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Title: The Speaker made references to the passing away of Shri S.K. Rai (Member-5th Lok Sabha) on 16.02.10 and Dr. A.U. Azmi (Member-7th Lok Sabha) on 24.05.10 respectively. The Speaker also made a reference to the death of 25 people including children in an incident in which a boat was caught in a whirlpool and capsized in the swollen Kosi river.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, Shri S.K. Rai and Dr. A.U. Azmi.

Shri S.K. Rai was a Member of the Fifth Lok Sabha from 1975 to 1977 representing Sikkim Parliamentary Constituency of Sikkim.

A well-known social worker, Shri Rai was associated with numerous welfare projects which touched the lives of ordinary citizens. He was instrumental in the setting up of a degree college and a law college in his constituency.

Shri Rai played a proactive role in the campaigns for the development of tourism in his constituency and worked for the provision of basic essential facilities for the common man.

An accomplished artist, Shri Rai had keen interest in drama, music and literature.

Shri R.K. Rai passed away on 16 February, 2010 at Gangtok, Sikkim after a prolonged illness.

Dr. A.U. Azmi was a Member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing the Jaunpur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

A medical practitioner by profession, Dr. Azmi worked for the welfare of the poor, downtrodden and the deprived sections of the society and for the betterment of the health facilities for the people of his constituency.

Dr. A.U. Azmi passed away on 24 May, 2010 at New Delhi at the age of 81.

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.

Hon. Members, in a tragic incident on 11 August, 2010 reportedly more than 25 people including children died when a country boat capsized after being caught in a whirlpool in the swollen Kosi river. Many more are still missing.

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

11.01 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. No. 261, Shri Purnmasi Ram.

...(Interruptions)

