

RAJYA SABHA

Monday the 5th August, 1985] 14 Sravana,
1907 (Sctka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr.
Chairman in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

Shri V. Narayanaswamy (Pondicherry)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Banarsi Das, a former Member of this House from Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Banarsi Das was born in July, 1912, at Utraoli village in District Bulandshahr of Uttar Pradesh. Shri Banarasi Das had his education at Bulandshahr. He gave up his studies and plunged into the freedom movement at the young age of 16 years and suffered imprisonment several times for his active participation in the Non-co-operation Movement and the struggle for Swaraj. Shri Banarsi Das, a well-known political figure in his home State, was first elected to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1946 and was its Member till 1967. He served as Parliamentary Secretary from 1952 to 1957 and as a Minister in the State Cabinet from 1962 to 1967. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in April, 1972, and in 1977, he acted as the Pro-tem Chairman of this House. He resigned his seat in the Rajya Sabha in June, 1977 on his election to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly where he later on became its Speaker. In 1979, Shri Banarasi Das became the Chief Minister of that State. He was also a Member of the Lok Sabha during 1983-84.

A dedicated social worker, Shri Banarsi Das worked for the spread of education, particularly women's education and established a number of schools. He fought against social disparities and worked for the uplift of the backward classes.

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With his quiet manners, dignified behaviour and persuasive skill, he made an enduring impression on all those who came into contact with him. In his death the country has suffered a grievous loss.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Banarsi Das.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

[Honourable Members then stood in silence for one minute]

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Questions. Question No. 181. Mr. Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Vacancies in the High Courts and the Supreme Court at India

*181. SHRI BHUVNESH

CHATURVEDI : SHRI N.

E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges appointed during the current year up-to-date in various High Courts in the country; and

(b) the number of vacancies in the various High Courts and also in the Supreme Court and the dates since when each vacancy has been there?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) During the current year up to 31-7-1985, fresh appointments of 16 permanent

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi.