

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 15th March, 1976/the 28th
Phalgun, 1897 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Celebration of Centenary of Aryabhata

•211. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOU-
DHURY if SHRI SWAISINGH
SISODIA: SHRI HARSH DEO
MALAVIYA: SHRI SARDAR
AMJAD ALI :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be please
to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the
1500th centenary of the famous mathe-
matician, Aryabhata falls in the year 1976;

(b) whether Government propose to cele-
brate the occasion; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI I. K.
GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of
proposed celebrations are indicated in the
statement laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

The programme of celebration of the
1500th birth anniversary of Aryabhata under
the auspices of the Indian National Science
Academy, New Delhi is as follows:

(1) A two day seminar under the
following four sessions:

Session I—Critical Problems on History of
Mathematics and Astronomy at
the time of Aryabhata.

t The question was actually asked on the
floor of the House by Shri Nripati Ranjan
Choudhury.

Session II—Mathematics and Astronomy at
the time of Aryabhata in different
cultural areas.

Session III—Aryabhata Schools and Deve-
lopment of Indian Astronomy.

Session IV—Science and Society in India in
the Classical period.

A number of Indian Scholars will parti-
cipate in the above Seminar. In addition
arrangements are being made for participation
of a few historians of astronomy and
mathematics from Middle-East and Western
countries and possibly Japan.

(2) The following publication relating
to Aryabhata's life and work will be
released on the opening day of the cele-
brations:

A Critical edition of the *Aryabha-tiya*
in about thousand pages in three parts
viz.

(i) The Sanskrit text of *Aryabhatiya*
with English translation, introduction,
glossary etc.,

(ii) the Bhashya of Bhaskara II on the
Aryabhatiya and

(iii) Suryadeva Yajvan's Commentary
on the *Aryabhatiya* with critical
introduction, notes etc.

A book in Hindi on the work of
Aryabhata and a booklet in English on
the life of the astronomer will also be
printed and published as part of the
celebrations.

(3) A proposal to organise some lectures
on history of Indian Astronomy at some of
our Universities is also being considered.

(4) The proposal to issue a commemorative
stamp on Aryabhata is also being
explored.

(5) A few TV/Radio programmes of
history of Indian Astronomy in general and
Aryabhata in particular are contemplated.

The Department of Science and Technology
will provide sufficient funds to the Indian
National Science Academy to carry out the
celebrations of 1500th birth anniversary of
Aryabhata as envisaged above.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOU-
IDHURY: Sir, from the statement that
'has been laid on the Table we find that in I
the programme that has been taken up by the
Indian National Science Academy, there
is little scope for mass participation and it is
of academic and intellectual interest only.
May I know what is the object of such
celebration? May I know whether they
have any object in mind and, if so, what is
their object?

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: I
may tell my hon. friend that I am under the
impression that Aryabhata was an in-
tellectual and the celebrations should be
participated by intellectuals in a big way. He
was to a large extent one of the fathers of
Indian mathematics and astronomy. About
what is being done, the details have been
given and preparations are made for mass
participation, but Government also hope
that, since his birth-place is Patna, my
friends from Bihar will take it up and if a
public meeting has to be held, it should be
held, because national pride should be built
on that basis.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOU-
DHURY : What I understand is that the
object of such celebrations is to involve the
masses. Aryabhata was a great scientist and
mathematician. The object of celebrating the
1500th birth anniversary of Aryabhata
should be—I do not know whether the
Minister would agree with me or not—to
orient the masses towards scientific and
industrial progress. To bring about that
orientation such celebration is necessary.
Also, in such celebrations mass participation
is necessary.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your
question.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOU-
DHURY: Here in the statement we find a
seminar is to be held on certain subjects
and there is scope only under one item. ' j
There is a proposal to organise some lec- j
tures on the history of Indian astronomy
in some of our universities. It is also being
considered. From the statement we find that
the programme is only to celebrate it and
it will not serve any useful purpose. In view
of that I would like to know from the
Minister what steps the Ministry is
going to take to involve the masses at

least at the college and school levels thro-
ughout the country.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: I
might explain to my hon. friend that he might
draw a distinction between utility and
celebration. I do not contribute to his thinking
that there is going to be no benefit out of it.
Commentaries on Arya-bhata's writings are
going to be written. Also, some of his Sanskrit
writings are being translated. This is going to
update a legend in the history of mathematics,
algebra, trigonometry and astronomy, in
which he was a great specialist, in the present
day context. Secondly, I may tell him that, if
he will have a look at the statement he will
find that a book, in Hindi and English, on
Aryabhata is also being written. For the
masses, of course, lectures will be arranged.
The celebration of joy should be there and I
am for it. The aim of functions like this, from
the mass point of view, is to spread scientific
education and I hope my colleague, the
Deputy Minister of Information and
Broadcasting, who is sitting next to me, will
take this occasion to see that the further
propagation of a scientific temper in the
country is also taken on hand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Government has
no objection to students arranging such
functions.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: No
objection and we would welcome it. If any
support is needed, we will be very glad to
extend it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I am glad
you have asked a supplementary.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: It is a suggestion for
action.

