

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, September 1, 1972/Bhadra 10,
1894 (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 Major Harinder Singh, who passed away at Amritsar on the 31st August, 1972 at the age of 55. That has snatched away from us a very colourful and versatile personality.

Major Harinder Singh was a Member of the Central Legislative Assembly during the years 1946-47. He was my colleague for a number of years in the Punjab Congress and the Cabinet. Major Harinder Singh though came of an aristocratic family, was essentially a man of the masses. He was patriot and a nationalist to the core. Though he was a nominated Member of the Central Legislative Assembly, in the election to the office of the Speaker, he voted in favour of Shri Mavalankar and against the official candidate put up by the British Government. After Independence, he joined the Congress Party. He stood fast by progressive and nationalist forces and occupied high offices both in the Congress organisation and the Government. He was the President of the Amritsar District Congress Committee and member of the A.I.C.C. for many years. He was before the recent State election the leader of the Congress Legislature Party in Punjab and also Leader of the Opposition. Earlier, he was also Revenue and Rehabilitation Minister in Punjab during 1964-67. He stood firmly throughout his life against communal and reactionary forces in the State. He had an unflinching faith in the masses and always espoused the causes of the downtrodden and the

poor people. The void created by his death in Punjab will be very difficult to fill. He passed away so early and at the time when he was most needed.

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, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Mr Speaker, Sir, yet another of our old colleagues has passed away. I associate myself and the House with the sentiments you have expressed on the sad and untimely demise of Major Harinder Singh who was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1945-47. He did not come to this House after Independence, but was active in the political and public life of Punjab. He was Revenue Minister in Punjab from 1964 to 1967. Later, as the leader of the Congress Legislature Party, he was the Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly. I came to know him only in the last few years. Although a landowner and noted philanthropist, he appreciated that the times had changed and fully supported land reforms and other progressive measures. He had been ailing for over a year, but continued to take very keen interest in national affairs.

As you have pointed out, he was secular in outlook and anxious to make our society more rational and modern. When he met me some time ago he appeared to be in better health. So this news has come as a shock. We deeply mourn the death of Major Harinder Singh. I request you to convey our deep condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

SHRI DINEN BATTACHARYYA
(Serampur) : On behalf of our party I share

the sentiments expressed by you and the Prime Minister at the sudden demise of Major Harinder Singh and request you to convey our deep condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI S M BANERJEE (Kanpur) : On behalf of my group and on my own behalf I request you to convey our sincere condolences to the family members of Major Harinder Singh. You have said that he came from an aristocratic family but he was one of those who fought for the masses. This was an indication that his heart was with the masses. I request you once again to kindly convey our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI (Vellore) : On behalf of the DMK party I would like to share the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister and other Members of this House and request you to convey our deep condolences to the bereaved family.

श्री रामकंवर (दोंक) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी पार्टी, स्वतंत्र पार्टी की ओर से मेजर हरिन्द्र सिंह की जो दुखद मृत्यु हुई है उस के लिए शोक प्रकट करता हूँ। मैं उनके प्रति अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और अध्यक्ष महोदय प्रधान मंत्री तथा अन्य नेताओं द्वारा प्रकट की गई भावनाओं के साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। मेरी आप से प्रार्थना है कि हमारी समवेदना उनके शोक संतप्त परिवार तक पहुँचा दी जाय।

श्री राम रतन शर्मा (बांदा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, भारतीय जनसंघ की ओर से मैं मेजर हरिन्द्र सिंह की दुखद मृत्यु पर अपनी शोक समवेदना प्रकट करता हूँ और आप के माध्यम से मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि हमारी समवेदना उनके शोक संतप्त परिवार तक पहुँचा दी जाये।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I and my party join in paying tribute to the memory of Major Har de Singh.

MR. SPEAKER : As a mark of respect, we may stand in silence for a while.

The hon. Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Saving of Foreign Exchange in Sale of Crude Oil

*421. **SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has earned a gross amount of Rs. 10 crore. in foreign exchange in first six months of this year by the sale of crude oil from the offshore concession in Iran;

(b) if so, the break-up of this amount, country-wise; and

(c) what steps are being taken to earn more ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) :

(a) The gross sale proceeds of this crude oil for the first six months of 1972 have amounted to U.S. \$ 10 522 million (approx.), equivalent to Rs 7.66 crores.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose the details of these international commercial transactions.

(c) HIPL would continue to lift the full quantities available to it from the aggregate production of crude oil in this venture, as has been done in the first half of the year. Moreover, it is expected that more favourable prices will be obtainable in future.

11.08 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the recommendations made in the Malaviya Committee in regard to the Indian territorial waters and concessions secured abroad were examined and accepted by the Government and if accepted how many recommendations have been accepted by the Government ?

SHRI H.R. GOKHALE : The Malaviya committee report is yet under the examination of the Government and the Government have not reached any conclusions.