

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, April 5, 1972|Chaitra 16,  
1894 (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 M. Muhammad Ismail who passed away at Madras last night at the age of 76.

President of the All-India Muslim League, Shri Muhammad Ismail was also a sitting member of this House representing the Manjeri Constituency of Kerala. He had been a member of the Constituent Assembly during the years 1948-50 and of the Third and Fourth Lok Sabha during the years 1962-70. Earlier, he was a member of the Madras Legislative Assembly during the years 1946-52. He was also a member of the Rajya Sabha during the years 1952-58.

He was a veteran parliamentarian and used to speak with vigour whenever he took part in the proceedings of the House. Sophisticated in manners, amiable and soft-spoken, he used to take great interest in welfare activities. He was associated with a number of educational institutions.

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 PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN

FORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): Sir, we are deeply grieved to learn of the death of Shri Muhammad Ismail. As you have told us, Shri Muhammad Ismail was a member of the Constituent Assembly and came to this House in 1962 after a term in the Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1958. Last year he was elected again to this House.

He was a grand old man and a prominent political figure. He had been Leader of the opposition in Tamil Nadu for six years. In spite of his age, he continued to take an active interest in educational and social activities and was connected with a large number of trade and commerce organisations.

Many of us will remember the speeches he made last year pledging his support to our national policy on Bangla Desh. He often led delegations which came to see me to discuss a variety of problems and I came to know what a wide range of interests he had.

I request you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): On behalf of my Party, I associate myself with the condolences expressed here on the death of Shri Muhammad Ismail. Though I was not personally acquainted with him, from the record of his service it is found that he had a long record of public career from his early age.

So, I express my sorrow at his death and I request you to convey our sorrow to the member of his bereaved family.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr Speaker, Sir, on behalf of our Group, I wish to express our deep sorrow at the demise of Shri Muhammad Ismail. He had become a very familiar figure in this

[Shri Indra Jit Gupta]

House, and all of us will miss his patriarchal appearance and his extremely courteous and affable manners. I happen to know him personally for some-years because, as it happened, he and I were residing in the same place here in Delhi, and I have been meeting him off and on. He was the personification of courtesy and politeness and in the House we have never know him to get excited or to lose his temper or raise his voice. He had a long and proud record in the service of the country, and particularly in the service of the community to which he belonged. I am sure that for that community particularly his demise will be a very grievous blow.

Sir, as the Prime Minister has correctly pointed out, whenever the occasion has arisen in times of national crisis or emergency, Shri Muhammad Ismail always spoke here in unequivocal terms as a patriot putting the interests of the country and the nation above all else, and I am sure all Members respected him very much for that.

On behalf of our Group, we request you to convey our heartfelt condolence to his family and through you, I would al so like to express our sympathy to the entire minority community which I know has suffered a very heavy loss in his death. As far as I know, he has been the President of the Indian Muslim League since 1948, which goes to show in what great esteem and respect he was held by the minority community.

I hope that you will convey our heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family.

**SHRI G. V. ISWANATHAN (Wandiwash):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with great shock that we received the news of the demise of Shri Muhammad Ismail, the leader of the Indian Union Muslim League. He was a widely respected leader throughout the country and especially throughout the length and breadth of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. He was known for his simple living and high thinking. He was a symbol of decency and dignity. He was elected three times from the Manjeri constituency in Kerala. Though he was living in Madras city, he used to to file his nomination papers and come back to the Madras city, and the result used to be announced that Shri Muhammad Ismail has been elected

from Manjeri constituency. His influence was much so amongst the people of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is a great loss to our Parliament as well as to the political life of this country.

