

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Monday, November 24, 2014/ Agrahayana 3, 1936 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri B.K.S. Iyengar, renowned yoga exponent, Shri Lekhraj Bachani, Sardar Jagdev Singh Talwandi and Shri S. S. Rajendran, former Members of this House and Shri Murli Deora, a sitting Member of this House.

Shri B.K.S. Iyengar passed away on the 20th of August, 2014, at the age of 96 years.

Born in December, 1918, in Bellur in Karnataka, Shri Iyengar entered into the field of yoga at the age of 16 years.

Shri Iyengar had been a living legend in the field of yoga and pioneered a style of yoga popularly known as '*Iyengar Yoga*' which is followed by certified yoga teachers throughout the world.

Shri Iyengar is credited with re-discovering the lost art of "*Hatha Yoga*" and had a vast following in more than sixty countries.

Shri Iyengar had several publications on yoga to his credit, namely, '*Light on Yoga*', '*Light on Pranayama*', '*Art of Yoga*', '*Yog Dipika*', among others. He was a recipient of the *Padma Shri* in 1991, the *Padma Bhushan* in 2002 and the *Padma Vibhushan* in 2014. Shri Iyengar also received international acclaim in the form of a

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Commemorative Stamp issued in his honour by China Post in 2011. His name 'Iyengar' has also entered the Oxford lexicon as a type of '*Astanga Yoga*'.

In the passing away of Shri Iyengar, the country has lost a great personality in the field of yoga. His death is an irreparable loss to the world of yoga.

Shri Lekhraj Bachani passed away on the 22nd of August, 2014, at the age of 85 years. Born in July, 1929, in Sindh, Pakistan, Shri Bachani was educated at the M. N. College, Visnagar, Gujarat and Sir L.A. Shah Law College, Ahmedabad.

A lawyer by profession, Shri Bachani was actively involved in social service. He was associated with several educational and religious trusts, cooperative and sports movements and social and cultural activities in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

Shri Bachani started his legislative career as a Member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly in 1972. He was a Member of that Assembly for four consecutive terms, i.e., from 1972 to 1975, 1975 to 1980, 1980 to 1985 and 1990 to 1995. He served as a Deputy Minister and also as a Minister of State in the Government of Gujarat from 1975 to 1980 and in 1990. He also served as the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly from 1993 to 1995 and as Chairman of the Gujarat State Water Supply and Sewerage Board from 1996 to 1997.

Shri Lekhraj Bachani represented the State of Gujarat in this House from April, 2000 to April, 2006.

In the passing away of Shri Lekhraj Bachani, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

Sardar Jagdev Singh Talwandi passed away on the 19th of September, 2014, at the age of 85 years.

Sardar Jagdev Singh was born in June, 1929, in Lyalpur District (now in Pakistan). An agriculturist, Sardar Jagdev Singh

was actively involved in rural upliftment and was associated with various social welfare organisations. He was also President of the Shiromani Akali Dal.

Sardar Jagdev Singh started his legislative career as a Member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly in 1967 and was a Member of that Assembly from 1967 to 1977. He served as a Minister in the Government of Punjab from 1969 to 1971. He was also a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979.

Sardar Jagdev Singh Talwandi represented the State of Punjab in this House from July, 1980 to July, 1986.

In the passing away of Sardar Jagdev Singh Talwandi, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

Shri S.S. Rajendran passed away on the 24th of October, 2014, at the age of 86 years.

Born in December, 1927, Shri Rajendran was educated at the A.M.C.C. School, Batlagurdu, Tamil Nadu.

A cine-artist by profession, Shri Rajendran was closely associated with the famous drama company, namely, T.K.S. Brothers, from 1940 to 1943 and began his acting career in 1952. He acted in about 74 films, produced three films on social issues and directed three films.

A founder member of the South Indian Films Artists' Association, Shri Rajendran served as its Secretary as well as President. He was honoured with awards by the State of Tamil Nadu.

Shri S.S. Rajendran started his legislative career as a Member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in 1962 and was a Member of that Assembly for two terms, from 1962 to 1970 and again from 1980 to 1984.

Shri S.S. Rajendran represented the State of Tamil Nadu in this House from April, 1970 to April, 1976.

In the passing away of Shri S. S. Rajendran, the country has lost a noted cine-artist and an able parliamentarian.

Shri Murli Deora passed away this morning. Born in January, 1937, at Bombay in Maharashtra, Shri Murli Deora was a noted industrialist. He was also an active social worker. He served as Vice-Chairman of the Gandhi Institute of Computer Education and Information Technology of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, which provided computer training to the poor and the under-privileged youth. As Vice-Chairman of the Indian Red Cross Society, he helped in mobilising relief work on many occasions.

Shri Deora served as a Councillor in the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai from 1968 to 1978 and was the Mayor of Mumbai from 1977 to 1978.

Shri Deora started his legislative career as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council in 1982 and served as a Member of that Council till 1985. He was also a Member of the Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Twelfth Lok Sabha. He served as the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance from 1998 to 1999.

Shri Deora was the International President of the Parliamentarians for Global Action, New York from 1995 to 1996 and was the Chairman of the Parliamentarians for Global Action, India, from 2002 to 2004.

Shri Murli Deora represented the State of Maharashtra in this House for three terms - from April, 2002 to April, 2008, from April, 2008 to April, 2014 and again from April, 2014 till his sad demise. He served in the Union Council of Ministers as Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas from January, 2006 to January, 2011 and as Minister of Corporate Affairs from January to July, 2011.

In the passing away of Shri Murli Deora, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian, an able administrator and a dedicated social worker.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri B. K. S. Iyengar, Shri Lekhraj Bachani, Sardar Jagdev Singh Talwandi, Shri S. S. Rajendran and Shri Murli Deora.

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

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