

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 22nd July, 2024 / 31 Ashadha, 1946 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

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

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I take this opportunity to extend warm birthday greetings to the hon. Leader of the Opposition and President of the Indian National Congress, **Shri Mallikarjun Kharge**, whose birthday was yesterday, 21st July.

Shri Kharge, a senior politician in the country, has served in various constitutional positions, including as Union Cabinet Minister, Member of Lok Sabha for two terms, Minister in the Karnataka Government and Leader of Opposition of Karnataka Legislative Assembly. He had been a Member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly for nine consecutive terms from 1972 to 2009. He has been an influential labour union leader passionately advocating cause of workers.

Shri Kharge is a remarkable polyglot, which enriches his engagement with diverse communities. His interest in sports, including kabaddi, hockey, and football, further exemplifies his dynamic personality. This House has often been delighted by his wit and humour which effortlessly lighten the atmosphere. He is married to Shrimati Radhabai Kharge. The couple is blessed with sons, Priyank, who is a Cabinet Minister in the Government of Karnataka, Rahul and Milind, and daughters, Priyadarshini, and Dr. Jayashree, who is married to Shri Radhakrishna, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha. On behalf of the entire House, I wish him a very happy and healthy life.

Hon. Members, I am pleased to extend birthday greetings to hon. Member of Parliament, **Shri S. Niranjan Reddy**. His birthday is today. A senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India, he has served as the standing counsel for both the Election Commission of India and the Medical Council of India. Shri Niranjan Reddy has been a Member of this House representing the State of Andhra Pradesh since June 2022. Mr. Reddy's reflections in this House, especially on the three new laws pertaining to criminal jurisprudence, 75 years of our Parliamentary journey and also on the Telecommunication Bill have been enormously beneficial to this House.