पी के साथ करते रहेंगे। इसमें उनका और देश का भी हित है। धन्यवाद।

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I offer only a qualified farewell to these persons because, Sir, except those States for which elections are going to be held day after tomorrow, in the case of others we do not know whether we are really bidding them farewell or we have to welcome them again. After the Prime Minister's speech yesterday at the farewell function when he mentioned that really they were not retiring and that their services would be utilised for the country, I am seeing many of them being renominated or being posted as Governors or Chairmen of some public sector corporations or something. Therefore, I think they will be active, even those who are retiring and I am sure their faces will be seen more often in the Central Hall as we see many ex-Members coming more punctually than the current Members in the Central Hall. Mr. Bansi Lal, with his benevolence, is also giving a pass to them to come to Delhi once a year. That also will help us to meet them once a year at least.

Sir, in my two years' stay in this House, I find that there is a lot of cordiality in this House as compared to the other House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Stop with this.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Here I found to my surprise, Sir, the lady Members who shouted me down during my first week here, particularly Smt. Usha Malhotra, Smt. Monika Das, Miss Saroj Khaparde, immediately after going out of this hall, offered a cup of coffee and started advising me how to be a good parliamentarian. That is the spirit with which we are working and functioning in this House. We wish many of them will come back, and the same spirit will guide us all here.

The complexion of Rajya Sabha is also changing Sir. Once it used to be called the House of Elders. And I used to find, when I came to the visitors' gallery, many Members sleeping. But I do not find such scenes here now. The complexion is changing. More young Members are coming, and I feel that after the next biennial elections in June-July, the complexion will change further and this House will become more youthful under the guidance of the really youthful Chairman.

Thank you.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at this solemn moment, I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and my learned colleagues. Sorrow of parting always brings anguish. Of course, I recall the poem "Brooks".

'Men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever.'

So also Rajya Sabha is a permanent institution, everlasting institution. We

cannot forget the days when we had occasions to develop friendship, company with great personalities and Members of Parliament committed for the noble cause of public service.

Sir, how can we forget the sweet voices of Mrs. Najma, Mrs. Margaret Alva?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are discriminating.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: But you won't miss some of the beauties here.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mr. Khushwant Singh, of course, we may miss him in Parliament. But we will not miss his dishes, sweet and sour which every week he is providing us.

Some of them may come back like Mr. Abdulla Koya—I do not know whether he is retiring as already unopposedly he has been elected—and Mr. Dhabe who has done a marvellous work here. I wish he comes back.

A far a my friend, Mr. Mohanarangam, is concerned, I have had to cross sword, confront with him but in a good spirit, within the four walls of the House. Mr. Mohanarangam of late has been demanding, through you, a direct fight from Madras to Delhi. But I think because of his overweight the flight has to get a stop-over at Hyderabad.

Whenever I see him I am really dazzled at how he moves in a lightning speed with his great size. He delivers his speech also at a lightning speed. Whenever I see him I am reminded of the famous film actor, Bud Spencer.

At this moment I wish all the retiring Members a long-long life and prosperous career and good health. I wish them to come back again.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): On behalf of the United Association of

[Shri Ghulam Rasool Matto]

Members, on behalf of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference and on my own behalf I offer my best wishes to the retiring members. This moment for me is a moment of emotion, simply because the leader of my group, Shri S.W. Dhabe is retiring, but I hope he will come back and lead us in this House. I myself shall be missing the repartees of Shri Khushwant Singh and the brilliant speech of Shri Jaswant Singh. I shall also be missing the indepth studies by Dr. Shanti Patel, Shri Ashwani Kumar, Mr. Kalyana Sundaram, Shri Indradeep Sinha, Dr. Najma Heptulla, Shri Kalpnath Rai, Smt Usha Malhotra and Shri Satya Pal Malik I hope and wish they will all come back. But till they are not here; they have to work outside. As the Chairman has stated, in his speech and as the Prime Minister had stated this House alone is not the only forum where they can give vent to their feelings. Even outside the House, I would wish and beg of them from Kashmir to keep the banner of secularism, democracy and socialism high because these are our three important pillars. Whenever they find that democracy is in danger, they must raise their voice wherever they are. I wish them Godspeed, health and prosperity.

As a parting wish I would like to quote a British author who said that if we meet again let us smile; but if not, let this parting be well made.

We shall be meeting very often in the Central Hall where they will be coming. But that meeting will be facilitated only by Shri Bansi Lal if he gives them a permanent pass to come and meet us here and exchange views with us.

With these observations I offer my best wishes to the Members and hope that most of them will come back and take part in the proceedings of this House.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: Just as we have rules of business of the House there are certain basic rules for the conduct of the business of the Universe. One fundamental and basic rule is the perennial change.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair]

By a constitutional process every two years one-third of the Members of this House do retire. And when they retire we sincerely feel for those of our colleagues with whom we have been sitting and talking and working and laughing, if not in this House, outside. There is a sense of sorrow which overtakes us.

