

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 / Shravana 16, 1940 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Shri R.K. Dhawan**, a former Member of this House, on the 6th of August, 2018, at the age of 81 years.

Born in July, 1937, at Chiniot (now in Pakistan), Shri Dhawan was educated at the Punjab University, Chandigarh.

A political and social worker, Shri Dhawan was a sports enthusiast and was a Member of various sports clubs. He also served as a Member on the Advisory Council of the Delhi Development Authority.

Shri R.K. Dhawan represented the State of Andhra Pradesh in this House, from April, 1990 to April, 1996, and the State of Bihar, from July, 2004 to July, 2010. He also served as the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Urban Development in the Union Council of Ministers, from September, 1995 to February, 1996.

*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

In the passing away of Shri R.K. Dhawan, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

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

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Recent Increase in the Minimum Support Prices for Kharif Crops and Challenges in Agricultural Sector

SHRI AMIT ANIL CHANDRA SHAH, initiating the discussion, said: Agriculture has been our identity for centuries. In our country more than 65 per cent of our population is dependent on agriculture and the contribution of agriculture in our GDP is also very important. We have taken several steps in the direction of free farming. When NDA Government formed, our Prime Minister had said in his speech that our Government will be pro poor, pro dalits, pro tribals and pro farmers. The Government of BJP has tried to change the map of agricultural sector in our country by scientific methods and micro planning and it has taken various new initiatives. Prime Minister had also said in his speech that we will try to double the income of farmers. Various comments were made regarding this that it is impossible to do. But initiatives taken in this regard are now visible in data also. I want to draw the attention of the public through this House to this fact that our Government has taken the step to increase our agriculture budget by 75 per cent. If we look at the budget allocation for various agriculture related activities in total, a very huge budget has been allocated by our Government.

Discussion not concluded.

Desh Deepak Verma,
Secretary-General.

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