

File No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. V

(LW - Kw. I, II & III)

Cover changed on 01.06.2000

परम गोपनीय

~~TOP SECRET~~

Vol - VI opened

विदेश मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(एन० जी० ओ० अनुभाग)

(N. G. O. SECTION)

फाइल नं०

File No. 25/4/NGO-Vol. V

विषय : (कृपया इस आवरण को उलटें)
(Subject: Please Turn Over)

(LW - Kw. I, II & III)

कहाँ भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहाँ भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On	कहाँ भेजा Sent to	कब भेजा On
IS (CNV)	1.6.2000	IS (CNV)	26.9.00		
IM	2.6.2000	IS	27.9.00		
IS (CNV)	2.6.2000	IS (CNV)	28.9.00		
IS	5.6.2000	IS	2.10.00		
IS (CNV)	21.6.2000	Div (CNV)	19-12-01		
IS (CNV)	30.6.2000	IS (CNV)	20-12-01		
IS (KAT)	3.7.2000	NGO			
N. Choudh	5.7.2000				
IS (KAT)	5.7.2000				
IS (CNV)	6.7.2000				
IS	7.7.2000				
IS (CNV)	18.7.2000				
IM	21.7.2000				
IS (CNV)	21.7.2000				
IM	21.7.2000				
IS (CNV)	25.7.2000				
IM	25.7.2000				
IS (CNV)	6.9.2000				
IM	19.9.2000				

~~Declassified~~

Chatterjee 6/1/16

Notes: p 1 to p 34
Corr: p 1 to p 513



Keep
12/01/16

(अरुण कुमार नटजी)
(ARUN KUMAR CHATTERJEE)
संयुक्त सचिव (सी.एन.ओ.)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

विषय :
SUBJECT :

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
(i.e. Ashes & Treasure Box)

संबद्ध फाइलें :
Connected Files :

नं०
No. 25/14/N/10-52

विषय :
Subject :

किस तारीख को निकाली गई B/F Date	किस क्रम संख्या के लिए निकाली गई For Serial No.	किस क्रम संख्या का निपटारा हुआ Dispose Serial No.	टिप्पणी Remarks

Tarakeswar Pal
Advocate

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(Off. & Opposite Navanir)
Calcutta-700 040, Ph : 471-0592

(1)

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

As desired by FS, I asked Shri N. Ravi, DCM, Tokyo to send Missions's file relating to enquiry on Netaji's death. I was given to understand that the Mission has one file which contains detailed correspondence of 1956 between Ambassador B.R. Sen and Shri S. Dutt, the then FS. It appears that the Mission's record is far more comprehensive as some of the letters/documents quoted by Shri Ravi thus not form a part of our NGO record. While I have advised Shri Ravi to send the file by a special bag, a former telegram needs to be issued to authorise him to do so. The same is being sent as a TS telegram which FS may like to see before issue.

Shri Ravi is trying to send the file in a Category A bag by tomorrow i.e. 24.8.95. Arrangements for collection of the bag from Air India is being worked out separately.

May kindly see.

R. Saha
(Rajat Saha)
Director(CNV)
23.8.1995

Handwritten signature/initials

R. Saha
23/8

So (NGO)

from above.
The special bag has been collected today. As instructed cover No. TOK/102/2/92 is placed below without it being opened.

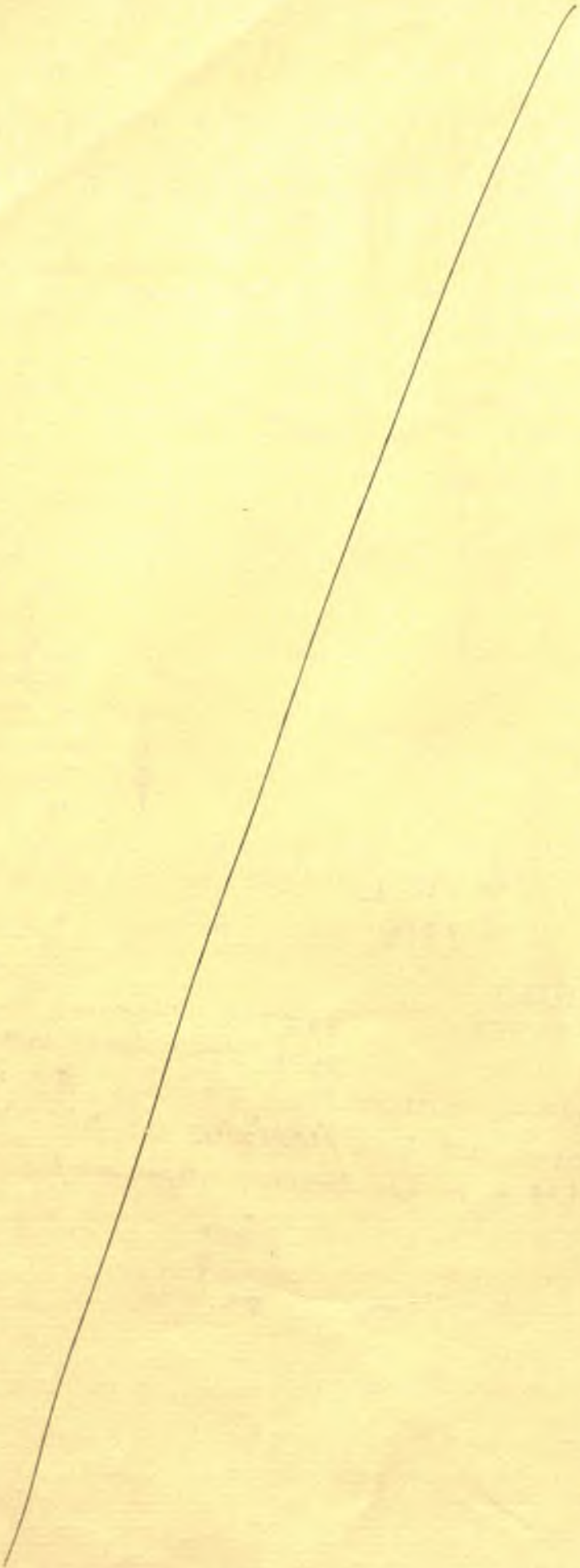
R
25.8.95

T-388/B/95
21/8

Dis(CNV) on tone

FS

(2)



Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

As desired by FS, our Mission's file relating to enquiry on Netaji's death received from DCM, Tokyo was opened by me. The file contains a report regarding Netaji's death forwarded to our Mission in Tokyo by the Japanese Foreign Office vide their Note Verbale No. 24/A4 dated 31.1.1956.

A copy of English translation of the original said Note Verbale was handed over personally to Ms. Omita Paul, OSD(EAM) today at 1200 hours. She will put up the report to EAM as he wishes to see the same. As this was taken from a TS file I have asked her to return the same to me after EAM's perusal.

For information.

Raj Saha
(Rajat Saha)
Director(CNV)
30.8.1995

T. 375/PAH
31/8/55

✓ *PA*

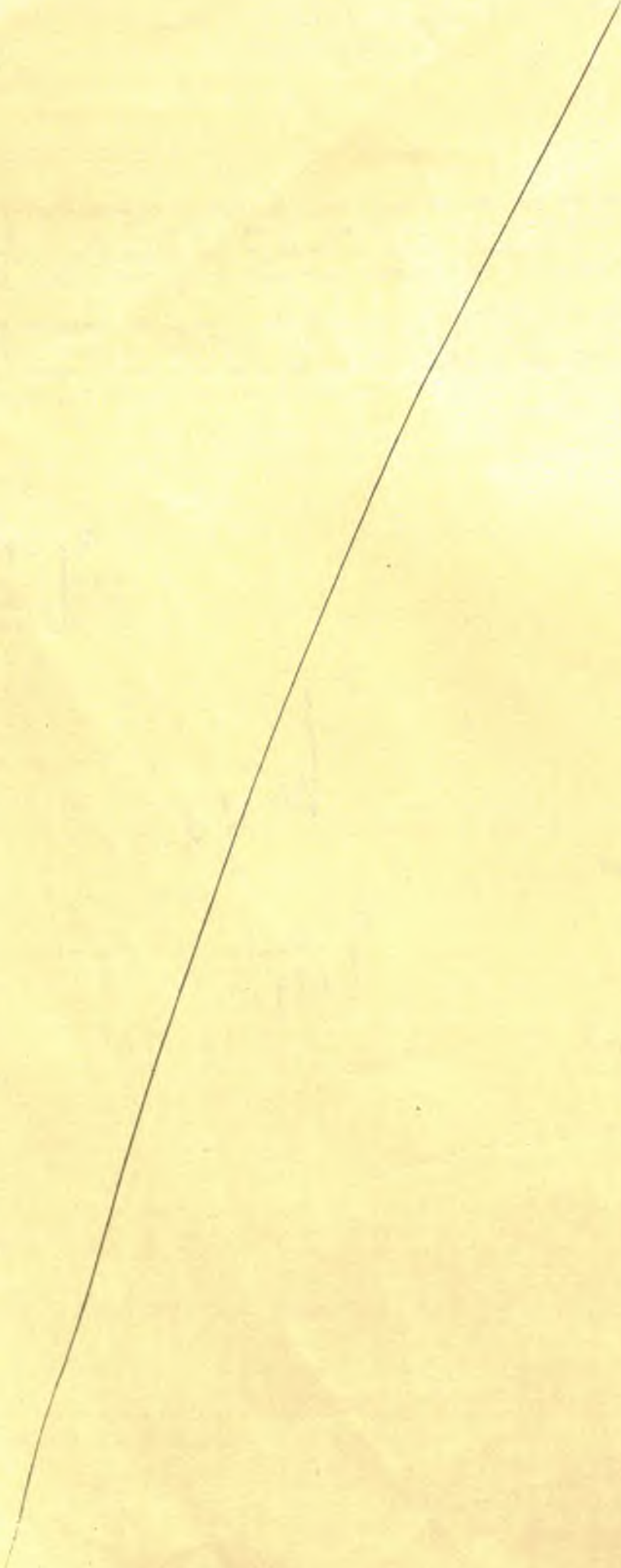
ku
1/9.

✓ DIR (CIV)

Raj Saha
4/9

SO (New)

2



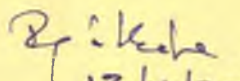
Ref Notes pre-page

As directed by Dir(CNV) photocopy has been taken of Embassy of India, Tokyo F.No.5(1)NGO-I. Photocopy has also been taken of their part file No.5(1)NGO-I(Amb/PS-II/56) which was forwarded alongwith the abovequoted file by Embassy of India, Tokyo.

We may, if approved, return the documents to Embassy of India, Tokyo as per DFA placed below.



(Goutam Gupta) 10.11.95
Section Officer(NGO)

~~Dir(CNV)~~ Have discussed with FS. FS decides that a copy of the E/I Tokyo file be kept in the NGO section. The original file could be returned to the mission.


13/11/95

~~So (ASG)~~

u-a-taken.


13.11.95

- draft CCB Telegram S.No. 1 - Incl
- T-1860 (T/90)95 - S.No. 2 - Incl
- T-1868 (M/90)95 - S.No. 3 - receipt
- Tok/102/2192
24/8/95 S.No. 4 - receipt
- 25/4/03 90 Pt
13/11/95 S.No. 5 - Incl
- 8329 / M/90 / 95
21/12 S.No. 6 - (FR) Added

Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

Subject :- Death/Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

In pursuance of the then Prime Minister's announcement in Parliament on 3.12.55 the Government of India appointed a committee on 5th April 1956 "to enquire into and report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments therewith".

2. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose (elder brother of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose) and Shri S.N.Maitra, ICS (a nominee of the Government of West Bengal) were the members of the Committee which began its work in early April 1956 and completed the report by end July 1956.

3. The Committee examined 67 witnesses including a number of persons who were known to have been associated with Netaji in the last stages. Of these 32 witnesses were examined at Tokyo (Japan), 4 at Bangkok (Thailand) and 3 at Saigon (Vietnam) and the balance of 28 at Delhi and Calcutta. In India, the committee examined five of the six persons who accompanied Netaji on his last flight from Bangkok including Mr. S.A. Ayer, Mr. Debnath Das and Col. Habibur Rehman. The Committee also examined Gen. J.K. Bhonsle, Chief of the General Staff of the INA. The Commission examined not only those who had information to give, but those who had theories to propound. The members of the committee visited Bangkok, Saigon and Tokyo and were able to examine four of the six Japanese survivors of the plane crash, as well as two doctors who attended Netaji during his last hours. The members of the committee did not visit Formosa which was the actual scene of occurrence of the plane crash, as there were difficulties in doing so on account of the fact that no diplomatic relations existed between the Government of India and the authorities in Formosa. The report forwarded to our Mission in Tokyo by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jan 1956 was also made available to the Commission. The report, inter alia, drawn up the sequence of events following Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's departure from Bangkok on 17.8.1955^x to his sad demise on 18.8.55^x and cremation thereafter. This report may be seen at Annexure I.

4. In its report, the Commission dealt with the following points:-

- (i) Last of the plans of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (ii) Air crash at Taihoku (Formosa)
- (iii) Death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (iv) Cremation of Netaji's body
- (v) Netaji's ashes
- (vi) Treasure

Shah Nawaz
Committee
Report

*1945

Each of these points is dealt with in a self-contained chapter. After fully considering the evidence available, two of the members (S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra) came to the conclusion that while taking off from Taihoku (Formosa) in the afternoon of 18th August 1945, the Japanese military plane carrying Netaji and his companion (Col. Habibur Rehman) developed some trouble and burst into flames. Suffering from severe burns Netaji was carried into the Taihoku Hospital where, after some hours, he passed away. The final recommendation of the committee signed by S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra may be seen at annexure II.

5. Netaji Inquiry Committee Report 1956 was made available as a 'priced publication'.

6. The third member of the Committee Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, submitted a dissentient report stating that there had been no plane crash involving Netaji's death. However, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

7. In view of widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains and that there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter, the Central Government instituted on 11th July, 1970 one man commission of inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court was appointed as sole member.

Kholsa Commission of enquiry

8. Besides the Shah Nawaz Committee report, the dissenting report of Shri Suresh Chandra Bose submitted on Oct 9, 1956 and placed on the table of the Rajya Sabha on 12th Dec., 1956 was placed before the Commission. In all, 224 witnesses were examined by the Commission and a large number of documents, letters, newspaper reports, books and memoranda were received and read. While the Shah Nawaz Committee had not been able to go to Taiwan which resulted in a great deal of criticism, the Commission visited Taiwan in July, 1973. The Commission spent about 8 days at Taipei recording the evidence of witnesses, inspecting the airfield where the crash was alleged to have taken place and visiting the crematorium where Bose's body was alleged to have been cremated.

9. The basic findings of the 'air crash' theory has been summarised by the commission which reads as "After giving the most anxious consideration to all the available evidence, the criticism to which the statements of the various witnesses were subjected and the arguments advanced by counsel, I have reached the conclusion that the story of the aircrash at the Taihoku airfield in Taiwan and the subsequent death of Bose, resulting from burn injuries sustained by him in crash must be believed. This story is substantiated by the testimony of wholly independent witnesses, four of whom were Bose's co-passengers in the plane which crashed, one is the doctor who attended to him and signed his death certificate and several others mentioned in the course of this chapter who have corroborated this story in all material particulars. I am not prepared to accept the contention that the entire military organisation of Japan had entered into conspiracy to put forward a false story in order to cover up Bose's escape. Such a hypothesis is foreign to reason and to human nature. Most of the witnesses who gave evidence impressed me by their frank and honest demeanour. The Doctor, too, appeared to be a most convincing witness of truth. The criticism advanced against the testimony of these witnesses has been

discussed by me in the foregoing pages, and in the end, it is only necessary to say that this criticism does not shake the strength and the value of the evidence.

I, therefore, find it proved beyond all reasonable doubt that Bose travelled in a Japanese bomber from Touraine to Taihoku on the morning of 18th of August, 1945. At Taihokuy the plane stopped for a short time to refuel. The pilot detected a snag in one of the engines. This was attended to, and the pilot pronounced the aircraft to be airworthy. The propellers of one of the engines had been damaged in a previous accident and the repair carried out did not completely restore the efficiency of the engine. This finally caused the crash at Taihoku, almost immediately after the plane took off. The plane crashed to the ground, broke into two parts and caught fire. In this fire the pilot and Genl. Shidei died instantaneously and of the other men on board, the co-pilot Ayoagi died later and Bose also succumbed to his burn injuries during the course of the following night. His body was cremated and the ashes were taken to Tokyo. The Commission dealt with three matters which were construed as having a remote ~~matters~~, and in-direct bearing on the facts of the enquiry. These are:-

- (i) What was the exact nature of relations between Nehru and Bose;
- (ii) Was Bose declared a war criminal, liable to be tried and punished by the Special Tribunal set up for this purpose; and
- (iii) What is the significance of the earliest enquiries regarding Bose conducted by Intelligence and secret service personnel.

In addition the Commission considered the evidence of a number of witnesses whose importance lies not in the intrinsic worth of what they had to say, but in the enthusiasm and persistence with which they pressed their claim to be heard. Further, the Commission analysed other versions of Bose's whereabouts and the various stories that were narrated in the course of the inquiry, to disprove the allegation of his death at Taipei. There were many witnesses who severally claim to have seen, met or talked to Bose at various times and places long after August 18, 1945. The Commission opined that numerous stories about encounters with Bose at various places after 1945 are completely false and unacceptable.

10. Taking into accounts all facts of the case, the Commission concluded that Bose had sustained burn injuries of the third degree following air crash a little after 2.35 p.m. on 18.8.1945 and despite the efforts of the doctors to revive him, he succumbed to his injuries the same night. The findings of the Commission may be seen at Annexure III which, inter alia, incorporates sequence of events leading to the sad demise of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

11. Report of the ONE MAN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was published at New Delhi on June 30, 1974.

Background note	S.710. 7 (2 copies)	-	Added
Note for Cabinet	S.710. 8	Copy No. 2	- Added


(9)

siv (CHV) wanted that this file should be
submitted to director (FSO)
resubmitted please

T-27/FS/96
22/1


22/1/96

~~So (CHV)~~


22.1.96

✓ Div (FSO)

Am
2/2

Dir (CHV)

By: Kechar -
2/2

~~So (CHV)~~

SOPL
2.2.96

DT 4974/CHV/95 - S. No. 9 - Added

Dy. No T-2619/NGO/95 - S. No. 10 - Added



Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Shri N.K. Sinha, JS to PM, in his u.c. note No.805/11/C/13/95-Part II dated 19.12.1995, intimated to us that a suggestion has been received in PMO, including from some members of the family of the late Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, proposing that the ashes presumed to be Netaji's, presently kept in an urn at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo, should be subjected to Mitochondrial DNA analysis, to try to resolve the controversy surrounding them. JS(PMO) wanted the comments of MEA.

According to information available with us, it is seen that some members of the family of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, are in favour and some members are opposed to this proposal. Shri Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job, with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Bloc, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn, on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC, Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the test.

EAM met Mrs. Emily Shenkel Bose and her daughter, Ms. Anita Pfaff, in Germany in October 1995. Ambassador S.K. Lambah was also present. EAM felt that Netaji's widow and daughter are keen that an early solution be found to the issue of return of Netaji's ashes to India. They appeared to be convinced of the seriousness of purpose on the part of the Indian Government. Ms. Anita Pfaff made it clear that, while she would like to consult other members of the family in India, the final decision would rest with her alone. She anticipated opposition from some members of the family. She would prefer the family is not divided on this issue.

Amongst the other members of the Bose family, press reports indicate that Dr. Sisir Bose supports the idea of bringing back the ashes, but late Dr. Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, had been the most vociferous skeptic of the aircraft episode.

MEA's suggestions to Home Ministry:

MEA suggested that, in view of the widespread sentiments, Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. In doing so, the following preparatory action was envisaged:

i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes. The public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes, or

ii) Alternatively, establishment of a committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions who would give a call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

As regards DNA test, the matter is likely to cause considerable public debate, especially when members of Netaji's family are sharply divided about this issue, notwithstanding vociferous opposition of a large section of people who are skeptic about the mortal remains kept in Renkoji Temple, and/or the episode of aircrash.

FS may like to discuss with EAM before a reply is forwarded to PMO.

R. Saha
(Rajat Saha)
Director (CNV)
07.02.1996

T-63/PS/96
9/2

~~FS~~

EAM

The proposed DNA test may well generate more controversy, especially as Mme. Anika Pfaff does not agree. If EAM approves, we can tell PMO that we need not encourage moves to institute the DNA test.

T/18/EAM/96
12/2/96

S. Mukherjee
4/2

EAM Already a controversy has been raised regarding the genuineness of the ashes. A section of the public opinion also includes some political parties are against bringing the ashes of Netaji. I am afraid any step to conduct DNA Test may precipitate controversy which may not be desirable. On the other hand BSA & INA members like Datta, Kishori Prasad are in favour of bringing the ashes. In view of the above...

12
we thought that the matter may not arise
it is now. However a view is to be
taken about the request of Japanese govt.
to bring back the assets. A detailed note
may be prepared for consideration of the
Cabinet, this may be submitted immediately.

Pengas

12/2/96

F/S

Pl. prepare Cabinet note setting out the considerations
mentioned above by EAM.

T-66/FS/96
13/2

S. Mishra
14/2

Dir (CNV)

As desired, a Draft Cabinet Note is put up
for EAM's perusal.

P: Keche
(Rajat Saha)
Director (CNV)
28.2.1996

T-101/FS/96
28/2

S. Mishra
29/2

T/EAM/30/96
4/3/96

FS

EAM
P. Saha
5/2/96

Dir (CNV)

- 27. 1485/FS/96/31/1/96 S. No. 11 - Added
- T- 2019/MS/95 - S. No. 12 - Added
- 27. 2925/MS/96 S. No. 13 - Added

Foreign Secretary is aware that EAM approved the Draft Cabinet Note regarding the proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. We were given to understand by the Cabinet Secretariat that the Note for the Cabinet needs to be forwarded to them along with Hindi translation. The task of translating into Hindi was given to our Hindi Section.

In view of the Fifth World Hindi Conference at Trinidad & Tobago, between April 4 to 8, 1996, most of the officials of the Hindi Section had to proceed to Trinidad & Tobago. Nevertheless, the translated copy has now been received from the Hindi Section. The Note, in the requisite format, both in English and Hindi, is placed below for FS's signatures. As it is mandatory to forward the Cabinet Note to the Cabinet Secretariat by an officer not less than the rank of a Joint Secretary, FS may wish to mark the paper to JS(EA) for forwarding the note. Requisite number of copies will be made by NGO Section prior to forwarding the note.

In view of the forthcoming General Elections, and taking into account that the Hon'ble Ministers may be pre-occupied with elections, FS may also like to speak to Cabinet Secretary ascertaining his views about appropriate time for sending the Note.

R. Saha
(Rajat Saha)
Director (CNV)
15.4.1996

T-158/PS/96
18/4

~~FS~~

I have signed the note but it need not be sent to Cabinet Sectt. for the present. I am advised that the Cabinet will not have time to consider it before the election.

S. Mohan
21/4

Dir (CNV)

R. Saha
22/4

SO (NWO)

JS(EA) has desired to see this file.
submitted please.

W
20/8/96

Wood
20.8.96

SO(N90)

W

JS(EN) W
20/8/96

- DO-15-8/95-COM(PT) - S No- 16-18 - added

As directed by SIV (FSO) The following
files relating to Tleleji are being submitted
to Secy (West).

1. F-770-25/4/7950 vol III (4/w one document & 2 printed books)
2. F-770-25/4/7950 vol IV (4/w RWI)
3. F-770-25/4/7950 vol V

submitted please

W
9/12/96

Wood
9.12.96

SO(N90)

Secretary (West) has seen

JS(EA) has desired to see this file
submitted please

W
20/3/98

Wood
24/3
SO(N90)
JS(EA)

Confidential

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Reference PMO U.O. No. G-12(3)/98-NGO dated
20.3.1998.

2. Relevant details in this regard are contained in the
Note for Cabinet dated 16-12-1995.

3. There was some suggestion that some information
may be in the Russian Archives de-classified following the collapse
of the Soviet Union. Enquiries were made with the Russian side and
MEA was informed formally that there was no evidence of Netaji
having been in the Soviet Union in the post-1945 period. Two years
ago, Shri Asish Ray, grandson of Netaji's elder brother, had
addressed a Press conference at Delhi at which he had released a
copy of the formal communication from the Russian Government to
GOI.

4. Netaji's ashes are presently held in Renkoji Temple
on the outskirts of Tokyo. The priests at the Renkoji Temple, some
of whom were associates of Netaji in the INA, have cared for the
remains with respect and reverence. They are keen that the ashes
should be brought back in honour to India. The Japanese
Government has also conveyed a similar desire. However, there is
no pressure either from the Renkoji Temple or from the Japanese
Government for the return of the ashes to India.

5. The main obstacle to the return of the ashes has been
the lack of consensus in India in regard to whether the ashes are
actually Netaji's. Some members of the family held the view that
Netaji was still alive. This point has been dealt with in the letter
written by Prof. Anita Pfaff.

6. MEA has consistently taken the view that the ashes
could be brought back to India subject to there being a national
consensus in India in this regard.

7. FS may kindly see before these papers are sent to
PMO.

JS (P) (PMO)

~~Principal Secretary~~ may kindly see

T.C.A. Rangachari

(T.C.A. Rangachari)

Joint Secretary (EA)

26 March 1998

Long 26/3/98

75-17/JS(EA)/98
27/3

T-161/FS/98
27/3

T-374/JS(P)/98
7/7/98 FS

T. 642/Malay — S No 19 — Addd
S No 19-A — Receipt
S No 20 — Addd of (Receipt)

DNo. 3260/Mulga — S No. 21 — FR

Submitted as desired please.

[Signature]
25.5.49

[Signature]
25/5/49

Pls go through the file(s) and put up a list of documents that might be relevant to the Commission of Inquiry — resubmit by 2/6

~~FR No 2~~
~~JSC (NY)~~

[Signature]
26/5

Reference above

[Signature]
26/5

~~FR No 2~~
~~JSC (NY)~~

The following relevant files are put up for perusal please:

1. F. No. 25/11/Mho - vol. I
2. F. No. 25/14/Mho - vol. II (LW-KW)
3. F. No. 25/14/Mho - vol. III (LW - Annex)
4. F. No. 25/14/Mho - vol. IV (LW - KW. I)
5. F. No. 25/13/Mho - KW (LW - KW)
6. F. No. 25/14/Mho - 52
7. F. No. 25/15/Mho - 52
8. F. No. 25/16/Mho - 53

Submitted please.

[Signature]
21.06.49

[Signature]
1/6/49

~~FR No 2~~
~~JSC (NY)~~

Spl. Secy, MHA

Pls p.u. a letter to ~~the~~ ^{subject of} informing them of the list of files (giving them ^{grading}) which we have & asking them to let us ~~know~~ ^{more precisely} ~~whether~~ they need or clarify the type of documents they need to see ~~the~~ ^{is} ~~original~~, i.e. original, ~~copy~~.

AS
1/6

2 JM

SO(N/CO/S)

Reference above:

As desired, a draft letter is put up for JSCEMV's approval, please.

Manu
31/6/99

AS
31/6/99

~~SO(N/CO)~~

~~JSCEMV~~

B
8/6

SO(N/CO/B)

Reference above

2 JM

A fair letter with ole is placed below for signature please.

Manu
9/6/99

Manu
9/6/99

~~SO(N/CO)~~

~~JSCEMV~~

SO(N/CO/B)

B
17/6

SO No. 22

Home

7.2297/Nusba — SO No. 23 — Receipt

2 JM

No.1399/NGO/2000

S.No.24

FR

Please put up any files in NGO on the subject.

Sd/-
JS(CNV) 14.02.2000

Reference FR kept at Sl. No.24/c.

