

the law of inheritance of Land? Secondly, whether the allotment of land to landless persons has no minimum so as to ensure that the holdings are economic and viable and not marginal or less than marginal?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** As I have mentioned earlier, it is true that marginal units are very large in this country, i.e., almost 50 per cent of operational holdings are below one hectare or so. This was the position even in the past, though the number is increasing because of inheritance laws, as pointed out by the hon. Member; but it is very difficult to bring about a legislation to change the inheritance laws and not to allow the sharing of land, if there are 2 or 3 brothers, because the employment opportunities in other sectors are very limited. But Government are aware of this position.

**अजन्ता की गुफाओं के रख-रखाव संबंधी विशेषज्ञ समिति**

\* 169. श्री मलचन्द डागा : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह मताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अजन्ता की गुफाओं और उनके भित्ति चित्रों के रख-रखाव के लिए पुरातत्व विभाग ने कोई विशेषज्ञ समिति गठित की है ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस समिति पर अब तक कितना व्यय हुआ है ; और

(ग) समिति द्वारा क्या सुझाव दिये गये हैं और क्या वे सुझाव क्रियान्वित किये गये हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. An experts committee has been set up for the preservation of Ajanta murals. The expenditure incurred for the non-official members on the committee so far is Rs. 2712/-.

The suggestions made by the committee are:

- (1) To collect data on humidity, temperature and moisture in the plaster to decide if air-conditioning of the caves is necessary for the preservation of the murals.
- (2) To cover the floors of the painted caves with rubber matting to minimise the dust nuisance.
- (3) To provide new type of electric lamps which will not generate heat or cause damage to the murals.
- (4) To provide a low railing along the side walls to keep visitors away from the painted surface and to prevent any physical damage to the murals.
- (5) To provide curtains in front of the painted caves to protect the murals in the verandah, from splashes of rain-water.
- (6) To close all the openings of the painted caves with framed wire-mesh to prevent entry of bats inside.
- (7) To seal up the leakage points in the roof of the verandah of Cave 17.
- (8) To try various solvents and chemicals to remove the chalkiness from the surface of the murals.
- (9) To combat the activities of insects, the Cave 11 be fumigated as an experimental measure.

All these suggestions have been implemented. Works in respect of the items 8 and 9 are in progress.

श्री मूलचन्द्र डागा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक बात है कि मैं ने जो सवाल पूछा था उस का उत्तर प्राया नहीं और और तरह का उत्तर मंत्री महोदय ने दिया है ।

Why should the Government give the expenditure on the non-official members of the Committee? In question (b), the information asked for is: "if so, the expenditure incurred so far on this Committee" (Interruptions).

मे ने यह साबल पूछा है कि कमेटो के जितने सदस्य है उन पर कितना खर्चा कुल हुआ और आप उत्तर दे रहे हैं कि नान-आफिशियल मेम्बर्स पर इतना खर्च हुआ । मेरा यह प्रश्न है ।

PROF S NURUL HASAN The Committee consists of a number of Government officials and some non-officials. So far as the Government officials are concerned they are whole time servants of the Government, doing something else. They go and render technical advice. Sometimes, they go as a part of their normal duties. They may be travelling to 2 or 3 places; and they may travel here also; and it would be very difficult for me to say exactly as to how much of that component is there. But if the hon. Member is more interested in knowing the other part of the information, I have a suggestion. If, instead of answering that query, I can give the total amount that has been expended during the last 3 years, on maintaining the caves, I am willing to do so.

श्री मूलचन्द्र डागा: मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि 1971 में एक कमेटो मुकर्रर हुई । उस कमेटो के कौन कौन सदस्य हैं, कितनी जे को हुई, कहाँ कहाँ उन की बैठकें हुई और

कुल कितना खर्चा हुआ ? क्या वह कमेटो अपना काम पूरा कर चुकी या अधूरा है ?

MR. SPEAKER: That is part of another question.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: If the Minister is not prepared (Interruptions)....

MR. SPEAKER: It is the job of the Chair to decide as to what question it will ask the Minister to answer. Please ask the question.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Mr. Daga's question is an unequivocal one. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: He has explained the position. I had asked the Minister about part (b) of the question, to which the hon. Member had referred. The Minister explained that such-and-such was the expenditure on non-officials and that there were difficulties in giving the amount of expenditure in regard to the others. I am telling the hon. Member that if he has any more questions, he should put them, instead of going into the reply that has already been given.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Are you satisfied with the Minister's answer?

MR. SPEAKER: I am quite satisfied about part (b).

श्री मूलचन्द्र डागा : इस कमेटो का काम समाप्त हो गया है या अभी तक बाकी है ?

दूसरे, इन्होंने कहा कि चमगादड़ों को हटाने का काम कर दिया है लेकिन कीड़े मकोड़ों को हटाने का काम अभी तक नहीं हुआ है । मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जबाब में यह कहा है कि चमगादड़ों को हटाने का काम पूरा हो गया है और कीड़े मकोड़ों को हटाने का काम पूरा नहीं हुआ है तो यह काम अब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ?

