

12.48 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

Title:References made to the passing away of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, former Prime Minister and Member of 6th to 11th Lok Sabha on 23-12-2004; Shri K.S. Ramaswamy, Member of 2nd, 6th Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (1962-1974) on 4-12-2004; Shri V. Arunachalam, Member of 6th Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha (1983-1989) on 31-12-2004; Shri Krishna Prakash Tiwari, Member of 7th Lok Sabha on 26-01-2005 and Shri Haribhau Shankar Mohale, Member 6th, 9th and 13th Lok Sabha on 28-01-2005.

Also reference made to the Tsunami tragedy which caused widespread loss of lives and property in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Pondichery, Tamil Nadu, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and several countries of South-East Asia.

The Speaker also made references to the tragic incident of killings of pilgrims due to stampede at Kalubai Temple in Mandravedi in Satara district of Maharashtra on 25 January, 2005 and loss of lives due to heavy snowfall causing avalanches and landslides in the Jammu and Kashmir.

Further reference made to the earthquake which hit Zaranj in Iran on 22-02-2005 causing loss of a large number of lives and immense damage to property.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of five of our former colleagues, namely, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, Shri K.S. Ramaswamy, Shri V. Arunachalam, Shri Krishna Prakash Tiwari and Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale.

Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao was a Member of the Sixth to Eleventh Lok Sabhas from 1977 to 1997. He represented the Hanamkonda Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh in the Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabhas; the Ramtek Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra in the Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabhas; the Nandyal Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh in the Tenth Lok Sabha; and the Berhampur Parliamentary Constituency of Orissa in the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

A great patriot and staunch nationalist, Shri Rao entered public life in the pre-Independence days and actively participated in the freedom struggle.

Shri Rao was a Member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1957 to 1977. He served as a member of the Public Accounts Committee from 1958 to 1960, and the Committee on Official Languages from 1958 to 1961. Thereafter, he held various ministerial portfolios in the State. He was the Minister of Law and Information from 1962 to 1964; Minister of Law and Endowments from 1964 to 1967; Minister of Health and Medicine in 1967; and Minister of Education from 1968 to 1971. He became the Chief Minister of the State in 1971 and he graced that office till 1973.

The success with which he served the State of Andhra Pradesh led to his initiation in the national politics. During his membership of the Sixth Lok Sabha, he served as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in 1978. At the Union, he held the charge of various important Ministries. He was Minister of External Affairs from 1980 to 1984 and again from 1988 to 1989; Minister of Home Affairs and Planning in 1984; Minister of Defence from 1984 to 1985; Minister of Human Resource Development from 1985 to 1988; and Minister of Health and Family Welfare from 1986 to 1988. After the tragic assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, he was invited to take over the onerous responsibility of leading the nation as the Prime Minister. This was in recognition of his leadership qualities, rich administrative experience and contributions to our polity^[r1].

During his tenure as Prime Minister, Shri Rao took many other policy decisions and steps which helped India march ahead with confidence on the path of economic development and peace and progress in various fields.

A multi-faceted personality, Shri Rao was a master of many languages and also a prolific writer and poet. He *inter-alia* translated the Jnanpeeth award winning Telugu novel *Veyi Padagalu* (Literally – Thousand Hoods) into Hindi as *Sahasr Phan*. After his retirement from politics, Shri Rao also authored the book titled "The Insider".

Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao passed away on 23 December, 2004 at New Delhi at the age of 83 after a brief illness. In his demise the country has lost an able administrator, a veteran parliamentarian, a scholar par excellence and a visionary leader and statesman.

Shri K.S. Ramaswamy was a Member of the Second and Sixth Lok Sabhas from 1957 to 1962 and 1977 to 1979, representing the Gobichettipalayam Parliamentary constituency of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Ramaswamy was also a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1962 to 1974, representing the State of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Ramaswamy was a well-known freedom fighter. While a student he took part in the Quit India Movement and also organised students' strike during Mahatmaji's fast in 1943.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Ramaswamy was a member of the Estimates Committee from 1961 to 1962 and the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament during the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979.

An able administrator, Shri Ramaswamy served as a Union Deputy Minister in the Ministries of Home Affairs and Education and Social Welfare from 1967 to 1971 and 1971 to 1972 respectively.

An agriculturist, advocate and industrialist by profession, Shri Ramaswamy was associated with several social, religious and educational organisations. He was a member of the Delhi Zoological Park Council and the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee from

1960 to 1962; Coffee Board in 1966 and Correspondent, Gandhi Kalvi Nilayam High School for many years. He was instrumental in setting up an Arts College in Gobichettipalayam. He was also associated with the Shri T.S.Awanashilingam Home Science College for some years.

A widely travelled person, he headed the Indian Olympic Contingent to the 1972 Olympic games held at Munich.

Shri K.S.Ramaswamy passed away on 4 December, 2004 at Erode, Tamil Nadu at the age of 82.