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry have asked for the details of documents/files available with us on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Such details have already been provided by previous JS(CNV) Shri B.Balakrishnan to Shri Nikhil Kumar, Spl. Secretary, MHA, vide our letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated 09.06.99(S.No.22/c). If approved, we may furnish the same details to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry also.

Submitted please.

May kindly see for instructions.

File A

*JS(CNV)
15.02.2000*

SO(NGO)

*JS(CNV)
15/2/2000*

JS(CNV)

I had discussed this with JS(2A) and JS(2B) myself, to enquire whether do I had taken any initiative to retrieve the material connected with Netaji from the archives/records of foreign governments. At some stage, Russian authorities may have been approached. Grateful for inputs w.r.t. pt vii of the FR (S.No. 24).

JS(2B)

*Jaya
24/2*

(19)

As discussed, I am sending you files
back.

Inputs on Linnia were in part (b)
of PO [I had sent you. I am putting
relevant papers in order and then follow.

TS-102 / JSC (EE) / 20
1/3/20

Jayaram
1/3/20

~~JSC (EE)~~

Please issue reply to
Shri Sanyal's letter, placed below,
as also the note to MITA (this should
be delivered by hand to Sayide
Gairde, JS (IS-2), MITA, Room
192 North Block since the PO
has been admitted as shared).

Jayaram
1/3

So far - B.

RJM

Jayaram
1/3

- 3-MV. 25 — Receipt
- 5-MV. 26 — book
- 5-MV. 27 — book
- 5-MV. 28 — Receipt.

DA No. 2053/NH/2000

As desired by JS (CIV), the following files on Netaji Subhash Chander Bose are put up for perusal please.

1. Fno 25/4/Mo - vol. I
2. Fno 25/4/Mo - vol. II (Lr. KV)
3. Fno 25/4/Mo - vol. III (Lr. Annx.)
4. Fno 25/4/Mo - vol. IV (Lr. KV-I)
5. Fno 25/13/Mo - (Lr. KV)
6. Fno 25/14/Mo
7. Fno 25/15/Mo
8. Fno 25/16/Mo

Submitted please.

Jha
7.03.2000

Jha
7/3/2000

SOC(MO)
JS(CIV)
Seen by JS(CIV)
PW Doshi
7/3

T. 444/Annal 2000 — S No 29 — Receipt
(Earlier no. 2743/Mo(98))

Dno. 2348/Annal 2000 — S No 30 — Receipt

D. 32 59/NGO/2000 Sl. No. 31 F.R.



Reference FR at Sl.No.31/c regarding information sought by the Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice M.K. Mukherjee in connection with the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As JS(CNV) is kindly aware that we have already supplied to the Secretary to Justice Mukharjee Commission of Inquiry the details of files available with us on the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose vide our letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated March 1, 2000. On the scrutiny of these files, we have been able to locate a printed copy each of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee report, 1956 and Khosla Commission report, 1974. These copies are available in our file No.25/4/NGO Vol.III. A reference to these reports has been made in para IV of the enclosure to the FR. However, we have not been able to lay our hands on any of the other documents mentioned in the enclosure to FR, though there are some scattered references about some of these documents in our files.

In view of the above JS(CNV) may kindly like to inform the Secretary to the Commission about the availability of the reports of Shah Nawaz Khan Committee and Khosla Commission. A draft letter is put up for approval please.

Jha
April 19, 2000.

Jha
19/4

SO (NGO)

JS (CNV)

Jha

7
20/4

Sofra

in ERJ

Jha
20/4

Sl. No. 32
S.No.: 32 A
S.No.: 32 B
Sl. No. 33

D.3791/NGO/2000

Issued
Receipt
Receipt
F.R.

SO(NGO)

JS(CNV)

Reference F.R. at Sl. No. 33/c. Put up as desired please.

Jha
21/5/2000

Jha
21/5/2000

J. 4607/NGO/2000
 S.No. 34 — Issued
 S.No. 34.A — Added
Sl. No. 35 — F.R.

Sl. No. 36 — Added

Reference F.R. placed at Sl. No. 35/c.
 Fair letter is put up for approval/signature
 of JS(CNV) please.

Jm
 22/5/2000

frank
 22/5/2000

SO(NGO)

JS(CNV)

S.No: 37 — Receipt
 S.No: 38 — Receipt
 S.No: 39 — Issued
 S.No: 40 — Issued (Fax)
 S.No: 41 — Issued.

D.No. 4591/NGO/2000 — S.No. 42 — Receipt
 D.No. 4783/NGO/2000 — S.No. 43 — Receipt
 D.No. 4784/NGO/2000 — S.No. 44 — F.R.

D.F.A is put up for approval please.

Submitted as desired please.

May kindly see for approval before a
 fair letter is put up.

Jm
 01.06.2000

frank
 1/6/2000

Rauls. As
 Slightly amended

4/1/0

SO(NGO)
JS(CNV)

SO(NGO)
Jm
 2/6

JS(CNV)

from pre-page

Fair letter is put up for signature of J.SCCMV
please

Jalal
2.6.2020

Jalal
2/6/2020

~~SocAnko~~
~~JSCCMV~~

issue

—
S/A

SocAnko

hjm

5/6

S.No: 45 ——— 1 squad.

D.No: 4994/1/14/2020 ——— S.No 46 ——— receipt

D.No: 5245/1/14/2020 ——— S.No: 47 ——— FR



Reference FR at S.No. 47/c :

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry in their letter(at S.No.47/c) has desired to handover the following two files to Shri S.N.Singh, Section Officer in their commission, who is presently in Delhi. As per Commission's letter, Shri Singh will be carrying these files with him by air to Calcutta for the perusal of the Commission.

- (i) File No. C/551/5/72-JP.Pt-III -
Netaji Enquiy Commission under the
Chairmanship of Minister Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, 1956.
- (ii) KW to File No. C/551/5/72.Pt-III -
Record of evidence tendered
before Shah Nawaz Committee - 1956.

We may seek the approval of JS(CNV)/FS, before handing over the above files/documents to Shri Singh.

Submitted please.

11/20/2000
20/6/2000

Shah
20/6/2000

SO(NGO)

JS(CNV)

ES

The documents may be handed over. I had discussed this with H.H.H.

4.
20/6

S to new

- D.No. 5326 (NGO/2000 - S.No. 48 - Added*
- D.No. 5722 (NGO/2000 - S.No. 49 - Added*
- S.No. 50 — Forward*
- S.No. 51 — Added*

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, vide para v(b) of its proceeding dated 23.3.2000(placed at S.No.44/c (F/A) has asked all the concerned Ministries to file affidavits of competent officer of each Ministry giving list of all the files/records/documents, irrespective of whether they are top secret, classified or non-classified, lying in their respective custody or control relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose or INA.

As there are some files in this Ministry also pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, the details of which have already been communicated to the Commission vide our letters dated 01.03.2000 and 24.05.2000(placed at S.No.26/c and S.No.41/c respectively), we also have to file an affidavit in this regard. Further as most of our files are of Top Secret classification and as the affidavit has to be got attested by a public notary, it is suggested that we need not enclose the list of documents with the affidavit but simply give the reference of our above mentioned two letters, vide which the details of the files were communicated to the Commission.

A copy of the affidavit filed by M.H.A. to the commission in respect of their files has been procured by us and is placed at F/B.

In view of the above, a draft affidavit has been prepared and is placed below for approval of JS(CNV). JS(CNV) may also kindly like to get the draft affidavit vetted by the L&T Division of the Ministry.

3/JS/JS(L&T) x
2000
5/7
↓
2530-35CNDW
6/7
↓
30.6.2000

Submitted please.

[Signature]
25/6/2000

SO(NGO)

May kindly vet this.
↓
Jy
30/6

JS(CNV)

JS(L&T)

[Signature]

Please vet the affidavit
P. Government
5/7/2000

Kindly note the changes done in pencil in the draft affidavit. This has been done to conform the affidavit to Commission's directive. *[Signature]*

JS(L&T)

[Signature]
5/7

JS(CNV)

P. Government
5/7/2000

h JM
7/7

[Signature]

h JM

S.No. 52 _____ F.R.

Reference : - F.R placed at S.No. 52/C from MHA

As desired by JS(CCNV), placed below is a draft U.O Note proposed to be sent to MHA in reply to F.R.

J.S.CCNV may kindly see for approval.

J.P.
18.07.2000

J.P.
18.7.2000

J.S.CCNV has seen and approved the draft U.O. note placed in the file. He has also approved the draft affidavit, as amended by L&T Division, to be issued. P.P. fair both the drafts and put up for J.S.CCNV's signatures.

J.P.

J.S.CCNV o.r.

J.P.
21/7/2000

Sh JM

Reference above:

Fair letter and affidavit are put up for

J.S.CCNV signature please.

J.P.
21.7.2000

May kindly sign the U.O. note for MHA placed in the file. Since the affidavit is required to be attested by a public notary, it would be put up separately after consulting a public notary.

J.P.
J.S.CCNV

J.P.
21/7/2000

J.P.

Sh JM

Reference note at page number: 25/n

A letter addressed to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry for the submission of affidavit on behalf of the Ministry is placed below for signature please.

Jha
25/7/2000

Jha
25/7/2000

So (No)
JSC (M)

Thanks. Issue.

25/7

So (No) - B

Jha
25/7

KJM

S.No. 53 ——— Issued

S.No. 54 ——— Issued..

D.No. 6956/Min/00 ——— S.No. 55 ——— F.R.

— S.No. 56 — Issued.

— S.No. 57 — Receipt

— S.No. 58 — Issued

S.No. 59 — Added

S.No. 60 — Added

D.No. 7588/Min/2000 ——— S.No. 61 ——— F.R.

Submitted as desired please.

Jha
4/9/00

So (No)

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

JS(CNV) may kindly like to see the F.R. placed at S.No.61/c regarding request of Justice Mukherjee Commission for making them available the records that have recently have been released in the shape of a series of files by the India office Records, London(UK). The earlier letter of the Commission under reference in the F.R. is placed at S.No.32(A)/c(F/A).

In the hearing of the Justice Mukherjee Commission held in Calcutta on 31.08.2000 which was attended by me, the issue of files/records released by the India office Records, London was also raised by a gentleman before Justice Mukherjee. Justice Mukherjee informed the people present in the hearing that during his private visit to London recently, he had raised the matter about the possibility of making these records available to the Commission with our High Commissioner in London who informally conveyed to Justice Mukherjee that in all likelihood these records may not be made available to us either in original or in the form of micro film and at the most these can be consulted in the Reading Room in the British Library, London. Justice Mukherjee further said that he would, however issue directions to the Ministry of External Affairs in this regard.

In the light of the above, it is suggested that we may write to High Commission of India, London in order to find out from the British authorities the possibilities of making the above mentioned records/files available either in original or in the shape of micro film to the Commission. Based on a formal response received from HCI, London, we may intimate the position to the Commission. Since the next hearing of the Commission is scheduled to take place on 28.09.2000 at Calcutta, it is for consideration whether an interim reply, stating that Ministry has written to HCI, London in this regard and the Commission shall be intimated as soon as a reply is received from the former, may be sent to the Commission.

JS(CNV) may kindly see for consideration/instructions.

(D.B. Bhati)
Section Officer(NGO)
06.09.2000

JS(CNV) 0.7.

JS(CNV) has sent messages
as at 'A' and 'B' on 18-9-2000. may pl keep.

DBB
19/9/00

DM

S.no. 62 ----- issued
 S.no. 63 ----- issued
 T. 2639 (N.H.S) ----- S.no. 64 ----- Receipts
 T. 2697 (N.H.S) ----- S.no. 65 ----- Receipts
 S.no. 66 ----- issued.
 T. 2723 (N.H.S) ----- S.no. 67 ----- F.R.

Submitted plan

J. 20.6

 22.9.2000

Sol (N.H.S)

S.no. 68 ----- Added
 S.no. 69 ----- issued.



Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, vide their letter dated August 8, 2000 (S.No.55/c F/A), has desired that the Ministry should send to the Commission photocopies of all the nine Top Secret files(F/C) of this Ministry pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Further, as per the orders/directions issued by the Commission in its hearing dated 31.08.2000(F/B), the Commission has reiterated its directions about submitting these files to the Commission and has also sought an explanation from the Ministry as to why these files are still being treated as "Top Secret".

As directed by JS(CNV), one photocopy of each of the nine files has since been made by NGO Section. However, before these files are forwarded to the Commission JS(CNV) may kindly like to seek the approval of the Foreign Secretary for downgrading them from "Top Secret" to either "Secret" or "Confidential". As regards the question as to which of the papers of these files may be made public, we may leave it to the discretion of the Commission.

In the meantime it is suggested that we may send an interim reply to the Commission stating that the Ministry is in the process of supplying the photocopies of the above mentioned files to the Commission and these will be forwarded to the Commission shortly. A draft letter addressed to the Secretary to the Commission is accordingly placed below for approval please.

Submitted please.

Handwritten: 26/9/2000

Handwritten signature: 26/9/2000

SO(NGO)

Handwritten: F668/FS/2000
27/9/2000

JS(CNV)

'x' above.

Since the papers are deleted and do not contain information that can compromise national security, I would recommend downgrading the MSA - origin documents classified as 'Top Secret' to 'Secret'. All classification designated by other departments shall remain as in original (unchanged).

Handwritten: 28/9
F/S
JS(CNV)

Handwritten: For approval, before files/papers are sent to the Commission
29/9

S.No. 72 — Receipt

D.No. 8458 / NMO / 2000 — S.No. 73 — Receipt

D.No. 8457 / NMO / 2000 — S.No. 74 — Receipt

D.No. 8730 / NMO / 2000 — S.No. 75 — Receipt

— S.No. 76 — Issued.

D.No. 8823 / NMO / 2000 — S.No. 77 — Issued

— S.No. 78 — Added

— S.No. 79 — Added

D.No. 9036 / NMO / 2000

— S.No. 80 — Added

D.No. 9182 / NMO / 2000

— S.No. 81 — Receipt

— S.No. 82 — Added

— S.No. 83 — Issued (MFE)

D.No. 8513 / NMO / 2000

— S.No. 84 — Added

— S.No. 85 — Issued.

— S.No. 86 — Issued.

— S.No. 87 — Receipt

— S.No. 88 — Issued.

— S.No. 89 — Receipt

D. 9488 / NMO / 2000

— S.No. 90 — Added.

D.No. 9450 / NMO / 2000

— S.No. 91 — Receipt

— S.No. 92 — Receipt

— S.No. 93 — Added.

— S.No. 94 — Added.

— S.No. 95 — Issued.

— S.No. 96 — Issued.

D.No: 9514/Nho/2000 — S.No. 97 — FR

— S.No. 98 — bonded

— S.No. 99 — Added

— S.No. 100 — Added

— S.No. 101 — Receipt

— S.No. 102 — bonded.

T. 33157/Nho/2020

— S.No. 103 — Receipt

T. 3320/Nho/2020

— S.No. 104 — Receipt

— S.No. 105 — bonded.

D.No: 9682/Nho/2000

— S.No. 106 — Added.

D.No: 9944/Nho/2000

— S.No. 107 — Receipt

D.No: 10294/Nho/2000

— S.No. 108 — Issue

D.No. 10100/Nho/2000

— S.No. 109 — Receipt

— S.No. 110 — Issue

— S.No. 111 — Issue

— S.No. 112 — Issue

— S.No. 113 — Receipt

10161/Nho/2000

— S.No. 114 — Receipt

10189/Nho/2000

— S.No. 115 — Issue

10372/Nho/2000

— S.No. 116 — Receipt

— S.No. 117 — Added

— S.No. 118 — Issue

A. 10523/Nso/2000

— S.No. 119 — Receipt

Ph. 3553/Nso/2000

— S.No. 120 — Receipt

— S.No. 121 — Issue

D. 10635/Nso/2000

— S.No. 122 — Receipt

S. No. 123 - Issued
 S. No. 124 - Issued
 S. No. 125 - Issued.
 D. 10636/N40/200 S. No. 126 - Receipt
 S. No. 127 - Issued
 S. No. 128 - Issued
 S. No. 129 - Issued
 S. No. 130 - Issued.

D. No. 37/N40/01 - S. No. 131 - Receipt
 D. No. 81/N40/01 - S. No. 132 - Receipt
 D. No. 167/N40/01 - S. No. 133 - Receipt
 - S. No. 134 - Issued.
 - S. No. 135 - Added.

Director (CNV) may kindly see p. 10/note ante with regard to the question of DNA analysis of the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Shriya
19/12/01

Sir (CNV)

recy
19/12

✓ JS (CNV) may pl see.

JS (CNV) has seen and returned.

Shriya
20/12/01

SK S



DNA of Netaji's
ashes

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Dr. Sengupta
Secy of the
Cabinet
informs that

The DNA Expert of Calcutta
QFSL has claimed DNA can
be procured from the ashes
but so long there is a
testable base with chemical
properties, which can then be
verified with the DNA of a
relative of Netaji from his
mother's side (not his daughter)
to conclude that the ashes
belong to a member of
Netaji's family.

① 130

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.25/4/NGO-XV
Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

Subject: Declassification of records

Reference PM Office O.M. No.G-16(4)/2000-NGO(Vol-I) dated 9th November 2006 requesting for copies of enclosures attached to U.O. No. 16(4)/2000-NGO(Vol-I) dated 14/15.09.2000.

Copies of letters (100 pages) enclosed with the above mentioned u.o. note is forwarded herewith.



(L.D. Ralte)
Joint Secretary(CNV)
14.11.2006

Prime Minister's Office,
(Shri P.K. Roy, Under Secretary)
South Block,
New Delhi.

Encl.; as above

✓ Copy of Volume II

(2)

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. G-16(4)/2000-NGO(Vol-I)
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(NGO SECTION)

SOUTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI
DATED: 09.11.2006

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Declassification of records

Reference is invited to this office UO Note of even number dated 14/15.9.2000 seeking Ministry of External Affairs concurrence to the downgrading/declassification of certain communications received from that Ministry in connection with their submission before the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission. MEA communicated their concurrence vide their letter No. 25./4/NGO (Vol.V) dtd. 19.9.2000. The undersigned is directed to request that copies of the letters enclosed to the above mentioned PMO UO note of even number dated 14/15.9.2000 may kindly be furnished to this office urgently.



(P.K. Roy)
Under Secretary

Ministry of External Affairs
[Shri L.D. Ralte, JS (CNV)]
South Block, New Delhi

Pls. locate papers and put up.

[Handwritten signature]
Urgent w/a. P.
18/11/06

[Handwritten signature]

2074-101-2

(135) (3)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4975
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER 2000
INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE**

4975. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission has been constituted to go into the details of circumstances leading to his disappearance;
- (b) if so, whether the Commission has demanded a few files in this regard from his Ministry;
- (c) if so, the number of files demanded;
- (d) whether these files have not been provided;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the files are likely to be provided?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) Yes, Sir.
 - (b), (c) & (d) The Commission asked the Ministry of External Affairs for nine files, which have since been provided .
 - (e) & (f) Do not arise.
-

4

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
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- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the files are likely to be provided?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) Yes, Sir.
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 - (e) & (f) Do not arise.
-

3

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

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ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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- (a) Yes, Sir.
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 - (e) & (f) Do not arise.
-



बुधवार, 20 दिसम्बर, 2000/29 अग्रहायण, 1922 (शक) को होने वाली
लोकसभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने संबंधी जांच

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 4975

श्री अमर राय प्रधान:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :-

- (क): क्या नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने के लिए जिम्मेदार परिस्थितियों की जांच करने के लिए नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस जांच आयोग गठित किया गया है ;
- (ख): यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में आयोग ने उनके मंत्रालय से कुछ फाइलें मांगी है;
- (ग): यदि हां, तो कितनी फाइलें मांगी गई है;
- (घ): क्या इन फाइलों को उपलब्ध नहीं करवाया गया है;
- (ङ): यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है; और
- (च): इन फाइलों को कब तक उपलब्ध करा दिया जाएगा?

उत्तर

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

- (क) : जी, हां ।
- (ख), (ग) और (घ): आयोग ने विदेश मंत्रालय से 9 फाइलों के लिए पूछा था, जो उपलब्ध करा दी गई हैं ।
- (ङ): और
- (च): प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।



बुधवार, 20 दिसम्बर, 2000/29 अग्रहायण, 1922 (शक) को होने वाली लोकसभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने संबंधी जांच

अतारंकित प्रश्न सं० 4975

श्री अमर राय प्रधान:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :-

- (क): क्या नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने के लिए जिम्मेदार परिस्थितियों की जांच करने के लिए नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस जांच आयोग गठित किया गया है ;
- (ख): यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में आयोग ने उनके मंत्रालय से कुछ फाइलें मांगी हैं;
- (ग): यदि हां, तो कितनी फाइलें मांगी गई हैं;
- (घ): क्या इन फाइलों को उपलब्ध नहीं करवाया गया है;
- (ङ): यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और
- (च): इन फाइलों को कब तक उपलब्ध करा दिया जाएगा?

उत्तर

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(क): जी, हां ।

(ख), (ग) और (घ):

गई हैं ।

(ङ): और

(च): प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

आयोग ने विदेश मंत्रालय से 9 फाइलों के लिए पूछा था, जो उपलब्ध करा दी



बुधवार, 20 दिसम्बर, 2000/29 अग्रहायण, 1922 (शक) को होने वाली
लोकसभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने संबंधी जांच

अतारंकित प्रश्न सं० 4975

श्री अमर राय प्रधान:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :-

- (क): क्या नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के लापता होने के लिए जिम्मेदार परिस्थितियों की जांच करने के लिए नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस जांच आयोग गठित किया गया है ;
- (ख): यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में आयोग ने उनके मंत्रालय से कुछ फाइलें मांगी है;
- (ग): यदि हां, तो कितनी फाइलें मांगी गई है;
- (घ): क्या इन फाइलों को उपलब्ध नहीं करवाया गया है;
- (ङ): यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है; और
- (च): इन फाइलों को कब तक उपलब्ध करा दिया जाएगा?

उत्तर

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

- (क): जी, हां ।
- (ख), (ग) और (घ): आयोग ने विदेश मंत्रालय से 9 फाइलों के लिए पूछा था, जो उपलब्ध करा दी गई हैं ।
- (ङ): और
- (च): प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

9

**Most Immediate
Parliament Question**

**No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. : 4975
Due for answer on : 20th December, 2000
Tabled by : Shri Amar Roypradhan

INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE

Draft reply is placed below at F/A for approval. The printed version of the question may be seen at F/B.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV)
December 15, 2000

Foreign Secretary (S)

MOS(API)

has signed.

over (S)
16/12

16/12/2000 12:20 PM
Received on At
MOS (EA)'s RESIDENCE 772

10

X

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4975
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER 2000

INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE

4975A

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission has been constituted to go into the details of circumstances leading to his disappearance;
- (b) if so, whether the Commission has demanded a few files in this regard from his Ministry;
- (c) if so, the number of files demanded;
- (d) whether these files have not been provided;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the files are likely to be provided?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) Yes, Sir.
 - (b), (c) & (d) The Commission asked the Ministry of External Affairs for nine files, which have since been provided .
 - (e) & (f) Do not arise.
-

LOK SABHA
20-12-2000

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTIONS

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(Parliament Section)

The list of finally admitted questions for the Lok Sabha to be answered on 20-12-2000 is enclosed herewith.

2. The draft answers to Starred Questions in triplicate, typed in double space and Unstarred Questions in triplicate, typed in single space may be submitted directly to MOS/EAM after being approved by the concerned Secretary, by today itself.

3. Starred Question may be put up in red file cover and Unstarred questions in blue file cover.

4. It may be added that every question alongwith its annexure, if any, has to be translated in Hindi in a very short time, usually in a few hours. Therefore, when the answer is lengthy, probably due to annexure(s) which may run into 50/60 pages, Hindi section and Parliament section should be alerted in advance without waiting for the final approval, so that the translation of annexures, which normally remain unchanged, can be started immediately.

5. In addition to the typed version of the Questions and Answers, the floppy containing the entire text with enclosures, if any, (but NOT material for Supplementaries etc.) should also be put up with the file to enable the Parliament Section to transmit the Questions and Answers to Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat by E-mail after these have been answered in Parliament. It may be noted that for each question there should be a separate floppy. More than one question should not be combined in one floppy. Question number and the name of the House should be mentioned on the floppy.

6. While putting up the Question/Answer, text of the Question part in the printed version may be closely compared since it could be slightly different from that of the advance notice received earlier. The File number of the Section/Division may also be indicated to facilitate future reference.

7. The following points may be noted while putting up draft answers:-

(a) Paragraphs may be numbered of any Statement to be laid on the Table of the House.

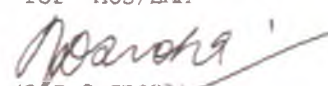
(b) Paragraphs may also be numbered of Note for Supplementaries.

(c) In presenting draft answers to Starred Questions, sets in triplicate may be made consisting of:

- (i) Question/Answer
- (ii) Statement (if any)
- (iii) Note for Supplementaries
- (iv) Anticipated Questions & their Answers

8. Note for supplementaries and anticipated questions and answers are read by Ministers and other officers while answering questions. Therefore they should be prepared with utmost care before forwarding to the Parliament Section.

9. In case of Starred Questions, it may be ensured that 12 copies of Note for Supplementaries and anticipated Questions and Answers reach Parliament Section by 1100 hrs. on 18-12-2000 for timely preparation of brief folders for MOS/EAM Secretaries and other Officers.


