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Wednesday, August 26, 1981/ Bhadara 4, 1903 (SAKA)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE:

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri S. M. Muhammed Sheriff who was a Member of the Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha during 1967-77 representing Periyakulam constituency, of Tamil Nadu.

An active social worker, he served as a Municipal Councillor, Madurai during 1964—69 and evinced keen interest in village uplift, adult education and communal harmony.

An active Parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. He passed away at Madurai on 17th August, 1981, at the age of 57.

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 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

Assistance of Nigeria for Development. of Small Scale Industry

*141. SHRI R. P. GAÉKWAD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nigeria had sought assistance in the development of small scale industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last two years, five State Governments of NIgeria have approached the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for help in promoting small scale industries in their respective States. Various delegations have visited NSIC and small industrial units in India. Officials of NSIC have also visited Nigeria and have identified certain industries in which assistance could be provided to these States. These items are:—

(1) Builders hardware and other metal products.

(2) Foot-wear and travel goods made of leather.

(3) Small electronic components and assemblies.

(4) Electrical goods including domestic appliances.

(5) Laboratory instruments.

The first meeting of the Indo-Nigerian Joint Commission took place in New Delhi from 28th to 30th July, 1981. The Indian delegation offered

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