

Title: Reference made to the passing away of Shri Vinayak Prasad Yadav (Member of 6th Lok Sabha) and Shrimati Gayatri Devi (Member 7th Lok Sabha) on 7.01.2002 and 10.5.2002 respectively.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Vinayak Prasad Yadav and Shrimati Gayatri Devi.

Shri Vinayak Prasad Yadav was a Member of Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing Saharsa Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar.

Earlier, Shri Yadav was a Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly during 1967-68 and from 1972 to 1974. He was again elected to Bihar Legislative Assembly in 1985 and 1990. He served as convenor, Estimates Committee, Bihar Legislative Assembly during the years 1972-74. He also served as Minister in the State Government.

Shri Yadav was a Member of Committee on Estimates during 1978-79.

A freedom fighter, Shri Yadav actively participated in the Quit India Movement during 1942 and also suffered incarceration several times.

An advocate by profession, Shri Yadav was an active social and political worker. He worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the poor and downtrodden. A man with an academic bent of mind, Shri Yadav was instrumental in opening of several schools and colleges in his State.

Shri Vinayak Prasad Yadav passed away on 7th January, 2002 at Kaushalipatti, Bihar at the age of 74.

Shrimati Gayatri Devi was a Member of Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 representing Kairana Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Earlier, Shrimati Gayatri Devi was elected to Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1969 and again in 1974.

An able political worker, Shrimati Gayatri Devi was President of Arya Samaj, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh Women Association.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shrimati Gayatri Devi actively participated in freedom movement and also suffered incarceration in 1930.

An active social worker, Shrimati Gayatri Devi worked relentlessly for improvement of the status of rural women and ably assisted her husband, Late Choudhary Charan Singh, former Prime Minister of India, in various welfare measures. She frequently interacted with people and discussed their personal, social and other problems and sought to render them succour.

Shrimati Gayatri Devi passed away on 10th May, 2002 at New Delhi at the age of 97.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.05hrs.(The Members then stood in silence for a short while.)