

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, March 27, 1987/Chaitra
6, 1909 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Ram Singh (Hardwar).

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is my sad duty to inform the House of the demise of Shri Jagannath Prasad Swatantra who was a member of the Sixth Lok Sabha during 1977-79 representing Bagaha constituency of Bihar. Earlier he had been a member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly in 1952, 1957 and 1963. An able parliamentarian, Shri Swatantra served as Parliamentary Secretary to Government of Bihar in 1961.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Swatantra took active part in the freedom movement and suffered imprisonment in 1942. A well known social worker, he served in various capacities for the welfare of weaker sections of the society.

Shri Jagannath Prasad Swatantra passed away at Patna on 25 February, 1987 at the age of 66 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

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The House may now stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Tourism development in Eastern U.P.

*430. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Action Plan regarding development of tourism in Eastern Uttar Pradesh particularly in Jaunpur is under consideration of Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An action Plan has been drawn up for the development of Buddhist Sector which inter-alia also covers Eastern Uttar Pradesh; Jaunpur, however, does not fall in this sector.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Jaunpur is a historical district where important historical figures like Sher Shah Suri had lived. I want to point out that in the east, there is a confluence of the Ganga, the Gomati and the Sai rivers, in the south, there is Kashi, a holy place, and in the west, there is Allahabad where rivers Ganga and Yamuna meet and in the north there is Ayodhya. I would also submit that apart from this, the historical temple of Trilochan Mahadev, Attara Masjid, Bari

Masjid, Imam-Bara and several other historical buildings are also there and even the foreign tourists come there to see them. I do not understand why the Hon. Minister's attention has not been drawn to that? I have come to know that some funds were allocated earlier by the State Government, but the funds so allocated were squandered in connivance with some officials. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would include Jaunpur in the list of those places which have been selected for development as tourist centres?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : We have not received any proposal from the State Government in respect of development of Jaunpur as a tourist centre. However, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that I shall send a team from my Ministry to find out whether any place of historical importance or tourist attraction is there or not.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : I belong to Nalanda. He has said in his reply that an Action Plan has been drawn up for the development of Buddhist sector. Some days back the Hon. Minister visited that place also. He is, perhaps, aware that there were a number of rare idols. I had also asked a question in this regard which was replied too. I do not exactly remember whether it was in 1815 or 1821 when the Britishers removed these rare idols from the Behar Sharief Museum to the Calcutta Museum I would like to know whether all the Buddhist idols would be re installed? Besides, is there is any plan of the Government for the development of Nalanda, Rajgir and Bodh Gaya Sector?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : The main question asked by the Hon. Member relates to the eastern sector. So far as Nalanda, Rajgir and Bodh Gaya are concerned, we have a comprehensive plan in this regard. Nalanda has been very well maintained by the Archaeological Department. We want to open a cafeteria there in order to provide facilities to the tourists. There is another plan for the development of Bodh Gaya in a proper way. The same is true of Rajgir also.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : He has not replied to the point relating to the museum.

[English]

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : That is for the Archaeological Department to see.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : The Hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to eastern Uttar Pradesh. Perhaps there is no other place in the country where ten thousand M.W. of electricity is generated. The Rhind Sagar and the tribal belt in Mirzapur district are full of natural beauty. It was in 1962 when Late Pandit Nehru sought to develop a lake in Rhind like that of Vrindavan Garden. Rhind is the biggest lake in Asia. As the work in Rhind lake was stopped following the Indo-China war in 1962, will the Hon. Minister order a survey in this regard on the same lines? Keeping all these aspects in view, will the Hon. Minister include Sirhauli area of Mirzapur in the list of tourist spots, as it is important from cultural, religious, geographical and industrial point of view and is an Adivasi area; if so, the time by which it will be done?

MR. SPEAKER : You have used all the adjectives.

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : That place is very beautiful; we shall see tax it.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : He should get a survey conducted.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : I would like to know whether the Plan, which is under consideration of the Central Government for the development of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, has been formulated by the Centre or has been submitted by the State Government? If the plan is not formulated at the Central level, many places will be left out. I thank him for what he has said about Jaunpur. But is he going to develop tourism in Sarnath also? Is there any proposal to build lodges in Sarnath for tourist, especially for those coming from East Asia?

MUFTI MOHD. SYED : Sarnath is quite near Varanasi and there is a very good I.T.D.C. Hotel in Varanasi. We have made arrangements providing drinking water and toilet facilities at Sarnath.