

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 1st July, 1980/the 10th Asadha
1902 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the Clock,
Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN

1. Shri Pyarelal (Madhya Pradesh)
2. Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant
Bhandare (Maharashtra)
3. Shri M. Kalyanasundaram (Tamil
Nadu)
4. Shri R. Mohanarangam (Tamil
Nadu)
5. Shri Dinesh Singh (Uttar
Pradesh)
8. Shri Narsingh Narain Pandey (Uttar
Pradesh)

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Regarding the oath-taking, several Members who have been elected, and declared elected, and who were issued certificates by the Election Commission, could not be present here to take the oath because of a mistake committed by the Law Ministry and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat to inform them properly. The issue of a notification by the Law Ministry is just a legal formality; it is not more sacred or more valid than the certificate issued by the Election Commission. Because of this technical flaw, Members were not aware, and they could not come here for oath-taking. Even though they were...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. There is one rule in this House: When I stand, you sit down. You have to learn this... (Interruptions). During the Question Hour, no point of order can be raised. You can raise it after the Question Hour.

Question No. 321. 484

RS—1.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS'

*321. [The questioner (Shrimati Amarjit Kaur) was absent. For answer vide col. 27 *infra*].

Master plan to protect places of tourist interest

*322. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:† SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any master plan to protect places of tourist and archaeological interest in the country from despoliation; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The master plans (land-use plans) have been prepared of Gul-marg, Martand, Awantipur, Pandre-than, Manali, Sarnath, Kushinagar, Sravasti, Rajgir, Nalanda, Bodhgaya, Konark, Badami, Pattadakal, Aihole" and Hampi. Master plans (land-use plans) of Fatehpur Sikri, Braj Bhoomi area, Piprahwa and Mewar Complex are under preparation.

The master plans (land-use plans) which have been approved and notified by the State Governments concerned are Gulmarg, Kushinagar and Sravasti, while those of Manali, Rajgir and Nalanda though approved by the State Governments concerned, have yet to be notified.

Micro-planning of the area earmarked for development in the master plans of Kushinagar and Sravasti has been taken up with a view to providing necessary tourist facilities there.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Usha Malhotra.

Subject to availability of funds, similar microplanning of the other centres also will be taken up in a phased manner depending upon their relative tourism potential so as to provide necessary tourist infrastructure and facilities.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation to throw some light on what the Government is doing by way of protecting the places of tourist interest and archaeological interest. According to some expert economists, the tourist industry has the potential of crossing the world oil turn-over. Why is it that we have neglected tourism? While drawing up the master plan, has special attention been paid to certain aspects such as providing airfields and adequate accommodation for the foreign tourists? Have we done anything to attract tourists from South-East Asian and West-Asian countries and Far-Eastern countries? When the tourists come to India, we feel that they are in a hurry to leave. But the reason is that there are lack of facilities. If a plan is there, how early will it be implemented and how far can we expedite it by giving aid? I would say that the backbone of the economy of certain States can be tourism and nothing else.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, it has been stated in the answer that the responsibility for developing the centres of tourist interest lies not only with the Central Government but also with the State Governments. You will find from the list of places of tourist interest and tourist centres that has been given that the tourist centres of archaeological interest have also been mentioned. Sir, the places mentioned have been selected according to the number of tourists who have visited these places earlier. Some more places can be identified depending on the resources and the funds available with the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: One question remains. Will any grants-in-aid be given to the States?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: The State Governments do it on their own. The Central Government also identifies and whatever the Central Government does, they do it on their own.

