

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 18, 1973/Agrahayana  
27, 1895 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have to announce with great sorrow the said demise of Shri Muzaffar Ahmed at Calcutta this morning. He died at the age of 85.

As you know, he belonged to the old guard, was a great freedom fighter, a man who had dedicated his life to the cause of the downtrodden and uplift of the poor. He was the Secretary of the Communist Party of India and was highly respected by all the parties.

He was, as I said, a great freedom fighter and we can never forget his contribution to the cause of independence. Besides that, he was a great literary figure. He was the editor of *Navyug* and author of many books. He was the inspiration to many of our leaders and public men. In his death, we have lost one of the top leaders and a top public figure in this country.

On behalf of all of us, I extend our deep sympathies and sense of sorrow to the bereaved family. The House will join me in conveying our sense of sorrow, as I have mentioned, to his family.

We will rise as a mark of respect to his memory.

*The members then stood in silence for a short while*

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Consolidation of capacities by drug firms through C.O.B. Licences**

\*527. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether by the issue of C.O.B. licences to drug manufacturing units, the capacities already achieved by a particular unit have consolidated;

(b) if so, whether any care or check was exercised to see whether the capacity achieved was authorised or not; and

(c) whether by obtaining C.O.B. licences some of the firms secured undue advantage and have got regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Consolidation of capacity was granted to one drug manufacturing unit by including its production under the following categories:—

(i) Production in pursuance of 1966 industrial policy allowing diversification.

(ii) Permission/no objection letters issued to the party.

(iii) Production taken up by the party in pursuance of exemption granted to the industry in general under Notification of 27-5-1969.

(b) COB licence was issued on the recommendations of the Technical Advisers and with the approval of the Licensing Committee.

(c) No, Sir.