I request you convey our feelings of sorrow to his bereaved family.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय (मंदसौर)  
अध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन के माननीय सदस्य श्री मोहम्मद इस्माल जी के निधान पर अपने दल की ओर से शोक का अनुभव करते हुए आप से निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप उन के परिवार तक हमारी सहानुभूति और सम्बेदना पहुंचाने का कष्ट करें।

**DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner):** Sir, on behalf of the United Independent Parliamentary Group, we wish to associate ourselves with the great sense of loss expressed in this House today on the passing away of a very old friend of ours, Shri Muhammad Ismail. He was a very kind and soft-spoken Member of Parliament, respected and loved by all. We will miss him very much.

I request you on behalf of our Group to kindly convey to the members of his family our heartfelt condolences.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai):** Sir, I associate myself with the feelings of this house in expressing our deep condolences at the sad demise of Shri Muhammad Ismail. He was an old Member of this House and we would miss him greatly. He has been in Parliament since 1967 he was first in the Constituent Assembly and then in the Rajya Sabha and from 1962 onwards in this house. Although we had our political differences-radical differences-yet, his dignified demeanour, his humanitarian feeling and his attitude towards life made many Members of this house to draw close to him. He was always very friendly to other Members of this House. We know his valuable contribution as a Parliamentarian. His passing away will no doubt be a blow to the minority community, even though in the coming days minority community and majority community may have the same connotation which these words had in pre-independent days. I hope his passing away will have to be viewed differently, in the national perspective. We

hope his friends and followers will be able to view things in the larger perspective and we will be able to integrate them in a national community. I express again our deep condolences and request you to convey on behalf of our party our deep mourning and sympathy to the bereaved family.

**SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN** (Madurai): I join my voice to the sentiments which you and the Prime Minister and other Members expressed in the House. I knew Mr. Ismail for a long time. When he entered in 1946 the Madras Legislative Assembly as the leader of the Muslim League, I was also elected as a Congress Member and we had been working together in that House. Though we were in different parties, he was very gentlemanly and always accommodated the other viewpoint. He comes from a respectable family in Tinnevely district and is well respected in Tamilnad. So, I also wish to join in the sentiments expressed by the House.

**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH** (Nandyal): I too had the privilege of being a member of the composite Madras Assembly along with Mr. Swaminathan and Mr. Ismail, leader of the Muslim League party. In those days when we had not attained independence, we differed politically. Even then the presence of Mr. Ismail had a sobering effect on the politics of Madras State in those days; It required great courage to organise the Muslim League in India and he had been President of that organisation for a number of years. He was good parliamentarian who occupied important positions in both the Constituent Assembly and in the Lok Sabha. Whatever may be our political differences, personally he was a man of great charm and unimpeachable integrity. The country has lost a great soul in the sad demise of Mr. Ismail and I request you to convey our feelings to the bereaved family.

**MR. SPEAKER**: The House may stand in silence for a shortwhile.

*The members then stood in silence for a shortwhile.*

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Increase in Price of Indigenous Tractors

\*261. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI**: will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-

MENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted increase of price of tractors produced in the country twice during the last one year;

(b) whether the second increase was based on the recommendation of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, as was done in the case of the first increase; and

(c) if not, the reasons why the Bureau was not consulted and the justification for effecting the second increase within one year?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY)**: (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**SHRI N. K. SANGHI**: My question has not been answered. I specifically asked in part (b) whether the second increase was based on the recommendation of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, as was done in the case of the first increase and he says that it does not arise. What does he mean?

**SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: The hon. Member has not followed the answer. I said 'yes', for parts (a) and (b) of the question. That means that the second increase was based on the recommendation of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices as was done in the case of the first increase.

**SHRI N. K. SANGHI**: It is really a serious matter that the Government has approved prices, increasing the price twice in a year by 30 to 35 per cent. particularly when in the case of cars they did not allow an increase and it was only the court which allowed the increase. May I know the reason for following such a fantastic increase twice in a year and not waiting for at least one year to give it a trial?

**SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY**: The first report was given in July 1971 and Government notified the price on 1.10.71. As soon as it was notified, representations were received from the various manufacturers bringing out certain points. These were sent to the Bureau for