

(a) and (b). Government have no such information as mentioned in the latter portion of part (a) of the question.

केन्द्रीय सड़क निधि

6617. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या परिवहन तथा नौबहन मंत्रः यह वताने की कृति करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय सड़क निधि के समस्त विभिन्न राज्यों की 1965-66 तथा 1966-67 के लिये कितनी राशि नियत की गई थी ?

परिवहन तथा नौबहन मंत्राडय में उप-मंत्री (श्री भक्त वरुण) : प्रपेक्षित जा कारी देने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटलपर रखा दिया गया। [देखिये संख्या LT-786 68]

12 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

Assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King

THE PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure the House will join me in expressing our sense of deep shock and sorrow at the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King.

Poignant memories of Gandhiji's martyrdom come to mind. Once again, the fanatical and blind hands of an assassin have put an end to the life of an apostle of peace. The Rev. Martin Luther King drew his inspiration from Gandhiji. He followed him in life and has now followed him in death, sacrificing himself for a great cause.

In the United States itself, more than once a great man has thus fallen victim to a similar frenzy of violence and hatred, the evil forces which lurk

in the breast of man, darkening his mind and his search for higher truth. We are reminded of Abraham Lincoln and more recently of President Kennedy.

We feel not only anger but infinite sorrow that the bestiality of some should smother the common good.

The Rev. Martin Luther King was a great American—one of Mankind's finest product. We had feelings of special friendship and admiration for him. Like us, he fought against the degradation of man because of race. He was also a votary of non-violence which lies at the heart of the Indian tradition and was revived by the Father of the Nation as an instrument to bring about social and political change.

Violence, and racial or other forces of fanatical hatred are unworthy of the human race. Dr. Martin Luther King's tragic and untimely death is a grim reminder that these dark forces still exist and threaten the values which make life worth living, and even human survival.

Sir, those of us who had the pleasure of knowing him and of hearing his words, which were so eloquent with hope for man, will share a sense of deep personal loss. Our hearts go out to Mrs. King, to the people of the United States and to men of good will everywhere who will miss this great evangelist of the equality of man.

Sir, we pay respectful homage to his memory.

MR. SPEAKER: As a mark of respect to the memory of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, may I request the House to stand in silence for a short while?

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.