

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Vol. XXIX First Day of the Ninth Session of the Sixth Lok Sabha No. 1

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 20, 1979/Sravana 29,
1901 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruption)

MR SPEAKER Order order There
are obituary references

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR SPEAKER Hon'ble Members,
as we meet today after an interval of
only a few weeks, it is with profound
sorrow that I have to inform the
House of the passing away of three of
our colleagues Sarvashri Mohan
Singh Tur, Mangal Deo, V P Naik,
and one former Member, Shri Priya
Gupta

Shri Mohan Singh Tur was elected
to Lok Sabha in 1977 from Taran
Taran constituency of Punjab Before
coming to this House he was a Mem-
ber of the Punjab Legislative Assem-
bly from 1967 to 1971 He was also
earlier Minister of Irrigation and Reli-
gious Endowments in Punjab Govern-
ment

A devoted social worker, he worked
for the rehabilitation of refugees after
partition He was Vice-President,
Akali Dal from 1960 to 1972 and be-
came its President thereafter.

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He led an agitation for Punjabi Suba
in 1960 and suffered imprisonment
He also suffered imprisonment during
the period of emergency

He was a Member of the Rules
Committee of this House for 1977-78

Shri Tur passed away at Chandigarh
on 30th July 1979 at the age of 63

Shri Mangal Deo was a Member of
this House from Akbarpur constituen-
cy of Uttar Pradesh Earlier, he had
been a Member of the Uttar Pradesh
Legislative Assembly from 1962 to
1967 He also served as a Cabinet
Minister in the Uttar Pradesh Govern-
ment in 1967

An active social worker, he was a
Member of Zila Parishad, Azamgarh
from 1948 to 1967 and served there as
Chairman, Education and Health He
was also Chairman of "Bhoombi
Vyavastha Janch Samiti" of Uttar
Pradesh

An active parliamentarian deeply
interested in the welfare of Scheduled
Castes, he was a Member of the Hari-
jan and Social Welfare Board for many
years

Shri Mangal Deo passed away at
Lucknow on the 30th July, 1979 at the
age of 58

Shri V P Naik was a Member of
this House from Washim constituency
of Maharashtra Earlier, he was a
Member of the Madhya Pradesh Legis-
lative Assembly Bombay Legislative
Assembly and Maharashtra Legislative
Assembly from 1952 to 1977.

An agriculturist and social worker,
he started his career as a lawyer. He
entered politics in 1946 when he be-

came President of the Pusa Municipal Council in his home town. In 1952 he was elected to the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly and was appointed Deputy Minister for Revenue. In 1957, he became Minister for Co-operation, and later, of Agriculture in the Bombay Government. In 1960, he became Minister of Revenue in Maharashtra Government and held that office till 1963 when he became the Chief Minister of that State and held that office till 1975. He established Panchayati Raj system in Maharashtra and also introduced the employment guarantee scheme to mitigate the hardships of unemployed in the State.

An able administrator, he held various offices with distinction.

An active parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and always championed the cause of the peasants and the landless and weaker sections of the people. He devoted himself whole-heartedly to the work of rural uplift and development. He was a widely travelled person.

Shri Naik passed away at Singapore on the 18th August, 1979 at the age of 66. In his death, the country has lost an able administrator and a seasoned politician.

Shri Priya Gupta was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967 representing Katihar constituency of Bihar.

A veteran trade unionist, he was closely associated with trade unions of Railway employees in various capacities as General Secretary of the Assam Railway Labour Association, Joint General Secretary of the Bengal Assam Employees Association, General Secretary and later Vice-President of the North-Eastern Railway Mazdoor Union and General Secretary, North-East Frontier Railway Mazdoor Union. He

was President of the All India Railwaymen's Federation at the time of his death.

An active parliamentarian, he evinced keen interest in the proceedings of the House and always championed the cause of industrial and railway workers. Shri Gupta passed away at Dibrugarh, Assam on the 12th August, 1979 at the age of 58.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure, the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Barnala wanted to say something on the obituary references. Let it be over first.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA (Sangrur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Akali Parliamentary Party I join you in paying homage to the departed friends.

Sardar Mohan Singh Tur was a valiant freedom fighter. He was the champion of the cause of the down-trodden and poor people. He had inherited these qualities from his father, Sardar Jagat Singh, who himself was a great freedom fighter and who in 1922 led a Jatha of 500 Akali volunteers known as Shaheedi Jatha to Jaitu morcha and this Jatha was fired upon and many of the volunteers had died. He himself was wounded in that firing. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru also visited Jaitu to see how the morcha was going on and he was arrested there and detained in the Nabha jail for some time.

Even after independence, Jathedar Mohan Singh Tur courted arrest and he was imprisoned ten times. And it

was from the prison that he fought first election against Shri Partap Singh Kauron who was then the Chief Minister of Punjab. Shri Partap Singh Kauron was declared elected by 44 votes against Sardar Mohan Singh Tur at that time. Since 1967 Sardar Mohan Singh Tur was constantly a Member of the Punjab State Legislative Assembly and was also for some time Minister in the Punjab Government. He was President of the Akali Dal for five years and in 1974 he launched a march against suppression of civil liberties in Haryana where Jathedar Tur and Sardar Parkash Singh Badal had been arrested while addressing a public meeting organised by the opposition parties. Shri Tur led a deputation of a big Jatha of one thousand persons and was arrested there. Many of its leaders joined in that march known as Karnal march. Even Acharya Kripilani Ji went to Karnal in that march and was detained there for some time. Within a week that march ended in success. In Emergency also Sardar Mohan Singh Tur was assigned the duty to carry on the march against emergency. And for a long time he organised the march and 43,000 volunteers courted arrest during Emergency under his guidance and leadership. For 10 months he was in jail also during Emergency and he had his first heart attack in Jail itself. But he declined to come out on parole. He was treated in the Jail. And now again he had suffered 3 successive heart attacks and died at Chandigarh.

He was a thoroughly religious man and was elevated to the post of High Priest Akal Takhat Sahib which is the highest seat of authority for the Sikhs. For some time he was the Head Priest also. He was a kind-hearted man and I would say that India has lost a saint-soldier in his death.

We pray to God that the departed souls may rest in peace.

11 11 hrs

ANNOUNCEMENT RE LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT HIS RESIGNATION AND THAT OF HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MR SPEAKER I have a letter from the Prime Minister saying "I have submitted my resignation and that of my Council of Ministers to the President" (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KANWAR I AL GUPTA (Delhi) Sidar I want to rise on a point of order (*Interruptions*). My point of order is that the master defector has run away without facing this House.

MR SPEAKER What is your point of order? Are you on a point of order?

SHRI KANWAR I AL GUPTA I am on a point of order. My point of order is

DR S. BRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East) Charan Singh has defected from Parliament.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA My point of order is that the master defector (*Interruptions*) Chaudhri Charan Singh has gone away (*Interruptions*). He has run away, and he did not dare to face this House (*Interruptions*).

PROF P G MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar) Mr Speaker Sir I am on a point of order (*Interruptions*).

MR SPEAKER What is your point of order?

PROF P G MAVALANKAR While I am standing where I am and I am bound to accept (*Interruptions*) your rulings on all matters, including the allotment of seats after the changed atmosphere in the House I want to start by saying that I am very displeased at your placing me here, because I am more on that side than on this side (*Interruptions*). I should have been put on a bench on that side,