

**Autumn Session, 2011
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**JAMMU AND KASHMIR
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT**

D E B A T E S

Official

Report

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P R E F A C E

With great pleasure and honour, I present the proceedings/ debates of the 105th Session (Autumn Session, 2011) of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Council. The verbatim reports of the proceedings/debates of the Legislative bodies are not a mere narration of Questions, Replies, Adjournment Motions, Resolutions, Discussions and Bills etc. As a matter of fact, they are a rich source of contemporary history. They provide detailed information on all matters touching the life of a citizen and bring to light the political, economic and social conditions of even the remotest parts of the State. Besides, they serve as a mirror of the hopes and aspirations, concerns and apprehensions of the people as voiced by its chosen representatives. Moreover, these debates are the convenient tools of interpretation for the courts to interpret laws of the land by ascertaining the intention of the Legislature in enacting a particular law.

The Rules of Procedure require that the Secretary has to arrange for the preparation of a full report of the proceedings of each sitting of the House. Accordingly, everything said in the House—every question, remark and speech—is meticulously recorded by the Reporters. The entire proceedings of the day's sitting have to be edited, translated, compiled and printed to perfection.

The last time complete proceedings of the Legislative Council have been published was in the year 1989. From 1990 till 1996, the State was under the Governor's Rule. From 1996 onwards, except for a couple of selected day's proceedings, the practice of publishing the proceedings of the House has been discontinued. Perhaps the Secretariat has not been able to accomplish this job due to shortage of manpower, more in terms of quality than the quantity. Reporting of the proceedings is a highly specialized knowledge-intensive job carried out under great pressure, demanding utmost concentration and intellectual effort. Physical stamina, mental alertness and quick reflexes are the essential attributes of a Reporter's job, without which he cannot deal with situations like the one which usually prevails in the House during

the Question Hour testing the competence of even the most experienced Reporter. Reporters have not only to correctly identify the Members asking the questions and the Ministers giving the answers, but also to record every word of what is said, including the often rapidly-quoted figures, names and unfamiliar technical words. The job of editors and translators is equally specialized and technical.

It is a well known fact that the Council Secretariat is in dire straits for want of skilled and specialized staff as far as reporters, editors and translators are concerned. In this backdrop, undertaking the job of compilation and publication of proceedings of the House after a long gap of 23 years was by no means an easy task. This monumental work has been a product of teamwork of officers and staff of the Council. I express my thanks to them for making this huge task possible. I also express my profound thanks to Hon'ble Chairman of the Legislative Council who was exceptionally liberal in extending every kind of help and support to me in the accomplishment of this monumental task.

The proceeding of the 104th Session (Budget Session, 2011) have also been completed but for the delay in printing by the Government Press, these proceedings could not be made available as scheduled. It is expected that the proceedings of 104th Session would be published within a week's time. It is our resolve to make the publication of proceedings of the House a regular feature now on.

Although utmost care has been taken to ensure that this publication is brought out without any mistake, yet it is possible that some unintentional errors might have crept in, for which we would offer our regrets. As there is always a scope for improvement, we would welcome suggestions for further improving and fine-tuning of our job. We look forward for your suggestions and guidance.

Sd/-
(Mohammad Ashraf Mir)
Secretary

All proceedings of the Autumn Session, 2011

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The Council met in the Council Hall, Srinagar at 10.30 AM.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, S. Arvinder Singh Micky, in the Chair

Mr. Deputy Chairman : Good Morning.

I, first of all, congratulate all the Hon'ble Members for this Session and would like to introduce the following newly elected Hon'ble Members -

1. Shri Yashpal Khajuria,
2. Shri Bashir Ahmad Veeri,
3. Shri Mohammad Ashraf Mir,
4. Master Noor Mohammad Hussain,
5. S. Dharamveer Singh Oberoi,

So, we welcome the newly inducted Members in this House.

Today, as a tradition, we have obituary references of the following :

1. Shri Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori, Former Speaker;
2. Shri Sadiq Ali, Ex-MLC;
3. Shri Ahmad-ullah Azad, Ex-MLC;
4. Shri Nazir Ahmad Mir, Ex-MLC &
5. Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi.

Shri Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori sahib was born in the year 1919 at Rajpora, Pulwama and passed away on 1st May, 2011. He started his political career in 1946 and took part in Quit Kashmir Movement the same year. He joined the National Conference and was elected to the Constituent Assembly from Ramhal Constituency in 1953 and was elected as Secretary, National Conference Parliamentary Party. Later he joined the Indian National Congress and was elected as Member, Legislative Assembly in the year 1957 and was re-elected in 1962. He served as Cabinet Minister from 1957 till 1962. He served as Speaker of the J&K Legislative Assembly from 1964 till 1968.

Shri Sadiq Ali Sahib hailed from Srinagar and graduated from Kashmir University and Post-graduated from Aligarh Muslim University in Political Science. He has been the youngest political worker of the National Conference at that time. He was a prominent Shia Leader and a renowned Urdu Poet and also has been writing regularly for local press and TV. He also played important role in boosting the economy of the State. He got nominated as a Member of this House in 1979.

Azad sahib hailed from Leh (Ladakh) and was a social worker who worked for betterment of the masses. He has been an example in the state politics. He got elected to the Council in 1987 and served as such till 1993. We certainly miss him too.

Mir sahib, a renowned Advocate from Rajouri, worked lifelong in the service of the society and to maintain communal harmony. He has been a Member of the J&K Human Rights Commission and also helped the poor and orphans to acquire education. He remained as Member of this House from 2001 till 2007 and had been a good Legislator. I also got a chance to work with him.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, Tiger Pataudi as he was popularly known, was the 9th and the last Nawab of Pataudi until 1971 when India abolished the royal entitlements through the 26th Constitutional Amendment Act. He was an Oxford read Cricket legend and has been the youngest captain of the Indian Cricket team. He has been conferred with the Padam Shree and Arjuna Awards. He breadth his last on 26th September, 2011 in Delhi followed by an acute lung infection. The cricket world has lost an exemplary figure who would be remembered forever.

Recently there was an earthquake in Sikkim. This House also condoles the death of the people who lost their lives due to the earthquake in Sikkim and its adjoining places in the North-east. May their souls rest in peace too.

The Hon'ble Members who would like to speak on these obituary references may speak.

Shri Bashir Ahmad Magray: Sir, because Rajpori Sahib belonged to my constituency, Rajpora, therefore, I should be given the first preference to speak.

Hon'ble Sir, Shri Ghulam Ahmad Rajpori was a philosopher, a writer and an intellectual person. He was born in a well placed family in Rajpora village. After completing his studies from the S.P. College, he went to Aligarh for higher studies. His class fellow was Syed Mir Qasim, former Chief Minister of J&K. After completing his Law from the University, he started his practice in Shopian. He joined the Quit Kashmir Movement, which was lead by Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah. He went to jail seven times along with other prominent leaders like Mohi-ud-din Karra sahib and others. After that, when we got independence, he was the General Secretary of the National Conference. He joined Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad's Cabinet. He has been Forest, Industries as well as Health Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. During Sadiq Sahib's Government, he was the Speaker of the J&K Legislative Assembly. He had served the people in a very dignified manner. There are so many things which he has left behind. He is a well known writer and has written so many books. Each and every Prime Minister of India respected him. Even national leaders from various political parties, whether they belong to Congress, Communists or others, they used to take advice from Mr. Rajpori. Today, though he is not with us, but he has left a legacy of principles behind him for us to follow. We pray that his soul may rest in peace!

There are other Legislators or great personalities who have lost their lives during this period. Mr. Sadiq Ali was also an intellectual, a law graduate and a good lawyer. He served his people to the best of his ability. Ahamadullah Azad Sahib has served the down-trodden, was a good advocate and also served the people of Rajouri to the best of

his ability. Today, we remember them all and pray for their souls to rest in peace and we may follow their principles.

Nawab of Pataudi, was a cricket legend and Captain of the Indian Cricket Team. He was the last Nawab of Pataudi when in 1971, the entitlements were abolished. His nick name was 'Tiger'. He was a famous scholar and a famous cricket personality of India, because of whom the Indian Cricket team shone, a great batsman. He died in Sir Ganga Ram Hospital due to a lung infection. We pray to the Almighty that his soul may rest in peace ! His fans should take lessons from his skillful personality and make their nation shine just like Nawab. Thank you.

Shri Mohammad Yousuf Taing: Hon'ble Sir, we feel ourselves full of sorrow at this emotional moment of paying homage to the great personalities whom we lost during the break between the two Sessions of the Legislature.

Mir Ghulam Mohammad Rajpori sahib; I feel too honored for having a chance to work with him. I also feel deeply honored for being an Editor of his Weekly news paper, which was then published as a Daily called 'Roznama'. As said, Mir sahib was born in village Rajpora at a time when the wave was against feudalism in the presence of some prominent landlord clans who resisted the then 'Tahrik-i-Huriyat' led by Sher-i-Kashmir. Rajpori sahib started his political career from that place, later on he came to Shopian and started his legal practice. He had been a close associate of my father Khwaja Abdul Razzaq. I also had the honor of his association and his basic mentorship. He became a Member of the Constituent Assembly in the year 1954 from the Ramhal (in Handwara) Constituency. When Sheikh sahib was arrested in 1953 and he lost the Presidentship, then another regime came to power, Rajpori sahib was one of its most prominent Members. That time, the society witnessed a tremendous wave of chaos and confusion and when this wave somewhat settled down, the new regime held the first of its conventions in the premises of the Arts Emporium and the convenor of the convention was Mir Ghulam Mohammad Rajpori. Then he was appointed as the General Secretary of the illegitimate incarnation of the J&K National Conference in place of Maulana Azhar Masoodi. A very unbecoming incident took place at that time when Maulana Masoodi, the then MP, was arrested and was sent back to Delhi from Udhampur while he was enroute to Srinagar in order to clear the path of General Secretaryship for Rajpori Sahib. Later, Rajpori sahib became a Member of the Legislative Assembly and later, the Speaker of the Assembly. As has been said, he had been the Forest Minister of the state and had also headed the Industries & Commerce, Education as well as the Health Departments in such capacity. Then groupism within the National Conference started, while Rajpori sahib joined the Marxist kind of group of Sadiq sahib, Syed Mir Qasim. D. P. Dhar and others. Democratic Conference came into existence under the leadership of Sadiq Sahib. Then we witnessed another stage when all these tall leaders once again reunited which Sadiq sahib expressed as his home coming. After that, he continued his intellectual activities till his death at the age of 92, while I also got a chance as an Editor of his News Daily. Till his death, he continued to study

the recent literature and interestingly, weekly intellectual sessions were held at his residence where he exhibited his intellect. The General Secretary of the then Communist Party in Kashmir was one of the students of Rajpori sahib who was very much influenced by him. Once politics was exclusively a matter of intellect, in presence of such great personalities, but now it has diminished to the level of just coming into power with by hook or by crook majorities, but whenever intellect would be talked about, tall leaders like Rajpori sahib would be remembered.

