

Further, Hindi has been permitted as an alternative medium besides English, for answering Essay and General Knowledge papers at the Assistants' Grade Examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission since 1964. From 1971, candidates appearing in the Stenographers' Examination have also been permitted the option to write answers to the General Knowledge papers and to take shorthand tests either in Hindi or in English.

Government as well as the Union Public Service Commission are anxious for the speedy implementation of the decisions embodied in the Official Languages Resolution. The preparatory work involved in the introduction of the various Indian languages as alternative media in the Commission's examinations is however stupendous in volume and intricacy. All the same the Commission are proceeding with the preparatory work.]

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12 NOON

FAREWELL TO RETIRING MEMBERS

MR CHAIRMAN Every two years one-third of our Members retire and fresh elections take place. This time 69 Members are retiring on the 2nd of April. Many of them may come back. I wish to bid farewell to those who may not return.

An essential condition for ensuring the success of democracy is tolerance for the other man's point of view and the will to understand it. In Parliament we are enabled to realise the full implication of this quality. The whole nation is watching us and a great responsibility devolves on us to see that we do not do anything which might bring discredit to Parliament or set a wrong example for the people. I am glad to say that I have found that Members have always tried to maintain the dignity and decorum of the House even when passions were high and strong feelings expressed vehemently. I am thankful for the courtesy and cooperation extended to me by one and all in this House.

Parting is always sad, but those Members who are retiring are entering a wider sphere of activity where the opportunities for service and constructive work are vast. The knowledge and experience of the problems of Government acquired by them during their term of membership will stand them in good stead. We will cherish the memory of their association.

I wish them well and offer them our good wishes.

Madam Prime Minister

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) Mr Chairman, I think it is really the task of the Leader of the House to speak.

MR CHAIRMAN I will call him afterwards.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI Since I am here, I should like to say just two or three words. I fully support the sentiments which you have expressed regarding the hon. Members who are retiring from this House. We have worked together for several years and I should like to thank them all for the cooperation which they have given me. During this time there have certainly been several acrimonious moments but I think by and large, the functioning of this House has been harmonious and smooth. Now many of these Members will not be returning. I sincerely hope that wherever they go, they will still take interest in public affairs. They go from here now as elder statesmen, as you said, with new experiences, having seen difficult periods as well as smooth times and I hope that they will, in their different States, work for the smoother functioning of our democracy, for the unity of the country and for the strengthening of the people so that we are all together able to meet the challenges which confront us. We have passed through a difficult year but I don't think I am exaggerating when I say that I feel that this year is going to be a far more difficult one although perhaps in a different way. So I hope that even though many of the Members belong to Opposition parties, they will give some thought to the tremendous problems which confront our country, the great challenge which we face in creating a new society. We can work together in spite of our differences and even sometimes opposing points of view to create a better life for all our people. I give them all our good wishes.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT) Mr Chairman, Sir, as you have rightly said partings are sad and I do carry a feeling of sadness, but I think it is the purpose and function of leaders of opinion and Members of this House to make partings as pleasant as possible. This is

a very unique House. I have attended meetings of Assemblies in the States and I have also several times attended the other House, the Lok Sabha and I cannot forget—and I think history will record—that the Rajya Sabha has functioned in a most unique manner in history. It has been a House of many moods—changing moods. Two great teachers presided over this House and they treated most Members as children in school and I think on many occasions Members also reciprocated the sentiments. Sir, we have had occasions when Members had exploded in righteous anger. Our friend Mr. Bhupesh Gupta and other friends who felt that something wrong was said or referred to had stood up for their rights. These are occasions to be remembered. There are occasions when on small matters we have spent so much valuable time helping in the understanding of human nature and there are other occasions, memorable occasions, when important Bills and Resolutions which normally would have required days had been passed in hours if not less than an hour. These are matters of which we should be proud and I think we all share this pride. Sir, I have been here only for ten years or so; some might have been for six or for twelve years. It is a very small part of our lives. There are many other fields and occasions where we can cooperate and share the joys and sorrows and experiences of private and public life together and we need not take a tragic view of the matter. I do hope, as the Prime Minister has rightly said, whether we are in this part of the House or in the other part of the House, there are certain basic common beliefs which every patriotic Indian shares and I believe in these matters we will continue to be as good friends as we have been in this House. I associate myself heartily with the sentiments expressed by you and by the Prime Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