श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोडिया : भारतीय
राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान अकादमी के तत्वावधान में
आर्यभट्ट की 1500वीं शताब्दी समारोह
मनाने का जो कार्यक्रम आपके मंत्रालय
ने निश्चित किया है, निर्धारित किया
है, वह सचमुच प्रशंसनीय है और मैं
माननीय मंत्री जी की भी प्रशंसा करना
चाहता हूँ कि जो निर्णय उन्होंने लिया

है वह बड़ा सूझबूझ भरा और सराहनीय है। लेकिन मैं दो बातें आपसे इसके

है। दूसरे, मंत्री महोदय यह भी बतलाने की कृपा करें कि अगर हमारे

इस प्रकार का आयोजन करना चाहें

आर्थिक मदद देने के लिये भी तैयार है? मंत्री महोदय इन सारी बातों पर प्रकाश डालें तो उत्तम होगा।

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: So far as the celebration date is concerned, it is fortunate that the date of birth of Aryabhatta is known with precision. He was born on the 13th April 469. One minute. He was born on the 13th April 476. Therefore, we know what day to celebrate. Naturally, seminars etc. that are being organised at different places will take into account this date. I will be very happy if other organisations come forward to participate in the celebrations. We will definitely be glad to encourage them. So far as the general, mass participation is concerned, I do consider this as a national celebration and we are very proud that this great man who gave so much to mathematics was born in this country.

श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय: मान्यवर, यह बड़ी प्रसन्नता की बात है कि अभी तक हमारे विद्यार्थी केवल कौपरटिक्स, गेलीलियो और न्यूटन ही पढ़ते थे। अब आपने आर्यभट्ट की तरफ ध्यान दिया और उनकी 1500वीं शताब्दी समारोह मनाने जा रहे हैं, यह बड़ी प्रसन्नता की बात है और मैं भी योजना मंत्री को इसके लिये धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

आपने अपने लिखित उत्तर में जवाब दिया है कि आप आर्यभटीय का

प्रकाशन करेंगे तो मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आर्य भट्ट की जो रचना है और आर्य भट्ट की एक ही रचना प्राप्त है जिसका नाम आर्यभटी है। उस आर्यभटीय के छोटे से ग्रंथ में करीब 121 श्लोक है और इनके चार भाग हैं, गीतिका पाद, गणिका पाद, कालक्रिया पाद और गोलपाद जो तो यह आप अनुवाद करने जा रहे हैं, अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में उसमें आर्यभटीय के तीन भाग लेंगे या दो भाग लेंगे? मंत्री महोदय इस संबंध में कुछ प्रकाश डाल तो बड़ा अच्छा है।

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल: जो इस वक्त फैसला हुआ है उसके अनुसार हम आर्यभटीय की तीन कमेंटारियों का ट्रांसलेशन करने जा रहे हैं। एक संस्कृत टीका से आर्यभटीय का इंग्लिश ट्रांसलेशन करने जा रहे हैं, दूसरा भास्कर सेंकिड का और तीसरा सूर्यदेव की कमेंटरी को लिया जा रहा है। इसमें....

श्री हर्षदेव मालवीय: आपने अपने जवाब में यह लिखा हुआ है कि आप आर्यभटीय प्रकाशित करेंगे कमेंटरी के...

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल: जी हाँ, इसका पूरा ट्रांसलेशन (आर्यभटीय का) वह भी करने जा रहे हैं। हमारी तरफ से कोशिश यही होगी कि उसका सारा ट्रांसलेशन करें।

SHRI N. G. GORAY: I congratulate the Minister for having decided to celebrate this anniversary of Aryabhatta. We have had a glorious tradition of mathematicians in India. But I would like to ask him one question. The hon. Minister has said that his works will be translated into English and Hindi. Without doubting the primacy of Hindi, I would like to know whether he would get these translated into all the national languages so that all people will know the greatness of this scientist.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: It is a good suggestion- I will get it examined.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मीकुमारी चूडावत : क्या आर्यभट्ट के बारे में कोई डाक्युमेंटरी बनाई गयी है?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : यह मेरे ख्याल में श्री धर्मवीर जी बतायेंगे।

श्री इन्द्रदीप सिंह : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि आर्यभट्ट की सैटीनरी के संबंध में बिहार सरकार को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस संबंध में बिहार सरकार को कोई परामर्श दिया है। क्या बिहार सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई योजना आपके पास रखी है? और बिहार में सेलिब्रेशन का क्या प्रोग्राम है?

