

establishment of an institute in the south. So far as this northern institute is concerned, we are carrying on certain negotiations with the Government of the United States.

Relics of Lord Buddha near Vaisali

*1817. **Shri Bishwanath Roy:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some relics of Lord Buddha have been excavated near Vaisali in Muzaffarpur district (Bihar)?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Some relics assignable to about the 5th Century B.C. have been excavated at Vaisali, but there is as yet no conclusive evidence to say that those are the relics of the Buddha.

Shri Biswanath Roy: May I know whether anything else besides to so-called relics of Buddha have been found there?

Shri Humayun Kabir: A number of stupas have been found. It is a particularly interesting excavation and if the House so wishes and if you so desire I will have a small statement placed on the Table of the House. There are certain particularly interesting facts which have come to light.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know whether further excavations will be done on that site?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The excavation, I believe, is still continuing. We have found relics of the first stupa and the second stupa. There are also suggestions of three more stupas.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it true that a box containing some ashes have been found there and if so, where that box is kept at present?

Shri Humayun Kabir: A casket has been found. That is a fact. But I cannot tell the hon. Member where the casket is at the moment.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that some of the research scholars of that area say that

the ashes contained in that box are the ashes of Lord Buddha

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have said that it is a very interesting excavation that has been carried out there. There are reasons to think that these are ancient relics, but whether these are the ashes of the Buddha is very difficult to say conclusively.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : अब तक जो कुछ भी सामग्री मिली है उसके अनुसार इन स्तूपों का ऐतिहासिक महत्व क्या है, क्या मंत्री जी बतला सकेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी तो इनवेस्टीगेशन कर रहे हैं।

श्री हुमायूँ कबीर : मैंने अभी बताया कि यह बहुत पुराना है और यही सोचा जाता है कि जो पहला स्तूप है वह शायद उनके भक्तकाल के याड़े राज बाद हो तैयार हुआ था।

Powers of High Courts to Grant Bail

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{ **Shri Raghunir Sahai:**
*1818. { **Shri Achar:**
 { **Shri M. S. Murty:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the remarks of Mr. Justice James of the Allahabad High Court published in *The Hindustan Times* dated the 7th April, 1958 purporting to invite Parliament's attention to the desirability of the High Court possessing powers to grant appropriate relief to convicted persons going up to the Supreme Court and the need to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure; and

(b) the action Government propose to take thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Yes.

(b) A similar point arising out of a judgement delivered by the former