

RAJYA SABHA

*Thursday, the 2nd July, 2009/11 Asadha, 1931 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

(The National Anthem, 'Jana Gana Mana' was played.)

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**MEMBERS SWORN**

Shri Hemant Soren (Jharkhand)

Shri Ganga Charan (Uttar Pradesh)

Shri Shriram Pal (Uttar Pradesh)

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**OBITUARY REFERENCE**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Prof. Naunihal Singh, a former Member of this House on the 25th June, 2009, at the age of 86 years.

Born at village Sohajna Rani in Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh in January, 1923, Prof. Singh had his education at Aligarh Muslim University, Christ Church College, Kanpur, Agra University, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom and La Sorbonne University, Paris.

A multifaceted personality, Prof. Naunihal Singh, actively participated in the Quit India Movement in 1942 during his student days. He joined the Government of India in 1958 and retired as Director in 1975. Prof. Naunihal Singh also taught MBA classes in universities of USA and practised law at the High Courts of Allahabad and Delhi. He was associated with various social welfare and cultural organisations and worked for the upliftment of untouchables, backward classes and tribal people. Prof. Singh launched a campaign against rural indebtedness, dowry system, alcoholism, communalism and against divisive forces in the country.

Prof. Singh was a delegate to the United National Economic Commission for Asia and Far East (ECAFE), organised the Indian pavilion in the International Trade Exhibition at Addis Ababa and negotiated trade with several firms in Japan on the occasion of EXPO'70. The House congratulated him when he brought a new technology from abroad for generation of electricity called 'Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion' and arranged for free foreign exchange of US \$ 1 billion to generate 600 MW of electricity.

Prof. Naunihal Singh was the Chairman of Organising Committee of the Bharat Desh Ekta Congress, National Management Education Committee, Government of India, and College of Applied Sciences for Women, Delhi. He was the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Shramik Kalyan Sangh and Lok Kalyan Manch. He was also a Member of the Rashtriya Ekta Parishad, Bharatiya Grameen Vikas Parishad, Board of Governors, Engineering College, Kurukshetra University, Forum of Agriculturists and Ruralite Members and Joint Parliamentary Committee on Offices of Profit. He was also a Member-delegate to the World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet.

Prof. Naunihal Singh was a prolific writer with several publications to his credit. He had also written articles on national and international matters, which were published in journals of repute in India and abroad.

Prof. Singh represented the State of Uttar Pradesh in this House from July, 1992, to July, 1998.

In the passing away of Prof. Naunihal Singh, the country has lost a distinguished Parliamentarian, an able administrator and an erudite scholar.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Prof. Naunihal Singh.

I request the hon. Members to rise in their seats and observe silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our deep sense of sorrow and sympathy.

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#### RE. RISE IN THE PRICE OF PETROL AND DIESEL

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 1...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, the Government has increased the price of petrol and diesel...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वीरेन्द्र भाटिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): अध्यक्ष जी, राष्ट्र पिता के लिए अपमानजनक शब्दों का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, the rise in the price of petrol and diesel...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Government has increased the price of petrol and diesel which affects the common man...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the Government raised the price of petrol and diesel and disrespected the Father of the Nation...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please allow the Question Hour to proceed and raise the matter later on...*(Interruptions)*...