(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

Title: Reference made to the passing away of Shri Sudarshan Das, Member, Eighth Lok Sabha on 8 November, 2002.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Sudarshan Das.

Shri Sudarshan Das was a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha from 1985 to 1989 representing Karimganj parliamentary constituency of Assam.

Earlier, Shri Sudarshan Das was a Member of Assam Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1978.

Shri Sudarshan Das was an active political and social worker. He was President, District Scheduled Castes Students' Federation, Sylhet from 1941 to 1947 and Karimganj District Scheduled Castes Association from 1960 to 1974. He served as a member of the Karimganj Scheduled Castes Development Board from 1960 to 1971 and later as its Chairman from 1972 to 1974.

Shri Sudarshan Das was a veteran freedom fighter. He participated in Quit India Movement, 1942 and was interned for more than one year.

Shri Sudarshan Das took keen interest in the promotion of education. He was the founder President of Banamali L.P. School and Banamali Sanskritik Sangha, Karimganj. He also served as a member of the Governing Body, Karimganj College.

Shri Sudarshan Das was a person with a religious bent of mind. He was associated with Sri Bijoy Krishna Sadhu Ashrams and was Secretary, Durganagar Ashram, Karimganj district since 1962.

Shri Sudarshan Das passed away on 8th November, 2002 at Karimganj, Assam at the age of 78.

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.

<u>11.06 hrs.</u> (The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)
