

[27 February, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

the Government? Obviously, this would involve reaching a consensus with the State Government, (b) Does the Government have a proposal in that direction also?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, my short answer to this question is 'yes'.

DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Sir, the ERC is taking a lot of care to reduce the expenditure. I am very happy about it. But, through you, Sir, I would like to put a question whether the Minister is aware that there is wastage of nearly Rs. 200 crores in the Films Division which is under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Have you taken care to eradicate it?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I think, the earlier question of the hon. Member, Shrimati Shabana Azmi, was also in relation to this. I have already replied to it. There are recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission relating to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, which are also under the consideration of the Government.

Maintenance of monuments in Karnataka

*82. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) The amount provided for maintenance of monuments in the State of Karnataka during the last three years;
- (b) Whether the amount provided was found adequate for the purpose; and
- (c) If not, the additional amount provided?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The expenditure incurred on the maintenance, conservation, preservation and environmental development of the centrally protected monuments in Karnataka in the last three years is as under:

1997-98	Rs. 167.44 lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 171.12 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 252.12 lakhs

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, how many monuments in Karnataka have been declared as 'world heritage sites' and whether the Government of Karnataka has approached the UNESCO to declare the world famous Golgumbaz, which is the second largest dome in the world with a diameter of 124 feet, as one of the world heritage monuments. Part (b) of my question is, what amount has been spent for preservation and maintenance of the monuments in Bijapur which are famous all over the world for their acoustic architecture.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, there are two world heritage mounuments in Karnataka. One is Hampi and the other is Pattadakal. I entirely agree with the hon. Member that Golgumbaz should also be accorded the status of a world heritage monument, by UNESCO. The Union Government will pursue this matter. Secondly, recently, I visited Golgumbaz and took stock of the situation there. Many corrective steps have been taken. For example, a glass showcase has been provided for Mahakoota pillar inscriptions, flooring of the whispering gallery has been repaired and the graffiti has been erased; we are also going to provide public utilities there. A suitable allocation will be made for all these things.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Sir, my second supplementary is, the group of monuments at Hampi, which was classified in 1993 as a world heritage site, has been classified as a heritage site in danger, by the UNESCO. The UNESCO Committee has expressed its deep concern over the construction of a, cable, suspended, bridge within the protected archaeological area which threatens the integrity and authority of the site. The Committee has requested the Government of India to immediately prepare a comprehensive conservation, management and development plan and it has also promised to provide assistance from the World Heritage Centre. My question to the hon. Minister is, how did the Department of Archaeology allow the construction of bridges within the archaeological area? I would also like to know whether the Government has prepared a

comprehensive conservation, management and development plan, as asked for by the UNESCO Committee; what is the amount of assistance received from UNESCO; how much amount has been earmarked by the Department of Archaeology for preservation of the monuments and what steps are being taken to protect the monuments, as it has been declared as an endangered monument.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Actually, this question should be directed to the Government of Karnataka, because, in 1999, a UNESCO team had visited Hampi. After it observed that two bridges were being constructed across the Tungabhadra river from Annegudi village to Hampi and the main highway, that was going beside the world heritage site, was being routed through that bridge into the heritage monument, they said that this should be listed under the category of endangered world heritage monuments. The House will also appreciate that the land on the other side of the river bank belongs to the Government of Karnataka; but without seeking any permission they started constructing the cable bridge. Later on, when the Government of India, the Ministry of Tourism and Culture took up this issue with the Government of Karnataka and conveyed to them the concern of UNESCO, they appointed a task force. The Task Force appointed by the Government of Karnataka has recommended stopping of the construction of those bridges, and relocation of those bridges. Later, with the hon. M.Ps. of that area and the hon. Culture Minister of the Government of Karnataka, I visited the spot and made an on-spot inspection. They were also convinced about the horrendous effects of re-routing the highway through the world heritage monument. But the Government of Karnataka should decide and implement its own Task Force's recommendation of dismantling and relocating the bridge.

