

Earlier, he was a Member of the Punjab and Haryana Legislative Assemblies during 1962-77. He served as Minister of Education and Planning in the State of Haryana in 1967.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Lal worked as the Chairman of the Flood Advisory Committee, Haryana during 1977-78 and as a member of the Standing Committee of the Association of Indian Universities in 1982.

An active social and political worker, Shri Hardwari Lal was a well known educationist who worked hard for the spread of education. He served as Vice-Chancellor of Kurukshetra University and Maharishi Dayanand University.

A man of letters, he was the Editor of "*Punjab Sentinel*", a weekly, during 1965-66. He published many books, some of them were "*A Chief Ministry Runs Amuck*", "*555 days in jail*" and "*Myth of Law of Parliamentary Privileges*".

A widely travelled person, Shri Lal was a member of the Council of Association of Commonwealth Universities in 1982.

Shri Hardwari Lal passed away on 21 October, 1997 at Chandigarh at the age of 87 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure that the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

As the hon. Members are aware, about 30 school children met with an untimely death and about 70 were injured when a school bus carrying them fell into the Yamuna at Wazirabad in North-Delhi on 18 November, 1997. We deeply mourn this tragedy.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.22 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while*

I am also to inform the House that Shri Chitta Basu told me personally on a couple of occasions during his lifetime that if he ever dies during his tenure in Parliament, he would not like the House to adjourn. On the other hand, his soul would be very happy if the Parliament works more. This was confirmed to me in writing by the Forward Bloc Party under the signature of hon. Member

Shri Amar Roy Pradhan. I placed this letter before the meeting of the political parties yesterday and we discussed the matter, and the political parties deeply appreciated his desire.

But since today we are mourning the death of not only Shri Chitta Basu but also of many other hon. Members including the great personality like Mother Teresa and the way Shri N.V.N. Somu had to meet a tragic death, the political parties yesterday decided that House should adjourn as a mark of respect to all the departed souls.

So, the House stands adjourned to meet at 11 o'clock tomorrow.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

PM's visit to Foreign Countries

*1. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the foreign countries visited by the Prime Minister after the Monsoon Session of Parliament, till date;

(b) the leaders with whom Prime Minister had meetings during these foreign trips;

(c) the salient features of each of the agreements/Memoranda of Understanding signed with various countries during this period;

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to India due to these agreements/MoUs;

(e) the stand taken by the Prime Minister on the Kashmir issue during his visits; and

(f) the total expenditure incurred on these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) :
(a) The Prime Minister visited Tanzania, New York, Italy, Uganda, South Africa, Egypt and Edinburgh after the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

(b) **Tanzania**
President of Tanzania

New York

President of Ukraine
President of the United States of America

Prime Minister of Pakistan
 Prime Minister of Morocco
 Prime Minister of Jamaica
 Secretary General of United Nations
 Prime Minister of Russia
 Vice Prime Minister of China
 Foreign Minister of France
 Foreign Minister of Iran
 UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Italy

President of Italy
 Prime Minister of Italy
 Audience with His Holiness the Pope

Uganda

President of Uganda

South Africa

President of South Africa
 Deputy President of South Africa
 Speaker of the National Assembly
 Foreign Minister
 Defence Minister
 Home Minister
 Justice Minister
 Minister for Mineral & Energy Affairs
 Minister for Finance
 Minister for Posts
 Minister for Public Works
 Prime Minister of Gauteng Province
 Prime Minister of Kwazulu-Natal Province

Egypt

President of Egypt
 Prime Minister of Egypt
 Foreign Minister
 Secretary General of the Arab League

Edinburgh

Prime Minister met over 50 leaders of Commonwealth countries and had bilateral meetings with British Prime Minister, Pakistan Prime Minister, Bangladesh Prime Minister, President of Sri Lanka and also the Prime Minister of Mauritius.

(c) Uganda

An air Services Agreement and Cultural Exchange Programme were signed.

South Africa

- (i) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources,
- (ii) Agreement on Tourism Cooperation,
- (iii) Programme of Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology (agriculture and rural development, basic sciences, energy, health, information sciences, micro-electronics etc.).
- (iv) Terms of Reference of an India-South Africa Commercial Alliance (comprising both Government and business representatives to discuss cooperation on sectoral basis).

Egypt

- (i) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Tourism,
- (ii) Agreement on Mutual Assistance and Cooperation in Customs matters,
- (iii) Executive Programme of Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation.

(d) The agreements signed with Uganda and South Africa are expected to increase people-to-people contact, facilitate greater trade and investment and help exploit the complementarity of skills and resources.

2. The agreements signed with Egypt on Cooperation in the Field of Tourism will, (a) simplify procedures concerning tourists travel, (b) encourage activities of travel agents, commercial tour operators, hotel chains and (c) facilitate possibility of undertaking joint ventures in tourism sector. The Agreement on mutual assistance and Cooperation in Customs Matters will help control such Activities which are prejudicial to economic and commercial interests and will assist in the accurate assessment of duties and proper enforcement of custom laws. The Executive Programme of Agricultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation will promote and strengthen people-to-people contact through holding of seminars, book fairs, film festivals and grant of scholarships.

(e) Prime Minister's stand on Kashmir issue during his visits has been the same as stated in the past on the floor of the House; that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union and there can be no compromise over India's sovereignty, territorial integrity and secular unity. PM also outlined India's approach to building friendly relations with Pakistan on the basis of the Shimla Agreement. All the leaders he

spoke to confirmed that they do not seek to mediate on the issue and regard it as a bilateral issue, to be settled by India and Pakistan through peaceful negotiation. With the Pakistan Prime Minister, the subjects of firing along the Line of Control and the on-going Foreign Secretary Level dialogue came up for discussion.

(f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dengue

*2. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dengue virus has spread in the Capital and other parts of the country during the last six months and claimed many lives;

(b) if so, the total number of persons reported to be affected by dengue virus during the same period in each State and the number of patients who died;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate medical treatment to the patients in the hospitals;

(d) whether the Government are considering to formulate any National Scheme for its treatment and prevention;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the funds likely to be allocated to each State for the implementation of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY) : (a) Dengue virus infection is prevalent in the States of Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. So far 16 deaths due to Dengue/DHF have been reported during 1997.

(b) The State-wise reported incidences and deaths are given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) Dengue/DHF is a viral disease and there is no specific treatment. However, symptomatic treatment and proper case management are two important approaches for tackling this disease. All Government hospitals have been instructed to admit dengue patients for treatment. Guidelines on case management have also

been provided to all Government hospitals by DGHS. An Action Plan and a contingency Plan for tackling effectively outbreaks of Dengue has been developed by Dte. of National Malaria Eradication Programme and circulated to all States for guidance and adoption. 147 State Health Officials have been trained by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) in the management and control of dengue.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Reported Incidence and Deaths due to Dengue/Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever for the Year 1997

S. No.	State	Cases	Deaths
1.	Delhi	271	1
2.	Gujarat	5	0
3.	Haryana	32	0
4.	Karnataka	257	4
5.	Maharashtra	249*	5
6.	Punjab	21	4
7.	Rajasthan	17	1
8.	Uttar Pradesh	9	1
Total :		881	16

*Suspected Dengue Cases.

[English]

New Employment Schemes

*3. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing trend of unemployment in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have launched or propose to launch any special employment scheme in view thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof;