



SPEAKER

D. DAMODARAN POTTI

A true veteran who shone in every field that he ventured into, Shri Damodaran Potti had the patriotic spirit and the courage of conviction to discard what could have been a blazing career in Central Secretariat Service, to participate in the Quit India Movement.

Born in 1921 as the son of Shri K. Damodaran Potti and Smt. Aryadevi, Shri Potti in his early days had a brilliant academic career crowned with achievements. Completing his school education from Kottarakkara High School, he took his Intermediate from SB College, Changanasserry and B.A. from Arts College, Trivandrum. Opting to continue his studies, he also obtained a Fellowship in law from Law College, Trivandrum.

Shri Damodaran Potti's political career began in full swing after becoming an active member in the INC. Becoming District President of Congress Socialist Party he later quit and joined PSP. Getting elected to TCLA in 1954, Shri Potti served as its Deputy Speaker from March 24, 1954 to March 23, 1956.

Shri Potti became a member of KLA for the first time in 1960 in the second KLA contesting from Kottarakkara. In the very same Assembly, he also served as Minister for Public Works from February 22, 1960 to September 26, 1962 in the Ministry headed by Shri Pattom Thanu Pillai. In the subsequent Ministry headed by Shri R. Sankar too, Shri Potti held the Office of Minister for Public Works from September 26, 1962 to October 8, 1962.

Getting elected yet again in 1967, Shri Damodaran Potti was chosen as Speaker and he held this Office from March 15, 1967 to October 21, 1970 performing his duties with that special elan associated with his

persona and upholding the decorum and dignity of the House. In the meanwhile, he had also served as the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances during 1963-64.

Shri Potti has put his stamp in many social areas as well. He was the Convenor of District Bharat Sevak Samaj, Quilon. He was also the Chairman of Lok Karya Kshetra Committee, Kerala; Kerala Unit of the SSP and Vice Chairman of the Kerala Grandhasala Sangham and was the President of the Plywood Employees Union, Head Load Worker's Union, Kottarakkara and Madhya Kerala Cashew Factory Workers' Union.

Smt. P. V. Sreedevi Antharjanam was his wife and they have one son and three daughters.

Shri Damodaran Potti expired on November 15, 2002. The Assembly paid homage to him on January 27, 2003.

