

## Modi's first speech in Parliament

June 2014

Honourable Madam Speaker,

I am in this house for the first time today. My entry is also new, and the opportunity to give a speech is also happening for the first time. The parliamentary traditions of this House have been very high. There are many senior veterans in this House who are very experienced. Veterans with an experience of three or four decades in which they have raised the questions/problems of the nation, resolved them, and consistently worked hard for the nation, are sitting in this house today. When a new person like me says something, there may be some lapses in maintaining the dignity and decorum of the House. For being new, you will forgive those lapse, I am fully certain.

01:40

More than 50 respected members of the Lok Sabha presented their opinions on the President's speech. I heard almost all the speeches, some while sitting in the House and some while sitting in my room. Respected Mallikarjunaji, respected Mulayam Singhji, respected Dr Thambhiduraji, Bhartuhariji, leaders of Trinamool Congress. I heard the veterans. It is true that a tone was conveyed, that "you have said a lot of things but how will you do it ? When will you do it ?" I believe that the right topic is touched, and it is very natural for these questions to be raised. I will recount an experience of mine In Gujarat. I had just become the new Chief Minister in Gujarat. Once I said in the house, "I want to provide electricity in the villages of Gujarat 24 hours a day". The government side gave loud applause, but there was silence on the opposition side. But Chaudhary Amar Singh Ji, leader of the Congress, was a senior leader of the Opposition, very wise man, took out time to come to meet me. He said, "Modi ji, maybe you are making a mistake, you are new, you do not have the experience and you speak of achieving 24 hours of electricity? It is impossible, how will you achieve this?" He expressed concern as a friend. I told him that I have thought of some things, and I think we will be able to achieve it. He said it is impossible. The deficit is of 2000 MW, how will you fill that deficit? It was natural for them to have such an opinion, but I take a lot of happiness in the fact that the work required was done in Gujarat.

And that is why, these questions being raised in the minds of our veterans is very natural. That if it could not be done before, how will it be done now. Suspicions are natural since it did not happen upto now. However, I want to assure this House that the solutions the President presented in his address will be pursued relentlessly until they are achieved. For us, the President's address is not just a ritual. For us, everything spoken through his medium, is an entity, a sacred bond and to complete it is our endeavour. This attitude can also be our inspiration, which inspires us to work. Therefore, for the coming time, we should always give a dignity and seriousness to the President's speech and all of us in the House should work together to achieve it.

When the voting took place, until the election, we were all hopeful candidates, but after coming to the house, we are the messengers/servants of the people's hopes. Then we were the hopeful candidates, but after coming to the house, we are the gatekeepers of the people's hopes. It is necessary to fulfill our duty in the form of servants; to take the role of the gatekeepers if there is some lack of duty in someone by raising your voice, this is also a great duty. We all will honour our duty together. I am satisfied with the fact that whatever issues have come to the floor of the house, withstanding small quarrels which are necessary in themselves, a completely positive atmosphere has been noticed. Here too, in the issues raised, there was a hope, a hope with which we were chosen by the 1.25 billion people of the country. We are the torchbearers of that hope. Sitting on this side or that side of the aisle, this has been conveyed in everyone's speeches. I am convinced that this is an auspicious sign for India's fate.

The President in his speech spoke of the election voters surging mandate. I also congratulate our citizens. I convey my gratefulness that after many years, the country voted for stable governance, for development, for good governance, for the next five years. We have been made responsible for these concerns and contemplations of the people of India. We have to fulfill our responsibility.

