

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Tuesday, November 9, 2010/ Kartika 18, 1932 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shrimati Jamuna Devi, former Member of this House, Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta, sitting Member of this House and Shri S.S. Chandran, former Member of this House.

Shrimati Jamuna Devi passed away on the 24th September, 2010, at the age of 80 years, after prolonged illness.

Born in November, 1929 in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh, Shrimati Jamuna Devi had her education at Canadian Mission Girls' High School, Indore. A political and social worker, Shrimati Jamuna Devi worked for the upliftment of tribal village women and children. She was Member, Central Adivasi Advisory Board, Government of India, from 1962 to 1967 and Central Social Welfare Board.

Shrimati Jamuna Devi started her legislative career in 1952 as a Member of the first Assembly of the Madhya Bharat State. She was re-elected to the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly on five occasions. Shrimati Jamuna Devi served as Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Welfare of Tribals, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, in 1985 and as Minister of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development, in 1993 in the Madhya Pradesh

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Government. She was appointed as Deputy Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in 1998 and was Leader of the Opposition, Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly, from 2003 to 2008 and again, from 2009 till her sad demise. Shrimati Jamuna Devi also served as a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967.

Shrimati Jamuna Devi represented the State of Madhya Pradesh in this House from April, 1978 to April, 1980.

In the passing away of Shrimati Jamuna Devi, the country has lost a noted social worker and a veteran parliamentarian.

Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta passed away on the 26th of September, 2010, at the age of 73 years.

Born in June, 1937, at Kolkata, West Bengal, Shri Sengupta had his education at Mitra Institution, Bavanipur, Kolkata; Presidency College, University of Calcutta and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

An economist and a diplomat by profession, Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta held several distinguished posts and served in many important capacities. He was Special Secretary to the Prime Minister of India from 1981 to 1984; Executive Director and Special Advisory to the Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, Washington DC from 1985 to 1990; Ambassador of India to the European Union, Brussels, from 1990 to 1993; Member and Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India from 1993 to 1998.

Shri Sengupta served as an Independent Expert for the Human Rights Commission, Geneva on the Right to Development from 1999 to 2004 and Human Rights and Extreme Poverty from 2004 to 2006. He taught and delivered lectures on Human Rights and Economic Development at Harvard University, Essex, University and Oslo University, among others. Shri Sengupta held the position of Chairman, Centre for Development and Human Rights, New Delhi and Member, High Level Commission of the Legal Empowerment of the Poor, UNDP, New York.

Shri Sengupta chaired the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector and will always be remembered for his report on the Unorganised Sector, which is the reference document for providing minimum social security for all unorganized workers. He also published a book 'Reforms, Equity and the IMF, 2001'.

Shri Sengupta represented the State of West Bengal in this House from August 2005 till his sad demise.

Shri Sengupta will be remembered for enriching public life by his intellect and ideas. The proceedings of the House bear testimony to his deep understanding of the problems of the people.

In the passing away of Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta, the country has lost an eminent economist, a noted diplomat and an able parliamentarian.

Shri S. S. Chandran passed away on the 9th of October, 2010 at the age of 69 years.

Shri Chandran was born in May, 1941 in Sivagangai District of Tamil Nadu. A political and a social worker, Shri Chandran was also a noted Cine Artiste and had acted as a comedian in more than 700 Tamil films. He was the recipient of the 'Kalaimamani' award instituted by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Shri Chandran was also Vice-President of the South Indian Cine Artistes' Association.

Shri S. S. Chandran represented the State of Tamil Nadu in this House from July, 2001 to July, 2007.

In the passing away of Shri S. S. Chandran, the country has lost an eminent Cine Artiste and an able parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shrimati Jamuna Devi, Shri Arjun Kumar Sengupta and Shri S. S. Chandran.

(One minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.)

REFERENCE TO VICTIMS OF TSUNAMI IN INDONESIA

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are aware, large-scale destruction, damage to property and tragic loss of lives occurred due to Tsunami and volcanic eruption in Indonesia.

I am sure the whole House will join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences to the Government, Parliament and the people of Indonesia for the tragic loss of lives and damage to property caused by the Tsunami in the Mentawai Islands off Sumatra and eruption of Mount Merapi in Java.

(One minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.)

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