चाहें, तो उनके लिए नंबर्स की कोई समय की सीमा या नंबर्स की सीमा नहीं है। नवरोज फेस्टिवल को पहले भारत सरकार ने नामित करके इस तरह के intangible asset में लिया था। हमारे जो ऐसे intangible heritage assets हैं, उनको inscribe कराने के लिए जो मल्टीलेटर्ल असेट्स हैं, उनके लिए भी भारत सरकार लीडरशिप लेकर प्रयास कर रही है।।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, Question Hour is over.

[Answers to Starred and Un-starred Questions (Both in English and Hindi) are available as Part -I to this Debate, published electronically on the Rajya Sabha website under the link https://sansad.in/rs/debates/officials]

1.00 P.M.

$MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS-*Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, further Discussion on the Motion moved by Shrimati Kiran Choudhry on the 3rd February, 2025, and the Amendments moved thereto. On 4th February, 2025, Shri Devendra Pratap Singh had not concluded his speech while participating in the discussion. Therefore, I call upon Shri Devendra Pratap Singh to continue his speech on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address.

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह (छत्तीसगढ़): माननीय उपसभापति जी, आपने मुझे पुनः अपनी बात रखने का समय दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। राष्ट्रपति जी का अभिभाषण सरकार की नीतियों, उपलब्धियों और भविष्य की दिशा का एक महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज होता है। यह एक संवैधानिक प्रक्रिया है, जिसमें देश की प्रगति को समाहित किया जाता है। माननीया राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने भाषण में किसान और कृषि को बल दिया है।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं कल-परसों आदरणीय सांसद श्रीमती रंजीत रंजन जी को सुन रहा था। उन्होंने बताया कि किसान आजकल आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं और बदहाल स्थिति में है। मैं आपके माध्यम से उन्हें यह बताना चाहता हूं कि छत्तीसगढ़ में किसान परिवार से आने वाले लोगों ने कांग्रेस के समय में खेती का वह कठिन दौर भी देखा है, जब कड़ी मेहनत से धान उपार्जन के बाद किसान भाई मंडियों में धान लेकर जाते थे और जिसे उन्हें औने-पौने दामों में बेचना पड़ता था। उस समय किसानों को अपने परिवार का भरण-पोषण करना अत्यंत कठिन होता था। खरीफ फसल के बाद उनके पास अन्य राज्यों में जाकर मजदूरी करने के अलावा और कोई काम नहीं

$ Further discussion continued on a motion moved on 3rd February, 2025.

रहता था। श्रद्धेय अटल जी ने जब छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य का निर्माण किया, तो धान खरीदी की एक व्यवस्था शुरू की गई। यह सुनिश्चित किया गया कि जिस छत्तीसगढ़ को धान का कटोरा कहा जाता है, उसमें कोई भी व्यक्ति भूखा न सोए। इस उद्देश्य से मुख्य मंत्री खाद्य सहायता योजना भी आरंभ की गई। यह कार्य इतना व्यवस्थित तरीके से हुआ कि छत्तीसगढ़ खाद्य सुरक्षा का मॉडल राज्य बन गया। मुझे याद है कि छत्तीसगढ़ बनने के शुरुआती दौर में धान खरीदी लगभग 4.63 लाख मैट्रिक टन थी, लेकिन पिछली बार यह आंकड़ा 145 लाख मैट्रिक टन तक पहुंच गया। यह इसलिए संभव हुआ, क्योंकि हमारी सरकार ने किसान भाइयों को धान का उचित मूल्य प्रदान किया है। हमने किसानों से 3,100 रुपया प्रति क्विंटल तथा 21 क्विंटल प्रति एकड़ की दर से धान खरीदा है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप बैठिए ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह: किसानों से किए गए वायदे के अनुरूप हमने 13 लाख किसानों को 2 वर्षों का बकाया बोनस भी दिया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ranjeetji, please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है।

