

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Monday, April 3, 1989/Chaitra 13, 1911  
(Saka).

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*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

#### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have learnt with deep sorrow about the demise of one of our valiant and veteran freedom fighters and national leaders, Shri S.M. Joshi.

Shri Joshi was a Member of the Fourth Lok Sabha during 1967-70. Earlier, he was a Member of the Bombay Legislative Assembly during 1952-62. A true Gandhian and a committed socialist, Shri Joshi took active part in the freedom struggle and was imprisoned several times. Shri Joshi was a firm believer in value-based politics. A fearless crusader for social justice, he relentlessly championed the cause of the under-privileged and the downtrodden. He made a very significant contribution to the emergence of a healthy trade union movement in the country. He was the General-Secretary of the All India Defence Employees Federation, President of the State Bank Employees Association, Bombay Circle, and All India Federation of State Bank Employees for varying periods. During his early days, he worked as a Correspondent for the *Free Press Journal*. He was the Editor of an English Daily, *Poona Daily News*, for some time. He also edited a Marathi Daily "*Lok*

*Mitra*" published from Bombay.

Throughout his life, Shri Joshi remained a crusader for just causes. He was one of the architects of Samyukta Maharashtra Movement. Above all, Shri Joshi was an excellent human being. Shri Joshi passed away at Pune at the age of 84.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend. I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while in memory of the deceased.

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

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#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

#### Joint Committee for Advancement of Biotechnology

\*453. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are appointing any joint committee for better advancement of biotechnology centres in Indian universities; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS ON OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Government is not planning to set up any new Committee as the Department of Biotechnology has already set up a Committee jointly with University Grants Commission to coordinate, monitor and review the advanced Post-Graduate teaching programmes in Biotechnology in Indian Universities/institutions. This Committee reviews various aspects of Biotechnology Post-Graduate programmes including joint entrance examination, course curricula, industrial training for students during summer and interaction with potential employers.

**SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH:** In reply to my question, Government have said that the existing Joint Committee will do the needful at the university level for higher technology. My first question is what specific projects the Government have undertaken which will create a break-through and help us in a big way and in what way the universities are being linked with it?

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN:** Government have supported the various biotechnology projects in universities and other research institutions. There are 17 universities which are being supported by the Department of Biotechnology in a variety of fields. There are a large number of projects. I can read them out or send that to the hon. Member. The projects are in basic development by using biotechnology in agriculture, embryo transfer, methods for cattle herd improvement, things like sterilization of animals and also sterilization of human beings. Research is going on in some of our Institutes. All these projects are being supported financially as well as otherwise through supply of equipment etc., by the Department of Biotechnology. The U.G.C. is also involved in this.

**SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH:** From our experience we find that research at university level remains confined to universities only and it has no application. Therefore I

would like to know what are the universities that are getting assistance and how much of their research results has been put into application.

**SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN:** One of the major efforts of the Department of Bio Technology has been to bring about a linkage between university research institutions in bio-technology and industries. In fact we have taken several steps for inducing industries to cooperate with the research institutions and vice-versa. Some of the important results are in tissue culture which is being practised on a very large scale the manufacture of biological fertilisers which are originally invented by laboratories and that are being put into production today; biological pest control agents; production of hybrid seeds which are also being practised in a very large scale but originally evolved in our bio-technology laboratories. These are some of the examples in the field of cattle. In the animal field we have embryo transfer technology which was evolved in our laboratories and then transferred to the public and are being very widely practised today in India.

The development of vaccines is another important thing which has been productionised. We have very big schemes for the production of polio vaccines as well as vaccines for measles, rabies etc. for which we are setting up some very important major industries.

### Construction of 5-Star Hotels by Foreign Firms

\*454. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA†:**  
**SHRI SURESH KURUP:**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed foreign firms to set up five star hotels in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the companies and places where