(R. D. S. SROBB)
SECTION OFFICER (PARLIAMENT)
15-12-2000

DISTRIBUTION AS PER ENCLOSED LIST

THE LIST OF FINALLY ADMITTED QUESTIONS FOR LOK SABHA TO BE
ANSWERED ON 20-12-2000
STARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Priority No.	Subject	Section Division	Head of Division
01.	16039	443	III	Sanctions	ED&MER	JS (ED&MER)

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Subject	Section/ Division	Head of Division
01.	2534	4787	Handing over of personal belongings	CPV	JS (CPV)
02.	3575	4790	Bilateral Agreements	COORD	JS (COORD)
03.	4223	4797	Short Realisation of Visa Fees	FIN	DIR (FIN)
04.	16025 OIH	4807	Surat Passport Office	CPV	JS (CPV)
05.	1675	4811	USA Visa Conditions	AMS	JS (AMS)
06.	5114 OIH	4814	Relaxation in Visa Laws	EW	JS (EW)
07.	5283	4815	Fate of Sikh and Hindu Families in Afghanistan	IPA	JS (IPA)
08.	7713	4816	Harassment to Indian Doctors	SOUTH	JS (SOUTH)
09.	8347	4819	Indo-Russian Federation Ties	EE	JS (EE)
10.	9352	4820	Consultative Status to VHP	UNE	JS (UNE)
11.	12129	4822	Submission of Passport Applications by Private Agencies	CPV	JS (CPV)
12.	16242	4838	Indo-Pak Talks	AMS	JS (AMS)
13.	16249	4839	Visa to Afghan Nationals of Indian Origin	CPV	JS (CPV)
14.	16292	4843	Indo-Pak Talks	EW	JS (EW)
15.	16298	4844	Tackling Taliban Menace	IPA	JS (IPA)
16.	16349	4847	Denial of Permission to Sikh Pilgrimes	IPA	JS (IPA)
17.	16595	4859	Indo-US Ties	AMS	JS (AMS)
18.	18315	4865	Renovation of Visa Hall	ESTT.	JS (ESTT.)
19.	18902	4867	Haj Bill	GD	JS (GD)

20.	3539	4874	Resumption of German AID	EW	JS (EW)
21.	3609	4877	Submission of Passport Applications	CPV	JS (CPV)
22.	3733	4879	Theft of Blank Passport Booklets	CPV	JS (CPV)
23.	4273	4880	Vilification Campaign by Pak	IPA	JS (IPA)
24.	4950	4888	India-Thailand to Fight Terrorism	SOUTH	JS (SOUTH)
25.	16048 OIH	4893	Foreign Policy	PP	JS (PP)
26.	16244	4902	Indo-US Consultation	AMS	JS (AMS)
27.	16278	4906	Indo-Iran Ties	IPA	JS (IPA)
28.	16436	4915	Workload of Indian Missions in Gulf Countries	GD	JS (GD)
29.	16454	4916	Shift in Foreign Policy	WANA	JS (WANA)
30.	5211 OIH	4929	Border Talks	EA	JS (EA)
31.	11295	4930	Cross Border Terrorism	UNE	JS (UNE)
32.	12442	4931	New Visa Regime	EW	JS (EW)
33.	16180	4937	Denial of Conular Access to Diplomats	IPA	JS (IPA)
34.	16314	4940	Liberalisation of Visa Conditions by Switzerland	EW	JS (EW)
35.	12362	4947	Death Penalty	CPV	JS (CPV)
36.	12648	4948	Establishment of Counsel	EW	JS (EW)
37.	18998	4951	Ban on Asylum Seekers	EW	JS (EW)
38.	3736	4952	Amnesty Schemes	GULF	JS (GD)
39.	16137	4957	Pakistan Sheltering Terrorism	AMS	JS (AMS)
40.	16153	4958	Harassment to Sikh Pilgrims in Pakistan	IPA	JS (IPA)
41.	16385	4962	Indo Iraq Oil/Gas Pipeline	GD	JS (GD)
42.	1321 OIH	4965	Indo-Bangladesh Border Talks	BSM	DIR (BSM)
43.	4830	4968	Visit of British Secretary for Home Affairs	EW	JS (EW)
44.	3381	4975	Inquity into Netaji's Disappearance	CNV	JS (CNV)
45.	18986	4992	Treasures of OSHO	ED&MER	JS (ED&MER)
46.	4444	4996	Cross-Border Terrorism	IPA	JS (IPA)
47.	1796	4998	Militants' Activities in Kashmir Valley	IPA	JS (IPA)
48.	8090	5008	Indo-US Joint Working Group Meet	AMS	JS (AMS)

Copy To :

1. Dir to EAM
2. Dir to MOS (AP)
3. US to MOS (KR)
4. Dir (FSO)
5. Secretary (ER) / Secretary (East) / Secretary (West)
6. DEAN (FSI)
7. AS (NRI&PV) / AS (AD) / AS (UN) / AS (BSM) / AS (FA)
8. JS (Coord) and Head of concerned Divisions
9. DS (Hindi)
10. US (Parliament)
11. Hindi/XPR/XPP
12. Question Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat

*ls.flist

(14)

Jc (CNR)

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION
TO BE ANSWERED ON
20 DECEMBER, 2000**

Inquiry into Netaji's Disappearance

4975. SHRI AMAR
ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission has been constituted to go into the details of circumstances leading to his disappearance;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has demanded a few files in this regard from his Ministry;

(c) if so, the number of files demanded;

(d) whether these files have not been provided;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the files are likely to be provided?



15
**BY SPEED POST
MOST IMMEDIATE**

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

**JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(AMS & CNV)**

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

January 05, 2001

Dear Shri Sengupta,

After a thorough and extensive search made in the various Divisions of this Ministry, we have been able to locate the following additional documents pertaining to the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee of Inquiry:

- (i) File No. 14(13)/FEA/56 (Part -A) – Netaji Inquiry Committee Report (Evidence of Witnesses)–1956
- (ii) File No. 14(13)/FEA/56 (Part -B) – Netaji Inquiry Committee Report(Evidence of Witnesses)– 1956 (Report from the Japanese Government)

These records, in original, are being sent herewith as directed by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide part B(para 5) of its proceedings dated 23.11.2000. The documents may please be returned to this Ministry when done with.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Your sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

**Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.), Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087.**

Copy to : Shri Tarakeswar Pal, Advocate, Room No. 5, Bar Association, High Court, Calcutta.

9c
T
(Jayant Prasad)

9c
T
9/1/2001

BY SPEED POST
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone :
033-216-2765/60
033-216-2835.
Fax :
033-216-2765

344/JS (copy) 2000
13-9-00

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/247

167/11/10
STI
Calcutta, dated, the 11.09.2000..

From:
Sri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary.

(133)

To
Sri Jayant Prasad, IAS
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Sub: Files numbering 700 originating in the India office's Public and Judicial Department, London and now available in the British Library.

Ref: The Commission's letter Nos. JMCI/DOC (FOR)/99-2000/56/45 dated 27.4.2000 and JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/232 dated 28.8.2000.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission's above-quoted letters on the aforesaid subject and to say that no reply whatsoever has yet been received from your end.

In furtherance of the above-quoted letters, I am directed to invite your notice to the news published under the caption 'Britain to allow access to Netaji documents' in 'The Statesman' dated September 10, 2000, particularly the paragraph nos. 1 and 2 of the aforesaid news, and to request you once again to pursue the matter with the U.K. Government so that the Commission may have access without any further delay to all the documents, files, records etc. relating to Netaji in the possession of the U.K. Government.

I am further directed to request you to treat the matter as extremely urgent and to take necessary effective steps with an intimation to the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta.)
Secretary

Encl: 1 (copy) papers
cutting of The Statesman

contd. pg.2.

filed
5/11
SON/10-13
SM
STI

(19)

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

'B' Block (3rd floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone :
033-216-2765/60
033-216-2835.

Fax :
033-216-2765

No. JMCI/.....

- :: 2 :: -

Calcutta, dated, the

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/247 dated, the 11th^{day of} September, 2000

Copy forwarded to :

Smt. Sangeeta, Goirala, IAS, Joint Secretary
(Internal Security), Ministry of External Affairs, South Block,
New Delhi-110 001 for information and necessary action in
reference to the Commission's letters nos. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/
56/45 dated 27.4.2000 and JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/233 dated
28.8.2000.


(.P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Britain to allow access to Netaji documents

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

① CALCUTTA, Sept. 9. — The UK government would allow access to documents on Netaji in its possession, the British Deputy High Commissioner, Mr John Mitchiner, said here today.

② The Mr Justice Manoj Mukherjee Commission is currently probing the disappearance of documents related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

③ The West Bengal government had requested the UK government to make public these documents, Mr Mitchiner told reporters here. "Any authorised representative of the West Bengal government can access the records."

④ But Mr Jack Straw, also present, said he was "not aware of the case." The British home secretary added that his government would do its best to help in the matter.

⑤ Witnesses deposing before the Mukherjee Commission in its third sitting on 31 August had said that documents kept at archives in Russia, UK and Japan should be accessed as they contain vital information on Netaji's disappearance.

⑥ Netaji's assistant and a colonel of the Azad Hind army said on 18 August, 1946, Netaji boarded a plane from Saigon to go to Russia. They heard of the crash on 22 August.



CHITRA CHOPRA
Addl. Secretary
Tel.No.3022242
Fax No.3022160

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

81/211/01
3/11

D.O.F.No.13-38/2000-M.I
भारतीय गणतंत्र की 50वीं वर्षगांठ
संस्कृति विभाग
भारत सरकार
विज्ञान भवन एनेक्सी
नई दिल्ली-110011

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIAN REPUBLIC
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
VIGYAN BHAWAN ANNEXE
NEW DELHI-110011

January 1, 2001.

Dear

Please refer to your D.O.letter No.F.DGNM-2/2000 dated September 18, November 20, and December 15, 2000 regarding declassification of records/articles pertaining to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and deposited in National Museum.

The Ministry of External Affairs have now agreed that the above records/articles may be declassified in order to facilitate their viewing by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. They also feel that it might be a good idea to invite the Commission to look at the above treasures for which you may get in touch with the Justice Mukherjee Commission to tie up the administrative arrangements. (Copy of their letter enclosed).

Since, this is a sensitive matter, you are hereby requested to keep the Department informed of all the developments and also endorse all copies of your communication with the Commission as well as other Departments/Ministries, in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

(Chitra Chopra)

Dr.R.D.Choudhary,
Director General,
National Museum,
New Delhi.

Copy for information to:-

1. Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, B Block, 3rd Floor, 11/A, Mirja Galib Street, Calcutta-700087.
2. Shri M.B.Kaushal, Special Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.
3. Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.
4. Shri Jarnail Singh, Joint Secretary, PMO

Chitra Chopra
(CHITRA CHOPRA)

6
Sengupta 2/11
3/11
JM

4697/JS (CNV) 2000
27.12.00

6804/JS (CNV) 2000
27/12/00

37/12/00
111

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
Chairman - 216-2835
Secretary - 216-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 216-2765
Office - 216-2766/68

(431)

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings
(Follow up)/48 (Vol II)/388

Calcutta, dated, the 6th Dec'2000.

**From : Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd).
Secretary**

- To :**
- 1) Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi-100011.
 - 2) Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi-110004.
 - 3) Director General, National Archives, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 4) Joint Secretary (Admn.) R. & A.W. Bikanir House, Annexe, Room No.7, Sahajan Road, New Delhi - 100011.
 - 5) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 6) Secretary, P.M's Secretariat, South Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 7) Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 8) Secretary, Home Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Writers' Buildings, Calcutta-700001.

Thos B for you

[Handwritten signature]

JS (CNV)

[Handwritten signature]

High

27/12/00

Sept 2000 - B

in JM

27/12

Sub: Strict compliance with the orders/ directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.11.2000 read with the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000, 31.8.2000, and 28.09.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings dated 23.11.2000 of the Commission containing its orders and directions for your perusal and compliance thereof as directed by the Commission.

Copies of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000, 31.08.2000 and 28.09.2000 of the Commission were sent to your office earlier.

Encl: as stated above

Yours faithfully,
[Handwritten signature]
(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

(21)

JUSTICE M.K. MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Proceedings dated 23.11.2000 (Fifth)

Held at the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan,
166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007

A. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

November 23 2000

1. Of the witnesses summoned, Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Anindya Sengupta, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Pabitra Ghosh, Dr. Purabi Roy and Shri Jayanta Roy are present. Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Anindya Sengupta and Shri Pabitra Kumar Ghosh have been duly examined on oath as witness Nos. 6, 7, 8, and 9 respectively and then discharged. Some documents have been admitted into evidence and marked as Exhibits 6, 6a and 6a/1 on admission by the C.W.6, Exhibits 7 to 7w on admission by the C.W.7, Exhibit 8 on admission by C.W.8 and Exhibits 9 to 9m on admission by C.W.9, without any objection by any of the parties. The examination of Dr. Purabi Roy as C.W.10 is now taken up. In her examination she testifies that the statements that she made in her affidavit filed before the Commission are correct. Accordingly, the affidavit filed by her is marked Exhibit 10. However, her examination cannot be concluded as she intends to bring on record a number of documents for which no list is forthcoming and many of which are in Russian language. Dr. Roy is, therefore, asked to file a list of documents and the translated version in English of those written in Russian language, with a supporting affidavit that the translation has been done correctly and truly. To enable her to comply with the above directions, her further examination is deferred till the next hearing and she is asked to appear on that date. The suggestion of some of the parties present that the documents in Russian language be translated by some other translator and not by Dr. Roy, as she figures as an witness, will be considered if and when any genuine complaint is made about the authenticity of the translation. Examination of Sri Jayanta Roy is also deferred as from the affidavit filed by Dr. Roy it appears that he is supposed to corroborate her testimony.

2. The other witness summoned, namely, Smt. Probha Jagannathan, is not present though summons was duly sent by speedpost to her at her address as furnished to the Commission. Let fresh summons be served

asking her to appear on the next date of hearing. Let summons be also served upon Sri Jayanta Roy to appear on that date.

B. FURTHER ORDERS/DIRECTIONS/OBSERVATIONS

1. The prayer of Smt. Archana Ranjan, Director, Prime Minister's office, seeking 15 days' time to file a consolidated affidavit covering all the points mentioned in the proceeding of the Commission from time to time is allowed. The above office is directed to file the same by 10.12.2000 through an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary.
2. In spite of repeated directions, no representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs has yet come to identify the documents referred to in paragraph 3(b)(i) of the order dated September 28, 2000 and prove their authenticity.
3. The application filed by Shri Kamal Pandey, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India claiming privilege under Sections 123 and 124 of the Evidence Act and Article 74(2) of the Constitution of India in respect of the contents of the files mentioned in paragraph B(ii) of the proceedings dated August 31, 2000 will be taken up for hearing in the next sitting.
4. The documents mentioned in paragraph 3(b)(iii) of the order dated September 28, 2000 have neither been produced nor any explanation offered for such failure.
5. The directions contained in paragraph C(i) of the order dated August 31, 2000 have not been fully complied with, in that, the complete original records of the proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee of Inquiry including the evidence recorded and the documents produced before the said Committee have not yet been sent. However, four letters, one paper cutting, one printed copy of the report of the Committee, one partly torn copy of the statement of one Shri Mathura Malanga Thevor, MLA bearing some initials and one full signature purported to be of Shri Thevor, some photographs of witnesses and 407 pages, typed but unauthenticated, purporting to contain statements of some witnesses before the said Committee, were received earlier.

7. Since the observations made by the Commission in Paragraph (e) of its proceedings dated 28.9.2000 have not been given due importance and priority they deserve, the Commission takes serious view of the matter and feels that time is now ripe to consider the question of invoking the powers under the provisions of section 5(4) of the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 for recurring non-compliance with the orders/directions of the Commission. In this connection, the attention of the authorities concerned is once more drawn to orders dated June 13, 2000, as quoted in paragraph 3(e) of the proceedings dated September 28, 2000 as also those communicated through various letters sent pursuant to the orders of the Commission.


(M.K. Mukherjee)

Chairman.

The Ministry of External Affairs have since sent photocopies of the following files.

1. File No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. I
2. File No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. II (LW-KW)
3. File No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. III (LW-Annx)
4. File No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. IV (LW-KW.i)
5. File No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. V (LW-KW I, II & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO – 52 (LW-KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO – 52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO – 52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO – 53

6(i) On March 23, 2000 the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce all the files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which were lying in the custody of the Special Branch, Calcutta Police including file No. 269/45 relating to 'Prisoner/Release – Revised Policy of Government, for the release of Security Prisoners' containing Memo. No. SS 129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal, Express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.1945 of Bengal Government and confidential note dated 3.9.1945 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. In purported compliance of the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 64 files along with lists thereof and also filed an affidavit dated July 28, 2000 through Shri Aloknath Bhattacharyya, Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home (Political) Department wherein it is stated, inter alia, as follows :

"8/ That the Government of West Bengal caused a thorough search in the offices of Special Branch, Calcutta Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and State Archives; that there is no such file bearing No. 269/45 regarding "Prisoner/Release-Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners" in the records of Calcutta Police; that File No. 269/45 (Prisoners/Release-Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners) containing Memo. No. SS.129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of

23

Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary Govt. of Bengal, express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45 of Bengal Government and Confidential note dated 3.9.45 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. also do not figure in the Index Book of the Intelligence Branch, West Bengal; that there is no record preserved in the custody of State Archives relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and other papers connected thereto including copy of Bengal Government's express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45

Copies of correspondences of Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, Dy. Inspector General of Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and Director of Archives, Higher Education (State Archives) Deptt. in this connection are annexed herewith as Annexure "A" collectively."

Thereafter, following further direction of the Commission, the Government of West Bengal produced the original Index Books relating to files maintained by the Special and Intelligent Branches of Police. On scrutiny of the said Index Books and the copies of files sent, the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce copies of some more files reference of which was in the Index Books but not sent to the Commission earlier. In compliance with the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 13 (thirteen) more files including File No. 269/45 which contained memos and Note referred to hereinbefore.

6(ii) From the above resume of facts, it is manifest that the earlier quoted statements made by Shri Alok Nath Bhattacharyya, in his affidavit filed on July 28, 2000 are not at all correct. Since, however, Shri Bhattacharyya claims in his above affidavit that those averments were made on the basis of information received from Shri D.C. Bajpai, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and Shri A.K. Sen, Deputy Inspector General of Police, I.B., West Bengal and has, in support thereof, annexed as part of his affidavit the copies of written communications from them in this respect, it is patently clear that the above two responsible senior Police Officers furnished wrong information for onward communication to this Commission. The Commission therefore calls for the explanation of the above two Police Officers for furnishing such wrong information, by the next date of hearing.

ION VERIFICATION REPORT

26

TIME: 21/12/2000 16:15

NAME: JS:OVL_BEA

FAX : 3792265

TEL : 3011 22 301156

DATE, TIME

21/12 16:14

FAX NO, TIME

3792265

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DATE, TIME

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DURATION

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REMARKS

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27

TIME: 21/12/2000 17:27

NAME: JS:OW_BMEA

FAX : 3792285

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सत्यमेव जयते

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

(28)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

(130)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

December 21, 2000

Dear Ms. Chopra,

This is in continuation of my letter of even number dated December 18, 2000 conveying no objection of this Ministry regarding records/articles pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose deposited by this Ministry with the National Museum. In the light of our no objection, the articles/records may be shown to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

A copy of this letter is being endorsed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Ms. Chitra Chopra,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Vigyan Bhavan Annexe,
New Delhi.

Copy to Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, B Block, 3rd Floor, 11/A Mirja Galib Street, Calcutta-700 087.

R/12

(Jayant Prasad)

Copy by fax (033-2162765)

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

29

TIME: 21/12/2000 16:31

NAME: JS:CHV_IMEA

FAX : 3790285

TEL : 3011357--3015155

DATE TIME	21/12 16:30
FAC NUMBER	0332162765
START TIME	00:00:39
PAGE(S)	01
RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

December 21, 2000

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Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Ms. Chitra Chopra,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Vigyan Bhavan Annexe,
New Delhi.

✓
Copy to Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee
Commission of Inquiry, B Block, 3rd Floor, 11/A Mirja Galib Street,
Calcutta-700 087.

R/1/12

(Jayant Prasad)

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TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

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TIME: 21/12/2000 17:33

NAME: JS:ONV_IMEA

FAX : 3792285

TEL : 3011357-301155

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RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD



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Most Immediate
By Speed Post.

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(AMC & CNV)

(128) 123

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

20th December 2000

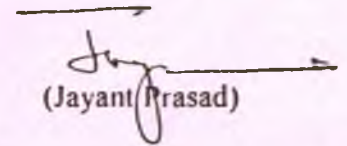
Dear Shri Pal,

Please refer to your fax dated 19-12-2000 regarding the records to be submitted before Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

We are in the process of retrieving the remaining original records of the proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee of Inquiry from the various Divisions of the Ministry. As these records pertain to 1956, it is likely to take some time before we get these records from the concerned Divisions. You may, therefore, inform the Commission accordingly and request them to give us some more time before these documents are sent to them.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri Tarakeswar Pal,
Sr. Counsel, Govt. of India,
Justice Mukherjee Commission.
Bar Association Room No. 5,
Calcutta High Court,
Calcutta.

Most Urgent

Copy by fax (033-2482313) OR
(033-2162765) ✓

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TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

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TIME: 22/12/2000 12:11

NAME: JS:CNV_\$MEA

FAX : 3792285

TEL : 3011357--3015155

DATE, TIME	22/12 12:10
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DURATION	00:00:40
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RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(AMS &CNV)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

December 21, 2000

My dear Additional Secretary,

Since Justice Mukherjee Commission is interested in looking into all documentary evidence connected with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, it might be a good idea to invite the Commission to take a look at "Netaji's treasures". We have, therefore, already advised the Commission in this regard. Since the National Museum is the custodian of the treasures, they may be advised to tie up the administrative arrangements required as convenient to the Commission.

Our earlier endorsement is attached for your reference and records.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Ms. Chitra Chopra,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Vigyan Bhavan Annexe,
New Delhi.

Copy to Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, Justice
Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, B Block, 3rd floor, 11/A
Mirja Galib Street, Calcutta-700 087.

(Jayant Prasad)

AMP

R. Man

ch



SANGITA GAIROLA
संयुक्त सचिव
JOINT SECRETARY

☎ 301 5736

25
~~SECRET~~ (126)
By. No. S-805 IS(AMS) 100
Dated. 20.12.00

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

North Block, New Delhi
Dated the 20th December, 2000.

D.O. No. I/12014/13/2000-15(D.M)

Dear Shri Prasad,

Please refer to D.O. No. 13-38/2000-M.I dated December 15, 2000 from Department of Culture, on the subject of de-classification of certain articles, a copy of which was sent to this Ministry for information.

2. Kindly initiate necessary action as desired by the Department of Culture expeditiously in view of the next hearing of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry which is scheduled on 22.12.2000.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sangita Gairola

(SANGITA GAIROLA)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block
New Delhi.



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

26
JK

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

December 21, 2000

Dear Ms. Chopra,

This is in continuation of my letter of even number dated December 18, 2000 conveying no objection of this Ministry regarding records/articles pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose deposited by this Ministry with the National Museum. In the light of our no objection, the articles/records may be shown to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

A copy of this letter is being endorsed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Ms. Chitra Chopra,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Vigyan Bhavan Annexe,
New Delhi.

Copy to Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, B Block, 3rd Floor, 11/A Mirja Galib Street, Calcutta-700 087.

R/1/12

(Jayant Prasad)



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (AMS & CNV)

25
12/21

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. 25/4/NGO. Vol.V

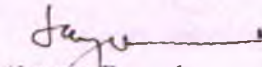
December 21, 2000

Dear Ms. Chopra,

In continuation to my letter of even number dated December 18, 2000 regarding declassification of records/articles pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose sent by this Ministry to the National Museum, it is confirmed that this Ministry agrees that these records/articles may be declassified in order to their viewing by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Ms. Chitra Chopra,
Additional Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Vigyan Bhavan Annexe,
New Delhi.

B/M



Most Immediate
By Speed Post.

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(AMC &CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

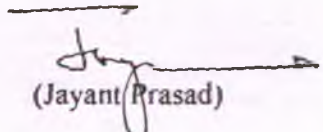
20th December 2000

Dear Shri Pal,

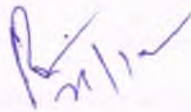
Please refer to your fax dated 19-12-2000 regarding the records to be submitted before Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

We are in the process of retrieving the remaining original records of the proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee of Inquiry from the various Divisions of the Ministry. As these records pertain to 1956, it is likely to take some time before we get these records from the concerned Divisions. You may, therefore, inform the Commission accordingly and request them to give us some more time before these documents are sent to them.

With best regards,
Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri Tarakeswar Pal,
Sr. Counsel, Govt. of India,
Justice Mukherjee Commission,
Bar Association Room No. 5,
Calcutta High Court,
Calcutta.



OFFICE SERVICES

29
127

From: Tarakeswar Pal

Advocate

Mr. Counsel, Govt. of India HIGH COURT CALCUTTA
Justice Mukherjee Commi- Bar Association Room No. 5
ssion. Phones: 248-3190/3169
Fax: (033) 248-2313
E mail: tarasohc@cal.cnic.net.in
Residence

1062/Amr
2/11/20

Most Urgent

Dated November 3, 2000.

Ref: Ltr dated 8.12.2000

Again: 19.12.2000

To
Shri Jayant Prasad,
Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi,
India,
Phone: 110 001.

Dear Sir,

Re: Proceeding before the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee
Commission of Inquiry on Netaji at Madhraj
Sadon, Calcutta.

1. In an appraisal of the present state of affairs of the
mentioned proceeding, you are to do the following (as per
orders of the Hon'ble Commission dated 31st August, 2000 and 29th
September, 2000) :

a) Retaining Original Complete Records of the entire pro-
ceedings of Shri Nawaz Committee of Inquiry are including the
depositions and the documents produced there be sent to the Hon'
Commission before 20th December, 2000 with an Affidavit by

b) To see, if there is any remaining file, mentioned in
No. 25/4/MCO Vol. V dated March 1, 2000 by Joint Secy
addressed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commi-
and to send the said files to the Hon'ble Commission before 20th Decem-
ber, 2000.

2. The next date of hearing of the Hon'ble Com-
~~is to be 20th December, 2000, if it is otherwise.~~
22nd December, 2000
Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Tarakeswar Pal

Advoc.

Read today
Please
send a
letter tomorrow

Noty
pointing to
the
incongruence!

19/12
S. Rao / B
20/12
20/12
MP



36
121
Confidential

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV &AMS)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

18th December 2000

Please refer to your D.O. No. 13-38/2000-M.I dated December 15, 2000 regarding declassification of "treasures of Netaji" in connection with on going inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission.

2. We have already conveyed our no objection to the National Museum, vide our letter of even number dated 22nd November 2000, addressed to Dr. R.D.Choudhry, Director General, National Museum, for viewing Netaji's treasures sent by this Ministry to the National Museum by the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. The National Museum may take further necessary action accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

jc

(Jayant Prasad)

✓ Dr. R.V. Vaidhyanatha Ayyar,
Secretary,
Department of Culture,
Ministry of Tourism & Culture,
New Delhi.

Copy to Ms. Chitra Chopra, Additional Secretary, Department of Culture, New Delhi w.r.t. her D.O. No. 13-38/2000-M.I dated 14th November 2000 (received by us on 15th December 2000).

✓
Stoney
Prof. Anand
18/12/00

Best wishes,

jc

(Jayant Prasad)

Opj no. 1/8

32

2

~~TOP SECRET
MOST IMMEDIATE~~

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Sub:- Declassification of records.

The Government of India has appointed the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. In response to the communication received from the Commission of Inquiry vide letter No.JMC/Meeting/48/95, dated 23.5.2000, copy of seven top secret files pertaining to this Office were sent to the Commission with the request that while the Commission may make use of the top secret papers, in camera, they may kindly consider not publishing the same, since these are classified as top secret.

2. The Commission have vide their letter dated 6.9.2000 directed this Office to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being claimed against the disclosure of the contents of the Top Secret files, more so, when the Commission is holding a public inquiry and its reports will be a public document and contents of these files may have an important bearing. It also appears the Commission has been in touch with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of West Bengal etc. for production of records relevant to the terms and conditions of the Commission of Inquiry.

3. Copies of the classified communications which originated from your Ministry/Department are enclosed. You are requested to kindly let this Office know immediately the view, if any already taken, regarding their declassification and production before the Commission. If a view is yet to be taken, the same may please be expedited and complete

3
33
information intimated to this Office latest by the forenoon of 18th September, 2000.

Archana Ranjan
(Archana Ranjan)
Director

✓ Shri R.D.Choudhury, Director General, National Museum,
Janpath, New Delhi-110011.

Shri P.Mehendru, Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau(MHA), New Delhi.

Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri G.B.Singh, Director, Ministry of Defence, History Division, West Block
No. 8, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066.

Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.

Shri Thomas, SO(NGO) Ministry of External Affairs.

PMO U.O.No.16(4)/2000-NGO dated 14.9.2000.

15

End. 3 pages

NMI
T-2(64) 78-PM

National Museum of India

Extracts from the General Accession Register, Volume I

Date acquired	No.	Precious and/or Excavation No. Etc.	Source	Short Description	Date or period	Locality	Remarks and references
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Top SECRET
4/7/53
Int. The approval of JS(A)
Vols. 19/15/JS(A) 2003
Location
Room Class Shelf

The contents of this page are to be treated under the Official Secrets Act and any person divulging them would be punishable under the same Act, for reasons stated below:-

30.xii.53 53.22

Shri D.D. Bhatia
D.S. E&A Ministry
(A.D.I.)Gold and other objects
taken from Shri Ramamurti
on 24.9.51 by the Indian
Embassy at Tokyo

1945

These I.N.A. Treasures Iron safe No.48
are kept in a grey steel
box, locked and covered by
a diplomatic Bag, sealed
with the seal of the N.G.O.
Section of the External Affairs
Ministry at two places in the presence
of Shri D.D. Bhatia

Bundle No. 1 (opened)Package I

Charred rings and pendants

Package IICharred and broken bangles, pins,
buckles, etc.Package IIICharred and broken bangles,
pendants, snuff box, medals
coins and ringsPackage IV

Charred necklace pieces medals and rings

Package VCharred ear-rings, nose rings,
rings set with stones mostlyPackage VICharred and broken bangles
and ankletsPackage VIICharred and broken rings, nose rings and
pendantsPackage VIII

Charred rings and nose rings.

