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Thursday, December 14, 1978
Agrahayana 23, 1900 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Sixth Session
(Sixth Lok Sabha)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, December 14, 1978/Agrahayana 23, 1900 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven o' the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Surya Narain Singh who passed away this morning at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, at the young age of 44 years.

Shri Surya Narain Singh was elected to this House from Sidhi constituency of Madhya Pradesh. He was a leading lawyer. He devoted himself to social welfare work and was specially interested in education of children.

He suffered detention under MISA during the Emergency.

He attended the House very regularly and was present in the House yesterday also.

He was taken ill early this morning and passed away soon after he was removed to the hospital.

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 PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): It is a very tragic occasion that a colleague who was only 44 years old, passed away this

morning as a result of a massive heart-attack at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. He was a flourishing advocate and had joined public life five years ago. He was detained under MISA and he had also fasted for 21 days in protest. He was a very enlightened person in many ways and he was doing great service in his constituency and also in this House. But life is uncertain: one never knows what will happen. That is the only moral one can draw from this.

We deeply mourn this tragic loss and I would request you, on behalf of myself and the whole House, to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has once again become my painful duty to rise for mourning the passing away of a colleague in this House I have got many friends on the other side with whom I have had intimate relationship and nodding acquaintance. This colleague was a person with whom I had nodding acquaintance and I have memories about his competence and the way he had been behaving in this House.

When we look at the House as a large stream representing the people, launched upon the great task of serving the nation, any event of any one of us giving way or falling is a pain, and a pain in the heart.

I am beholden to say that myself and my Party and all the Members on this side associate ourselves with the sentiments expressed by you and by the Leader of the House. Moments like this remind us of the impermanence of life and the transience of life

and that all the passions and all the bitterness at times settle down, reminding us that we are all a part of the great stream that goes on continuously. To that extent, may I convert my thoughts to that thought and invite the House to think of that?

I would once again associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and would request you to convey our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara) : Sir, it is a very sad occasion when we have, as Members of this House, to do our duty. Shri Surya Narain Singh was one of the important Members from Madhya Pradesh in this hon'ble House. He expired after a massive heart trouble and as the Prime Minister said he was a very flourishing lawyer. He was active in public life for quite some time and naturally his death would be a loss to his constituency, to his State, to his Party and to the country as a whole. This is a very sad occasion, particularly for his family and I think it is very right that we should associate ourselves with the sorrows of the members of the family of the deceased. I associate myself with the feelings of sorrow expressed by the Prime Minister and he has moved that the condolences of this House be conveyed to the members of his family. On behalf of myself and on behalf of my party I associate myself with this motion.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah) : Sir, I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you, the leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Chavan. No doubt it is a great tragedy that such a young and enthusiastic Member of the Parliament lost his life suddenly. I was told that he was also present yesterday in this House. When the news had reached us, I was really shocked. This is a very tragic happening over which we have no hold or control. Sir, I request you to

convey our sympathies and condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARAM-GAM (Chengalpattu) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really very sorry to know the sudden demise of the hon. Member, Shri Surya Narain Singh at the age of 44. The hon. Prime Minister has informed the House that his death was due to massive heart attack. Even though he belonged to a different party, I had occasions to be with him during the past 1½ years or so of his membership of this House. When I had occasions to stay with him for some days, he used to speak very softly and I never expected that a person like him would be detained under MISA during 1976-77. He used to speak very gently whereas I used to speak to him very loudly. For the past two years he was a Member of the Janata Party and prior to that he was a Member of Jana Sangh. He was holding so many posts in Jana Sangh and in Congress (O). He was a flourishing young lawyer. Apart from his political life, he used to teach children. On behalf of my party and on behalf of my own, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon'ble Speaker by the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, on behalf of myself and my party, share the shock and grief expressed in this House at the sudden demise of Shri Surya Narain Singh. He was a young man of 44, devoted very much to his work. Even yesterday, he had collected all the papers from the office saying that he wanted to make a thorough study of these things and this morning we hear the sad news that he is no more.

I, once again, express our grief and shock at this news and request the Leader of the House to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

श्री केशवराव घोड़ने (नांदेह) : अर्थक्ष महोदय, आज के इस गमगीन मौके

पर माननीय प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब और अपोजीशन के लीडर साहब ने जिन स्थालात का इज़हार किया है उन के साथ मैं सहमति व्यक्त करता हूँ और हमारे जो सभी चल वसे हैं उन के लिए श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR : (Gandhinagar) : Mr Speaker, Sir, misfortune has descended upon us suddenly and I do not know how to express our feelings. You and the hon. Prime Minister and other esteemed colleagues have already given expression to our shock and anguish. Sir, in this House as well as outside, we fight our battles on principles and issues, but when we come to fight the battle of death, we seem to be all helpless and we all get stunned. What now we want you to do is to express our sorrow and convey our condolences to the members of the bereaved family. I know how youthful and active the late Shri Surya Narain Singh was; apart from being active in this House, in a sense, but more active in his constituency and in the country for the ideals and principles which he held dear. We, therefore, mourn the passing away of our dear colleague and I hope this expression of our feelings will give some comfort to the members of the bereaved family.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : I join you and the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and other hon. Members in expressing my deep sense of sorrow and request you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI BALWNAT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Faridkot) : On behalf of the Akali Dal and on my own behalf I convey my condolences to the bereaved family of the departed Member, Shri Surya Narain Singh. He was a distinguished Member of this August House. He served his people and this country in his own way. I express my sympathy and, Sir, I request you to kindly convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW (Muvat-tupuzha) : Sir, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, I join the House in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family of the departed Member. It is really sad that such a young man had left us. I hope that the whole House will join me in expressing our grief to the bereaved family.

MR. SPEAKER : The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

MR. SPEAKER : As a mark of respect to the deceased, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

11.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, December 15, 1978/Agrahayana 24, 1900 (Saka).