

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, May 16, 1979 [Vaisakha
26, 1901 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Half past Ten
of the Clock ..

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri Venkatarao Tarodekar who passed away at Nanded on the 7th May, 1979 at the age of 54.

Shri Tarodekar was a Member of the Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1977 representing Nanded constituency of Maharashtra. Earlier he had been a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from 1962 to 1967.

Deeply interested in the cooperative movement, Shri Tarodekar was associated with several cooperative institutions in Maharashtra.

He served as President of the Indian National Trade Union Congress from 1959 to 1962.

He also worked ceaselessly for the uplift of Harijans and backward classes.

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.

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The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Supply of arms to Mizo and Naga Rebels

*1133A. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) is Government aware of the fact that China is still supplying arms to Mizoram and Nagaland rebels even after the visit of Minister of External Affairs;

(b) if yes, give the details thereof;

(c) is it a fact that a Soviet agency has also stated that arms and training is given to rebels of Mizoram and Nagaland by China even now; and

(d) if yes, what is the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) to (c). While Government have seen Indian and foreign press reports, Government are not aware of China having supplied arms to Naga or Mizo undergrounds in the recent past.

(d) does not arise.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: The hon. Minister for External Affairs visited China a few months back. I want to know from the Home Minister whether he had talks with the Chinese leaders about supplying of arms and training them, because China used to train them and supply arms to them.