

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : The agreement clearly lays down that a certificate has to be produced about the origin and the contents. The details are given in the statement itself.

MR. SPEAKER : Qn. 208. Shri D.P. Yadav is absent.

**Indian Museum, Calcutta**

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\*209. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that funds crunch is causing immense hardships for the Indian museum, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to act fast and allot required quantum of funds to salvage the damage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Indian Museum, which is one of the oldest Museums of India, has been getting a substantial grant from the Government of India which has grown over the years as would be revealed from the following figures for the last five years :

	(Rupees in lakhs)
1992-93	Rs. 120.60
1993-94	Rs. 313.00
1994-95	Rs. 312.45
1995-96	Rs. 319.05
1996-97	Rs. 319.05

Besides, the Museum has its own sources of income in the shape of entrance fee, sale of publications, sale of replicas etc., and various fees for use of auditorium and other facilities in the Museum.

For the current year a total provision of Rs. 319.05 lakhs have been made for the Indian Museum out of which Rs. 189.29 lakhs has already been released and the balance would be released before the expiry of the current financial year subject to audit verification etc.

[Translation]

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir the condition of National Museums is deteriorating due to lack of funds. In this connection the Minister has replied that the Government is giving funds. But the amount the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 is the same. If adequate

funds are not provided and its monitoring is not done scientifically then the museum will face destruction.

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : So far as the Museum is concerned, there is no dearth of funds. Not only is the Government giving sufficient funds, but they are also generating their own funds. In fact, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that as on 31.3.1996, the Museum had an unspent balance of Rs. 138.02 lakh out of which Rs. 53.71 lakh was earmarked for the construction of the annexe building. Not only have they got an unspent amount, but they are getting funds through the entrance fees and by other means. They are generating their own income. They have got sufficient money.

[Translation]

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, all the paintings and ancient relics and remains of Indus Valley Civilization, are getting destroyed. The hon. Minister has said that some funds remained unspent. The hon. Minister must think about this that why this money has not been spent. Proper steps should be taken to check the damage causing to the museum and restoring its originality?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : If a proposal for higher funds comes, the Government would sympathetically consider it and try to help them.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Hon. Minister has told that there is no dearth of funds but as far as I know, the experts committee has recommended that it should be made fully air-conditioned. At present only a small portion of museum is air-conditioned. The entire museum is not air-conditioned as a result of which the ancient objects and archeological remains are getting destroyed. I would like to know. Whether it is known to the hon. Minister or not? When funds are available then why it is not being made air-conditioned. I would like to know whether government will like same steps for making it air conditioned or not and the time by which the museum will be made fully air-conditioned?

Secondly, many new ancient and archeological remains are to be displayed in the museum but due to paucity of funds they still lying at other places and getting destroyed. So I would like to ask as to what arrangement are being made by the Government. In display them in the museum? In excavation we are getting many important objects and remains which are to be displayed in the museum. So I would like to know as to what arrangement is being made by the Government to install them in the museum?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, I have already said that the Museum has sufficient funds. If they want some more funds for preservation and if a proper proposal is made, the Government would definitely consider it and try to help them.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I think, there are some problems with the figures. In 1993-94, the allotment was Rs. 313 lakh and then after four years, it is Rs. 319.05 lakh. In the meantime, the prices have risen by 40 per cent. So, in fact, in real terms, the grant has come done.

Secondly, in the reply it has been said that there is a balance and it is one of the problem on which the C & AG also has commented. An amount of Rs. 189 lakh out of 319 lakh has already been released. We are discussing it in March. He says it will be released before the expiry of the current financial year. So, between today and 31st, the rest of the amount would be allowed and that would be either misspent or would be accommodated for the next year. The C & AG has made a very severe comment about this. I want a response from the hon. Minister.

The third part is very awful. This is not the way to spend. The third part of the reply is that the Science City in Calcutta is part of the Indian Museum. I met the concerned person the other day and he said that comes under this Museum. They are facing problems in terms of funds also. The completion stage in respect of second phase would come next year. Would he also consider to expand funds for that also?

MR. SPEAKER : Luckily you do not have part 'D'!

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is the criticism.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : By the end of March, all the amounts would be released. Money has been spent. We have to receive the receipts. Unless we get the certificate, we cannot release the money. I can assure the hon. Member that the money will be released before 31st of March.

So far as the Science City is concerned, that is a separate matter and that matter is also under the consideration of the Government.

#### National Academy in Calcutta

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\*210. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI JAG MOHAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has since been drawn to the resolution passed by the West Bengal

Legislative Assembly on February 8 last urging upon the Union Government to set up National Academy in Calcutta in commemoration of birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) A copy of the relevant Resolution of West Bengal Legislative Assembly was obtained from the Secretariat of the Assembly after the receipt of this Question. In the Resolution, the Legislative Assembly has unanimously resolved that the State Government should take up with the Central Government the matter regarding establishment of a Netaji National Academy at an All India Level.

No reference nor any detail has so far been received in this behalf from the Government of West Bengal.

12.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chitta Basu. You can ask one Supplementary.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I am not asking Supplementary.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, I want to ask whether the hon. Minister is aware that in one of his earliest letters to his mother, Subhash Chandra Bose had expressed anguish...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete first and then you can speak.

MR. SPEAKER : Anyway, the Question Hour is over. I am sorry.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

### Women Health Organisations

\*208. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up Women Health Organisations for active participation of women at community and village level;

(b) the names of places where such organisations have been set up in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the instructions being issued by the Government for the improvement of women and children's health through these organisations and the annual expenditure being incurred on these programmes?