Dr. Samuel Johnson is said to have said of the politicians that politics is the last resort of the scoundrels.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): No.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I do not know how much we know of scoundrels, because I thought scoundrel is a scoundrel wherever he is. Sir, you have been with us for quite some time, and if you were to see us here, you may have an opinion about us. But if you see us in the lobbies and the Central Hall devouring Rasgullas, Gulabjamuns, Baalushahis, the camaraderie and the fellowship that you had seen there would surely impel you to feel that we are the greatest gentlemen existing on the earth. Therefore, Sir, some of the Members will come back and some others will not come back. Just as our Prime Minister has said that though they are retiring they will continue their untiring efforts in serving the country, serving for the weal and welfare of the people. But, Sir, I must mention two or three names of those who are extremely outstanding. Two of them are: Shrimati Monika Das and Shrimati Usha Malhotra who are not returning in this House. They have added so much grace to

the proceedings of this House (*Inter-ruptions*) and let us not be uncharitable. They have also added to the liveliness of the House. We will miss them. As to Mr Mohanarangam, I cannot imagine an Opposition without him. He has the acumen for the welfare of the human-beings. He symbolises that and I hope he will continue to be amidst us. Sir, I cannot forget my dear friend, Mr Khushwant Singh. I think he is one of the greatest Indians so far as his writings in English is concerned. But I assure you, Sir, despite his somewhat crude and pornographic image that is not his correct image. He is also a great gentleman because he sleeps at 9 o'clock in the night and gets up early what I know of him. We will always miss him if he is not renominated again.

Mr. Jaswant Singh will always be remembered for his brilliant oration in this House and I do hope that he returns back to this House.

Sir, for all those who have come back or are likely to come back, I have my sympathies and those who are not coming back, our very best wishes and prayers for their welfare and we do hope that they will continue to maintain the friendship and comaraderie which we have developed during their tenure with us here. Thank you.

SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA (Tripura): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I joined the Rajya Sabha, the Council of States in 1980. Six years have passed. During this period I tried my best to raise in the House the genuine demands and problems of the people of our country particularly of my State of Tripura. We the representatives of people have come here from different parts of our country. We have come on behalf of the different political parties. Sir, we may have different political views on different issues, and sometimes bitterness might have

been created among us, not for personal interest, but for the interest of our country. Yet we are all colleagues. We are friends of the same House. Sir, I am going out of Rajya Sabha, but my colleagues will continue to work in the House and in the Parliament. I can assure all of you that I shall work outside the Parliament for the same cause of the downtrodden people of our country.

I am grateful to you and to all my colleagues for the help and cooperation given to me in this House. I am also very thankful for the cooperation I got from all the officers and staff of the House. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Honourable Chair, to my colleagues on both the sides and all other friends of our Parliament. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI O. J. JOSEPH (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank all the Members of both sides and the staff who helped my work. I came here only because my party asked me to come over here. I am not very much interested in the parliamentary work. I am very much interested in the outside field work. I do not think the parliamentary work is the only work which can serve the people. I do not think I am serving the people. I am working as an ordinary man for the betterment of my country; that is all. So, now I am relieved and I am happy to be among my own people and work for them. I thank all the Members once again. I assure all Members and outside friends that I will work to the last breath for the cause of the Indian people, especially the working class. I thank the staff once again.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on behalf of the retiring Members belonging to the All India Anna DMK, namely, Mr. Ramakrishnan, Mr. Heerachand and on my own behalf, I thank all the Members who have shown us great sympathy and also cooperation for all the six years. Before dealing with the various aspects of the

[Shri R. Mohanarangam]

hospitality and cooperation shown to us by the Members of this House, I will be failing in my duty if I do not remember the important personalities of this country. One is my leader, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, who is responsible for my position here now. Number two, Sir,....

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Speak slowly at least today.

AN HON. MEMBER: Otherwise we cannot understand.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Because I speak in English, you do not understand. You do not know English.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Unless Interrupt him

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: It is his character. Another is Ma^{am} Indira Gandhi. When I came here in 1980 she was the Prime Minister of this country. I may tell you frankly what happened before 1980 when I was a Member of the Lok Sabha. I along with two more Members in the Privileges Committee strongly opposed the move that she should be called to the witness stand to answers to the questions to be raised by the Members of the Privileges Committee. That lady is not here now.

Sir, during the last six years, as a Member of this House, I have mixed with so many Members, both on this side and on the Treasury Benches side. My friend, Mr. Dipen Ghosh who has become leader of the biggest Opposition party, not by accident but by sheer hard work, used to fight with me on the floor of the House on some occasions, but when I go out, he will be more than a friend. He used to talk to me in such a way that I cannot forget it. I hope he will continue for four more years.