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह: इन सभी प्रयासों के परिणामस्वरूप पिछले सत्र में हमने किसान भाइयों के खाते में 49,000 करोड़ रुपये अंतरित किए हैं। लगभग ढाई महीने से राज्य में तेजी से धान खरीदा जा रहा है। हमारे किसानों के खातों में लगातार समर्थन मूल्य की राशि भेजी जा रही है। प्रति क्विंटल 800 रुपया हमारी सरकार द्वारा इनपुट सहायता के रूप में एकमुश्त फरवरी माह में किसान भाइयों के खातों में भेजने का निर्णय लिया गया है। इसके साथ ही प्रदेश में भूमिहीन कृषि मजदूरों के लिए हमने दीनदयाल उपाध्याय भूमिहीन कृषि मजदूर कल्याण योजना की शुरुआत भी की है। इस योजना के तहत 5,62,000 भूमिहीन कृषकों को प्रति वर्ष 10,000 रुपया प्रदान किया जा रहा है। यह हमारे शुभ संकल्पों और अच्छी नीयत का परिणाम है। आज छत्तीसगढ़ में किसान बेहद खुशहाल हैं। प्रदेश में पलायन रुका है और किसान खेती में निवेश कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उनको खेत से अच्छी आय मिल रही है। माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से ...(**समय की घंटी**)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपका समय खत्म होने वाला है, आप कन्क्लूड करें।

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह: सर, यह मेरी मेडन स्पीच है, इसलिए दो-चार मिनट बढ़ा दें।

श्री उपसभापति: ऑलरेडी आप मेडन स्पीच का समय ले चुके हैं। आप कन्क्लूड करें।

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह: जी। माननीय उपसभापति जी, हमारा जनजाति समाज सदैव राष्ट्र के निर्माण में अपनी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता आया है और हम आगे भी निभाते रहेंगे, लेकिन आज मुझे गहरा दुख और आक्रोश है कि लोक सभा की एक वरिष्ठ सदस्य और राज्य सभा की एक वरिष्ठ महिला सदस्य ने हमारे देश की महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी के प्रति अपमानजनक और अमर्यादित टिप्पणी की है। इन अमर्यादित टिप्पणियों ने न केवल महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी का अपमान किया है, बल्कि पूरे जनजाति समाज एवं देशवासियों की भावनाओं को भी गहरी ठेस पहुँचाई है। यह केवल एक व्यक्ति का अपमान नहीं, बल्कि भारत के संविधान की मर्यादा और गरिमा पर आघात है।

(**सभापति महोदय** *पीठासीन हुए।*)

हमारा जनजाति समाज और पूरे भारत का हर सच्चा नागरिक अपनी राष्ट्रपति जी के सम्मान की रक्षा के लिए दृढ़संकल्पित है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. (*Time-bell rings.*)

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह: महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी केवल इस देश की प्रथम नागरिक नहीं, बल्कि हमारी आशा, आत्मसम्मान और गौरव का प्रतीक हैं। हम ऐसे किसी भी अपमानजनक आचरण की कड़ी निंदा करते हैं और यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए संकल्पबद्ध हैं कि देश की संवैधानिक गरिमा अक्षुण्ण बनी रहे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Shri Devendra Pratap Singh. Hon. former Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Devegowda*ji*. Sir, speak while sitting!

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (Karnataka): Respected Chairman, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to sit and speak. First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Her Excellency, the hon. President, who delivered her Address to the Joint Parliament. I am extremely happy. In her Address, she has mentioned several programmes and policies which are going to be implemented by her Government.

Sir, I am a villager. I studied in a primary school in a small village. There were not even sitting tables; we had to study by sitting on the floor. I came with such background. For 30 years I have been in the Legislature. I was the only Kannada-speaking Member! I was the Opposition Leader. I always used to speak in Kannada after I entered Parliament about 33 years back. I was a Member of this House for six years. In my second term, I have completed four-and-a-half years and another one-and-half years is left. I do not know whether I will complete my full term. I would just like to mention...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, the whole House is with you. You will complete the full term and be still in a position to bless us. We wish you long life, long life!