One thing we will have to think about is that in the world, India is seen as a big democratic country. However is it not the demand of our time, to show the world how big our democratic power is, how high our democratic traditions are, how democratic principles are revered in the veins of our commonest to our most illiterate citizens, how woke the citizens are to fulfill all their hopes through the democratic medium. Have we projected this strength of ours to the world? After this election, we all have a collective obligation to explain in this rightful hour and attract them to us. More people participate in our elections than the total number of voters in the whole of Europe and America. Have we presented/manifested this potent form in front of the world? I believe that it is our collective responsibility. We are right in the belief that in some things, the mentality of 1200 years of slavery/colonialism is still troubling us. Often, when we meet a bigger person then we do not have the strength to speak up. Sometimes we are influenced by skin color too. By coming out of all those things, the time has come when we have to manifest the power of Indian democracy in front of the world. By keeping our head held high in front of the world, looking the world in the eye, and standing straight with our chests out, we must strive to show the power of the 1.25billion people India. We should pursue and move forward with this as an agenda. India's pride and dignity can increase due to this.

11:05

Brothers and sisters, Hon'ble Madame Speaker, the first authority on the government of the country should be for whom ? Should the government be only for educated people, should the government be counted only for the benefit of a few chosen people ? The government should be for poor people. If the rich person wants to educate their child, any school in the world, any teacher of the world can be hired by them. If someone gets sick in the house of a rich person, doctors will be waiting to attend on them. Where will

the poor go? Only the public school and public hospital is written in their fate. Therefore the first responsibility/duty of the government is to listen to the poor, and live for the poor. If we do not run the business of government for the poor, do not work for the upliftment for the poor, the people of this country will not forgive us. Therefore, Honourable Madam Speaker, this is the government's first priority. We are the people who were taught by the ideals of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, who gave us the teachings of "Antyodaya", Gandhi, Lohia and Deendayal ji all gave us this teaching. We have to work for the welfare and upliftment of the weakest section of the society, the weakest person sitting on the last end of society. The ideas of these three great men of this century's political thought has shown us this way, to give priority to the welfare of the person sitting on the end of society.

It is our commitment, the welfare of the last person in society. It is our commitment to bring the poor out of poverty, to bring out the strength inside the poor to fight and strive against poverty. The biggest tool to fight against poverty is education. The biggest means of fighting poverty is freedom from superstitions. If we are able to rescue the poor who are beset by superstition and in the state of ignorance/illiteracy, then the poor of this country do not wish to live on the crumbs of someone else. They are ready to stabilize their world on their own strength. Living with respect and pride is the nature of poor. We can hold onto this fundamental power and try to empower them. And therefore government policies must empower the poor to come out of poverty, empower the poor to fight against poverty. And thus all the systems of governance must work to make the poor strong. The final result of all government systems must be directed towards the welfare and upliftment of the person sitting at the end of society.

For centuries, we have been saying that ours is an agricultural country, country of villages. These slogans feel good, sound great to the ear. But today, can we say, hand over heart, that we have changed the life of the village, have changed the lives of our farmers. I am not standing here to criticise any government. It is our collective duty that we take the responsibility of changing the lives of Indian villages seriously; the responsibility of changing the lives of farmers, seriously. In the President's address, we have tried to speak about this topic. Another topic that was raised was "how will we do it?" We have used a word 'rurban'. We heard in the presidential address. The word is used for the development of villages, where the facilities are that of the city, the soul is from the village. The identity of the village has been built into the soul of the village. Even today there is a feeling of community and brotherhood, if a wedding procession arrives, the entire village considers the wedding procession as its own. If a guest arrives in the village, they are the guest of the entire village. This is the precious heritage of our country, we have to make it, save it. But should we deprive the people of our village from modern facilities? And I say with experience, that if we equip villages with modern facilities, then the village will contribute much more to the progress of the country.

If villages start getting electricity 24 x 7, if villages have broadband connectivity, if even kids in villages have access to the best kind of education. Just imagine for a moment, even if there are no good teachers in our village the development in science allows us and empowers us to avail long distance education. Sitting in the city, the best teachers

can reach the school student sitting in the remotest villages. Shouldn't we make use of satellite transmission, and modern science to educate poor kids. If we are able to transform the lives of people living in villages, then no villager would want to leave their village. What does the youth in the villages want? If they get employment in the village itself, then they would prefer to live with their parents. Can't we develop industrial/business networks in villages?

