

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 25th November, 2024/4 Agrahayana, 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 am pleased to extend greetings to the hon. Member of Parliament, **Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade**, on his birthday today.

A Member of this august House since July 2022, Dr. Heggade has been recipient of Padma Vibhushan in 2015 and Padma Bhushan in 2000. He was also honoured with Karnataka Rathna in 2009 and Rajyotsav award in 1985 by the Government of Karnataka. Dr. Heggade has been serving as the Chief Administrator of Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala Manjunath Swamy temple from the age of 19. He has been instrumental in transforming the small village of Dharmasthala into the most visited temple-city in Southern Karnataka. His contributions also extend to education, rural development and promotion of yoga and ayurveda. He is a true example of a karma yogi and I am sure society at large would be immensely benefited by his presence in the House.

He is married to Shrimati Hemavathi V. Heggade and the couple is blessed with a daughter - Shrimati Shraddha.

Hon. Members, on my own and your behalf, I wish him a long, healthy and happy life.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of former Members of this august House - Shrimati Gurcharan Kaur, Shri K. Natwar Singh, Shri Sitaram Yechury, Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal, Shri Dhaneswar Majhi, Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia and Shri Pravat Kumar Samantaray.

Shrimati Gurcharan Kaur passed away on 4th July 2024. She served as a Member of this House representing the State of Punjab from 2001 to 2004. Born on 4th