

Title : Madam Speaker made reference to the passing away of Shri Kandasamy, a member of the 11th Lok Sabha; Shri P.Mohan, a member of the 13th and 14th Lok Sabhas; Shri Ajit Bag, a member of the 7th Lok Sabha and Shri B. Shankaranand, a member of the 4th to 10th Lok Sabhas. Madam Speaker further made a reference regarding recent unprecedented rains, landslides, floods and cyclone in Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra wherein hundreds of people died. Madam Speaker also made reference regarding collapse of a under construction chimney tower at Korba in Chhattisgarh on 23 September, 2009 resulting in death of about 50 persons. Madam Speaker further made a reference to the death of 11 persons in huge fire that took place at Indian Oil Corporation depots of Indian Oil Corporation at Sanganer, Jaipur.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of four of our former colleagues, Shri V. Kandasamy, Shri P. Mohan, Shri Ajit Bag and Shri B. Shankaranand.

Shri V. Kandasamy was a Member of the Eleventh Lok Sabha from 1996 to 1997 representing the Pollachi Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu. Shri Kandasamy was a Member of the Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution during the Eleventh Lok Sabha. A committed social and political worker Shri Kandasamy worked for the welfare of the poor, downtrodden and the deprived sections of the society. A Trade Unionist, he was associated in mobilisation of Trade Unions and worked for the welfare of the working class and the youth.

Shri V. Kandasamy passed away on 10 September, 2009 at the age of 74.

Shri P. Mohan was a Member of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Lok Sabhas from 1999 to 2009, representing the Madurai Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu. Shri Mohan was a Member of the Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals during the Thirteenth Lok Sabha. He was a Member of the Committee on Urban Development and Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas during the Fourteenth Lok Sabha.

A well known social worker, Shri Mohan fought for the rights and welfare of the poor, downtrodden and the deprived sections of the society. Shri Mohan played a proactive role in the campaigns for the protection of interests and for the betterment of the health facilities for the sick and the needy. He was instrumental in improving and setting up modern medical facilities at the Madurai district hospital.

Shri P. Mohan passed away on 30 October, 2009 at Chennai at the age of 60.

Shri Ajit Bag was a Member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1981 to 1984 representing the Serampore Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal. Shri Bag was a Member of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

A committed social and political worker, Shri Bag served as the Vice-Chairman of the Kotrung Municipality during 1961 to 1962 and later served as Councillor of the Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality in 1981.

An educationist, Shri Bag was associated with teachers' movement for over three decades. He was a Member of the Senate, University of Kolkata. He was the Founder President of the School Teachers' Federation of India (STFI) Shri Bag also served as the President of the All Bengal Teachers' Association.

Shri Ajit Bag passed away on 7 November, 2009 at Hooghly, West Bengal at the age of 79.

Shri B. Shankaranand was a Member of the Fourth to Tenth Lok Sabhas from 1967 to 1996 representing the Chikkodi Parliamentary Constituency of Karnataka.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Shankaranand was a Member of the Consultative Committee of Foreign Trade and the Consultative Committee of Mines and Metals during the Fourth Lok Sabha. He was a Member of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; Committee on Subordinate Legislation; Business Advisory Committee and Committee of Privileges during the Fifth Lok Sabha. Shri Shankaranand served as the Chairman, Joint Parliamentary Committee on Bofors during the Eighth Lok Sabha. He was a Member of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation; Consultative Committee constituted under the Punjab State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1987 and Committee of Privileges during the Ninth Lok Sabha.

An experienced administrator, Shri Shankaranand was the Deputy Minister in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs from May, 1971 to March, 1977; Minister of Education from January, 1980 to October, 1980; Minister of Health and Family Welfare from January, 1980 to December, 1984 and later from January, 1993 to December, 1994; Minister of Irrigation and Power from December, 1984 to September, 1985; Minister of Water Resources from September, 1985 to August, 1987 and again from June 1988 to July, 1989; Minister of Law and Justice from July to December, 1989 and the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas from June, 1991 to January, 1993.

An advocate by profession, Shri Shankaranand was associated with a plethora of social development activities. He was instrumental in the establishment of a number of educational institutions, cooperative banks and cooperative societies for the weaker sections of the society. He served as the Vice-Chairman of the Municipal School Board, Belgaum. Shri Shankaranand was the Founder member of the Jagriti Co-operative Bank, Belgaum; Dr. Ambedkar Medical College, Bangalore and the Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Memorial Foundation, New Delhi. He also served as the President, Karnataka Depressed Class Welfare Society, Belgaum.

A widely traveled person, Shri Shankaranand was the leader of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Canada in June 1987.

Shri B. Shankaranand passed away on 20 November, 2009 at Belgaum, Karnataka at the age of 84.

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, as you are aware, the recent unprecedented rains, landslides and floods in Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu created havoc and paralysed the normal life in these States. Hundreds of people died and many were rendered homeless besides large scale destruction of property and cattle. Several fishermen also lost their lives in a cyclone in Maharashtra.

In an accident at the Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd. (Balco) Plant at Korba in Chhattisgarh about 50 workmen died when an under construction 275 metre chimney tower collapsed on 23 September, 2009.

In another huge fire accident on 29 October, 2009 at Indian Oil Corporation terminal at Sanganer, Jaipur, 11 people were killed and over 100 were injured. The

fire destroyed 11 tanks at the depot resulting in huge loss of money amounting to over Rs. 250 crores.

I am sure the House would join me in expressing profound sorrow on the death of innocent persons in these natural calamities and tragic accidents.

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

11.09 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.