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Title : The Speaker made reference to the passing away of Shri Purno Agitok Sangma, sitting member and former Speaker of Lok Sabha.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri P.A. Sangma, former Speaker, Lok Sabha.

Shri P.A. Sangma was elected as the Speaker of Lok Sabha during the Eleventh Lok Sabha. As Speaker of the Lok Sabha, he conducted the proceedings of the House with great ability and distinction. His parliamentary skill and comprehensive knowledge of parliamentary practices and procedures earned him respect from all the sections of the House.

An able parliamentarian, Shri P.A. Sangma was a member of the Lok Sabha for nine terms. He was a sitting member of the Lok Sabha.

Earlier, he served as a member of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly from 1988 to 1991 and from 2008 to 2012. He also served as the Chief Minister of Meghalaya from 1988 to 1990 and Leader of Opposition in the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly from 1990 to 1991.

An able administrator, Shri Sangma served as the Union Minister in the Union Council of Ministers holding several important portfolios.

During his long and distinguished parliamentary career, Shri Sangma represented the Indian Parliament at various international fora. He also led the Indian Parliamentary delegations to many countries.

A man of masses, Shri Sangma strove relentlessly for the amelioration of the marginalized sections of the society particularly the tribals.

A distinguished public figure, Shri Sangma has to his credit three books "India in I.L.O" "Into the Third Millennium: A Speaker's Perspectives" and "A Life in Politics".

Shri P.A. Sangma passed away today at New Delhi at the age of 68.

We deeply mourn the loss of Shri P.A. Sangma and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

एक और बात में अपनी तरफ से कहना चाहूंगी कि हंसते हुए सदन चलाना, यह मैंने संगमा जी से सीखा है, अगर मैं ऐसा कहूँ तो गलत नहीं होगा।

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

11.04 hours

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet on Tuesday, the 8th March, 2016 at 11 a.m.

11.05 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Tuesday, March 8, 2016/Phalgun 18, 1937 (Saka)