

RAJYA SABHA

***SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Wednesday, June 11, 2014/ Jyaishtha 21, 1936 (Saka)

**PROCLAMATION UNDER ARTICLE 356 OF THE
CONSTITUTION**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE
CHANGE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH
JAVADEKAR):** I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and
Hindi) of the following papers: —

- (i) Proclamation [G.S.R. 385(E)], issued by the President on the 6th June, 2014, under article 356 of the Constitution revoking the proclamation issued by him on the 28th April, 2014, in relation to the State of Andhra Pradesh and varied by him on the 1st June, 2014, in relation to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (ii) Report (in Hindi only) of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, dated the 20th February, 2014 to the President recommending the issue of the Proclamation [G.S.R. 132 (E)].

*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

- (iii) Report* (in Hindi only) of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, dated the 15th April, 2014 to the President recommending the issue of the Proclamation [G.S.R. 298 (E)].
- (iv) Report* (in Hindi only) of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, dated the 25th May, 2014 to the President recommending the issue of the Proclamation [G.S.R. 373(E)].

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

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: If the mandate of 2014 is seen only through the lens of development and good governance, it is not being realistic, it is not doing full justice to the nature of the mandate. The mandate of 2014 was also a consequence of deliberate communal polarization at the ground level in State after State. Now is a time for good governance, and good governance means inclusive governance, good governance means taking everybody along. This President's Address does not do adequate justice to the momentous economic and social changes that have taken place in the last ten years. UPA had a GDP growth of over seven-and-a-half per cent over a ten-year period. One hundred and forty million people have escaped the trap of poverty as a result of economic growth. The empowerment of the weaker sections of society through laws, through policies and through programmes of infrastructure, economic growth and education is a reality. As compared to 2004, there is an increase of 20 percent in college going children in 2014. Over 4,00,000 km of rural roads have been build through the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. There is no mention of fundamental social and economic changes that have taken place on account of legislative changes, programmes and on account of policies in the President's Address. A large number of programmes that are contained in the President's Address are in fact a continuation of what the previous Governments had started.

It was taken forward by the UPA Government. So, you are not starting on a clean slate. You are not reinventing the wheel. So, I

would request the Government to recognise the continuity. The Government of the day has a flexibility to bring about whatever changes it wants in laws and programmes. The President's Address has some simple mantras. But I hope these simple mantras do not become simplistic mantras. "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" sounds very good. "Ek Bharat - Shreshtha Bharat" sounds very good. We can't disagree with these mantras. Yes, Minimum Government can also mean one- man Government. So, I would like to have some clarity. Similarly, "Ek Bharat - Shreshtha Bharat", who can disagree with this? But let us also recognise that India is an example of unity in diversity. I hope that the Government doesn't want to impose uniformity in the name of the unity. We need some clarity on exactly what the Government needs. I am very glad that President's Address recommits the NDA Government to the introduction of the GST. I hope that the GST will soon become a reality. I am glad that today this Government sees merit in the Nuclear Agreement and wants to take it forward. I welcome this introduction of two words 'wherever feasible' because interlinking of rivers has environmental, social, political and ecological consequences. I can only plead with my colleagues in the Government that they should seriously look at some of these programmes that have already been there on the ground. I would request you, whatever is worth keeping, please keep it, do not abandon it. When the UPA Government came to power, we inherited the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana etc. And I would expect this Government to follow the same path. If they do this then we will offer constructive co-operation.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: The hon. President in his inaugural Address said something very significant. The establishment of a Government led by Shri Narendra Modi has ensured that this is a Government of hope. The main point which the Opposition benches have stressed is they are accusing us of having copied their ideas. This cannot be farther from truth. I see, in the programmes outlined by the hon. President for his Government over the next five years, a promise of transformation. Transformation is promised on the basis of

experience and on the basis of achievements. Every Indian has a dream. But, today, 67 years after Independence, we are nowhere near achieving that dream. Now, we have launched Mangalyaan after the Chandrayaan. This is the result of a dream. The dreams, if I may just summarise, are equal rights, democracy, equal rights for women. The President's Address, it has promised all of these in full measures. It is the *niyat* that distinguishes one Government from the other. If there is *niyat*, the *neeti* can actually become a reality. The transformation comes when *neeti* comes along with *niyat*. We have talked about elimination of poverty. 43 years ago, our former Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi had coined the slogan, *garibi hatao*, How come the poverty has gone up after that? The President's Address has categorically commented that this will be done.

As regards electrification of villages, there are 8.5 lakh villages and hamlets in India, and only one lakh have been electrified. So, it is a huge target. The NHDP and the Golden Quadrilateral Programme were started in 2001, when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was Prime Minister. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was started in the year 2000 by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. The revival of industry and the emphasis on the manufacturing industry is one of the most important points that have been outlined in the President's Address. We have to rebuild India's manufacturing base and manufacturing capability and this is a promise that has been made in the President's Address.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: We have been talking about the poverty elimination in the Presidential Address. The Press-release of World Bank published on 10th of April this year says that the total number of the poorest of the poor who cannot earn even 1.25 dollar a day is 1.2 billion and one-third of them, that is, 40 crores people live in India.

