

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 2, 1996/Agrahayana 11,
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Four Minutes Past
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members. I have to inform the House, with a deep sense of sorrow, of the passing away of one of our former colleagues Dr. M. Chenna Reddy. Dr. Reddy was a Member of the Provisional Parliament from 1950-52. He was also a Member of the Rajya Sabha. He also served as a Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals during 1967-68.

An agriculturist, Dr. Reddy was the founder of some of the youth organisations in 1930s and '40s. Dr. Reddy started his political career in 1950. He became a Member of the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly from 1951 to 1956 and the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1956 to 1962 and again from 1962-1967.

Dr. Reddy served as the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. A widely travelled person and a seasoned political worker, Dr. Reddy led the Indian Delegation to the World Conference of Agricultural held under the auspices of F.A.O. in 1953.

Dr. Reddy passed away today early in the morning.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to pay my heartfelt homage and to place on record the deep sense of loss felt by all of us at the passing away of Dr. M. Chenna Reddy, Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Reddy had a long and distinguished political career starting with the political struggle in the then Hyderabad State. He was actively involved in State politics since the 1950s and held various important portfolios such as Minister of Agriculture and Food, Planning and Rehabilitation in the then Hyderabad Government. Subsequently, he was Minister for Finance, Education and Commercial Taxes in the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Chenna Reddy became a Member of the Rajya Sabha in 1967 and held the important charge of the Union Minister for Steel and Mines in the Government of India during 1967-68. He was the Governor of Uttar Pradesh from 1974 to 1977 and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh from 1977 to 1980 and thereafter during 1989-90.

Dr. Chenna Reddy served the nation ably as the Governor of Punjab, the Governor of Rajasthan and the Governor of Tamil Nadu.

In the passing away of Dr. M. Chenna Reddy, the nation has lost one of its most able administrators and an experienced parliamentarian. It is indeed an irreparable loss.

I am sure all of you will join me today to place on record our homage to the late Dr. Chenna Reddy, and to pray to the Almighty that his near and dear ones are given the strength and forbearance to bear his loss.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANONAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a vacuum has been created in the nation's politics and administrative field, with the passing away of Shri Chenna Reddy. He served the nation in various ways. I came in contact with Shri Reddy when he was the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and the Vice Chancellor of our University. I was the general secretary of the Teachers Association. In this capacity I met him several times. His attitude and simplicity, when he was the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, would long be remembered there. He was Governor in various States and formed several institutions.

On behalf of my party and myself, I express my condolence at the passing away of Shri Reddy and pray to God to give peace to his soul and express my sympathy towards his family.

[English]

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY (Kurnool) : Sir, I met Dr. Chenna Reddy a few days back in a marriage. He was looking so healthy and I never thought that this would happen so suddenly. We all were shocked that he died of a heart attack. He was a freedom fighter. He fought for the freedom of Hyderabad people. He was jailed a number of times. He became a Minister at a very young age. He had a long chequered career. He was Chief Minister twice in Andhra Pradesh and he was a Minister here also. He was the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and now of Tamil Nadu and was in charge of Pondicherry and Goa also.

As a person, he had very strong views. He had strong likes and dislikes. Once he is a friend, he is a friend. He goes to any extent to be his friend. During his career as a Minister in the State, he had done so many things to the farmers. He was a farmer oriented Minister. Wherever he worked, he left his mark - whether at the Centre or at the State or as a Governor. He would be remembered for a long time to come as one of the ablest administrators that I had ever come across. As a friend he was one of the very good friends. As a politician, he was active in Centre and State politics for 50 years. He fought so many battles and won. He fought with dignity. He never beat anybody below the belt. It is difficult to come across such a man again. He fought for freedom. He was a freedom fighter. He was a good