

LOK SABHA DEBATES

First Day of the 5th Session of the Fourth Lok Sabha

2

Vol. XVIII]

[No. 1

LOK SABHA

Monday, July 22, 1968 | Asadha 31,
1890 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

Shrimati Ila Pal Choudhuri (Krishnanagar-West Bengal).

Shri Dharnidhar Basumatary (Kokrajhar-Assam)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of three of our friends, namely Shri Mali Mariyappa, Shri A. Nesamony and Shri Harish Chandra Mathur.

Shri Mali Mariyappa was a sitting Member of this House from Madhuri constituency of Mysore. He was also a Member of Third Lok Sabha during the years 1965—67.

Shri Mariyappa was also a Member of the House Committee and the Committee on Subordinate Legislation and also served on some Select Committees. He used to take active part in the proceedings of the House and the Committees. He passed away at Bangalore on the 25th May, 1968 at the age of 56.

Shri A. Nesamony was a sitting Member of the House from Nagercoil constituency of Madras. He was also a Member of the First and Third Lok Sabha during the years 1952—57 and 1962—67. He served on the Committee on Petitions. He passed away at Neyoor on the 1st June, 1968 at the age of 73.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur was a Member of the Constituent Assembly of India and the Second and Third Lok Sabha during the years 1948 and 1957—67. He was a very active Member, a forceful speaker and a seasoned parliamentarian. He used to take active part in the proceedings of the House and made useful contributions as a Member of the Privileges Committee and the Committee on Public Undertakings. He passed away at Bangalore on the 12th June, 1968 at the age of 64.

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 PLANNING AND MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Once again, it is my sad duty to pay tribute and homage to the memory of our colleagues who have passed away. They were all Members of the Congress Party, but I think that hon. Members will agree with me that they transcended the confines of party interests.

Sir, as you have mentioned, Shri Mali Mariyappa was a dedicated Member who played a significant role in the freedom struggle in Mysore. He was also associated with many national, cultural, social and educational organisations. He was a Member of the Mysore State Legislative Assembly and he brought to Parliament his long experience and knowledge of parliamentary affairs.

Shri Nesamony was a senior and experienced colleague, and he served this House for over a decade. We valued his wisdom and knowledge and admired his quiet and unassuming manner.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur who died so suddenly in Bangalore was a respected, able and experienced Member of Parliament. His participation in the debate was always constructive and after a deep study of the subject, and full of constructive and good suggestions which we could take up. His deep knowledge of parliamentary and constitutional affairs was a help to us all and lent dignity to whichever debate he participated in. He had also an understanding of administrative matters which lent his speeches special significance and importance.

I am sure that we shall miss all these three Members. I join you in expressing our deep sympathy to their families.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): I join the Prime Minister in what she said in tribute to these three Members who have passed away.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur was one of my colleagues in the other House and also in this House. During his career as a parliamentarian he was known to be a very vigorous critic of the Government when he was in the Opposition as well as after he had joined the Congress Party. He was taking keen interest in administrative reforms and since he had been an experienced administrative officer in the former Rajasthan State, he brought all his experience to bear upon the discussions in which he took part and he insisted that our administration should be streamlined and there should be economy. He was an unsparing critic of the Government even though he was a Member of the governing party, and he joined us, the Opposition, in demanding the establishment of the institution of Ombudsman. After he became a member of the Administrative Reforms Commission, he joined the other Members in making those recommendations in favour of Lokpal. It is unfortunate that the Lokpal has not come to be established, although a Bill has come to be introduced.

This is what happen with the fate of so many in public life that they plead for good things but those good things may not come to fruition when they are alive, and yet they have done their service by pleading for such good reforms.

Shri Nesamony worked for the return of Kanyakumari to Tamil Nad. He was known as a great champion of the Tamil language and Tamilians. He was a good public worker.

Shri Mariyappa also was one of the freedom-fighters. He played an important part in Mysore politics. He did not have sufficient time here to make his mark.

We deeply mourn the death of all these three good comrades of ours.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) :
 अध्यक्ष महोदय, हर बार जब हम नये सत्र के लिए सम्मिलित होते हैं तो हमें इस दुखद कर्तव्य का पालन करना पड़ता है। जो हमारे साथी संसद् में भारत के भाग्य के निर्माण में अपना योगदान देने थे वे हम से बिछुड़ गए और आज हम उन की स्मृति में अपनी विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित कर रहे हैं। मैं ने श्री मरियप्पा को और श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर को निकट से देखने का अवसर प्राप्त किया था। संसद् के सदस्य के रूप में अपने कर्तव्य का पालन में वे बड़े दत्तचित्त थे और विवादों में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान किया करते थे। श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर का निधन विशेषतः हम सब के लिए एक बड़े आघात के रूप में आया है। सचमुच में संसद् का कार्य करने हुए, अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वाह करते हुए, वे संसार से उठ गए। एक संसदीय समिति की बैठक में भाग लेने के लिए वे बंगलौर गए थे और वहाँ पर उन का निधन हुआ।

