

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1025
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 10.02.2022

FILES RELATED TO NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

1025. SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not giving more focused attention to obtain files and records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the UK, USA, Russia, Japan and China;
- (b) whether the PM has taken up the issue with his counterparts in these countries; and
- (c) the reasons for not conducting the DNA test of the ashes at Renkoji temple in Japan to clarify the matter once and for all?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) & (b) Efforts have been made to obtain the files and records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from the UK, USA, Russia, Japan and China. Responses received from the governments of these countries were as follows:

UK: Government of the UK has informed that 62 files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose are already available on the websites of the National Archives and the British Library.

USA: The US Government has informed that they do not hold any historical records of over 30 years. The US National Archives and Records Administration informed that their archival records of that period were not digitized. Therefore, locating these documents would require extensive research of the records of different US Government agencies and they will not be able to do so.

Russia: Russian Government has conveyed that they were unable to find any documents in the Russian archives pertaining to Netaji even after additional investigations made based on request from the Indian side.

Japan: Government of Japan had declassified two files on Netaji. These files are part of their Archives and are available in the public domain. Subsequently, based on Government's request, the Government of Japan transferred these files to India and are retained in the National Archives of India. Government of Japan has also conveyed that if there are any additional documents relevant to the matter, these would be declassified as per their policies after a prescribed time period and based on an internal review mechanism.

China: The response of the Government of the People's Republic of China has not been received.

(c) Government constituted Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (JMCI) vide Notification No. S. O. 339(E) dated 14th May 1999 to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith. One of the terms of reference of the Commission was "whether ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji".

The Report of the JMCI and its connected documents have been declassified and sent to the National Archives of India (NAI) for permanent retention which are available at www.netajipapers.gov.in
