

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Monday, June 10, 1996/ Jyaistha 20, 1918 (Saka)  
(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)  
[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### MEMBERS SWORN

Shri Bommagani Dharma Biksham (Nalgonda)  
Shri Ghulam Rasool Kar (Baramulla)  
Shri G.M. Mir Magami (Srinagar)  
Shri Mohammad Maqbool Dar (Anantnag)  
Shri P. Namgyal (Ladakh)  
Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta (Udhampur)  
Shri Mangat Ram Sharma (Jammu)  
Shri Shivanand Hemappa Koujalgi (Belgaum)

11.10 hrs.

#### OBITUARY REFERENCES

**Demise of former President Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and others**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with profound sorrow of the sad demise of our former esteemed President, Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and five former colleagues viz. Sarvashri Ram Charan, Valmiki Choudhury, D.D. Puri, P.A. Antony and Vijay Pal Singh.

An illustrious son of India, Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was one of the veterans of India's struggle for freedom and a leading light in the country's socio-political life for more than half a century. He took part in India's Freedom Movement and was imprisoned several times.

Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was actively associated with the political affairs of his home State, Andhra Pradesh since 1931. He was Member of Madras Legislative Assembly in 1946 and Constituent Assembly of India in 1947. He served as Minister in the State Government of Madras during 1949-51 and held various important portfolios. Thereafter he served his native State of Andhra Pradesh as Deputy Chief Minister in 1953 and later as Chief Minister during 1956 and again in 1962-64. He also served as Minister of Steel and Mines, Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism in the Union Council of Ministers during 1964-67.

Dr. Reddy, a conscientious parliamentarian of high standing, was Member of Rajya Sabha in 1952 and 1964 to 67 and was later elected to the Fourth Lok Sabha in 1967 and was elected to the Office of Speaker, Lok Sabha and continued to hold that office

till 1969. He was deeply devoted to Parliamentary institutions and made a very distinguished contribution as Presiding Officer in form of decisions and rulings from the Chair.

A widely travelled person, he headed many Parliamentary delegations to various countries. He was again elected to the Sixth Lok Sabha in 1977 and re-elected Speaker of the Sixth Lok Sabha during the same year. However, he was destined to have greater attainments.

In July, 1977, on his being chosen as the President of India, his long and illustrious public career reached its zenith. Through his administrative acumen, he added dignity to this office. A man who rose from humble means, displayed throughout his public life an abiding commitment to the welfare of the people. His skill in handling the tortuous political and administrative situations of the time is an ample testimony of his innate qualities, astuteness and equipoise in the moments of stress and crisis.

His amiable disposition and genial informality earned him accolades. Even after he retired from the august Office of the President of India, his sage counsel served as a beacon in the troubled times.

His name will ever remain inscribed in the annals of India's parliamentary and political history.

Dr. Reddy passed away at Bangalore on 1 June, 1996 at the age of 83 years. In his death, the nation had been deprived of a statesman of rare quality, a veteran freedom fighter, true democrat, able parliamentarian and, above all, a gem of a person. Though Dr. Reddy is no longer in our midst, his memories will be with us for many years to come.

Shri Ram Charan was a member of Fourth Lok Sabha representing Khurja Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1967 to 1970.

A dedicated political and social worker, Shri Ram Charan was associated with various organisations connected with the welfare of labourers and worked hard for the upliftment of weaker sections of the society.

Shri Ram Charan passed away in New Delhi on 15 March, 1996 at the age of 70 years.

Shri Valmiki Choudhury was a Member of Fourth Lok Sabha representing Hazipur Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar during 1967-70.

An active social and political worker, Shri Choudhury worked hard for upliftment of rural areas and development of weaker sections of the society. He was a member of Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

A close associate of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri Choudhury participated in the freedom struggle and was imprisoned several times and remained in jail during 1942-45.