Now, about Mr. Sadiq Ali sahib, I remember the good old days when we worked together. When Sheikh sahib was released from jail in 1964, he was accompanied by Sadiq Ali sahib and delivered speeches in his public gatherings. I remember the words of Sheikh sahib which he delivered from the stage of Hazratbal, which goes like that - I had lost one Sadiq (Shri Ghulam Mohd Sadiq sahib) and Allah sent me another Sadiq (Sadiq Ali sahib). Such was the respect Sheikh sahib had for Sadiq Ali sahib. He was a great writer and an environmentalist too. His contribution in preserving the Dal Lake would continue to guide us forever.

Khwaja Nazir Ahmad Mir hailing from Rajouri was with us in this House, I still remember his enthusiastic speeches especially which he delivered while defending the Women's Bill. He was a man of great respect in his own area, Rajouri. The National Conference Party has not yet found his successor in Rajouri. May his soul rest in peace.

I do not know Shri Ahmadullah Azad sahib personally but still I pay my homage to him.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi had been a national figure who bestowed a prestige upon the Indian cricket and taught the team the skills of victory. He was the first man to identify the Spin bowling attack for the Indian Cricket and introduced three of them while we could not have any bowler greater than Shri Kapil Dev. It was due to him only that India could be able to win test matches on foreign grounds. He belonged to a very great family who preserved his grace till death. I think that his death is a great loss to the society. I would like to convey my condolences to Smt. Sharmila Tagore ji; Nawab's son, Saif Ali Khan sahib and other family members.

Whatever happened in Sikkim, I realize that we share the same seismic zone with that state and pray to God that He may save us from such disasters. The earthquake claimed more than hundred precious lives in Sikkim. As a token of condolence, I would request the govt to announce a grant for Sikkim and also to depute a Medical team there. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: I would request the Hon'ble Members to be as brief as possible.

Shri Murtaza Ahmad Khan: Sir, I am very thankful to you for granting me the opportunity to take part in the obituary references. I am aware of the scarcity of time as

many Hon'ble Members have to deliberate. We could not do anything more than paying such homage to our separated colleagues.

The obituary references before the House today includes the name of Shri Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori on the top. Taing sahib has in detail referred about the life and political contributions of Rajpori sahib. We were not fortunate enough to have worked with or met him.

As far as Late Sadiq Ali sahib is concerned, I also got a chance to work with him. He joined our party in the year 2003. He was a great intellectual and decent personality, a great writer. I would like to share a very interesting incident. In 2004, when I heard that Sadiq sahib is no more, I visited his residence. When I rang the door-bell, Sadiq sahib opened the door. And when I narrated the story, he hugged me tight and said that nobody has the time nowadays to visit the place on hearing such news to condole. Being an author, he would get his work published only after he himself got satisfied with it. We would always miss such a competent person in our political lives.

Regarding Ahmadullah Azad sahib, I could only pay condolences to him as I did not know him personally.

Late Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib hailed from our border district Rajouri. He had a soft heart for the poor and down trodden, was a decent and a soft-spoken person. He was very consistent with his political affiliations. May his soul rest in peace too.

I met Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi twice. I also incidentally visited his native village Pataudi. He was at that time ready for a procession may be a hunt out or something else. with an elegance, he said to me that you are lucky for having reached me otherwise nobody could ever reach a tiger. He gave new dimensions to the Indian Cricket. It was not that the Indian team had not won any match. During the time of partition, the Indian Cricket team was also in a great depression. Nawab Pataudi took the strides of the Indian Cricket Team in his hands at the age of mere 21 years while unfortunately he had lost one eye in a car accident. He led the Indian team for the first time outside the country in New Zealand and made them realize that we were still the best in the world. The team won the series. He had a spectacular record as captain for the 46 matches he lead Indian team. He is famous for establishing new dimensions of decency and elegance in his personal life as well and never compromised on even petty things. A couple of years ago, when he was included as a Director in the IPL, he openly accepted the flaws in the IPL in the media. Such was his personality.

I pray for all these great personalities that their souls may rest in peace.

Regarding the earthquake victims in Sikkim, I would say that it would be a goodwill gesture if we could help them in any way and through this stage, I would request the Hon'ble Chief Minister to extend a helping hand towards the victims in Sikkim. I am again very grateful to you for giving me the chance to speak, Thank you.

Shri Devinder Singh Rana: Sir, through this stage, I would like to pay homage to the departed souls, Late Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori, Late Mr. Sadiq Ali, Late Mr. Ahmadullah Azad, Late Mr. Nazir Ahmad Mir and Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi.

As regards late Rajpori sahib, I do not know much about him. But after hearing about him from Taing sahib, I came to learn about the pivotal role he played in the politics of the State. Hon'ble Sir, this life is like a stage where everyone plays his part according to his capacities and one day everyone leaves, but some people leave behind them legacies. Such are these personalities whom we have gathered here to pay homage to. My friend Murtaza has also given a detail about Jenab Sadiq Ali sahib. He was a decent personality, a very intellectual figure and I do agree with Murtaza sahib about Sadiq sahib's intellect that whenever he wrote something, either a press note or else, he was habitual of going through it a number of times and was very particular about even punctuation marks. He was an author also and known by his pen name "*Aaseed*". As Taing sahib rightly pointed out that he was nature-lover by heart and an environmentalist too. I pay homage to him from the depth of my heart.

