

at Calcutta on 11 October, 1983, at the age of 76 years.

Shri Anand Chand was a Member of Constituent Assembly during 1947-48 and First Lok Sabha during 1952-57 representing Bilaspur constituency now in Himachal Pradesh. Later he was a Member of Rajya Sabha from 1958 to 1970 and also a Member of Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1977-82.

An able Administrator, he was ex-Ruler of Bilaspur State.

A social reformer, Shri Anand Chand initiated several social uplift measures in the erstwhile State of Bilaspur. He abolished 'Begar' (forced labour), enforced the Child Marriage Restraint Act and introduced complete prohibition.

Shri Anand Chand passed away at London on 12 October, 1983, at the age of 70 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends. 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 to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

WELCOME TO THE MAURITIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming Hon'ble Mr. Chattradhari Daby, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Mauritius and the Hon'ble Members of the Mauritian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the delegation are :

- (1) Hon. Mr. S.C. Goodoory, MLA
- (2) Hon. Mr. K. Gangoosingh, MLA
- (3) Hon. Mr. Marc Hein, MLA
- (4) Hon. Mr. N. Molaye, MLA
- (5) Hon. Mr. I. Nawoor, MLA
- (6) Hon. Mr. S.C. Poonith, MLA
- (7) Hon. Mr. L. Ramsahok, MLA
- (8) Hon. Mr. S.K. Baligadoo, MLA
- (9) Hon. Madame J. Minerve, MLA
- (10) Hon. Mr. C. Uteem, MLA

The delegation arrived here this morning. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Legislative Assembly, Government and the friendly people of Mauritius.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : एम० एल० ए० का मतलब पार्लियामेंट का मेम्बर है। हमारे लोग यह न समझें कि एम० ए० एल० आए हुए हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : शुद्धिकरण एक्सेप्टेड।

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Revision of Royalty Rates on Coal and other Minerals in Eastern States

*1. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern States in the last meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council demanded an upward revision of the royalty rates on coal and other minerals raised by them ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,