

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 24, 1960 | Chaitra 4,
1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair.]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Jyoti Project at Ferozpur

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*1069. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 528 on the 26th November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the detailed aspects of the proposed Jyoti Project "a housing colony for army personnel" at Ferozpur have since been finalised;

(b) if so, the details of the Project thus finalised; and

(c) the nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken to start it?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) to (c). Sir, Project Jyoti is under implementation in its 1st phase. It is not a housing colony, but troop accommodation for officers and other ranks and the necessary administrative and technical accommodation.

The remaining two phases, which will be taken in hand after work on Phase I has been completed, will cater for balance accommodation.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: In reply to the previous question it was stated that it is hoped the work on this pro-
438 (A) LS—1.

ject will be started during the current financial year. May I know the reasons for the delay?

Shri Krishna Menon: There is no delay, Sir. The work is in progress.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know if this will be the final project in the matter of construction or other projects of the kind are also intended?

Shri Krishna Menon: I said this is the first phase of the project costing round about Rs. 2 crores—from the figures it is about Rs. 2 crores. There are two other phases to follow, which are part of the plan, over which project plans have not been sanctioned. Altogether it may go up to Rs. 6 crores.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: May I know, Sir, if this is the only project of its kind in the whole country or there are any other schemes also?

Shri Krishna Menon: This is part of accommodation for the Service personnel. There are other things going on in other parts of the country.

Shri M. R. Krishna: What would be the cost of construction if this is to be done through the contractors?

Shri Krishna Menon: Well, I want notice of that question.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know in what way this project takes note of the labour supplied by the Army, the material supplied by the Army and the technical know-how supplied by the Army, and what the proportion of this is to the project if it had been done by the contractors?

Shri Krishna Menon: There is considerable amount of misconception about it, because newspapers write about troop labour. There are no constructions taking place by compulsion of troops to work for anything.

What happens is, when in any place there are troops available who are not doing very much, where their training can be postponed, they take part in it. But there the wages that are paid are marked against the project. So there is no question of it being economised in that way. But the results achieved are better, because of the enthusiasm they put into it and the general organisation.

Mr. Speaker: I thought Shri Patnaik was always urging that the troops must be employed for civil purposes.

Shri M. R. Krishna: Not all the time.

Mr. Speaker: He said they must be used.

Next question.

Welfare Schemes for S.C. and S.T.

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*1070. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have any machinery to supervise the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) how Government ascertain that the amount set apart for that purpose is actually spent for the same Schemes; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to stop any misuse of the grants?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is done through Progress Reports received from the agencies executing the schemes viz the State Government, Union Territory administration or an all India non-official organization as the case may be.

(c) In case of misuse by a non-official organisation, further grants

can be stopped or reduced and the misused portion of grants already given may be recovered.

Shri Subodh Hansda: What is the nature of the steps taken by Government to see that the amount set apart is actually spent for the specific purpose?

Shri Datar: We depend upon the State Governments as also upon the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and his Assistant Regional Commissioners. They go and evaluate the work and point out the irregularities, if any.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether Government is aware that the State supervisory staff are not taking equal interest about the Centrally sponsored schemes?

Shri Datar: I hope the State Governments have been taking interest in this matter.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Central Advisory Board in regard to scavengers, has been accepted, and how much money has been allotted for their welfare?

Shri Datar: The hon. Member must have seen this morning's papers where it has been stated by the Chairman that the report will be submitted very soon.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the progress in the fulfilment of the Second Plan targets so far as the welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned is awfully sluggish and, if so, whether Government propose to formulate priorities in this respect?

Shri Datar: In respect of Scheduled Caste schemes generally we are up to schedule. But in respect of Tribals we are just a little behind, and steps are being taken to intensify the work.

Shri Basumatari: What are the non-official organisations to which Central grants have been given in respect of