

have an adverse effect on India's plans for agricultural advance, particularly in the Food Processing sector;

(b) whether such liberalisation will choke off our export avenues which is the major plank of our food processing plans;

(c) whether Government have developed alternative plans to meet the contingency; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) No, Sir. Liberalisation of Farms Trade by the OECD countries is expected to have a beneficial effect on export of agricultural products including processed agricultural products to these countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, it is with deep sense of sorrow that I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri K.S. Hegde, former Speaker of this august House from July 1977 to January 1980. Shri Hegde represented the Bangalore South constituency of the State of Karnataka. He was elected as Speaker, Lok Sabha, on 21st July, 1977. Earlier, he had been a member of Rajya Sabha from 1952 to 1957.

A distinguished jurist and erudite scholar, Shri Hegde was a judge of the High Court of Mysore from 1957 to 1966. He was the Chief Justice of Delhi and Himachal Pradesh High Court during 1966-67. He served as a judge of the Supreme Court of India during 1967-73.

Apart from adorning the high office of Speaker, he served on various Committees of both the Houses. He was also a member of Panel of Chairman in Rajya Sabha and was the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges of this House.

He was alternate delegate to the Ninth Session of the United Nations in 1954 and served on its Second Committee.

As a Speaker of this House, his observations and decisions have been of immense help to successive Speakers.

Shri Hegde passed away on 24 May 1990 at this native place in Karnataka at the age of 81.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): We share your sentiments regarding Shri K.S. Hegde.

He was a persons of great learning and great insight in the judicial system. He had acted as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and Himachal High Court. And by his writing and publications he has contributed to the understanding of the problems of the judicial system. As Speaker he has set traditions that will be the guiding path for times to come. And in him we have lost a persons of great learning, understanding and patriotism.

At this moment, we share the grief of his family and pray to God that they have the strength to face this tragedy.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): I asso-

ciate myself and our Party with what you yourself have said and what the Prime Minister has observed.

I had the good fortune of being his colleague in the Rajya Sabha and observed him to be a very good champion of agriculturists. Whenever questions were taken up in the House, I always found him as a very good supporter of mine. And he was a very good champion of the kisan movement. Like all patriots of his generation, he was a Congress man to start with and he proved to be a very effective Congress leader also of Karnataka. I am extremely sorry Sir that he has passed away. Myself and our Party join you in offering our condolences to his family.

[*Translation*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir. Today in the early morning hours when Shri K.S. Hegde's Son informed me over telephone that Shri Hegde had passed away last night while he was asleep. I felt a sense of deep sorrow and grief owing to many reasons. There are very few people who are so humble and whole-hearted in their social lives and at the same time they are totally committed to the principles that they have adopted in their lives and Shri K.S. Hegde was an ideal example of those principles. He was among those very few people who entered judiciary after having played an active role in politics, but he remained totally impartial while fulfilling his responsibilities as a Justice. He was among those who become a judge of the Supreme Court after having served in the Delhi High Court, and Himachal High Court. I came in his contact, for the first time when he submitted his resignation on the supersession issue. Since then I remained in contact with him and he was a senior leader and colleague of my party for the last ten years. In the event of any problem his counsel was very valuable to us.

Shri Ranga has just now mentioned that

was great champion of agriculturist. In 1981 or in 1982 when a powerful agitation against reservation took place in Gujarat, some workers of my party, also got influenced by it but later on when we had a serious discussion on this issue in Cochin it was Shri Hegde who impressed the prominent members of our party, the most. For years together Shri K. Sadanand Hedge has influenced us and said that we should take this matter in a light vein and if we start the process of reconsidering the little benefit that the Harijans and the inhabitants of the forests are going to get through reservation, it will be totally injurious and damaging to our society. I have mentioned this issue to project that in him I have found a wonderful blend of judicious, practical pragmatic and idealistic approach in all the matters. I fully associate myself with the feelings expressed by the Prime Minister, your goodself and Shri Rangaji of the opposition in paying my tribute to the departed soul.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party and myself, I fully associate with all that has been said about Shri K.S. Hegde and we express our deepest condolence on his passing away.

Personally, I have had the great privilege of knowing Shri Hegde, both as a Judge of the Supreme Court and then as an hon. Member of this House, and ultimately as a distinguished Speaker of this august House. What impressed everybody who came in contact with Shri Hegde was his deep and abiding faith in our Constitutional set up and in the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles enshrined in our Constitution. As a Judge of the Supreme Court, he delivered many outstanding judgements and is his judgement in KRAIPAK's case, he put the principles of natural justice on a very high pedestal and which has been considered as

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

one of the beacon lights in the branch of jurisprudence. As a Speaker, we have also had the privilege of knowing him as one of the most distinguished and fair Speakers who conducted the deliberations of this House with great appropriateness. No section of the House had then ever felt that there was any Member who was not allowed to have views expressed in the House. He treated everyone alike. I was then the Chairman of one of the Parliamentary Committees and on occasions I had opportunity to discuss matters with him and I found him helpful and constructive in his suggestions. I cannot forget those days. On behalf of my Party and myself, I again express our condolence and our sympathies to the members of his family.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, I associate myself and all the members of our Party with the observations already made by my previous speakers on the sad demise of Shri K.S. Hegde.

