GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TOURISM AND CULTURE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4333 ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002 AFFAIRS OF SAHITYA ACADEMY PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBI conducted a raid on premises of Sahitya Academy, Bangalore;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (c) whether several irregularities have been reported in appointments, transfers, publishing of books, maintenance of records and stock position of the Academy;
- (d) if so, whether loss in stock position was caused by sale of books to Raja Ram Mohan Roy scheme through a middleman; and
- (e) if so, the details of the losses and the action proposed to be taken by the Government to set the matter right?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (e) The CBI conducted a raid in the Regional Office of the Sahitya Akademi at Bangalore on 16th November, 2001The copy of the FIR filed by the CBI submitted to the Hon'ble XXI Additional City Civil and Sessions (Special) Judge, Bangalore reveals that the raid was based on credible information received by CBI from a reliable source to the effect that while functioning as public servant in their respective capacities, the Regional Secretary and Assistant Editor of the Sahitya Akademi, Bangalore during the period 1998-1999 entered into a criminal conspiracy amongst themselves and with a private party. The FIR states that there were irregularities in the purchase of paper in 1998 in the Regional Office of Sahitya Akademi. Since all the relevant records relating to this raid are still with the CBI, the Akademi has not yet taken any action in the matter.