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: When I came to Delhi, all my colleagues in Delhi asked me to speak only in Kannada to give more importance to Kannada language. I am the only Member who won the battle. Out of all 28 Congress Members, I am the only one from Janata Dal. There were so many important people, like Siddaiah Puranik, Balekundri, Lankesh. All these people gave me felicitation. They forced me to speak in Kannada. When I came to Delhi, the then Speaker in Lok Sabha was Shri Shivraj Patil. I went and requested him,"Sir, I will speak in Kannada. Somebody who translates should be there in the House." He said, "You must speak in English whether you can speak good English or bad English, but you must." This was the advice Shri Shivraj Patil gave. Then I started. I became the Chief Minister, and then I became the Prime Minister; on my own struggle. I got the majority and I became the Chief Minister. I know how to run the administration. I did not allow a single mistake from my Ministers. Then I came to Delhi; I was forced. I never wanted to come to Delhi. Sir, do you know what happened? My Minister did not give me a cup of tea when I became Prime Minister because of the coalition. In the 18 months, I have kept them without a single mistake to be committed. They did not give me a cup of tea. That is the background. Sir, I have seen Presidents' Addresses and Governors' Addresses in the 64 years. Now I must congratulate the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi who selected a tribal woman as the President. I must congratulate him. She came to Bengaluru. Kharge*ji* had come; I am happy. We are good friends. She came to Bengaluru. She requested me. I told her, "No problem. I have not committed to anybody." She had a little lunch in my house and I promised her. With the support of all others, she became the President.

Now, I don't want to comment in what circumstances, how the Opposition took this stand when this New Parliament Building was inaugurated. I don't want to go to all those things. But the point is, this is a policy document. Now, this is the Budget Session. The Budget will be discussed. Hon. Members of this House have got their own views. In 2014, Modi*ji* became the Prime Minister. There was a big challenge between me and him. In Chikkkaballapur, when he attacked me, I retaliated, 'If you get majority to form the Government, I will resign from the Parliament. I will get. I am going to win the battle on my own'. Then, he got 272 or 274 Numbers -- It was for the first time in 2014. Vajpayee*ji*'s Government was a coalition Government. Narsimha Rao*ji*'s Government was also a coalition Government. So, mine also, as you know, was a coalition Government. First time,

Modi*ji* got the majority. Then I went and handed over the resignation. Directly, I could have gone to the Speaker and handed over. Because of the conversation between me and him in the election, I went there to hand over him my resignation. He actually requested me and caught hold of my hands and said, 'You are the only experienced man with this age. In election, myself and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi had a lot of bitter attacks. Neither she is going to retire nor am I going to keep those controversies in the election alive. It always happens. Don't take it seriously. You should not retire." He caught hold of my hands, and persuaded me. I agreed. My friend is also sitting. I am happy. We formed the Government in Karnataka. My son was Chief Minister. Kharge*ji* is here.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this is President's Address.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: To come here, you are also responsible. I have got good relationship with Kharge*ji*. He is the President of the Party. He is struggling and fighting. I know you have done your best. But, now, you understood how in this country all the regional parties can come together and solidly support one leader and remove, what you called the Government a communal Government, a Government which is going to destroy the democratic system, federal system and so many things! Yes; my son was removed. He knows that. I will leave it at that stage. I do not want to talk much about it. Yes; in the last leg of my life, I do agree. Earlier, I was a Congress man. I was denied ticket because of the fight for leadership within the Congress. I contested as an independent candidate. Now, I am sitting here as a single Member from Janata Dal (Secular), with the support of NDA. I am boldly saying, with the support of NDA. My son contested and he is the Minister. I admit, there is nothing to hide. The country must understand what I am speaking. This may be my last speech. Sir, this is a policy document where several issues have been mentioned. In the third term of election, Modi*ji* was unable to garner majority for his party. I do agree. Karge*ji*'s leadership worked so hard. So, he was able to get 240 seats or something. But before the election, I was in NDA, not after the election. We, Modi*ji* and I, jointly addressed the public meetings in Karnataka. Why? A person is there for 62 years as a secular leader. Sir, what secularism, I do not want to analyse it in this House. I do not want to analyse who are secular, who are non-secular, who went to take the support of the BJP, or those people who are supporting the BJP, who went to their doors, who went to Shiv Sena, etc. I can quote all these things. But, I do not want to tell the names of anybody. I do not want to hurt the sentiments of anybody. All the Members who are sitting, whichever political party they may belong to, how and in what

circumstances things have happened, I can analyse all that. Sir, I do not want to go beyond certain points, which I myself try to realise. I do not want to hurt anybody.

