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LOK SABHA

Thursday, August 3, 1967/Sravana 12, 1889 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Pramathanath Banerjee, who passed away at Contai on the 1st August, 1967 at the age of 81.

Shri Banerjee was a Member of the Second Lok Sabha during the years 1957-62.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

प्रस्पृश्यता

*1557. श्वी कंवर लाल पुप्तः क्या समाज कल्याण मन्द्री यह बताने की क्रुपा करेंके कि :

(क.) क्या सरकार को एसी कोई शिका-यतें प्राप्त हुई हैं कि देश के कुछ भागों में लोग सभी भी छुमाछुत मानते हैं; भौर

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐंसे लोगों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulreuu Guha): (a) Yes, Sir. (b) Complaints are investigated in accordance with the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त ः हरिजनोद्धार के काम में पिछले बीस सालों में जितनी प्रोग्नेस होनी चाहिये थी उतनी नहीं हई है । भाज भी सोशल इकोनोमिक और पोलिटिकल प्राब-लैम उनके सामने हैं। ग्रभी तक कालेज एजु-केशन भी उनकी फी नहीं हो पाई है। मकानों की समस्या उनके सामने है। मैं जानना चाहता हं कि यह जो प्राबलैंम हैं इसका कोई एसेसमेंट झापने किया है ताकि हरिजनों का जो एक बहत बडा हिस्सा हमारे देश में है, हमारे देश की माबादी का एक बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा जो है यह कुछ मागे बढ सके, तरक्की कर सके । मैं जानना चाहता हं कि भापने कोई एसेसमेंट किया है भौर क्या भाषने भगले तीन चार सालों में इन प्राबलम्ब को साल्व करने के लिए कोई प्रोग्राम बनाया है ?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): As far as the general improvement in the condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned, a certain amount of progress has been made. Further efforts are being made to ameliorate their conditions. These two constitute about 20 per cent of our population and our ability to help them in a massive manner ultimately depends upon the surpluses the economy is able to create and provide for this purpose. Within the limited resources at our disposal now, all that is sought to he can be attempted done. It is very difficult for me to say beyond what we have already indicated in the Draft Outline as to what will be done for them. I think

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