I had a chance to work with Jenab Nazir Mir sahib. He was a learned advocate and a good human being. He never compromised with his self-respect which was a prominent part of his personality.

While paying condolences to the four personalities, in my opinion it would be the best that we all take lessons from their political lives and try to connect ourselves with a clean and transparent politics so that we could have a better political environment.

Nawab Pataudi belonged to a very well reputed Nawab family, had a very decent & hospitable personality. On losing his eye he said that 'I have lost an eye but I have not lost sight of my ambition', and with one eye know as the good eye, he proved his batting skills world over. As rightly said, it was under his captainship that Indian team defeated New Zealand on their home ground with a score of 3-1 around 1961-62. We got the opportunity to pay homage to Nawab sahib surely because Hon'ble Sir himself is well connected with the cricket world.

As far as Sikkim earthquake victims are concerned, I stand here to pay homage to them. But introspection is needed here. As Taing sahib said that we fall in the same seismic zone, still we need to take lessons from them and be prepared to fight with such a calamity which may occur in our state. Thank you.

Sheikh Ghulam Rasool: Sir, I would like to share my sentiments with the House on the obituary made in reference to the great personalities mentioned here. Personally speaking, I had a close association with all these personalities during my service career. I had close interactions with them especially in the District Development Board meetings. I would not go into the details while Taing sahib has already spoken in this regard in detail, especially, about Rajpori sahib. When we look at the leadership which our state had during the pre-independence time, they were all great intellectual personalities. Unfortunately, the leadership had a split in 1952, for which, the state is still paying the price and nobody knows as to for how long we would have to bear its price. The reasons for the same would be decided by the time to come. Rajpori sahib was an intellectual

person with a very active mind; I would pray to the almighty that his soul may rest in peace.

About late Mr. Sadiq Ali, a lot has been said by Taing sahib and Murtaza sahib. After 1975, he had been a close associate of Sheikh sahib, just like his son, Farooq sahib. He had been an intellectual hub to the National Conference leadership. May his soul rest in peace!

I also knew Ahmadullah Azad sahib and Nazir Mir sahib for the role they played during the militancy period. Nazir sahib, in those hard times, kept his party alive in Rajouri along with his principles.

A lot has been stated here about Nawab Pataudi sahib; I am not associated with cricket but would just like to say that besides being a cricket legend, he was a very decent personality. May his soul rest in peace! Thank you.

Shri Ajay Kumar Sadhotra: Sir, today, obituary references are being taken up in this August House. My colleagues have stated a lot while paying their homage to the departed souls.

Late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpuri sahib had been the Speaker as well as a Minister in J&K State, Taing sahib has talked about him in detail. I think that losing such personalities creates a large gap which is nearly impossible to fill up. So, we pray that his soul may rest in peace and God may bless today's leadership with courage to follow his footsteps.

Sadiq Ali sahib has been MLC and my colleague as well in the Assembly and Treasurer of National Conference for long. He always had a smiling face and was a witty person too. In those times, when mobile phones were not there, he used to send his couplets on slips, he used to lighten the tense Assembly atmosphere with his witty one-liners. He served the National Conference for long. He joined the PDP also once and on his return to the National Conference, he said that it appears as if he had got lost somewhere.

Late Ahmadullah Azad sahib hailed from Leh. He was a very emotional man, a Member of the Legislative Council from National Conference. He always played a pivotal role in Leh whenever there happened to be tension between the Buddhists and the Muslims. I had also enjoyed his hospitable nature. He had been a very dedicated worker of the National Conference.

Late Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib was a renowned lawyer in Rajouri and a great leader of the National Conference in his area. He was a poet as well and used to convey his thoughts in poetic way especially during the party meetings. As has been rightly said that he had a consistent party affiliation who always talked about development and betterment of Rajouri.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi has been talked about here. We are with the whole nation in sorrow. One could well imagine the height of his personality that he could become the captain of the Indian cricket team in the young age of 21. The cricket world has especially lost a great mentor and such a loss is no doubt irreparable. I still

hope that the cricket youth would follow his footsteps in order to maintain the place which India enjoys in international cricket. With these words, I would like to thank you and paying homage to the departed souls, I pray to God that their souls may rest in Peace.

Shri Naresh Kumar Gupta: Thank you Sir. Today we have the obituary references on the demise of the great personalities. I did not know them personally, but as my colleagues highlighted their personalities and their contributions towards the civil society, it appears that they had led exemplary lives. I only knew Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib. As I had been married in Rajouri, I once happened to attend a function in Rajouri where I landed in some problem. I asked for a local leader and got reference of Mir sahib. On calling him, I got such a quick and a helping response from his side for which I would always be thankful to him. So I got influenced by his culture and behavior. On behalf of the House, I would request that a biography of such intellectual persons should be published so that everybody could learn about their contributions to the society and we could also follow their footsteps.

As far as Nawab Pataudi is concerned, the cricket world could never forget his cricket skills which he exhibited and taught them especially during his captaincy at such a young age of 21.

From this stage, I would also pay homage to the victims of the recent Delhi High Court blast who lost their lives in the tragedy. Thank you, Sir.