In the 2014 and 2019 elections, Modiji secured more than 300 seats. In the 2024 elections, he obtained 240 seats. However, several regional party leaders have supported him, and he now has around 305 or 303 seats. This has been proven on the floor of the House. There is no question of seeking a confidence vote. The list has been submitted to the hon. President. The hon. Prime Minister has not appointed the Vice-Chairman. In the UPA Government, there was not only Prime Minister but also Vice-Chairman, or what we call the power centre in the political system. The power centre was with the Chairman. But, Modi*ji* has not allowed anyone to handle or meddle with the Government.

Now, in 2024, when Modi*ji* secured 240 seats, other regional parties Shri supported him. *...(Interruptions)...* or the alliance formed by all NDA parties, but He knows how to run the administration. Having experience as Prime Minister and as Chief Minister, he is the only tallest leader in this country who can run the country without oscillation. *...(Interruptions)...* If I tell the truth, you should accept it. You can attack me if I tell any untruth. I welcome you.

Sir, the hon. President of India has addressed both the Houses of Parliament. In her Address, I have gone through several points. The Government has stated that the highest priority is given to the poor, the middle class, the youth, and the women. This is mentioned on the second page of the Address. And, to achieve this highest priority, to implement this, and to achieve the prospects of this neglected section, it is necessary to have a stable Government that can run for five years.

Now, with the support of the regional parties like us, with 305 Members, this Government will run for five years. *...(Interruptions)...*There is no question of any hesitation. I am not afraid of telling, there is nothing to carry any favour from the Prime Minister. I have not come here for that. In the last ten years, I have not taken any benefit from the Prime Minister or from anybody. *...(Interruptions)..* The Prime Minister appointed my son as the Minister. I have not gone to his doors. Let me be very plain. I would tell it on the floor of the House, nothing doing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I have not, even today, asked what portfolio, what has been... nothing doing. *...(Interruptions)..* Please. I do not want to hurt anybody. I am only telling the truth. Sir, you are also a farmer. I know the community. I gave reservation to the *jat* community of Rajasthan. I came to Jhunjhunu.

...*(Interruptions)*.. I addressed a public meeting. Shri Sis Ram Ola was a Minister in my Cabinet. He requested me, 'please help us, we are poor.' I went round; I got the reservation. I was there hardly for 320 days. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Only 320 days! In that short period, I gave the reservation. Sir, I know how Modi*ji* in his 22 years as Chief Minister, and as Prime Minister, is running the country, I know. Today, the world has recognized; it is not the question of Devegowda or X Y Z. The world has recognized Modiji as the tallest leader. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Enough time has been made available to the former Prime Minister from the ruling party. Enough time is there. The ruling party has 1 hour and 51 minutes left. The hon. former Prime Minister is taking time after due sanction from the ruling party. Please continue, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*.. No, I have acceded to the request. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Hon. Former Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Devegowda*ji*. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Only what the former Prime Minister says will go on record.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Please, if they do not want... ...*(Interruptions)*.. I am only guided by the Chair. Also, I have requested the leader of the NDA party who is the leader of this House, I have requested your goodself, the time.. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are questioning the statement of the Chair! I plead with you. This is a very serious aspersion on me.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA : Some of the programmes which they have -- I quote -- it is very difficult for them to swallow it. Sir, I am quoting from Page 2. "5,36,000 crore rupees have been allocated for this purpose under *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*." And the next is, Rs. 41,000 crores has already been dispersed for the farmers. Rupees eighty thousand crores for ... ...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, what has been said here, I am telling that. It is very difficult for them to swallow it. What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please......*(Interruptions)*...Thank you, Sir.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Even on education, medical education, agriculture, irrigation, etc., the amount that has been allocated, I can go on mentioning what is mentioned here in this policy document. Khargeji said, "In 240 seats, he cannot give a stable Government." That is their argument. In Karnataka, his own party has got 136 seats. How is the Government running? ...*(Interruptions)*...I have got every right.

...*(Interruptions)*...I have got every right to say what has happened. ...*(Interruptions)*...I have not made ... ...*(Interruptions)*...I have got every right. ...*(Interruptions)*...If I used any unparliamentary language,... ...*(Interruptions)*...I can sign, I can authenticate it. ...*(Interruptions)*...There is nothing to hide. ...*(Interruptions)*...I will authenticate and I will hand over it. ...*(Interruptions)*...I will authenticate and I will hand over it. I am not bothered about anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, in Karnataka, the money that has been earmarked for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, that money has been diverted ...*(Interruptions)*...and that was used for the election purpose. ...*(Interruptions)*...And, the officer has committed suicide. ...*(Interruptions)*...I will authenticate... ...*(Interruptions)*...I will authenticate and hand over these papers. Nobody can... ...*(Interruptions)*...I know what they want. Sir, let my friends have some patience. Khargeji himself had advised his Ministers. The paper-cutting is here. He himself has advised; Ministers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जयराम रमेश : सर ,ये क्या बोल रहे हैं।

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: A number of officers who have committed suicide... ....*(Interruptions)*... I don't want to speak more. ....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I would stop at this stage. I have got all the papers here. Khargeji may feel very bad; if I read about the advice he gave to his Ministers, he would feel bad. ...*(Interruptions)*...Lastly, I would like to speak about drinking water. ....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: You are all honest; the only honest people. Leave it at that. ...*(Interruptions)*...If I speak the truth, it would be difficult to digest. If I were to read this, it would be very difficult. Touch your conscience, Mr. Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...I know that you cannot say anything about me. ...*(Interruptions)*...I know this. Sir, I wish to make one last point. Karnataka is very unfortunate. I am not talking about Modi's Government. I am talking about all Governments in the past. Drinking water supply to Bengaluru city has been a major problem. Even today, for more than one crore forty-five lakh people of Bengaluru, they have allotted just 20 TMC of water. We require more than 50 TMC. There are three rivers serving

Karnataka - Cauvery, Mahanadi and Krishna. All three are inter-State rivers. Tribunal awards are there. Whether Kharge*ji* wants to support or not, it is not for me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir, please, help me. For Cauvery, there was one interim award. Nowhere in India, in any tribunal, there is an interim award. Not only interim award, but the tribunal was fighting. There are different orders. The High Court and the Supreme Court have passed strictures. The tribunal award was notified. If water release is short, that should be made good for next month.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Where do you bring water from? If there is no water, where do you bring water from?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Sir, you have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: The only thing is, if your drinking water ...(*Interruptions*)... Where do you bring?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I request, through you, it is Modi S*aheb* alone who can solve this problem, not others. I begged Dr. Manmohan Singh. He said, 'I cannot.' He said, 'Mr. Devegowda, I cannot.' It is only Modi *ji* who can solve the problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: The people of Karnataka, Bengaluru and other districts are suffering for want of drinking water. ...(*Interruptions*)... I want, in my lifetime, that it should be solved. With this appeal and with these words, I stop here. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The Leader of the House wants to say.

सभा के नेता (श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा): आदरणीय देवेगौड़ा जी ने, जो एनडीए के हमारे पार्टनर हैं, भारत के पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री हैं, उन्होंने बहुत अच्छे तरीके से प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में चल रही सरकार और उसके कार्यक्रमों के बारे में चर्चा की है। एक विषय चंद्रबाबू नायडू जी के बारे आया। मैं पार्टी के अध्यक्ष के रूप में इसको क्लेरिफाई करना चाहता हूं कि हमारे एनडीए में इस तरह की कोई चर्चा नहीं हुई। सभी लोगों ने पूरी ताकत के साथ प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में चलना तय किया है और उसमें सभी का साथ है।

श्री सभापतिः श्री राजीव शुक्ला।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला (छत्तीसगढ़): सभापति जी, सबसे पहले तो मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं कि आपने मुझे यह अवसर प्रदान किया, हालांकि देवेगौड़ा जी के ओजस्वी और प्रभावमयी भाषण के बाद बोलना बड़ा कठिन था।

श्री सभापतिः आपकी पार्टी का समय खत्म हो चुका था।

श्री राजीव शुक्लाः इसीलिए मैंने आपको धन्यवाद दिया।

श्री सभापतिः नहीं। प्रतिपक्ष के नेता खरगे जी का अनुरोध था, इसलिए आपको समय दिया जा रहा है।