Sir, I did not have have the privilege personally to work with him, but I have heard from others about his ability as a Speaker coming from his juridical background into this world, which is very important in my opinion.

Another thing is, I heard that he was a person of great integrity. I believe also that in today's set up that is one of the things which we must remembers and emulate.

With these words I express my deep condolence and also convey that to his family.

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very great shock to know from you that our former Speaker, Shri K.S. Hegde is no more. Just now our Prime Minister, Prof. Ranga, Mr. Advani and my other colleagues said about him, how he rendered

his service not only in the judicial field, but also in political life. He upheld justice in juridical system, and in the same way he upheld justice in political life also. He headed this House in a crucial period in 1977 and also as an eminent Speaker, he handled the House very carefully and also he served in a good manner; as our Rangaji said, he raised a lot of questions in the Rajya Sabha and also in the Lok Sabha. He was a champion of agriculturists. Also, as a judicial man he rendered good justice. He is not more with us!

On behalf of my party AIADMK and myself, I offer our condolences through you to the bereaved family.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA (Bengaluru): Sir, on behalf of myself and my Group, I offer our condolences on the demise of Mr. Hegde. I share the views expressed here by my other colleagues and also I offer my deep condolences to the family of Shri Hegde.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you, the Prime Minister and other colleagues regarding the passing away of Shri Hegde, who was the former Speaker of Lok Sabha. I am deeply grieved at his demise. I must say that he was a person of high qualities of head and heart, of integrity and character. He had distinguished himself in the judicial field and he was not only a Judge of the High Courts of Karnataka and Delhi, but also became a Judge of the Supreme Courts later. He was the Speaker of this Lok Sabha in 1977 and I had the good fortune to be here in Lok Sabha at that time. He conducted the proceedings of the Lok Sabha in an admirable manner and maintained the dignity of this House.

We are very very sorry and I express my deep sorrow and condolence. On my behalf and on behalf of my party, the Muslim League,

I convey my condolence to the entire bereaved family and pray that his soul may rest in peace.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Speaker, on my behalf and on behalf of my Party, I fully associate myself with the feelings expressed by the hon. Prime Minister, you goodself, Prof. Rangaji and others.

Although I had the privilege of hearing late Shri Hegde as a leader of opinion, I had not had the privilege of knowing him as the Speaker of this House.

Sir, we keep discussing about the personalities who have held this high office in the Central Hall. What I heard about late Shri Hegde was that he was a very bold persons, when he functioned as a Judge and when he functioned as the Speaker, of this august House. I have heard that sometimes, the jurists and legal luminaries who were drawn to high offices work in very tight jackets. The other unique quality in Mr. Hegde that I have heard was that he was not very rigid on issues. He had a very great sense of accommodation and understanding and he brought credit to this high office. I pay my deepest condolences to the bereaved family.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Bijnor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister and some senior hon. Members have apprised the House of Shri Hegde's ability and gentleness, though not in great detail. I have neither heard him nor I ever had the opportunity to see him, but whatever little I know about him is based on the information provided by newspapers and periodicals.

On behalf of my party and myself I deeply mourn his demise.

[*English*]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Speaker, I join you, the Leader of the House

and other distinguished Members of this august House to pay my tribute to the memory of Shri K.S. Hegde, the former Speaker of this House. As you have mentioned, he was one of the luminaries of Indian judiciary. He functioned as Judge in different High Courts in our country and ultimately he was elevated to the position of the Judge of the Supreme Courts of India. He delved deep into the judicial system and he also wrote a book entitled 'The Crisis of Judiciary'. He was an able parliamentarian. As you have been kind enough to mention, he was a Member of the Rajya Sabha and a Member of this House and served many Parliamentary Committees, with his rare qualities.

Sir, I had the rare privilege to serve this House in 1977 under his able Speakership. I recollect some significant comments which fell from his lips, which was a great wisdom to the entire House. He also delivered very important rulings which constituted a landmark in the history of the parliamentary practices in our country. I deeply mourn his demise and express my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

MR. SPEAKER: We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure that the House will join me in conveying our heart-felt condolences to the bereaved family.

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: The House now stands adjourned to meet at 11 O' clock on Monday, the 28th May, 1990.

12.20 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 28, 1990/ Jyaishta 7, 1912 (Saka)