श्री पीताम्बर दास (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, ये तो जाने वाले हैं, पहले तो विदाई देने वाले को मौका दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then I wanted to call Mr. Sinha.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA (Bihar) : I am also retiring.

SHRI PITAMBER DAS : So you have no other choice except calling me.

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, वैसे तो हर दूसरे साल हम लोग कुछ माथियों को विदाई दे देते हैं। परन्तु जैसे Every cloud has a silver lining, वैसे ही हर दूसरे साल हम कुछ नए साथियों का स्वागत भी करते हैं। भिन्न-भिन्न दलों के लोग अपनी पार्टी के सिद्धान्त, अपनी मान्यताएं, अपने कार्यक्रम इन सब चीजों की चर्चा सदन में करते हैं, प्रश्न भी पूछते हैं, सरकार की ओर से उत्तर भी आते हैं, अलग-अलग तरह के अपने दृष्टिकोण भी प्रस्तुत होते हैं, उन सब में मत-विभिन्नता होना स्वाभाविक है। परन्तु एक बात फिर भी ऐसी है, जिसके ऊपर इस सदन में हम सब एकमत ही सकते हैं, होना चाहिए और हम कभी कभी हो भी जाते हैं। 6 साल इस सदन में बैठने के बाद क्या हमने यहाँ की कार्यवाही में जो योगदान दिया उसको देख कर यह कहा जा सकता है कि अपने व्यवहार में हमने सदन की प्रतिष्ठा या उसका सम्मान बढ़ाने में महायत्ना की। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सबसे बड़ा कन्द्रीव्यूशन है किसी भी सदस्य का इस सदन में रहने का। इस बार जिनने सदस्य जा रहे हैं किसी न किसी रूप में वे सारे लोग याद आते रहेंगे। परन्तु कुछ लोग उनमें ऐसे हैं जिनका विशेष रूप से मैं जिक्र कर देना चाहता हूँ। यहाँ सीतलवाड़ साहब और चागला साहब जैसे कानून के पंडित थे, जिन का समय-समय पर परामर्श बहुत उपयोगी रहा है। अकबर अली खान साहब जैसे बुजुर्ग सदस्य थे जो अपनी वजादरी के लिए मिसाल कायम करते हैं। खोबरागडे साहब थे जिन्होंने इस सदन में डिप्टी चेयरमैन के नाते लगभग सभी सदस्यों का मन जीत लिया है। फिर इधर हमारे लीडर आफ दि अपोजीशन भी हैं—गुरुपादस्वामी साहब, इसी तरह से सुन्दर सिंह भडारी हैं और लोकनाथ मिश्र हैं। यह सब कीनियर लोग हैं। जैड० ए० अहमद साहब का जाना भी हम लोगों को अखरेगा। कभी-कभी राजनारायण साहब की भी याद आती रहा करेगी। यह सब ऐसे लोग हैं जिनकी याद समय-समय पर हम को आती रहेगी। राजनारायण साहब की याद जब आवेगी, तब अर्जुन अरोड़ा साहब की याद न आये यह संभव नहीं हो सकता। यह सब माथी अपने जा

[श्री पीताम्बर दास]

रहे हैं। इन में कुछ वापस आ जायेंगे यह उड़ी अच्छी बात है। उनका हम फिर स्वागत कर लेंगे, बाकी लोगों को विदाई देने में तकलीफ महसूस होती ही है। अपना यह सदन काटी-वृद्ध हाउस कहा जाता है। इस लिए मैं तो यही कहा करता हूँ :