श्री इन्द्र कुमार गुजराल : इसके मुताल्लिक तफसील तो मैं नहीं बता सकूंगा इस वक्त, लेकिन मुझे पूरा यकीन है कि बिहार सरकार इसका पूरा ध्यान करेगी। आखिरकार बिहार की धरती है जिसमें इतने महान लोग पैदा हुए हैं, तो बिहार सरकार को जरूर पता होगा उनको क्या करना चाहिए।

SHRI D. N. DWIVEDI: Sir, the satellite, "Aryabhata", was catapula- ted into space and it was an event which was hailed the world over as a major technological achievement. During the last one year or so, our scientists must be receiving valuable information and data from this satellite and I wonder whether any detailed examination or study of this information has been made by our scientists and whether we are co-operating with the other countries in exchanging knowledge in the realm of space technology.

DR. V. B. SINGH: Sir, is it a relevant question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not pertain to the main question. But, if the honourable Minister wants to reply, he can do so.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Sir, I would not like to reply to his question offhand like this.

DR. V. B. SINGH: Sir, the outline that the honourable Minister has given about the programme of celebration of the 1500th anniversary of the famous mathematician, Aryabhata, is not comprehensive and rich compared to the richness of the contribution made by this mathematician and, therefore, I would request the honourable Minister to enrich the celebration part of it. Further, Sir, I would like to know whether there is any thinking in his Ministry or in the Ministry of Education to see that the contributions of great personalities like Aryabhata are made known even at the primary stage of education and whether some chairs are going to be established in our universities to be named after Aryabhata.

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Sir, I am grateful to my honourable friend for his suggestion. But I must confess that these aspects have not been attended to. But I will take whatever he has said as a suggestion and look into it.

श्री जगदीश जोशी : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा कि आर्यभट्ट के सार्वजनिक उत्सव पटना में किए जा सकते हैं। तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या 1500 वर्ष के बाद भी आर्यभट्ट को केवल पटना वाले ही मानते हैं, क्योंकि वह तो राष्ट्र की संपत्ति हैं? तो जिस पैमाने पर पटना में हो क्या उसी पैमाने पर और जगहों में भी करने की कोई योजना सरकार सोच सकती है? 1500 वर्ष बाद, उनको राष्ट्रीय महत्व का मानकर, क्या हर जगह इसी प्रकार के आयोजन नहीं किए जा सकते हैं?

SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Sir, I think that we in India can take pride in

the fact that Aryabhata is not just a national figure alone or just belongs to Patna, but he is universal and I think he belongs to the world of intellect and all the rich heritage of the world today is, to a great deal, owed to him. So, the celebrations should not be confined to any one place or even to a single country. That is why, on our suggestion, the UNESCO has already included the celebration of the 1500th anniversary of Aryabhata in its programme treating it as an event of world celebration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Supply of coking coal to steel enterprises

{* 212. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY:

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI:

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present position with regard to the supply of coking coal to the steel enterprises;

(b) whether it is proposed to keep the supply of the coking coal to the steel enterprises continuous and adequate; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The present actual supply of coking coal to the steel plants is of the order of 40,000 tonnes per day against the estimated daily consumption of 35,600 tonnes. The coal stock position of the steel plants has reached a record level of 6,71,000 tonnes equivalent to 19.3 days consumption.

(b) Yes, Sir.

transferred from the 12th March, 1976. Previously numbered as S.Q. No. 122.

■fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

(c) The coal requirements of the individual steel plants have been assessed for the Fifth and Sixth Plan periods and linked to coal mines/washeries, for supply. The record increase in the stock of coking coal at the steel plants is a reflection of the improved performance of the coal-mines/washeries. The coal industry is fully geared to meet the requirement of coking coal to the steel plants.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, I would like to know what the stock position of coking coal was, comparatively speaking, on 1st February 1975 and on 1st February 1976.

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, the stock position of coking coal on the 1st February 1975 was 2,06,300 tonnes and on the 1st February 1976, 4,64,000 tonnes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Malaviya, put your second question.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: No question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Choud-hury.

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY: No Supplementary, Sir.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूडावत :
क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह कोकिंग कोल कौन कौन सी इंडस्ट्रीज को दिया जाता है, और क्या यह सही है कि साल दो साल में इसकी क्वालिटी डाऊन हुई है? क्या थर्मल प्लांटवालों ने इसकी शिकायत की है कि उसकी क्वालिटी खराब है?

श्री के० सी० पंत : कोकिंग कोल थर्मल प्लांट्स को नहीं दिया जाता है। कोकिंग कोल स्टील प्लांट्स को दिया जाता है और कुछ फाउंडरीज वगैरह को दिया जाता है। थर्मल प्लांट्स को नान-कोकिंग कोल जो अच्छे किस्म का होता है वह दिया जाता है और उन्हें कोकिंग कोल नहीं दिया जाता है। क्योंकि