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Title: The Speaker made references to the passing away of Shri Uma Shankar Singh, sitting member of Lok Sabha; Shri Manharan Lal Pandey, member, 11th Lok Sabha; and Shri P. Shanmugam, member, 7th, 8th and 9th Lok Sabhas. She also made reference to the death of 37 pilgrims of Kumbh Mela in a stampede at Allahabad Railway Station, Uttar Pradesh on 10 February, 2013.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of our colleague Shri Uma Shankar Singh and two of our former colleagues Shri Manharan Lal Pandey and Shri P. Shanmugam.

Shri Uma Shankar Singh was a sitting Member representing the Maharajganj parliamentary constituency of Bihar. Shri Singh was also a Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly for five terms from 1977 to 1995 and from 2000 to 2005. An able parliamentarian Shri Singh served as Member of the Committees on Railways and Empowerment of Women.

Shri Uma Shankar Singh passed away on 24th January, 2013 at the age of 73 in Delhi.

Shri Manharan Lal Pandey was a Member of the Eleventh Lok Sabha from 1996 to 1997 representing the then Janjgir parliamentary constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Pandey was also a Member of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1967 to 1972, 1977 to 1980 and 1985 to 1996. He served as Minister of State for Electricity during 1968 to 1969 and Minister for Home, Jail, Irrigation and Health during 1977 to 1980 in the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Shri Manharan Lal Pandey passed away on 21st January, 2013 at the age of 74 in Raipur.

Shri P. Shanmugam was a Member of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Lok Sabhas representing the then parliamentary constituency of Pondicherry.

A distinguished parliamentarian, Shri Shanmugam was also a Member of Pondicherry Legislative Assembly for three terms and served as Leader of Opposition in Pondicherry Assembly from 1969 to 1973.

Shri P. Shanmugam also adorned the office of Chief Minister, Pondicherry from 2000 to 2001 and also served as the Minister in various departments of Government of Pondicherry.

An active social worker, Shri P. Shanmugam played a pivotal role in the establishment of Pondicherry University and Karaikal Port.

Shri P. Shanmugam passed away on 2nd February, 2013 at Karaikal, Puducherry at the age of 85 years.

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

Hon. Members, as you are aware, on 10th February, 2013, thirty-seven pilgrims of Kumbh Mela including women and children were killed and several others injured in a stampede at Allahabad Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh.

The House expresses its profound sorrow on this tragedy which has brought pain and suffering to the families of the bereaved and injured.

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

12.45hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow the 22nd February, 2013 at 11 a.m.

12.46 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Friday, February 22, 2013/Phalguna 3, 1934(Saka).

* His Excellency Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India, delivered the Address in the Central Hall in English, Hindi text of the Address was read by His Excellency Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India.