“यह चमन यू ही रहेगा और हजारों बुलबुलें, अपनी अपनी बोलिया सब बोल कर उड़ जायेंगी।”

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपने साथियों को विदाई देता हूँ।

THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION (SHRI M S GURUPADASWAMY : Mr Chairman, Sir, words fail me to express my gratitude to you and to the hon Prime Minister and the Leader of the House. You have been very kind to us, Sir, in placing on record our feelings on this occasion of departure. You have rightly said it is always painful and difficult to depart. Particularly it is so when we have to depart from friends with whom we had long association. Speaking for myself, Sir, I have been in this House for nearly twelve years, and the last six years have been very eventful to me. I have served in the Government for some time during this period very loyally. I have also served the Opposition to the best of my ability and I have fulfilled the dual roles in my own humble way. I am not sure whether my friends have the same feelings as I have towards them. But they have always respected each other. I believe, in Parliament respect counts. By giving respect to others we can also get respect from them. Whatever may be the differences, whatever may be the divergence in opinions between friends and friends, I think it is the fact of giving respect to the other that yields good results. That is my experience. Sir, you have been very kind to me in particular. I always tried to avoid embarrassing you because I always felt that by trying to avoid embarrassment to you, you will also not embarrass me. That is how we conducted ourselves. Somebody pointed out to me, I think Mr Nawal Kishore. You are not fit to be a Leader of Opposition Member because you are too soft and too modest. I do not know whether that can be taken as a tribute to me, but the fact remains that you, Sir, in particular have been very kind and the Leader of the House has been

good and nice. He has been effective by being silent. There was always a friendly rapport between him and myself. I have always had good treatment at the hands of the Prime Minister. I have seen her at very close quarters and even from a distance. So far as I am concerned, I do not carry any grievance about her because she has been treating me extremely well.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not pay my compliments and my appreciation to my good friend on the other side, Shri Om Mehta. He has been very friendly and effective. Many a time I wanted to function as an oppositionist but he has disarmed me by his talks, goodwill and kind approach. I think we have got a very fine Whip in him. Without using the whip he has been very effective indeed.

Sir, I will also be failing in my duty if I do not place on record my appreciation of the manner in which the Secretariat is run by Mr Banerjee. I had an inkling of this abilities and I came to the conclusion that we have in him a man who is always helpful to Members of Parliament here who will always try to solve their difficulties and make available the Secretariat for whatever work that Members want to do in this House.

Sir, lastly I will also be failing in my duty if I do not express my appreciation to my other colleagues here, the leaders of the other opposition parties and friends who are retiring along with me. They have been very good to me. During the last two or three years our associations have been very fruitful.

May I say in the end that the Prime Minister has taken on herself the great responsibility of running the ship of State. She has been trying and striving to bring about rapid social change and economic transformation. She is trying in her own way to introduce radical measures, radical programmes. I would like to wish her well in her effort. And I would like to say that under her leadership and with the cooperation of all friends here, the ship of State may have a smooth sailing in future.

In the end may I give my greetings and good wishes to you, Sir, and through you, to the other Members who are retiring along with me and also to such of those Members who have got a further period of time to serve this House.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRAJAP SINHA : Mr Chairman, the kind and generous words and

feelings expressed by you by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House in appreciation of our work and contribution in this House are really heart warming. Sir, it is a matter of great satisfaction that our endeavour in this House in solving the vexed problems of the country has not only been appreciated but has been found useful by the leaders of our country. Sir, we are particularly grateful to you for all the indulgence that you have shown to us for all the guidance and help that you have given to us. There might be moments when, in the heat of excitement, you might have found us turbulent, you might have found us using expressions not worthy of this House. But, Sir, as a great Presiding Officer, you never lost equilibrium, gentleness and above all, sense of justice and humour, which restored calm and cheer in this House.

Sir, you are the custodian of the rights and privileges of not only this House but also of our own rights and privileges. I know that you have guarded our rights and privileges so zealously that at times it may have become embarrassing to the Treasury Benches. You have been particularly kind and affectionate to me, and I shall ever treasure your kindness to me.

