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Title: The Speaker made reference to the passing away of Shri Shantilal Purshottamdas Patel, member, 8th, 9th, 11th and 12th Lok Sabhas.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our former colleague, Shri Shantilal Purshottamdas Patel.

Shri Shantilal Purshottamdas Patel was a member of the Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabhas from 1988 to 1991 and Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabhas from 1996 to 1999 representing the Godhra Parliamentary Constituency of Gujarat.

Earlier, Shri Patel was a member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly from 1975 to 1988 for four terms.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Patel was a member of the Public Accounts Committee and the Consultative Committees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism during the Ninth Lok Sabha. He was a member of the Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals during the Eleventh Lok Sabha. Shri Patel was a member of the Committee on Communications, Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Committee of Privileges and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Railways during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

Shri Patel served as the Union Deputy Minister for Commerce from 1990 to 1991.

Shri Patel took special interest in the cooperative movement and served as the Vice-President of the District Cooperative Bank, Panchmahal and Gujarat Industrial Cooperative Federation. He was the Chairman of Ajay Cooperative Credit Society, Gujarat Hastkala and Handicraft Cooperative Federation and Panchmahal District Cooperative Union. He also served as the Secretary of the Panchmahal District Cooperative Sangh.

An active social worker, Shri Patel worked for the promotion of education and employment of the downtrodden and the weaker sections of the society.

A person with a scholarly bent of mind, he authored two books entitled, 'Panchmahal Darsharl and 'Sahkardeep' a book on Cooperative Movement.

A widely traveled person, Shri Patel was a member of the Indian Parliamentary delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held at Canberra, Australia in 1988.

Shri Shantilal Purshottamdas Patel passed away on 24th May, 2011 at the age of 73 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of our 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.

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour. Q. No. 141, Dr. M. Thambidurai.
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record.

(Interruptions) … *

and stood on the floor near the Table ...(Interruptions)