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Title: The Speaker made reference to the passing away of Shri S. Benjamin, a member of the 9<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our former colleague, Shri S. Benjamin.

Shri S. Benjamin was a member of the Ninth Lok Sabha from 1989 to 1991, representing the Bapatla Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

Earlier, Shri Benjamin was a member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council from 1981 to 1985.

Shri Benjamin was a member of the Committee on Petitions and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Textiles during the Ninth Lok Sabha.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Benjamin participated in the Quit India Movement and courted imprisonment on a number of occasions. He served as a member of the Municipality, Chirala, Andhra Pradesh.

A sports enthusiast, Shri Benjamin won gold medals in Kabaddi and Javelin Throw in the Ninth All India Olympic Games held at Bombay in 1939-40.

An active Trade Unionist, Shri Benjamin strove for the upliftment of labourers and worked for the welfare of the needy, poor and the marginalized sections of the society.

Shri S. Benjamin passed away on 6 March, 2011 at Bapatla at the age of 84.

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

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

**11.02 hrs.**

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

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