Sir, I have the honour and privilege to be associated with this House since its very inception. I have had the rare privilege of working with the great parliamentarians of our generation, and I have learnt a lot from them. I have enriched the canvas of my knowledge, learning and scholarship and I am very grateful to each and every Member of this House for giving me due consideration and kindness whether I spoke from this side of the House or from the other side of the House during all these years I have been sitting in this House.

Sir, Rajya Sabha is an integral part of the Parliament of India. We represent the States, and we are supposed to be the custodians of the interests of the States. No doubt, we are. But my twenty years of experience has shown that our approach to the problems had one overriding consideration, and that was national good. The country's interest always took precedence over the interest of the States, and we always looked upon the problems and interests of the States from a national angle. Sir, in some quarters doubts have been expressed with regard to the usefulness and efficacy of a second or a reviewing chamber. Sir, these twenty years have amply demonstrated the wisdom of the founding fathers in creating this House. The debates in this House have been complemen-

tary and supplementary to the debates in the other House and I am sure both the Government and the parties have always welcomed an opportunity which this House provided to give a second look or a second thought, to the various problems. I am sure both the Government and the parties have found this exercise worthwhile for mature consideration and ripe wisdom.

Sir, this House could take a justifiable pride that in an hour of crisis we gave to the country a Prime Minister who is claimed today not only a great Prime Minister but an outstanding leader of our kind, a towering personality, who has not only brought glory to this land of ours, both in battle-fields and in peace, but who has established that India is the first and foremost in providing relief and succour to the suffering humanity.

Sir, I retire with a sense of fulfilment that in these twenty years India has made remarkable progress in all fields of activity. She has grown from strength to strength and, above all, under the inspiring leadership of the Prime Minister we have achieved a sense of unity, a sense of integration and a sense of resoluteness and, above all, a sense of self confidence which has never been so amply measured in the past in this country.

Sir, I retire with a resolve that I shall place at the disposal of my country all that I have learnt and gained in the last twenty years. I retire with a sense of commitment that I shall continue to serve this country with the same zeal as I served this country through the forum of this House.

Before I sit down I would like to pay my tribute to the inspiring leadership provided by the Leader of the House, Shri Umashankar Dikshit. He may not have the flare but he has sound wisdom and his inexhaustible patience I have always admired.

Sir, I must also say a few words about my young friend Shri Om Mehta. He has taken to this job of the Deputy Chief Whip as ducks take to water. If we are going to miss anything it is the warmth of his friendship because he looked after us not only in this House but in all walks of our life, and helped us not only in big matters but also in small matters. His beaming face always disarmed us and we shall ever cherish his memory.

Sir, I would like to offer my appreciation to the difficult job performed by the Secretary of this House. We always went to him whenever

[Shri Rajendra Pratap Sinha]

we were in doubt about the interpretation of the Rules of this House because he is a matter in procedure. Sir, I can tell you that we would not have acquired all that knowledge and experience in dealing with matters that came in this House, we would not have grown as parliamentarians, but for the assistance that we got from the Secretary and the Secretariat and the facilities that were available to us at very short notice that enabled us to take part in the proceedings of the House effectively.

Sir, before I sit down I would like to say a word about the Press. The Press is the eyes and ears of the nation. They keep a watch over us and the proceedings of the House and they interpret the proceedings to the nation. They have a dual responsibility—to the nation and to this House. And I must say, Sir, that the press in India has discharged its responsibility of giving justice both to the country and to this House and to its Members in an admirable manner. Sir, as you have said and also the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House have said, parting is always sorrowful. But we part to-day with cheer and joy because we are going to the wider world with all your good wishes, friendship and blessings. Thank you.