We must at least try and increase the share capital of agro based industries. If we accept and acknowledge the potential of agro based industries then we will be able to bring a sea change in the financial and overall status of the people in villages. This will ensure that the self respect of the farmer remains intact. Sikkim, a small state with low population is going to make India proud very soon. It is soon going to become a completely organic state producing all organic based products. These days, there is a great demand of organic products in the world, a section of people who are conscious towards holistic healthcare are ready to buy organic products at any demanded price. The farmers of Sikkim have worked hard towards capturing this global opportunity and if we support this initiative of Sikkim and go ahead with these projects then a state lying in the lap of the Himalayas would grow with a big power with high potential. Can't we dream of developing the entire North East as organic state and capturing the entire global market by availing them of government support. This will bring massive change in the lives of the people living in the mountains.

There are a huge number of agricultural universities involved in a lot of research. But this research remains in the lab, does not come to the land. Until the time we empower this journey from the lab to the land, until the time we ensure that agriculture moves from traditional to modern methods, we will not meet the full potential. A small experiment was done in Gujarat. Each farmer was issued a soil health card, at a time when all Indian nationals do not have a personal health card. But we took this initiative in Gujarat to issue a soil health card to each farmer so he knows about the health of his land. This card indicated to the farmer if they were unproductively investing in crops which could not be grown in their land, or whether they were unnecessarily investing in fertilizers not required for his crop or whether they were putting excessive quantity of fertilizer or whether he was investing in pesticides not required for his crop, Unnecessarily wasting around 50 thousand to a lakh rupees a year. The soil card helped him identify how to cultivate the crop properly. Can't we run a campaign to issue a soil health card to every farmer of our country? Yes, we can. This will open new opportunities for research as well as employment. People are asking how shall this be done, hence I am explaining this issue in detail. During vacations between April and June, agricultural university students will go to their respective villages. At that time why can't we convert the 10+2 school labs all over India to soil testing labs. Allow these agricultural university students to work in these school labs. This will provide earning opportunity for the agricultural university students carrying out the soil testing, as well as the school offering their lab for soil testing. It will also give incentive to build good labs. It can be converted into a people's movement, or not? To sum it up we can use small experimental solutions to bring changes.

What are the habits of our railways today ? They stick to their rules without applying much sense. If some goods arrive on Monday, they should be dispatched within a week. If marble arrived on the railway station, with destination being Mumbai, and tomatoes came from Toldeo, even then they will dispatched the marbles before the tomatoes. Why ? If the marble reaches four days later, what difference will it make ? We should sensitize our entire system so that the tomatoes arrive first (metaphorically). It is a misfortune of our country, that even after the advent of technology and our recognition as a big name in information technology, it does not have real time data of agro products. Can we not collect the real time data of agro products through the medium of information technology? We have promised to remove inflation. And I certify that we are committed to this not because that is an electoral promise but because we believe that in the house of the poor person, the hearth/stove must be lit in the evening.

The child of a poor person goes to sleep drinking their own tears, it is necessary for this condition to change and this is all of our duty to do so. Whether it is the state or the national government, whether it is in power or in opposition, we all have a collective responsibility of ensuring that no poor person in India is ever hungry and to fulfill this duty, we we want to work.

On real time data. The food stocks in the country is ample but there is a shortage of arrangements. If there is real time data, the government has the information about where it is needed and when the railway is going through a lull phase, at that time food stocks should be shifted there and if there are godowns for storage, the problem can be solved. The infrastructure work for Food Corporation India has been going on for years but it's a perception that it cannot be modernized. The process of procurement and preservation and distribution should be done separately. If the same system is divided into three different departments, and the responsibility is also divided, I can bet that the functioning will improve. Can we, in our agriculture sector, empower our agricultural universities, our farmers to adopt modern farming? It is the need of the hour. The faster we bring technology to agriculture, the more profitable and better it will be. Because families are expanding, land per person is decreasing, we will have to increase productivity in the land and for this, we will have to increase research work in the universities

