

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 30, 1974/Vaisakha 10,
1896 (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 Shri Bipin Behari Varma who passed away at Patna on the 28th April, 1974 at the age of 82.

Shri Varma was a Member of the Central Legislative Assembly from 1934 to 1939 and 1945 to 1947, of Provisional Parliament from 1950 to 1952 and of the First and Second Lok Sabha during the years 1952-62. Later, he was a Member of the Rajya Sabha during the year 1962-68. As an associate of Mahatma Gandhi, he suffered imprisonment for the freedom of the country. An agriculturist and a social worker, he took keen interest in the relief activities and Harijan uplift. He served on a number of organisations and local bodies of his 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 to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

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ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of River Boards under
River Boards Act, 1956

*894. SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO:
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND
POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any River Boards have
been established under the River
Boards Act, 1956; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION
AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT):

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO: The River Boards Act was passed in 1956 to provide for the River Boards and along with that, about 10 years ago, the Inter-State Water Disputes Act was also passed

Unfortunately, no State River Board could be created because of the reticence on the part of the State Governments. So far as the Constitution is concerned, the hon. Minister is well aware that, particularly the inter-State waters are the national property. Therefore, the Constitution specifically envisages that the subject of development and utilisation of inter-State waters comes within the purview of the Parliament and the Central Government. But the Government has not approached the problem from the national point of view. I would like to know whether the Government will take serious steps to make the State Governments feel the need of the Act which they have passed. Otherwise, do they want to keep a particular statute as a dead-letter?