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: There was a specific question about the airfields being provided because it will give impetus to tourist traffic. In that way, the States can build up their economy. They do not want to be a burden on the Centre. We would like to help the Centre by way of contributing something and earning something for the Centre.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: This question does not arise out of the main question. It is a suggestion by the lady Member. I will note it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sawaisingh Sisodia.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA: Sir, if I am not incorrect, I think, the decision was taken as late as 1975 for regulating the development of tourist facilities at selected archaeological monuments and for preservation of environmental characteristics of these places. Sir, during the last three years, the Department has moved very, very slowly and the result is that, as has been stated by the hon. Minister, only the plans of a very few places have been prepared and they have not been finalised as yet. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister at least now whether the Ministry will take care that a time-bound programme will be decided for not only the preparation and finalisation of those plans but also for implementation of those plans on the spot. Will all those recommendations be taken into consideration by the Government and necessary amount allotted to implement those recommendations? In the present Budget, for how many places the amount has been allotted? For how many places, the implementation work will be taken into hand?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, it is true that the progress has been slow in the past, but I would like to assure the hon. House and the hon. Member that in those places that have been mentioned in my answer to the main question, the work will be expedited as soon as possible. I am not in a position to give a specific time schedule.

SHRIMATI RODA MISTRY: Sir, the hon. Minister has just now mentioned that the criterion for preparation of the master plan was the number of tourists who visited the place. But, before the development of the infra-structure, what is the guarantee that this criterion is solid? I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would consider calling all the State Departments' personnel and the corporations for deciding what should be developed in the country. To the best of my knowledge, Sir, the entire development is done at the bureaucrats' level and nobody is involved in it. Would the hon. Minister consider involving the State Governments also?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, if the hon. lady Member has in her mind her own State of Andhra Pradesh, I would like to say that "in her State, a meeting had been held and we are awaiting the proposals of the Andhra Pradesh Government. They can do on their own and at the same time they can come up to the Centre also with their proposals.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Sir, the list of tourist spots which has been read out by the Hon. Minister does not include the famous tourist spot of Gir forest where the famous lions are there. And tourists from all over the world are attracted to that particular spot, but that name does not appear in the list which the hon. Minister has read out. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he would include the Gir forest in the scheme of master plans, and if so, what are the details of development regarding the safeguard of wild life there, specially the lions there, and the tourist facilities in that area?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, I have already stated the criteria for identification of these places. If the hon. Member has got any particular place in view, there are two ways open; Either these places should be taken up by the State Government or the State Government may come up with the proposal to us, and we will definitely take notice of it.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: I have already named the place. It is the Gir forest, the lion sanctuary

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, the question relates to protecting places of सजेस्ट किया है, यह आपकी लिस्ट में नहीं है। गीर फारेस्ट इतना महत्व का स्थान है लेकिन इसके विकास के लिए क्या आपने कोई योजना बनाई है या नहीं, यह मैंने पूछा है।

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने अभी जो कहा है उसके लिए अभी हमारे पास कोई योजना the hon. Member has Gujarat in view, Then the Gujarat Government should come up with the proposal. Or, now that the hon. Member has mentioned it; we will take note of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yourself?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Yes, Sir.

श्री पीलू मोदी : आप बकरे को शेर की बावत पूछेंगे तो क्या जवाब देगा। tourist interest from despoilation. When the hon. Minister is giving details of various Master Plans, disturbing news reports continue to appear that the masterpiece of this country, the Taj Mahal, is facing decay. In that view of the matter, may I know from the hon. Minister what master plan he has in mind to protect this masterpiece from decay, which, the scientists have said, is taking place because of the Mathura Refinery?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, the Taj Mahal is not in our list. Since the hon. Member has referred to it, we will definitely take notice of it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI; Sir, what kind of an answer is he giving?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Although this matter does not fall within the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, I promise to take notice of it.

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH: Sir, the hon. Minister in answer to one of the questions admitted himself that the process of protection and giving effect to the master plan is rather slow. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that despoliation of some of the national monuments as well as harm to some of the precious animals in our forests is taking place and that they cannot afford the Government to go slow in the matter. I would like to request the hon. Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it a question?

SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH; ... to devise master plans for the various places of tourist interest realising that these things will get destroyed very quickly if urgent steps are not taken. Will the hon. Minister see to it that the whole matter is speeded up as fast as possible so that these places can be protected from despoliation?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, I can say that I agree with the hon. Lady Member that there has been delay, But I have already assured that we will now take speedy steps in this respect.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Rameshwar Singh. (*Interruptions*). If you are so anxious about tourism, we will have more questions on it.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : सभापति जी, मैं वाराणसी का रहने वाला हूँ और मेरी जानकारी में है कि आपने और आपके परिवार

के लोगों ने अपनी जायदाद वहाँ किसी स्कूल को दे दी है। वहाँ के लोगो ने मुझको बताया था। मैं उस स्कूल में गया भी हूँ। तमाम विदेशी पर्यटक, अरब कप्टी के लोग और बाहर के लोग वाराणसी जाते हैं, इसलिए भी महत्वपूर्ण नगरी है कि वह हिन्दुस्तान की सब से प्राचीन नगरी है और वहाँ शंकर भी रहते हैं।

श्री सभापति : सवाल क्या है ?

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : वहाँ पर सारनाथ बगल में ही है जहाँ भगवान बुद्ध ने दीक्षा दी थी, और उस दीक्षा का असर इन लोगों पर कुछ होना चाहिए। तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वाराणसी की नदियों में जो गन्दगी फैली है जिसकी वजह से वहाँ बीमारियाँ फैल रही हैं और वहाँ पर पर्यटक जाने से बचकर रहे हैं, वहाँ जाना अब पसंद नहीं कर रहे हैं, जहाँ लोग मोक्ष के लिए भी जाते हैं तो क्या मंत्री जी सारनाथ और वाराणसी में उस विद्यालय को जहाँ तीन तीन यूनिवर्सिटीज हैं, उसके विकास के लिए कोई विशेष योजना आप बना रहे हैं। अगर बना रहे हैं, तो क्या बना रहे हैं, यह पूरी जानकारी सदन को दें।

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : किस चीज के विकास के लिए बनारस के विकास के लिए या . . .

Sir, I want to know the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member wants special attention to be paid to Varanasi.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन्, यह पर्यटन विभाग के मंत्री हैं। यह सदन को इतना गुमराह कर रहे हैं। इनको कम से कम यह तो समझना चाहिए। मेरा सवाल सीधा है और बिल्कुल स्पष्ट है कि आप पर्यटन मंत्री हैं, आप यह बताएं कि वाराणसी के विकास के

लिए जो दुनिया की सब से प्राचीन नगरी है, जहाँ आपके पूर्वज लोग भी मुक्ति पाने के लिए जाते हैं और आप भी जाएंगे तो क्या उसके विकास के लिए कुछ विशेष योजना बनाएंगे।

SHRI PILOO MODY: He knows only about the railways. He does not know anything about tourism.

श्री सभापति : सवाल तो समझ गये कि बनारस के लिए आप कोई खास इंतजाम करेंगे कि वहाँ पानी बानी का इंतजाम और सफाई का इंतजाम हो।

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : श्रीमन्, इन्होंने सारनाथ की बात कही है। सारनाथ तो हमारी लिस्ट में है ही, लेकिन जहाँ तक पूरे बनारस का सवाल और इन्होंने गंगा नदी के पानी के पोल्यूशन के सम्बन्ध में कहा, यह गंगा नदी के पानी की फिलासफी को समझते नहीं है, माफ कीजिएगा गंगा नदी का पानी कभी पोल्यूट होता ही नहीं है। कभी नहीं होता है।

. . . (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : मैं समझ गया वह, समझे कि नहीं मालूम नहीं।

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन्, मंत्री जी हाउस को इतना गुभराह कर रहे हैं, हमें तरस आता है। मंत्री जी हमारे मित्र हैं, हमारे पड़ोसी हैं, पाटनीपुत्र के रहने वाले हैं आप कम से कम हाउस को यह तो बतायें