एक-दबंग राजनीतिक के रूप में उन्होंने संसद् में अपना एक विशेष स्थान बनाया। अपने तर्कों से, तथ्यों से, रचनात्मक दृष्टि से

श्रीर आवश्यकता पड़ने पर सरकार पर कठोर प्रहार कर के उन्होंने एक जागरूक संसद सदस्य नाते हमारे सामने एक उदाहरण उपस्थित किया। राजनीति में आने से पहले एक प्रशासक के रूप में उन्होंने काफी ख्याति अर्जित की थी। बाद में वह संसद के सदस्य बने श्रीर उन्होंने इस देश के कानूनों को बनाने में श्रीर संघीय लोकतन्त्र की जड़ों को जमाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। उनके निधन से संसद की जां क्षति हुई है निकट भविष्य में इसका पूरा होना कठिन दिखाई देता है।

मैं आपके श्रीर अन्य माननीय सदस्यों के उदाहारों से अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ तथा जो हमारे माननीय साथी हम से बिछुड़ गये हैं, उनके प्रति अपनी विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

SHRI MANOHARAN (Madras North): On behalf of my Party in Parliament, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House.

The loss of three Members of Parliament is irreparable. Shri Mathur, who had been a Member of this House, had made a tremendous contribution to the developing parliamentary conventions in this country which has a democracy nascent. He has been a fearless critic of certain policies of the Government. He has been a man of convictions and earnestness of purpose. Every speech he delivered had its sense of direction and sincerity. He had been associating himself with so many committees and commissions and contributed much for the crystallisation of ideas. It is a misfortune, and this country has lost in him a fearless fighter, a seasoned parliamentarian and a noteworthy statesman.

Shri Nesamony, who had been a Member of this House, has been a relentless fighter and a doughty champion of the rights of minorities and the establishment of those rights. He has been considered as a deliverer by the people of Kanyakumari Dis-

trict. The affectionate and loyal people of Kanyakumari District called him as 'Raja Nesamony'. He has been held in high esteem for his sincerity, impeccable honesty and integrity. He was a man who fought heroically and saw the realisation of the rosy dream of the people of Kanyakumari District, namely, the merger of Kanyakumari District with Tamil Nad. In order to achieve his goal, he had to fight with his political bosses, and though ultimately they might claim that they had succeeded, the fact remains that he had conquered everything he wanted.

Till his death, his spirit was undying and he was clear in his concept. Till his death, nobody could touch him, nobody could shake him. I am glad to note that his bosses realised this fact. Whenever Shri Nesamony fought against forces, terrible and with alarming dimensions, he used to say, 'let the frail sparrow hurt itself against the eagle'.

Another Member of Parliament, whose contributions are equally valuable, is no more.

On behalf of my Party, I request you, Mr. Speaker, to convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the bereaved families of these departed souls. May the departed souls rest in peace.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North East): Mr. Speaker every time we meet after a recess, almost invariably we find that death has snatched away some of our colleagues in this House. I associate myself with the sentiments of sorrow which have already been expressed at the death of three of our colleagues.

For myself, I knew Shri Nesamony when the First Parliament met in 1952 and we had all grown to learn and respect his character and his work. Shri Mariyapa was a very distinguished figure in the public life of the country and I am sure his absence would be very much missed in this

House, even more than in his own home State.

In regard to Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, we have seen him function in this House as well as elsewhere and we all admire his character and his ability. I came to know him in the days of the first Parliament when he was a Member of the Rajya Sabha. Though he was not a Member of this House at the present moment we know how very valuable his contributions were when he was a Member of the Lok Sabha. There was about his work a kind of competence which is not generally to be seen. He spoke in a manner which suggested very clearly that he had mastered his subject and there was in his participation in the debate a kind of sophistication which lent character and interest to parliamentary procedures.

We shall miss these three comrades very much and I am sure you will convey to the bereaved families our condolences and our heartfelt sympathies.