Dr. Bashir Ahmad Veeri: With permission of the Chair, I would like to thank the House for such a warm welcome we have received on being inducted as Members of this House. I would also like to thank my party, National Conference and our tall leader Late Sher-i-Kashmir who gave us such a platform owing to his contributions. I would also like to thank Jenab Farooq Abdullah sahib, our young dynamic leader Omar sahib, Party General Secretary, Sheikh Nazir sahib, Hon'ble Legislators from my Party and the coalition partners who gave me the chance to be a part of this House. I feel pride in being a Member of this House as my father had also been a part of this August Legislature.

Today, we have some obituary references about four former legislators of the state and a cricket legend, whom my seniors have highlighted in detail, I feel pride in having such great senior colleagues as well. Speaking among such great personalities would be just like showing candle to the Sun. Still, I would like to pay homage to the departed souls.

As far as late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori sahib is concerned, I would say that Hon'ble Taing sahib has highlighted the political stages which this State had witnessed in past. The architect of the today's State of Jammu and Kashmir, late Sher-i-Kashmir,

Jenab Sheikh Abdullah sahib, he raised a voice in the year 1931 in pre-independent Kashmir and tried to rescue this state from the miseries. There was no concept of partition of the nation at that time. His efforts were just towards the prosperity and development of the Jammu and Kashmir region. But, unfortunately, he was deceived at each and every step, otherwise we could have been as prosperous as other regions like Turkey, etc. Late Ghulam Ahmad Rajouri sahib was among the persons who walked hand in hand with Sher-i-Kashmir in those times and also during the Quit Kashmir Movement in 1946. Then after 1967, he joined journalism and started a weekly publication called Roznama followed by other publications and served the State for long in such capacity. He also served as a Cabinet Minister and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly as well.

Jenab Sadiq Ali Sahib had always been an important pillar of the National Conference. He served the State as Member of both the Houses of the State Legislature. I knew Sadiq sahib right from 1979. It would not be improper to say that I had been raised in his hands. He had always been a guide and a mentor to me whom I miss a lot. He had also published a paper on the Revolution of Kashmir which has been praised a lot at every fora. His comprehensive publication called Deterioration of Forest of Kashmir is worth reading and as Taing sahib said here that his suggestions on preservation of the Dal Lake are his great contributions in their own.

I did not know Ahmadullah sahib personally but learnt here that he was also an important political figure of the state.

Late Nazir Mir sahib hailed from Rajouri, was a renowned Advocate and had great contributions towards the socio-political scenario and had been an exemplary Member of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Murtaza sahib has highlighted in detail about Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi sahib. I would like to say that Pataudi sahib had played an important role in rescuing the Indian cricket team from the depression, a psyche which they had been a victim of while playing outside the state specially in Great Britain. He rescued the team from that negative mindset and taught them the skills of victory.

Mr. Taing sahib and Mr. Rana sahib have mentioned in detail about the tragedy which happened in Sikkim. I would request that we should have a concern about this. In 1993, I had been a Medical student in Maharashtra, There happened to be an earthquake in Killari which claimed around 1.5 lacs of precious lives, an unofficial figure. I volunteered for the relief work. When I entered the Killari hospital, around 8-9 thousand dead bodies were waiting for us. I also had the opportunity to accompany the Impact Assessment Team nominated by the WHO. It was found that the damage occurred only due to human mistakes. Same might have been situation in Sikkim. We are also included in Seismic zone No. 5. So, here we need to conduct a fresh assessment through the concerned department and the buildings need to be assessed whether they could withstand such a scale of earthquake or not so that preventive measures could be taken well in advance.

Besides, Nawab Pataudi sahib has also been enlisted here today. Along with him, I also pay homage to Mohammad Azarharuddin sahib's son who lost his life in a tragic road accident. I also pay homage to Late Nizam-ud-din sahib who passed away some 4 days ago who shared the stature with Rajpuri sahib. My heart beats even harder for the victims of Pahalgham road accident, which happens to be my area and also the people who lost their lives in road accidents in Doda, Ramban and Rajouri, I condole their death as well. I would request the House to suggest measures to prevent such tragedies in future. I would also request the House that brief biographies of such great personalities may be published so that we could take lessons from their lives. Thank you.

Shri Vijay Bakaya: Hon'ble Deputy Chairman Sir, I thank you for having given me this opportunity. I stand to associate myself with the sentiments of this House.

As far as late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpuri sahib is concerned, most of us did not know him personally, but we knew him by name which proves that Rajpuri sahib is part of recent memory of the people of this State. Mr. Taing has very graphically expressed the essence of his personality. I had the occasion to meet him once. I had gone to his house with his son-in-law who is an illustrious doctor. I sat with Mr. Rajpuri for an hour and I was very impressed by his passion for the down-trodden and the deprived. I heard him express satisfaction at the completion of the Agrarian Reforms in the State, I could see even though Marxist ideology in the world has begun to become irrelevant but he held it on with a conviction. As we all know that he had been a part of the history of this place right from 1931 onwards and he saw the events unfold. While he was talking to me, it was obvious that he was a repository of so much knowledge that had we sat down and written the history of that period, that would have been a very authentic account.

Sadiq Ali sahib: I had the good fortune of being called a friend by him, I could see he was a man of strong conviction and he liked to be seen as a scholar and whenever he discussed an issue, he discussed it with great knowledge but he had the feeling that the people around were not so knowledgeable as he was, he talked with so much outspokenness and appeared as if blunt. I could see sitting in the galleries that when he was talking in the assembly, he would make certain comments about his party or the issue under discussion which were quite assabic, though witty, but there was so much acid in that wit that I could see his colleagues to get embarrassed, this was part of his conviction or part of his belief that whatever he was saying was the truth. As one of the gentlemen here said that he was an environmentalist who was devoted to the cause. I found him, a man who in addition to fighting for great causes would continue to fight for lost causes. At the end of his life I found him to be a disillusioned man and in the last stages of his life, he seemed to have lost his way. His end was sudden and unexpected. I salute him for his wisdom and for his devotion towards his causes.

