

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, The 14th December, 2015/23rd Agrahayana, 1937 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MEMBER SWORN

MR. CHAIRMAN: Oath or affirmation ...*(Interruptions)*...

सुश्री मायावती (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, पंजाब में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

Shri Narendra Kumar Swain (Odisha)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi, a former Member of this House, on the 12th of December, 2015, at the age of 80 years.

Born in September, 1935, in Satara district of Maharashtra, Shri Joshi was educated at Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai and in Lausanne, Switzerland.

An agriculturist and economist, Shri Joshi served in the Indian Postal Service and as a Lecturer of Economics in the College of Commerce, Kolhapur, Pune University from 1957 to 1958. He also served in the International Bureau Universal Postal Union, Berne, from 1968 to 1977. He undertook several programmes to generate awareness amongst the displaced farmers in the Narmada Valley. He was the founder of the *Shetakari Sanghatana*, a farmers' organisation in Maharashtra in 1978 and of the *Shetakari Mahila Aghadi*, a leading women farmers' organisation for women's property rights. He led several agitations for remunerative prices of agricultural produce and electricity tariffs. He also undertook a massive social exercise to educate farmers on W.T.O. He was also a member of several organisations including the Advisory Board, World Agricultural Forum, U.S.A; the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Steering Committee of the GEF-World Bank Project on Capacity Building on Bio Safety.

Shri Joshi was a journalist and writer and has several books in Marathi, Hindi and English to his credit. He was the Founder and National President of the Swatantra Bharat Paksha.