NMI
T-2(64)/78-PM.

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~~Top Secret~~

piece
not at 2/4
2/17

Page No. 127

National Museum of India
Extracts from the General Accession Register, Volume I

Date Acquired	No.	Previous and/or Excavation No. etc.	Source	Short description	Date or period	Locality	Remarks and references	Location. Room Class Shelf
30.11.53	53.22			Package IX Charred necklace, bangles brooches and nose rings			These I.N.A. Iron safe No. 48 Treasure are kept in a gray steel-box, locked and covered by a Diplomatic Bag, Sealed with the Seal of the N.G.O. Section of the External Affairs Ministry at two places in the presence of Shri D.O. Bhatia	
contd. from pp.				Package X Charred ear-rings with stones, and rings				
				Package XI Charred rings				
				Package XII Charred rings and chain				
				Package XIII Charred rings and buttons				
				Package XIV Charred ear-pendants				
				<u>Bundle 2 (closed)</u> Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc.				
				<u>Bundle 3 (closed)</u> Metal mostly base and dust				
				<u>Ayer's lot</u> 9 pieces of gold, said to be 300 grams.				

The contents of this page are to be treated under the Official Secrets Acts, and any person divulging them would be punishable under the same Act for reasons stated above.

36

~~Confidential~~
By Special Messenger
प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली 110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI 110 011

Jarnail Singh
Joint Secretary to
The Prime Minister
Tel: 301 5697



D.O. No. G.16(4)/2000-NGO

Date: 14.12.2000

Dear Sir,

Please refer to D.O. letter of even number dated 7.12.2000 from Ms. Archana Ranjan, Director in this Office, regarding declassification of classified papers which originated from the National Museum/Department of Culture, so that Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, appointed to enquire into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, could make use of those records in connection with the Inquiry and to make the same public, etc. Now the Commission has fixed the next date of hearing at Calcutta on 22.12.2000. We would be expected to apprise the Commission of the position with regard to classified papers pertaining to the National Museum/Department of Culture. It would be possible to formulate our stand/views only if we know the final decision of the National Museum/Department of Culture, sufficiently in advance.

2. We shall be grateful if you could kindly look into the matter and have the views/comments regarding declassification of the National Museum papers, expedited.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jarnail Singh
(Jarnail Singh)

Dr. R. V. V. Iyer,
Secretary,
Dept. of Culture,
Shastri Bhavan,
New Delhi.

[Handwritten initials]
15/12

AS



CHITRA CHOPRA
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
TEL NO. 3022242
FAX NO. 3022160
D.O. No. F.No.13-38/2000-M.I.

4605/JS (CMY) 2000
15.12.00
119
105 213/CMY/AD
18/11

पर्यटन एवं संस्कृति मंत्रालय
संस्कृति विभाग
(शताब्दी महोत्सव सेल/स्मरणोत्सव ब्यूरो)
भारत सरकार
विज्ञान भवन एनेक्सी
नई दिल्ली-110 011

MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
(CENTENARY CELL/COMMEMORATION BUREAU)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
VIGYAN BHAWAN ANNEXE
NEW DELHI-110 011

Dated 14th November, 2000

Dear Jayant,

Please refer to the D.O. letter No. F.DGNM-2/2000 dated 22nd November 2000 from the Director General, National Museum, regarding de-classification of records in connection with the inquiry into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, being conducted by Justice Mukherjee Commission. As stated in the letter the correspondence as well as the sealed box seems to have emanated from the Ministry of External Affairs, if so, a decision for declassification of these papers would have to be taken by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Kindly confirm at the earliest, since the decision has to be conveyed to the Prime Minister's Office.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Chitra Chopra

(CHITRA CHOPRA)

Shri Jayant Prasad
Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
NGO South Block
New Delhi

38
(118)

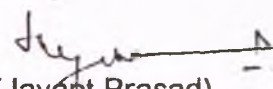
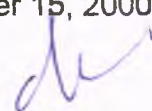
**Most Immediate
Parliament Question**

**No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.VI/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. : 4975
Due for answer on : 20th December, 2000
Tabled by : Shri Amar Roypradhan

INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE

Draft reply is placed below at F/A for approval. The printed version of the question may be seen at F/B.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(AMS & CNV)
December 15, 2000


Foreign Secretary / Secy (East)

MOS(AP)

39

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4975
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER 2000**

INQUIRY INTO NETAJI'S DISAPPEARANCE

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission has been constituted to go into the details of circumstances leading to his disappearance;
- (b) if so, whether the Commission has demanded a few files in this regard from his Ministry;
- (c) if so, the number of files demanded;
- (d) whether these files have not been provided;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the files are likely to be provided?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) Yes, Sir.
 - (b), (c) & (d) The Commission asked the Ministry of External Affairs for nine files, which have since been provided .
 - (e) & (f) Do not arise.
-

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(117)

Immediate

No. C/551/10/2000-JP
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Requisition for File

The following file(s) is required for some urgent references. RM Section is requested to send this file(s) to us at the earliest.

<u>Sl no.</u>	<u>File no.</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1.	C/551/5/72-JP (Vol. 1&2)	Matters relating to Netaji Enquiry Commission

Vijay Gokhale
(Vijay Gokhale)
Director(EA)
8 December 2000

RM Section, MEA

Issued
11/12

FROM : JMCI

4541/JSC (CHU)/2000
12.12.03
10372/CHU/03
1311

FAX NO. : 091 033 216 2765

6343/AS/BEM/20 11/12
DEC. 07 2000 01:47PM P1

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone: 872
Chairman -- 216-2835
Secretary -- 216-2767
Officer on Special Duty -- 216-2765
Office -- 216-2766/68

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings
(Follow up)/48 (Vol II)/388

Calcutta, dated, the 6th Dec' 2000.

From : Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd).
Secretary

- To :
- 1) Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi-100011.
 - 2) Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi-110004.
 - 3) Director General, National Archives, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 4) Joint Secretary (Admn.) R. & A.W. Bikanir House, Annexe, Room No.7, Sahajan Road, New Delhi - 100011.
 - 5) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, North Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 6) Secretary, P.M.'s Secretariat, South Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 7) Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, South Block, New Delhi - 110001.
 - 8) Secretary, Home Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Writers' Buildings, Calcutta-700001.

AS (BEM)
Joint Secy (BEM)
MCA

h = ecp

Vide p. 3
who in MCA
handling this?
JSC (CHU)

Sub: Strict compliance with the orders and directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.11.2000 read with the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000, 31.08.2000 and 28.09.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings dated 23.11.2000 of the Commission containing its orders and directions for your perusal and compliance thereof as directed by the Commission.

Copies of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000, 31.08.2000 and 28.09.2000 of the Commission were sent to your office earlier.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
P. Sengupta

Encl. as stated above

SM
12/12/00

42

JUSTICE M.K. MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Proceedings dated 23.11.2000 (Fifth)

Held at the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan,
166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007

A. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

November 23 2000

1. Of the witnesses summoned, Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Anindya Sengupta, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Pabitra Kumar Ghosh, Shri Purabi Roy and Shri Jayanta Roy are present. Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Anindya Sengupta and Shri Pabitra Kumar Ghosh have been duly examined on oath as witness Nos. 6, 7, 8, and 9 respectively and then discharged. Some documents have been admitted into evidence and marked as Exhibits 6, 6a and 6a/1 on admission by the C.W.6, Exhibits 7 to 7w on admission by the C.W.7, Exhibit 8 on admission by C.W.8 and Exhibits 9 to 9m on admission by C.W.9, without any objection by any of the parties. The examination of Dr. Purabi Roy as C.W.10 is now taken up. In her examination she testifies that the statements that she made in her affidavit filed before the Commission are correct. Accordingly, the affidavit filed by her is marked Exhibit 10. However, her examination cannot be concluded as she intends to bring on record a number of documents for which no list is forthcoming and many of which are in Russian language. Dr. Roy is, therefore, asked to file a list of documents and the translated version in English of those written in Russian language, with a supporting affidavit that the translation has been done correctly and truly. To enable her to comply with the above directions, her further examination is deferred till the next hearing and she is asked to appear on that date. The suggestion of some of the parties present that the documents in Russian language be translated by some other translator and not by Dr. Roy, as she figures as an witness, will be considered if and when any genuine complaint is made about the authenticity of the translation. Examination of Sri Jayanta Roy is also deferred as from the affidavit filed by Dr. Roy it appears that he is supposed to corroborate her testimony.

2. The other witness summoned, namely, Smt. Probha Jagannathan, is not present though summons was duly sent by speedpost to her at her address as furnished to the Commission. Let fresh summons be served

asking her to appear on the next date of hearing. Let summons be also served upon Sri Jayanta Roy to appear on that date.

B. FURTHER ORDERS/DIRECTIONS/OBSERVATIONS

1. The prayer of Smt. Archana Ranjan, Director, Prime Minister's office, seeking 15 days' time to file a consolidated affidavit covering all the points mentioned in the proceedings of the Commission from time to time is allowed. The above office is directed to file the same by 10.12.2000 through an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary.
2. In spite of repeated directions, no representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs has yet come to identify the documents referred to in paragraph 3(b)(i) of the order dated September 28, 2000 and prove their authenticity.
3. The application filed by Shri Kamal Pandey, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India claiming privilege under Sections 123 and 124 of the Evidence Act and Article 74(2) of the Constitution of India in respect of the contents of the files mentioned in paragraph B(ii) of the proceedings dated August 31, 2000 will be taken up for hearing in the next sitting.
4. The documents mentioned in paragraph 3(b)(iii) of the order dated September 28, 2000 have neither been produced nor any explanation offered for such failure.
5. The directions contained in paragraph C(i) of the order dated August 31, 2000 have not been fully complied with, in that, the complete original records of the proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee of Inquiry including the evidence recorded and the documents produced before the said Committee have not yet been sent. However, four letters, one paper culling, one printed copy of the report of the Committee, one partly torn copy of the statement of one Shri Mathura Malanga Thevor, MLA bearing some initials and one full signature purported to be of Shri Thevor, some photographs of witnesses and 407 pages, typed but unauthenticated, purporting to contain statements of some witnesses before the said Committee, were received earlier.

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3

The Ministry of External Affairs have since sent photocopies of the following files.

1. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. I
2. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. II (LW-KW)
3. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. III (LW-Annx)
4. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. IV (LW-KW.)
5. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. V (LW-KW, I, II & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO - 52 (LW-KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO - 52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO - 52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO - 53

6(i) On March 23, 2000 the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce all the files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which were lying in the custody of the Special Branch, Calcutta Police including file No. 269/45 relating to 'Prisoner/Release - Revised Policy of Government, for the release of Security Prisoners' containing Memo. No. SS 129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal. Express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.1945 of Bengal Government and confidential note dated 3.9.1945 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. In purported compliance of the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 64 files along with lists thereof and also filed an affidavit dated July 28, 2000 through Shri Aloknath Bhattacharyya, Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home (Political) Department wherein it is stated, inter alia, as follows :

"8/ That the Government of West Bengal caused a thorough search in the offices of Special Branch, Calcutta Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and State Archives; that there is no such file bearing No. 269/45 regarding "Prisoner/Release-Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners" in the records of Calcutta Police; that File No. 269/45 (Prisoners/Release-Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners) containing Memo. No. SS.129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of

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Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary Govt. of Bengal, express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45 of Bengal Government and Confidential note dated 3.9.45 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. also do not figure in the Index Book of the Intelligence Branch, West Bengal; that there is no record preserved in the custody of State Archives relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and other papers connected thereto including copy of Bengal Government's express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45

Copies of correspondences of Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, Dy. Inspector General of Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and Director of Archives, Higher Education (State Archives) Deptt. in this connection are annexed herewith as Annexure "A" collectively."

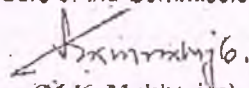
Thereafter, following further direction of the Commission, the Government of West Bengal produced the original Index Books relating to files maintained by the Special and Intelligent Branches of Police. On scrutiny of the said Index Books and the copies of files sent, the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce copies of some more files reference of which was in the Index Books but not sent to the Commission earlier. In compliance with the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 13 (thirteen) more files including File No. 269/45 which contained memos and Note referred to hereinbefore.

6(ii) From the above resume of facts, it is manifest that the earlier quoted statements made by Shri Alok Nath Bhattacharyya, in his affidavit filed on July 28, 2000 are not at all correct. Since, however, Shri Bhattacharyya claims in his above affidavit that those averments were made on the basis of information received from Shri D.C. Bajpai, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and Shri A.K. Sen, Deputy Inspector General of Police, I.B., West Bengal and has, in support thereof, annexed as part of his affidavit the copies of written communications from them in this respect, it is patently clear that the above two responsible senior Police Officers furnished wrong information for onward communication to this Commission. The Commission therefore calls for the explanation of the above two Police Officers for furnishing such wrong information, by the next date of hearing.

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7. Since the observations made by the Commission in Paragraph (e) of its proceedings dated 28.9.2000 have not been given due importance and priority they deserve, the Commission takes serious view of the matter and feels that time is now ripe to consider the question of invoking the powers under the provisions of section 5(4) of the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 for recurring non-compliance with the orders/directions of the Commission. In this connection, the attention of the authorities concerned is once more drawn to orders dated June 13, 2000, as quoted in paragraph 3(e) of the proceedings dated September 28, 2000 as also those communicated through various letters sent pursuant to the orders of the Commission.


(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman.

4572/NS(CNV) 2000
8.12.00
6424/JS (CEG) W
5/12

(115)

10189/2000/10
11/12

Most Immediate
Parliament Question

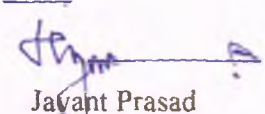
(115)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.VI/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. : 597
Due for answer on : 22 November 2000
Tabled by : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi

Document on Netaji

Draft reply is placed below at F/A for approval. The printed version of the question may be seen at F/B. The newspaper clipping on which the question appears to be based is at F/C and a factual note provided by EE Division may be seen at F/D.

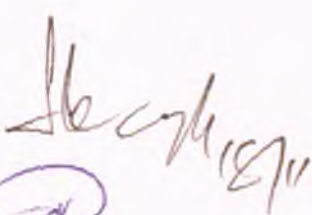
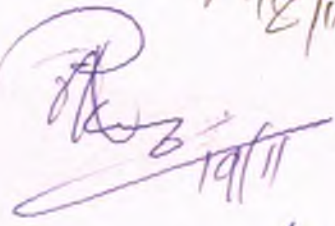

Javant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
November 17, 2000

AS(AD)

Foreign Secretary

MOS(AP)

17/11

Received on 18/11/2000 At 7:00 PM
MOS (EA)'s RESIDENCE 649

for you
Javant
JS (CNV)

8/12/00
Sankar
11/12

48

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.
22nd NOVEMBER, 2000

JS (EE)

Document on Netaji

**597. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN
DASMUNSI:**

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS**

विदेश मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have

ordered an enquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Soviet papers will to have to

Contributors and editors

8-1/2

Soviet papers add to Bose mystery

Researchers find evidence Netaji was alive till at least 1946

Sudh Ranjan Sen
New Delhi, October 28

HARD FACTS have emerged from Moscow vaults to indicate that Subhash Chandra Bose was very much alive till at least 1946 - and that he did not die in the 1945 plane crash as had been given out, and later endorsed by the two Government of India appointed inquiry commissions. So, the Bose mystery deepens.

The new findings are based on declassified documents in the Russian military archives in Paddolsk, and from the British archives. They were discovered by three researchers—Purni Ray, Hari Vasudevan and Shobanlal Datta Gupta—working on the history of communist movement in India.

Adding to the mystery are the calls from unidentified persons asking the researchers to suspend all further inquiries and end the

government-funded research. Work on the project stopped shortly, around middle of this year.

When contacted, Parabi Ray, who headed the research, flatly said, "I would like to first depose before the the Mukherjee commission (the third inquiry panel so far), then give out the details."

The Russian archives yielded two precious documents. One was about a discussion Joseph Stalin had with his defence minister Voroshilov and foreign affairs minister Molotov in 1946. The other was a report filed by a Soviet field agent stationed in India, also in 1946



Illustration: Arya Praharaj

The first document quotes Stalin and others discussing plans for the communist movement in India vis-à-vis Bose. And records available in British archives (under the 'declassification after 30 years' rule) show that on August 17, 1945, (the plane crash was reported the next day), Bose had expressed a keen desire to reach Soviet Union to continue the struggle against the British.

Yet another British archive document states that the entire theory of the plane crash, in Taihuku (Japan), was "pre-planned and contrived." Subsequently, a Japanese newspaper—as late as December

20, 1945—reported that Bose was on his way to the Soviet Union and passed through Tokyo.

Just a few days before Stalin and his colleagues discussed Bose, a Soviet agent named V G Sayadyants (based in Mumbai) reported home that "the Soviet Union cannot possibly work with either Nehru or Gandhi," and that the Communist movement in India "is in a disarray." Now, the crucial bit: "Bose is the only hope for Soviet Russia," he concluded in his report.

Further, the two death reports—one from MI2 (a wing of British military intelligence) and the other from the British embassy in Japan, which lent credence to the story that Bose had died of severe burns in the plane crash—have major discrepancies.

While the British embassy report claimed to have clearly identified Bose's body, the MI2 report was "not sure."

Japanese newspaper—as late as December

The Hindustan Times
7 29 Oct 2000

Handwritten mark resembling a circled '2' or '3'.


50

No. 5981/JS(E)/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
(Europe East Division)

Most Immediate

Reference Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 597 regarding "Document on Netaji". Inputs for reply are given below:

- i. The Question seems to have been raised on a report appearing in "The Hindustan Times" of October 29, 2000.
 - ii. Attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".
 - iii. The Chief of Central Archives of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation in response to a query from one Shri L. Joychandra Singh of Imphal had vide letter No.22672 dated October 15, 1996, mentioned that "there are no records with the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation about the catastrophe in August 1945 and death of Commander-in-Chief of the Indian National Army Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose". The Directorate of Foreign Relations, Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation had on March 20, 1997 forwarded a copy of the October 15, 1996 correspondence and further pointed out that "there is no other data relating to the fate of Subhash Chandra Bose besides the information conveyed vide letter No.22672".
2. Joint Secretary(CNV) may like to use the above inputs along with other material he will be using while preparing the draft reply to the Parliament Question.


(M. Ganapathi)
Joint Secretary(EE)
November 17, 2000

Joint Secretary(CNV)

4283/JS(CNV)/2000
17/11/00

5971/JS(CEA)/2000
17/11/00

(57)



सत्यमेव जयते

विदेश मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

urgent

As discussed, the PR is enclosed.

2. I will shortly send all inputs on Russia, which would have provided the Questions Bank ~~work~~ could be documents in UK, Japan, etc. Thus a consolidated copy would be called for. [~~THE~~ AHT Report enclosed - there is a separate PR on this which I will take care].

Japanese
2/11/00

JS(CNV)

LOK SABHA
22-11-2000

52
MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTIONS

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(Parliament Section)

The list of finally admitted questions for the Lok Sabha to be answered on 22-11-2000 is enclosed herewith.

2. The draft answers to Starred Questions in triplicate, typed in double space and Unstarred Questions in triplicate, typed in single space may be submitted directly to MOS/EAM after being approved by the concerned Secretary, by today itself.

3. Starred Question may be put up in red file cover and Unstarred questions in blue file cover.

4. It may be added that every question alongwith its annexure, if any, has to be translated in Hindi in a very short time, usually in a few hours. Therefore, when the answer is lengthy, probably due to annexure(s) which may run into 50/60 pages, Hindi section and Parliament section should be alerted in advance without waiting for the final approval, so that the translation of annexures, which normally remain unchanged, can be started immediately.

5. In addition to the typed version of the Questions and Answers, the floppy containing the entire text with enclosures, if any, (but NOT material for Supplementaries etc.) should also be put up with the file to enable the Parliament Section to transmit the Questions and Answers to Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat by E-mail after these have been answered in Parliament. It may be noted that for each question there should be a separate floppy. More than one question should not be combined in one floppy. Question number and the name of the House should be mentioned on the floppy.

6. While putting up the Question/Answer, text of the Question part in the printed version may be closely compared since it could be slightly different from that of the advance notice received earlier. The File number of the Section/Division may also be indicated to facilitate future reference.

7. The following points may be noted while putting up draft answers:-

(a) Paragraphs may be numbered of any Statement to be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Paragraphs may also be numbered of Note for Supplementaries.

(c) In presenting draft answers to Starred Questions, sets in triplicate may be made consisting of:

- (i) Question/Answer
- (ii) Statement (if any)
- (iii) Note for Supplementaries
- (iv) Anticipated Questions & their Answers

8. Note for supplementaries and anticipated questions and answers are read by Ministers and other officers while answering questions. Therefore they should be prepared with utmost care before forwarding to the Parliament Section.

9. In case of Starred Questions, it may be ensured that 12 copies of Note for Supplementaries and anticipated Questions and Answers reach Parliament Section by 1100 hrs. on 20-11-2000 for timely preparation of brief folders for MOS/EAM Secretaries and other Officers.

R. D. S. Sroha
(R. D. S. SROHA)
SECTION OFFICER (PARLIAMENT)
17-11-2000

DISTRIBUTION AS PER ENCLOSED LIST

THE LIST OF FINALLY ADMITTED QUESTIONS FOR LOK SABHA TO BE
ANSWERED ON 22-11-2000
STARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Priority No.	Subject	Section Division	Head of Division
01.	1322	41	I	Indo US Joint Working Group on Terrorism	AMS	JS (AMS)
02.	1365	51	XI	India's candidature for Security Council	UNP	JS (UNP)
03.	1392	56	XVI	Indo-Iraq Ties	GD	JS (GD)

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Sl. No.	Adv. No.	Final No.	Subject	Section/ Division	Head of Division
01.	268	462	Construction of indo-Iranian gas Pipe Line	IPA	JS (IPA)
02.	351 OIH	470	Foreign tours by Ministers	Coord	JS (COORD)
03.	491 OIH	475	Indo-Bangladesh Ties	BSM	Dir (BSM)
04.	1528	493	Visit of Japanese PM	EA	JS (EA)
05.	1588 OIH	499	Prisoners of War	IPA	JS (IPA)
06.	1594	500	Extradition of Mr. Anderson	CPV	JS (CPV)
07.	1684 OIH	512	Indo-Russia Joint Working Group on Terrorism	EE	JS (EE)
08.	1810	533	Calling back Indian Envoy	CNV	JS (CNV)
09.	1853 OIH	539	SCs, STs, OBCs, Ambassadors	Admn	JS (AD)
10.	1962	551	Return of Russian Valuables	EE	JS (EE)
11.	2717	557	Indo-EU Ties	EW	JS (EW)
12.	270	570	Indian resolutions on nuclear weapons	DISA	JS (DISA)
13.	323 OIH	575	Expenditure on officials	GD	JS (GD)
14.	1335	584	Attack on family members of Indian staff in Pak	IPA	JS (IPA)
15.	1460	597	Document on Netaji	EE	JS (EE)

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16.	1556	609	Establishment of Government in Afghanistan	IPA	JS (IPA)
17.	1600	611	Indo-UK Ties	EW	JS (EW)
18.	1798	628	Recruitments in Indian Missions	Admn	JS (AD)
19.	2720 OIH	638	Passport Advisory Committee	CPV	JS (CPV)
20.	2720	645	Permission to Indian Scientists	AMS	JS (AMS)
21.	1709	660	Indo-Saudi Arabia Ties	GD	JS (GD)
22.	1390	661	Mediation of India in West Asia Problem	Wana	JS (WANA)
23.	1471	667	Postponement of SAARC Summit	SAARC	JS (SAARC)
24.	1603	672	Relations with Arabian countries	GD	JS (GD)
25.	1765	675	Ties with Indian Ocean Rim Countries	ED&MER	JS (ED&MER)

1. Dir to EAM
2. Dir to MOS (AP)
3. US to MOS (KR)
4. Dir (FSO)
5. Secretary (ER) / Secretary (East) / Secretary (West)
6. DEAN (FSI)
7. AS (NRI&PV) / AS (AD) / AS (UN) / AS (BSM) / AS (FA)
8. JS (Coord) and Head of concerned Divisions
9. DS (Hindi)
10. US (Parliament)
11. Hindi/XPR/XPP
12. Question Branch, Lok Sabha Secretariat

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 597
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2000**

DOCUMENT ON NETAJI

597. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi :

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the government have ordered an inquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWERS

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) & (b) Government have seen the press report that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of October 29, 2000 captioned "Soviet papers add to Bose mystery."
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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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- (A) ...
- (B) ...
- (C) ...
- (D) ...

