

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 18, 1975/Magha 29,
1896 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Member Sworn

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Jabalpur):

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our friends namely Shri Debendra Nath Mahata and Shri Ramesh Chandra Vyas.

Shri Debendra Nath Mahata was a sitting Member of this House from Purulia constituency of West Bengal. He was also a Member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly during the years 1950—56 and served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Chief Minister of Bihar. Thereafter he was Member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly during the years 1956—66 and 1969-70. An agriculturist, social worker, educationalist and a trade union leader, he served the people of West Bengal and Bihar in various capacities and fought relentlessly for their uplift. He was associated with a number of educational and other institutions and championed the cause of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes. He served as a Member of the Public Accounts Committee during 1971—73 and of the present Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House. He used to take keen interest in the debates on matters relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and spoke fearlessly. He suddenly passed away at Purulia yesterday afternoon at the age of 57.

Shri Ramesh Chandra Vyas was a Member of the Second and Fourth Lok Sabha during the years 1957—62 and 1967—70 representing Bhilwara constituency of Rajasthan. He was also Member of Rajya Sabha during the years 1962—67. A veteran freedom fighter, he suffered imprisonment during the freedom struggle on a number of occasions between 1932 and 1942 and went on hunger strike for 90 days in 1934. A journalist and social worker he was associated with a number of institutions connected with the welfare of the people of his State.

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.

We may stand in silence as a mark of respect to the Members.

The House then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Decline in Profit of I. O. C.

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1. SHRI VASANT SATHE:

SHRI DHAMANKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a considerable fall in the profit of the Indian Oil Corporation during 1973-74 on account of the huge fees paid to the foreign companies for refining of crude;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the fees paid and the quantum of oil refined and at what rates;

(c) whether the fees paid for refining of crude by the foreign com-