

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, 12th September 1956.

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**इंडिया आफिस लाइब्रेरी**

*६२६. श्री राम सहाय : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जब प्रधानमंत्री राष्ट्रमंडल-प्रधान-मंत्री सम्मेलन में भाग लेने इंग्लैंड गये थे, तब क्या इंडिया आफिस लाइब्रेरी के बारे में श्री ईडन से उनकी कोई बातचीत हुई थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला;

(ग) इस पुस्तकालय की पुस्तकों का महत्व क्या है तथा उनकी संख्या और उनका मूल्य क्या है; और

(घ) वे किस किस भाषा की हैं ?

INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY

*626. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had any talk with Mr. Eden about the India Office library when he had gone to England to participate in the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference;

(b) if so, what is the result thereof;

(c) what is the importance of the books contained in this library, their number and value; and

(d) what are the languages in which they are written?]

शिक्षा उपमंत्री (डा० मनमोहन दास) :

(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता ।

(ग) इस पुस्तकालय में विश्व की सुन्दरतम पूर्वदेशीय तथा हस्तलिखित पुस्तकों का संग्रह है और भारतीय इतिहास में अनुसंधान के हेतु यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है ।

पुस्तकालय का मूल्यांकन सम्भव नहीं है क्योंकि :

(i) इसका संग्रह बहुत पहले १८०१ में ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी द्वारा आरम्भ हुआ था;

(ii) इस पुस्तकालय की हस्त-लिखित अनुवादित तथा अन्य छपी पुस्तकों इतनी अधिक पौराणिक मूल्य की हैं कि इनका मूल्यांकन आसान नहीं है ।

छपी तथा हस्तलिखित पुस्तकों की कुल संख्या २,४१,०५६ है ।

(घ) यूरोपीय, अरबी, फारसी, संस्कृत और प्राकृत, पाली और पाली-बरमी, तिब्बती, जेंद, पहलवी, चीनी, अर्वाचीन भारतीय, हिन्दू-आर्य भाषाएँ, ईरानी, द्रावड़ी, मुण्डा, मन-खमेर, बर्मी, तिब्बती-बर्मी और अन्य पूर्वदेशीय भाषाएँ जैसे कोरियन, मलाई, शान, जापानी, मंगोली, स्पानी, तुर्की और तुर्कीच, कम्बोडी आदि ।

[THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. MONO MOHAN DAS) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This library contains one of the finest collection of oriental books and manuscripts in the world and is of great importance for purposes of research in Indian History.

It is not possible to arrive at the value of the library for:

(i) the collection was started as far back as 1801 by the East India Company;

(ii) the manuscripts, translations and other printed books of the library are of such great antiquarian value that it is not easy to assess their price.

The total number of printed books and manuscripts is 2,41,059.

(d) European, Arabic, Persian, Sanskrit and Prakrit, Pali and Pali-Burmese, Tibetan, Zend, Pahalvi, Chinese, Modern Indian, Indo-Aryan, Iranian, Dravidian, Munda, Mon-Khmer, Burmese, Tibeto-Burman, and other oriental languages such as Korean, Malay, Shan, Japanese, Mongol, Siamese, Turki and Turkish, Cambodian, etc.

-fEnglish

Translation

श्री राम सहाय : क्या इसमें हिन्दुस्तान की कोई हस्तलिखित पुस्तक है ?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Yes, there are a large number of manuscripts in this library, taken from India..

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : As for the subject-matter of these manuscripts, I do not have the information.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: In view of the importance of this library to India as far as cultural development and history are concerned, may I know whether the Government of India are taking any steps to either get this library for the Union or to get photostat copies of the manuscripts and books for our archives here?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : The Government of India along with the Government of Pakistan are trying their best to have this library.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH : Are there no manuscripts in this library written in the Marathi language ?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: I am not sure, Sir.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND : Some time back the hon. Minister for Education went to London in this connection and had talks with the Foreign Minister of U. K. May I know from the hon. Minister what further steps are being taken by our Government in order to get this library ? Also the part of the question asked by a previous Member about getting photostat copies has not been replied to.

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS: Sir, when the hon. Minister for Education was in England he had discussions with the U. K. Government. The stand of the U. K. Government was that this library belonged to the United Kingdom and it should not be removed from the United Kingdom. The proposal was put forth by the Education Minister of India of setting up a tripartite committee consisting of members from the Government of India, the Government of Pakistan and the Government of the United Kingdom, to go through

the whole question of the ownership, composition etc. of this library. Then another discussion took place when the Earl of Home came to Delhi in 1955. Then a Memorandum was submitted through the Indian High Commissioner to the Government of the United Kingdom and we are expecting the reply to that Memorandum.

