

Title: The Speaker made references to the tragic demise of Mr. Lech Kaczynski, President of Poland, Madam Maria Kaczynska and other senior Polish officials in a plane crash on 10 April, 2010. She further made references to the passing away of Shri Shivsharn Verma, a member of the 7th, 9th and 10th Lok Sabhas; Shri P. Rajarethnam, a member of the 12th Lok Sabha; Smt. Sunderwati Nawal Prabhakar, a member of the 8th Lok Sabha. She also made reference to the death of 75 paramilitary personnel of CRPF and one state police official in maoist attack at Dantewada district in Chhattisgarh on 6 April, 2010 and death of 11 security personnel of the Special Operations Group in another naxal attack in Koraput district of Orissa on 4 April, 2010. Besides, she made reference to the death of 120 people caused by a tornado on 14 April, 2010 in the States of Assam, Bihar and West Bengal and also to another tragic incident in which 7 people died in a stampede and two others drowned at Haridwar on 14 April, 2010.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the House expresses its profound sadness over the tragic demise of Mr. Lech Kaczynski, President of Poland, Madam Maria Kaczynska and other senior Polish officials in a plane crash on 10 April, 2010. The House mourns the loss of an outstanding statesman who was personally committed to promoting good relations between Poland and India.

The House conveys sincere condolences to His Excellency, Mr. Bronislaw Komorowski, Marshal (Speaker) of the Sejm, who has assumed duties of the President, the Members of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland and to the people of Poland.

I have to also inform the House of the sad demise of three of our former colleagues, Shri Shivsharn Verma, Shri P. Rajarethnam and Shrimati Sunderwati Nawal Prabhakar.

Shri Shivsharn Verma was a member of the Seventh Lok Sabha from 1980 to 1984 and the Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabhas from 1989 to 1996 representing the Machhlishahr Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Verma was a member of the Railway Convention Committee during the Seventh Lok Sabha. He was a member of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals during the Ninth Lok Sabha and a member of the Committee on Communications during the Tenth Lok Sabha.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Verma worked for the welfare of the poor farmers and labourers and relentlessly struggled for their cause. Shri Verma played a proactive role in promoting education through the opening of schools in Pratapgarh and Allahabad.

Shri Shivsharn Verma passed away on 27 January, 2010 at Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 86.

Shri P. Rajarethnam was a member of the Twelfth Lok Sabha from 1998 to 1999, representing the Perambalur Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Rajarethnam served as a member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from 2001 to 2006.

Shri Rajarethnam was a member of the Committee on Communications, Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Industry during the Twelfth Lok Sabha.

A well-known social activist, Shri Rajarethnam worked for the welfare of the poor, downtrodden and the deprived sections of the society. He was a member of the Senate of Bharathidasan University during 1993 -1996.

Shri P. Rajarethnam passed away on 4 February, 2010 at Trichy, Tamil Nadu at the age of 49.

Shrimati Sunderwati Nawal Prabhakar was a member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989 representing the Karol Bagh Parliamentary Constituency of Delhi.

Shrimati Prabhakar served as a member of the Metropolitan Council, Delhi from 1972 to 1980 and 1982 to 1984.

Shrimati Prabhakar was a member of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions during the Eighth Lok Sabha.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shrimati Prabhakar actively participated in freedom movement of the country. She took part in the Quit India Movement of 1942.

A committed social and political worker, Shrimati Prabhakar served as the Director of the Delhi Scheduled Castes

Financial and Development Corporation Ltd. and as the Honorary Magistrate of the Children's Court, Delhi. She also served as a member of Social Welfare Board, Delhi and Managing Committee of the Shivaji College, Delhi. She was the Chief Patron, Yuva Ekta Manch, New Delhi.

Shrimati Prabhakar worked for the welfare of weaker sections of the society particularly the women. She was awarded a shield in 1965 in recognition of her outstanding work for the welfare of weaker sections and women. Shrimati Prabhakar was actively involved in mobilising contributions for Defence Fund.

Shrimati Sunderwati Nawal Prabhakar passed away on 24 March, 2010 at Delhi at the age of 88.

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.

Hon. Members, on 6 April, 2010, in the deadliest Maoist attack so far, 75 paramilitary personnel belonging to Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and one state police official were killed and seven others seriously injured when they were ambushed deep inside the forests of Dantewada district in Chhattisgarh. The Maoists used landmines and IEDs in this inhuman operation and also looted weapons from the deceased and injured paramilitary personnel.

Earlier, on 4 April, 2010, in another naxal attack, eleven security personnel of the Special Operations Group were killed in Koraput district of Orissa.

The House strongly condemns these dastardly attacks which are aimed at disturbing peace and creating chaos in the country.

Besides, in a day of tragedies on 14 April, 2010 reportedly around 120 people died as a tornado swept across the states of Assam, Bihar and West Bengal wreaking havoc. In yet another tragic incident around seven people are reported to have died in a stampede in Haridwar and two others drowned.

I am sure the House would join me in conveying our heart-felt condolences to the members of the families who became victims of the naxal attacks and the tragic incidents.

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

11.08 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.
