

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, November 20, 1996/Kartika 29,
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played.

11.02 hrs.

MEMBERS SWORN

1. Shri Bhuma Nagi Reddy (Nandyal)
2. Shri Vijay Harishchandra Patel (Gandhinagar)
3. Shri Anadi Charan Sahu (Cuttack)

11.05 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, while welcoming all of you to the Winter Session of the Lok Sabha, I have to inform the House with a deep sense of sorrow, of the passing away of eight of our esteemed friends, Sarvashri Basant Singh Khalsa, Motisinh Bahadursinh Thakore, Aurobindo Ghosal, Sunil Maitra, Kalka Das, Saeed Murtaza, Ansar Harvani and Halimuddin Ahmed.

Shri Basant Singh Khalsa was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Ropar Parliamentary constituency of Punjab. He had represented the same constituency during the Sixth Lok Sabha.

Shri Khalsa had also been a Member of Punjab Legislative Assembly during 1969-70, 1972-77, 1980-85 and 1985-87.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Khalsa ably served his home State Punjab as Education and Health Minister. He was also a Parliamentary Secretary, Education, Labour and Employment in Government of Punjab. He was a member of Public Accounts Committee and Scheduled Castes Welfare Committee of Punjab Legislative Assembly. He was member of various parliamentary committees.

An active social and political worker, he worked vigorously for the welfare and upliftment of weaker sections of the society.

His tragic end came in a road accident on 20 October, 1996 near Ludhiana (Punjab) at the age of 64 years.

Shri Motisinh Bahadursinh Thakore was a member of Second Lok Sabha representing Patan Parliamentary constituency of erstwhile Bombay State during 1957-62.

An advocate by profession, Shri Thakore was an active social and political worker. He was associated with a number of social organisations. He took special interest in the upliftment of rural people.

Shri Motisinh Bahadursinh Thakore passed away on 24 May, 1996 at Ahmedabad at the age of 74 years.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal was a member of Second Lok Sabha representing Uluberia Parliamentary constituency of West Bengal during 1957-62.

He was also a member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly during 1977-82.

A renowned social, political worker and trade unionist, Shri Ghosal was associated with various trade unions in different capacities. He strove for the upliftment of the labourers and other weaker sections of the society.

He authored several books, namely, 'Trade Union Sangattan', 'Works Committee Kee' and 'Krishak Andolane Dhara' and some other booklets.

A widely travelled person, he was a delegate to the International Miners' Conference, Prague and the International Rural Youth Conference, held at Vienna in 1954.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal passed away at Howrah on 4 September, 1996 at the age of 82 years.

Shri Sunil Maltra was a member of Seventh Lok Sabha representing Calcutta North-East Parliamentary constituency of West Bengal during 1980-84.

An able Parliamentarian, he actively participated in the proceedings of the House and made a valuable contribution thereto. He was also the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee during 1983-84.

An eminent trade unionist, Shri Maitra made a significant contribution to the welfare of the working class.

Shri Sunil Maitra passed away on 18th September, 1996 at Calcutta at the age of 69 years.

Shri Kalka Das was a member of Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabha representing Karol Bagh Parliamentary constituency of Delhi during 1989-91 and 1991-96. An active and able parliamentarian, Shri Kalka Das made valuable contributions to the proceedings of the House and its Committees.

Shri Kalka Das also served as the Chairman of the erstwhile Delhi Metropolitan Council for six years. Later, he held the office of the Leader of the Opposition in the Council.

A popular figure of Delhi, Shri Kalka Das was instrumental in several development works in the National Capital. A dedicated political and social worker, Shri Kalka Das worked hard for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society. He was associated with several political and social organisations. He also wrote a book entitled 'Meenakshi Puram'.

Shri Kalka Das passed away in New Delhi on 27 September, 1996 at the age of 58 years.

Shri Saeed Murtaza was a member of Sixth Lok Sabha representing Muzaffarnagar Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1977-79.

Earlier, he was a member of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha in 1969 and was a Minister in the State Government.

An active social and political worker, he had served as President of the Town Panchayat for 35 years continuously.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Murtaza took keen interest in the Proceedings of the House. He also served as a member of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

Shri Saeed Murtaza passed away on 30 September, 1996 at Muzaffarnagar at the age of 90 years.

Shri Ansar Harvani was a member of Second Lok Sabha representing Fatehpur Parliamentary constituency and Third Lok Sabha representing Bisauli Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1957-62 and 1962-67 respectively.

He made a valuable contribution to the proceedings of the House. Shri Harvani served as a member of the Estimates Committee during 1961-62.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Harvani actively participated in 'Quit India Movement' and suffered imprisonment for several years.

A promoter of healthy journalism, Shri Harvani was Chief Reporter in *The National Herald* and special representative of *the Amrit Bazar Patrika*.

He was associated with several organisations.

Shri Ansar Harvani passed away on 28 October, 1996 at New Delhi at the age of 80 years.

Shri Halimuddin Ahmed was a member of Sixth Lok Sabha representing Kishanganj Parliamentary constituency of Bihar during 1977-79.

Shri Ahmed had also been a member of Bihar Legislative Assembly during 1985-90.

An advocate by profession, Shri Ahmed was an active social and political worker. He was associated with a number of social organisations.

Shri Ahmed took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. He served as a member of the Committee

Shri Halimuddin Ahmed passed away at Araria on 14 November, 1996 at the age of 75 years.

I would now also like to express my heartfelt and profound sorrow over two recent tragic incidents - cyclonic havoc in Andhra Pradesh and air mishap. The recent unprecedented cyclonic floods in Andhra Pradesh barely a few days before the festival of lights, left in its wake loss of several lives and property.

The other disaster relates to the mid-air collision of an aircraft of the Saudi Arabian Airlines with that of Kazhak Airlines on Tuesday, the 12th November, 1996, over Charkhi Dadri, in Haryana causing the death of passengers and crew members of both the airlines. Our hearts go out to the victims and kith and kin of the deceased.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and of those who died due to the cyclone in Andhra Pradesh and the air accident and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

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

11.14 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 21st November, 1996 at 11 A.M.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir

1. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :
SHRI E. AHAMED :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of explosion and police firing which took place in Jammu and Kashmir till date since the elections to the State Assembly were held;

(b) the number of civilians and security personnel - killed by the militants in the State during the last three months;

(c) the number of militants killed and arrested in Jammu and Kashmir during the period;

(d) the measures taken by the Union Government to provide additional help to the Jammu and Kashmir Government to bring normalcy in the State; and

(e) the response of the Union Government regarding more autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) According to the available