

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 25, 1997/Phalgun 6, 1918 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

MEMBER SWORN

Shrimati Hedwig Michael Rego (Nominated Anglo-Indian)]

11.03 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House with a deep sense of sorrow of the passing away of one of our esteemed friends, Shri Sushil Bhattacharya.

Shri Sushil Bhattacharya was a member of Seventh Lok Sabha representing the Burdwan Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal during 1980-84.

A prominent trade unionist and social worker, Shri Bhattacharya always endeavoured to focus the problems faced by the working class. He visited Moscow as a delegate of All India Hospital Employees Federation in 1962.

During his parliamentary career, he actively participated in the proceedings of the House and made valuable contributions thereto.

Shri Sushil Bhattacharya passed away on 28 December, 1996 at Calcutta at the age of 75 years.

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

The House may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.04 hrs.

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.05 hrs.

Fertilizer Corporation of India units in Rajasthan

*41. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the

Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fertilizer Corporation of India at Jodhpur and its units at Sri Mohangarh, Kwas, Nagaur and Hanumangarh etc. in Rajasthan are running into losses for the last 5-6 years;

(b) If so, the action taken by the Government to make these units profitable and viable :

(c) whether some officers of these units are involved in malpractices and prima facie the same has been established against them;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against such officials; and

(e) whether the Government intend to close down these units to avoid recurring losses to the State ?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Jodhpur Mining Organisation (JMO) of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) which is located at Jodhpur is engaged in the mining of gypsum in Sri Mohangarh, Kwas and other areas in Rajasthan. Except for a marginal profit during 1991-92, Sri Mohangarh mines have incurred losses till 1995-96. The operations in the Kwas mines have been profitable since 1990-91. The loss making mines located in Hanumangarh and Nagaur were surrendered during the period from 1989 to 1994.

(b) The turnaround strategy to JMO is based on increasing its turnover and improving the operational efficiency.

(c) and (d) A preliminary enquiry has indicated a prima-facie case of procedural lapses in the contracts for the operation of Sri Mohangarh mines of FCI. The FCI management has decided to institute disciplinary proceedings against certain officials. Administrative action in regard to reallocation of the contract work has also been taken.

(e) There is no such proposal at this stage.

[English]

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have got the answer to my question where the hon. Minister has accepted. . .

[Translation]

SHRI SIS RAM OLA : Please speak in Hindi.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : I have prepared my points in English.