

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: No, Sir. According to the existing rules only the documents pertaining to the period before 1901 are accessible to the public, except of course those reports that are confidential, which the Director of Archives in his discretion may throw open. Post-1901 records, both confidential and non-confidential, are made available only if the prior sanction of the Ministry concerned has been obtained.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, if these records which have been taken over from the old Residencies are so confidential as to require special permission?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: According to the rules, whether the records are confidential or non-confidential, the prior sanction of the Ministry concerned will have to be obtained.

PROF. G. RANGA: These rules must have been made a long long time ago and does not the Government consider that the time has come when these rules should be amended?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The Government will consider the issue when a suitable opportunity is there.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: In whose possession were these documents until they came to the possession of the Central Government?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: State Governments.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken care to see that all the records that were there of a confidential nature in the old Residencies have been taken possession of by Government?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Government have taken possession of the records which were available but some records are missing.

I SHRI S. MAHANTY: May I know whether or not the National Archives published any catalogue of these documents?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I am not aware of it; I will find out.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know if all the records are in the National Archives or a part of them are still lying with the State Governments?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Some are still lying with the State Governments.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know if any records were lost in transit when they were being transferred from the State Governments to the National Archives?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I am not aware of any records lost in transit.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, if anything happened like this in the case of the records from the Kolhapur Agency?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Sir, I have already said I am not aware of any records having been lost in transit.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: I want to know the reasons why some of these records are still left with the State Governments?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: On account of want of accommodation.

EXCAVATION WORK IN ANDHRA

*142. SHRI PRASADARAO: Will the Minister for EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the archaeological finds at Nagarjunakonda in the Guntur District of Andhra are being excavated; and

(b) if so, when the work will be completed?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes.

(b) In about five years.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Has the Department of Archaeology suggested any alternative site being found for the Nandikonda Project on the excuse of these Nagarjunakonda remains?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I could not follow the question.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Has the Department of Archaeology or the Ministry of Education put in any objections for the construction of the Nandikonda Project where these Nagarjunakonda remains remain?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir, the Ministry of Education was most anxious that the Nandikonda Project should not be constructed on the site of Nagarjunakonda remains, but the Ministry of Irrigation and Power examined the whole question very carefully but no other site was available.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Is the Government aware of the wide feelings of the people in Andhra that irrespective of the fate of the Nagarjunakonda remains the project should be constructed?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir, the Government, as I said, were anxious that this site should be avoided as far as possible and the whole question was examined both by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Irrigation, but the Central Water and Power Commission felt that there was no other site available.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: May I know, Sir, before the Ministry of Education could send such a suggestion that a project of such magnitude or such public interest for many millions of people should not be constructed on this site, whether it applied its mind to the question as to how to preserve the Nagarjunakonda remains without the same coming in the way of the Nandikonda Project?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I am surprised that this objection is being raised.

It is in the public interest that this dam on Krishna river should be built. It is true that this is a very important site containing archaeological remains and every care should be taken to preserve it, and the Government are taking care to get the whole thing excavated and to have the relics preserved, but the Members would agree that Government have to give precedence to alleviation of hunger.....

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: He did not answer my question. My question was: Why did not the Minister for Education think of this solution of digging all the valuable remains at Nagarjunakonda and taking them to a safer site on the hill itself before they thought of the suggestion that this Nandikonda Project should not be built because it is going to drown the Nagarjunakonda remains?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Sir, they are not going to be drowned. Within five years we are going to remove all the important relics which are there.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: He has not answered my question and has not understood the purpose of my question also. I want to explain. It is known, and it is being felt that the Ministry of Education has unnecessarily poked its nose and has become an obstacle in the way of early construction of the Nandikonda Project. The Ministry of Irrigation could have itself come with this reasonable proposal in the beginning itself as to how to do it.

SHRI B. N. DATAR: These are all reflections.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: It is not a reflection. It is a fact.

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Since the proposal came, the Ministry of Education wanted to preserve the important monuments and the whole thing was discussed with the Ministry of Irrigation. No obstacle was put and the work is not being obstructed. Every effort is being made to remove the relics and also to construct the dam at the same time.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What steps have the Government taken to see that the excavations are completed before the area is inundated?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Government have provided Rs. 75,000 in the Budget for 1954-55 and the work will be started from 1st October 1954.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Have the Government increased the staff to see that the excavations are completed within the period?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, Sir, special staff has been provided to have the work completed within the period.

SHRI PRASAD ARAO: Have not some valuable remains already been excavated and put in the museum?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: Yes, some have been excavated but there are still some more to be excavated.

SMUGGLING OF PAKISTANI JUTE INTO INDIA

•143. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani jute is being smuggled into Indian markets; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to stop this smuggling?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FINANCE (SHRI A. C. GUHA): (a) On certain sectors of the border with East Pakistan there may be some small-scale smuggling of Pakistani jute into India.

(b) A statement showing some of the measures taken to prevent smuggling of all articles is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 61.]

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, if the Excise staff have made any haul of smuggled jute goods last year?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: Yes; a very small quantity was seized.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know what was the quantity seized?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: 87 maunds and 30 seers from January to June 1954.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether steps have been taken to make a list of those who receive these smuggled goods in India?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: When the goods are seized we cannot say who will have to receive the goods.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not necessary to keep a watch on those who receive such smuggled goods so that preventive steps may be adopted?

SHRI A. C. GUHA: These are general measures and Government always take such measures to prevent the smuggling of goods. And as I have said, 87 maunds of jute is not such a very serious problem as to receive any particular attention.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: 87 maunds are those that are seized but

DR. K. N. KATJU: There may be 87,000 left out!

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: but a large amount is going without being detected.

SHRI A. C. GUHA: How can the hon. Member surmise that large quantities are not being detected?

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: The very fact that Government have taken such extraordinary steps shows that smuggling must have been going on on a large scale.

SHRI A. C. GUHA: If the hon. Member reads the statement carefully he will see that these are measures designed to prevent smuggling of all articles. They are not merely to prevent smuggling of jute alone.