

श्री मधु लिमये (मुगेर) : मेरे प्रस्ताव का क्या हुआ ? मैंने प्रस्ताव का नोटिस दिया है। सदन के नेता इस के बारे में बयान दें।

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI SHRIPATI MISRA (Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh)

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : A tradition was being established by your predecessor, I mean our distinguished previous Speaker, that every new Member was to be introduced properly. Have we discontinued this tradition ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is all right.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our friends, namely, Dr. Gopalrao Bajirao Khedkar and Shri N. Ramaseshaiah.

Dr. Gopalrao Bajirao Khedkar was a Member of First and Second Lok Sabha during the years 1952—60. At the time of his death he was Minister for Rural Development in the Maharashtra Government. He passed away at Amravati on the 25 May, 1969 at the age of 69.

Shri N. Ramaseshaiah was a Member of First Lok Sabha during the years 1952—57. At the time of his death he was Minister of Health in the Orissa Government. He passed away at Bhubaneswar on the 31st May, 1969 at the age of 71.

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 FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir may I join you in expressing my deep regret that we should begin this session mourning the death of two of our distinguished erstwhile colleagues in parliament who have passed away since we

last met ? You have mentioned their names—Dr. Gopalrao Bajirao Khedkar and Shri N. Ramaseshaiah.

Dr. Khedkar was an old soldier in our struggle for freedom having courted the first imprisonment in the early thirties. He remained throughout a prominent and distinguished leader from his part of the country and had to his credit a long record of public service. He served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh at the time of independence and was Member of the First and Second Lok Sabha. Although essentially a political worker, Dr. Khedkar's field of interest was wide and varied. He was a journalist and he was interested in the cause of education. He worked for the uplift of our villagers. In his death we have lost an old and valued colleague.

Shri Ramaseshaiah was an independent Member of the First Lok Sabha. He was a prominent public figure of Tamilnadu. We mourn the death of these two distinguished colleagues and I would request you, Sir, to convey to the bereaved families our sincere condolences.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am extremely sorry that these two distinguished public workers have passed away. I associate myself with what has been stated by you, Sir, and the Prime Minister.

I have known Shri Ramaseshaiah since 1927. He was a distinguished poet in Telugu and he belonged to Andhra and not Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI : I am sorry, I meant Orissa.

SHRI RANGA : He rose to prominence in Orissa. He was a member of this House. He worked as an independent member and also as a democrat under the leadership of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerji in that first democratic opposition party we had in this House from 1952 to 1957. He was a member of the Ganatantra Parishad also. In that capacity he served the people of Orissa for more than ten years. Thereafter, he joined our party, the Swatantra Party, and rose to be the Minister of Health and as a Minister for two years he distinguished

himself for his amiability and bonhomie relations with all those who came into contact with him. He was very well-known for his integrity and efficient administration. He was one of our good writers in Telugu and a good public worker who distinguished himself in two States, Andhra as well as Orissa. It is given to very few people indeed to achieve that. Afterwards, he rose to the position of a Minister of the Swatantra Party in the coalition government in Orissa. We bemoan his death on this occasion.

I happen to know Dr Khedkar also. He was one of our colleagues in the freedom struggle. If I remember right he rose to the Presidency of the Provincial Congress Committee. He was one of the champions of the Vidarbha cause. He was a kisan and a friend of the kisans and it was befitting that when eventually he rose to be a minister he chose to be a minister of rural development. I miss his presence and I am sure the whole House would join you, the Prime Minister and all of us in bemoaning their loss and conveying our condolences to the members of their families.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब हम नए सत्र के लिए एकत्र होते हैं तो किसी न किसी अपने वरिष्ठ साथी की असामयिक मृत्यु पर हमें शोक प्रकट करना पड़ता है। मृत्यु शरीर का धर्म है और उससे कोई बच नहीं सकता है। लेकिन जिन के साथ हमने काम किया है, जिन के नेतृत्व में हम चले हैं और जिन की स्मृति अभी भी हमारे हृदय में ताजा है वे जब हम से बिछुड़ते हैं तो उनकी सेवाओं का स्मरण हो आना स्वाभाविक है।

श्री खेडकर को मैंने निकट से देखा है। स्वाधीनता के संग्राम में उनका योगदान और स्वाधीनता की प्राप्ति के पश्चात् राष्ट्र के निर्माण में उनका कर्तृत्व सब के लिए जानी पहचानी बात है। श्री खेडकर विदर्भ के एक जाने माने नेता थे और उनकी जड़ें जनता के जीवन में गहरी धंसी हुई थीं। वे सीधे जनता से शक्ति ग्रहण करते थे।

