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Title: References regarding Quit India Movement and tragedy caused due to cloud burst in Leh, Jammu and Kashmir.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Memers, sixty-eight years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 1942, Mahatma Gandhi launched the 'Quit India' movement to liberate the nation from the shackles of colonialism and imperialism. He instilled in the long oppressed people of our country the hope of freedom his clarion call of 'do or die<sup>1</sup>.

The 'Quit India' movement shook the very foundation of the colonial rule in India and contributed immensely in achieving the cherished goal of freedom of our nation.

On this occasion, let us pay our respectful homage to the Father of the Nation and to all those martyrs who laid down their lives in the freedom struggle.

Hon. Members, in one of the deadliest rain inflicted natural calamities, the massive cloud burst in Leh led to torrential rains, flash floods and mudslides in the area. This natural disaster wreaked havoc resulting in death of 175 people with 1 missing and injuries to hundreds of others besides causing large scale devastation of property including damage to historic Gurudwara Pathar Sahib in Leh and surrounding areas. The House expresses its profound sorrow on the loss of lives and property due to this catastrophe.

The House may now stand in silence in the memory of our freedom fighters and the people who lost their lives in this natural calamity.

**11.02 hrs.**

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

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