

Shri Humayun Kabir: They are in different stages of construction and we expect that almost all of them will be ready by the end of next year. Since they are being constructed by the State Governments, answer to the Question could be given by the State Governments.

डा० गोविन्द दास : ये जो नाट्य-शालाय बन रही हैं, क्या ये केवल हर एक राज्य की राजधानी में हैं या राज्यों के और प्रधान स्थानों में भी हैं ? केन्द्र की ओर से और राज्यों की ओर से बनाई जा रही इन नाट्य-शालाओं की मात्र मिला कर संख्या क्या है ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: That will arise out of the next question. This is a specific question about a particular theatre.

श्री ब्रज बिहारी मेहरात्रा : देश में जो टैगोर स्मारक नाट्यशालाएं बन रहे हैं, उन पर केन्द्रीय सरकार कितना खर्च कर रही है और राज्य सरकारें कितना खर्च कर रही हैं ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The pattern of assistance is, the Centre is giving 50 per cent of the first Rs. 2 lakhs and 25 per cent thereafter, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2½ lakhs to a State. That is the general pattern.

Shri R. S. Pandey: May I know many theatres have been constructed so far?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The hon. Member did not probably hear me.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any rules will be framed so far as the production of plays in these theatres are concerned and whether only Tagore's plays will be enacted here or other plays also?

Shri Humayun Kabir: A theatre hall is a theatre hall. It should be used for other plays also and for public meetings, conferences, music concerts and for whatever purpose it can be used.

Regarding the first part of the question about rules, obviously it is not for us to prescribe what kind of plays are to be produced there.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह सच है कि टैगोर कामेमोरेशन थियेटर तैयार करने के लिये स्टेट्स का जो क्वोटेशन आने वाला है, उस में पटेलों से चन्दा लिया जा रहा है ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: That question should be addressed to the State Government.

Shri Bade: I want to know whether any direction has been given from the Central Government that the subscription should be taken from the patels?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Why should the Centre come into the picture at all?

Shri Dasaratha Deb: First it was decided that a place in the heart of Agarthala would be selected for the construction of this Tagore Commemoration Theatre. May I know the reason why the Government now try to construct it elsewhere far away from Agarthala?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The question of location of the theatre is the concern of the State Government or the territorial authority. We are not concerned with it.

Pavement-Dwellers in Delhi

*1357. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons in Delhi who have to live on footpaths etc., without a roof on their heads; and

(b) Government's programme to provide shelter to such persons?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) A census of houseless persons taken by the Superintendent of Census Ope-

rations on the nights between 28th February and 3rd March 1961 showed that their number was 6,586.

(a) One permanent night shelter at Andha Mughal is being maintained by the Delhi Municipal Corporation. The Bharat Sewak Samaj is also running night shelters at Jumna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Hardinge Library, Delhi Gate, Pahar Ganj, Kabli Gate, Subzi-mandi and Bagh Dewar. Construction of more night shelters at some other places is also under the consideration of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. A provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for construction of night shelters has been made in their Third Five Year Plan.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know in what broad categories these pavement dwellers can be classified? I want to know what are the types of people who are on the pavement.

Shri Datar: Some difference is made by the Bharat Sewak Samaj and the Corporation. So far as the Bharat Sewak Samaj is concerned, they admit for the night shelter those who are working during day time and not those who are not working at all. So far as the Corporation is concerned, it finds it difficult to make a distinction between beggars and others, and therefore they charge a small fee of 12 naye paise per night.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Sir, according to a study made in Bombay the number of pavement dwellers was about three lakhs there, and from three lakhs in the Second Plan period it has gone to six lakhs in the Third Plan period. Am I to understand that the figure given out here as 6,000 has any relation to the realities? May I know whether any check-up has been made in this respect?

Shri Datar: There are the figures given by the census authorities, and they are confined to those who gave out that they had no houses to live in, either as tenants or as owners.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Does Government propose to give any subsidy to those voluntary organisations who intend to construct houses or intend to provide shelter to these pavement dwellers?

Shri Datar: Yes; for the purpose of construction of these houses Government are considering the question of making some grants.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Are these pavement dwellers jobless people or do they hold jobs and yet they cannot find shelters?

Shri Datar: Some of them, I believe, are jobless, except where the job is one of begging itself.

Shri Heda: Organizations like Rain Baseras have been successful in Delhi. Is there any plan to see that such organisations or the activities of such organisations are extended in Delhi and also in other cities so that the pavement dwellers may get some shelter in the night.

Shri Datar: This question relates to Delhi.

Shri Heda: I am talking of the Ran Basera in Delhi itself.

Shri Datar: In Delhi the Municipal Corporation and the Bharat Sewak Samaj are the two agencies which are working.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has Government ever considered the damage to India's reputation, not merely at home but abroad, caused by the fact that there are so many hundreds of pavement dwellers, and people who sleep on the footpath right in the capital of India, under the very nose of the Government?

Shri Datar: This question is already before the Government. There are beggars at various stages and they are taking action with a view to prevent beggary.

Shri P Kunhan: The hon. Minister stated that most of these people are

beggars. May I know whether Government have any intention of bringing a suitable legislation to prevent begging from our country?

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing altogether. Next Question—

Shri Datar: There are legislations for begging....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have gone to the next question.

Explosive for Coal Mines

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*1358. { **Shri K. N. Tiwary:**
 { **Shri A. S Saigal:**

Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the coalfields situated in the Pench and Kanhan Valley are non-grassy;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chief Inspector of Mines has made it compulsory for mine owners to use high explosives;

(c) whether it is also a fact that explosives which are in short supply and are being imported cost the nation valuable foreign exchange;

(d) whether it is a fact that indigenous Gun-powder manufacturers are being pushed out of that trade due to certain vested interests; and

(e) if so, steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Permitted explosives have to be imported since they are not manufactured indigenously.

(d) and (e). Government are not aware of such a situation. Only those explosives are generally imported which are not available indigenously.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: May I know what steps Government would like to take to make the country self-sufficient in this respect?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): This question of manufacturing special types of explosives which are needed for mining industry is under the active consideration of the Government. There are some projects that are going on with the ICI and more are proposed to be undertaken.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Is it a fact that complaints have been received from the Pench and Kanhan Valley coal fields that the Chief Inspector himself has allowed them explosives which are not useful for this kind of coalmines that exist there? If so, what remedial action has been taken by the Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is a fact that the Chief Inspector of Explosives has approved of the particular quality of explosives that has been used, but I do not possess the information which has been asked just now by my hon. friend.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know the quantum of import of these explosives by Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I require notice.

Shri K. N. Tiwary: May I know whether this has affected the output of coal?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is a fact that we faced a scarcity problem of explosives a few months back. Now I have the information that we are not facing any particular difficulty.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that the I.C.I., a foreign firm, has been enjoying the monopoly of manufacture and import of explosives and Indian firms are generally not allowed to come into the field.