श्री राजीव शुक्लाः खरगे जी का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि उन्होंने मुझे यह अवसर दिलवाया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापतिः हाथी के पांव में आप भी आ जाते हो और प्रमोद तिवारी जी भी आ जाते हैं।

श्री राजीव शुक्लाः सर, देवेगौड़ा जी के भाषण के बाद बोलना बहुत मुश्किल काम है, लेकिन फिर भी मैं प्रयास कर रहा हूं। सबसे पहले तो राष्ट्रपति महोदया का जो अभिभाषण है, उसके लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ। उसमें उन्होंने जिन-जिन बातों का उल्लेख किया, चाहे महिला सशक्तीकरण हो, चाहे शिक्षा हो, उन बातों का हम समर्थन भी करते हैं, लेकिन जो राजनीतिक भाषण है, जो सरकार ने अपनी उपलब्धियों का बखान किया है, उसको लेकर हमारे कुछ प्रश्न हैं। पहला प्रश्न यह है कि क्या राजनीति सिर्फ चुनाव के लिए होती है?

(**उपसभापति महोदय** *पीठासीन हुए।*)

क्या मकसद सिर्फ यह है कि येन केन प्रकारेण, हर तरह से सिर्फ चुनाव जीत लेना ही राजनीति है या कुछ कार्य करने की भी बात है? ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप देखिए, आप जितने भी भाषण उठा लीजिए, चाहे अभिभाषण हो, चाहे बजट भाषण हो, सब भाषण हों, आपको चुनाव आयोग की

वेबसाइट पर जाने की जरूरत नहीं है, गूगल पर देखने की जरूरत नहीं है, सरकार के उन मंत्रियों और लोगों के भाषणों से ही पता चल जाएगा कि आगे किस राज्य में चुनाव होने वाला है! जिस राज्य के बारे में उसमें बात होने लगे, वहाँ के कपड़ों की, वेशभूषा की, संस्कृति की, खाने की, समझ लो कि उस राज्य में चुनाव आने वाला है और जैसे ही चुनाव खत्म, उस राज्य की चर्चा खत्म। अब इस समय न मध्य प्रदेश के कपड़ों के रंग की और त्योहारों की बात हो रही है, न छत्तीसगढ़ की, न राजस्थान की, न महाराष्ट्र और हरियाणा की। अब इसमें सिर्फ दिल्ली और बिहार था, सिर्फ इनकी चर्चा हो रही है। मतलब यह है कि सिर्फ चुनाव जीतना है, बाकी कुछ मतलब नहीं है। जैसे राहत इंदौरी का कहना है -

"सीमाओं पर बड़ा तनाव है,
क्या कहीं कोई चुनाव है!"

वैसा ही हाल यहाँ हो गया है कि *"भाषणों में बड़ा ज़िक्र है, अरे भाई चुनाव की फिक्र है!"* मेरे ख्याल से, मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि इस चीज को हमें बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ावा नहीं देना चाहिए कि चुनाव ही हमारा मकसद है। अगर हम उसको त्याग देंगे, तो शायद पूरे देश का कल्याण हो जाएगा, क्योंकि तमाम राज्यों से तमाम किस्म की माँगें हुई हैं। न राष्ट्रपति के अभिभाषण में उनका ज़िक्र है और न ही इस बजट में ज़िक्र है।