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATIL (Gujarat)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I am not among those who are retiring, I am grateful to you for allowing me to associate myself with the feelings that fell from the mouth of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House about a word of goodbye to friends whom we will not see in this House, some of them very eminent in their own sphere, who have made themselves very useful. Surely I look upon my years in the Rajya Sabha as years of a new type of education. When I came here, Sir, I came with three of my former teachers at the Gujarat Vidyapeeth as my colleagues. So my education was sort of continuing. Then I had the privilege of being here with two eminent teachers who presided over this House. All this has been a great education for me as, I am sure, it has been for many others. It would take a long time to mention individually the many friends that I have made here. Though I have always been sitting on the Opposition, that has not prevented me from making friends with many people who have sat on the Government benches, who have occupied high positions and I hope to continue in the same way because we are working for a

common purpose. If a democracy has to succeed it has to have an Opposition. Therefore, in the Constitution of one of the great countries of the world today, we see a provision for appointing members of the Opposition if they do not come in by election. I will not say more. I will only wish the friends who are retiring a happy life, a useful life of service to the country.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal)

Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments that you have expressed and also the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister and by the Leader of the House whose spiritual presence, if not physical, is always interesting to us. We belong to a House which retires one-third of its Members every two years but never retires itself. That is a dichotomy which has created many problems some of which are worrying us, some of which are not so worrying us. Nonetheless, when old friends leave us, we feel sorry. We feel like bidding farewell, not only that, we wish them well. This is what we are doing now.

It would be hypocritical on my part even on such an occasion if I want to make out as if we had no serious disagreement, incompatible ideas held by us. We are here representing different social and political forces in the country. We came here not as if we were coming to a club or to an evening party. We came here to fight for the cause of the people, for the masses, and naturally we are in conflict with those who are on the other side ideologically and politically. It goes to the credit of this House that this conflicting social life, just and unavoidable, has been rightly reflected in this House at every critical stage. But that does not mean that we have cultivated animosity with each other or we have been personally offensive to our friends who are retiring. If per chance we had caused any offence to anybody, here is an occasion and I will not hesitate to tender my unqualified and absolute apology.

(Interruption)

SHRI M. N. KAUL: Not necessary.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: After all, we fight on different sides of life. We fight for causes believing them to be true. In that personal equations should disappear in the background in the heat of fighting. But none the less we have human spirit. It is a matter of joy to recall that in the last twenty years

that I have been in this House—since the inception I came here to find out where I should sit and I sat there in that place where Mr Gurupadaswamy is sitting now I have been a little demoted today, but my demotion has not meant my resignation to fate. I think we should continue to fight—since those days we have built up in this House a system of human affection, a system of human sympathy, we have cultivated friendship amongst us and that has been an enduring contribution to not only the collective, that is in this House, but also if I may say so to this institution. I have my views on Rajya Sabha. I am one of those who would be glad if this Sabha is no longer there. But then today is not the occasion to raise this thing. All the same, since we are here, we try to make the best of this House. And that is what we have been doing. Many of the friends will be leaving, some of them are returning to their charge, they are trying to return to their charge and we welcome them. Others will not come back. I have no doubt in my mind that wherever they are, they will fight for the cause of the people and naturally my sympathies will be particularly with those who shall be fighting for radical changes in our social and political life. It is useless for me to extend and advance sympathy and support to everyone irrespective of the causes he fights for. But as friends and colleagues in this House certainly our affection goes with them wherever they are. That is our tradition. It is on the occasion to utter words of praise about you, Mr Chairman, Sir. After all you are not retiring. Therefore, I do not say anything about you. But permit me only to say a few words about my colleagues who are going. Among them are many people. Some are lawyers, some jurists, some men of literature, some politicians, and so on. All are politicians, I believe. But some only by accident may be so. Each of them has contributed in his own way in building up the traditions of this House. Personally, if you ask me, I have been perhaps privileged to have a little indulgence from them and what is more a great deal of their affection and friendship which I cherish. In all my 20 years in this House I have received abundant affection from my colleagues and those who are going today also belong to this category. They go from this House leaving their friendship, kindness, affection and consideration for us. It will be our endeavour, at least at human level, to reciprocate that kindness and affection

that they have shown to me and other colleagues. It is impossible for me to name individuals. Then I will be guilty under the Constitution of discriminating against some. It will not be possible for me to name all the 72 Members within the time at my disposal. But collectively and individually, they have all contributed magnificently to the working of this House. Some have contributed in a positive way, some have contributed in a negative way, some have contributed by fighting and thus making people like us also fight. All good to them. They go with our blessings, support and sympathy. They can carry with them our deepest fellow feelings, sympathy and comradeship.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : Mr Chairman, I want to thank you, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House and all other friends who have expressed warm sentiments about the retiring Members. I came to this House in 1960 in the days of Jawaharlal Nehru and Govind Vallabh Pant. I am glad the second generation is at present in this House. It will be our inestimable privilege to recall to this House how the Parliamentary life of the present Prime Minister of India started with her election to the Rajya Sabha. Then she became the Information Minister. But in the days when I came there was a miscellany of Opposition. I am not using that expression in any derogatory sense. There was the irresistible vociferous, agreeable and competent Shri Bhupesh Gupta, my good friend Shri Dahyabhai Patel was sitting there, my friend Shri R. P. Sinha was sitting in those days in the Opposition benches. We were very small, but all of us had opportunity to speak almost on every Bill. I have seen Rajya Sabha grow in power, prestige, stature and influence. And it is to the credit of Jawaharlal Nehru that as a result of pressure exercised by this House he agreed to set up a Commission to go into the charges made against Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon. This is a signal achievement of this House, because Constitutionally it was a little encroachment on the State List. The other achievement was in 1962. When the Finance Bill was brought here after being passed by the Lok Sabha, the very acute mind of Shri Santhanam pointed out a drafting mistake in it and he said that it must be removed. The Draftsman, the Finance Minister and the Lok Sabha had to agree to the modification which meant that there was a mistake in the Bill as was passed by the Lok Sabha. The Bill was then returned,

[Shri A D Mann]

In 1970 when the Princes Bill was not passed on account of a fraction of a vote, it was said—as Shri Bhupesh Gupta was saying just now—that this chamber is not necessary. But exactly that was the purpose of a revising chamber, because it enabled the Prime Minister to go to the country and get a massive mandate for radical changes. The purpose of the second chamber is to put a little break which in this case enabled the government to go to the country and get the verdict of the country on a controversial issue. Sir, I would like to say that a reference has been made to the disorderly scenes. Sir, after what has happened in the House of Commons, which is the mother of Parliaments, I must say that even though we have given some work to the over-worked Marshal and the Attendants in the Lobby in dealing with some Members, we are a bigger Chamber than the House of Commons itself. Fortunately, the Reporters' Table is between us and the Treasury Benches so that there is no room for anyone to go across, as they can do in the House of Commons, to deal physically with the Members on the other side. But, Sir, it is a passing phase in democracy. I would like to mention, as one who has very often annoyed you by raising my hand on almost every question, that the Question Hour in this House is being watched with the greatest interest in this country. Sir, for one question that I asked in this House about the repatriation of Indians from Ceylon, I am still getting letters from the affected persons. So, Sir, the Question Hour in Rajya Sabha has proved effective and it can prove more effective and I do not want to put in a competitive sense of the term in relation to Lok Sabha.

Sir, we had the greatest co-operation from Secretary and the staff and the Lobby Attendants. Sir, one of the present Members, Mr Om Mehta, was always regarded not as a Government whip, but as a good friend and counsellor of all of us and nobody could have managed a very difficult Rajya Sabha situation when the Government was in a minority.

Sir, we are leaving the Rajya Sabha at a time when we are sure that a stable democracy has come into existence. Sir, Mr Neville Maxwell, the correspondent of the "Times" says that by 2000 A D democracy may not survive in India. Sir, I am not a political astrologer. But, by 2000 A D the British monarchy may not be there. I am ecstatic about this that democratic institutions

will tend to stay and the Rajya Sabha will play a very important part.