About our friend, Mr. Gurupadaswamy, whenever I had any doubt, he used to point out what exactly I should do here. Mr. Gurupadaswamy is such an experienced Member. I cannot forget him whether I come back or not.

Our elderly statesman, Mr. Lal Krishna Advani, used to speak in fine English and for the past three or four days, after getting elected as the President of the BJP, he has started speaking in Hindi, of course, very fine Hindi, which I cannot understand as Mr. Ghosh cannot understand my English. He is a very good speaker and I have read two books written by him two or three years ago. We cannot forget Mr. L. K. Advani.

Mr. Upendra is here with two years' experience and he even went to the extent of including his name in certain things which we have discussed here now. He is also here. I feel very much for Mr. Jaswant Singh. He is a very good speaker. I think he may come back. I am asking Mr. L. K. Advani whether Mr. Jaswant Singh will come back or not. I hope he will definitely come back. I have to mention something about Mr. Gopalsamy, not that he mentioned about me here. I used to cross swords with him. My sword is a fine sword. His word is also fine but his sword cannot beat my sword. Mr. Jain is here. I am told he is not coming back. How could it be? He is having a double-throat. He is having a mike in his throat. He wants to shout down the Opposition parties. By shouting them down he wants to wipe out the Opposition parties. He is imagining he can do so. But it is an impossibility. Anyway, I hope he will definitely come back. Now I turn to my guru, Mr. Kalp Nath Rai; guru, in the sense he is of my size. He is my extremely senior guru. He is absent today. I do not know why Mr. Kalp Nath Rai is not coming back. I do not know whether some of them are being given higher charges, some of them being

named as Governors. I do not know which State is awaiting to receive Mr. Kalp Nath Rai. Then, I see Mr. Bansi Lal. I used to meet him along with certain persons, some MPs. He is one person who will never laugh. He is always so serious. Even when I jesticulate and joke, he will never laugh. Then our Finance Minister is here. Whenever I see him, I remember the cine artistes of Andhra Pradesh. Whatever dress he wears, he looks like a cine artiste. He has a pleasing personality, ever smiling. Of course, he is a good economist I say this even though I belong to the Opposition, I cannot forget his hospitality. Then, Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am with you for the past only two or three weeks—that is, you sitting in the Chair as Deputy Chairman. You have really shown great consideration and sympathy towards the Opposition parties. Keralites are such, they always have the revolutionary spirit. Then, I have got a sentimental relationship with our honourable Chairman for the simple reason that I voted for him two times. He was my MP. Now he is the honourable Chairman of Rajya Sabha and Vice-President of India. During the past six years that I am here, I have seen and come across so many important personalities and characters. We may belong to the Opposition side, but wherever and whenever we find the truth we accept the truth, whether it is on that side or on this side. There are very many eminent personalities and whenever we in the Anna-DMK find anything wrong, any measure wrong, we do not hesitate to attack it and wherever there is good, we do not hesitate to support it. Wherever we are, whether I come back or not—it is for our leaders to decide—even if I do not come back, as our Chairman pointed out, I will do my duty to the satisfaction of my leaders for the betterment of this country.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA (Haryana): Sir, I am deeply overwhelmed by the sentiments expressed by the Chairman and other

honourable Members of the House. I consider myself very fortunate in being a Member of this august House for the period from 1982 to 1986. It has been a great opportunity and I have tried to perform my duty to the best of my ability. I being a Member of the Opposition party had a limited role to play inasmuch as to warn the Government of the consequences of passing very controversial Bills and to draw the attention of the House to certain deep maladies existing in our public life. I along with other honourable colleagues in the Opposition tried to highlight the difficulties faced by our countrymen in practically all spheres of life.

This period of six years has been a period of a lot of stress and strain for the country. Many complex and difficult problems arose and it was our endeavour to help the Government in dealing with the issues in a realistic manner.

Sir, I only wish that a national consensus had been reached on national issues. However, I do not want to strike any discordant note here at this time. I would only like to take this opportunity of thanking all sections of the House for their warmth and goodwill.

Sir, I am retiring at a time when my state is passing through a turmoil as a result of the Punjab accord. I have no doubt that the remaining Members and the new Members who take the place of the retiring Members would see that justice is done to the State of Haryana.

Sir, Parliament has been likened to a University only last evening by the honourable Chairman. I am prone to agree with the idea, but would like to point out a difference. The longer one stays in a University, the less creditable it is for him; but the longer one stays in Parliament, the more importance has. On the whole, Sir, my experience during this term of six years has been very rewarding and I will cherish all the memories of this period very dearly.

[Shri Sushil Chand Mohunta]

In the end, I offer all the Members of this House my best wishes. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Dhabe.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, I am very thankful to the Chairman and to you for having given me all the courtesy during the deliberations in this House.

