

Title: Reference made to the passing away of Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi, Member, Third Lok Sabha on 11 February, 2003. Also references made to the tragedy in which 24 persons were massacred by terrorists at Nadimarg Village in Pulwama District of Jammu and Kashmir on 24 March, 2003.

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

Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967 representing the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Shri Mengi was a Member of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislature during 1946.

A person with a religious bent of mind, Shri Mengi was President of Jammu and Kashmir Rajya Hindu Sabha and member of Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Jammu and Dogri Sanstha, Jammu.

Shri Mengi was an active social and political worker. He took active part in labour and co-operative movements.

Shri Gopal Dutt Mengi passed away on 11 February, 2003 at Jammu at the age of 89.

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.

As the hon. Members are aware, 24 persons were massacred by terrorists at Nadimarg village in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir on 24 March, 2003.

We deeply mourn the loss of lives of these innocent people and strongly deplore this inhuman and cowardly act of violence.

The House may place on record its deep sense of grief on 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.

**11.01 hrs.**

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

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