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लोक सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

बुधवार, 22 नवंबर, 2000/1 अग्रहायण 1922 (शक)को होने वाली लोक सभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेज

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमुंशी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार को हाल ही में प्रकाशित ऐसे किसी दस्तावेज की जानकारी है तो नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के जीवित होने की संभावना से संबंधित है ;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;
- (ग) क्या सरकार ने इस दस्तावेज की प्रामाणिकता की जांच का आदेश दिया है ; और
- (घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उत्तर :

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(क) और (ख) सरकार ने 29 अक्टूबर 2000 को ' हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स ' में छपी खबर 'सोवियत पत्रों से बोस रहस्य गहराया' देखी हैं ।

(ग) और (घ) जबकि प्रस रिपोर्ट के परिप्रेक्ष्य में किसी विशिष्ट जांच का आदेश नहीं दिया गया है, आधिकारिक स्तर पर रूसी सरकार से यह पता लगाने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं कि क्या उनके पास नेताजी से संबंधित कोई दस्तावेज हैं । रूसी परिसंघ के विदेश मंत्रालय ने 27 सितंबर 1995 को सूचित किया था कि " रूसी संघीय सुरक्षा सेवा के केंद्रीय पुरातत्व संग्रहण तथा रूस के आधुनिक इतिहास से संबंधित दस्तावेजों के रख रखाव एवं अवलोकन केन्द्र में की गई जांच के परिणामस्वरूप 1945 में तथा बाद के वर्षों में पूर्व यू एस एस आर के क्षेत्र में सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के प्रवास के बारे में कोई सूचना उजागर नहीं हुई है । " रूसी संघ के राज्य पुरातत्व सेवा ने 4 अगस्त, 1997 को सूचित किया कि " ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेज संग्रहण के रख रखाव केन्द्र में सुभाष चन्द्र बोस से संबंधित कोई सूचना नहीं है । " सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के कथित अदृश्य होने की जांच करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा जांच आयोग अधिनियम 1962 की धारा 3 के अंतर्गत गठित न्यायमूर्ति मुखर्जी आयोग द्वारा की जा रही सुनवाई में इस मसले पर भी ध्यान दिए जाने की संभावना है ।

लोक सभा

अताशंकित प्रश्न सं० 597

बुधवार, 22 नवंबर, 2000/1 अग्रहायण 1922 (शक)को होने वाली लोक सभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेज

अताशंकित प्रश्न सं० 597

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमुंशी :

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उत्तर :

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

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नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेज

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमूंशी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार को हाल ही में प्रकाशित ऐसे किसी दस्तावेज की जानकारी है तो नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के जीवित होने की संभावना से संबंधित है ;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;
- (ग) क्या सरकार ने इस दस्तावेज की प्रामाणिकता की जांच का आदेश दिया है ; और
- (घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उत्तर :

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(क) और (ख) सरकार ने 29 अक्टूबर, 2000 को 'हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स' में छपी खबर 'सोवियत पत्रों से बोस रहस्य गहराया' देखी है ।

(ग) और (घ) जबकि प्रेस रिपोर्ट के परिच्छेद में किसी विशिष्ट जांच का आदेश नहीं दिया गया है, आधिकारिक स्तर पर रूसी सरकार से यह पता लगाने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं कि क्या उनको पास नेताजी से संबंधित कोई दस्तावेज हैं । रूसी परिसंघ के विदेश मंत्रालय ने 27 सितंबर, 1996 को सूचित किया था कि " रूसी संघीय सुरक्षा सेवा के केन्द्रीय पुरातत्व संग्रहण तथा रूस के आधुनिक इतिहास से संबंधित दस्तावेजों के रख रखाव एवं अवलोकन केन्द्र में की गई जांच के परिणामस्वरूप 1945 में तथा बाद के वर्षों में पूर्व यू एस एस आर के क्षेत्र में सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के प्रवास के बारे में कोई सूचना उजागर नहीं हुई है । " रूसी संघ के राज्य पुरातत्व सेवा ने 4 अगस्त, 1997 को सूचित किया कि " ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेज संग्रहण के रख रखाव केन्द्र में सुभाष चन्द्र बोस से संबंधित कोई सूचना नहीं है । " सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के कथित अदृश्य होने की जांच करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा जांच आयोग अधिनियम 1952 की धारा 3 के अंतर्गत गठित न्यायमूर्ति मुखर्जी आयोग द्वारा की जा रही सुनवाई में इस मामले पर भी ध्यान दिए जाने की संभावना है ।

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लोक सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

बुधवार, 22 नवंबर, 2000/1 अग्रहायण 1922 (शक)को होने वाली लोक सभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेज

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमुंशी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार को हाल ही में प्रकाशित ऐसे किसी दस्तावेज की जानकारी है तो नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के जीवित होने की संभावना से संबंधित है ;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;
- (ग) क्या सरकार ने इस दस्तावेज की प्रामाणिकता की जांच का आदेश दिया है ; और
- (घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उत्तर :

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(क) और (ख) सरकार ने 29 अक्टूबर, 2000 को ' हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स ' में छपी खबर 'सोवियत पत्रों से बोस रहस्य गहशया' देखी है ।

(ग) और (घ) जबकि प्रस रिपोर्ट के परिशिष्ट में किसी विशिष्ट जांच का आदेश नहीं दिया गया है आधिकारिक स्तर पर रूसी सरकार से यह पता लगाने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं कि क्या उनके पास नेताजी से संबंधित कोई दस्तावेज हैं । रूसी परिषद के विदेश मंत्रालय ने 27 सितंबर 1996 को सूचित किया था कि " रूसी संघीय सुरक्षा सेवा के केन्द्रीय पुरातत्व संग्रहण तथा रूस के आधुनिक इतिहास से संबंधित दस्तावेजों के रख रखाव एवं अवलोकन केन्द्र में की गई जांच के परिणामस्वरूप 1945 में तथा बाद के वर्षों में पूर्व यू एस एस आर के क्षेत्र में सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के प्रवास के बारे में कोई सूचना उजागर नहीं हुई है । " रूसी संघ के राज्य पुरातत्व सेवा ने 4 अगस्त, 1997 को सूचित किया कि " ऐतिहासिक दस्तावेज संग्रहण के रख रखाव केन्द्र में सुभाष चन्द्र बोस से संबंधित कोई सूचना नहीं है । " सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के कथित अदृश्य होने की जांच करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा जांच आयोग अधिनियम 1952 की धारा 3 के अंतर्गत गठित न्यायमूर्ति मुखर्जी आयोग द्वारा की जा रही सुनवाई में इस मसले पर भी ध्यान दिए जाने की संभावना है ।

बुधवार, 22 नवंबर, 2000/1 अप्रहायण 1922 (शक)को होने वाली लोक सभा की बैठक में लिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दिये जाने के लिए

नेताजी से संबंधित दस्तावेज

अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 597

श्री प्रियरंजन दासमुंशी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

- (क) क्या सरकार को हाल ही में प्रकाशित ऐसे किसी दस्तावेज की जानकारी है तो नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के जीवित होने की संभावना से संबंधित है ;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;
- (ग) क्या सरकार ने इस दस्तावेज की प्रामाणिकता की जांच का आदेश दिया है ; और
- (घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उत्तर :

श्री अजित कुमार पांजा

विदेश राज्य मंत्री

(क) और (ख) सरकार ने 29 अक्टूबर, 2000 को ' हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स ' में छपी खबर 'सोवियत पत्रों से बोस रहस्य गहराया' देखी है ।

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(69)

Govt. of India
MCA

Unstarred Question No: 597

Lok Sabha

Unstarred Question No. 597
To be answered on 22 November 2000

Document on Netaji

597. 597. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the government have ordered an inquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWERS

The Minister of State for External Affairs
(Shri Ajit Kumar Panja)

- (a) & (b) Government have seen the press report that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of October 29, 2000 captioned "Soviet papers add to Bose mystery."
- (c) & (d) While no specific inquiry has been ordered in the context of the press report, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation conveyed on September 27, 1995 that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years." The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose." This matter is likely to receive further attention in the course of the ongoing hearings of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose appointed by Government of India under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

(20)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 597
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2000**

DOCUMENT ON NETAJI

597. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi :

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the government have ordered an inquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWERS

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)**

- (a) & (b) Government have seen the press report that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of October 29, 2000 captioned "Soviet papers add to Bose mystery."
- (c) & (d) While no specific inquiry has been ordered in the context of the press report, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation conveyed on September 27, 1995 that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years." The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose." This matter is likely to receive further attention in the course of the ongoing hearings of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose appointed by Government of India under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

Lok Sabha
Unstarred Question No. 597
To be answered on 22 November 2000

Document on Netaji

597. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government are aware of any recently published document that relates to the possibility of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose being alive;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the government have ordered an inquiry to look into the authenticity of the document; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWERS

The Minister of State for External Affairs
(Shri Ajit Kumar Panja)

- (a) & (b) Government have seen the press report that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of October 29, 2000 captioned "Soviet papers add to Bose mystery."
- (c) & (d) While no specific inquiry has been ordered in the context of the press report, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation conveyed on September 27, 1995 that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years." The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose." This matter is likely to receive further attention in the course of the ongoing hearings of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose appointed by Government of India under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

10161/1520/-
8/12

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
Chairman - 216-2935
Secretary - 216-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 216-2765
Office - 216-2763/68

(114)

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings
(Follow up)/48 (Vol II)/388

Calcutta, dated, the 6th Dec'2000.

From : Shri P.K.Sangupta, WBHJS (Retd).
Secretary

- To : 1) Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India,
North Block, New Delhi-100011.
- 2) Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi-110004.
- 3) Director General, National Archives, Ministry of Human
Resource Development, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001.
- 4) Joint Secretary (Adm.) R. & A.W.
Bikanir House, Annexe, Room No.7, Sahajan Road,
New Delhi - 100011.
- 5) Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India,
North Block, New Delhi - 110001.
- 6) Secretary, P.M's Secretariat, South Block,
New Delhi - 110001.
- 7) Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India,
South Block, New Delhi - 110001.
- 8) Secretary, Home Department, Govt. of West Bengal,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta-700001.

*Papers - and
check carefully
are there
is any follow up
action by us*

*W.
7/12/00
Sangupta R.*

**Sub: Strict compliance with the orders/
directions contained in the
proceedings dated 23.11.2000 read
with the proceedings dated
23.03.2000, 15.05.2000, 31.8.2000,
and 28.09.2000 of Justice
Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.**

Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings dated
23.11.2000 of the Commission containing its orders and directions
for your perusal and compliance thereof as directed by the Commission.

Copies of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 15.05.2000,
31.08.2000 and 28.09.2000 of the Commission were sent to your
office earlier.

Encl as stated above

P. K. Sangupta
Secretary

JUSTICE M.K. MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRYProceedings dated 23.11.2000 (Fifth)

Held at the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajari Sadan,
166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007

A. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

November 23 2000

1. Of the witnesses summoned, Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Anindya Sengupta, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Pabitra Ghosh, Dr. Purabi Roy and Shri Jayanta Roy are present. Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Shri Barun Sengupta, Shri Anindya Sengupta and Shri Pabitra Kumar Ghosh have been duly examined on oath as witness Nos. 6, 7, 8, and 9 respectively and then discharged. Some documents have been admitted into evidence and marked as Exhibits 6, 6a and 6a/1 on admission by the C.W.6, Exhibits 7 to 7w on admission by the C.W.7, Exhibit 8 on admission by C.W.8 and Exhibits 9 to 9m on admission by C.W.9, without any objection by any of the parties. The examination of Dr. Purabi Roy as C.W.10 is now taken up. In her examination she testifies that the statements that she made in her affidavit filed before the Commission are correct. Accordingly, the affidavit filed by her is marked Exhibit 10. However, her examination cannot be concluded as she intends to bring on record a number of documents for which no list is forthcoming and many of which are in Russian language. Dr. Roy is, therefore, asked to file a list of documents and the translated version in English of those written in Russian language, with a supporting affidavit that the translation has been done correctly and truly. To enable her to comply with the above directions, her further examination is deferred till the next hearing and she is asked to appear on that date. The suggestion of some of the parties present that the documents in Russian language be translated by some other translator and not by Dr. Roy, as she figures as an expert, will be considered if and when any genuine complaint is made about the authenticity of the translation. Examination of Shri Jayanta Roy is also deferred as from the affidavit filed by Dr. Roy it appears that he is required to corroborate her testimony.

2. The other witness summoned, namely, Smt. Prabha Jorandhwar is not present though summons was duly sent by speedpost to her at address as furnished to the Commission. Further summons be served

The Ministry of External Affairs have since sent photocopies of the following files.

1. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. I
2. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. II (LW-KW)
3. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. III (LW-Annx)
4. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. IV (LW-KW.I)
5. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. V (LW-KW I, II & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO - 52 (LW-KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO - 52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO - 52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO - 53

6(i) On March 23, 2000 the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce all the files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which were lying in the custody of the Special Branch, Calcutta Police including file No. 269/45 relating to 'Prisoner/Release - Revised Policy of Government, for the release of Security Prisoners' containing Memo. No. SS 129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal, Express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.1945 of Bengal Government and confidential note dated 3.9.1945 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. In purported compliance of the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 64 files along with lists thereof and also filed an affidavit dated July 28, 2000 through Shri Aloknath Bhattacharyya, Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home (Political) Department wherein it is stated, inter alia, as follows :

'8/ That the Government of West Bengal caused a thorough search in the offices of Special Branch, Calcutta Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and State Archives; that there is no such file bearing No. 269/45 regarding "Prisoner/Release Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners" in the records of Calcutta Police; File No. 269/45 (Prisoners/Release-Revised Policy of Government for the release of Security Prisoners) containing Memo. No. SS.129/85 dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of

Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary Govt. of Bengal, express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45 of Bengal Government and Confidential note dated 3.9.45 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G., I.B. also do not figure in the Index Book of the Intelligence Branch, West Bengal; that there is no record preserved in the custody of State Archives relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and other papers connected thereto including copy of Bengal Government's express letter No. 1234 dated 25.8.45

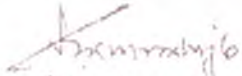
Copies of correspondences of Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, Dy. Inspector General of Police, Intelligence Branch, West Bengal and Director of Archives, Higher Education (State Archives) Deptt. in this connection are annexed herewith as Annexure "A" collectively."

Thereafter, following further direction of the Commission, the Government of West Bengal produced the original Index Books relating to files maintained by the Special and Intelligent Branches of Police. On scrutiny of the said Index Books and the copies of files sent, the Commission directed the Government of West Bengal to produce copies of some more files reference of which was in the Index Books but not sent to the Commission earlier. In compliance with the above direction, the Government of West Bengal sent copies of 13 (thirteen) more files including File No. 269/45 which contained memos and Note referred to hereinbefore.

6(ii) From the above resume of facts, it is manifest that the earlier quoted statements made by Shri Abanindranath Bhattacharyya, in his affidavit filed on July 28, 2000 are not at all correct. Since, however, Shri Bhattacharyya claims in his above affidavit that those events were made on the basis of information received from Shri D. C. Bajpai, Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, and Shri A.K. Sen, Deputy Inspector General of Police, I.B., West Bengal, and has, in support thereof, annexed as part of his affidavit the copies of written communications from them in this respect, it is patently clear that the above two/responsible senior Police Officers furnished wrong information for onward communication to this Commission. The Commission therefore calls for the explanation of the above two Police Officers for furnishing such wrong information, by the next date of hearing.



7. Since the observations made by the Commission in Paragraph (e) of its proceedings dated 28.9.2000 have not been given due importance and priority they deserve, the Commission takes serious view of the matter and feels that time is now ripe to consider the question of invoking the powers under the provisions of section 5(4) of the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 for recurring non-compliance with the orders/directions of the Commission. In this connection, the attention of the authorities concerned is once more drawn to orders dated June 13, 2000, as quoted in paragraph 3(e) of the proceedings dated September 28, 2000 as also those communicated through various letters sent pursuant to the orders of the Commission.


(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman.

S-470(EA2/2000)
8/12

5547(Dir(G)/10
8/12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(113)

204/JSCEAD/00
7/12

No: 25/4/NGO - Vol.V
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has asked us to send them photocopy of all the files related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in this Ministry. In view of this EA Division is requested to send us all their files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to enable us to take further necessary action.

This may kindly be accorded top priority.

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV & AMS)
December 6, 2000

Joint Secretary(EA)

for the Commission report
8/12

JS

⊙ All files related to Netaji are in the JK section are placed below. List of files is also annexed.

N. Bhushan [US(20)]
7/12/2000

⊙ All files as per list attached have been kept in Small stall Almirah K. NO- 46 (behind duty desk).

for also see S.No. 36/c & 50/c

JS (CNV/AMS)

A big file.

JS will have to coordinate properly.

Sorcho.

5/8/12

579

List of files regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

<u>Sl. no.</u>	<u>File no.</u>	<u>Subject</u>
✓ 1.	Nil	1956 -- Report from the Japanese Govt. Netaji Inquiry Committee ✓
✓ 2. ○	C/125/17/78-JP	Rajya Sabha Starred Qn. 460 D Answered on 21.12.78 reg. Ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose ✓
✓ 3. ○	Nil	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Inquiry Committee - Official correspondence with Embassy of India in Japan and the Japanese Foreign Office ✓
✓ 4. ○	Nil	Guard file on Netaji Subhash Bose ✓
✓ 5. ○	Nil -- 1956	Report of the Shah Nawaz Committee ✓
✓ 6. ○	PS/56/NEC (14)	Netaji Inquiry Committee ✓
✓ 7. ○	C/551/1/66-JP	Inquiry about Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose ✓
✓ 8. <i>Annexure</i>	14(13)FEA/56	Netaji Inquiry Committee Report Part B [Evidence of Witnesses] 1956 ✓
✓ 9. ○	C/125/4/65-JP	Lok Sabha Starred Qn. 623 for 29.3.65 Netaji being alive in Siberia ✓
✓ 10. ○	C/551/4/69-JP (w.i.)	Misc. references regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose ✓
✓ 11. ○	C/551/6/69-JP	Inquiry into the reported escape of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Singapore as appeared in "Jugantar" Calcutta on March 4, 1969 ✓

S.No 1 & 8 have been forwarded to JMCJ
 vide letter no. 25/4/1980 - vol. V dated 5/1/81
 de placed out S.No 134/c

✓12. ◦ C 551 5 75-JP Memorial Service in the memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose held on Aug. 18, 1975 - Participate by our CDA in Tokyo ✓

✓13. ◦ C/551/13 81-JP (Vol. I) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (Bringing of his ashes from Japan to India) ✓

✓14. ◦ C/551/13 81-JP (Vol. II) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (Bringing of his ashes from Japan to India) ✓

✓15. ◦ C/125/1/83-JP Lok Sabha Unstarred Qn. Dy. no. 1817 for 24.2.83 regarding setting up of commission with Japan to record the history of S.C. Bose and I.N.A. ✓

✓16. ◦ C/103/4/83-JP Azad Hind Fauj Association - Celebration of the 87th Birthday of Netaji S.C. Bose ✓

✓17. ◦ C/551/2/74-JP Matters relating to Netaji Inquiry Commission ✓

✓18. ◦ C/125/7/90-JP Rajya Sabha Provision Starred Qn. Dy. no. 6339 reg. bringing the ashes of Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan for answer on 4.9.90 ✓

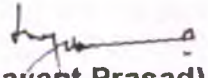
✓19. ◦ C/551/7/92-JP (KN) Documents from the Russians on Netaji's disappearance ✓

CONFIDENTIAL

(112) (81)
No: 25/4/NGO ~ Vol.V
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has asked us to send them photocopy of all the files related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in this Ministry. In view of this EA Division is requested to send us all their files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to enable us to take further necessary action.

This may kindly be accorded top priority.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV & AMS)
December 6, 2000

Joint Secretary(EA)




CONFIDENTIAL

(14) (82)
No: 25/4/NGO – Vol.V
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has asked us to send them photocopy of all the files related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in this Ministry. In view of this EW Division is requested to send us all their files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to enable us to take further necessary action.

This may kindly be accorded top priority.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV & AMS)
December 6, 2000

Joint Secretary(EW)



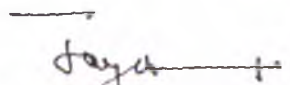

(110) 83

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

No: 25/4/NGO – Vol.V
Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has asked us to send them photocopy of all the files related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in this Ministry. In view of this EE Division is requested to send us all their files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to enable us to take further necessary action.

This may kindly be accorded top priority.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV & AMS)
December 6, 2000



Joint Secretary(EE)

B
7/12



12/12/2007 10:51

तार : राष्ट्रीय अभिलेख
Grams : ARCHIEION



सत्यमेव जयते

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR
Director General of Archives
Govt. of India
Tele No. 3383436
Fax: 0091-11-3384127

10100/ANM/A 4467/JS(CNV) 2000
विशेष भेदिकावाहक द्वारा
By Special Messenger

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार

जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - 110 009
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

Dated the

- 5 DEC 2000

D.O.F.No.25-2(9)/2000.CC.

Dear Shri Sengupta,

Kindly refer to your letter no. JMCI/DOC/FOR/99-2000/56/310, dated 1.11.2000, addressed to Sh. Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, copy endorsed to National Archives of India, regarding the proposed visit by a team of officials to the British Library, London to examine records connected with Netaji.

In this connection, I would request you to kindly advise us about the views of the Commission in respect of the likely dates of visit so that we may be able to seek administrative approval of our parent Ministry of Tourism & Culture for the deputation of National Archives Official. You are also requested to take up the matter for deputation of other Officials from the Commission and other Institutions in connection with the travel and other expenses. National Archives has already offered to meet the cost of microfilm copies of the selected documents from British Library, London after obtaining necessary expenditure sanction from Department of Culture, Government of India.

An early reply is solicited please, to enable us to proceed further.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd/-

(S.Sarkar)

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block,
Third Floor,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta - 700087.

Copy to Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi for information please.

(S. Sarkar)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~MOST IMMEDIATE~~
~~COURT CASE~~

10092/1111/02

85

8/12

(108)

**Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section**

520236

East Asia Division please refer to their note no. C/551/14/90-JP dated 16.05.2000 regarding files pertaining to the proceedings of Shah Nawaz Committee 1956.

While vide US(JK)'s above mentioned note Pt.III of file no. C/551/5/72-JP Pt-III and file no. C/551/14/90-JP were forwarded to us, part I & II of file no. C/551/5/72-JP were not sent. Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry looking into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has now desired that all parts of the file no. C/551/5/72-JP may be sent to them urgently.

In view of the above, we may request US(JK) to urgently send us all the remaining parts of File No. C/551/5/72-JP for onward transmission to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

(D.B. Bhati)
Section Officer(NGO)
06.12.2000

This may please be expedited.

JS(AMS & CNV)
US(JK)

Jay
6/12/20.

R
6/12

011-373-2155

From: Tarakeswar Pal,

Advocate

(10)

Mr. Counsel, Govt. of India
Justice Mukherjee Commi-
ssion

HIGH COURT CALCUTTA
Bar Association Room No. 5
phones : 248 3190/3165
Fax : (033) 248 2615
Email: tarakeswar@cal.court.nic.in
Residence

9944/11/2

(107)

Dated November 30, 2000.

To
Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Govt. of India,
1st Block,
Delhi- 110 001.

Dear Sir,

Re: Proceeding before the Hon'ble Justice
Commission of Inquiry on behalf of
Sadan, Calcutta.

1. In appraisal of the present state of affairs
mentioned proceeding, you are to do the following
orders of the Hon'ble Commission dated 31st August
September, 2000):

a) Remaining Original Complete Records
findings of Shan Navez Committee of Inquiry are included in the
recorded and the documents produced there be sent to the
Commission before 20th December, 2000 with an Affidavit

b) To see, if there is any remaining file, mentioned
25/4/2000 Vol. V dated March 1, 2000 by Joint Secretary
passed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission, and
the said files to the Hon'ble Commission before 20th

The next date of hearing of the Hon'ble Commission is
20th December, 2000, if it is otherwise I shall inform.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Tarakeswar Pal

Advocate.

Pi. advise
disu.

30/11

Discussed with JSC (M)
to be notes to JSC (EA)
JSC (EE) & JSC (EW) as
explained

copy - B to P. on file
11/12

Sh JM
11/12

9682/2000
2/11

4296/JS(CNV)/2000
20.11.00

(82)
(106)

Parliament Question
Most Immediate

Ministry of External Affairs
East Asia Division

Reference note from JS(CNV) regarding a Parliament Question on documents on Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

2. The Mission has conveyed that no document of the kind referred to in the Parliament Question appears to have been recently published in Japan.
3. In response to an earlier Lok Sabha Unstarred Parliament Question No. 1607, answered on August 2, 2000, the following was sent as reply –

“A Commission of Inquiry was set up on May 1999 under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952 (60 of 1952) consisting of Mr. Justice M.K.Mukherjee, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India. The Commission has been asked to inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji subash Chandra Bose in 1945 including inter-alia as to whether the ashes in the Japanese Temple are the ashes of Netaji. The Commission of Inquiry has been given extension upto May 2001.”
4. The above information may be used as inputs in framing reply to the Parliament Question.
5. This issues with the approval of JS(EA).

Akumar

(Amit Kumar)
US (China)

November 20, 2000

JS (CNV)

Keep at hand

20/11

So puo

in SM

22/11

88

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1607
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2nd August, 2000

BRINGING ASHES OF NETAJI

1607. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

be pleased to state the details of the efforts made so far in bringing Netaji's ashes from Japan?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

A Commission of Inquiry was set up on 14 May 1999 under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 (60 of 1952) consisting of Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India. The Commission has been asked to inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945 including inter-alia as to whether the ashes in the Japanese Temple are the ashes of Netaji. The Commission of Inquiry has been given extension upto May 2001.

....



सत्यमेव जयते

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel: 301-1357 & Fax : 379-2285

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

(105)
Confidential

No. 25/4/NGO-VolV

November 23, 2000

Dear Dr. Chaudhury,

Sm. 104
Apropos your letter No. DGNM-2/2000 dated November 22, 2000 regarding declassification of records in connection with papers to be shown to the Justice Mukherjee Commission, we notice that the enclosures to your letter proposed for declassification did not originate from MEA. There is no question, therefore, of our giving any clearance for declassifying them. The papers are apparently extracts of the accession register of the National Museum itself. Your organisation may therefore, like to take the view on their declassification.

2. I might add that on part of this Ministry, we have already conveyed our 'No Objection' to the Commission viewing Netaji's treasures.

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Dr. R. D. Choudhury
Director General
National Museum
New Delhi.

CC: Mrs. Archlana Ranjan, Director, PMO, New Delhi.

bus mister.

Jayant Prasad
23/11

23/11

dk



4320 JS (CNY) 2000 (90)
22.11.00

~~TOP SECRET~~

राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
NATIONAL MUSEUM

Dr. R.D. Choudhury
Director General

T. 3320/Mm/2000
23.11.00

No. F.DGNM-2/2000

Phone: 3018159

(104)

November 22, 2000

Dear Mr. Prasad,

This refers to my Secret D.O. letter of even number dated November 15, 2000 regarding declassification of records in connection with the inquiry into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which is being inquired into by Justice Mukherjee Commission.

Today Morning I received a telephone call from the PMO requesting to expedite the matter at the earliest enabling them to file an affidavit in the matter. Thereafter, I received a letter from the Director (PMO) in this regard (copy enclosed). I, then contacted Mr. D.B. Bhati, Section Officer (NGO) in your Department who advised to send a copy of the documents immediately for declassification.

Accordingly I am enclosing a copy of two pages documents for your kind perusal for declassification. You are requested kindly to convey necessary decision for declassification of these papers so that the PMO could be informed at the earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encls: As above-3 Nos.

R.D. Choudhury
(R.D. Choudhury)

Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
NGO, South Block
New Delhi

JS (CNY) has seen letter immed. PE file.
23/11
GJM

Since the papers proposed for declassification did not originate from MEA, there is no question of one clearance for declassifying them. These papers had originated in National Museum and extracts of their accession register. Hence, National Museum has to take a decision about their declassification. I spoke to Mr. Choudhury and explained to him the above position to which he agreed. I also told him that there is no action required to be taken by us on this letter. He was convinced of this. May kindly like to see JS (CNY) 23/11

(91)
MOST IMMEDIATE

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

SOUTH BLOCK
NEW DELHI-110011

Office of DGNM

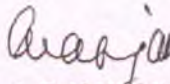
Dy. No. 10062
dated 22/11/2000

Subject:- Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to enquire into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose - Declassification of records.

National Museum may please refer to their No.F.DGNM-2/2000 dated 2.11.2000 addressed by Dr.R.D.Choudhury, Director General, to Ms Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, MHA, and a copy endorsed to this Office, on the above subject.

2. The matter has already been delayed considerably by the Museum. As a result of this delay, we have been forced to seek 15 days' time from the Commission to file our reply and this extension would also be over by 30th November, 2000. Any further delay may invite adverse comments from the Commission/ press/ individuals.

3. It is once again requested that the comments/views of the National Museum regarding declassification of papers, a copy of which has already been forwarded to the Museum, may please be sent, atonce.


(ARCHNA RANJAN)
DIRECTOR
Tel.No.301-3931

DR. R.D.Choudhury, Director General, National Museum, Janpath, New Delhi.

P.M.O.U.O.No.G.16(4)/2000-NGO dated 21.11.2000.

NMI
T-2(64)/78-PM

A2

National Museum of India

-3-

①

No TOP SECRET

-47/2-
with the approval of JS(A)
vide D.O. No. 19/JS(A)/2000
Location
Room Class Shelf

Extracts from the General Accession Register, Volume I

Date acquired	No.	Previous end/or Excavation No. Etc.	Source	Short Description	Date or period	Locality	Remarks and references
30.xii.53	53.22		Shri D.O. Bhatia D.S. E&A Ministry (A.D.I.)	Gold and other objects taken from Shri Ramamurti on 24.9.51 by the Indian Embassy at Tokyo <u>Bundle No. 1 (opened)</u> Package I Charred rings and pendants Package II Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles, etc. Package III Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box, medals coins and rings Package IV Charred necklace pieces medals and rings Package V Charred ear-rings, nose rings, rings set with stones mostly Package VI Charred and broken bangles and anklets Package VII Charred and broken rings, nose rings and pendants Package VIII Charred rings and nose rings.	1945		These I.N.A. Treasure are kept in a grey steel box, locked and covered by a diplomatic Bag, sealed with the seal of the N.G.O. Section of the External Affairs Ministry at two places in the presence of Shri D.O. Bhatia
							Iron safe No.48

NMI 93
T-2(64)/78-PM.

National Museum of India

Extracts from the General Accession Register, Volume I

2

~~Top Secret~~

File note at 3/4
217

Page No. 127

Date Acquired	No.	Previous and/or Excavation No. etc.	Source	Short description	Date or period	Locality	Remarks and references	Location. Room Class Shelf
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30.x1153 53.22
contd. from pp.