Late Ahmadullah Azad sahib hailed from Leh. I remember, he used to come to my office, a long haired gentleman wearing fashionable clothes, would talk this and that and also the people of his place.

Late Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib, I knew him as an advocate when he used to practice in my court when I was the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu. I could see that he was an advocate with a lot of honesty. I could see that he martially defended the facts of his case. He was not up to turning white into black or vice-a-versa and he was of a great help to the administration in Rajouri where seeds of militancy were becoming visible.

Late Mansoor Ali khan Pataudi, was of course a cricketer with exceptional ability, he was a man of many facets. He was a musician who could sing ghazals. With just an eye, he was a skillful man as a cricketer. But he was known more as a fielder who would chase the ball running to the boundary. At that time he had long hair that is why he was called a Tiger as he chased the ball so hard that while chasing his hair would flow and he seemed like a Tiger. That gave him the name. Later on after his retirement, he came to be known more as the husband of a famous film star, rather than as an ex-cricketer. But he maintained his dignity. When I was representing the University of Rajasthan in cricket, I saw him come to the field, I was so overpowered by his regal personality and I wondered how this regal man with such a straight bearing can be a cricketer and runner after the ball. He was a devoted cricketer. I pay my salute to all these gentlemen and my condolences to them. Thank you.

Shri Mohammad Ashraf Mir: Hon'ble Chairman, I thank the House for welcoming us. There is no doubt that all the gentlemen in the obituary reference were legends in themselves who had great contributions towards the civil society. Besides, we have lost a number of political, social, cultural and religious personalities. Last year, we lost 120 people including a child of 9years as well. I pay homage to all the departed souls from the depth of my heart and pray to God to give them place in heavens and bestow their kith and kin with patience. Thank you.

Shri Narboo Gialchan: Hon'ble Sir, I would like to pay condolences to all the departed great souls, I would not go into details owing to shortage of time, but would like to mention something about late Ahmadullah Azad sahib who hailed from my constituency. He came from a poor family who started his business as a Motor vehicle mechanic and showed the way of earning livelihood to the unemployed youth. He also got constructed a market for enabling the youth to setup their business and earn livelihood. The same is still known by the name of Chandi Market. He was an important part of the National Conference and a very dear friend of Dr. Farooq Abdullah sahib. This was the reason that he rose from such a small business and became a Member of this August body which encouraged him a lot for continuous service to the people of Leh. So, our hearts are filled up on his passing away, but it is the reality of life which everyone has to pass through. So, I pay homage to the departed souls. Thank you.

Shri Ghulam Qadir Pardesi: Hon'ble Chairman, I thank you for granting me the permission to speak. Today we have some obituary references for some of the great personalities.

First of all, Late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori sahib, though Taing sahib has highlighted almost every aspect of Rajpori sahib's life, I also got associated with him after 1957 and then a stage came when I entered into government service, while he remained associated with politics and our association got very limited. It is a fact that Rajpori sahib was a learned politician and supported the socialist thought of life. May Allah give him place in heavens!

As far as late Sadiq Ali sahib is concerned, I had been associated with him since childhood. If I am not wrong, he entered into active politics after Sheikh Sahib got released from jail for the first time in 1950s. I still remember that he used to photograph Sheikh sahib and got associated with the National Conference. Then a stage came when both of us met together in the political arena and remained associated with the People's Democratic Party. Just like Murtaza sahib, I also visited his place after hearing the false news of his demise. There are very few personalities who find comparison with the honest, learned and straight forward person as Sadiq sahib.

Unfortunately, I never got a chance to associate with Ahmadullah sahib and Nazir Mir sahib but have heard a lot about these great personalities.

All these people have contributed a lot in the ups and downs of the politics of this part of the world which we should never forget.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi was an asset to the whole nation. He has also departed from us. I pay homage to him also.

As far as Sikkim earthquake victims are concerned, we have deep sympathies with them all as human beings. I would also like to request the govt to consider the suggestions laid down by Mr. Taing regarding the victims.

I pray to God to give them due place in heavens and bestow their kith and kin with courage so that they could emerge from such a loss. Thank you.

Syed Mohammad Rafiq Shah: I am very thankful to the Hon'ble Chairman for giving me the chance to express our feelings. I did not know all the great personalities who are being included in today's obituary reference on the very first sitting of this House, but they have left their marks on the history of all mankind with their deeds. While paying homage to all the four political personalities of the state for their self-less service to the civil society, we all should keep in mind that all of us have to leave the world like they had, we should also try to do good deeds so that we must also be respectfully remembered forever like they are being today, so we must mind our conduct in this House.

As far as Nawab of Pataudi is concerned, who is also called as Tiger Pataudi, he was a great cricketer and had proved to be a great captain of the Indian cricket team. He was the last Nawab of Pataudi. Following the footsteps of Martyrs - Ashfaqullah Khan,

Tipu Sultan, Brigadier Usman and Abdul Hamid Sipahi, he proved that the Indian Muslim is Nationalist and knows how to add glories to the nation. He rescued the Indian Cricket Team from the depth of depression which they were a victim of from the pre-independence period and the Indian Cricket team shone globally.

