

RAJYA SABHA

***SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Monday, February 05, 2018/ Magha 16, 1939 (Saka)

FELICITATIONS TO INDIAN UNDER-19 CRICKET TEAM

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, on behalf of the entire House and on my own behalf, I congratulate the Indian Under-19 Cricket team for winning the ICC Under-19 World Cup, held in Mount Maunganui in New Zealand, on 3rd of February, 2018, and scripting history by becoming the only team to lift the coveted title for the record fourth time.

This outstanding accomplishment of our young sportspersons is a matter of great pride for the entire nation. I hope that they would serve as a source of inspiration for our youth and budding sportspersons and encourage them to emulate and achieve greater heights in the world of sports.

We wish all the players of the Indian U-19 team the very best for their future endeavours and hope that they will continue to make the country proud by their achievements.

MATTER RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

Stoppage of Train Service in Eight Routes in West Bengal

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: The Indian Railways has stopped the train services on eight routes in Bengal. This is causing a lot of hardship to the people of Bengal. Because of the ever-rising prices of petrol and diesel, the railway is the only option for the poor people. On account of this, the people are facing a lot of hardships. The details have not been given in the Railway Budget in this regard. So, we request the Railway Minister to make a statement on this issue and assure this House and the people of Bengal that these railway routes will not be stopped.

(Shri Tapan Kumar Sen associated.)

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

SHRI AMIT ANIL CHANDRA SHAH, making his maiden speech, said: I move that an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:—

"That the Members of the Rajya Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on January 29, 2018."

Hon'ble President, in his speech has mentioned the achievements of this Government. Its analysis is to be welcomed but I want to add a different point of view that this Government got a kind of void in the form of heritage and Government had to devote a lot of time in refilling the same. In the year, 2013 everybody in the country was worried about its future. Women had the feeling of insecurity. There was no definite policy for securing our borders. Jawans engaged in securing the borders could not even show their valour due to indecisiveness of the government. Youths were agitated. People were worried due to scams and corruption. There was policy paralysis in the

government as far as the policy matter are concerned. Then in the year, 2014 during elections, the great people of the country took a historical decision. First time after Independence a non-congress government i.e, BJP Government under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi was formed. After 30 years, one party got the full majority with the mandate to carry forward the nation and find solution of the problems of the country. This huge mandate was historical. Modi ji was elected the leader of party and he delivered a historical speech. He said the government which is being formed belongs to poor people, farmers, dalits, backward classes, youths women and tribes. This Government will run on the principles of 'Antyodaya' and make inclusive development for all. During three and half years, Government has completed more than fifty works which will find place in the history of India. In order to fulfil the target of 'Antyodaya', this Government decided to uplift the standard of living of poor people and make the development very meticulously and in this chain opening of Jan-Dhan bank account was the first. After 70 years of Independence and despite 55 years of Congress rule 60 percent people had no bank account. But, Today 31 crore account have been opened. It was commented where from the poor people will get money for depositing in the accounts but I would like to mention that 73 thousand crores rupees have been deposited under the Jan-Dhan scheme. Hard earned money of the poor people is safe in these bank account and they find themselves linked with the economy of the country. I believe this is a great achievement. Modi ji, appealed to rich people to give up gas subsidy voluntarily so that this subsidy could be given to poor people and dalits including rural areas. In the era of vote politics, after Shastri ji, first time any Prime Minister dared to ask people to give up something. Lacs of people, honoured the appeal of Prime Minister and gave up the subsidy. Bharatiya Janta Party added some more money in it and initiated 'Ujjawala Yojana'. After 70 years of Independence, even 1.5 crore rural people had no LPG. Our Prime Minister decided to provide gas connection to 5 crore poor women during 5 years. So far 3.30 crores people have been provided with the gas cylinder and in this budget Government is making effort to provide cylinders to 8 crore people in place of 5 crore. As far

