

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, April 24, 1978/Vasakha 4,
1900 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Rakhraj Dhondiba Patil who passed away at Nimagaon (Maharashtra) on 9th April 1978 at the age of 84.

Shri Patil was a Member of Second Lok Sabha during the years 1957 to 1962 representing Bhir constituency of the erstwhile Bombay State. Earlier, he was Member of the Legislative Assemblies of Hyderabad and erstwhile Bombay State.

An agriculturist and a social worker, he was associated with the Civic Body in his home district. He also played a prominent role in the independence movement of Hyderabad State.

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 as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 2

Improving Paddy Crop

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*821 SHRI SARAT KAR:

SHRI AHMED M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiment has been made to improve the paddy crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State selected for its cultivation; and

(d) the measures taken to popularise it?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A statement detailing the research on paddy which has been in progress is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). Research on paddy has been in progress at various centres in the country. At present the research programmes are organised through Agricultural Universities, the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack and the All-India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project whose headquarters is located at Hyderabad. In the early years of rice research, emphasis was on the development of locally adapted tall varieties of *Indica* rice. In the 1950s, the programme of crossing *Indica* and *Japanica* varieties of rice was started for transferring the ability to respond to fertilizer application from *Japanica* varieties to *Indica* varieties. Improved strains, like ADT 27, were identified from the *Indica*-*Japanica* Hybridisation Programme. Mashuri, a