Secondly, the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka said that he is ready to consider setting up an authority, the Hampi Development Authority. At present, there are innumerable agencies which are looking after the development of that area. Instead of this, we can put through an agency like the Hampi Development Authority, for which the Government of India has responded positively. Therefore, if the hon. Member, Rehman Khan Saheb can use his good offices in

this direction, we can have the Harapi Development Authority for this world heritage monument, which will be a model of its kind for the entire country, and which will take up the total conservation and upgradation of the monuments.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह “सूर्य” : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी अपने उत्तर में यह कहा है कि हम्पी में जिस प्रकार से राज्य सरकार की सड़कें बन रही हैं, एनक्रोचमेंट हो रहा है, हम में से कुछ सदस्यों को वहां पर जाने का मौका मिला है, वहां के अलावा भी जितने भी मान्युमेंट्स हैं वहां पर एनक्रोचमेंट बढ़ता जा रहा है, उनके स्वरूप को बनाये रखना भी बहुत कठिन हो गया है। स्थान-स्थान पर यह शिकायत की गई है कि राज्य सरकार का अपेक्षित सहयोग उसमें प्राप्त नहीं हो रहा है। इस के संबंध में एक प्रतिवेदन भी सरकार को प्रस्तुत किया जा चुका है। हम्पी में खासतौर से उसके बीच से, उसकी जो मीनार बनी थी, उसके गुम्बद खड़े थे उसको तोड़कर के सड़कें निकाली गई हैं और इस बारे में भी कमेटी ने एतराज किया था। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर वह राष्ट्रीय स्मारक के रूप में है और राज्य सरकार उसके स्वरूप को मेन्टेन करने के लिए पूरा सहयोग नहीं दे रही है जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी आपके उत्तर से स्पष्ट होता है तो उसको बनाए रखने के लिए आप क्या कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, this is the case not only with the Government of Karnataka, but also with the various State Governments across the country. The archaeological heritage sites have been encroached upon, and there are more than 400 such cases; the only recourse for the Archaeological Survey of India is to approach the State Governments, and the State Governments, in turn, will approach the local District Collector to remove the encroachment. If not, we have to go for the legal recourse. Sir, more than 200 cases are pending in various courts across the country. Therefore, the only solution before the Government is to bring in suitable amendments to the Archaeological Heritage Sites (Protection) Act, and we are contemplating that.

SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the monuments of Shaheed Tipu Sultan at Srirangapatna, i.e., the Daria Daulath Bagh, Tippu Sultan's Mausoleum; Tippu's Fort and Tippu's Palace in Bangalore, which are in a very bad condition, without any maintenance, are provided with

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sufficient funds by the Government. Sir, part (b) of my question is this. The hon. Minister of Tourism and Culture had announced in a public meeting in the second week of January in Karnataka that a special scheme costing Rs. 200 crores would be launched, with the help of the State and the Union Government, for the development of Hampi as a global heritage centre. I want to know what is the present position of this proposal. Japanese and Austrian aid for the proposed Hampi renovation project. I want to know what happened to these proposals.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, number one, the Tipu's Palaces in Srirangapatnam, Darya Daulat, and in Bangalore, which is fortunately in my constituency, are not in a dilapidated condition. For the upkeep of the archaeological sites in Karnataka, last year we have spent Rs. 2.68 crores, and this year we will be spending 50 per cent more for their upkeep. I am very glad to inform that we are coming out with a Rs. 3 crore museum in Darya Daulat in Srirangapatnam. Therefore, when we are having a new museum worth Rs. 3 crores, there is no question of the monuments getting dilapidated.

Secondly, regarding getting the Austrian and Japanese aid that used to come from Japan, especially through the OECF, it was stopped because of the sanctions after the Pokhran. Now, we are renegotiating the whole thing. We are expecting that the assistance from that direction will again come forth.

Thirdly, the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. has founded one Indian Oil Foundation for the upkeep of cultural heritage in the country. It has provided a corpus of Rs. 25 crores and a recurring assistance of Rs. 10 crores every year. Through this, they are taking up upgradation of eight monuments across the country. In that, Hampi is also one. In the first phase, with an expenditure of Rs. 5 crores, we are landscaping, we are creating public utilities and we are coming out with one Information Centre for the Hampi group of monuments.