as construction of toilet is concerned, by the year 2022 we will arrange toilet for each house. Existence of toilet in the house not only improves the health but also provides to the women right to live with dignity. Only this Government has dreamed for providing house to every individual and we are moving ahead in this direction. Only our Government found out the solution of unemployment in the country. Banks were nationalised for the benefit of poor people but they could not be benefitted from this. Neither they had accounts nor they used to get loans. These unemployed youths were directionless. Today through the Mudra bank, crores of youths have been provided with the suitable loans. This requires neither guarantee nor guarantor and rate of interest is very low. Our Government has electrified 16 thousands villages out of 18 thousands during three and half years. Our Government has initiated Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojna and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Yojana for ailing poor people, the cost of stent and artificial knee has also been substantially reduced. 'Aayushmaan Bhav Yojana' has been initiated in this budget for the benefit of the people of the country. BJP Government has worked towards poverty alleviation. Many steps have been taken to double the income of farmers and also to encourage the agriculture. Pradhan Mantri Sinchai Yojna is a unique per se, it will not only save water but also increase the crop. This Government has restarted the interlinking of 30 rivers. In addition to this Government has initiated many crop insurance schemes in the country.

I would definitely say that arrangements have been made under "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojna" to provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss out of any unforeseen events right from sowing to reaping. A decision to this effect has been taken for conducting survey of each village instead of block level survey. Government has chalked out a scheme for converting all mandies of the country into e-markets. With neem coating, divergence of urea has completely stopped and its consumption has also gone down. Shut fertiliser plants like Sindri, Barauni, Talcher, Ramagundam and Gorakhpur have resumed production. I hope that with this step there will be no requirement to import urea in this country. A scheme has been formulated for dairy business involving

11,000 crores rupees. A better initiative has been taken for organic farming. Around 22.5 lakhs hectares of land has been brought under organic farming. Around 3.5 crores of farmers have been given soil health card during the last three years. 460 full-fledged laboratories are functional at present and work relating to setting up of 4,000 mini labs has been initiated. Providing one and a half times than the cost of crop to farmers remained a political slogan even after 70 years of Independence. Government has decided to provide one and a half times than the cost of crop, be it Rabi or Khareef. Agricultural growth rate has remained at 4.1 percent while inflation has come down to 1.5 percent from 9.5 percent. Interest rate has come down from 8 percent to 6 percent. FDI inflow has increased. India's ranking in terms of Ease of Doing Business, Globalization Index, Global Competitive Index etc. has shown high leap. The roll out of GST is a big step towards 'One Nation, one tax' goal in the country. GST has been smooth with 22 states. GST will help in increasing trade and strengthening small scale industries and small traders. Collection from GST is directly deposited in bank accounts of soldiers, in bank accounts of widows of these soldiers, is used for providing LPG connections to BPL families, houses for poor and rural electrification. No trader would oppose this GST as inspecting Book of Accounts would be carried out by only one inspector instead of earlier 15 inspectors. This is a sensitive Government. 150 items out of 1100 have been kept out of GST. Gross revenue has also increased from 19 billion dollars to 25 billion dollars. We have set a target of increasing the number of airports by five times. With strong political will power, we have conducted surgical strike in POK and avenged killing of our jawans by Pakistan. We have chalked out a ten-year blueprint for modernisation of our three forces and equipped our forces with modern weapons. Government has taken many initiatives for transformation in society also.

In order to provide equal rights and social security to the Muslim women, Government came up with the Triple Talaq Bill but it was held in the Rajya Sabha. Since Independence, the Dityang had to face humiliation owing to the word 'Handicapped'. It was the foresight of a sensitive Prime Minister that the word 'Handicapped' was

replaced with 'Dibyang' legally and they were granted prestige. The reservation for them was also enhanced. Positive results of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' are being noticed in the country. Today, Yoga which is our cultural heritage, is functioning for the welfare of entire world's health. Preventing the scam, Government have saved Rs. 57,000 crore yearly through Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme which is a great achievement. The new initiative of the Niti Ayog is also becoming fruitful in making so many policies nowadays in the country. I believe this trend will take our country very forward in coming days. I hope the initiative of 'Khelo India' will witness a number of Gold and Silver Medals for our country in future. It is the first time when this Government have identified 115 backward districts and launched a special work plan for them. I believe that it is a great initiative. The Prime Minister has done a great job to get our country dignified in the entire world through his addresses on the various international forums. With the launch of 104 satellites in the space in one go, ISRO has set a new record. I believe that this changes the scale of our country's thinking. I believe that the presence of all the SAARC countries in the Digital connectivity and Oath and the presence of all the heads of the ten ASEAN countries on this Republic Day is also a great achievement. Our Government has seen three and half years but our opponents cannot blame us for any corruption activity. Government has battled a great war strategically against black money and stricken it heavily. Our Government is a popular one. The biggest criteria of the same is the public mandates achieved in the recent elections. The Prime Minister has come out from a number of conflicts and it is a great achievement of his leadership that he has abolished dynasty, casteism and appeasement from the democracy of this country. We have been running a transparent, decisive and sensitive Government and restored India's dignity. This is why we have got public mandate. I request to all to begin a positive debate on simultaneous elections. The Prime Minister has visioned of a 'New India' and this Government is moving ahead to achieve the same. The President has also included all these things very well in his address. Therefore, I thank him and conclude my speech.