Sir, I, having sat here for the last twelve years in this House, we have received one inestimable privilege, the privilege of right of entry into this Parliament, the temple of democracy, the use of the great facilities like the Library which are always available to us. We will be visiting our friends in the House and in the Central Hall and have a cup of coffee or sandwiches of course, at their expense because we will be denied the privileges and perquisites of the Members of Parliament at that time. But, Sir, we will always keep our contacts and try to place our services at the disposal of the country.

Sir, I would like to conclude by saying a word of thanks. Sir, the Leader of the House, Shri Umashankar Dikshit was a colleague of mine in the newspaper profession and throughout he has brought about a very placid influence on troublesome situations in this House. He has brought, as you have brought, Sir, a very paternal influence to bear on this side of the House and in these days of our 'happy' generation and the 'women lib' movements. This paternal influence is sometimes absent in the advanced countries of the world, but it is present here in Rajya Sabha for the good of the country.

Sir, I would say that we are leaving with the pleasantest memories of Rajya Sabha and we will still continue to work through every Member of Parliament by sending questions which I would have liked to ask myself had I been present in the House and ask them to put the questions on my behalf to you. Sir, we are going with happiest memories of our association in the Chamber. I had the privilege of sitting in the Chair as the Vice Chairman of the House on account of the honour that you did by putting me on the Panel of Vice-Chairman and I received co-operation from all sections of the House and I do not think I have offended any Member of Parliament by one harsh word, because Sir temperamentally I have always believed that harsh words do not impress anybody, do not strengthen any cause. Thank you, Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN Yes, Mr Goswami.

SHRI SRIMAN PRAFULLA GOSWAMI (Assam) Mr Chairman, Sir, amongst the retiring Members who have spoken now I am the retiring Member whose term was the

shortest, that is five years. Sir, I am very much grateful to you and the Leader of the House and our able Prime Minister for the nice words they have spoken. I am also grateful to all the Members and the Secretariat for their kindness and cordial assistance. As some of my colleagues have said, Mr. Om Mehra has always been our guide and friend and sometime, our assistant also, so I always remember him.

Sir, I will remember these five years of my experience in this House because the greatest events have taken place during this period. I came here in 1967 and I will be retiring on the 2d April, 1972, and I am proud that during this period I participated in the greatest events that took place in our country through parliamentary democracy by legislation. Our Prime Minister have made revolutionary change in the politics of our country and a new base has been laid for democratic socialism. Historic changes are taking place. It is something like, as I once said in Parliament, a bloodless revolution through Parliament. And during this period in all stages, I was an active participant. We have been able to nationalise banks and amend the Constitution and abolish Privy Purses under the courageous leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Now, further revolutionary changes are coming. So I feel that this memory will be inspiring to me.

As a matter of fact, I had the privilege of following three of the greatest leaders of the world. One was Mahatma Gandhi under whose leadership I had participated in the Civil Disobedience Movements till 1942. The next one was Jawaharlal Nehru under whom we were agitating for the resolution on Democratic Socialism, under whose inspiring leadership we passed the resolution on Democratic socialism in Bhubaneswar Session of the Congress. During these five years I had the greatest privilege of working under the inspiring leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It was a thrilling experience because it was during this period that this historic process was started by her and I have followed her ardently, fervently, sincerely.

Today, during this thrilling experience it would have been better if I could stay for another five or six years. But, unfortunately, due to some reason which I do not know and over which I have no control, I cannot continue. All the same, I am not going with a heavy heart. But I am going with a heavy heart for my friends with whom I have worked and from whom I always got help and co-operation,

and I will always remember them. I will be working for the ideology for which I have been working so long, that is, democratic socialism, that is, for truth, for the establishment of truth, and for that I will work whether I remain here or outside.