I pay homage to all the departed souls and express my sympathies with their kith and kin, especially the family of late Nawab sahib, Smt. Sharmila Tagore and Nawab Saif Ali Khan.

Besides, I would like to submit here regarding our retired Legislators, who are left at the mercy of God after taking leave from active politics. It appears as if they or their forefathers have never contributed towards the civil society. Some way out should be devised in order to support their kith and kin as is done in case of martyred soldiers. Thank you.

Shri B. R. Kundal : Hon'ble Chairman, I also share my sentiments with the House on this occasion of paying homage to the departed souls. As a suggestion, I would like to say that a system should be devised so that a staff member of the Council Secretariat should join the family members of the deceased while his last rites are being performed which would acknowledge his role towards the civil society would also provide a sort of recognition to the departed soul. I have been very fortunate for having interacted with all these great personalities hailing from all the three regions of the State. I have also served in all the three regions during my service career. Especially when I was in the Finance Department, one Mr. Jalaluddin hailing from Inderwal, constituted a group of ex-Legislators. He fought for provision of facilities, particularly medical facilities for ex-legislators who often get ignored after leaving from the active politics as medical expenses get increased owing to growing age. I would like to request the Chair to kindly communicate to the govt to provide some kind of medical allowance to the ex-legislators or some other facilities in hospitals so that they could meet their medical expenses. They could often be seen roaming for medicines and repeatedly approaching the govt for provision of some ex-gratia relief for meeting their medical expenditure. I would like to request you to consider these suggestions of mine.

Regarding the Sikkim disaster, I would say that I had been to Sikkim especially the affected areas, very hard places to live. Final reports are still pending and I could well imagine the effect of the disaster in that cut-off part of world and also the hardships the people would be facing. I pay my condolences for the all the departed souls and express sympathies to their kith and kin. Thank you.

Shri Khalid Najeeb Suharwardy: I am very thankful to the Hon'ble Chairman for providing me the opportunity to speak. Late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori, late Ahmadullah Azad, late Sadiq Ali and late Nazir Ahmad Mir, all these personalities had been members of the State Legislature. They had contributed towards the State's Constitution which we follow today. All these personalities were associated with the

tallest of the leaders of the State who had took part in the Quit Kashmir Movement as well. They had been very learned, educated, literary people, who understood every color of politics. We still follow their footsteps for contributing towards the civil society from one platform or the other. They never indulged in personal political rivalries as is being witnessed today.

Sadiq Ali sahib had been a very outspoken person and sometime very embarrassing. Once I, wearing a black suit, went to the Secretariat and he asked as to where the '*siah-posh*' (black suited person) was heading and I replied with the same wit that I was going to see some '*safaid posh*' (white-suited people). Life and death go hand in hand.

Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib well represented his constituency. He was a man of self-respect and had a pain for the civil society. He always followed his principles irrespective of consequences, whether loss or gain.

Same is the case with late Ahmadullah Azad sahib who started with such a low level and rose to the level of a Member of this House. He also served his people a lot.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi had been a legendary cricketer. As far as I remember, Tiger was the title bestowed upon his father. Nawab sahib is regarded as the youngest ever captain in international cricket who had lead India in the highest ever number of test matches and gave credibility to the Indian cricket. He never sold himself unlike today's scenario. We have IPL and also witness some cases of match fixing. It had never been the case with cricketers of his stature.

Now regarding the victims of Sikkim earthquake, we could realize the pain which they are suffering from because we have been through such a tragedy in 2005. We recommend some kind of relief to the victims from our State as well. Like Kundal sahib said, we no doubt pay homage to them after their demise but fail to take care of the ex-legislators during their life. One could well imagine the pitiable condition of their families too. So, we should contemplate to provide some kind of relief to them. I now conclude with a note of Thanks to you Sir.

Haji Ali Mohammad Bhat: Hon'ble Sir, I congratulate all the Hon'ble Members for commencement of this Session. My colleagues have mentioned about the former legislators. Among the departed souls, was our great colleague from the Congress party, late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori sahib? I was very young at the time when he served as a Minister. He had been a great leader of the State and a companion of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad sahib, the then Chief Minister. I pay homage to him from the depth of my heart.

I also pray for other great personalities, late Ahmadullah Azad sahib, late Sadiq Ali sahib, late Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib and Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi sahib that Allah may give them place in heavens! Thank you.

Syed Asgar Ali: Sir, I am joining this August House in paying tributes to the great personalities, late Ghulam Ahmad Ali Rajpori, Ahmadullah Azad sahib, late Sadiq Ali sahib, late Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib and of course, Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi sahib. These personalities have been described at length by Hon'ble Legislators here. I just want that some sort of concern was shown towards the tragedy which has occurred in Sikkim as well as in Delhi High Court Blast. But, I feel this was an opportune time to say something, when even British parliament had shown a concern, for the 3000 unnamed graves in Kashmir. Even the State Human Rights Commission has mentioned it in their report. But unfortunately and to the dismay of this august House, these unknown graves have not figured in this reference today. I am sure that all of us feel for these unmarked graveyards and we should unanimously express a concern of this House that these unnamed graves must be a part of the discussions in this House when it has been a matter of discussion in the British Parliament as well as mentioned in the report of the State Human Rights Commission.

So, we all pray to the Almighty to give the departed souls their due place in heaven. I would also request the Members to reserve some place in their hearts for the people in these unnamed graves where we have shown concern about Sikkim victims, or Delhi High Court Blast or accidental victims. Thank you.

