LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 17, 1980/Agrahayana 26, 1902 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, who passed away at New Delhi on 16 December, 1980 as the age of 63.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh was a Member of the Provisional Parliament, first, second, third and fourth Lok Sabha during the years 1950-70. He was Minister of State at the Centre during the years 1962-67 and a Cabinet Minister during 1967-69 and held the portfolios of Food and Agriculture, railways, social security and cottage industries, parliamentary affairs and communications. He was recognised as the first Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha during 1969-70.

A veteral parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House.

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 shortwhile to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Changes in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act

*439. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have under consideration certain pro posals for drastic 3060 LS-1

··· · ·

changes in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals under consideration; and

(c) at what stage do the proposals rest now $\boldsymbol{\widehat{?}}$

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is however, premature to qualify the changes.

(b) & (c). Proposals are being conceptualized and so neither details nor level of consideration can be indicated.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : We have gone through the reply. In the course of his reply he says that there are proposals for amending Industries Development and Regulation Act. The question asked was : "whether the Government have under consideration certain proposals for drastic changes...." He agrees and says: yes. Subsequently he answers that it has not yet reached that stage.

MR. SPEAKER : That might have been a leading question.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Therefore it means that the government is suffering from indecisiveness and they could not take any decision as to the nature of the changes government considers necessary, in the Industries Development and Regulation Act. In this context, could he indicate as to what are the compelling reasons—there may be some reasons for contemplating changes?

What are the compelling reasons for making changes in the I.D.R. Act ?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA : The I.D.R. Act has in fact been amended ten times since its enactment. For implementing the Act, there are many difficulties which are being faced by the Government. This being an inter-ministerial exercise, we are working on the whole thing. We are getting the data collected regarding the various aspects of the problems and we are examining the whole thing.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : He said there might be certain reasons and certain difficulties for the Government. What are those difficulties ?

2