

11.01 hrs.

Title: Reference made to the passing away of Shri Rampal Upadhyay, a member of Twelfth Lok Sabha on 11th August, 2001

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Rampal Upadhyay. Shri Rampal Upadhyay was a Member of Twelfth Lok Sabha during 1998 and 1999 representing Bhilwara Parliamentary Constituency of Rajasthan.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Upadhyay served as a member of the Committee on Commerce and Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting during 1998-99.

Earlier, Shri Upadhyay was a member of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly from 1980 to 1998. He served in the State Government as a Deputy Minister in 1980; as a Minister of State in 1981; and as a Cabinet Minister in 1985. He also served as the Chairman of the Estimates Committee and the Privileges Committee of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly between 1980 and 1985.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Upadhyay was also associated with Panchayati Raj and cooperative movements. A well known social and political worker, Shri Upadhyay worked relentlessly for removal of untouchability, emancipation of the poor from financial exploitation and upliftment of the poor.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Upadhyay actively participated in the freedom struggle. As a journalist, he wrote many articles and poems and was also continuously involved in literary activities.

Shri Rampal Upadhyay passed away on 11 August, 2001 at Ajmer, Rajasthan at the age of 66 after a heart attack.

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

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

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)