Shri Subhash Chander Gupta: Sir, this August House has thrown light over the lives of the great personalities who have departed from the world. I am sure that the House would concur with me in paying condolences to the former manager of the Legislators' Hostel who breadth his last on 18th of this month following a tragic heart attack. We all pray that his soul may rest in peace and his kith and kin may have all the courage to face this tragedy. Thank you.

Shri Agha Syed Ahmad Rizvi: Sir, today we are paying tributes to the five great personalities. Out of these personalities, I knew Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori sahib and Sadiq Ali sahib. I pray for their souls to rest in peace. Late Ahmadullah Azad sahib hailed from our Ladakh region. So, I pay my homage to all these great personalities. Thank you.

S. Dharamveer Singh Oberoi: Sir, today I feel glad for being a part of this august House. I would just like to request here that nothing unjust should become a part of the discussions. I stand with the House in paying tributes to the great departed souls. There are some people who walked with Sheikh Sahib hand in hand at one time and deceived him at other point of time just for their self interests. No doubt, Sher-i-Kashmir had been the greatest leader Kashmir ever had. But he had been deceived by some people included in this list.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: I would request you, Oberoi sahib that this is an obituary reference which should not be mixed with political rivalries. So, we should stick to the spirit of the issue under discussion.

Shri Nasir Aslam Wani, Hon'ble MoS for Home & Tourism: Sir, we should stick to the obituary references.

S. Dharamveer Singh Oberoi: Sir, I join the House in paying tributes to the departed souls. Thank you.

Shri Nasir Aslam Wani, Hon'ble MoS for Home & Tourism: Sir, continuing with the rich traditions of this House, the House has paid its tributes to the departed souls. Among these personalities, late Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori had been a Member of the Constituent Assembly. Mr. Suharwardy has pointed out his contributions to the Constitution of the State. He was a companion of Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah and we could never forget his contributions.

I feel pride in saying that I knew all the four great personalities since childhood. Rajpori sahib was a literary person having a rich library, he was such a knowledgeable person that he could speak on almost each and every subject and could impress the listener.

Sadiq Ali sahib had been a friend of my father, had been a Member of both the Houses and represented Zadibal constituency. Preserving the heritage and environment and ecology was his favorite subject. When I was inducted as an MLA and then the Member of the Environment Committee, he used to give lessons to me regarding preservation of Dal. We have been benefited a lot with his lessons on preservation of Dal.

Ahmadullah Azad sahib had been a strong pillar of the National Conference in Ladakh region in the times when limited people were affiliated with the party. He had a stylish personality and kept long hair. I was greatly impressed by him too.

Nazir Ahmad Mir sahib was a learned legislator, always talked about public friendliness and used to contribute both within and outside the House and played an important role in the society.

Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi has been mentioned here as a Cricketer. He was a legendary cricketer, par doubt. Besides, another part of his personality was that he always helped the poor and needy. He had still been a tall leader of his area despite abolition of Jagirdari and titles due to the fact that he had zeal to serve the society. He also contested the elections from Bhopal as a Congress candidate and also on the mandate by the Haryana Vikas Party and had been very active in politics as well.

As far as Sikkim is concerned, Suharwardy sahib has rightly stated that nobody could realize their pain as we do, owing to the disaster which we have passed through in

the year 2005 which is incomparable in itself. We hope that they might face this disaster with courage. Their material damages might get compensated, but the lost lives could never be compensated. Keeping in view the damages due to flash floods in Leh, I am of the view that our disaster management mechanism needs to be made more and more effective. I would also say that we have been able to implement the suggestions which were put forth in this House during the previous session and we are ready to face such disasters in future.

So, we must follow the tradition and pay tributes to the departed souls. Besides, another fact has been high-lighted here that former legislators need some sort of financial assistance, especially in terms of medical care which I myself have felt. So, I would suggest that all Legislators along with the government might create a corpus welfare fund for the former legislators. It is my personal understanding which may be debated out. Whenever we come to learn that an ex-legislator or his family needs some financial assistance, we may pay from such a fund. So, I join the House in paying homage to the departed souls on behalf of the government and pray to Allah to give them their due place in heaven and give their kith and kin all the courage to face the tragedy. Thank you very much.

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Thank you Hon'ble Minister.

This House expresses profound sorrow and grief on the sad demise of Ghulam Ahmad Mir Rajpori, Sadiq Ali, Ahmadullah Azad, Nazir Ahmad Mir, Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, victims of earthquake in Sikkim. I just want to add up that the Hon'ble Minister (Nasir Aslam Wani) has also lost his father a few days back. We condole his sad demise too along with the untimely death of the son of Shri Iqbal Khanday and the victims of road accidents. We are also concerned about the unmarked graves.

Words are inadequate to convey the feelings on the loss to the State in general and to this House in particular due to their sad demise. This House pays its homage to the memories of ex-legislators and great statesmen and prays to God that their souls may rest in peace. This House also expresses its grief and sorrow on the sad demise of Nawab Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, former Indian captain and a great social worker for whom I feel that inspite of cricket having become richer in cash and technique since Tiger held a bat, but the world has certainly become poorer since his death. So, I request all the Hon'ble Members to observe two minutes silence.

(Two minutes silence was observed)

Mr. Deputy Chairman: Now, there is no other business for today. The House is adjourned till Tuesday, 27th of September, 2011 11.00 AM. Thank you.
