

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 20, 1991/Sravana 29,
1913 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]
OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri Digvijay Narain Singh.

Shri Digvijay Narain Singh had a long parliamentary career having served this House from First to Sixth Lok Sabha during 1952—79. He represented five different constituencies of the State of Bihar.

An agriculturist and a political worker, Shri Singh was an able and active parliamentarian. He took keen interest in the proceedings of the House particularly relating to foreign affairs and defence.

A widely travelled person, Shri Digvijay Narain Singh was a Member of the Parliamentary Delegations to the USSR and Yugoslavia in 1955 and also a Member of the Indian Delegation to the United Nations Organisation in 1956.

Shri Digvijay Narain Singh passed away at Patna on 2nd August, 1991 at the age of 67 years.

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 now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Increase in Air Fares

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*487. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA
MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to increase the air fares has been worked out by the Air India and the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when the revised fares will be applicable; and

(c) the likely impact of the increase on the tourism industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): (a) to (c) Air India and Indian Airlines have worked out various options for meeting the impact of the increase in the price of Aviation Turbine Fuel and exchange rate adjustments, one of which is the revision of fares. No decision has so far been taken in this matter.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the Gulf surcharge is still being charged and only 12 out of the 18 A-320s aircraft are in operation as per the Indian Airlines' spokesman's report of 9th August. This loss is being incurred on account of the inefficiency of the Indian Airlines and also to tax the air passengers. It is not fair. Is the Ministry of Civil Aviation approaching the Government to restore the discount of 30 per cent on air fuel which is reduced to 15 per cent now?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): No, Sir. *(Interruptions)*