It has been established beyond doubt that the major share of the benefits of the so-called economic reforms, after the liberalization policy, has gone to the kitty of the richest people of this country and not to the poorest of the poor people of this country. This is a hard

reality that we are confronted with. The new Government has a paramount duty, to have a re-look, to re-visit the so-called economic reforms of the liberalization policy, which is being pursued since 1991, for almost 23-24 years. Reforming the reforms is the only step that is required in the present economic situation of this country.

We assure of our best cooperation to the new Government for all upcoming poverty elimination programmes and all programmes which are in public good. But whenever there is any attempt on the part of the new Government to adopt any policy which is otherwise anti-people, we shall oppose it tooth and nail. In 2012, India was the third largest polluted country in the world. What measures would be taken by this Government in this regard? There is no mention about it in the Presidential Address. The Government should come out with a definite plan and programme on this issue.

In the President's Address, the slogan of cooperative federalism has been raised. We salute cooperative federalism. In the recent past, we have seen that the successive Governments at the Centre set up the Sarkaria Commission and the Punchhi Commission on Centre-State relations and no respect has been given to the recommendations of these Commissions which submitted their Reports in 2010. The new Government should bring out the Punchhi Commission Report from the cold storage, go through it and try to implement the recommendations in letter and spirit. The Planning Commission, which was set up by an executive order, has emerged as the most robust extra Constitutional centre of authority over the years. We demand that the Finance Commission must have a permanent status and, if necessary, an appropriate legislation should be made in this regard. In the President's speech, black money has been talked about. The entire net of the black money is to be unearthed and it should be possessed by the Government of India only and none else.

Making Ganga pollution free is a good step. Contractors of the earlier Ganga action plan have embezzled the whole amount earmarked for decontamination of Ganga water. We have to prevent the reoccurrence of such thing this time. I want a concrete assurance

from the Government that the compensation towards Central sales tax should be paid before implementing the GST in the country. Government is going to implement FDI in defence production. What about the national security? I would like to know whether there will be any existence of DRDO because even the software will be manufactured by the foreign investors. Amritsar-Kolkata industrial corridor will be helpful for Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar and West Bengal therefore work on this corridor should be expedited.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: I feel very happy about all the promises made by the Government. Post-Independence, successive governments have always measured poverty or the poverty line as a percentage, without giving any credence to the increase in our population. I am confident that the numerous measures that they have adopted already would improve the standard of living of the common people. This would automatically eliminate poverty. Governments led by UPA brought us down from a super power to zero power. My Party feels that all the initiatives taken by this Government give out a lot of hope and confidence. Government will improve the quality of life in our villages through an empowered Panchayati Raj system. This initiative would definitely help our rural India to grow extremely well. Majority of our country's population is dependent on agriculture. Despite knowing this extremely well, successive governments never bothered to provide a level-playing field to our farmers by creating cold storage facilities, and building food processing units near the crop fields. Most of our farmers don't want any freebies or doles.

Our standard of education has gone down extremely. This National Education Policy will definitely maintain common standard and will also give an opportunity to students to get into international employment. We welcome the New Health Policy. Yoga and Ayurveda are affordable for common people. These medications don't have any side effects. We also expect Primary Health Centres to be revived, which help our rural India. 80 per cent of the independent India was ruled by one party. They had introduced the slogan 'Garibi Hatao', but they always managed to maintain 'Garibi Banao' so that

they can manage gullible people to vote for them. In fact, the initiative of the new Government will definitely make a lot of weaker section people to come out of the problem. Thirty-three per cent reservations is a long-pending subject. Our Party welcomes the initiative of the new Government. We hope that women will get 50 per cent representation.

Railway is life-line of the country. Particularly thrust on developing infrastructure and also improving the facilities of the Railways is a welcome decision. High-speed trains will help to grow economy in a much speedier manner. We have got 13 districts for our new State. We hope that Out of 100 world-class cities to create, at least, 13 cities in our newly-formed State. That will decongest all metro cities and also lead to uniform development of the States. I request hon. Finance Minister to definitely create some budgetary provision for starting the construction of the Polavaram Project. This is a very good initiative to start defence equipment production by private sector. That is going to save a lot of our foreign exchange.

SHRIMATI B. JAYASHREE: There is not a single scheme for the culture, folk forms, traditional arts, performing arts in the President's Address. It is the livelihood of many artists who know nothing other than these arts. Many art forms are on the verge of extinction. I request the Government to make a scheme for these artists so that our culture and tradition can survive. I also request the Government that a National School of Drama should be established in every state.

SHRI D. RAJA: It is heartening that the hon. Prime Minister referred to the Constitution in the Central Hall where the Constitution was framed, adopted and enacted. We have to think of proportional representation system which has been accepted by many countries in the world. The Government should have referred to the recommendations made by the National Commission on Farmers in the President's Address. Indian education is becoming more and more privatised and commercialised. What will happen to the students coming from poor, downtrodden and underprivileged sections of

society? There is no mention of a Central Legislation to govern the Scheduled Castes Sub- Plan and the Tribal Sub- Plan. It is a demand across the country. The Central Government should have such a legislation. There is no mention of the policy of reservation. How will it be implemented? I welcome the move to pass the Women's Reservation Bill.

