

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 2, 1972/Sraavana 11, 1894
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our friends, namely, Shri J. K. Choudhary and Dr. Dharam Prakash.

Shri J. K. Choudhary was a member of the Fourth Lok Sabha during the years 1967-70 representing Tripura West constituency of the then Union territory of Tripura. A very amiable person much liked and respected by his colleagues and very soft and gentle in his manners, he used to take active interest in educational matters. He had founded a number of educational institutions in Tripura and Cachar. He passed away at Bankura in West Bengal on the 6th July, 1972 at the age of 75.

Dr. Dharam Prakash was a Member of the Constituent Assembly and Provisional Parliament during the years 1946-52. Later he was a member of Rajya Sabha during 1958-68. He was a veteran freedom fighter and used to take active interest in the uplift of the Harijans and other backward classes. He was associated with a number of social and educational institutions. He passed away at New Delhi on the 31st July, 1972 at the age of 72.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER

OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : I shall like to associate myself and this House with the sentiments you have expressed on the sad demise of two former Members of this House. They were both familiar figures to us all and active in diverse fields of activity.

Shri J. K. Choudhary was with us in the Fourth Lok Sabha. At the young age of 14, he had joined the terrorist movement but later he came under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi and was active in our movement. He was a prominent educationist and served as Principal in several colleges in the eastern region of the country. He was deeply interested in social work and had founded a number of welfare institutions.

Shri Dharam Prakash was, as you have told us, a member of the Provisional Parliament and the Constituent Assembly. He was an ardent social worker and was actively associated with several organisations working for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and backward classes. He was also active in organising conferences of tribal people and of the Gujjars.

Both these members used to come to me bringing various problems and they continued their interest in what was happening in parliament, even though they had not been with us lately.

May I request you to convey our sincere sympathy and condolences to the members of the bereaved families ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Passing away of these two eminent sons of the country will bring shock and grief to all of us. Late Shri J. K. Choudhary was not only a freedom fighter and a good social worker but was also an eminent scholar and all the time struggled to further the cause of education. The other gentleman also, I hear, I did not know him personally—as eminent in his own field of social welfare and education. Passing away of both these members will bring grief to all of us. Sir, will you kindly convey on our behalf our condolences to the members of the bereaved families ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : It was a shock to me to hear of the sad demise of Shri J. K. Choudhary. I knew him here when he was a Member. He was the most sincere person and was very unassuming. We were all well acquainted with the social work which he had been doing for many many years both in Bengal and in Assam.

I wish to associate my Group with the sentiments which you and the Prime Minister have expressed on the sad demise of both Shri J. K. Choudhary and Dr. Dharam Prakash. I would request you, Sir, to convey our condolences and sincere sympathies of our Group to the members of the bereaved families.

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) : I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and others.

Shri J. K. Choudhary was an hon. Member here in the Fourth Lok Sabha and I had occasions to come across with him. Though unassuming in his character, he took an abiding interest in education and social welfare activities not only here but in other parts of the country. I associate myself once again with the sentiments expressed and request you to convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (गुवाियर) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपने दल की ओर से और अपनी ओर से श्री चौधरी और डा० धर्म प्रकाश के दुःखद देहावसान पर अपना शोक प्रकट करता हूँ। डा० धर्म प्रकाश से मेरे घनिष्ठ सम्बन्ध हैं। राज्य सभा में हमने साथ साथ काम किया। स्वतन्त्रता की लड़ाई के साथ साथ वे सामाजिक स्वाधीनता और समता के लिये निरन्तर संघर्ष करते रहे। हरिजन परिवार में जन्मे लेकिन प्रयत्न से, परिश्रम से उनकी गणना हमारे राष्ट्रीय नेताओं में होने लगी। जीवन के अन्तिम क्षणों में भी वे इस बात से बहुत दुःखी थे कि अभी तक परिणामित जातियों और जन-जातियों की समस्याओं को एक राष्ट्रीय समस्या मान कर उस को हल करने का कोई प्रभावी कदम नहीं उठाया गया है।

उन्होंने स्वयं मानव सेवा संघ के रूप में समाज का कल्याण करने वाली संस्था का निर्माण किया। अनेक भागों में उसकी शाखाएँ

खोलों और वे निरन्तर अपने दंग से समाज सेवा के व्रत का पालन करते रहते थे। उनके निधन से सचमुच हमारी बड़ी क्षति हुई है।

मैं दोनों दिवंगत आत्माओं के प्रति अपनी विनम्र श्रद्धान्जलि प्रकट करता हूँ।

श्री श्यामनन्दन मिश्र (बेपूसराय) : श्रीमन्, मैं अपने दल की ओर से इन दोनों दिवंगत आत्माओं के प्रति श्रद्धान्जलि अर्पित करता हूँ और उनके शोक संतप्त परिवार के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करता हूँ।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : I had the privilege to know Dr. J. K. Choudhary who was an eminent educationist and an honest and sincere public worker. He was in fact a reluctant entrant into politics. His patriotic spirit rebelled against slavery and that is why he entered into the Freedom Struggle. I express my deep condolences and also express my sympathy to the bereaved family.

Dr. Dharam Prakash was a known leader of the depressed community and he was fighting for their cause and upliftment and as already said by my friends, he wanted to serve those people not in a spirit of serving them only but to bring them into the community of the Indian nation as a whole with equal status. I also express my grief and associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my other friends.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH (Sidhi) : On behalf of the Group of Independents I would like to associate myself with the sentiments expressed on the floor of the House and request you to convey our Group's heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

MR. SPEAKER : The House may stand in silence for a shortwhile to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a shortwhile.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

श्रीबाबल साहू, राजस्थान में सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन

*42. **श्री बलराम दास :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ;