

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, November 9, 1970/Kartika
18, 1892 (SAKA)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

SHRI CHOW CHANDRET GOHAIN
(North East Frontier Tract)

SHRI A. C. GEORGE (Mukundapuram)

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA (Gurdas-
pur)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of seven our friends, namely Shri A. S. Saigal, Shri A. Doraiswami Gounder, Shri C. P. Mathew, Shri Bhawanji Arjan Khimji, Shri George Thomas Kottukapally, Shrimati Kamla Chaudhuri and Shri Naval Prabhakar.

Shri A. S. Saigal was a sitting Member of this House from Bilaspur constituency of Madhya Pradesh. He had also been a Member of First, Second and Third Lok Sabha during the years 1952-67. He served on a number of Parliamentary Committees, notably the Estimates Committee, the Committee on Government

Assurances and Joint Committee on Salaries, Allowances and other Amenities of Members of Parliament, and participated in Parliamentary Delegations to China and the USSR. Shri Saigal was one of the active Members of the House and used to make useful contributions in the proceedings of the House and the Committees. Shri Saigal had devoted his life for the uplift of Adivasis and he always supported the caused of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. He was so amiable, straight forward in his dealings and bore illwill to none. The House will miss his lively interventions and his all-round interest in the debates. He passed away at New Delhi on the 17th September, 1970, at the age of 67 after a brief illness.

Shri Doraiswami Gounder was a Member of the Second Lok Sabha during the years 1957-62. He passed away at Kallavi, District Salem, on the 17th September, 1970 at the age of 66.

Shri C. P. Mathew was a Member of the First Lok Sabha during the years 1952-57. He was a great educationist. He passed away at Alwaye, District Ernakulam, on the 24th September, 1970 at the age of 74.

Shri Bhawanji Arjan Khimji was a Member of the Constituent Assembly during the years 1946-50 and of the First and of the Second Lok Sabha during 1952-62. He was associated with a number of educational and medical aid trusts and associations. He passed away at Bombay on the 27th September, 1970 at the age of 68.

Shri George Thomas Kottukapally was a Member of the First and the Second Lok Sabha during the years 1953-62. He was an active parliamentarian and good speaker. He passed

away at Kottayam on the 11th October, 1970 at the age of 69.

Shrimati Kamala Chaudhuri was a Member of the Constituent Assembly and Provisional Parliament during the years 1946-52 and of the Third Lok Sabha during 1962-67. She used to take active part in the proceedings of the House. She championed the cause of education of women in rural areas. She passed away at Meerut on the 15th October, 1970 at the age of 62.

Shri Naval Prabhakar was a Member of the First, the Second and the Third Lok Sabha during the years 1952-67. He was a scholar in Hindi and did good work as a Member of the Parliamentary Committee to fix Hindi equivalents during 1955-57. He used to take active interest in the matters concerning Harijans and other backward classes. He passed away at New Delhi on the 28th October, 1970 at the age of 52.

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, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the inter-session period has taken a heavy toll of some of our former colleagues.

We have lost seven dedicated legislators. Shri Amar Singh Saigal was a familiar figure in this House ever since 1952, and one of its most active members. He was known for his gentle bearing and courtesy and his staunch devotion to the cause of the under-privileged, and a special champion of the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He was also deeply interested in the Scouting movement and Co-operation. Many members including myself counted him a personal friend.

Shri Doraiswamy Gounder was a social worker of long standing. Apart from devoting his talents to local self-government, he was interested also in ameliorating the conditions of leprosy sufferers.

Prof. C. P. Mathew was an educationist of repute. Students in three different States of the South remember him as a dedicated teacher. He represented India at UNESCO and the United Nations and made a mark through his able exposition of our point of view.

Shri Bhawanji Arjan Khimji was an old friend of my family and forms part of my earliest memories. He distinguished himself in many fields. He was a veteran freedom fighter who took a leading part in several Satyagraha movements. He was a leader of the business community in Bombay and was prominent in the Bombay Municipal Corporation as well as in the Bombay Legislature. He was the moving spirit of a large number of voluntary organisations in Bombay and was specially active and popular in Kutch. His organisational abilities came to the fore, particularly in the resettlement of displaced persons after partition and in the organisation of relief after the Kutch earthquake.

Shri George Thomas Kottukapally was prominent in the nationalist movement in Kerala and held important offices in the Pradesh Congress. Many industrial and social service organisations received guidance and leadership from him.

I knew Shrimati Kamala Chaudhuri closely for years. She was a political worker of dedication who braved many challenges. She gave her best to social causes, specially the education of women in the rural areas of U.P. She was an author whose works are well known in the Hindi area, and have been accepted by universities and colleges. Perhaps her friends will remember her best for the delightful light verse which she wrote on our leaders and colleagues.

Shri Naval Prabhakar was a Member of this House, from 1952 to 1967. He took part in our freedom struggle and was a prominent political figure of Delhi. He was greatly interested and active in uplift of Harijans.

I request you to communicate our grief to the bereaved families.

With your permission, Sir, I should like to add a few words about another sad death which has taken place. Once in a while a man is born who gives shape, content and expression to the suppressed longings of a people. The late President of the United Arab Republic, Gemal Abdul Nasser, was one such man—a patriot, the foremost figure of resurgent Arab nationalism and a great visionary inspired by the ideals of secular nationalism. He was a friend of our country, and symbolised the great traditions of shared ideals of Indian and Egyptian nationalism. It was therefore, natural, that there should be grief throughout our country when President Nasser passed away so suddenly and at so young age. His death is a loss to the people of the UAR and to the Arab world and to the freedom-loving people everywhere, especially in Africa and Asia.

Our Vice-President and the Minister of Industrial Development represented our country at his funeral. I myself had the opportunity to visit Cairo and to convey our sympathy personally to Madame Nasser and her children, and also to President Anwar Sadat and his colleagues, who have been close comrades of President Nasser and are pledged to continue his enlightened policies.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : It is shocking that Shri Saigal, who was a sitting Member of the Fourth Lok Sabha and six former Members of Parliament, Shri A. Doraiswami Gounder, Shri C. P. Mathew, Shri Bhawanji Arjan Khimji, Shri George Thomas Kottukapally, Shrimati Kamala Chaudhuri and Shri Naval Prabhakar, have passed away. All of them were active public workers, and their death will create a void in the public life of this country, and anybody who knew them will feel grieved, and more so the Opposition, because they took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and they were very genial in their behaviour. I would, therefore, request you, on behalf of the Opposition, to convey our deep sense of sorrow and grief to the members of their families.

It is also shocking that President Nasser of the UAR passed away suddenly. It would have been better had the Head of our State

gone and attended his funeral, but that did not happen. Mr. Nasser was an architect of non-alignment, and he was one of the best friends of India. I should say he was the friend of India. I think that will be a correct approach. He was also the architect of Arab unity and whenever he took up any matter in his hands, he saw to it that that matter was completed. We can never forget the role Mr. Nasser played in the Colombo Conference and prior to that also whenever any need arose to help this country. Therefore, on behalf of the Opposition I would request you to convey our condolences to Madame Nasser and also to the people of the UAR.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : We of the Swatantra Group in the House associate ourselves with what has been said by you about so many of our colleagues in this House who have passed away quite unfortunately. I was specially attached to Sardar Amar Singh Saigal. As he was popular and friendly with every one else, he was also friendly with me. We had also the honour of being in the same jail in Vellore during our freedom struggle. He was always a cheerful man, highly religious and exceptionally scrupulous in his parliamentary activities in his public life and in his friendship with so many of us. He was a devotee of that great Swamy, Radhaswamy, and he tried to live up to his preaching and ideals.

As you have said, he was a great champion of the backward classes, Harijans and other suppressed people in our country. There was never an occasion when their interests were involved when we did not find him rising in his seat seeking the permission of the Speaker to put in a word of support for their cause. Therefore, it is a personal loss to me, as it must be a personal loss to a large number of our hon. Members today.

Those were all our parliamentarians. We also mourn the death of Gen. Nasser who was not a parliamentarian here but who was a leader of his country. He made great contribution for the development of his country. Although there was not so much of democracy as we know of it, yet he proved to be popular and helped his people to achieve prestige in the western part of Asia. He was our friend and

we appreciate his friendship. We mourn his loss.

श्री अटल बिहारी बाजपेयी (बलरामपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे लिये यह विश्वास करना कठिन है कि सरदार अमर सिंह सहगल हमारे बीच में नहीं हैं। कल तक वह हमारे साथी थे। अपने मधुर स्वभाव से और राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर व्यक्ति के साथ रचनात्मक सम्बन्ध स्थापित करने में जो उनका गहरा विश्वास था उसके कारण उन्हें बड़ा लोकप्रिय बना दिया था। जब कभी मुझे उनके चुनाव क्षेत्र में जाने का मौका मिला, दलबन्दी की भावना भूल कर, यह जानते हुये भी कि मैं उनके विरोध के लिये आया हूँ, वह मिलने के लिए आते थे, घर पर आमन्त्रित करते थे। जिस तरह की राजनीति हमारे देश में चल रही है और जिस तरह का विकृतरूप लेती जा रही है शायद सरदार अमर सिंह सहगल उसके अपवाद थे। हमें ऐसे और अधिक लोगों की आवश्यकता है जो दलबन्दी की कटुता को दूर रख कर भाईचारे के आधार पर व्यवहार कर सकें।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर सदन के सदस्य तो नहीं थे लेकिन उनकी मृत्यु इतनी आकस्मिक हुई कि एक क्षण के लिये स्तम्भित रह जाना पड़ा। उमर भी अधिक नहीं थी। लम्बी बीमारी की भी खबर नहीं मिली। शायद हृदय की गति रुक जाने से वह हमारे बीच से उठ गये। और भी जो हमारे पुराने साथी हमें छोड़कर अनन्त में विलीन हो गये हैं उनके दारुण निधन पर हम अपना दुःख प्रकट करते हैं और उनके प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते हैं।

राष्ट्रपति नासर के रूप में एक महान विश्व नेता हमारे बीच में से उठ गया है। एक प्राचीन देश को नवीनरूप देने में उन्होंने जो ऐतिहासिक कार्य किया, वह स्वर्णाक्षरों में लिखा जाएगा। शताब्दियों से पीड़ित, उपेक्षित,

पददलित अफ्रीका को उन्होंने एक व्यक्तित्व प्रदान किया। वह मुक्ति के मंत्रदाता के रूप में खड़े रहे। अपने देश के पिछड़ेपन से संघर्ष करके उन्होंने एक आधुनिक राष्ट्र की रचना करने का यत्न किया। उन्हें इस्लाम को राजघर्म बनाना पड़ा, लेकिन उन्होंने अपने राष्ट्र की अखिल-इस्लामवाद के घातक आन्दोलन से अलग रखा। कई प्रकार के दबावों के बीच भी वह एक स्वतन्त्र विदेश-नीति पर चलने का प्रयत्न करते रहे। भारत के साथ उनके मित्रतापूर्ण सम्बन्ध थे। हम जानते हैं कि अगर उनकी चलती, तो कोलम्बो-प्रस्तावों का रूप कुछ और ही होता। अपने पड़ोसियों के साथ हमारे संघर्ष में वह इच्छा होते हुये भी हमारी अधिक मदद नहीं कर सके। उनके निधन से निश्चय ही सारे विश्व की क्षति हुई है और हम मिश्र की जनता और उसके नेताओं के साथ उनके इस दुःख में सहभागी हैं।

मैं अपनी ओर से और अपने दल की ओर से इन सभी महानुभावों के निधन पर अपना शोक प्रकट करता हूँ और परमात्मा से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह उनकी आत्मा को सद्गति प्रदान करें।

SHRI KRISHNAMOORTHY (Cuddalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been sorry to learn that Sardar Amar Singh Saigal, a sitting Member of the Lok Sabha, and a good friend of all the parties—he was a Member from Bilaspur is dead. His service for the downtrodden, especially to the Scheduled Castes, is well known to all of us. So also, Mr. Doraiswami Gounder from the erstwhile Madras State. His association with our party movement for about 50 years—for the Dravidian movement—and there after his election as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and to the Lok Sabha, and his service to the people—to the poor and the downtrodden people—cannot be forgotten.

As far as Gamel Abdul Nasser is concerned, I wish to point out that he was not only a friend of India but also of so many other nations including Indonesia. But all the nations which

have received support from India have not come forward when we were in danger, when Pakistan attacked us. He was the only leader from the Arab nations who condemned the invasion by Pakistan. He was a good friend of the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in forming a neutral block among the nations. He shared all our views along with President Tito, Soekarno and others.

Nasser was a problem for the big powers. When he wanted to nationalise the Suez Canal, he had tremendous opposition from all the big powers, but he withstood all the opposition and nationalised it. He helped the Arab nations to get united. Even though he lost the war—he could not succeed—with Israel, yet, we could imagine how popular he was in the Arab countries. He was their leader, and he was their biggest leader, in spite of the defeat in the Israel war.

On behalf of the DMK group, I express our sentiments to Nasser's family.

With these words, I resume my seat.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North East): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my party, I associate myself with the sentiments of grief that have already been expressed in this House at the passing away of seven of our colleagues as well as President Nasser of the United Arab Republic.

It is a personal shock to all of us that we shall no longer see in this House Shri Saigal, so full of fun and vitality and it is rather difficult to conceive of death having over taken a person of that sort. I feel also in regard to the death of Shri Naval Prabhakar, whom I had known for 15 years, death came to him so early that it should never have done. I miss so many of our other friends, particularly Prof. Mathew, who was one of the more remarkable members of the First Lok Sabha, a distinguished academician some what aloof from the triviality of day-to-day politics, but deeply interested in public life in the best sense of the term. I miss also Shri George Thomas Kottukapally. I cannot help recalling the report which I had read in the papers that Shri George Thomas Kottukapally was actually addressing a meeting of condolence on the occasion of the death of

Prof. Mathew and just after he had finished his speech, he collapsed and after a while he passed away—something symbolic in the manner of the death of this friend of ours.

In regard to President Nasser, I am glad our Parliament is performing the duty of recording its appreciation of the life of a great man who has passed into history. He was the leader of the resurgent Arab world. He was the leader in the fight against imperialism in an area which the imperialists of several generations have looked upon as strategically the most important in the globe. He had to encounter difficulties of a sort which would have beaten down the most formidable patriots and freedom fighters, but he over came all odds. That job which he did with tremendous courage—the nationalisation of the Suez Canal at a point of time when other people thought that it would be much too fool hardy an operation—shows what courage and character could achieve even in the face of the most tremendous odds. He was possibly the greatest Arab in modern times, a great friend of India, a great friend of freedom and a great friend of social revolution. And, that is why I am glad our Parliament is using this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of a man whose life had come to such an untimely end. But as I said, he has passed into history and his name would be remembered for all time.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Kasargod): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my group, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by our friends here. I would like to mention specially the names of Shri Saigal, Prof. C. P. Mathew and Shri George Thomas Kottukapally, among the names here, because I have had personal contacts with them. As far as Shri Saigal is concerned, nobody can forget him because he was so jovial and moving with everybody. I request you, Sir, on behalf of our group, to convey our condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

President Nasser was the outstanding leader of the Arab people. He played a very important role in uniting the Arab people in the fight against imperialism. The nationalisation of the Suez Canal brought him fame. He was so bold to face the consequences of the nationalisation of the Suez Canal. To the last

he fought against the machinations of imperialism and he was so able that he could unite the whole Arab world against Israel. On behalf of my party and myself I pay homage to that great leader.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself and my party with the sentiments expressed by you and other friends in the House on the passing away of several of our friends and President Nasser.

When Shri Saigal was brought to the hospital after a mild heart attack I was in the hospital. On the second day the doctors said that probably the next 24 hours would decide his fate. When he tided over that period of crisis it was hoped that ultimately he would be cured. We are all shocked to hear that that very mild heart attack ultimately led to his death. I need not say more than what our friends have said about him. He was an amiable, sociable and religious-minded person. Probably very few of us in this House can be equal to his devotion and dedication to the faith of Mehr Bapa and he was trying to persuade almost every Member to join that group.

About other friends I need not say anything more. But while we appreciate that we are paying tributes to Gen. Nasser the great leader, I would hope that this country, this Government would also follow, emulate and draw lessons from Gen. Nasser, especially the courage and determination that he has shown not only for the uplift of the whole Arab nation but also for facing the imperialists whenever he had occasion to come to clash with them. The nationalisation of the Suez Canal, which will remain in history, is a shining example for any Government if they really want to fight the imperialists, especially the manner in which he did it and the courage he has shown when the occasion arose.

Sir, I hope you will convey our condolences to the members of the bereaved families of these friends and also to the people of the Arab Republic.