Shri V.Arunachalam was a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing the Tirunelveli parliamentary constituency of Tamil Nadu.

Popularly known as Aladi Aruna, Shri Arunachalam was also a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1983 to 1989 representing the State of Tamil Nadu. Earlier, Shri Arunachalam was a Member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 1967 to 1975. He was again elected to the Assembly in 1996 and during this tenure, he served as the Minister of Law in the Government of Tamil Nadu.

A devoted Parliamentarian, Shri Arunachalam was member of the Estimates Committee and the Committee on Absence of Members of Lok Sabha.

An advocate by profession, Shri Arunachalam was also a member of the Tamil Nadu Khadi Board and the Farmer's Panel in Agricultural Prices Commission.

A person with a literary bent of mind, Shri Arunachalam was the Editor of "*Ennam*", a weekly, and also had to his credit a book in Tamil titled "*Inthi Ehatpathiam*".

He participated in the 'Conference of Peace and Solidarity Council', held in Moscow in 1972.

Shri V. Arunachalam passed away on 31 December, 2004 at Alankulam, Tamil Nadu at the age of 71 under tragic circumstances.

Shri Krishna Prakash Tiwari was a Member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1981 to 1984 representing the Allahabad parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh[snb2].

Shri [bru3] Tiwari showed the qualities of leadership since his student days. He was General Secretary, Allahabad University Students Union from 1956 to 1957. An advocate by profession, Shri Tiwari was also a devoted social worker.

Shri Tiwari was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1980 to 1981. He was the Minister of State for Irrigation and Energy in the State Government. In 1984, he was again elected to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. He served as the Minister of Power in the State Government from January 1985 to March 1985. Later, he was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council also for a period of six years from 1997.

A devoted parliamentarian, Shri Tiwari served as the Chairman, Committee on Petitions, Lok Sabha and as a Member of the General Purposes Committee, Lok Sabha during 1984.

Shri Krishna Prakash Tiwari passed away on 26 January, 2005 at New Delhi at the age of 73, after a brief illness.

Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale was a Member of the Sixth, Ninth and Thirteenth Lok Sabhas from 1977 to 1979; 1989 to 1991 and 1999 to 2004 representing the Malegaon Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

A person with genial disposition, Shri Mahale began his career as a primary teacher. He was Deputy Chairman of Panchayat Samiti, Dindori, from 1962 to 1967; and member of Zila Parishad from 1967 to 1975. Shri Mahale also served as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly for two terms from 1980 to 1989. He was a Member of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.

A dedicated parliamentarian, Shri Mahale was a Member, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table during the Sixth Lok Sabha and the Committee on Government Assurances and Consultative Committee, Ministry of Environment and Forests, in the Ninth Lok Sabha. During the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, he was a Member of the Committee on Agriculture and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

A committed social activist, he devoted his entire life for the betterment of Tribals and Backward Classes. He was associated with several social and educational organizations in various capacities. He was General Secretary, Maharashtra State "Yanchhesi"; Life Member, Adiwasi Sevak Gaurav; and Member, Rachana Trust. He was associated with the Dang Sewa Mandal, Nasik; and the Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, New Delhi. Shri Mahale also served as Director of the Maharashtra Forest Labour Union, Pune; and the NDCC Bank, Nasik. He was member of Janlaxmi Bank, Shriram Bank, Samarth Bank and Babasaheb Co-operative Bank.

An ardent supporter of the co-operative movement, Shri Mahale was founder of thirty Co-operative Societies.

Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale passed away on 28 January, 2005 in a road accident at Thane, Maharashtra 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.

As the hon. Members are aware, on 26 December, 2004, the killer Tsunami waves, triggered by a massive undersea earthquake off Sumatra in Indonesia, wreaked havoc in several countries of South-East Asia and in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in India. The Tsunami tragedy, one of the most devastating natural calamities in the memory of mankind, caused widespread loss of lives and property, agony and trauma. In India, the Tsunami resulted in the death of 10,264 persons. About 5,811 persons are still missing and feared to be dead. A large number of families have lost

their homes and livelihood.

In another tragic incident, on 25 January, 2005, as many as 278 pilgrims, mostly women and children, were killed and more than 250 injured in a stampede on the narrow road leading to the Kalubai Temple in Mandradevi in Satara district of Maharashtra.

Recently, the State of Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed nature's wrath and fury in the form of heaviest snowfall ever in the past two decades. This snowfall has triggered avalanches and landslides causing death of more than two hundred forty four persons. Many more are missing. The record snowfall has also caused immense damage to property and led to the blockade of the National Highway and disruption of normal life of the people in the State [\[br4\]](#).

13.00 hrs. [\[r5\]](#)

This House also notes with grief the loss of a large number of lives and immense damage to property caused by the earthquake which hit Zarand in Iran on 22nd February, 2005.

We deeply mourn these tragedies and the House expresses its deep sense of grief in this regard.

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

13.0 ½ hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.