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: I second the Motion of Thanks on President's Address. I believe that there are three aspects of this Government's speciality. The first aspect is 'Politics through Inspiration'. The second is 'Governance through Innovation' and the third one is 'Transformation through Implementation'. We have got such a public leader in the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister who has not any personal agenda of his own. The Prime Minister has always been moving ahead in the efforts of implementing 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas'. The Ministry of Human Resource Development took a big initiative in order to get the solution of the basic and specially, governance-related problems through 'Smart India Hackathon'. The programme of Smart Cities is going on the basis of public participation. Development is our common agenda. A number of women working under self-help groups in Madhya Pradesh have returned their BPL cards. They do not consider themselves as poor. Our Government, through all Sarpanchs, is working for cleaning of Ganga. Women are selling their products in the international market through e-haat. Eklavya Vidyalaya is a very good scheme for tribal people and forest dwellers. Dalits are using dalit venture capital fund. There were challenges like speedy delivery of credit and funding entrepreneurs through equity before us. We have provided level playing field to everybody in government procurement system through government e-market. We are using modern information system for implementation. Railway is successfully using this. We have started geo tagging of MNREGA assets. Several schemes are being monitored through Bhuvan Portal. Poverty should not be glorified. Vote- politics should not be there. Today, there is a situation of conflict between doubt and determination and division and fraternity. We will win. Development for all is necessary.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I rise here to thank the President for his Address and to discuss the same. Amit Shah ji has not mentioned the name of Sardar Patel in his speech. Whenever we have remembered Gandhi ji and Nehru ji, we mentioned the names of Sardar Patel, Maulana Azad, Subhash Chandra Bose and Ambedkar ji. We were termed as the most corrupt Government but we were exonerated from all

allegations by your own Government. For the first time, after 1986-87 all political parties were united together against Congress. Since then, many took oath as Prime Ministers. They kept on taking advantage on the name of Bofors. I thank God that your Government, your attorney-general informed the Supreme Court that there were no proofs in this case. You have raised a matter of dynasty or Vanshavad. There is no Prime Minister of that family for last 29-30 years. When there is no Prime Minister from them, then who have you saved? You have talked about casteism. It is an old practice and it was even there before the Independence. Today nobody is with anyone. Religion is divided, castes are divided. One topic of appeasement was raised. Today there is appeasement of parties. This Government always claims that our Government is a game changer. It is not a game changer but a name changer. The names of all those schemes that came after 1985 during Congress regime, during UPA regime have been changed. Indira Awas Yojana was envisaged in 1985 which was renamed as Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awas Yojana after NDA Government came to power. Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan has become 'Swachchh Bharat' now. We had chalked out National Skill Development Mission in 2010, now it has become 'Skill India'. National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was envisaged in 1985 by us which has become Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme now. Indira Gandhi Matritwa Sahyog Yojana was launched in 2010 and now it has become Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana. All these schemes belong to us. Where are new schemes? Lots of promises were made to the people in 2014. It was said that an amount of rupees 15 lakh will go to the accounts of poor but that thing has not been mentioned in either Hon'ble President's Address or in the Budget. You had promised to provide 10 crore jobs, but that thing has also not been mentioned either in the Hon'ble President's Address or in the Budget. It was committed to the farmers also that you will provide cost plus 50 percent benefit to them. A commitment had been made to bring down the prices of diesel, petrol and LPG. The cost of LPG was 350 rupees during our period which is now selling for rupees 800 today. Diesel and petrol are at 60 to 70 rupees per litre. You still cut the ribbons of our schemes and show it on television and media all the 24 hours by changing their names. You

