

Manipur to study certain conditions there. Their reports are under examination”.

But now, the hon. Minister says that this is confidential.

I do not know what is the real position. Will he please explain?

Dr. Katju: I did not catch you.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are unable to catch the point.

Shri L. J. Singh: The answer has already been given on a previous occasion, and in order to have the answer clarified, I am putting a question. It is stated now that the report is confidential, but last time, in reply to a supplementary question, the Deputy Home Minister said.

“A number of recommendations have been made and they are under the purview of the Minister for Food and Agriculture and the Minister of Irrigation and River Valley Projects.”

Dr. Katju: The consideration continues.

Shri L. J. Singh: And in reply to another supplementary question, he said:

“Now, this Commission went there to study the cause of the abnormal loss and damages due to the surplus waters of the Lohtak lake so as to reclaim the marshy lands for growing more food and they have made a number of suggestions which are under examination.”

May I know, Sir, what is the actual position now?

Shri Algu Rai Shastri: Is it a question or a statement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has referred to Question No. 1006 in his question itself. The hon. Minister has considered all that. His attention has been drawn to that, and he has given the answer. It is a confidential document.

Shri B. S. Murthy: When was the recommendation received, and how long do Government propose to take to consider it.

Dr. Katju: It is a technical matter. The report has been at present referred to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, and they will examine it. It requires a lot of consideration, and it involves a lot of expenditure. There is no immediate urgency about it. Government will take one month or two months.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I submit that the information regarding actual reclamation and other data may be supplied because they cannot possibly be confidential? Other points which do not relate to reclamation work itself, may be held over.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a suggestion which the hon. Minister may take into consideration.

Shri L. J. Singh: Will the Minister be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the reports of the representative of Central Water and Power Commission who accompanied the Deputy Minister on his visit to Manipur State?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member says that some officer on behalf of the Central Water and Power Commission accompanied the Deputy Minister, and he made a report. He wants that report to be placed on the Table of the House.

Dr. Katju: That is the report which is confidential.

ILLUMINATION OF GOVERNMENT BUILDING ON REPUBLIC DAY

*940. **Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some public buildings including the Rashtrapati Bhawan, Secretariat and India Gate had been decorated and profusely illuminated to celebrate the Republic day on the 26th January, 1953;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Parliament House was neither illuminated nor decorated; and

(c) why the Parliament House was not illuminated or decorated?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes. The illuminations were, however, on a modest scale.

(b) Parliament House was not one of the buildings illuminated.

(c) With a view to keeping down the expenditure, only buildings on the direct line from Rashtrapati Bhawan to India Gate were included. Selection of buildings not on the direct route would have meant deviation, longer leads and increased expenditure.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: I have not followed the reply to part (c).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said that it would have involved increased expenditure. That is the point.

Shri A. N. Vidyahankar: Was the Parliament House not decorated, because it was considered less important?

Shri Tyagi: No, Sir. There was no question of minimizing the importance of the Parliament House. As I have already stated, the plan was to reduce expenditure on illuminations, because there were some other further activities taken up this year, and the Republic Day was celebrated on a bigger scale. So, we had to cut expenditure on illuminations. In fact, the Defence Ministry wanted to have more buildings for illumination, but I was then on the expenditure side, and I must confess that I myself was responsible for reducing the expense on illuminations.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether it was only the consideration of a few thousand rupees, which prompted the Government not to illumine the Parliament House?

Shri Tyagi: As I have stated already, the expenditure on other items was excessive, and we had to celebrate the day with other activities to make it more effective, and therefore illumination was curtailed.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it not a fact that during the 1950 celebrations, the Parliament House was illuminated, and if so, why was it dropped this year?

Shri Tyagi: That year, the expenditure on illumination was about Rs. 4 lakhs or so. But this year, there were some other further activities taken up, and therefore illumination was restricted to the buildings which fell in line from India Gate to Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

Shri T. N. Singh: What were the further activities which were given preference to Parliament House being illuminated?

Shri Tyagi: There is no question of that. Parliament was not in session then, and that was also a reason.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: What was the total expenditure incurred, and what is the expenditure now being incurred for the illuminations, which still continue?

Shri Tyagi: The present expenditure, of course, will be small, because there are not very many illuminations, and it is only a few buildings which for the public benefit, are being illuminated at present. But the total expenditure on illuminations sanctioned for the Republic Day was Rs. 8,000.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह आशा की जानी चाहिए कि अगली बार जहाँ तक संसद् के भवन का सम्बन्ध है इस प्रकार की कंजूसी नहीं की जायगी ?

श्री त्यागी : कंजूसी का कोई सवाल नहीं है। क्योंकि और मामलों पर तबज्जह देना जरूरी समझा गया इसलिये रोशनी पर खर्चा कम कर दिया गया।

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री : वह दूसरे मामले क्या हैं, रोशनी के अलावा, जिन पर ज्यादा खर्चा किया गया और जिन की वजह से रोशनी पर कम खर्च करना पड़ा ?

श्री त्यागी : आनरेबिल मेम्बर को मालूम होगा कि पिछली मर्तबा फाक डार्सेज वर्गह में हर जगह के ट्राइबल पीपुल और दूसरे खास खास लोग बुलाये गये थे। उन को बुलाने का, यहाँ रखने का, खाने पीने वर्गह का खर्चा किया गया इस की वजह से ज्यादा खर्चा हुआ।

REPAIRING MARINE DOCKYARD, PORT BLAIR

*943. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the reasons for the delay in repairing the marine dockyard constructions at Port Blair.

(b) Has the marine department at Port Blair proved to be of great utility in marine repair work both to the Forest Department-owned boats as well as others?

(c) If so, are the activities being expanded?

(d) How long is it likely to take to put new machine tools in a suitable working accommodation?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Urgent repairs were carried out in the marine dockyard in 1945 and 1946. Further repairs had to be deferred as they could not be given priority over other immediate works.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The new machine tools are already installed in the building.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Are the Government aware that as a result of the