

Portfolio of Siddhartha Shankar Ray

यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि जब हमारी राजनीतिक, आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिति संतोषजनक नहीं जा रही है, वे हमारे बीच नहीं रहे। वे हमारे बीच रहते तो हमें उन से कई तरह की प्रेरणा मिलती। स्वाधीनता संग्राम की अगली पीढ़ी के लोग एक एक करके हम से जुदा होते जा रहे हैं। डाक्टर सैयद महमूद को मुझे नजदीक से देखने और समझने का मौका मिला है वह मजरुलहक साहब के दामाद थे और उन्हीं के पद जिन्हों पर बराबर चलते रहे। उन दिनों में जब देश का विघटन साम्प्रदायिक आधार पर किया जा रहा था, वे उन मुस्लिम नेताओं में से थे जिन्होंने डट कर इसका विरोध किया और एकता की, मिल्लत की मशाल इस देश में बराबर जलाई।

मैं अपनी ओर से तथा अपने दल, सोशलिस्ट पार्टी की ओर से इन सब दिवंगत आत्माओं के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और उनके शोक संतप्त परिवारों के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : The House will stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

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

11.36 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTER AND STATEMENT RE. PORTFOLIO OF SHRI SIDDHARTHA SHANKAR RAY

MR. SPEAKER : Before I take up the questions the Prime Minister will introduce the new Minister, Professor Nurul Hasan to this House, and also make some statement about the portfolio of Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Sir, I have pleasure in introduc-

ing to you and, through you, to the House my new colleague professor Syed Nurul Hasan.

I have sought your Permission to make a very brief statement because in my statement made in this House on the 29th June, 1971 soon after the President took over the administration of the state of West Bengal, I had said that Shri Siddhartha Shanker Ray would look after the work relating to West Bengal and the problems created in that and some other states by the massive influx of refugees and would, in due course, shed his portfolios of Education, Social Welfare and the Department of Culture. It was felt at that time that the onerous demands of West Bengal and the problems of refugees would require the undivided attention of a Cabinet Minister. However, when the decision was reviewed in the light of actual experience, it was found that, in view of the marked general improvement in the situation in Bengal since this appointment, it would be possible for Shri Ray to look after this work in addition to his ministerial duties. The subsequent appointment of Professor Nurul Hasan as Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and in the Department of Culture, has given Shri Ray the assistance of a distinguished educationist. I have, therefore, decided that Shri Ray will continue to be in charge of his portfolios in addition to looking after the work relating to West Bengal and refugees.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : What the Prime Minister has stated is contradicting her own statement. On that I had given a privilege motion during the last session and because I was ill in the nursing home it was disposed of summarily. I shall raise the matter once again and shall point out to the House that the Prime Minister had deliberately misled the House

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order.

11.38 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Allotment of Ad Hoc Accommodation to Government Employees

\*1. SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWLA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :