

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Thursday, November 21, 1985/Kartika 30,
1907 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Virendra Agarwal who was a member of the Fifth Lok Sabha during 1971-77 representing Moradabad constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

A well known Journalist and academician, Shri Agarwal was associated with a number of organisations. He functioned as the General Secretary of Indian National Committee of the World University Service and was the founder-convener of the Delhi Study Group. He was the author of several articles on economic matters. A widely travelled person, he represented India several times at the General Assembly of the World University Service and other international organizations.

A dedicated social worker, he organised distribution of material relief to needy students all over India. He also organised health centres for students at several places.

Shri Virendra Agarwal passed away on 19 November, 1985 at New Delhi at the age of 58 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Sick Shipping Companies

*61. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of shipping companies are 'sick' ;

(b) whether the 'sickness' of the shipping companies was discussed by a top level committee headed by the Secretary to the Ministry of Shipping ;

(c) if so, whether this Committee has made recommendation to amend the Merchant Shipping Act to enable the Shipping Development Fund Committee to take over the management of shipping companies ; and

(d) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) :

(a) Most of Shipping Development Fund Committee assisted shipping companies have defaulted in their repayment of loans arising out of current recession in shipping industry. However, no shipping company has been declared as 'sick'.

(b) A committee under the chairmanship of former Secretary had reviewed arrangements for assistance to shipping companies.

(c) and (d) The committee expressed the view that in the event of the Shipping Development Fund Committee satisfying itself that the management of a loanee shipping company was acting malafide or was inefficient and dishonest, it should be possible for the Shipping Development Fund Committee either to change the management or even to take it over and for this purpose suitable clauses would