. . . (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : गंगा का पानी वो बेमक पवित्र है, मगर गंगा के पानी में दुसरी चीजें जो डाल देते हैं वह तो पवित्र नहीं हैं।

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : गंगा के पानी की आसियत यह है कि चार्ज आप जहाँ से भी गंगा के पानी को लें, गंगा का पानी कभी पोल्यूट नहीं होता, गंदा नहीं होता है। उनको अनुभव नहीं है।

. . . (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : उनका कहने का मतलब यह है कि गंगा के पानी में कोई चीज चली जाती है तो वह भी पवित्र हो जाती है जैसे फारसी में एक कहावत है— 'हरचे दरकाने नमक रफूत नमक शुद्ध जो कोई नमक की खदान में चला जाता है तो नमक हो जाता है।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am taking one Member from each party.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You have taken three from Congress-I already.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : श्रीमन्, श्री गोस्वामी जी ने सवाल खड़ा किया था ताजमहल का। मैं उसको आगे बढ़ाकर प्रश्न करता हूँ। क्या मंत्री महोदय को जात है कि हमारे इस सदन के भूतपूर्व उपाध्यक्ष श्री रामनिवास मिर्छा एक कमेटी के सदस्य हैं या चेयरमैन हैं। गत मास उस कमेटी ने दौरा करके एक रिपोर्ट दी है जो समाचार पत्रों में भी शायद हुई और खास तौर से उन्होंने उल्लेख किया है ताजमहल का, अलवर और भरतपुर की सेंचुरी का। उन्होंने कहा है कि वहाँ परिले मर रहे हैं ताजमहल खराब हो रहा है रिफाइनरी बनने की जो बात है उसके कारण। उसके साथ ही उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि जो भी आकियोलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट की चीजें हैं उनको जो देखने वाले जाते हैं, वे वहाँ पर नाम आदि खोद आते हैं। इस तरह से आकियोलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट को बहुत तकलीफ होती है। तो क्या उस रिपोर्ट की जानकारी मंत्री महोदय को है और ताजमहल अथवा अन्य जो आकियोलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट की इमारतें हैं उनको देखने वालों के आक्रमण से बचाने के लिए क्या आप कानूनी कार्यवाही करेंगे?

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : सभापति महोदय, यह तो लिखा हुआ है वहाँ पर कि इस तरह की कोई हरकत करेंगे तो उन पर कार्यवाही

होगी । इस बारे में प्रश्न पूछने का कोई सवाल ही नहीं है । उन पर कानूनी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए । यह बात तय-मुदा है ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : कानून की बात में नहीं पूछ रहा हूँ ।

. . . (Interruptions)

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE: Sir, it is a serious question that has been asked regarding danger to Taj by the Mathura Refinery,, a cancer of Taj. The hon. Minister must address himself seriously to the question.

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा : सभापति महोदय, मैंने अर्ज किया कि कानून के अनुसार अगर इस तरह की कोई छेड़खानी करता है तो उसके खिलाफ कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए । इसमें दो राय नहीं हैं । अब कानूनी कार्यवाही होती है मैं इसका जवाब यहां से कैसे दे सकता हूँ । कानूनी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए ।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, he is giving a hold all answer for every question. He is not giving any information. Here, it is an archaeological monument. Does the hon. Minister know, being a Pandit himself, that there are achaeological...

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Is he a Pandit?