Sir, when I was in the freedom movement in 1942, there was a saying by the late Shri Bhulabhai Desai: "Who dies if India lives?". I came to Parliament in 1974 and then I came to know what Parliament was and also saw the growth of our parliamentary institutions. An important step has been taken by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the Government with the consent of the Opposition and unanimously too to bring forward the Bill against defections. Sir, I feel that it is very essential to protect this important institution, the highest institution in this country, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha, and also to take more steps to strengthen them further.

Sir, Parliament or parliamentary institutions depend, for their effective functioning, on participation by the Members and vigilance is the price. In order to participate more effectively, we formed the United Association of Members with the blessings of our ex-Chairman, Shri Hidayatullah, and facilities were given to us in this House for more participation. This experiment has been very successful and very effective also.

[Mr. Chairman in the chair]

When we formed this United Association of Members, of which I have privilege to be a spokesman we had 17 to 19 Members and many of them are stalwarts and some of them are retiring now like Mr. Khushwant Singh, Shri Syed Hashmi, Roda Mistry etc. and all belong to different poli-

tical parties having one or two Members in this House. Sir, I have found one thing here in this Parliament. Unfortunately, individual Members are not given any facilities. They have no place even to sit and they have no room where they can sit and work. Even the 17 Members of the Association that I mentioned have no facility to sit in a room which can accommodate 17 Members. But my party Congress(S) is having a room, a small room in a block allotted to four parties, which cannot accommodate more than ten Members or so. I feel that it is very essential, for strengthening democracy and parliamentary institutions in the country, that individual Members are given all the facilities for doing their work effectively, not only the accommodation facilities, but also the other kinds of facilities. I would like to say one thing more in this connection, and that is about the retirement of Members. It is sad to find that the retired Members are required to stand in queue to have reservation of tickets in the 3-tier second-class. I appeal to the Railway Minister, who is here, to consider seriously that retired Members are given permanent first class passes.

Sir, when you took over as the Chairman of this House, I must say that you have encouraged us to raise questions and problems relating to States, and one of the debates which we had here, which was very important, in my opinion, was about the assent of the Governors to Bills. This was brought to the notice of our House and the country that the Bills were withheld for years together, after being passed by respective Legislatures.

Sir, some of my friends and myself are very much thankful to you for using modern techniques and for scientific management in running this House. And one thing which appealed me most and not to Mr. Gopalsamy, is about the regularisation of the Zero Hour and reducing the

noise. (*Interruptions*). But for your skilful management of the House, this would not have been possible. You have been very courteous to us and have from time to time been giving us opportunities to raise many important questions relating not only to this country but also questions of international importance. I must say that but for your guidance it would not have been possible for the Opposition to raise important matters in this House.

I am very thankful not only to you, Sir, but the Deputy Chairman and also the Secretary-General and the staff of this House as well for their excellent cooperation given to us in carrying out our duties. I also thank the Leader of the House and our friend, Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Mr. Sitaram Kesari, for the help and cooperation they have given us.

Lastly, I would like to say that the leaders of the Opposition have worked in close cooperation in regard to important issues, and I am very much thankful to them for their help and cooperation in discharging our duties.

I must say that this is one of the most important institutions in the country and, therefore, it is very necessary that the highest traditions and conventions of this House are respected and protected.

Thank you.

AN HON. MEMBER: You must come back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the leaders of the Opposition have an important meeting with the Prime Minister and, therefore, I propose to adjourn the House, and we meet again at 2.30 p.m. and continue with the felicitations.

The House then adjourned at fifty-eight minutes past

twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock. Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

FAREWELL TO RETIRING MEMBERS—(contd.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Khushwant Singh.

SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH (Nominated): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a popular belief that a dying man, before his last moments, has a flash of all the events of his life. In some ways, this amounts to my demise from the Rajya Sabha. Therefore, I will only refer to some of the few flashy moments that have known in the last six years.

First I would like to refer to friends who are not only no longer the Members of this House, but who have departed from this world. The first name I can think of is that of Mr. Piloo Mody. Most Members who saw him perform would agree that with him went a lot of wit and laughter from this House. Sitting next to me was the lovely Nargis Dutt, at one time the sweet-heart of the country. With her went a lot of irrepressible charm from this House. Sitting on my other side was the poet Bhagwati Charan Varma, a man of great peace. He used to turn up only after the zero hour was over and spent the afternoon comfortably sleeping. I mention these names, particularly the last two, because, Mr. Chairman, you might have noticed that one sat on my right side and the other sat on my left. Now, most Members are reluctant to sit on either side of me because of what happened to them.

I would like to say a few words about the lady Members of this House. I have had the good fortune of travelling very widely. I have visited legislatures in many parts of the world. I can say with confidence