

on the demise of two of our ex-colleagues. Shri Ramaseshaiah was not only a member of the First Lok Sabha but at the time of his death was a minister in the present Orissa Cabinet. As an industrialist also he had made some contribution to the industrial development of Orissa. We are very sorry that we have lost such a person. I express my condolences to the bereaved families and I hope that our condolences will be conveyed to them.

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

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

MAN'S LANDING ON THE MOON

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I take a minute from our immediate national problems to share with the House my feeling of great excitement and refer to a historic cosmic event which has taken place today ? Even though the reception on the radio was not too clear, I stayed up till early hours of the morning to get the news of the landing on the moon. We are now able to see our world in greater perspective and to discover new beauty in it.

On behalf of all Members of the House, I offer my warmest congratulations to Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin who have stepped on the moon and to Commander Collins and also to the remarkable team of technologists and thousands of their co-workers who are behind them.

This is surely the greatest and most daring of scientific feats. It is a proud moment for the people of the United States and indeed for all mankind.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : Except China.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The space travellers of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. have been heroes of our times, and

the young everywhere are inspired by their example. In this moment of achievement, our thoughts go out to the Government and the people of the United States and, specially, if I might say so, to the families of these courageous men. May we wish them a happy landing back home.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : May I suggest that the House gives a standing ovation to these brave men for their achievement ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The whole House joins and shares the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister, and we wish them safe landing back home. As suggested, let us give them a standing ovation for this achievement.

*The Members then stood up
and gave an ovation.*

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सुझाव है कि सदन
की ये भावनाएँ अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों तक और इसके
साथ साथ उनके परिवार वालों तक पहुँचा दी
जायें ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It will be done; that will be conveyed.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reduction in L.I.C. Premium Rates.

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*1 DR. SUSHILA NAYAR:
SHRI RANJEET SINGH:
SHRI RAMGOPAL SHALWALE:
SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN LAL:
SHRI A. SHREEDHARAN:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:
SHRI JAI SINGH:
SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee had recently suggested reduction in the premium rates charged by the life Insurance Corporation on life policies;