

SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA : As regards death we always depend upon the official announcement. You said that you were present there. At 1.5 the doctors announced that he was dead. It took 5 to 10 minutes for the doctors to come.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अभी तो मन्त्री महोदय ने 1-17 बजे कहा था। अब वह 1-05 बजे कह रहे हैं।

श्री सत्यनारायण सिंह : डाक्टरों को सर्टिफाई करने और दस्तखत करने में बतत लगता है, पांच दस मिनट लगते हैं।

MR. SPEAKER : No please, I would not call anybody. Order. order please. Let him finish now.

SHRI HEM BARUA : Is it not a fact that the helicopter was sent to bring the Prime Minister before the All India Radio made the announcement? Is it not also a fact that the Vice President who was on tour was informed before the actual announcement was made by the AIR?

SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA : The fact that the President suffered a heart attack was sufficient for the people here to get the Prime Minister and the Vice President. But, as I have said repeatedly, the doctors declared that the President was dead, at 1.5. 5 or 10 minutes were taken by them because they had to give a certificate. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Sanghi.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : rose—

MR. SPEAKER : The Deputy Prime Minister wants to say something.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : I was the first member of the Government to reach the place. I was informed at 11.50. As soon as I reached my office, immediately I got the telephone from the Secretary to the President that the President had a severe heart attack and perhaps he would not survive. This I was told at 11.50 on the telephone. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You want to make this also a controversy?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI : I reached the place within 4 or 5 minutes, by about 11.55. At that time the doctors had taken all the steps to revive, give oxygen, and all the other methods that they adopt in such cases to revive or to bring back the person to life if it is there. When I went there they said that it seemed impossible to revive him. I then told them that it was better to get other doctors so that nobody might afterwards say that we had not utilised the services of all the top doctors who were available. We called Dr. Dhanda who is a well known heart specialist of Delhi. Dr. Wig was also called in. They took sometime to come. How could they come immediately? They came. Then they examined and certified by about 1 or 1.5 p.m. that there was no hope and he was dead and therefore, we must immediately take further action. In the meanwhile, as the Vice-President was not here, the Home Minister was not here and the Prime Minister was not here, they had to be informed and called immediately, because it was a position where one could not take risks. Therefore, they were informed and they were brought back. All this was done in my presence. This is what happened. On this it was sought to make a capital. I am afraid it is not fair to do these things. This is what I have to plead with my hon. friends.

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#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

कुतुब मीनार, दिल्ली

\*1596. श्री बलराज मजोक :

श्री रामस्वरूप बिछारी :

कुमारी कमला कुमारी :

श्री नारायण स्वरूप शर्मा :

क्या शिक्षा तथा युवक सेवा मंत्री 15 नवम्बर, 1968 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 853 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कुतुब मीनार की नींव के आसपास पानी को रोकने के लिए वहाँ ईंटें लगाने के काम पर कितना व्यय हुआ है ;

(ख) कुतुब मीनार की मरम्मत के लिए धन की व्यवस्था करने में क्या कठिनाइयाँ हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि कुतुबमीनार को देखने जाने वाले दर्शकों के लिए वहाँ पर पेय जल तथा जलपान आदि का पर्याप्त प्रबन्ध नहीं है ;

(घ) क्या सरकार का विचार कुतुब मीनार के पास पानी के कई नल लगाने तथा दर्शकों के लिये अन्य सुविधाएँ प्रदान करने का है ;  
और

(ङ) यदि हाँ, तो कब ?

शिक्षा तथा युवक सेवा मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्रीमती जर्हाभारा जयपाल सिंह) : (क) इस कार्य पर खर्च करने के लिए 510 रुपये निर्धारित किये गये हैं ।

(ख) धन उपलब्ध न होने के कारण, इससे पहले के वर्षों में मरम्मत नहीं की जा सकी । कुतुबमीनार की नींव की मजबूत करने के कार्य को 1969-70 वर्ष के दौरान प्रारम्भ करने का विचार है ।

(ग) जी, नहीं। दर्शकों को पेय जल सप्लाई करने के प्रबन्ध मौजूद हैं । मिट्टी के बडों में पानी की व्यवस्था के साथ-साथ, मामूली कीमत पर, बर्फ का पानी भी एक ठेकेदार द्वारा सप्लाई किया जाता है । जल-पान की सप्लाई के लिए कुतुब पर एक कंटीन है ।

(घ) और (ङ). दर्शकों की सुविधा के लिए 1969-70 के दौरान पानी के नल तथा पानी ठंडा करने की मशीनें लगाने का प्रस्ताव है । शौचालय आदि जैसी अन्य सुविधायें पहले ही से मौजूद हैं ।

#### Development of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

\*1597. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have examined the possibility of developing the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as tourist attractions and holiday resorts for the Indian people ;

(b) if so, the decisions taken in the matter ; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to consider the development of the Islands as holiday resorts ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government are aware of the tourist potential of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands as holiday resorts, but in view of the existing restrictions on tourist traffic to these places it has not been possible to develop any sizeable facilities there.

#### Assistance to Political Sufferers

\*1598. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of assistance given to the freedom fighters and their dependants in India, and the criteria of giving assistance ;

(b) whether it is a fact that at present a large number of freedom fighters and their dependants are facing great financial hardship ; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed by Government to help them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) A sum of Rs. 25,98,909/- has so far been disbursed from the Home Minister's Discretionary Grant to freedom fighters and their dependants from the inception of the Grant in 1955-56. These non-recurring grants are given to freedom fighters who may be in need of special assistance.

(b) Government are aware that many freedom fighters and their families are facing indigent circumstances.

(c) The responsibility for the grant of relief and rehabilitation facilities to freedom fighters is primarily that of the State Governments who have formulated schemes of relief and assistance to them by way of pensions, cash grants, land grants, rehabilitation loans and educational concessions to their children. In individual cases of hardship, cash grants are given from Home Minister's Discretionary Grant.