The Government of Karnataka had proposed to come with a comprehensive plan for tourism development of Karnataka, not only of Hampi, if I want to correct the hon. Member's perception, but also of Badami, Pattadakal, Aihole, Bijapur, Golgumbaz,

Shravanabelagola and Halebeedu, all these things together. It is a Rs. 250 crore- project, and I am awaiting the project. Both internal and external assistance can be mobilised.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, in Tamil Nadu, in Namakkal, we have the famous temple of Lord Narasimha...(*Interruptions*),...

Tamil Nadu is a neighbouring State. The Minister will take care of that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. This question is regarding Karnataka.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: All tourists go to that place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Mr. Chairman, actually, the first part of my question has already been asked by Mr. Krishna Murthy.

I am glad that a new museum is coming up. May I mention that we need trained guides? I have visited those places again and again, and I have found that there is a total lack of trained guides. Why will tourists go to those places if we do not have good guides?

It is also true of Halebeedu and Belur. They are like poems on stones. I have never seen in my life such beautiful places like Halebeedu and Belur. But they are not properly explained. They are not properly looked after. There is no trained guide to explain to tourists. This is part (a).

Part (b) is, the Archaeological Survey of India is neglecting the Chitradurga Fort, and there are innumerable reports about the absence of facilities for tourists there. There is no arrangement for water. There is no garbage bin. The toilets are very badly maintained. Will the Minister look into the condition of the Chitradurga Fort also?

Thank You.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Sir, number one, the resources at our disposal are meagre. Despite that, we are trying to look after 3,606 monuments in the entire country. I hope that more things will flow for the maintenance of the culture and heritage by the benevolence of

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the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget speech. As on today, it is painful to place before this august House that we are having hardly Rs. 5,00(y- to Rs. 6,000'- for the upkeep of different monuments. This is not happening just today. This has been the case for the last fifty years. Therefore, we have come out with a new device. The device is the National Culture Fund. Through the National Culture Fund we will be sourcing funds from various private/public enterprises for the upkeep of the monuments, like landscaping, gardening, illumination, public utility services, information centre,' signboards and making them IT-compliant. All these things are there.

I am happy to announce that today evening I am going to sign a MoU with the Sulabh Souchalaya International. In 30 archaeological sites across the country, there will be Sulabh Souchalayas in the next six months. This will be managed by them, at no cost to the ASI. Various organisations like the Agha Khan Foundation, Oberio Hotels, IOCIL, Pune Municipal Corporation are coming forward to provide us funds for the upkeep of the monuments.

Regarding the guides at the monuments, there is some difficulty. We require to have a National Institute of Culture and Heritage where we can teach musicology and such other subjects; and come out with short-term courses to impart training to the guides. As of today, we do not have any human resource development agency to train the guides and deploy them for the activity.

Lastly, regarding the Chitradurg Fort, I have also received many complaints. I can assure the hon. Member and the House that within seven days, we will be taking corrective measures.

SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as every Member said, Karnataka State is a very famous place for archaeological monuments. Regarding Halebeedu, Belur, Hampi and the Tippu Sultan's Fort, the maintenance is very bad. Unless there is a proper maintenance, nothing can be done because these are the things which can never be repeated. It is history. So, the Government has to take special care about it.

Secondly, a number of tourists are coming over there. When the

foreigners come over there, they first visit all these places. The entry fees charged by the authorities from them is normally high. The maintenance of these monuments and surrounding areas is very bad. The toilet facilities and canteen facilities are up to the mark. We have to take care about these things. Unless everything is neat and clean and properly maintained, the foreigners will not find it attractive to visit these places. When we are collecting huge amount as entry fee, it is our duty to maintain these monuments properly. In this regard, I know from the hon. Minister the amount that the Government is going to spend for the maintenance of these monuments? I think the money that is being given to the Karnataka¹ State is very less. That is why the State Government is not able to do much. So, it is the duty of the Central Government to take care of these things.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Member that the Karnataka Government has allocated a budget of Rs. 1 crore for culture. Out of this Rs. 1 crore, Rs 85 lakhs is towards Non-Plan; and Rs. 15 lakhs is towards Plan. Therefore, I would request Shri Rahman Khanji, Shri Krishnamurthyji and Shrimati Bimba Raikar to impress upon the hon. Chief Minister to increase the allocation for culture. This is number one....(*Interruptions*)... Allocation of Rs. 1 crore is so paltry, so meagre.