Lastly, sometimes during this period I have been harsh, very harsh, to some of my friends here and I want to apologise for that. But I was never malicious. I did not carry any malice or anger. Once we went outside we were friends again. My nature is such that whenever I speak I speak with all sincerity. Mine is not a lawyer's speech. Once, when Mr. Bipin Gupta called me an American friend or something like that I jumped and quarrelled—and he apologised later. Today I apologise to him. I have been a confirmed socialist and I will be working for socialism. Some people may blame me sometimes and conspire against me to blackmail me, but that does not matter. Truth will prevail in this world, and I am working for truth. At present the whole truth is at work. Sir, with these words I again express my gratitude to you and all my friends and apologise if I was sometimes harsh during this period. Thank you.

SHRIMATI YASHODA RIDDY (Andhra Pradesh) Sir, I am retiring as the House knows and it is very fitting that when I came to the Parliament 16 years back I came to the Rajya Sabha and I feel it is very fitting that I am retiring from the Rajya Sabha. I came very young and I am going back not very old. I came straight from the college and I must confess that this Parliament career has been of great experience and education and the opportunity which I got I will never forget. Sir, many people have said many things but I must say that I am going back with great experience and a feeling of pride that in all my career of 16 years, whatever I did, whatever I said, I said it with conviction and never for a moment with a convenience. I am also going with a proud record that I have never used or misused the political power or political friendship for anything personal. I did not want to say anything but one memory I will always cherish of this House. Every Member in this House—the Chairman, the Leader, the Prime Minister and every Member of this House—treated with the greatest affection from whichever part or party he came from. I will never forget this and I assure you that wherever I am, I promise you that with the same conviction, with the same

[Shrimati Yashodha Reddy] |
courage, with the same digni ty with the same
cleanliness I will serve my country and I
thank you very much.

MR CHAIRMAN Thank you very much
Papers to be laid on the Table

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH (FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT) RULES, 1971

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) Sir, on behalf of Shri H N Bahuguna, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications (Posts and Telegraphs Board) Notification G S R No 1727, dated the 31st November, 1971, publishing the Indian Telegraph (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 1971 [Placed in Library See No L1—1665/72]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE ALL INDIA SERVICES ACT, 1951

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) Sir I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, a copy (in English and Hindi) each of the following Notifications of the Cabinet Secretariat (Department of Personnel)

- (i) Notification G S R No 1688, dated the 27th September 1971, publishing the Fifteenth Amendment of 1971 to the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Rules, 1954
- (ii) Notification G S R No 1689, dated the 27th September, 1971, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifteenth Amendment Regulations, 1971
- (iii) Notification G S R No 1792, dated the 22nd October, 1971, publishing the 6th Amendment of

1971 to the Indian Police Service (Pay) Rules, 1954

- (iv) Notification G S R No 1793, dated the 26th October, 1971, publishing the Indian Police Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) 5th Amendment Regulations, 1971
 - (v) Notification G S R No 1944, dated the 10th November, 1971 publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Eighteenth Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (vi) Notification G S R No 1945, dated the 10th November, 1971, publishing the Indian Administrative (Pay) Seventeenth Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (vii) Notification G S R No 1946, dated the 10th November, 1971, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Sixteenth Amendment Regulations, 1971
 - (viii) Notification G S R No 1947, dated the 10th November, 1971, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Sixteenth Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (ix) Notification G S R No 1905, dated the 4th December, 1971, publishing the All India Services (Death-cum-Retirement Benefits) Second Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (x) Notification G S R No 37, dated the 14th December, 1971, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Nineteenth Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (xi) Notification G S R No 38, dated the 15th December, 1971, publishing the Indian Police Service (Pay) Seventh Amendment Rules, 1971
 - (xii) Notification G S R No 116, dated the 20th January, 1972, publishing the Indian Police Service (Pay) First Amendment Rules, 1972
 - (xiii) Notification G S R No 26E, dated the 10th January, 1972, publishing the Indian Administrative Service (Pay) First Amendment Rules, 1972
- [Placed in Library See No L1—1513/72 for (i) to (xiii)].