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Title: Need to build a memorial on the Samadhi of late Shri Morarji Desai, former Prime Minister of India in Gujarat-Laid.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD EAST): The former Prime Minister of India Shri Morarjibhai Desai died at Mumbai. The Government of India and the family members of Shri Morarjibhai Desai conveyed to the state Government his desire to be cremated near Sabarmati river and Ashram Gaushala in Ahmedabad. The State Government of Gujarat had requested Sabarmati Ashram Gaushla Trust to spare a portion of their land adjoining the Sabarmati river bank for cremation and Samadhi of Late Shri Morarjibhai Desai. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India had constituted a concept committee on 23.2.1996 to develop suitable memorial on the Samadhi named as Abhay Ghat. Since this land belongs to Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala Trust, the Trust is asking for payment for the land. The expenditure for acquiring the land from Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala Trust for building Samadhi of former Prime Minister of India Shri Morarjibhai Desai is Rs. 1.0 crore approximately. Government of Gujarat had requested to Government of India to bear the cost of land. Ministry of culture had indicated unwillingness to do so. Government of Gujarat has no scheme to acquire land or set up national memorial which is a subject of Ministry of Culture. Sir I request Government of India to do the needful at the earliest in this case and to ensure acquisition of land at the earliest for timely completion with adequate provision of funds for the scheme.