have nothing of your own. Promises have been made to construct 12 crore toilets by 2019. But till date, only 50 percent toilets have been constructed. Out of this, 60 percent toilets are not usable. 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' was confined to 161 districts till now and the budget for it was 200 crores during the last year. It has been expanded to 640 districts from this year. But in the budget, only 80 crore have been enhanced. Today, there is the biggest need of 'Beti Bachao'. At the time when Hon'ble President was addressing the two Houses here, an eight month old child was raped in Delhi here. Rape is being committed after every minute. What action has been taken by Government on this count? A mention has been made by Government in the Address about 31 crore Bank accounts. But 24 crore, 30 lakh accounts were opened during UPA government and only 7 crore accounts were opened during BJP regime. At that time, the scheme was not named as 'Jan-Dhan Yojana'. The name of the scheme was changed. A lot has been said about MUDRA Yojana. This was a 1990 scheme. But under MUDRA Yojana a maximum of 43,000 rupees can be provided. Any person in the country cannot start even a smallest business with this meagre amount of 43,000 rupees. It has been mentioned in the Address about farmers that Government is committed to double the income of farmers by 2022. Similarly, you had made a promise with farmers in 2014 that you will provide cost plus 50 percent benefit to them. In order to double their income by 2022, an investment of rupees 6.4 lakh crore would be required. Moreover, the growth rate of agriculture should be 10-12 percent. Only then you can think of this. You are not making a true commitment with farmers, I have a strong objection to that.

Then there is 'National Health Policy'. I would like to say that this scheme is not going to start. Even half of the money you have been providing for this scheme for the last 2-3 years, is not being spent. Now you are making a scheme of 2000 crore rupees for the entire country. This will not be successful. Instead of that, you should develop government hospitals. It will benefit only insurance companies and patients would not get any benefit. Now, I wish to speak about Kashmir. This is such an issue where entire India was with you. You termed our Government as weak Government. Let's

assume for a moment that we were a weak Government; however on comparing the situation prevailing between these two periods, we did the commendable job and your Government is the weakest one. The maximum numbers of ceasefire violations have taken place during these three years. The maximum numbers of personnel of the border security forces, and civilians have been killed during these three years in Jammu and Kashmir. Hundreds of houses have been damaged; thousands of animals have been killed. The person living close to the Jammu border is unable to have a peaceful sleep for the last three years. They have to leave their houses several times. Just 15-20 days before, approximately 75,000 people left from the border areas. No safe place is there for them. There is no arrangement for their food etc. These helpless people are staying in the schools without any assistance. The people living in the border areas are in deep trouble in Jammu. Horrifying situation is prevailing there. What is the reason for it? Because this Government lacks the policy. Hot pursuit and conversation, cannot go hand in hand. One of these two is required to be chosen. Now, neither you are having talks nor you are going ahead with the hot pursuit for the last four years. Nothing has been done in case of Azhar Masood. China did not allow you doing anything in this regard. You could not do anything with regard to membership of the Nuclear Supplier's Group. China did allow doing anything in this regard as well. China obstructs your membership to the UN Security Council, then what is your diplomacy, which diplomacy is there? Lastly, I would like to talk about the triple talaq. The BJP Government first divided the opposition political parties. Now a days, politics of intimidation is prevailing. Lot of fear prevails in the country. These things are ignored while being in power. This fear is not good for the country. It is not good for the democracy of the country. Freedom of expression, freedom of socialization, and freedom of business is required. Except for terrorism, we never indulged in tapping of the phone-calls of any one. Now a days, the opposition parties are being termed as terrorists. Is it the method of garnering the votes, by spreading the fear and intimidation? Don't indulge in this type of politics. We support the triple talaq; however there are two parts to the triple talaq. We oppose the triple talaq given

in any manner, but we are against the other part of the triple talaq. Its second part is very dangerous. There is provision in the second part to put the husband into the prison. What will happen thereafter? The casteism was already there, now you are breaking the minority community, which is already broken. Don't divide the country by bringing in such triple talaq law. We don't need 'New India' which you have created. We need the 'Old India', we need the India of Gandhi, just return that India to us, where no fear, no division exists. Respected Deputy Chairman Sir, I am thankful to you and I support the motion of thanks to the President address moved by Respected Amit Shah Ji.

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Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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

**ERRATA TO THE SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE DATED 2nd
FEBRUARY, 2018**

Page No.	Line No.	Correction
10	15	Read "she" for "it".
10	18	Read "principles" for "principals".
13	14	Read "importance" for "important".
13	22 & 23	Read "breeds. For" for "breeds for".