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री अमर सिंह सहगल हमारे

बीच में नहीं हैं, मैं उन्हें निजी तौर से जानता था, वे सचमुच मित्रता और मानवता के प्रतीक थे। श्री नवल प्रभाकर को भी मैं निजी तौर से जानता था। इतनी कम उम्र में उनका निधन सचमुच हम सभी लोगों के लिये शोक का विषय है। जहाँ तक अन्य साथियों का प्रश्न है उनकी मृत्यु पर भी मुझे और मेरे दल का हार्दिक शोक है।

राष्ट्रपति नासिर अफ़ोका में नवनिर्माण और नवजाग्रति के प्रतीक थे। अगर उनके रास्ते पर उनके उत्तराधिकारी लोग और एशिया-अफ़ोका के लोग चलेंगे तो शायद विश्व में नये निर्माण की तरफ हम आगे बढ़ते जाएंगे। जैसा अभी द्विवेदी जी ने कहा—श्री नासिर अपने एक काम के लिये सदैव ही याद किये जाएंगे और वह काम था—स्वेज कैनल का राष्ट्रीयकरण। उस समय उन्होंने जितना साहस दिखाया, साम्राज्यवाद के खिलाफ जिस मजबूती के साथ और बहादुरी के साथ खड़े रहे, उनकी हिम्मत और बहादुरी की आज हम सबको ज़रूरत है और हम समझते हैं कि उस हिम्मत और बहादुरी की अगर हम नकल करें तो वही सबसे बड़ी श्रद्धांजलि उनके प्रति होगी। इसी लिये मैं इन शब्दों के साथ नेता सदन, नेता विरोधी दल और दूसरे अन्य सदस्य जो बोले हैं, उनकी भावनाओं के साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ और उन अनन्त आत्माओं के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री (हापुड़) : अध्यक्ष जी, लोक सभा का शायद ही कोई बिरला ऐसा अधिवेशन जाता हो जब हम अपने दिवंगत साथियों के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित न करते हों। इससे लगता है कि समय का रथ बढ़ी तेजी से भाग रहा है, पर कुछ हमारे साथी इस प्रकार के थे, जिनके सम्बन्ध में सहसा यह कल्पना नहीं होती कि वे इतनी जल्दी हमसे बिछड़ जाएंगे। श्री सहगल की विनोदप्रियता को ध्यान में रख कर कभी इतनी आसानी से

कल्पना नहीं होती थी कि वह इतनी जल्दी हम सब का साथ छोड़ देंगे। श्री अमर सिंह सहगल ने जिस तरह से अपना राजनीतिक जीवन प्रारम्भ किया और संसद के दूसरे सदस्यों के सम्पर्क में आये, उससे यह प्रतीत होता था कि वह किसी दल विशेष के नहीं हैं, अपितु सबके हैं। राजनीति में रहकर भी उन्होंने अपनी अध्यात्म भावनाओं को सदा आगे रखा और जैसा हमारे मित्र द्विवेदी जी ने उल्लेख किया—मेहर बाबा के वह बड़े प्रशंसक थे और उनके सिद्धान्तों के बड़े अच्छे प्रचारक भी थे।

हमारी इसी संसद की तीसरी लोक सभा की सदस्या—श्रीमती कमला चौधरी—समाज सेवा के क्षेत्र में उन दिनों आई जब हमारे देश में महिलाएं अपने घरों से बहुत कम बाहर निकलती थीं। वह हिन्दी के बहुत अच्छी कवियित्री थीं, एक दो बार सदन में उन्होंने अपना भाषण कविता में ही दिया। राजनीति में रहते हुये भी राजनीतिक सिद्धान्तों के मापदण्डों की उन्होंने बराबर रक्षा की।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर दिल्ली और दिल्ली के समाज-सेवा क्षेत्रों के बहुत निकट सम्पर्क में थे। मैं अपने इन सभी साथियों को अपनी ओर से और अपने दल की ओर से श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

जहां तक राष्ट्रपति नासिर का सम्बन्ध है, पश्चिमी एशिया का संकट आज जब घीरे-घीरे समाधान की राह खोज रहा है, ऐसे समय में राष्ट्रपति नासिर का निघन निश्चित रूप से विश्व शान्ति के लिए एक बहुत दुःखद घटना है। अरब जगत में उनके निघन से एक ऐसा अभाव हो गया है जो आसानी से पूरा नहीं किया जा सकता। मैं राष्ट्रपति नासिर के लिए भी अपनी ओर से तथा अपने दल की ओर से हादिक श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT
(Kozhikode): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of

my group, the Muslim League, I join you, the Prime Minister and all my respected colleagues who expressed grief and sorrow on the passing away of so many of our parliamentarians.