श्री सेशैया को मैंने तब निकट से देखा जब वे डा० श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी के नेतृत्व में बने दल के सदस्य के रूप में लोक सभा के मंच पर अवतरित हुए। जैसा की आचार्य रंगाजी ने कहा है राजनीति के साथ साथ उनकी साहित्य में भी रुचि थी और तेलुगु के साहित्य को समृद्ध करने में उन्होंने बड़ा काम किया। संसदीय कार्य की दृष्टि से भी समय समय पर वे अपना योगदान करते रहते थे।

मैं अपनी ओर से, अपने दल की ओर से श्री खेडकर और श्री सेशैया की मृत्यु पर शोक प्रकट करता हूँ और परमात्मा से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि दिवंगत आत्माओं को शान्ति प्रदान करें।

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, व्यक्तिगत रूप से डा० खेडकर जी को मैं नहीं जानता था। लेकिन श्री ए० रामा सेशैया जी जोकि अभी जो गैर कांग्रेसी मंत्रिमंडल उड़ीसा में है और जिसमें वह स्वास्थ्य मंत्री थे, उनके साथ मुझे एक दो बार वार्तालाप करने का मौका मिला है। जो भी उनके सम्पर्क में आए हैं उन सब के दिमाग पर और भेरे दिमाग पर भी उन्होंने यही असर डाला है कि वे एक सज्जन थे।

मैं अपनी ओर से और अपने दल की ओर से श्री खेडकर जी और श्री राम सेशैया जी की मृत्यु पर शोक प्रकट करता हूँ।

श्री योगेश्वर शर्मा (बेगुसराय) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन के भूतपूर्व जिन दो माननीय सदस्यों की मृत्यु पर जो शोक और संवेदना की भावना प्रकट की गई है, मैं अपने को और अपनी पार्टी को उस शोक और संवेदना में शामिल करता हूँ।

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN (Kasergod) : Sir, on behalf of my party I associate myself with the sentiments expressed here and I request that our condolences may be conveyed to their families.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : Sir, I fully associate myself and my party with the sentiments expressed

on the demise of two of our ex-colleagues. Shri Ramaseshaiah was not only a member of the First Lok Sabha but at the time of his death was a minister in the present Orissa Cabinet. As an industrialist also he had made some contribution to the industrial development of Orissa. We are very sorry that we have lost such a person. I express my condolences to the bereaved families and I hope that our condolences will be conveyed to them.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while.*

MAN'S LANDING ON THE MOON

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I take a minute from our immediate national problems to share with the House my feeling of great excitement and refer to a historic cosmic event which has taken place today ? Even though the reception on the radio was not too clear, I stayed up till early hours of the morning to get the news of the landing on the moon. We are now able to see our world in greater perspective and to discover new beauty in it.

On behalf of all Members of the House, I offer my warmest congratulations to Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin who have stepped on the moon and to Commander Collins and also to the remarkable team of technologists and thousands of their co-workers who are behind them.

This is surely the greatest and most daring of scientific feats. It is a proud moment for the people of the United States and indeed for all mankind.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi) : Except China.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: The space travellers of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. have been heroes of our times, and

the young everywhere are inspired by their example. In this moment of achievement, our thoughts go out to the Government and the people of the United States and, specially, if I might say so, to the families of these courageous men. May we wish them a happy landing back home.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara) : May I suggest that the House gives a standing ovation to these brave men for their achievement ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The whole House joins and shares the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister, and we wish them safe landing back home. As suggested, let us give them a standing ovation for this achievement.

*The Members then stood up
and gave an ovation.*

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सुझाव है कि सदन
की ये भावनायें अंतरिक्ष यात्रियों तक और इसके
साथ साथ उनके परिवार वालों तक पहुंचा दी
जायें ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It will be done; that will be conveyed.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reduction in L.I.C. Premium Rates.

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*1 DR. SUSHILA NAYAR:
SHRI RANJEET SINGH:
SHRI RAMGOPAL SHALWALE:
SHRI JAGANNATH RAO JOSHI:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN LAL:
SHRI A. SHREEDHARAN:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:
SHRI JAI SINGH:
SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee had recently suggested reduction in the premium rates charged by the life Insurance Corporation on life policies;