				Package IX Charred necklace, bangles brooches and nose rings			These I.N.A. Treasure are kept in a gray steel-box, locked and covered by a Diplomatic Bag, Sealed with the Seal of the N.G.O. Section of the External Affairs Ministry at two places in the presence of Shri D.D. Bhatia	Iron safe No. 48
				Package X Charred ear-rings with stones, and rings				
				Package XI Charred rings				
				Package XII Charred rings and chain				
				Package XIII Charred rings and buttons				
				Package XIV Charred ear-pendants				
				<u>Bundle 2 (closed)</u> Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc.				
				<u>Bundle 3 (closed)</u> Metal mostly base and dust				
				<u>Ayer's lot</u> 9 pieces of gold, said to be 300 grams.				

The contents of this page are to be treated under the Official Secrets Acts, and any person divulging them would be punishable under the same Act for reasons stated above.



Dr.R.D.Choudhury
Director General

Phone: 3018159

7-3315/220/2
22/11

94
(103)

~~TOP SECRET~~

राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
NATIONAL MUSEUM

No.F.DGNM-2/2000

November 22, 2000

Dear Mr. Prasad,

This refers to my Secret D.O. letter of even number dated November 15, 2000 regarding declassification of records in connection with the inquiry into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which is being inquired into by Justice Mukherjee Commission.

Today Morning I received a telephone call from the PMO requesting to expedite the matter at the earliest enabling them to file an affidavit in the matter. Thereafter, I received a letter from the Director (PMO) in this regard (copy enclosed). I, then contacted Mr.D.B. Bhati, Section Officer (NGO) in your Department who advised to send a copy of the documents immediately for declassification.

Accordingly I am enclosing a copy of two pages documents for your kind perusal for declassification. You are requested kindly to convey necessary decision for declassification of these papers so that the PMO could be informed at the earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

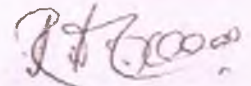
Encls: As above-3 Nos.


(R.D.Choudhury)

Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
NGO, South Block
New Delhi

Copy for information to:

1. Mrs. Archana Ranjan, Director, Prime Minister Office, South Block, New Delhi with reference to her letter No.PMO U.O.No.G.16(4)/2000-NGO dated 21.11.2000 .
2. Shri S.Satyamoorthy, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Mr.D.B.Bhati, Section Officer(NGO), Ministry of External Affairs, Room No.132A, South Block, New Delhi.


(R.D.Choudhury)


22/11/00



95
(102)

JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

November 22, 2000

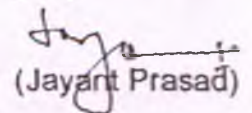
Dear Dr. Choudhury,

Please refer to your D.O.No. F.DGNM-2/2000 dated 15.11.2000 regarding the declassification of "Treasures of Netaji" in connection with ongoing inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission. SMB-97

We have no objection if the "Treasures of Netaji" sent by this Ministry to the National Museum are shown to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

with best regards,

Your sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Dr. R.D.Choudhry,
Director General.
National Museum,
Janpath, New Delhi.

Copy to:

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.), Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, 'B' Block, 11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087.

①
11/22/00
SMB

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

96 (101)

SOUTH BLOCK
NEW DELHI-110011

Subject:-Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to enquire into disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose- declassification of records.

Ministry of External Affairs may please refer to their U.O.No.25/4/NGO Vol: V dated September 19, 2000, on the above subject, and today's discussions our Director, Ms Archana Ranjan, had with JS(CNV), MEA on phone, about the stand taken by the MEA with regard to their classified papers before the Commission. It is requested that a copy each of the Affidavit(s) / letters sent to the Commission may please be sent to this Office, per bearer, for our record and utilising the material to take appropriate stand before the Commission with regard to MEA papers available on our files.

(Signature)
(P.S.Lally)
Under Secretary(NGO)
Tel No. 3792507

MEA(Shri Bhatti, SO(NGO))
PMO U.O.No.16(4) 2000-NGO dated 21.11.2000

copy of
The desired affidavit and
the letter was handed
over to an official of
PMO yesterday.
May kindly like to
see for information.

(Signature)
22/11/00

had photocopies of
MEA
25/4/NGO vol. V, dt. 18-10-2000
and photocopy of
Affidavit. dt. 24-7-2000.
U. Kamran
Asst. Secy
NGO (PMO)

~~JS(CNV)~~

(Signature)

22/11/00

(Signature)
22/11/00
22/11/00

NW Section

(97)

(100)

As desired by J.SCCNV) the photocopies of the following documents have been handed over to Mr Tarakeswar Pal, Advocate :

- (1) - Letter no 25/4/Amo-Vol. V. To ~~XXXX~~ Spl. Secy. M.H.A. dated 9/6/99 :
- (2) Letter no 25/4/Amo-vol. V To Sh. S.N. Singh, SO M.H.A. dated. 26.6.2000
- (3) Letter no. 25/4/Amo-vol. V To HCT, London dated. 18/9/2000
- (4) Letter no 25/4/Amo-vol. V To Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secy. J.M.C.I., Calcutta dated 18.9.2000
- (5) Letter no. LON/Pol./103/17/00 To J.SCCNV) dated 26/9/2000
- (6) Letter no 25/4/Amo-vol. V To Sh P.K Sengupta, Secy J.M.C.I., Calcutta dated 17.10.2000
- (7) Letter no. 25/4/Amo-vol. V To Sh S. Sarkar, DL National Archives of India, N. Behni dated 6.11.2000
- (8) Letter no 25/4/2000-vol. V To Sh P.K Sengupta, Secy J.M.C.I. dated 18/10/2000
13.11.2000

CHALLAN dated 14.11.2000

To — do —

(9)
Alok
21/11/2000

Kohr
21/11/2000

Recd.
Tarakeswar Pal
Adv.
21.11.2000

(99) (98)

41
↑
(जयन्त प्रसाद)
(JAYANT PRASAD)
संयुक्त सचिव (जी. एन. सी.)
Joint Secretary (GNV)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली.
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI.

IN THE COURT OF the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
Suit/Appeal No To inquire into the alleged of of 19
in re :- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Plff/Applt./Petitioner/Complainant
Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India
VERSUS

Defdt./Respnt./Accused
KNOW ALL to whom these present shall come that I/we Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary,
the above-named Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India do hereby appoint
Sri Tarakeswar Pal, Advocate, Senior Counsel-I,
Room No. 5, Bar Association, High Court, Calcutta

(herein after called the advocate/s) to be my/our Advocate In the above-noted case
authorise him :-

To act, appear and plead in the above-noted case in this Court or in any other Court
in which the same may be tried or heard and also in the appellate Court including High
Court subject to payment of fees separately for each court by me/us

To sign, file, verify and present pleadings, appeals cross-objections or petitions for
executions review, revision, withdrawal, compromise or other petitions or affidavits or
other documents as may be deemed necessary or proper for the prosecution of the said
case in all its stages subjects to payment of fees for each stage.

To file and take back documents, to admit and/or deny the documents of opposite party.

To withdraw or compromise the said case or submit to arbitration any differences or
disputes that may arise touching or in any manner relating to the said case

To take execution proceedings.

The deposit, draw and receive money, cheques, cash and grant receipts hereof and to
do all other acts and things which may be necessary to be done for the progress and in the
course of the prosecution of the said case.

To appoint and instruct any other Legal Practitioner authorising him to exercise the
power and authority hereby conferred upon the Advocate whenever he may think fit to do
so and to sign the power of attorney on our behalf.

And I/we the undersigned do hereby agree to ratify and confirm all acts done by the
Advocate or his substitute in the matter as my/our own acts, as if done by me/us to all
intents and purposes.

And I/we undertake that I/we or my/our duly authorised agent would appear in Court
on all hearings and will inform the Advocate for appearance when the case is called.

And I/we undersigned do hereby agree not to hold the advocate or his substitute
responsible for the result of the said case. The adjournment costs whenever ordered by the
Court shall be of the Advocate which he shall receive and retain for himself.

And I/we the undersigned do hereby agree that in the event of the whole or part of the
fee agreed by me/us to be paid to the advocate remaining unpaid he shall be entitled to
withdraw from the prosecution of the said case until the same is paid up. The fee settled is
only for the above case and above Court. I/we hereby agree that once the fees is paid, I/we
will not be entitled for the refund of the same in any case whatsoever and if the case
prolongs for more than 3 years the original fee shall be paid again by me/us.

IN WITNESS WHERE OF I/we do hereunto set my/our hand to these presents the
contents of which have been understood by me/us on this 21st day of
November, 2000 199.....

Accepted subject to the terms of the fees.

Advocate

Client

Client



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

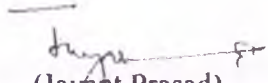
99
(98)

No. 25/4/NGO-V

21st November 2000

Subject: Proceedings before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mukherjee Commission

This is to inform you that we have no witness to examine on our behalf before the Hon'ble Commission at this stage. If such occasion arises later, we shall place the same forthwith before the Hon'ble Commission.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary (CNV)

Shri T. Pal,
Advocate & Sr. Counsel for the Govt. of India,
Before the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mukherjee Commission.

Recd.
Yanokumar Pal
Adv.
21.11.2000



4273/JS (CIV) 2000
 16.11.00
 (97) (150)
 9514/100/00
 17/11

राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
 NATIONAL MUSEUM

Dr. R.D. Choudhury
 Director General

D.O.NO.F.DGNM-2/2000

November 15, 2000

Dear Mr. Prasad,

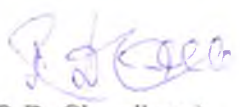
I am enclosing a copy of the secret d.o. letter No.F.I.12014/13/2000-IS 9D,III), dated November 8, 2000 from Ms. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi regarding the declassification of "Treasures of Netaji" in connection with ongoing inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. In her letter she has mentioned that "Under the Departmental Security Instructions the Department, from where the concerned classified document/material has originated, shall be competent to revise the classification/grading of the same".

As per our records Treasures of Netaji was received by us from Ministry of External Affairs. So the Ministry of External Affairs becomes the originating Ministry in the matter.

May I, therefore, request you kindly to advise whether these Treasures could be shown to the Commission.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


 (R.D. Choudhury)

Pt. address
 10/11
 Sonu
 Ke
 17/11

✓ Shri Jayant Prasad
 Joint Secretary
 Ministry of External Affairs (NGO)
 South Block
 New Delhi



सत्यमेव जयते

SANGITA GAIROLA
संयुक्त सचिव
JOINT SECRETARY
TEL: 3015736

13/11
Keeper (H.C.)
(A)
Pl. discuss the matter with Mr. R.C. and take a decision urgently.
RA 18/11

~~SECRET/MOST IMMEDIATE~~

D.O.No. I.12014/13/2000-15(D.III)

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

8th November, 2000

Office of DGNM

Dy. No. 9008

Dated. 13/11/2000

Dear Dr. Choudhury,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.F.DGNM-2/2000 dated 2nd november, 2000 regarding declassification of treasures of Netaji in connection with the ongoing inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. As you are aware, under the Departmental Security Instructions the Department, from where the concerned classified document/material has originated, shall be competent to revise the classification/grading of the same.

2. I shall be grateful if you could have the matter examined from the above mentioned point of view in consultation with the originating Department and take a view accordingly under intimation to us.

with regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sangita Gairola
(SANGITA GAIROLA)

Dr. R.D. Choudhury,
Director General,
National Museum,
Janpath,
NEW DELHI.

(102)
(96)

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No.25/4/NGO-(Vol.-VI)
Ministry of External Affairs
(CNV Division)

Enclosed herewith is a copy of Unstarred Lok Sabha Question No.597 to be answered by EAM on November 22, 2000, along with a report published in the Hindustan Times of October 29, 2000 regarding documents on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. JS(EW) may please urgently forward her comments about the documents of British Archives mentioned in the HT report to enable this Division to finalise reply to the Question.

OK
6
(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
17.11.2000.

JS(EW)

JS(EW)
B
11/11

(95)

103

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No.25/4/NGO-(Vol.-VI)
Ministry of External Affairs
(CNV Division)

Enclosed herewith is a copy of Unstarred Lok Sabha Question No.597 to be answered by EAM on November 22, 2000, along with a report published in the Hindustan Times of October 29, 2000 regarding documents on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. JS(EA) may please urgently forward his comments about the documents in Japan mentioned in the HT report to enable this Division to finalise reply to the Question.

qc

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary (CNV)
17.11.2000.

JS(EA)

JS(EA)
17/11

104
(94)

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

MOST IMMEDIATE/BY HAND


Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section
South Block
New Delhi

<u>Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>
-------------	-----------------	----------------	------------------

14.11.2000

Received photocopies of file Nos.

1. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.I
2. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.II(LW - KW)
3. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.III (LW - Annx.)
4. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. IV (LW - KW.I)
5. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.V (LW - KW.I, II, & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO-52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO-52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO-53


15/11/2000

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta.

105

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

MOST IMMEDIATE/BY HAND

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section
South Block
New Delhi

<u>Date</u>	<u>File No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Signature</u>
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14.11.2000

Received photocopies of file Nos.

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4. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol. IV (LW - KW.I)
5. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.V (LW - KW.I, II, & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO-52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO-52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO-53

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)

Secretary,

Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,

11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta.

706

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

CHALLAN

MOST IMMEDIATE/BY HAND

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section
South Block
New Delhi

Date File No. Address Signature

14.11.2000

Received photocopies of file Nos.

1. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.I
2. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.II(LW - KW)
3. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.III (LW - Annx.y)
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5. File No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.V (LW - KW.I, II, & III)
6. File No. 25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)
7. File No. 25/14/NGO-52
8. File No. 25/15/NGO-52
9. File No. 25/16/NGO-53

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)

Secretary,

Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,

11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta.

102 926/66/2000
29/2

May kindly see
wrt the Rajya Sabha
PQ.
JS(ENV)
17/1/00

Urgent
may wish to
incorporate it
into response.
23/2/2000
JS(ENV)



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

India House, Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

(93)

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

From: Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		Tel. No.: (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 Fax No.: (00-44-171) 836 6695
To: MS BHASWATI MUKHERJEE, JS(EW)		Fax No.: 009111 3794142
Mission/Company: Ministry of External Affairs		Department:
Copy to:		Fax No.:
File No.:	Date: 22.2.2000	No. of pages (including this): 6

In case of difficulty with this transmission, please ring (0171) 836 8484 Extn. 164.

Message

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Your fax of date to DHC regarding Lok Sabha Provisional Starred Question Diary No. 2385 regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for answer on 1st March, 2000.

Our inputs are as follows for parts c, d & e:

(c) As per the information available from the Records and Historical Division of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office virtually all British records relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, which are more than 30 years old, are in the public domain at the Public Records Office or at the British Library. (A note received from the FCO in this regard is enclosed). You will note that 751 files and volumes relating to the period 1913-1947 were put into the public domain in the British Library in August 1997. The only papers which are still not in the public domain are:

- a few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies which do not add to the substantive account in the IPI Office collection. These Intelligence records are withheld from release with the approval of the Lord Chancellor, in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Acts;

108

-one paper from the IPI collection which is retained on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

(d) & (e) We are not aware of any request by the Government to the UK Government to have such papers put in the public domain.

Warm regards,

Pavan Kapoor

(Pavan Kapoor)

109

BRITISH RECORDS ON SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

1. Virtually all British records relating to Subhas Chandra Bose, which are more than 30 years old, have been released at the Public Record Office and at the British Library.

/ 2. Public Record Office: See attached list for 1945-47.

/ 3. British Library: See attached note. This is a collection of 1913-1947 files of the Indian Political Intelligence organisation (IPI) in the series L/P & J/12 Public and Judicial Department (Separate). Released August 1997.

3. The only papers which remain closed are:

- a few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies which do not add to the substantive account in the IPI Office collection. These Intelligence records are withheld from release with the approval of the Lord Chancellor, in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act;
- one paper from the IPI collection which is retained on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

Records and Historical Department
18 February 2000

110

**PAPERS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE ON SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE
1945-1947**

- WO 203/515 Adl 1945 Japanese-Indian Forces Command: guide to activities
- " 516 Aug 1945 Japanese-Indian Forces Command: supplementary guide to Indian National Army in Malaya
- " 2298 Aug 1945 Malaya: disposal, status, brief history of Indian National Army
- " 4673 Aug-Dec 1945 Indian National Army

- WO 208/804A Nov 42-
NOV 45 Indian traitors, fifth columnists trained by Japanese: Indian Independent League: Indian National Army: survey of various organisations employed by Japanese for espionage, sabotage, propaganda: reports on activities: British counter measures

- WO 208/3812 1942-7 Subhas Chandra Bose: activities and death

- FO 371/56774 1946 Indian-Soviet relations (N277/136/38: press article).

L/P&J/12
**PUBLIC AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (SEPARATE)
FILES, 1913 - 1947**

751 files and volumes

The Public and Judicial (Separate) P&J(S) or POL(S) series of the former India Office comprise the files of the Indian Political Intelligence organisation (I P I). I P I was a shadowy and formerly non-avowed organisation, within the Public and Judicial Department of the India Office in London, devoted to the internal and external security of British India.

In consequence of the development of Indian anarchist activities in England in 1909, the India Office suggested (after consultation with Scotland Yard and the Government of India) that an officer of the Indian Police should be placed on deputation in England. The organisation he headed was first called the Indian Political Intelligence Office, but the name finally decided on for this organisation in 1921 was Indian Political Intelligence or 'I P I'.

Major John Arnold Wallinger, a senior Indian Police officer was deputed to England in 1910 'for the purpose of observations upon Indian revolutionaries and criminals (connected with India) of all nationalities'. This activity increased during the First World War. In view of war conditions, Wallinger was provided with an assistant, Philip C Vickery, Indian Police, in 1915, whose duty was to 'watch anti-British conspiracies in England and Europe, so far as they affect Indian interests' and Indian conspirators attempting to attack the British government of India. During the First World War the information collected with regard to German efforts to create dissatisfaction among Indians in Europe became of great value to the War Office and Vickery worked in close co-ordination with Military Intelligence in Europe to 1919 and also in the United States, returning to duty in India in 1923.

Other senior officers deputed from the Indian Police intelligence division to I P I included Paul Biggane, 1922 to 1923; Charles Augustus Tegart 1918 to 1923 and John Hunter Adam, 1923. John Wallinger retired in April 1926 and was succeeded by Vickery as head of I P I in October 1926. Vickery remained I P I chief until the organisation was closed in August 1947 and transferred to T G Sanjevi Pillai, Director Intelligence Bureau, Government of India. In 1950 the remains of I P I's organisation became known as the OS4 branch of the Security Service (MI.5).

After the 1935 Government of India Act, I P I became a subsidiary of the Intelligence Bureau, although in practice it was autonomous. I P I was run jointly by the India Office and the Government of India. UK, Europe and American operations were run by I P I in London. Indian operations were run by the Director of the Intelligence Bureau, Home Department, Government of India or D I B. (also known in India as the Secret Service). A Central Intelligence Officer in each province of India (usually seconded from the local police force) received information by close liaison with the Provincial Intelligence Branches and from sources run within the provinces and other informal sources.

L/P&J/12 PUBLIC AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (SEPARATE) FILES

I P I reported to the Secretary of the Public and Judicial Department of the India Office, the Director, Criminal Intelligence India and maintained close contact with Scotland Yard and MI.5. I P I shared accommodation with MI.5 from 1924. When this was bombed in 1940 the organisation moved with MI.5 to Oxford, returning to London in 1945.

From the early days of the existence of I P I, the security aspects of its files and papers necessitated their being kept separate from the routine papers controlled by the Public and Judicial Department's registry and filing systems. A separate system of numbering and registration was maintained within the P&J Department. From 1924 the Separate files were registered in annual file cycles. The registry system order has been respected in the listing below as far as possible. Some unregistered files and items kept by the organisation have been placed at the end of the list. The original P&J(S) registers have been retained by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The files were a catch-all for India Office political intelligence data, including correspondence with the Director of the Intelligence Bureau in India (D I B), on intelligence matters about pre-Independence India. They include much material originating with the Security Service (MI.5) and the Secret Intelligence Service (S I S or MI.6) and Scotland Yard's Special Branch. The files contain intelligence data on communism and other Indian political or revolutionary movements (notably the Communist Party) in India between 1916 to 1947; surveillance of Indian revolutionaries abroad and British and foreign sympathisers; proscription of certain publications; censorship of mails; notes and reports on personalities, intercepted letters and passport controls. According to one I P I officer these records differ little from records maintained by MI.5 and MI.6. The files expose in detail the existence and operations of a secret intelligence organisation operating both in Europe and the USA. I P I was also the India/Burma section of MI.5, and it was the only Imperial or Dominion intelligence agency which was permitted to operate out of London.

In the 1960s the Commonwealth Relations Office registered all P&J(S) files as records to be retained for more than thirty years under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 on the understanding that the files were to be retained for a hundred years or until a further review was undertaken. From 1977 some files were released and remained open to the public until 1981. In April 1981 the files (with the exception of the local government fortnightly reports on the political situation) were removed from the India Office Library and Records to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for review and vetting. Working under the guidelines of the 'Open Government' initiative of the 1990s, the Sensitivity Review Unit of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office returned a large number of the files to the India Office Records in December 1996. The archive is so far unique - the only known instance of a British Intelligence organisation's archives being opened to the public for research.

Release date: Monday 11 August 1997

Contact telephone numbers
Jill Geber 0171 412 7832
Tony Farrington 0171 412 7837
Fax: 0171 412 7858

926/EE/2000 (13)
29/2

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

India House, Aldwych
London WC2B 4NA

(92)

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION



From: Pavan Kapoor First Secretary (Pol.)		Tel. No.: (00-44-171) 836 8484 Extn. 164 Fax No.: (00-44-171) 836 6695
To: MS BHASWATI MUKHERJEE, JS(EW)		Fax No.: 009111 3794142
Mission/Company: Ministry of External Affairs		Department:
Copy to:		Fax No.:
File No.:	Date: 22.2.2000	No. of pages (including this): 6

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Message

CRASH

CRASH

CRASH

Your fax of date to DHC regarding Lok Sabha Provisional Starred Question Diary No. 2385 regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose for answer on 1st March, 2000.

Our inputs are as follows for parts c, d & e:

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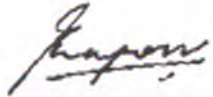
Urgent
May wish to
incorporate it
into response.
23/2/2000
JS (EW)

174

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Warm regards,



(Pavan Kapoor)

113

BRITISH RECORDS ON SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

1. Virtually all British records relating to Subhas Chandra Bose, which are more than 30 years old, have been released at the Public Record Office and at the British Library.

- / 2. Public Record Office: See attached list for 1945-47.
- / 3. British Library: See attached note. This is a collection of 1913-1947 files of the Indian Political Intelligence organisation (IPI) in the series L/P & J/12 Public and Judicial Department (Separate). Released August 1997.

3. The only papers which remain closed are:

- a few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies which do not add to the substantive account in the IPI Office collection. These Intelligence records are withheld from release with the approval of the Lord Chancellor, in accordance with Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act;
- one paper from the IPI collection which is retained on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity.

Records and Historical Department
18 February 2000

116

**PAPERS IN THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE ON SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE
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- WO 203/515 Apr 1945 Japanese-Indian Forces Command: guide to activities
- " 516 Aug 1945 Japanese-Indian Forces Command: supplementary guide to Indian National Army in Malaya
- " 2298 Aug 1945 Malaya: disposal, status, brief history of Indian National Army
- " 4673 Aug-Dec 1945 Indian National Army

- WO 208/804A Nov 42-Nov 45 Indian traitors, fifth columnists trained by Japanese: Indian Independent League: Indian National Army: survey of various organisations employed by Japanese for espionage, sabotage, propaganda: reports on activities: British counter measures

- WO 208/3812 1942-7 Subhas Chandra Bose: activities and death

- FO 371/56774 1946 Indian-Soviet relations (N277/136/38: press article).

(117)

L/P&J/12
PUBLIC AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (SEPARATE)
FILES, 1913 - 1947

751 files and volumes

The Public and Judicial (Separate) P&J(S) or POL(S) series of the former India Office comprise the files of the Indian Political Intelligence organisation (I P I). I P I was a shadowy and formerly non-avowed organisation, within the Public and Judicial Department of the India Office in London, devoted to the internal and external security of British India.

In consequence of the development of Indian anarchist activities in England in 1909, the India Office suggested (after consultation with Scotland Yard and the Government of India) that an officer of the Indian Police should be placed on deputation in England. The organisation he headed was first called the Indian Political Intelligence Office, but the name finally decided on for this organisation in 1921 was Indian Political Intelligence or 'I P I'.

Major John Arnold Wallinger, a senior Indian Police officer was deputed to England in 1910 'for the purpose of observations upon Indian revolutionaries and criminals (connected with India) of all nationalities'. This activity increased during the First World War. In view of war conditions, Wallinger was provided with an assistant, Philip C Vickery, Indian Police, in 1915, whose duty was to 'watch anti-British conspiracies in England and Europe, so far as they affect Indian interests' and Indian conspirators attempting to attack the British government of India. During the First World War the information collected with regard to German efforts to create dissatisfaction among Indians in Europe became of great value to the War Office and Vickery worked in close co-ordination with Military Intelligence in Europe to 1919 and also in the United States, returning to duty in India in 1923.

Other senior officers deputed from the Indian Police intelligence division to I P I included Paul Biggame, 1922 to 1923; Charles Augustus Tegar 1918 to 1923 and John Hunter Adam, 1923. John Wallinger retired in April 1926 and was succeeded by Vickery as head of I P I in October 1926. Vickery remained I P I chief until the organisation was closed in August 1947 and transferred to T G Sanjevi Pillai, Director Intelligence Bureau, Government of India. In 1950 the remains of I P I's organisation became known as the OS4 branch of the Security Service (MI.5).

After the 1935 Government of India Act, I P I became a subsidiary of the Intelligence Bureau, although in practice it was autonomous. I P I was run jointly by the India Office and the Government of India. UK, Europe and American operations were run by I P I in London. Indian operations were run by the Director of the Intelligence Bureau, Home Department, Government of India or D I B, (also known in India as the Secret Service). A Central Intelligence Officer in each province of India (usually seconded from the local police force) received information by close liaison with the Provincial Intelligence Branches and from sources run within the provinces and other informal sources.

L/P&J/12 PUBLIC AND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (SEPARATE) FILES

I P I reported to the Secretary of the Public and Judicial Department of the India Office, the Director, Criminal Intelligence India and maintained close contact with Scotland Yard and MI.5. I P I shared accommodation with MI.5 from 1924. When this was bombed in 1940 the organisation moved with MI.5 to Oxford, returning to London in 1945.

From the early days of the existence of I P I, the security aspects of its files and papers necessitated their being kept separate from the routine papers controlled by the Public and Judicial Department's registry and filing systems. A separate system of numbering and registration was maintained within the P&J Department. From 1924 the Separate files were registered in annual file cycles. The registry system order has been respected in the listing below as far as possible. Some unregistered files and items kept by the organisation have been placed at the end of the list. The original P&J(S) registers have been retained by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The files were a catch-all for India Office political intelligence data, including correspondence with the Director of the Intelligence Bureau in India (D I B), on intelligence matters about pre-Independence India. They include much material originating with the Security Service (MI.5) and the Secret Intelligence Service (S I S or MI.6) and Scotland Yard's Special Branch. The files contain intelligence data on communism and other Indian political or revolutionary movements (notably the Communist Party) in India between 1916 to 1947; surveillance of Indian revolutionaries abroad and British and foreign sympathisers; proscription of certain publications; censorship of mails; notes and reports on personalities, intercepted letters and passport controls. According to one I P I officer these records differ little from records maintained by MI.5 and MI.6. The files expose in detail the existence and operations of a secret intelligence organisation operating both in Europe and the USA. I P I was also the India/Burma section of MI.5, and it was the only Imperial or Dominion intelligence agency which was permitted to operate out of London.