अब आप देखिए, आप कहते हैं मॉडल कोड ऑफ कंडक्ट, चुनाव आचार संहिता। यह चुनाव आयोग को एक तारीख के पहले रखना चाहिए था। आप छोटे-छोटे काम रुकवा देते हैं, चुनाव आयोग छोटी-छोटी परियोजनाएँ यह कह कर रुकवा देता है कि यह वोटर को लुभाने का तरीका है। बजट तो सबसे बड़ा घोषणाओं का भंडार है। बजट चुनाव के ठीक पहले हो रहा है और चुनाव के दिन भाजपा का विज्ञापन निकल रहा है कि 12 लाख तक कर मुक्ति, यह जो इस बजट की घोषणा थी, यह इनके चुनावी घोषणा में आ गई। यह सीधे-सीधे मॉडल कोड ऑफ कंडक्ट, चुनाव आचार संहिता का उल्लंघन है। आगे से हमें इसका ध्यान रखना पड़ेगा। मैं कोई आलोचना नहीं कर रहा हूँ, लेकिन इन टेक्निकल चीजों को ध्यान में रख कर ही हमें आगे बढ़ना पड़ेगा। चुनाव आयोग इन चीजों पर ध्यान नहीं देता। नड्डा जी, आप कुछ भी मानें, एक चीज तो आप भी मानेंगे कि चुनाव आयोग की छवि बहुत धूमिल हो गई है। आपको याद होगा वह शेषन का जमाना! उनको हमने ही लगाया था, लेकिन वे हमारी ही सरकार के खिलाफ कितना सख्त कदम उठाते थे। आज उनका नाम ...(**व्यवधान**)... शेखावत जी, आप सुनिए तो, उनका नाम सब लेते हैं, लेकिन आज किसी मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त का नाम क्यों नहीं लिया जा रहा है? कोई याद कर रहा है! क्योंकि वे आँखें मूँद कर बैठे हुए हैं, कुछ देखते नहीं। खुलेआम पैसे के पैकेट्स बँट रहे हैं, कहीं कुछ बँट रहा है, कहीं कुछ हो रहा है, कहीं शिकायतें की जाती हैं। राजनीतिक दल शिकायत करने जाते हैं, उनकी बात सुनी नहीं जाती। इसलिए चुनाव आयोग से मेरा अनुरोध है कि वह भी इस तरफ ध्यान दे और यह जो चुनाव आचार संहिता का उल्लंघन है, खुलेआम चुनाव की व्यवस्था का उल्लंघन है, कम से कम उसको दूर किया जाए और वह विपक्ष तथा दूसरे दलों को भी मौका दे, उनकी बात सुने। उसको अपनी छवि का ख्याल रखना चाहिए।

इसके बाद बेरोजगारी की बात आती है। हम किस बात का ढिंढोरा पीटते हैं! यह कहते हुए सचमुच मुझे बड़ा हर्ष होता है कि 60 प्रतिशत युवा शक्ति भारत के पास है, भारत सबसे नौजवान देश है और अर्थव्यवस्था में हम सबसे ज्यादा काम कर सकते हैं, लेकिन आज हुआ क्या! वही युवाशक्ति आपने गाँवों में बिठा दी। वे सब बैठे हैं, जो कोरोना के बाद गए, उनमें से कोई लौट कर नहीं आया। आज सूरत का उद्योग हो, मुम्बई का उद्योग हो, पंजाब का कृषि उद्योग हो, वहाँ लेबरर्स नहीं है। उसकी वजह से मैन्युफैक्चरिंग सेक्टर इतना सफ़र कर रहा है कि उससे लेबर कॉस्ट इतनी ...(**समय की घंटी**)... देखिए, हमें पूरा टाइम मिला है। ऐसे नहीं, फिर हम नहीं बोलेंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: राजीव जी, आप एक मिनट लीजिए। आप खत्म कीजिए, नहीं तो मैं आगे बढ़ूँगा।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: मुझे चेयरमैन साहब ने टाइम दिया है।

श्री उपसभापत: प्लीज़, आप खत्म करें, केवल 10 सेकंड्ज़ हैं।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: उन्होंने मुझे टाइम दिया है।

श्री उपसभापति: आप जल्दी खत्म करें, नहीं तो मैं दूसरे स्पीकर को बुलाऊँगा। प्लीज़।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: उन्होंने मुझे टाइम दिया है और आप बोलने नहीं दे रहे हैं। चलिए, एक आखिरी सवाल है। आपने बीच में टोक दिया।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं, आपका समय खत्म हो गया है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: समय के लिए मुझे बोला हुआ है।

