

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3430
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011
NEHRU MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY
De Dr. Ratna

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sanctioned funds for the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any irregularities in diversion of the said funds have been reported by the NMML; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF CULTURE(KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (d) A request for a one-time grant of Rs.5 crore to meet the needs of the Selected Works Project was received from Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML) on 30 September, 2008 pursuant to the decision the Executive Council of NMML in its meeting held on 10 April, 2008 wherein it was agreed in principle to take over the publication of the "Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru" from the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund (JNMF) w.e.f. 1 April, 2008. An amount of Rs.5 crores was sanctioned to NMML in two instalments: first instalment of Rs.3.30 crores was paid on 25 March, 2009 and 2nd instalment of Rs.1.70 crores on 31 March, 2009. There exists a standard clause in the sanction orders under which funds sanctioned could not be diverted to any organisation.

It is stated that prior to the issue of the sanction order, a decision had been taken in the meetings of the Finance Committee of 5 March, 2009 and the Executive Council of 6 March, 2009 that the Project regarding publication of "Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru" will continue to be handled by JNMF. However, no communication to this effect was received from NMML in the Ministry prior to the issue of the Sanction orders referred to above.

The objection in this regard was raised by the Internal Audit Party of the Ministry which conducted 'Performance Evaluation of NMML' between 18 January and February, 2010. On receipt of the Report a reference was made on 7 July, 2010 by Chairman, Executive Council, NMML to the Secretary, Culture explaining the circumstances under which the work would continue to be done by the JNMF. The same was considered and approved, ex-post-facto, by the Ministry.