



SPEAKER

ALEXANDER PARAMBITHARA

Shri Alexander Parambithara, fondly called A.P., who adorned the seat of the Speaker of Kerala Legislative Assembly was a man of conviction. When Shri A.P. was elected as Speaker, Shri Joseph Chazhikadan had voiced aloud "all the qualities were so mingled in him that Nature will stand up and say here is a man". Through his selflessness and high regard for human values and virtues, Shri A.P. was truly a role model for the younger generation.

Born in February 1900, Shri A.P., affectionately referred to as Parambithara Master, had his education in Ernakulam Maharaja's College, Thiruchirappally St. Joseph's College and Trivandrum Law College. He started his career as Headmaster of Kumbalangi St. Peter's High School, after passing out of Saidapet Teachers'

Training College. Perhaps it was this experience as a teacher which later helped him in tiding over tiring situations.

He had also served as Ernakulam Municipal Council Chairman during 1947-51. Even after he became Member of Kerala Legislative Assembly, he had served as President, Ernakulam District Congress Committee in 1961.

A.P. Master had been elected to Cochin Assembly twice in 1934 and 1947 and Tiru-Cochi Council also, in 1952 and 1954. He was elected to Kerala Legislative Assembly from Palluruthi Constituency in 1957 and 1960.

Shri Alexander Parambithara became Speaker of the Assembly on December 13, 1961. Conducting the business of the House with his characteristic elan, A.P.

Master graced that coveted seat till September 10, 1964.

Shri Parambithara was elected once again in 1967, this time from Ernakulam Constituency. During this period, he was also Chairman of two Legislature Committees; Assurances Committee during 1967-68 and Library Advisory Committee during 1969-70.

Not one to compromise on his beliefs and convictions, Parambithara Master did not hesitate to voice his opinion when Emergency was proclaimed in 1975 and had the courage and sincerity of purpose to join hands with Shri A.K. Gopalan, when his party fought against its imposition and even courted arrest in the process.

Shri Parambithara Master breathed his last on June 10, 1989. The Assembly paid homage to him on June 12, 1989.