In the 1960s the Commonwealth Relations Office registered all P&J(S) files as records to be retained for more than thirty years under Section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1958 on the understanding that the files were to be retained for a hundred years or until a further review was undertaken. From 1977 some files were released and remained open to the public until 1981. In April 1981 the files (with the exception of the local government fortnightly reports on the political situation) were removed from the India Office Library and Records to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for review and vetting. Working under the guidelines of the 'Open Government' initiative of the 1990s, the Sensitivity Review Unit of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office returned a large number of the files to the India Office Records in December 1996. The archive is so far unique - the only known instance of a British intelligence organisation's archives being opened to the public for research.

Release date: Monday 11 August 1997

Contact telephone numbers
Jill Geber 0171 412 7832
Tony Farrington 0171 412 7837
Fax: 0171 412 7858

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

14706/F3/2000

Phone: 216-2765-68 & 216-2835

Fax: 216-2765

e-mail

jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

REGISTERED WITH A.D.

NR/99-2000/56/310.

Calcutta, dated, the 1.11.2000

1 P.K.Sengupta, WBJS (Retd.),
Secretary

1 Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
'B' Block,
Delhi-110001.

From MJS (AP)

P. K. Sengupta
admn

JSC (CNV)

13/11

With reference to your D.O. No. 15/4/NGC-vol.V dated September 18, 2000 and your D.O. of even No. dated October 17, 2000, I am directed to state that I had a discussion with Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, Government of India, during my visit to New Delhi in the third week of October, 2000 regarding perusal of declassified British Government records when Dr. Sarkar reiterated his earlier proposal of visit to the British Library in London by a joint team of the Commission and the National Archives in order to find out whether any materials relevant to the inquiry of the Commission is available in the declassified files/records lying in the British Library. Dr. Sarkar also told that the National Archives would bear from its own fund the costs of obtaining copies of documents or files from the records in the British Library. In this connection you may also refer to D.O. No. F.25-2(3)/2000, cc, dated September 5, 2000 of Dr. Sarkar addressed to Ms. Bhaswati Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India (copy enclosed).

I am further directed to state that after taking into consideration the views of the Ministry of External Affairs and of the Director General of the National Archives of India, it has been decided by the Commission that a programme for visiting the British Library by a joint team of the Commission and the National Archives of India in order to identify the relevant papers/records should be drawn up in consultation with the Director of National Archives and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

Dr. Sarkar is therefore being requested to draw up a draft programme in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and send the same to the Commission for its approval as quickly as possible.

Yours faithfully,

REGISTERED WITH A.D.

(P.K. Sengupta, Secretary)

No. JMC1/Dcc/SPR/99-2000/56/310/01.

Dated: 1.11.2000.

Copy forwarded to Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, National Archives of India, Govt. of India, Janpath, New Delhi-110001, for his kind information and favour of taking necessary action in the line noted above.

(P.K. Sengupta) Secretary

Netaji,
To discuss with F.S. with F.S. Gov. - 13/11

Action already taken re: NAI.

Source
Discussed with JSC (CNV) since we had written to NAE recently on 6.11.00, a reminder to them may go in the first week of December. Pl. note and P. K. Sengupta on 1.12.00.

BY Regd. Post

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel:301-1357 & Fax: 379-2285



July 23/2000
23/10/2000
October 17, 2000

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

Dear Shri Sengupta,

This is further to our letter of even number dated September 18, 2000 regarding the de-classified British Government records that might have some bearing on the mandate of the Commission.

2. At our behest, our High Commission had promptly written to British Foreign Office in the matter. The Foreign Office, in turn, contacted the Head of the Oriental India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library has conveyed that he would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to examine the records. The High Commission has further been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India. We are now inquiring about the purchase price of the microfiche records

3. Meanwhile, the High Commission also received a letter from the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library regarding the preparations that will be required to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherjee will be successful. I am enclosing a self-explanatory copy of this letter.

4. We are now awaiting the response of the Commission to the suggestions made by us for an *in situ* examination of the newly available declassified British records.

with best regards

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry
Calcutta.

CC : Shri Nareshwar Dayal, High Commissioner of India, London.

Re. par...
23/10/2000



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
 NEW DELHI

121
 21/9/2000
 TELETYPE



Jayant Prasad
 Joint Secretary (CNV)
 Tel. No.301 1357
 Fax No.379 2285

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.V

September 18, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

I am writing apropos your letter of August 28, 2000 regarding the declassified British Government records (comprising some 700 files) that might have some bearing on the mandate of the Commission on which Justice Mukherjee had been in touch directly with our High Commissioner in London, Shri Nareshwar Dayal. I regret it has taken us a while to respond to your letters since I had been continuously on tour abroad.

Our High Commission is pursuing with the British Foreign Office the possibility of retrieving from the British authorities any available documentation pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that may be contained in the 700 unpublished files originating in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London, which are now public and have been placed with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs recommends that the Commission should arrange to visit London for an in-situ examination of the files to find out whether or not they contain any material relevant to the work of the Commission. Alternately, they could mandate the Director, National Archives of India, to undertake this task on behalf of the Commission. Our High Commissioner in London has been consulted on this and concurs fully in this suggestion.

with warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K. Sengupta
 Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry
Calcutta

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone 1
033-216-2765/6
033-216-2835.
Fax 1
033-216-2765

No. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/247 **BY SPEED POST** Calcutta, dated, the ..11..09..2000..

From:
Sri P.K. Sengupta, WBSJS (Retd.)
Secretary.

To
Sri Jayant Prasad, IAS
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Sub: Files numbering 700 originating in
the India office's Public and
Judicial Department, London and now
available in the British Library.

Ref: The Commission's letter Nos. JMCI/DOC
(FOR)/99-2000/56/45 dated 27.4.2000
and JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/232
dated 28.8.2000.

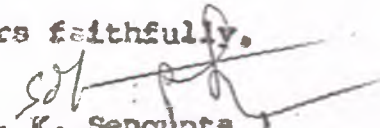
Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission's
above-quoted letters on the aforesaid subject and to say that
no reply whatsoever has yet been received from your end.

In furtherance of the above-quoted letters, I am
directed to invite your notice to the news published under the
caption 'Britain to allow access to Netaji documents' in
'The Statesman' dated September 10, 2000, particularly the
paragraph nos. 1 and 2 of the aforesaid news, and to request
you once again to pursue the matter with the U.K. Government
so that the Commission may have access without any further
delay to all the documents, files, records etc. relating to
Netaji in the possession of the U.K. Government.

I am further directed to request you to treat the
matter as extremely urgent and to take necessary effective
steps with an intimation to the Commission.

Yours faithfully,


(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

contd. pg.2.

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**British Deputy
High Commission
Calcutta**

13 April 2000

**Mr Anil Mukherjee
Deputy Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Calcutta**

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk
Fax: 288-3435

Dear Mr Mukherjee,

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB;

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

**MAINAK DE
Press & Public Affairs Adviser**

(90) (123)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1092

TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/03/2000

RESEARCH ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

1092. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have requested the Russian Government to open the archives to Indian scholars researching on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have received any response from the Russian Government in this regard;
- (c) whether some of the documents concerning Netaji kept under the custody of the U.K. Government are still denied access to scholars;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have moved the concerned authorities to open up such papers to those who would like to go through these papers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".

(c), (d) & (e) The British Government have informed that "virtually all British records relating to Subhash Chandra Bose, which are more than 30 years old, have been released at the Public Record Office and at the British Library". The British Government have further informed that "the only papers which remain closed are: (i) a few papers in the files of the Intelligence and Security Agencies that do not add to the substantive account in the Indian Political Intelligence organisation collection; and (ii) one paper from the Indian Political Intelligence organisation collection which is retained on grounds of continuing personal sensitivity".



9/18/11/10
12/11
129

राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
NATIONAL MUSEUM

~~SECRET~~
D.O. NO. F.DGNM-2/2000

Dr. R.D. Choudhury
Director General

November 15, 2000

Dear Mr. Prasad.

I am enclosing a copy of the secret d.o. letter No.F.I.12014/13/2000-IS 9D.III), dated November 8, 2000 from Ms. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi regarding the declassification of "Treasures of Netaji" in connection with ongoing inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. In her letter she has mentioned that "Under the Departmental Security Instructions the Department, from where the concerned classified document/material has originated, shall be competent to revise the classification/grading of the same".

As per our records Treasures of Netaji was received by us from Ministry of External Affairs. So the Ministry of External Affairs becomes the originating Ministry in the matter.

May I, therefore, request you kindly to advise whether these Treasures could be shown to the Commission.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R.D. Choudhury)

Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs (NGO)
South Block
New Delhi

Copy to:

1. Ms. Sangita Gairola, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
2. Shri S. Sathyamoorthy, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, New Delhi.
3. Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Ms. Humera Ahmed, Director, Department of Culture, New Delhi.
5. Shri G.B. Singh, Director, Ministry of Defence, History Division, West B Block, No. 8, R.K. Puram, Sector-I, New Delhi-66.
5. Shri P. Mehendru, Joint Director, IB, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
- ✓ 6. Shri CO Thomas, SO (NGO), Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi

(R.D. Choudhury)

MP/SM d.v

12/11



सत्यमेव जयते

SANGITA GAIROLA
संयुक्त सचिव
JOINT SECRETARY
TEL: 3015736

SECRET/MOST IMMEDIATE

D.O.No.I. 12014/13/2000-IS(D.III)

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

8th November, 2000

Office of DGNM

Dy. No. 9008

Dated 10/11/00

Dear Dr. Choudhury,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.F.DGNM-2/2000 dated 2nd november, 2000 regarding declassification of treasures of Netaji in connection with the ongoing inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. As you are aware, under the Departmental Security Instructions the Department, from where the concerned classified document/material has originated, shall be competent to revise the classification/grading of the same.

2. I shall be grateful if you could have the matter examined from the above mentioned point of view in consultation with the originating Department and take a view accordingly under intimation to us.

with regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sangita Gairola
(SANGITA GAIROLA)

Dr. R.D. Choudhury,
Director General,
National Museum,
Janpath,
NEW DELHI.

3016634 — Mr. Zube Desk officer
172 B Mark Block

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12/14
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A.S. (A)
A. abin in
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take up
urgently
10/11

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Ministry of External Affairs
(CNV Division)

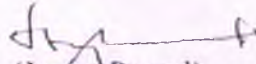
Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly refer to their OM No. II/13012/78/2000-IS(US D.IV) dated November 15, 2000 regarding Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 26 regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission. Parawise comments of this Ministry are as under:-

(a) For MHA to reply.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Justice Mukherjee Commission had first notified the Ministry of External Affairs on August 9, 2000 about sending a representative to attend the Commission's hearing on August 31, 2000. Accordingly, an officer of the Ministry was attended the hearing on August 31, 2000. Thereafter, only one hearing of the Commission has taken place on September 28, 2000 for which the Commission had only asked for production of witnesses, if any. As this Ministry had no witness to produce and no specific directions from the Commission for attending this hearing by a representative of the Ministry were received, no official from this Ministry attended the hearing. However, the efforts are being made to send a representative of the Ministry to attend all the forthcoming hearings of the Commission.

(d) For MHA to reply.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint-Secretary(CNV)

Ministry of Home Affairs, Kind Attn: Shri V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary(D.IV)
MEA UO No. 25/4/NGO-V dated 16th November 2000

issued
16/11

9482/12/00 4241-JSC CNV)w
15/11 1574

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MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No. II/13012/78/2000-IS(US D.IV)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

* * * *

New Delhi, the 15th November, 2000.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject : Lok Sabha Provisional Starred Admitted Question
Dy.No. 683 (since admitted as Starred Question
No. 26) for reply on 21.11.2000 by Shri Bir
Singh Mahato, MP, regarding Netaji Subhas
Chandra Bose Enquiry Commission.

* * * *

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the
Lok Sabha Starred Question referred to above and to request
that the views/comments of your Ministry/Department
particularly part (c) of the Question may please be provided
to this Ministry expeditiously and in any case by 16th
November, 2000 positively.

V.P. Bhatia

(V.P. BHATIA)
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA.

To

- (1) Prime Minister's Office,
(Ms. Archana Ranjan, Director),
South Block,
NEW DELHI - 110 011.
- (2) Ministry of External Affairs,
(Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV)),
South Block,
NEW DELHI - 110 011.
- (3) Ministry of Human Resource Development,
(Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General),
(Department of Culture),
National Archives of India,
Janpath,
NEW DELHI - 110 001.

16/11
SONU
MP
16/11

1288

- (4) Ministry of Defence,
(Shri G.B. Singh, Director),
History Division, 3/West Block-8, Wing-I,
R.K. Puram,
NEW DELHI - 110 066.
- (5) Cabinet Secretariat,
(Shri Rakesh Sarwal, Deputy Secretary),
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
NEW DELHI.
- (6) Cabinet Secretariat (R&AW),
(Shri Ashok Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary(Admn.),
Bikaner House Annexe,
NEW DELHI.
- (7) Intelligence Bureau,
(Shri V.N. Mathur, Joint Director (SA),
North Block,
NEW DELHI.

3541/150502/00
13/11

129

P-155/JS(IST) new
13-11

Priority in ballot : 10
No. of Notices Tabled : 1

ADMITTED
PRIORITY QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA
PROVISIONAL STARRED

D.No. 683

Ministry to which the
day has been allotted : HOME AFFAIRS

The question will be put down for the
sitting on the :-

21-11-2000

NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ENQUIRY COMMISSION

* SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions of M.K. Mukherjee Inquiry
Commission Constituted to unravel the mystery behind Netaji
Subhash Chandra Bose's disappearance;

(b) whether the Government are co-operating with the
Justice Mukherjee Commission;

(c) if so, the reasons for Union Government officials and
counsels not appearing before the Commission for affidavit
and witness on successive dates of hearing; and

(d) the time by which the Commission is likely to submit
its report?

JS(IST)
VS(D-IV)

13-11-2000
US(D-IV)

lm
14/11
TG



129
~~SECRET~~

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

JAYANT PRASAD,
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO Vol.V

October 18, 2000

November 13, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

Please refer to your letter no. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(follow up)/48/187 dated 08.08.2000 and my letter of even no. dated 26.09.2000 regarding submission of photocopies of the nine classified files of this Ministry to the Commission.

As desired by the Commission, the photocopies of the above mentioned nine files are being forwarded herewith for perusal by the Commission. These files have since been downgraded from "Top Secret" to "Secret". However, as the files contain some papers which are still sensitive, it is requested that the Commission may kindly like to use their discretion as to the use of such material in its report.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd floor,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087.

Copy to Smt. Sangeeta.Gairola, Joint Secretary(IS.I), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi for information.

with bono of assets

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV)

de

15/11



130
85

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI
URGENT

FAX

FROM : FOREIGN, NEW DELHI
TO : BRANCH SECRETARIAT, CALCUTTA
(FAX NO. 033 - 2479703)

HEAD OF BRANCH SECTT. FROM JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

IN CONNECTION WITH SOME OFFICIAL WORK, S/SHRI JENKINS MASIH AND ARINDAM BANERJEE, ASSISTANTS IN THE MINISTRY WILL BE REACHING CALCUTTA AT 1030HRS ON NOVEMBER 15, 2000 BY RAJDHANI EXPRESS(No.2302). SHRI MASIH WILL RETURN ON NOVEMBER 16, 2000 BY RAJDHANI EXPRESS(No.2301) DEPARTING FROM CALCUTTA AT 1700 HRS.

GRATEFUL PLEASE ARRANGE RECEPTION AT HOWRAH STATION ON ARRIVAL AND ALSO KINDLY ARRANGE ACCOMMODATION FOR SHRI MASIH IN SBI GUEST HOUSE FOR ONE NIGHT. SHRI BANERJEE WILL BE STAYING WITH HIS PARENTS.

No.25/4/NGO Vol.-V


(JAYANT PRASAD)
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)
NOVEMBER 10, 2000

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

131

TIME: 10/11/2006 13:00

NAME: 451044_5MEL4

FAX: 3790295

TEL: 3011 457 3015155

DATE, TIME

10/11 13:00

FAX NO., NAME

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TRANSMISSION

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No. 8513 /NGO/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
(NGO Section)

~~S. G. S.~~
Please see S.No 72

JS(CNV) may kindly recall that Joint Secretary (IS-1), Ministry of Home Affairs had called a meeting of various Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India associated with the work of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry on 04.10.2000. As directed by JS(CNV), Shri O.P. Makhija, US(AMS) and myself attended this meeting on behalf of our Ministry. The points included in the agenda of the meeting and our response to each of them were as under:-

(i) **Examination of witnesses of the Central Government:-**

On this point, we informed the meeting that MEA does not have any witnesses who could be examined by the Commission and as such we do not propose to supply any list of witnesses from MEA side to the Commission.

(ii) **Production of Top Secret/Secret files before the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry after declassifying the same:-**

On this point we informed JS(IS-1) that MEA has already decided to downgrade all the MEA files pertaining to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from 'Top Secret' to 'Secret' and supply them to the Commission. At this stage, JS(IS-1) suggested that while supplying the files to the Commission, we should alarm the Commission about the sensitivity of certain papers available in these files which may have some bearings on India's relations with some foreign countries and as also on internal security.

(iii) **Taking a unanimous and unified stand on various issues before the Commission so as to ensure that there is no contradiction amongst various Departments of the Govt. of India:-**

Though the action on this point is to be taken by MHA, being the coordinating Ministry on the matters related to Justice Mukherjee Commission, we, however, informed the meeting that MEA will go by the decision taken jointly by various Ministries/Departments in this regard.

133

:2:

(iv) Claiming of privilege for Top Secret/Secret files/documents:-

We informed the meeting that at this stage we do not propose to claim privileges for any Top Secret/Secret files to be submitted before the Commission.

(v) Attending hearings of the Commission by representatives of the concerned Govt. of India Ministries/Departments:-

JS(IS-I) informed the meeting that at its last hearing on 28.09.2000 the Commission had expressed its displeasure about non-attending of Commission's hearings by the representatives of the concerned Govt. of India Ministries/Departments. JS(IS-I) was of the view that all concerned departments should consider to send their representatives to attend the future hearings of the Commission.

JS(CNV) may kindly like to see for information.

[Handwritten signature]

(D.B. Bhati)

Section Officer (NGO)

09/10/00

Reals.

JS(CNV)

[Handwritten signature]
10/10/00

Somesh - B

[Handwritten signature]
10/10/00

to JM



सत्यमेव जयते

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel: 301-1357 & Fax : 379-2285

(134)
(83)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

November 6, 2000

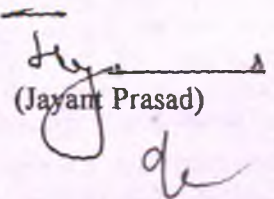
Dear Dr. Sarkar,

I am writing apropos letter No.JMCI/DOC/FOR/99-2000/546/310 of November 1st from Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, a copy of which has also been endorsed to you.

2. Our Mission in London has already been in touch with the authorities of the British Library who have indicated that they would be happy to assist those deputed from India to look at the recently declassified records (copies of letters received from the High Commission attached for ready reference).

3. You are advised to draw an appropriate programme and maintain direct contact with our Mission in London. Please ensure that the copies of the correspondence are endorsed to us to ensure effective coordination and liaison.

Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri S. Sarkar
Director General of Archives
National Archives of India
Janpath
New Delhi.

CC : 1. Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block(3rd floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087.

2. Ms Bhaswati Mukherji, Joint Secretary(EW), Ministry of External
Affairs, New Delhi.

Issued
2/11

135

4097/JS (CNV)/2000
6.11.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765
e-mail
jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

No. JMCI/Doc/FOR/99-2000/56/310.

Calcutta, dated, the 1.11.2000

From: Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110001.

S i r,

With reference to your D.O. No.25/4/NGO-vol.V dated September 18,2000 and your D.O. of even No. dated October 17,2000, I am directed to state that I had a discussion with Dr.Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, Government of India, during my visit to New Delhi in the third week of October,2000 regarding perusal of declassified British Government records when Dr. Sarkar re-iterated his earlier proposal of visit to the British Library in London by a joint team of the Commission and the National Archives in order to find out whether any materials relevant to the inquiry of the Commission is available in the declassified files /records lying in the British Library. Dr. Sarkar also told that the National Archives would bear from its own fund the costs of obtaining copies of documents or files from the records in the British Library. In this connection you may also refer to D.O. No.F.25-2(9)/2000.cc. dated September 5,2000 of Dr.Sarkar addressed to Ms.Bhaswati Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India (copy enclosed).

I am further directed to state that after taking into consideration the views of the Ministry of External Affairs and of the Director General of the National Archives of India, it has been decided by the Commission that a programme for visiting the British Library by a joint team of the Commission and the National Archives of India in order to identify the relevant papers/records should be drawn up in consultation with the Director of National Archives and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

Dr.Sarkar is therefore being requested to draw up a draft programme in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs and send the same to the Commission for its approval as quickly as possible.

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Sengupta.)
Secretary.

No. JMCI/Doc/FOR/99-2000/56/310/01.

Dated: 1.11.2000.

Copy forwarded to Dr.Sukumar Sarkar, Director General of National Archives, National Archives of India, Govt. of India, Janpath, New Delhi-110001, for his kind information and favour of taking necessary action in the line noted above.

(P.K.Sengupta)
Secretary



136
राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
भारत सरकार
जनपथ, नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
JANPATH, NEW DELHI - 110 001

Tele No. 3383436
Fax : 0091- 11- 3384127
E mail : archives@ren02.nic.in
Website : http://nationalarchives.nic.in

Dated the 05 SEP 2000

D.O.No. F. 25-2(9)/2000.CC.

DR. SUKUMAR SARKAR
Director General of Archives
Government of India

Dear Ms. Mukherji,

You may be aware that Government of India have constituted the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to investigate the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. We have received a reference from Sh. P.K.Sengupta, Secretary of the Commission, who visited National Archives of India, some time back, informing that there are about 700 files which have been recently thrown open for access to the scholars and some of them relating to Netaji are available in the British Library, London (copy of the letter along-with a copy of letter from British High Commission, Calcutta are enclosed for ready reference). These files originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London and contain material relevant to the points of the present inquiry.

For facilitating the work of the Commission, it has been suggested that a team of officials from the National Archives of India and the Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry may visit London and examine the files available in the British Library. I shall appreciate if you could request our Mission in London to take up the matter with the authorities of the British Library so as to enable us to work out the modalities and approach the Government of India for the approval of the proposed visit by a team of officials to London.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

sd/-

(S. Sarkar)

Ms. Bhaswati Mukherji,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

Copy to: Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry, 'B' Block (3rd Floor), 11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700087

(S. Sarkar)

4.9.2000

vi de m
attch dt 29.9.2000
1 at c p 31

(82) (137)
972
No. Q/PC/723/1/2000
Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs
(PC-I Section)

New Delhi, 6th November,

ORDER

Subject : Temporary Duty to Calcutta of Shri Jenkins Masih, Asstt. at Hqrs. -
Grant of advances.

Sanction of the President is accorded to the payment of Rs.3,000/- (Rupees three thousand only) to Shri Jenkins Masih, Assistant in the Ministry in connection with his temporary duty to Calcutta.

2. i) Shri Jenkins Masih, Assistant may please submit his transfer TA claim within one month since the completion of the journey.

ii) Failure to comply with above requirement will entail not only the forfeiture of the claim but also recovery of the entire TA advance from his pay bill or any other dues in one instalment alongwith interest as stipulated in Sub- Rules (2) of Rule 173 of the General Financial Rules (1963) read with GOI decision No. (2) there under introduced vide correction No. 280 (5th list of amendments). If due to unforeseen circumstances, the TA claim cannot be submitted within the prescribed period of one month, he should intimate the position stating full facts and details of the claim to Administration well in advance for consideration.

6. The advance referred to in para 1 above debitible to A/C No.2052-Sectt. General Services(Major Head) 00.90 Sectt.(Minor Head) 02-MEA-Local Tours.

7. Certified that :-

i) Shri Jenkins Masih, Assistant is permanent Government Servant.

ii) TA advance drawn by him on previous occasion has already been settled.

8. This issues under the powers vested in this Ministry vide Rule 222 of the General Financial Rules (1963).


(K. L. Nuna)
Administrative Officer (PC)

Copy to :-

1. The controller of Accounts, MEA, New Delhi.
2. Shri Jenkins Masih, Asstt., C/O NGO Section, MEA..
3. Cash- IV/PC/PC (PR) Sections.
4. Cash-I (3 s/cs)..

Bill No. 215 - R/T R (Advt) (Ch)
12m-01
T. 4/13 = 63000
6.1.1.2m



9182/2000
3/11
(81)

राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय
NATIONAL MUSEUM

Dr.R.D.Choudhury
Director General

No.F.DGNM-2/2000

Phone: 3018159

November 2, 2000

Dear Ms Gairola,

This refers to PMO's letter No.16(4)2000-NGO regarding declassification of treasures of Netaji in connection with the inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which is being inquired into by Justice Mukherjee Commission.

In this context the Department of Culture desired that I may consult the Ministry of Home Affairs for advise in the first instance.

I shall be grateful if you kindly inform whether these treasures could be shown to the Commission.

With regards,

May kindly like to see before it is filed.

[Signature]
31/11/00

Yours sincerely,

JSC (C.A.)

(R.D.Choudhury)

Ms.Sangita Gairola
Joint Secretary(IS-1)
Ministry of Home Affairs
North Block
6001 New Delhi-110001

[Handwritten mark]

Copy to:

1. Shri S.Satyamoorthy, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtriyapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Ms.Humera Ahmed, Director, Department of Culture, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi w.r.f. to her letter dated 3.10.2000.
4. Shri G.B. Singh, Director, Ministry of Defence, History Division, West B Block No.8, R.K.Puram Sector-1, New Delhi-66
5. Shri P.Mehendru, Joint Director, IB, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
6. Shri S.Thomas, SO(NGO) Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi.

[Signature]
(R.D.Choudhury)

(80) 139
No. Q/PC/723/1/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
(PC Section)

New Delhi, the 1st November, 2000

ORDER

Subject : Visit of S/Shri Jenkins Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants to Calcutta from November 14 to 16, 2000.

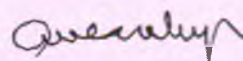
Sanction of the President is hereby accorded to the visit of S/Shri Jenkin Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants to Calcutta as per the entitled class of train journey. They will be entitled to the following : -

- i) DA as per entitlement
- ii) Accommodation as per entitlement

2. The expenditure involved is debitable to A/c No. 2052-Sectt. General Services (Major Head) 00.90 Sectt (Minor Head)-02-MEA-Local Tours.

3. The passage of Shri Arindam Banerjee will be adjusted against LTC as he is also availing the LTC for the block year 1998 - 99.

4. This issues in exercise of powers delegated to this Ministry and with the approval of Director (Finance) vide NGO Section Dy. No. 8823/NGO/00 dated 20.10.2000.


(A.K. Bhatnagar)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Copy to :

1. Controller of Accounts, MEA, New Delhi.
2. US(Cash)/TG/NGO Sections, MEA, New Delhi.
3. Shri Jenkins Masih, Assistant, NGO Section, MEA, New Delhi.
4. Shri Arindam Banerjee, Assistant, NGO Section, MEA, New Delhi.

(79) 140

9036/NGO/00
31/10

**Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section**

Kindly refer to our note D.No. 8823/NGO/2000 dated 20.10.2000, regarding the issue of sanction for deputation of S/Shri Jenkins Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants in NGO to Calcutta.

According to the revised programme, Shri Masih & Shri Banerjee will be travelling to Calcutta by train leaving Delhi on 14.11.2000. While Shri Masih will be returning by train leaving Calcutta on 16.11.2000, Shri Banerjee will be staying back at Calcutta due to some urgent family requirements and returning by train leaving Calcutta on 08.12.2000 after availing of Earned leave.