श्री उपसभापति: आपको जो समय दिया गया है, वह यहाँ पर लिखा हुआ है। आप गलत सूचना मत दीजिए। आप गलत सूचना मत दीजिए, आप खत्म करिए।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: एक सवाल और है। इसमें कुंभ का भी ज़िक्र आया है। जो लोग मरे हैं, हम उनके प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते हैं। लेकिन एक चीज बताइए कि कुम्भ एक राजनीतिक आयोजन है या धार्मिक आयोजन है? मैं भी बचपन से कुम्भ में बहुत बार गया हूँ। मेरी नानी-दादी वहाँ कल्पवास करती थीं, तो मैं भी जाता था। वहाँ हमेशा धार्मिक संतों के प्रवचन आदि होते थे। इस समय तो वहाँ ...(**समय की घंटी**)... सर, मैं एक मिनट लूँगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद। ...(**व्यवधान**)... माननीय श्री संजीव अरोड़ा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... प्लीज़, अब आप बोलें। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, उनको खत्म तो कर लेने दीजिए! ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : उन्होंने कुम्भ पर खत्म कर लिया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... उन्होंने खत्म कर लिया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... माननीय संजीव अरोड़ा जी, प्लीज़ अब आप बोलें। आपको समय दिया गया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आपका समय जा रहा है, मैं दूसरे को बुलाऊँगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... संजीव जी, अगर आप नहीं बोल रहे हैं, तो मैं दूसरे को बुलाऊँगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... माननीय श्री अब्दुल वहाब। ...(**व्यवधान**) Please start your speech, Sanjeev Arora ji; otherwise, you will lose the opportunity.

SHRI SANJEEV ARORA (Punjab): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Sir, today, I am going to talk only about health, and, I would like to request the hon. Leader of the House and the hon. Health Minister to please listen to my suggestions and comments and try to take corrective action as far as possible.

As I begin, I would first appreciate the efforts of all Governments since independence that have significantly improved healthcare in our country. This progress is evident in the success of universal immunization, eradication of small pox, polio, collective Covid management and the overall increase in the life-expectancy. However, I rise today to highlight the critical gaps in making our healthcare system affordable, which demands urgent attention.

Sir, healthcare is not a privilege; it is a fundamental right. Affordability of healthcare is still an issue in our country. As per the available data, around 71/2 per cent families in India are pushed into poverty because of one critical healthcare issue in the family. Budgetary allocation is too less as far as healthcare is concerned.

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.)*

As also pointed out by my friend, Shri Ashok Mittal, in 2017, the National Health Policy set a target of increasing India's public health expenditure to 2.5 per cent of country's GDP by 2025. Sir, still only 0.27 per cent of GDP is being spent and 2 per cent of total Budgetary allocation is going towards health. Recently, there was a report by the State Bank of India which says that the healthcare budget should be 5 per cent of GDP. Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Health Minister to use his good offices to try and get as much Budget as possible so that affordable health care can be provided.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI SANJEEV ARORA: Sir, it is only five minutes now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go ahead.

SHRI SANJEEV ARORA: Now, I come to the issue of out-of-pocket expenses. As per the last data, which is available on the Government website, 39.4 per cent is the out-of-pocket expense, which I beg to disagree. Firstly, this data pertains to 2021-22, which was a Covid year, when most of the expenses were taken care of by the Government, and secondly, patients also used to avoid visiting hospitals due to the fear of catching infections during medical care.

Sir, in the State of Uttar Pradesh, a State which is bigger than many countries in size, the official figure of out-of-pocket expenses is 70 per cent.

2.00 P.M.

Sir, the world average is 10-12 per cent. In some of the African countries, which got independence along with us, like Botswana, it is 4.3 per cent; in South Africa, it is 5.51 per cent. And the data source is WHO. What I am trying to say is, I am Vice-President of one of the institutions ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Arora, I will allow you to resume later on. Hon. Minister of External Affairs, Shri S. Jaishankar, to make a *suo motu* Statement under Rule 251 of the Rules regarding Deportation of Indian Nationals from the U.S.A.

SUO MOTU STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Deportation of Indian Nationals from USA

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. JAISHANKAR): Sir, I rise to apprise the House of certain developments pertaining to deportation of Indians from the U.S.A. Hon. Members are aware that people-to-people exchanges constitute the bedrock of our deepening ties with the United States. Indeed, more than any other relationship, mobility and migration has had a key role to play in enhancing its quality. Sir, the House would also share the view of the Government that it is in our collective interest to encourage legal mobility and discourage illegal movement. In fact, illegal mobility and migration has many other associated activities, also of an illegal nature. Moreover, those of our citizens who have been inveigled into illegal movement themselves become prey to other crimes. They are trapped into both moving and