

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 8th February, 2024 / 19 Magha, 1945 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of former Member of this House, **Shrimati Veena Verma**, on the 6th of February, 2024 at the age of 82. She served as a Member of Rajya Sabha representing the State of Madhya Pradesh for three terms from June, 1986 to April, 2000.

She was Deputy Chairman of Committee on Official Languages, Vice-President of All India Mahila Congress and was a distinguished Member of Indian Council of World Affairs.

Born on 1st September, 1941, in Jaipur, Rajasthan, Shrimati Veena Verma, took keen interest in educating women. A teacher herself, she was an ardent advocate of women's emancipation and empowerment.

In the passing away of Shrimati Veena Verma, the country has lost a passionate teacher, committed reformer and an able parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shrimati Veena Verma.

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

(The hon. Members then stood in silence for a minute.)

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

FAREWELL TO THE RETIRING MEMBERS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is an emotional occasion for all of us as we bid farewell to our sixty-eight esteemed colleagues retiring between February and May following completion of their terms. I am sure; the retiring Members too would be departing with a profound sense of contentment for their efforts in advancing the interest of Bharat and every Bharatiya. Please allow me to express our profound