

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5368  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF MARTYRS  
Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is preparing National Register of Martyrs;
- (b) if so, the authority responsible for taking decisions on selection of names;
- (c) the details of the High Power Committee formed for this purpose;
- (d) the policy of the Government about those persons who fought against British imperialism since 1846;
- (e) whether the Government is aware of the historic Martyrdom of General Sham Singh Attariwala in the battlefield; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the names of Martyrs of Kuka Movement in the said Register?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (V.NARAYANASAMY)

- (a) The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) has been assigned the project of a research based compilation of a National Register of Martyrs of India's Freedom Struggle, entitled "Dictionary of Martyrs: India's Freedom Struggle 1857-1947".
- (b) An Advisory Committee comprising of historians from different parts of the country as well as representatives of Ministry of Culture and National Archives of India advise on the principles of selection. This has been done with a view to ensuring that the identification of martyrs and the biographical notes on them are authentic and based on primary or archival sources as far as feasible.
- (c) The Advisory Committee of representative historians from different parts of India as well as representatives of the Ministry of Culture and National Archives of India has the following members:-
  - (1) Professor S. Bhattacharya (Ex-Officio as Chairman, ICHR)
  - (2) Concerned Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
  - (3) Professor Arjun Dev, Coordinator, Towards Freedom Project, ICHR
  - (4) Professor V. Raghottam, Chairman of History Department, University of Pondicherry
  - (5) Professor Swaraj Basu, Professor of History, IGNOU
  - (6) Professor T.R. Ghoble, Professor of History, University of Mumbai
  - (7) Professor R. Subhas Chakraborty, Professor of History, University of Calcutta
  - (8) Professor Indu Banga, Professor of History, Punjab University, Chandigarh
  - (9) Professor V. Ramakrishna, Professor of History, Hyderabad University
  - (10) Professor N. Rajendran, Dean of Arts & Professor & Head, Department of History, Bharathidasan University
  - (11) Dr. Sunita Pathania, Professor of History, Kurukshetra University (advisor Northern Zonal Committee)
  - (12) Professor K.L. Tuteja, Professor of History, Kurukshetra University (advisor Northern Zonal Committee)
  - (13) Professor Amit K. Gupta, Jamia Millia Islamia University (advisor Northern Zonal Committee)
  - (14) Shri S.M.R. Baqar, Acting Director-General, National Archives of India, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
  - (15) Dr. Pramod Mehra, Assistant Director (Archives), National Archives of India, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- (d) As per decision of the Advisory Committee at their meeting on 09.02.2009 the present Project covers the period from 1857 to 1947. Separate Projects on pre-1857 period are under consideration by Indian Council of Historical Research and proposals received will be referred to the Advisory Committee.
- (e) It is a matter of general knowledge that the famous Sikh General Sham Singh Attariwala, son of Sardar Nihal Singh of Atari, attained martyrdom in the battlefield in February 1846.
- (f) The names of Martyrs of the Kuka Movement within the period 1857 and 1947 will be included.