

Nehru Memorial Fund

+

- Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Bishanchander Seth:
 Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
 *148. Shri Hukam Chand
 Kachhavalya:
 Shri Gokulananda Mohanty:
 Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:
 Shrimati Renuka
 Barkataki:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Nehru Memorial Fund has been launched;

(b) if so, how this Fund is likely to be utilised;

(c) the total amount so far received in the Fund; and

(d) how many banks have been authorised to receive contributions to the Fund?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Lalit Sen): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. On June 27, 1964, the President issued an Appeal for contributions to the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund which will aim at promoting the purposes that were dear to the heart of Jawaharlalji. A National Committee of the Fund has since been formed with the President as its Chairman and many other leading citizens as its members. The National Committee has decided to constitute a Trust in this connection and has also set up a Programme Sub-Committee to formulate concrete schemes for which the Fund might be utilised.

(c) According to the latest information available with the Memorial Fund authorities, the total amount received upto August 14, 1964, was Rupees eight lakhs and thirty-four thousand.

(d) Nineteen so far.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know the reasons for this poor response for a memorial fund to a great leader of the nation, whether it is on account of wrong approach, and if so, what methods Government are thinking of taking for collecting a decent amount?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The hon. Member should know that this committee, as also the collections sub-committee, were recently formed. The collections sub-committee has yet to start its work. It is meeting on the 17th, and discussing with some people also. Secondly, Government directly cannot make collections. I have no doubt that there will be full and hearty response from the people for contribution to this memorial fund.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What is the biggest amount received so far from a single firm or company?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I do not attach much importance to the biggest amount. One rupee is as important and valuable as one lakh.

Shri G. Mohanty: May I know whether an organisation has been set on foot to push on collections?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : जिस प्रकार गांधी स्मारक निधि और कस्तूरबा स्मारक निधि के धन का दुरुपयोग होने की सूचनायें मिलती रही हैं, इसी प्रकार इसके धन का दुरुपयोग नहीं होगा, इसके सम्बन्ध में क्या सरकार ने प्रारम्भ में कोई व्यवस्था कर दी है और उसका विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता रहेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सरकार यह कैसे कर सकती है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : सरकार में इसका कोई मतलब नहीं है। लेकिन मुझ में ज्यादा श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्रीजी की मालूम होगा और उन्होंने ज्यादा सुना होगा

कि इस तरह की बातें ज्यादा सुनने में नहीं आई हैं कि जहाँ दुरुपयोग हुआ हो। कहीं भी हो, हमारी खातिर और कोशिश यह है कि इसके पैसे का सही तरीके से इस्तेमाल हो, सही खर्च हो।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बता सकती है कि इस स्मारक कोष में बड़े बड़े उद्योगपति ही क्यों कांट्रीब्यूशन कर रहे हैं, मामूली किसानों और मजदूरों तक क्यों नहीं पहुंचा गया है ?

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : या आप उनसे पूछिये या इनसे पूछिये।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : हमारे देश में बड़े बड़े पदों पर बैठे हुए व्यक्तियों ने या कांग्रेस में जो पदाधिकारी हैं, उन्होंने श्रवैध रूप से पैसा कमाया है, उनका पैसा भी इसमें लिया जाएगा, क्या ऐसी भी कोई योजना सरकार की है ?

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : सरकार की योजना है ही नहीं जिसे आप बार बार कहेंगे...

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : कैरो और खादी वाला साजब ने श्रवैध रूप से जो पैसा कमाया है तथा इस तरह से दूसरे लोगों ने जो कमाया है, उस पैसे को भी क्या इस कोष के लिए ले लिया जाएगा ?

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : इस आशाओं पर इस वक्त नहीं चल रहे हैं।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : चूंकि इस यादगार कोष में धन कम आया है, क्या इसी कारण से सरकार ने फैमला किया है कि बड़े कम्पनियों और बड़े लोग जो इस फंड में रुपया देंगे, उनको प्रायः कर से मुक्त किया जायेगा ?

प्रध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कहा कि कम नहीं आया है, अभी शरू हुआ है।

Shri Basumtari : I think only one paper has issued an appeal for collecting funds—Hindustan Times. What

steps have been taken by the Government so that other papers also issue such appeals?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri : A number of papers have issued appeals. As I said in the beginning we have yet to commence the work of collection in right earnest.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam : I want to know whether any idea has been given as to what would be the nature of expenditure from this fund and whether the money collected will be spent on the welfare of the children and the education of the handicapped.

Mr. Speaker : That is a matter to be decided by the committee.

Shri Bishwanath Roy : In view of the love and affection showed by the general public to the late great leader, may I know whether any agency would be set up at the district level so that ordinary peasants and others...

Mr. Speaker : That is a matter for the committee.

— Late Prime Minister's Residence

+

Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Jagdev Singh
Siddhanti:
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Dhaon:
*149. Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Bagri:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri A. S. Saigal:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:
Shri Kishen Pattnayak:
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government have