श्री० एस० नुरल हसन: चमगादड़ों के सिलसिले में ज्यादातर काम समाप्त हो चुका है लेकिन कीड़े मकोड़ों के सिलसिले में कमेटी ने जो सिफारिश की थी उस सिलसिले में बहुत कुछ काम हुआ, फिर उसके बाद हमने विदेशी विशेषज्ञों को भी बुला करके उनकी राय ली, उन्होंने कुछ और चीजें रखी हैं जिनमें थोड़ा सा बदल करके अगर कीड़े मकोड़ों को खत्म करने की कोशिश की जाये तो शायद उसके ज्यादा अच्छे नतीजे निकलेंगे। वह काम जारी है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कब तक पूरा होगा ?  
वह टाइम पूछते हैं।

श्री० एस नुरल हसन : कमेटी का काम चल है।

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: I understand this. Committee had been set up in 1971. Do I take it that an expert committee, is appointed for a very specific job, to suggest some long-term activities in order to renovate a very important treasure of our country's legacy, and that Committee goes on hanging fire and continues to act, or ceases to act, and in the mean time the Minister is not in a position to tell us exactly when this job of renovation of our relics would be completed to the extent that we expect at any particular moment?

PROF S NURUL HASAN: I am very glad that the hon. Member has asked a very specific question. The expert committee was first constituted in 1971 and then it was reconstituted with the addition of some more members in November 1973. The Committee went into the whole matter and then made a number of specific suggestions. Those suggestions were accepted by Government and action on seven of the recommendations was completed. Regarding the other two, these are more or less

continuing things; they will take a very long time. The hon. Member, I believe, is aware of the fact that there are a large number of caves and the type of work that is being done to kill all the insects and to remove what appears to be chalkiness is a long term process. Therefore, that work was undertaken. But we thought that in a matter like this we could not take any risks and go only by the opinion of our own experts, because they are world's inheritance. So, we invited one foreign expert in March 1975. That foreign expert examined the work that was done and generally supported whatever the Indian experts have said, but made a few other suggestions regarding the cleaning of some of the paintings and the looking after of some of the holes that had crept in. Further, he also suggested that the way we were collecting data, we were right in collecting data on temperature, humidity and so on, and this work should be continued. Therefore, in December last year, at the invitation of the Government of India two experts sent by the UNESCO came, they stayed here for about a week and they went through it in great detail and they generally supported the recommendations. But the question of cleaning up of the surface of some of the painting is a long-term thing and it would be necessary to have continuous expert supervision to keep on assessing whether the work that is being done is being done properly or not, or whether in the light of new technological developments any changes there in are required.

SHRI S M. BANERJEE: We are proud to have such paintings in our caves but it is the greatest tragedy that some of the paintings are fading away. I would like to know whether some artists, either from this country or abroad, have been associated with this Committee to suggest renovation of the caves, especially those paintings which are fading away, so that

they could possibly be reproduced or made to remain as they are.

**PROF. S. NURUL HASAN:** I would like to assure the House that there is no fading away. I have satisfied myself. I went through and examined the section of the painting through a microscope myself. These pigments are of inorganic material, mainly from setone material, and therefore, in spite of light, moisture and all the ravages of time, the pigment itself in most cases has remained totally in tact. In a few places, some pieces have disappeared over a period of centuries, but there has been no process of fading away in general. The recent UNESCO team has suggested that something—it has not got anything to do with the figures—by way of restoration work on the border might add to the beauty and value of the paintings. This is a very important recommendation, and I would like to consult more expert opinion before I order that this work be undertaken.

#### World Bank Aid for Rural Projects

\*172. **SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is going to finance two rural projects in the country; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE):** (a) and (b). No Sir.

**SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:** I thought the hon. Minister would be able to identify the recent report about the World Bank loan to some Indian dairy projects in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to which my question was directed.

Anyway, in view of a recent report of the Estimates Committee that the World Bank-assisted agricultural credit projects are very slow in operation and that Government should lay down firm physical time targets and a time-bound programme for their implementation, may I know if, in relation to these particular projects and also generally, in view of the large number of World Bank projects, Government is going to take any steps in this direction of having a time-bound programme of implementation?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** Most of those projects, when they are finalised, have some time-limit, but the hon. Member's suggestion is very relevance, and I agree with him, that when we take a large amount of loan for development etc., that should be utilised as early as possible. My Ministry will ensure that as far as possible these projects go through according to schedule.

**SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:** In view of the observation of the World Bank team themselves that our villages, like their counterparts in other countries, are eager to help themselves if they are given opportunities to do so may I know what exactly is the methodology involved in so far as the operation of World Bank projects of this sort are concerned, and how far the presence of World Bank delegations or representatives of whatever brand militates against the evolution of genuine from-below development of our own villages initiative about implementation of their own projects? What is the nature of the World Bank involvement in the execution?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE:** The projects are of different types. One category is extraction of underground water, sinking of tubewells etc., and we give loans to the individual farmers. Then, there are the seed project etc., projects for power,