Secondly, the total budget of the Archaeological Survey of India is Rs. 116 crores, out of which Rs. 85 crore goes to Non-Plan expenditure. Out of this Rs. 85 crores, around Rs. 26 crores is spent on conservation and preservation, not on salaries and administrative expenditure. The remaining amount of nearly Rs. 33 crore is for the Plan expenditure. But the number of monuments is more. We are going to come out with a brochure. My request to the entire House is That they can make use of their good offices and approach NGOs and public sector undertakings and various private enterprises so that they can come and pool in the resources. The hon. Finance Minister has granted, a few years back; hundred per cent IT exemption for such pooling in of resources. It is donor-specific, they can choose

the monument they want. It is donor-specific", and the management is by the Archaeological Survey of India, the donor and the National Culture Fund representatives. They can decide about the development and upgradation they want, from illumination to signages to public utilities to gardening and landscaping. We are taking it as a campaign throughout the country and I want the entire House, the hon. Members, to participate in this to save the national heritage.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 83.

पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के आयात पर निर्भरता

*183. श्री राम जेठमलानी : †

डा.डी. मस्तान:

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने कि कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नब्बे के दशक में प्रारम्भ में देश में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की 56 प्रतिशत तक मांग स्वदेशी उत्पादन के माध्यम से पूरी की जाती थी जो अब वर्ष 1999-2000 में घटकर 32 प्रतिशत रह गई है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसका सही आकलन क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए आयात पर बढ़ती निर्भरता , देश के लिए आर्थिक दृष्टि से घातक है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक):(क) और (ग) सदन के पटल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) जी हां । वर्ष 1990-91 में देश की 55 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन की पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की आवश्यकता में से 56 प्रतिशत आवश्यकता देश में उत्पादित कच्चे तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस से पूरी की गई थी । वर्ष 1999-2000 के लिए यह प्रतिशत, 97.1 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की आवश्यकता में से 32 प्रतिशत था ।

तथापि, घरेलू शोधन क्षमता में अत्यधिक वृद्धि के कारण, जो 1990-91 में 52.8 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन से बढ़कर वर्तमान में 112.5 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन हो गई है, अब पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों

† सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री राम जेठमलानी द्वारा पूछा गया ।

के स्थान पर अधिकांशतः कच्चे तेल का आयात किया जाता है, सार्थक मूल्य वर्धन अब देश में होता है।

(ग) घरेलू मांग को पूरा करने के लिए आयात पर बढ़ती हुई निर्भरता के परिणामस्वरूप आयात बिल बढ़ता है और उपभोक्ता मूल्यों में वृद्धि होती है। आयात पर अधिक निर्भरता से अर्थव्यवस्था प्रतिकूल रूप से प्रभावित होती है, विशेष रूप से तब जब अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में मूल्य उच्च और संवेदनशील होते हैं।

Dependence on import of petroleum products

† *83. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: + +

DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the early Nineties upto 56 per cent of requirement of petroleum products of the country was fulfilled by domestic production which has now reduced 32 per cent in the year 1999-2000;

(b) if not, the accurate assessment of the same; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that increasing dependence on import to fulfil the requirement of the country is harmful for the country from economic point of view?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the year 1990-91, 56% of requirement of petroleum products of the country of 55 million metric tonnes was met from indigenously produced crude oil and natural gas. This percentage for the year 1999-2000 stood at 32% out of the requirement of petroleum products of 97.1 million metric tonnes.

However, due to substantial increase in domestic refining capacity

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

+ + The question was actually asked on the floor of the house by Shri Ram Jethmalani.