As far as Shri Saigal is concerned, he was a sitting Member of this House. He was an endearing personality and a person of great qualities of head and heart. His passing away is really a great loss to this House and the entire country.

As far as other parliamentarians are concerned, I personally know Professor Mathew and Shri George Kottukapally. Both these gentlemen had served the State and the country in the best possible manner.

Coming to the sad demise and the sudden passing away of President Nasser, it is a great loss not only to the Arab and Muslim world but to the world that believes in peace and progress. His was a dynamic personality who brought Egypt on the map of the world in a big way and resisted all the pressures from great powers like the USSR and the USA. He made even these big powers respect the sovereignty and greatness of Egypt.

He was really great in his life and was great in his death also because he died while serving humanity and trying to bring about peace and rapprochement between King Hussein and the leader of the Al Fatah Mujahids, Yasser Arafat.

I would say that his loss is an irreparable loss. Such people are not born always. We convey our sympathy to all the people of Egypt and pray that God may bless them with a substitute leader who may carry them to peace and progress in future. His passing away at such a juncture, when even today Egypt is facing aggression from colonial and fascist forces, is a really a great and sad tragedy. I shall conclude by quoting a couplet of Dr. Iqbal:—

“हजारों साल नरगिस
अपनी बेनूरी पे रोती है,
बड़ी मुश्किल से होता है
चमन में रीदावर पैदा।”

”हजारوں سال نرگس اپنی بے نوری سے
روتی ہے—

”تی مشکل سے ہوتا ہے چمن میں
دیدور پید—“

Such was the personality of President Nasser.
And we mourn his death.

श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद (बलिया) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपने सात साथियों के दुखद निधन पर अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ विशेष कर श्री अमर सिंह सहगल के प्रति। अमर सिंह सहगल जी का हमारे बलिया से विशेष सम्बन्ध था कारण उनका परिवार बलिया से सम्बन्धित था। उनके पिता हमारे बलिया के मूल निवासियों में से थे। वह बिलासपुर वकालत आदि करने के लिए चले गये थे जहाँ पर श्री अमर सिंह सहगल का जन्म हुआ।

श्री अमर सिंह सहगल जीवन पर्यन्त पिछड़े वर्गों और गरीब लोगों के लिए संघर्ष करते रहे और उन्होंने अपने को गरीबों, शोषितों और पिछड़े लोगों की सेवा में लगा दिया। लेकिन समझ में नहीं आता है कि विघाता का क्या विधान है कि जो गरीबों की सहायता करते हैं उनके लिए अपना जीवन लगा देते हैं वह इस तरह से चले जाते रहे हैं। जैसा मैंने कहा बलिया जो कि आमतौर से उपेक्षित जिला रहा है उसके विकास के लिए वह बराबर संघर्ष करते रहे और उनकी इस दुखद व आकस्मिक मृत्यु के कारण हमारे जिले की अपार हानि हुई है। मैं अपने जिले व स्वयं अपनी ओर से दिवंगत आत्मा के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

MR. SPEAKER : As a mark of respect to our departed friends and also to President Nasser, the House may stand in silence for a short while.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Permission to reproduce extracts from
Henderson-Brook's report on
N. E. F. A. reverses

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*1. SHRI NATH PAI :

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE :

SHRI HEM BARUA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. Neville Maxwell, a journalist and writer of the book entitled "India's China War" obtained permission to reproduce extracts from the Henderson-Brook's report on N. E. F. A. reverses ; and

(b) if not, what action has been taken against the author for publication of these extracts ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : (a) and (b). The author did not approach the Government for permission to reproduce extracts from the Henderson Brooks Report, nor was any such permission given. The question of taking action against the author/printer and publisher is under examination.

SHRI NATH PAI : Sir, I hope, you will regard this question with the new importance which it deserves. It cannot be dismissed by a cryptic reply that the Government did not supply documents to Mr. Neville Maxwell. This book on which the question is based is a patently partisan and a highly prejudiced book and which none-the-less, makes a very interesting reading. The Hon. Minister just now stated that no documents were supplied to the author. I would like to contradict the statement by quoting the author himself. On p. 13 of the book, he says :

"I have drawn all material from unpublished files and records of the Government of India and the Indian Army. I was given access to these by officials and officers