It has been years since there has been any research on pulses. Pulses have become a big challenge in our produce. Pulses are the only way through which the poor in our country get protein and protein is an important component of our body composition. If we have to fight malnutrition in India, then we have to address these questions. Due to lack of research in this area, for years we have not been able to promote the productivity or protein content of pulses. We have been successful in promoting sugar content in sugarcane but we have not been successful in increasing protein content in pulses. This is a huge challenge and it should inspire our scientists and agricultural universities. If we push things up with a cumulative effect of these problems, If we move forward and work on these cumulative defects, I believe these problems can be solved and this is just one of the ways.

To make our mothers and sisters, our 50% population, a participant in India's development journey, we have to bind them to our economic concerns. If we have to reach the heights of development, then we have to confirm the active participation of the 50% population, our maternal power. We will have to worry about their respect, their security. In the last few days, some unfortunate events have occurred. In government or opposition, the events should give cause us a lot of pain. The murder in Pune, or Uttar Pradesh, youth drownings in Manali, or the rapes of our sisters, all these events inspire us to rethink. Governments will have to take firm and rigid steps. The country will not wait for long. The oppressed people will not wait for long. Our own souls will not forgive us and that is why I appeal to all leaders. I appeal especially to all our leaders, to stop doing scientific analyses on incidents of rape, it does not benefit us. We play with the dignity of our mothers and sisters. After reaching this level and stature in politics, does such rhetoric benefit us? Can we not keep our silence? And that is why, respect for women, and women security should be all of ours, all 1.25 billion people's priority.

29:07

65% of our population is below 35 years of age. We are very fortunate to be alive and sitting in Parliament in the stage of our life cycle in which we are a youthful and young country. We must recognise the power of our demographic dividend. The entire world, in the coming years, has a huge need of labourforce, manpower, skilled manpower. Those who are an expert in this discipline, know that the entire world needs skilled manpower. Our neighbor, China, is getting older and we are getting younger. This is an advantage, and that is why all the countries in the world, even the most prosperous ones, have a single agenda- skill development. Skill development should be our country's priority. Along with that, if we have to be successful, then we must keep the mantra of Shrameva Jayate (labour alone triumphs) in our minds. How do we respect the dignity of labour, and the place of a skilled worker in the building the Nation. Brothers and sisters, India has developed a perception now. Our identity has become that of Scam India. We have to change the identity of our nation to Skill India. And we can achieve that dream. That is why, for the first time, there has been an introduction of a separate ministry for Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, which has been given special importance. Our country has a misfortune though. If anyone is asked, "what have you studied"? When they reply "I am a graduate, and have done my M.A.", then one feels good. In my childhood, I had read the book of Dada Dharmadhikari ji. He was a supporter of Mahatma Gandhi's beliefs, he lived with Vinoba Bhave. Dada Dharmadhikari ji wrote about an experience where a youngster had come to him asking for a job. He asked the youngster "What do you do and what have you studied?". The youngster replied that he is a graduate and he requires a job. Dada Dharmadhikari ji then asked him "What work do you know?" The youngster replied that he is graduate. Dada Dharmadhikariji asked again, "Yes yes brother. you are a graduate. But tell me what work do you know?" to which the youngster replied "no, no, I'm a graduate". The fourth time he asked the graduate to tell him what he knew, the graduate replied back by saying, "no, I told you, I'm a graduate". From this experience, we can learn that to make a living, the hands need skill instead of a certificate. And that is why we have to emphasize on skill

development. But we have to consolidate and elevate the social status of the skilled worker as well. A student who has studied till the seventh grade drops out of school because of poverty. He goes somewhere and completes a skill development course if he gets the chance. However, he is not given importance/respect by the people. "Oh you've studied till the seventh grade, get out". We have to make a system that gives him and his studies equivalence.

33:04

I conducted this experiment in Gujarat. 2 years of ITI was made equivalent to tenth. Those who came after tenth were made equivalent to twelfth pass. If someone wanted to study after diploma, a way was paved for them. If someone wanted to do a degree, way was paved for them. If someone was only 7th pass, I paved a way for them. We will have to make decisions with great courage. If we want to strengthen skill development, then we need to give it societal importance. And the world, I repeat, the world is in need of a workforce. Today, the entire world needs teachers. Can't India export teachers? We can export maths and science teachers. When a businessman goes abroad, at most, they bring back dollars, but if a teacher goes abroad, then they bring back an entire generation with them. If we have to build our capabilities in the world, these are the ways. Can't we ready our youth in this manner? All these opportunities are there. If we promise to move forward, keeping these opportunities in mind, then I'm confident that we can get results. Be it dalit, downtrodden, lower caste, oppressed, differently abled, exploited or deprived. Can we confidently say that we have made a difference in the lives of our dalit and adivasi (tribal) brothers and sisters after so many years of independence? It is not that the government does not have budgets, it is not that the government does not have the intent. I'm not pointing fingers at anyone but the truth is that the situation has not changed. So are we ready to come out of the old ways? We can converge these government programs and at least bring society out of these problems. Why can't their lives change? My Muslim brothers, I see that the person who was repairing cycles when I was a child, his third generation is still repairing cycle today. Why are they in such a bad plight? How will change come in their lives? To bring in this change, we need to have focused activities. We need to bring in such types of programs. I don't see these programs as confirmation, I see them as changing lives. If even one part of the body is dysfunctional, that body is not considered to be healthy. A body is healthy only if all parts of the body are healthy and that is why even if one part of the society is weak, the whole society cannot be healthy. That is why each section of the society should be healthy. Inspired by this spirit, we need to work and make this our priority. We want to do this.

36:00

I feel the need to move towards new definitions of development in our country. In our freedom struggle, in our fight for freedom, in the 1200 years, not one year would have passed without a hero ready to die for independence. After 1857, the history of our

freedom struggle has been documented. There is no region in India where someone or the other was not ready to for our independence, not ready to become a martyr. The struggle was continuous, there was no decrease in the number of people ready to be sacrifice their lives for the country. The prisons of Andaman Nicobar prisons were always full. Within the country, there was no shortage of people who were willing to die for the country. When one martyr would achieve martyrdom, there used to be a wait for the next martyr to be inspired and stand up.

The struggle continued, the lust for freedom was never small. But Mahatma Gandhi made a huge contribution, which history will have to accept. Even though the lust for freedom, and number of people willing to die for freedom was immense and unbroken, it was Mahatma Gandhi who did the greatest work, by turning the movement for freedom into a people's movement. He turned the freedom struggle into a people's movement. If someone swept the street, they believed that they were working towards freedom. If someone wore Khadi, they believed they was working towards the country's independence. If someone taught their neighbour, they also believed they were working towards independence. Those who made cloth on the spinning yarn, even they believed they were working towards independence. He made the work of every citizen of Hindustan, a part of the independence struggle. The manner in which Mahatma Gandhi made independence a people's movement was imaginative. It was so imaginative that neither the English understood it, nor did they have power to fight it. This was the manner in which Mahatma Gandhi made the movement of independence a people's movement. And it is our duty, that we learn something from Mahatma Gandhi, take inspiration from him, try to walk in his steps. And that's why I say that we have to make development a people's movement as well. If we make development a government/bureaucratic program, we would meet a similar fate as the martyrs of independence. But if we made development a people's movement, then every person shall think that if I work, I work for the country. If I study, I study for the country. The teacher should also think "When I teach, I teach for the country. When the laborer carries load on the railway station, they should believe that he is doing it for the country. When the farmer works their field, they should think, "I am doing this for my country".

