

## RAJYA SABHA

Monday, 19th September 1955

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

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### UNESCO EXHIBITION OF THE REPRODUCTIONS OF DRAWINGS OF LEONARDO DA VINCI

\*491. SHRI V. S. SARWATE: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the price paid by Government for the purchase of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation Exhibition of Reproductions of Drawings of Leonardo da Vinci;

(b) where the Reproductions, so purchased, are housed;

(c) whether they have been circulated to educational institutions, and if so, to which institutions; and

(d) what is the procedure laid down for such circulation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI):

(a) Rs. 1286.

(b) National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi.

(c) Not yet:

(d) The procedure will be laid down by the Lalit Kala Akademi which has agreed to circulate the Exhibition.

SHRI V. S. SARWATE: How many pictures are there?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I do not have the exact number of paintings.

SHRI V. S. SARWATE: Is there any Committee to advise the Government on such matters?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: No, Sir. This collection was purchased from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the Ministry of Education took the responsibility for purchasing it.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: I suppose Government would purchase in course of time the paintings of other great artists?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: That matter can always be considered.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: How many other countries have, to the knowledge of the hon. Minister, collections of these paintings which are not the original but reproductions?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: This was a special collection of reproductions of the drawings of Leonardo da Vinci. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation offered these to us for circulation. This was done. Later on, the Ministry thought that it would be useful to have this collection for our country and, therefore, this collection was purchased and now, it is proposed to circulate it to the educational institutions.

SHRI V. S. SARWATE: When do the Government propose to circulate this? Were these pictures circulated throughout India before?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, they have been circulated in the various cities like Bombay Baroda, Delhi, Lucknow, Patna, Bangalore, Madras, Calcutta and Hyderabad. Now we are asking the Lalit Kala Akademi to circulate these paintings to the educational institutions.

#### TOUR OF THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES TO RUSSIA AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

\*492. SHRI KISHEN CHAND: Will the Minister for NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state: