

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Lok Sabha

Monday, August 04, 2003/Sravana 13, 1925 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

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OBITUARY REFERENCES

Title: References made to the passing away of Smt. Bhagwati Devi, a member of Eleventh Lok Sabha and Smt. Manubhai Kotadia, a member of Ninth Lok Sabha on 21 July, 2003 and 22 July, 2003, respectively.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is my sad duty to inform the House about the passing away of two of our former colleagues, namely, Shrimati Bhagwati Devi and Shri Manubhai Kotadia.

Shrimati Bhagwati Devi was a Member of the Eleventh Lok Sabha from 1996 to 1997, representing Gaya Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar.

Shrimati Bhagwati Devi was a sitting member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly. Earlier also, she was a member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly from 1969 to 1973; 1977 to 1980 and 1995 to 1996. As a member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, she served on various Committees including the Committee on electricity Board, Bihar.

As a Member of Lok Sabha, Shrimati Bhagwati Devi was a Member of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House and the Committee on Labour and Welfare from 1996 to 1997; and the Committee on the Empowerment of Women during 1997.

She actively participated in the freedom struggle of our country.

A devoted social worker, Shrimati Bhagwati Devi worked relentlessly for the uplift of the downtrodden and weaker sections of the society. She also took keen interest in the welfare of women and strove for social justice and bringing awareness among the poor people.

Shrimati Bhagwati Devi passed away on 21st July, 2003 at New Delhi at the age of 67, after a prolonged illness.

Shri Manubhai Kotadia was a Member of the Ninth Lok Sabha from 1989 to 1991, representing Amreli Parliamentary Constituency of Gujarat.

Shri Kotadia was an able administrator. He served as the Union Minister of State with independent charge of the Ministry of Water Resources from 1989 to 1990; and later as a Cabinet Minister of the same Ministry with additional charge of the Ministry of Surface Transport from 1990 to 1991.

Shri Kotadia was earlier a member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly from 1975 to 1989. He also served as the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Energy in the State Government.

As a member of the Legislative Assembly, Shri Kotadia served as Chairman, Estimates Committee from 1977 to 1980 and Public Accounts Committee from 1980 to 1985. He was also a Member of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation from 1985 to 1987 and the Public Accounts Committee from 1987 to 1989 in the Assembly.

Shri Kotadia was a widely travelled person. He visited many countries, as a member of various delegations, in connection with agricultural and cooperative development activities.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Kotadia took special interest in rural development work; cooperative movement; promotion of irrigation facilities; and application of scientific methods in agriculture.

Shri Manubhai Kotadia passed away on 22nd July, 2003 at New Delhi at the age of 67.

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

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

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while