The need of the hour is to create another people's movement towards swarajya (self-rule). It is not impossible. If we are able to create a people's movement, every person will think they are working for the nation. If we are able to create this attitude/feeling , that when I do not throw litter on the street, I do it for the nation. When I go to work on time, I serve the nation. We can create this feeling. Even today, there is no dearth of patriotism in our country. If, in a cricket field, the entire 1.25 billion people of our country can stand together and chant "Bharat Mata ki Jai" (Be victorious Mother India) then can the entire country not stand up for the welfare of its 1.25 billion people ? The need is for us to present a vision. Everyone sitting here is very powerful in their own right, they hold the power to wake up the people. We have to use this power. It is Mahatma Gandhi's 150 anniversary in 5 years. Can we make a resolution on how to celebrate this great man's 150th anniversary. Can we make this decision now so that the fulfilment of the resolution becomes part of the celebration.

Mahatma Gandhi liked many things, but the thing he liked most was hygiene and cleanliness. We have all heard and read about the legends of Sabarmati Ashram. He never compromised with his understanding of cleanliness, with his understanding of hygiene. Can we present a clean and hygienic Hindustan to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary ? Can we move forward with the dream of a clean India ? If from now itself, we create a plan for 5 years, we can be successful. It is for this reason Honourable Madam Speaker, that the President spoke of this issue in detail. Let us make a resolution, by this way. It will be 75 years of independence in 2022. How many people lost their livelihood, spent their entire lives in the prisons of Andaman and Nicobar ? How many people were hanged ? Can we completely make the Hindustan of their dreams our centre of our inspiration and work in the next 8-9 years until the 75th anniversary of our independence. They are our inspiration. Brothers and sisters, many of you were born after independence, some veterans were born before it, some would have even fought in the freedom struggle. I was born after independence, the thought often comes to my mind, I never got a chance to die for the country, but at least I have the chance to live for the country.

42:24

How do we convey the idea to the people to live for the nation. To take the chance to live for the nation so that in 2022, when the country turns 75, the great men that lived and died for the nation may be remembered and their work completed. The rest of the work also needs to be done, but the work that requires most sincerity is the goal to ensure that no Indian family is without home, a home that has a tap, a tap that has running water, and electricity and a toilet as well. This is a minimum that every state and central government should combine to work on as a movement. Only if all of us get involved, get together to form a plan for 8-9 years. If we have to toil for this, we must, but 75 years after independence, remembering Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Raj Guru and Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, remembering all these great men we must provide all of them (poor) with a house. If we strengthen our resolve and move forward, we can fulfill the dreams of the nation.

And I know this, once in the administration, it is very difficult to take up programmes which can be measured. Respected Mulayam Singh said " I have run a government and because I have run a government I ask you me how you will do this? How will it happen?" I am indebted to his well meaning intentions. He expressed concern. But we will somehow find a way. Let us first dream and then try to achieve our dreams. If there are difficulties, then you experienced people will show us the way. We have to work for the poor and for that we must move forward. Here, this issue also came up, someone said, that this is old alcohol in a new bottle. That they were reminded of alcohol is very natural.

44:46

But it was also said these things have already been said by us, you have only paraphrased us. Nothing new has been said. This means that you were fully aware of what we have said. Also since yesterday we have been discussing about Mahabharat, I have a story to share. Once Duryodhan was asked whether he understands the difference between right and wrong, truth and lie. Duryodhan replied "Jana vidharmam Nachme prabhuti" I understand what is right but following the path of righteousness is not my character. I know what is truth, what is good but it is not in my DNA. Hence, even if you say you knew it beforehand, had thought about it, I have no objection to your claims, but would just like to state that even Duryodhan knew everything. Hence when we discuss Mahabharata, stories we have been hearing since ages, they ring in our ears. However, the epoch of the Mahabharata has finished. Neither Pandavas nor the Kauravas are alive. Yet, even today, in the heart of people still wants the pandavas to be victorious at the end. None of them want the Kauravas to win. Brothers and sisters, we learn a lot from victory and we must instill those learnings too. Victory teaches us to be modest. I assure the house, we have our seniors here from different parties, I am sure with their blessings we will be able to develop the strength to save us from pride. They will teach us modesty. Irrespective of the numerical strength of the government, I do not want to move forward without your support. We do not wish to move forward on the numerical strength but on the strength of the collective. That is why, we must move forward with the attitude of togetherness.

Nowadays models are being popularly discussed, the Gujarat model in particular. You all must have heard my speeches, in which I keep saying that even in Gujrat model, the model in one district did not work in another district. This country has a lot of diversity. Hence a model working perfectly in the desert region of kutch will not work in the greenbelt of Balsar. We understood this well, this is the reason Gujarat has been successful. This understanding is inbuilt in the Gujrat model. The other aspect of Gujrat model is that it is ready to acquire and accept the learnings from any good happening in any part of the country. Even in future, we wish to move ahead with this model, whatever good is happening in India, belongs to everyone. All efforts must be put in to implement it in other parts of India. Today it has been claimed by the Tamil Nadu team that the Tamil Nadu model is better than the Gujarat model. I welcome this. I welcome that finally this country is seeing a discussion and competition on developmental models. One state claims that it is developing faster than the other. I believe this is the biggest contribution of Gujrat model. This kind of competition had not existed previously between states. We wish to see more competition between states in the coming time on developmental grounds. There should be competition between central and state on developmental grounds. I long to hear every state say that they have moved ahead of Gujrat. Only when this happens, there will be a change in this country. And yes, even the small states do well. Like I said Sikkim has become an organic state. The work done by Tamil Nadu in urban area rain water harvesting is imitable. Chattisgarh, a state living with the Naxalite problem came up with a new model of P. D.S.(Public Distribution System). It has created a policy to feed the poorest of the poor. Our sister Mamta Banerjee is putting all efforts to pull out West Bengal from the misgovernance of the past 35 years. We respect all these things. And hence, from every state, even from kerala, you will be happy to know that I had called a very junior officer from kerala where the Left is in

power. My cabinet members and I sat as students and learnt from him about the Kudumbashree policy for about 2 hours . I had invited the chief Secretary of Nagaland to teach us about a very good scheme for tribals. This should be our countries model,the best models in different states of the country irrespective of the party in power, or ideology should be respected, accepted and implemented all throughout the country. Only this model will work. Instead of fighting like brothers, having a “who are you” attitude, we must together work towards the country’s progress. And this is why, we have discussed cooperative federalism.

51:11

We have often discussed about moving ahead along with the struggles of cooperation. And hence we are trying to move forward in this way. If we try and work on this path, I strongly believe, Honourable Madam Speaker, we will be succesful. I am grateful for this proposal to all the senior leaders. To sum it all, it has been a meaningful discussion and there was a buzz in support. There has also been criticism but in the context of expectation. I believe these two aspects are very close and I welcome it. And today whatever good suggestions have been received from different parties, I have not considered it as criticism but as a guides. We are going to use all the guidance and use it for the good. And in democracy even the good is criticized, I believe it should be. Only blaming is bad, criticism is never bad and criticism gives strength. The main strength/medicine of democracy, where the people rule, is criticism.

52:25

We are always ready for that criticism and I would like all the policies to be studied and deeply criticized until we come out with shining gold which in the days to come helps the nation. We want to work with this attitude. Today, in the new house, I got the opportunity to speak in the House. Honourable Madame Speaker, if there have been any lapses, if I have deviated from the rules, the House will surely forgive me. But I believe in the full cooperation of the House. As I had said earlier, before the elections we were the hopefl candidates, after the election, we are the keepers of hopes, we are the ambassadors of hope. We strive to fulfill the hopes of 1.25 billion people, with this expectation and hoping to be supported by all in this effort, reiterating this fact, I thank all of you.