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKER-JI : May I know if it will be possible for the Government to negotiate the transfer of such literary material as has a direct bearing upon Indian history ancient, mediaeval and modern ?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : Sir, we are negotiating for the whole content of this library.

مولانا ایم - فاروقی : ابھی ہمارے انریبل ساتھی مسٹر بہنجدیو نے انریبل منسٹر سے جو یہ سوال کیا تھا کہ ہندوستان کی تواریخ کے سلسلہ میں یا اس کے کلچر کے سلسلہ میں جو امپورٹنٹ یعنی اہم کتابیں ہیں خاص طور سے ان کی فوٹو لینے کا آپ انتظام کریں تو کیا اس چیز پر آپ نے کوئی کٹنگو کی ہے یا نہیں ؟

†[مولانا ام. فاروقی : अभी हमारे आनरेबल साथी मि० भंज देव ने आनरेबल मिनिस्टर से जो यह सवाल किया था कि हिन्दुस्तान की तवारीख के सिलसिले में या इसके कल्चर के सिलसिले में जो इम्पोर्टन्ट यानी अहम किताबें हैं खास तौर से उनकी फोटो लेने का आप इंतजाम करें, तो क्या उस चीज पर आपने कोई गुफ्तगू की है या नहीं ?]

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : We are now trying for the whole library itself. So this question does not arise now.

مولانا ایم - فاروقی : پوری لائبریری کی ملکیت کے بارے میں تو یہ سوال ہوگا کہ وہ یو - کے - کی ملکیت ہے یا ہندوستان کی ہے - لیکن کیا یو - کے - گورنمنٹ اس کی اجازت نہیں دیگی کہ ہمارا لٹریچر ہندوستان سے کیا ہے اس کی فوٹو لینے کا ہم خود انتظام کریں -

†Hindi transliteration.

†[मौलाना एम० फारूकी : पूरी लाइब्रेरी की मिल्कियत के बारे में तो यह सवाल होगा कि वह यू० के० की मिल्कियत है या हिन्दुस्तान की है। लेकिन क्या यू० के० गवर्नमेंट इसकी इजाजत नहीं देगी कि जो हमारा लिटरेचर हिन्दुस्तान से गया है, उसकी फोटो लेने का खुद इतिजाम करें?]

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : That question will arise only afterwards, for we are now fighting for the library itself. We contend that we are the owners of this library.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Is it the contention of the British Government that in the matter of the ownership of this library we are on a par with any other stranger country in the world? Is there to be no special advantage for India because it was all taken from India?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : As I have said already, negotiations are going on among the three governments, the U. K. Government, the Pakistan Government and the Government of India. There is no other government concerned in this matter.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA : May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India possesses a copy of the catalogue of all the books and manuscripts in this library?

DR. MONO MOHAN DAS : I am not sure.

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION FUND

*627. SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY : Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount collected for the Post-War Reconstruction Fund and the amount so far spent from that fund for the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families;

(b) whether any amount of that fund is lying with the Central Government ; if so, what is that amount ; and

(c) whether Government are going to establish a T. B. Hospital for ex-servicemen and their families with this amount ?

fHindi transliteration.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA) : (a) A sum of Rs. 13,32,96,000 was initially collected for the Post War Reconstruction Fund. Out of this sum Rs. 2,66,59,200 were transferred to the Armed Forces Reconstruction Fund for the benefit of serving personnel; and from the balance, the shares of Pakistan, Nepal and Sikkim were transferred to those Governments. Out of the remaining amount, which was India's share of the Post War Reconstruction Fund, the State Governments have spent up to the 31st March 1956, Rs. 4,44,38,711 for the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families.

(b) A sum of Rs. 39,69,886, which is the share of certain Part 'B' and 'C' States, and which could not be distributed to those States so far, is in the custody of the Central Government.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY : May I know, Sir, the amount allotted to each of the States for the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families out of this Post War Reconstruction Fund?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : As I have said, a sum of Rs. 4,44,38,711 has already been spent by these States, by the 31st of March 1956. They have a council functioning which is presided over by the Governor and which has got five members, three of whom are nominated by the Governor and two by the Chief of the Army Staff and they administer this fund under the Charitable Endowments Act and they are fully conversant with what they are doing.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA : The hon. Minister stated that some amount has not yet been distributed to the Part 'B' and Part 'C' States. After this reorganisation of the States, how will this sum be distributed? Will it go to the same places -or to different places?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA : Well, these adjustments will be made. Actually the fund belongs to that particular area and it will get due consideration.

SHRI MAHESH SARAN : What is the total amount of India's share in this Fund?