To sort out the water problems and river water problems, the Central Government should have an initiative to take State Governments in stride and find a solution. There is no mention about the strengthening and expanding the public sector. Whether this Government is prepared to ask the Sri Lankan Government to reopen and renegotiate the Katchatheevu agreement or not? Foreign policy should be evolved on the basis of a national consensus. It should be a policy which evolves in a concrete situation on the basis of concrete realities. The President's Address is the vision document of the Government and that vision must be a proper vision which can help the country to move forward.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: I want to comment on two broad themes. This was an election of hope. This is an election that has deepened our vibrant democracy. I think the conservation of democracy can't be advanced in an atmosphere of perennial personalized conflicts. It was said that the Congress Party has been reduced to a status of regional party. It was mocking us. There was a contentious statement on article 370. It was the Leader of Opposition who initiated the process of rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits. Pillars of the Constitution are the pluralist, liberal and secular India. The vibrant democracy, completely misses the core of our democratic experiment.

I would ask you to work with the Opposition and the Opposition will work with you. A civilized nation knows how to balance security and individual freedom. That balance has been lost somewhere. If Government want to promote constructive politics, have the generosity to admit the need of co-operation. India is racing to find its place in the comity of nations. Not a single word has been

said about so many global agencies. We have a great relationship with China. We must continue to expand this relationship. Why such a perfunctory treatment of the considerable advances and the successes that the UPA-1 & UPA-11 achieved on the foreign policy? Not a word on supercomputing. You don't represent the majority view in India. The Congress is still a party spread in every village throughout the country.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: I don't think that any member has any conflict with the Presidential Address and the Agenda. This has been a tradition of this House that we pass the Presidential Address unanimously. The Leader of the Opposition, by taking credit of the development model which has been addressed in the Presidential Address, said that this was his Government's model. Whichever Government comes in power, they are bound to face problems like roads, electricity, water, education, health, terrorism and corruption. Shri Jairam Ramesh has said that this election was the result of communal polarization. I am hurt. This was the strength of Shri Narander Modi that for the first time, the people of the country voted across caste and religion. In this Presidential Address, agenda for development and modernization of Madarsas is included. UPA Government failed in providing flats under the 'Rajiv Ratna Awas Yojana', regularising colonies and controlling inflation. The UPA Government has given the right to education but failed in providing infrastructure. This is the need of the hour for this House that we must remain united. In this election people have voted for getting rid of inflation, atrocities, terrorism and unemployment.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: There has been the tradition that Presidential Address is prepared by the Government, accredited by the Cabinet and read out by the President. But I feel that those who were involved in the election management, have a major say in the preparation of this Presidential Address.

We will not at all ask you now as to why there is increase of 50 paise on Diesel? We will not even ask, if capital of the country is facing 10 hour power cut than what is the situation of other parts? We

will not raise any question about price of dollar, CAD and foreign currency reserve. Ganga Cleaning Mission was initiated by Rajiv Gandhi. You take it ahead. Clean the Yamuna and Kaveri also. Yesterday Leader of Opposition has given details of your all schemes. If you really see them you will find that all these are UPA Government's schemes. We want that all these programmes should be implemented. There should be total removal of unemployment, price rise, corruption and poverty from the country.

SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: The President Address seems a wishlist. Serious polarization has taken place. Today Muslims are in fear in the Country. It should be convinced that there would be no unilateral efforts to change section 370. The State Government and the UPA Government has already made several schemes for the rehabilitation of Pandits. Whatever can be done by the State Government, we are ready for that. You give whatever package is required. J&K is a political issue. This is not so that Section 370 is proving a hurdle in investment and progress of Kashmir. There is no ban for getting land for industrialization. We have to convince the people of J&K that there would be no change in our relations unilaterally. There are also some people sitting here who want genuine solution of Kashmir issue. Our roads are in very bad condition. The Central Government should give a package for that. Compensate the loss suffered by Indus Water Treaty. Talk about transfer of NHPC Hydel Project.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE: It was just amazing that the whole world focused on the elections 2014 and the results. A party which thought that they were invincible, was totally routed. The LoP was basking in the glory of having done so much. He said that the UPA Government leaped forward in electricity and the energy sectors. But India has a dismal record and over ten crore people still in this country which do not have access to electricity. Bawana Gas Power Plant is lying idle for so many years for want of gas. Ultra Mega Power Projects are also a failure. Despite one-lakh-crore bail-out programmes, SEBs are in the red. NPAs are rising in the banks that the banks have stopped giving loans to power projects.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I found many shortcomings in conducting these elections. The State machinery is a key, in conducting elections and it is transferred under the Election Commission for two months. I feel that in the conduct of elections the Government machinery should be transferred from one state to another state in order to give a chance for fair election. This time, the atmosphere was such wherein there was investment in individual than in party. The corporate houses will be controlling the entire electoral process in due course if the Election Commission is not equipped to control the money which is being spent in the election. The investment was done in person only and you are taking reward for that.

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**Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.