

Haryana Assembly

Uncorrected

Madam Sonia Gandhi, as Leader of the Opposition, I also watched her performance. Some people would debate on her citizenship. In these 30 years, let us be honest, that is not an issue. But some people have raised the issue. On one occasion, she was unable to become the Prime Minister. SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (RAIBAREILLY): I didn't want to.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (HASSAN): No. Just a second. What has happened, I would tell you. This is not your desire. Some atrocities have happened.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (RAIBAREILLY): That is another time. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (HASSAN): Vajpayee ji was a great man. He went for a Prayaschit Satyagraha near Rashtrapati Bhavan. In Bhopal, I told that Vajpayee ji is a great man. Why did he go there to offer one day Upwas Satyagraha. It is not going to help; you must take decision based on the constitutional powers. At that time, press people asked me as to why am I asking resignation of Vajpayee ji. I told them, why not? They asked: Who is the next Prime Minister? Why not Madam Sonia Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition? What is the citizenship issue? I myself raised that issue in Bhopal.

You will not be able to carry forward. That is how I have been not given sufficient opportunity to discuss in this House. You know how from the beginning I fought for the farmers. I am not going to deal with that matter now.

The question of corruption issue is not new for us. In the last 60 years, I have been watching. People have come to the conclusion that all politicians are corrupt. This atmosphere is there; irrespective of the political parties, we are all responsible. People have lost trust in leaders. Only for gaining our reputation we are all destroying ourselves. I beg of you, this type of debate about the political office is going to damage the entire system.

Hon. Prime minister is sitting here. In the elections there were some exchanges of words. If you get more than 276 seats, I am going to resign. This is what I told. When he got 282 seats, I went to see him, to offer my resignation. He told me, don't take it seriously. You are one of the experienced politicians, you must not resign. That is what I told him. I met him three-four times. I have no grouse against anybody.

That is what I am telling. SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI (RAIBAREILLY): I see. SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA (HASSAN): Let me be very frank. All of us are departing today. There is no personal animosity against anybody. Here, I met some of the Ministers personally. Irrespective of my position as the former Prime Minister, or whatever maybe, I met personally Sushma Swaraj ji, Rajnath Singh ji is here. Surface Transport Minister is not here. I went to the offices of Commerce Minister, the Railway Minister personally to take up certain problems concerning my constituency and my State. All of them obliged. I am highly grateful to all of the Ministers who are sitting here. I have no ill will about anybody. Today is my last speech. You have given me an opportunity.