

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Friday, March 14, 1997/Phalgun 23, 1918 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

#### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with a deep sense of sorrow of the passing away of one of our esteemed friends, Shri Veerendra Patil.

Shri Veerendra Patil was a Member of Seventh and Eighth Lok Sabha representing Bagalkot and Gulbarga Parliamentary constituencies of Karnataka during 1980-84 and 1984-89.

Earlier he was a Member of erstwhile Hyderabad Legislative Assembly during 1952-56 and erstwhile Mysore Legislative Assembly during 1957-71. He was Chief Minister of erstwhile Mysore State during 1968-71 and served his State as Minister for several years and held various portfolios with distinctions.

Shri Patil was also a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1972-78. He also served as Chief Minister of Karnataka.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Patil held various portfolios as Minister in the Union Council of Ministers in different capacities during 1980-85.

A widely travelled person, he was government delegate to U.S.S.R. in 1965 and a member of Parliamentary Delegation to West Germany in 1973.

Shri Veerendra Patil passed away early morning today at Bangalore at the age of 73 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and, I am sure, the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.02 hrs.

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

11.04 hrs.

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

##### Mahanadi Coal Field

\*281. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue generated by Mahanadi Coal Field Ltd. during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to expand the operation in the said coal field; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The total revenue generated by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) during the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

| 1995-96 | 1994-95 | 1993-94 |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1081.94 | 810.12  | 700.97  |

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The actual production of coal in MCL in 1995-96 was 32.71 million tonnes (mts.). the tentative targets of coal production of the company in 1996-97, 1997-98 and 2001-02, the terminal year of the Ninth Plan are 37.00 Mts., 39.50 mts. and 47.20 mts. respectively. Presently, MCL is having seven on-going coal projects with a total capacity of 22.60 million tonnes per year (mty). Moreover, advance action schemes have been sanctioned for six more coal projects of MCL with a total capacity of 20.35 mty.

[English]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you that in order to improve the efficiency, whether the Government is considering to invite foreign investment or to privatise the operation of the Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd; and if so, the details thereof.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as foreign investment is concerned, we are going to get one billion dollar from World Bank. The hon. Member may please repeat his question.

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether