

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

*First day of the Eighth Session— Second Part, 1987, of Eighth Lok Sabha*

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### LOK SABHA

*Monday, July 27 1987/Sravana 5,  
1909 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Hardwari Lal (Rohtak)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, during the brief interval that has elapsed since we met last, the country suffered a grievous loss in the death of our former Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh, whom the people affectionately addressed as Chaudhary Sahib. It is also my sad duty to inform the House of the demise of ten of our former colleagues, namely, Sarvashri Banshi Das Dhanagar, Paidi Lakshmayya, Ganesh Sadashiv Altekar, R. Achuthan, Sardar Mangal Singh, Prof. Nibaran Chandra Das and Sarvashri P. Parthasarathy, Jawarka Das Mantri, Dhanna Singh Gulistan and Brijlal Verma.

Born in a poor peasant family, Shri Charan Singh had a long career devoted to the service of the country, particularly the rural poor. Chaudhary Sahib belonged to a generation which saw India fight for and win her freedom. He suffered imprisonment several times during the freedom

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movement and later when the country got rid of the foreign rule, he was called upon to help consolidate the fruits of freedom—a task which he tried to fulfil in the best Gandhian traditions all through his life.

Chaudhary Sahib started his political career when he was only in his twenties. Chaudhary Sahib was elected to the U.P. Legislative Assembly for the first time in 1937 and continued to be its Member till 1939. He was again elected to the State Assembly in 1946 and continued to be its member for the next 31 years, i.e. till 1977. Before he rose to the Office of Chief Minister in April, 1967, he functioned as a member of the State Council of Ministers holding important portfolios for over 16 years between 1951-67 except for a short period of 17 months. Prior to that, he served as Parliamentary Secretary in the State from 1946 to 1957. He functioned as Leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly during 1971-77.

Shri Charan Singh was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1977. He was the Union Minister of Home Affairs from March 26, 1977 to June 30, 1978 and was elevated as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in January, 1979. Finally, he was sworn in as Prime Minister on July 28, 1979 and held that office till January 14, 1980.

Chaudhary Sahib proved himself to be very able administrator in whatever capacity he functioned and left lasting impression of his straightforwardness and simplicity.

*Agrarian reforms and ameliorating the*