श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी : अरे भई अनन्त प्रसाद जी शर्मा है ।

Sir, does he know that in this country, many of the foreign tourists visit these beautiful places of nature? But there are other erotic archeological monuments. Perhaps, the word 'erotic' may not be in the dictionary of Mr. Pandit. There are erotic places like Konarak, Khajuraho and Ellora near Aurangabad. They are getting decayed. They are in the process of being decayed. They are not being protected. He should not go on giving a hold-all answer for every question. For Heaven's sake you should do

something. These are the monuments in this country, these are the treasures, which we have inherited, and they are also the foreign-exchange earners. Will the hon. Minister seriously say what steps are being taken to preserve these monuments and prevent them from getting damaged?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, he has mentioned places like Konarak. My friend has also just now said that I am giving a hold-all answer for every question. I am sepecifically saying that it is the duty of the Government to protect these monuments and we are definitely doing it. Wherever there is damage, it is being repaired. We are taking all possible steps to see that they are protected. What more can I say on this?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Have you ever visited Ellora?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: No.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Do you know whether it is getting decayed or not? Have you visited Khajuraho?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Yes.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Do you know whether it is getting damaged or not?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: Sir, I would add only one sentence. My friend, Mr. Kulkarni, has taken into his head that everything will be done from here. It is the responsibility of his State Government also, from where he comes, to help in protecting these monuments. (Interruptions).

SHRI KALYAN ROY; Sir, we are not completing more than two questions. What is the use of discussing in the Chamber, if you cannot keep the House under control? It has been decided that we should complete at least seven questions. You your-self took an initiative in the matter. But in one hour, we are not completing more than two questions. You are doing justice neither to the Members,

nor to those who are putting the questions, nor to the Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kalyan Roy, you know when we met together what we decided. But I find, the hon. Members who were present at the decision, are breaching it themselves.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: You should control them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If I do it, I want an assurance from the House that my ruling will not be then questioned. Otherwise, I shall have to take strong action. I will allow only two more questions on this, according to my discretion as to who will ask it. Now, Mr. Shahi. (Interruptions) Everybody cannot ask a question. This is certain. Now, Mr. Shahi. (Interruptions)

SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE: Sir, you do not see us. I would like to ask a question.

MR CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

श्रीनागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि कुशी नगर में भारत सरकार का एक रेस्ट हाऊस है, उस रेस्ट हाऊस में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है जो यात्री वहाँ आ कर ठहरे उस के भोजन, नाश्ते या ठहरने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। एक रेस्ट हाऊस बना दिया गया था जब पं० जवाहरलाल नेहरू प्राइम मिनिस्टर थे। रेस्ट हाऊस में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं होने की वजह से कोई विदेशी यात्री टूरिस्ट—जापान से, थाईलैंड से बहुत बुद्धिस्ट आते हैं—वहाँ ठहर नहीं सकते और वहाँ से भाग कर गोरखपुर चले आते हैं होटलों में। क्या मंत्री जी इस बात का आश्वासन देंगे कि सारनाथ में स्थित भारत सरकार के रेस्ट हाऊस को ऐसा बना दिया जाएगा ताकि वहाँ पर यात्री ठहर सकें।

श्री प्रमत्त प्रसाद शर्मा : कुशीनगर श्री श्री श्रावस्ती दोनों जगहों के बारे में . .

"The work has been entrusted to the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. An expenditure sanction of Rs. 8 lakhs has been released for this work."

श्रीर इसमें 4 लाख ६० आलरेडी खर्च हो चुका है।

SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE: Is the hon. Minister aware that the capital of the last independent Nawab of Bengal Sirajudaula was at Murshl-dabad? There are historic monuments connected with the Nawabs family. There are oil paintings also. But they are ruining and some of them are being stolen away by miscreants. "Will the Minister take up the matter so that all the ancient monuments and the books and pictures are maintained properly? There should be a tourist block also for foreign tourists specially who very often go there.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: I take note of this.

Levy of a development cess for exploitation of mineral resources

*323. SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 770 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 1st December, 1979 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision in regard to the levy of a development cess for exploitation of mineral resources; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKERJEE): (a) and (b). After examining the recommendations of the Committee for the Development Cesa on Minerals and consulting the organisations engaged in mining and use of minerals, a view was taken by the Government in 1975 that the proposal to levy a development cess need not be pursued. However, the issue has been raised subsequently also by certain State Governments. Levy of "Development Cess is under consideration.