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Title : The Speaker made reference to the passing away of Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, former Prime Minister of India.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of Shri Inder Kumar Gujral, former Prime Minister of India.

Shri Inder Kumar Gujral was a Member of the Ninth and Twelfth Lok Sabhas representing the Jalandhar Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab.

He was also a Member of the Rajya Sabha for three terms from 1964 to 1976 and from 1992 to 1998.

Shri Gujral, an illustrious leader became Prime Minister of India in 1997. He was the Leader of the House in Rajya Sabha during 1996 and from 1997 to 1998.

A distinguished Parliamentarian, Shri Gujral served as the Union Cabinet Minister for External Affairs and Water Resources.

Shri Gujral was Chairman of the Committees on External Affairs and Commerce and Textiles. He was a member of many Parliamentary and Consultative Committees.

As a diplomat, Shri Gujral represented the country as India's Special Envoy to more than seven countries. He was India's Ambassador to USSR during 1976 to 1980. He led delegations to the United Nations and was member of the Parliamentary Delegation to Intern-Parliamentary Union.

Shri Gujral participated in Indian freedom struggle at the age of eleven and was imprisoned during the Quit India Movement in 1942.

A man of letters, Shri Gujral authored two books 'A Foreign Policy for India' and 'Mazameen-e-Gujral'.

Shri Inder Kumar Gujral passed away on 30th November, 2012 at the age of 92 in Gurgaon, Haryana.

We deeply mourn the irreparable loss and I am sure, the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

Hon. Members, today is also the 28th anniversary of the Bhopal Gas tragedy. It was on this day, 28 years ago, that the country suffered one of the most horrific man-made tragedies in which thousands of people lost their lives, and a very large number were physically disabled.

Let us, on this occasion, express our solidarity with the victims of this horrendous tragedy.

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

11.03 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you.

As a mark of respect to our former Prime Minister, Shri I.K. Gujral, I adjourn the House for the day, to meet tomorrow, the 4th December 2012 at 11 a.m.

11.05 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Tuesday, December 04, 2012/Agrahayana 13, 1934 (Saka).

* As the House adjourned after Obituary Reference, Starred Questions could not be called for Oral Answers in House and therefore treated as Unstarred Questions.