श्री राम सेवक यादव (शाराबंकी) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री हमारे जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने स्वर्गीय श्री माला रघैया, श्री नेमामणि तथा श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर के निधन के प्रति अपने भाव व्यक्त किये हैं, मैं उन से पूर्णतः अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ और अपनी पार्टी की ओर से श्रद्धाञ्जलि अर्पित करता हूँ। श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर को तो मैं निजी तौर से जानता हूँ तथा मुझे उनके साथ रहने का लगभग 10 वर्षों का नौका मिला तथा हमने पाया कि जब कभी भी मार्क्सवादी मंच के प्रश्न दल में उठते थे उन्होंने इन कों को शिक्षा नहीं किया तथा जो उचित समझा, वही राय उन्होंने दी। इसके साथ ही साथ जो प्रशामनिक आयोग का गठन हुआ, इस के निर्माण में स्वर्गीय माथुर का जबरदस्त हाथ था। वह विशेष रूप से एक कुशल प्रशासक थे। सदन में अब वह हम को सलाह देने के लिए नहीं रहेंगे, लेकिन उन्होंने सदन में रह कर देश को जो सेवा की है, उससे हम को जरूर प्रेरणा मिलेगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं पुनः इन तीन मृतक शरीरों की आत्माओं की शांति के लिए कामना करते हुए अपने दल की ओर से श्रद्धाञ्जलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Madura):
While associating myself and my party with the sentiments expressed in this House over the demise of three of our valuable colleagues, I wish particularly to point out certain characteristic features of Mr. Nesamony whom I had known very well. He belongs to a generation of leaders which unfortunately has passed away in this country, probably never more to come. He belonged to the Nadar community in that area which was downtrodden. The caste Hindus in that area treated the Nadar community just as the Harijans were being treated in other parts of the country. Mr. Nesamony's popularity, the love and affection he got from the people of Nagercoil area came from the fact that for over forty years he had conducted the struggles of the Nadar community against social, political and all other kinds of oppression. I do not know whether many people in this House know that Mr. Nesamony was having a lucrative practice of over Rs. 5,000 a month, but when died, he died penniless. His entire earnings were spent for the cause which was dear to him, namely, uplift of this community educationally, and economically and socially. Probably, there is not a single Member in this House who, like Mr. Nesamony, could file his nomination and go away from the constituency without going and seeking the vote of individual voters or addressing a single meeting in that constituency. It is a unique feature of Mr. Nesamony. In 1952, later in 1962 and again in 1967, he was probably the only candidate who just filed his nomination and went away from the constituency. He never went and solicited. He said, if people love me, if they feel that I should serve them then they will elect

me. This was one factor. Therefore, the question of so much of money being spent for the election did not arise for him. That was the love bestowed upon him by that community. Naturally, during his old age, unfortunately he was very ill and I know that he was not able to participate in the deliberations of this House. The people certainly are poorer and the House is poorer by his loss.

As for the other people, although I do not know much about them—I have not had personal contact with them—I am sure their demise has made this House poorer, and I associate myself and my party with the sentiments that have been expressed in this House.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDI: (Kendrapara): I associate myself and my party with the sentiments expressed at the demise of three of our honourable colleagues. Among the three, I had the privilege to work together with Mr. Harish Chandra Mathur who first came to the Rajaya Sabha in 1952, and then at the different committees of the Lok Sabha including the Committee on Public Undertakings. While in opposition he was naturally a critic of the Government, but although he later joined the Congress party, I do not think he ever suppressed his own views; he was very free in his criticisms and he was taking almost an independent line.

I have my own experience; when in this House I first raised the question of corruption at high levels, I know what great interest Mr. Mathur took in the matter, and in his own way inside the Congress party he wanted that all these matters should be enquired into by a high level commission of inquiry. In other respects also, his contribution has been outstanding. It is really regrettable that at this juncture of the country, we have lost a person of his calibre. It is a great loss to Parliament and a great loss to the country.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री (हापुड़): अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर, श्री नसामणि और श्री मरियप्पा, अपने इन तीनों ही दिवंगत सहयोगियों को अपनी ओर से और अपने साथियों की ओर से भावभीनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ। तीनों का ही देश के स्वातंत्र्य संग्राम में अपने ढंग का योगदान रहा है।

श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर ने, राजस्थान की प्रशासनिक सेवा में रहते हुए, प्रजा परिषद् के आन्दोलन में जिम ढंग में महयोग किया, वह न केवल राजस्थान के इतिहास में बल्कि देश के इतिहास में एक विषय बनेगा। श्री हरिश्चन्द्र का लोक सभा और राज्य सभा दोनों के लिए एक अद्भुत योगदान रहा है। उनका खोने के बाद हम ऐसा महसूस कर रहे हैं कि एक कुशल विचारक और एक कुशल चिन्तक हमारे बीच से चला गया। कांग्रेस दल में कुछ इस प्रकार के सदस्यों में श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर का स्थान था जो कि देश के प्रश्न पर दलीय स्तर से ऊपर उठकर निर्णय लेते थे। इसी दृष्टि से प्रशासनिक सुधार आयोग में भी जो उनका योगदान रहा वह बहुत अद्भुत योगदान माना जायेगा। श्री माथुर भारतीय भाषाओं की समाचार समितियों को उद्बोधन देने में अंतिम समय में बड़े प्रयत्नशील थे। वे हिन्दुस्तान समाचार समिति के सभापति भी थे।

मैं इन तीनों ही सदस्यों को भावभीनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.