Shri Banerjee will be availing of Home town LTC and hence his tickets (both forward and return) will be adjusted against the LTC for the block years 1998-99 (extended period) while Shri Masih will be proceeding on official tour.

PC Section may kindly issue sanction accordingly at the earliest.

[Handwritten signature]

(D.B.Bhati)
Section Officer(NGO)
October 31, 2000

[Handwritten signature]

JS(CNV)

[Handwritten signature]
2/11/00

AO(PC)

Recd.
OSN
17/11/2000

(78) (141)

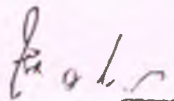
**Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section**

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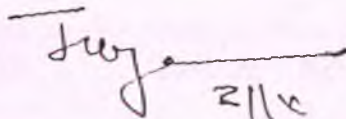
PC Section may kindly issue sanction accordingly at the earliest.



(D.B. Bhati)

Section Officer(NGO)

October 31, 2000

JS(CNV)
2/10AO(PC)

71 142

8823 / NHO / 00

**Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section**

PC Section may kindly issue the requisite sanction for deputation of S/Shri Jenkins Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants in NGO to Calcutta as per details provided in the notes containing administrative and financial approvals which is placed below. They are expected to leave Delhi on 24th October, 2000 and return from Calcutta on 26th October, 2000.

J. Komal

(C.O. Thomas)
Section Officer (NGO)
October 20, 2000

de

AO(PC)

A separate copy, without enclosures, to TG section for making bookings in Rajdhani Express on the above mentioned dates as per details given below:

24th October 2000 : New Delhi – Howrah
26th October 2000: Howrah – New Delhi

Issued
MVP
20/10

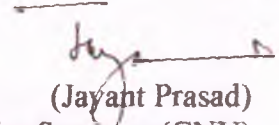
1143

SECRET

**Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji has asked the Ministry to send them photocopies of classified files available in NGO on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Foreign Secretary has separately approved forwarding of these files to the Commission. As the files are classified, S/Shri Jenkins Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants in NGO are deputed to Calcutta by train to carry these files personally in a sealed diplomatic bag and hand them over to the Commission. S/Shri Masih and Banerjee shall be travelling as per the entitled class of train journey. They may return to Delhi the next day of their reaching Calcutta.

Director (Finance) may please approve.


(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV)
October 18, 2000

Director (Fin.)

Approved

Amar
20/10/2000

144

~~SECRET~~

**Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

The Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji has asked the Ministry to send them photocopies of classified files available in NGO on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Foreign Secretary has separately approved forwarding of these files to the Commission. As the files are classified, S/Shri Jenkins Masih and Arindam Banerjee, Assistants in NGO are deputed to Calcutta by train to carry these files personally in a sealed diplomatic bag and hand them over to the Commission. S/Shri Masih and Banerjee shall be travelling as per the entitled class of train journey. They may return to Delhi the next day of their reaching Calcutta.

JS(AD) may please approve.

Alok Prasad

(Alok Prasad)

Joint Secretary (CNV/AMS)

October 20, 2000

~~Joint Secretary (AD)~~

[Signature]
20/x

JS (AMS & CNV)



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel:301-1357 & Fax: 379-2285

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

145
(76)

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

October 17, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

This is further to our letter of even number dated September 18, 2000 regarding the de-classified British Government records that might have some bearing on the mandate of the Commission.

2. At our behest, our High Commission had promptly written to British Foreign Office in the matter. The Foreign Office, in turn, contacted the Head of the Oriental India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library has conveyed that he would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to examine the records. The High Commission has further been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India. We are now inquiring about the purchase price of the microfiche records.

3. Meanwhile, the High Commission also received a letter from the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library regarding the preparations that will be required to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherjee will be successful. I am enclosing a self-explanatory copy of this letter.

4. We are now awaiting the response of the Commission to the suggestions made by us for an *in situ* examination of the newly available declassified British records.

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry
Calcutta.

CC : Shri Nareshwar Dayal, High Commissioner of India, London.

best regards,
Jaya

issued
MP
18.10.00

JK
MSM

3839 JS (w)/2000 13421 F3/2000
17/10/00 16/10

R-4001
19/10

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
Chairman - 216-2835
Secretary - 216-2767
Officer on
Special Duty - 216-2765
Office - 216-2766/68

ES
3991/1021/cum
13/10

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(Follow-up)/48(Vo.II)/289(S)

Dated the 10th October 2000

From :
Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary

(75) 1746
8730/N60/00
17/10

To
The Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India
South Block
New Delhi 110 001

Subject **Strict compliance with the orders/directions contained in the proceedings dated 28.09.2000 read with the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000 and 31.08.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.**

Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings dated 28.09.2000 of the Commission containing its orders and directions for your perusal and compliance thereof as directed by the Commission.

Copies of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, 13.06.2000 and 31.08.2000 of the Commission were sent to your office earlier.

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

May kindly
do for me
14/10
25/EA

Encl: As stated above.

We spoke with you
16/10

Original attached

16/10
Completed
17/10

102

Proceedings dated 28.09.2000 (Fourth)
Held at the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan,
166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007

September 28, 2000

At the commencement of the hearing it is found that no witness on behalf of the Government of India is present even though in the earlier order dated August 31, 2000 they were asked to produce their witnesses, if any, on the next date of hearing, i.e. today, for their examination before examination of other witnesses. Since, neither any officer of the Government of India nor any Counsel on their behalf is present nor has any communication been received to explain their stand in this regard, the Commission is left with no other alternative but to presume that the Government of India do not intend to examine any witness. With this presumption, the Commission proceeds to examine the two witnesses present.

2. Examination of Witnesses

- (a) Sri Nilanjan Bose and Sri Ardhendu Sarkar are examined on oath and cross-examined as witness Nos. 4 and 5 respectively. Xerox copies of a report in Bartaman, a Bengali daily dated March 21, 1999 and of a news item in the Sunday Statesman dated January 22, 1989 are marked as 'Y' and 'Y(1)' for identification, on admission by the witness Nos. 4 and 5 respectively.
- (b) Of the other three witnesses summoned to depose today -
- (i) Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose sent a letter to the Secretary to the Commission on September 22, 2000 stating, inter-alia, as follows :
- "Since the end of World War II in August 1945 till to day I have not received any direct information from him (Netaji) or about him. I have no personal knowledge as to the issues referred to the Commission. I am therefore not competent to depose in this matter.";
- (ii) Sri Anindya Sengupta also sent a letter intimating that he was indisposed and as such is unable to be present today but has made a request to fix another date for his examination; and

- (iii) Shri Suman Chattopadhyaya has not appeared nor sent any communication explaining his failure to appear, even though summons were duly served at his office address by registered post.
- (c) Since from the contents of the letters of Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose it appears that no useful purpose will be served by examining him he need not be re-summoned. Let fresh summons be served upon Shri Anindya Sengupta and Shri Suman Chattopadhyaya for their examination before this Commission on the next date of hearing intimating them that if they fail to appear this time as well without any justifiable reason, appropriate legal action may be taken against them for their such failure.
- (d) The following persons be also summoned to testify before the Commission on the next date of hearing :
- i) Shri Barun Sengupta, Editor, "Bartaman",
 - ii) Shri Pabitra Kumar Ghosh, Journalist, "Bartaman",
 - iii) Dr. Purabi Roy, 47C Abdul Halim Lane, Calcutta 700 016,
 - iv) Shri Jayanta Roy, Hemanta Basu Bhawan, 49C,
Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 012,
- and
- v) Smt. Prabha Jagannathan, Correspondent, Formerly of The
Telegraph and now of the Economic Times, 105/7A, S.N.
Banerjee Road, Calcutta 700 013

3. Further orders/directions

On conclusion of the examination of the witnesses, the parties/their representatives who are present have been heard on the status report prepared on September 26, 2000 and circulated amongst them before

commencement of the hearing today. After such hearing and perusing all the materials received from the Central Government and the State Government since the last date of hearing, the Commission makes the following further orders/directions :-

a) Even though in paragraph E of the order dated August 31, 2000 there was an express direction that all informations to be furnished in terms thereof must be supported by affidavit of a competent officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India, the Prime Minister's office has sent an affidavit sworn by an Under Secretary of that office in purported compliance of paragraph A of the said order. The Commission therefore does not take any notice of the contents thereof; and calls upon the said office once more to strictly comply with the orders/directions issued on August 31, 2000.

b) (i) In compliance of paragraph B(i) of the order dated August 31, 2000, some papers reportedly relating to the Khosla Commission have been sent by the Ministry of Home Affairs and received by the office of the Commission without verifying the contents thereof. In expectation that some representative of the Ministry will be present today to identify those documents and prove their authenticity, the same have been brought to the venue of the Commission's hearing. But, as already mentioned, no one is there to represent the Government of India and for that matter the Ministry concerned.

(ii) A communication has been received from the Ministry seeking time till November 15, 2000 to produce the papers referred to in paragraph B(ii). The prayer is allowed.

(iii) Under orders of the Commission, a letter was sent by its Secretary on August 25, 2000 to produce the following documents :

(a)(a) A xerox copy of the letter said to be sent by General Chiang-kai-Sheikh to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru about an inquiry reportedly made by the Government of Nationalist China at Taipei regarding the alleged plane-crash involving Netaji along with a xerox copy of the said Inquiry Report; and

(b)(b) A xerox copy of the report dated 31st December, 1945 of Shri B.C. Chakravarty (Witness No.168 before Justice Khosla Commission of Inquiry) on alleged air-crash and alleged death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which was counter-signed by Col. Stevenson and sent to the CSDIC as referred to in the published report of the Commission;

but those documents have not yet been produced.

- c) None of the directions contained in para C(i) and (ii) of the abovequoted order has been complied with except that a letter has been received from the Ministry of External Affairs to-day (when the Commission was holding its sitting) wherein it is stated that they are preparing photocopies of the nine top-secret files referred to in paragraph C(ii) of the order dated August 31, 2000.
- d) Shri Aloknath Bhattacharyya, Special Secretary, Home (Political) Department who is present today has produced some Index Books but no affidavit has been filed in terms of para 'E' of the order dated August 31, 2000. Let the Index Books be kept with the office of the Commission and be not returned without leave of the Commission. The prayer of Shri Bhattacharyya for time to file affidavit is allowed.
- e) It is rather unfortunate that even though as far back as on March 23, 2000, the Commission passed comprehensive orders and directions regarding sending of files and documents to this Commission by the related Ministries/Departments/Offices, the same have not yet been

fully complied with. In this connection, the attention of the above authorities is drawn to the following portion of the order dated June 13, 2000 :-

"It is made abundantly clear that in case of failure to comply with the same by the aforesaid date, the Commission may be reluctantly compelled to invoke the provisions of Section 5(4) of the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 against the recalcitrant officers of the Government, both Central and State. It is also made clear that since the orders/directions passed in the proceedings by the Commission are in exercise of statutory – and not administrative – powers, no correspondence will henceforth be entertained relating to the compliance thereof. However, in respect of any matter relating to the compliance with the directions/orders of the Commission, the concerned Government may approach the Commission by making formal applications supported by affidavits before the Commission through competent officers, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India."

- f) The above orders/directions must be complied with by November 15, 2000.

4. NEXT HEARING

The next hearing of the Commission will be held on November 23, 2000 at 11 A.M. in the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan, 166 Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007.


(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman.

3695/JS CNV/00
6.09.2000

(153)

भारत का हाई कमिशन
लन्दन



Vikas Swarup
Counsellor (Pol.)
Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164
Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695
E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमिशन
लन्दन
THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
INDIA HOUSE
ALDWYCH
LONDON WC2B 4NA

(74)

26th September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Sir,

Further to my message of even number dated 22nd September, 2000 regarding possible visit by members of the Justice Mukherji Commission to London, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)

SoC/NLV

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

1/11/00

Stafes
for SM

13/11/00

154

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Mr S K Mandal
The High Commission of India
India House
Aldwych
London
WC2B 4NA

ORIENTAL AND INDIA OFFICE
COLLECTIONS

96 EUSTON ROAD
LONDON NW1 2DB 7840
Telephone 020 7412
Fax 020 7412 7641/7858
E-mail oioc-enquiries@bl.uk

our ref OIOC2-109-96-26
your ref
date 21 September 2000

Dear Mr Mandal

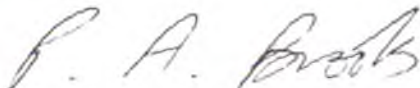
Following a telephone conversation with Miss Travis, I am writing to explain the preparations that will be necessary to ensure that the visit by the Justice Mukherji Commission will be successful. I have discussed the visit with Graham Shaw and we are agreed that they will find it most convenient to obtain British Library readers' passes as they will then be able to use our reading room. This will give them the flexibility to come and go as they please within our opening hours of 9-30 to 17-00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10-00 to 17-00 on Mondays.

If you can let me know the names of the members of the Commission who will be visiting, I can authorise the application forms in advance. However, the individual members will need to fill in the rest of the form on arrival and go to the Reader Admissions Office to be photographed and have the pass produced. If you can let me know the date and time of their arrival, either I or a colleague will meet them and help them through the admissions process.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Indian Political Intelligence have just been filmed and will shortly be available as a micro-fiche publication. It is not necessary to buy the whole series – one can buy only those of specific interest.

I shall be absent for most of this week and next. On my return I shall be happy to cooperate in making the visit go smoothly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs P A Brook
Head of India Office Records
E-mail: penny.brook@bl.uk



Vikas Swarup
 Counsellor (Pol.)
 Tel.: (00-44-20) 7836 8484 Extn. 164
 Fax: (00-44-20) 7836 6695
 E-Mail: 106332.3624@compuserve.com

भारत का हाई कमीशन
 लन्दन
 THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
 INDIA HOUSE
 ALDWYCH
 LONDON WC2B 4NA

22nd September, 2000

Lon/Pol/103/17/00

Dear Sir,

Refer your fax of September 18 regarding declassified British government records required by the Mukherjee Commission.

We had written to the Foreign Office, who in turn contacted the Head of the Oriental and India Office Library Collections at the British Library. The Head of the India Office Library would welcome a visit from the National Archives of India and/or Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry to examine them. We have also been informed that these files have additionally been transferred to microfiche, which can be purchased should there be a further need to study the information back in India.

I have requested Mr. Graham Shaw, the Head of the India Office Library Collection to inform me of the purchase price and will revert to you after hearing from him.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Vikas Swarup)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
 JS(CNV)
 Ministry of External Affairs
 NEW DELHI

3695/JS CNV/00
 6.9.2000

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19/10

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3648 JS(CNV)/2000
29.9.00

~~Secret~~
Immediate

No.I-12014/13/2000-IS(D.III)
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
IS-I Division

Dated, the 28th September, 2000.

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry set up by the Government in connection with the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has conveyed some directions to various Ministries/Departments/Authorities for production of classified files/documents before the Commission. In this connection, this Ministry has received certain references from various quarters like PMO, MEA, Cabinet Secretariat and others. Taking into consideration, the reflected view points of these quarters and the perception of MHA also in the matter, we have since mentioned to the Commission that all aspects pertaining to the subject matter are under our examination and we will let the Commission know about the final position shortly. In fact, we have sought time from the Commission till 15th of November, 2000 while mentioning at the same time that most likely we will respond to the Commission even earlier.

2. Having regard to this background, it has been decided that all of us should join hands to sort out matters in proper perspective on the basis of our cumulative wisdom. **Accordingly, there will be a meeting in the Chamber of Joint Secretary(IS-I) in room No.192, 1st floor, North Block, New Delhi on 4.10.2000 at 11 a.m.** which should be attended by all concerned. Your presence in the meeting is requested. Kindly come up with adequate brief in respect of matters at your end.

A.K. Paitandy
28.9.2000.
(A.K. Paitandy)
Director(IS-I)

As directed by JS(CNV), the meeting was attended by JS(AM) 2. and myself 3. 4.

- 1. Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), MEA, New Delhi.
- 2. Ms. Archana Ranjan, Director, PMO, New Delhi.
- 3. Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 4. Shri P.P. Nautiyal, Addl. Deputy Director, IB, New Delhi.

Copy to JS(IS-I) for her kind information.

25/9.

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AGENDA FOR THE MEETING ON JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION
OF INQUIRY TO BE HELD ON 4-10-2000

- (i) Examination of witnesses of the Central Government;
- (ii) Production of Top Secret/Secret files before the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry after declassifying the same;
- (iii) Taking a unanimous and unified stand on various issues before the Commission so as to ensure that there is no contradiction amongst various Departments of the Govt. of India on various points;
- (iv) Claiming of privilege for Top Secret/Secret files/documents - Relevant rules on claiming privilege;
- (v) Attending hearings of the Commission by representatives of the concerned Govt. of India Departments.

FAX

(158)

CRASH

(71)

From : Foreign, New Delhi

To : Branch Secretariat, Calcutta.

Shri M.Hansda, Head of Branch Sectt. FROM D.B.Bhati, SO(NGO)

Sm-70
AS DISCUSSED WITH YOU ON PHONE, FAXED HERewith IS MOST IMMEDIATE LETTER ADDRESSED TO SHRI P.K.SENGUPTA, SECRETARY, JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY, B-BLOCK (3 RD FLOOR), 11/A, MIRZA GHALIB STREET, CALCUTTA. AS DESPITE OF OUR BEST EFFORTS, WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FAX THE ATTACHED LETTER TO THE COMMISSION, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE LETTER MAY KINDLY BE DELIVERED TO SHRI SENGUPTA TODAY.

WARM REGARDS



(D.B. Bhati)

Section Officer(NGO)
September 27, 2000

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

759

TIME: 27/09/2000 12:12

NAME: DS:DM_SNEA

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MOST IMMEDIATE

**JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)**

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

September 26, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta, *San-55*

Please refer to your letter No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(follow-up)/48/187 dated 08.08.2000 regarding submission of photocopies of the nine classified files of this Ministry to the Commission.

As per the directions of the Commission, this Ministry has already initiated action about photocopying etc. of the said files and the photocopies will be sent to the Commission shortly.

This is for interim information of the Commission.

Yours sincerely,

du

(JAYANT PRASAD)
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**Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
Calcutta.
(Fax No: 033-2162765)**

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JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

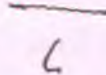
September 25, 2000

Dear Shri Paitandy,

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, vide there letter No.JMCI/Meeting-
Proceeding(Follow-up)/48(Vol.II)/243(5) dated 06.09.2000 pertaining to the orders/directions
contained in the proceedings dated 31.08.2000, has directed to produce all the Top Secret
files(in original) of this Ministry mentioned in our letter No. 25/4/NGO -Vol.V dated
01.03.2000 before the Commission for inspection. We therefore propose to submit these
files to the Commission in original after retaining their photocopies with us.

I shall be grateful if your no objection for producing the above mentioned files in
original before the Commission is conveyed to us expeditiously preferably within two days of
the issue of this letter.

Yours sincerely


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri A.K.Paitandy,
Director(IS-I),
Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

5 Nov 68
Shr JM
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Issued
MP
26.9.00

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25.9.00

12784/PD/2000
25/9

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2766-68 & 216-2835

Fax:
216-2765

E-Mail
jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

(68)

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(Follow-up)/48(Vol.II)/243(5)

Calcutta, dated, 06.09 2000

REGISTERED WITH A/D.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To
The Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India
South Block
New Delhi 110 001

Subject **Strict compliance with the orders/directions contained
in the proceedings dated 31.08.2000 read with the
proceedings dated 23.03.2000 and 13.06.2000 of Justice
Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.**

Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of the proceedings dated 31.08.2000 of the Commission containing its orders and directions for your perusal and compliance thereof as directed by the Commission.

Copies of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 and 13.06.2000 of the Commission were sent to your office earlier.

May kindly see it

Sub 22/9

28/09/00

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Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: As stated above.

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Proceedings dated 31.08.2000 (Third)
Held at the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan,
166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007

August 31, 2000

After perusal of the files/documents still now made available to the Commission and hearing the parties and/or their representatives present, the following directions are given to the authorities noted below :

A. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE/SECRETARIAT

- (i) While sending photocopies of seven files marked as 'Top Secret/Secret' with a forwarding letter No. G-16(4)/2000-NGO dated July 24, 2000 (also marked 'Top Secret/Secret') addressed to the Secretary of the Commission, a Director of the Prime Minister's office, South Block, New Delhi has made the following request :

"It is further requested that while information contained in the 'Top Secret' papers may be made use of by the Commission, in camera, since these are classified as 'Top Secret', they may kindly consider not publishing the same."

Viewed in that context, the above office/secretariat is directed to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being claimed against the disclosure of the contents thereof, more so, when the Commission is holding a public enquiry and its report will be a public document and the contents of those files may have an important bearing.

- (ii) The above office will let this Commission know whether any of the files/records relevant to the terms of reference of this Commission has been destroyed and, if so, details thereof and why, when and where they were destroyed and whether copies of the documents contained therein have been kept or maintained.

- (iii) In spite of directions contained in paragraph a(i) read with paragraph (b) of the order of this Commission dated March 23, 2000 read with the order dated June 13, 2000, the above office/Secretariat has not filed any affidavit regarding the availability of files/documents mentioned in the aforesaid paragraph a(i).

B. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

- (i) In spite of the directions of the Commission contained in its orders dated March 23, 2000 and June 13, 2000, the complete original records of the entire proceedings of Justice Khosla Commission of Inquiry, including the evidence recorded by and documents produced before the said Commission, have not been sent.
- (ii) In his affidavit dated June 20, 2000, the Director (IS-1) attached to the Ministry of Home Affairs has stated, inter alia, that in their Ministry only the files regarding bringing back of the presumed ashes of Netaji kept in Renkoji Temple in Tokyo in Japan and posthumous announcement of award of 'Bharat Ratna' to Netaji are available, and according to the deponent, those files do not have any direct bearing on the on-going inquiry of the Commission. Notwithstanding the above observation, the Ministry of Home Affairs is directed to submit those files before the Commission immediately.

✓
C. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

- (i) In spite of earlier directions of the Commission contained in the orders of the Commission dated March 23, 2000 and June 13, 2000, the complete original records of the entire proceedings of Shah Nawaz Khan Committee of Inquiry including the evidence recorded by and the documents produced before the said Committee, have not been sent.
- (ii) Along with his letter No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated March 1, 2000 (marked 'Top Secret'), Joint Secretary (CNV) has given a list of some files marked 'Top Secret'. The Ministry is directed to produce the said files in original before the Commission for its inspection and also explain why those files are still being treated as 'Top Secret', more so, when the Commission is holding a public enquiry and its report will be a public document and the contents of those files may have an important bearing.

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: 3 :

D. GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Secretary to the Home Department, Government of West Bengal, is directed to produce the original Index Books, together with xerox copies thereof, relating to the files detailed in Annexure 'B' to the affidavit dated July 28, 2000 filed by Shri Aloknath Bhattacharyya, Special Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Home (Political) Department. The Index Books shall not be taken back without the leave of the Commission.

E. COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

All informations to be furnished in terms of the above orders/directions must be supported by affidavits of competent officers, not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India, and filed by September 26, 2000. All files/documents, in terms of the above orders/directions, must be produced also by the same date.

F. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

- (i) The Government of India is directed to produce its witnesses, if any, on the next date of hearing for their examination, before the Commission examines witnesses cited by other parties.
- (ii) Of the witnesses cited by the other parties, let the following witnesses be summoned to appear on the next date of hearing :
1. Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, Chairman, Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta
 2. Shri Suman Chattopadhyay, Executive Editor, Ananda Bazar Patrika, Calcutta.
 3. Shri Ardhendu Sarkar, formerly of Bharat Heavy Engineering Corpn.
 4. Shri Anindya Sengupta, Columnist, The Statesman, Calcutta.
 5. Shri Nilanjan Basu, Reporter, Bartaman, Calcutta.
- (iii) As regards the other witnesses cited by them, appropriate directions as to who of them will be examined and when, will be notified in due course.

G. NEXT HEARING

The next hearing of the Commission will be held on September 28, 2000 at 11 A.M. in the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan, 166 Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007.

(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman.

Copy No. 6/7

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~~TOP SECRET~~
MOST IMMEDIATE
TIME BOUND

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

T. 2723 / mm/2m

21.9.2000

SOUTH BLOCK
NEW DELHI-110011.

Subject:- Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry appointed to enquire into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose- Declassification of records.

corr. 65864

Reference is invited to this Office U.O. of even number date 14th/15th September, 2000, on the subject mentioned above.

2. Keeping in view the fact that the next date of hearing of the Commission has been fixed on 28.9.2000, by which date the stand of the Government in the matter of claiming privilege regarding classified documents contained in this Office classified files, copies of which have already been made available to the Commission, is to be made known to the Commission, it has now been decided that the Ministry/Department/Agency concerned, should take a decision regarding the desirability or otherwise of the references originating from their respective Ministry/Department/Agency (copies were sent along with our U.O. dated 14th/15th September, 2000) and convey it to the Commission, direct, at the following address, under intimation to this Office:-

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block (Third Floor),
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street, CALCUTTA-700087.

2. It is requested that early action may kindly be taken in

- 2 - 169

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the matter, under intimation to this Office.

Archana
(ARCHNA RANJAN)
DIRECTOR
Tel.No.301393

Shri R.D.Choudhury, Director General, National Museum, Janpath, New Delhi-110011.

Shri P.Mahendru, Jt. Director, IB(MHA) New Delhi.

Shri A.K.Paitandy, Director (IS-I) MHA (alongwith a copy of the reply sent by Cab. Sectt)

Shri G.B.Singh, Director, M/Defence, History Division, West Block No,8, R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066.

Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.

P.M.O.U.O.No.G.16(4)/2000-NGO dated: 21 -9-2000.

✓ Copy for information to Shri Jayant Prasad, JS(CNV)M/External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi, w.r. to MEA U.O.No.25/4/NGO (Vol.V) dated 19.9.2000.

Archana
(ARCHNA RANJAN)
DIRECTOR.

Please return
copy.

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~~TOP SECRET~~
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Ministry of External Affairs
NGO SECTION

SNO. 64

Please refer to PMO U.O. No. 16(4)2000-NGO dated 14.09.2000 regarding view taken by this Ministry in regard to documents originating in this Ministry required by Justice Mukherjee Commission, inquiring into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

As regards copies of papers originating from this Ministry enclosed with the above note are concerned, this Ministry have no objection for these to be declassified to 'confidential'. As to which of these may be made public, if any, we may have to leave to the discretion of the Commission. As regards documents being produced before the Commission by this Ministry, we intend to take the same stand.

~~J.P.~~
(JAYANT PRASAD)
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel. No. 3011357

de

Ms Archana Ranjan, Director, PM's Office, South Block, New Delhi.

MEA U.O.No.25/4/NGO Vol. V dated September 19, 2000.

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JM



Archana Ranjan
Director

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प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
नई दिल्ली-110 011
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
NEW DELHI -110 011

T.2697/News/200
20.9.2000

D.O.No.16(4)/2000-NGO

September 19, 2000

Dear *Shri Prasad,*

A copy of this Office UO of even number dated 14/15.9.2000 which was sent to Shri Thomas, Section Officer(NGO), Ministry of External Affairs, regarding declassification of records made available to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, appointed by Government of India to enquire into alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, is enclosed (Copy No.7/8- without enclosures). The communication was sent to Shri Thomas in your absence.

2. We shall be grateful for a very quick response, as we have to respond to the communication received from the Commission well before the next date of hearing fixed for 26.9.2000 positively.

with best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary(CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
Room No. 163, Ist Floor,
South Block,
New Delhi-110011.

Replied to
Archana Ranjan
(Archana Ranjan)

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19/9
So NCC
20/9/00
JM

~~TOP SECRET~~
MOST IMMEDIATE

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Sub:- Declassification of records.

The Government of India has appointed the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. In response to the communication received from the Commission of Inquiry vide letter No.JMC/Meeting/48/95, dated 23.5.2000, copy of seven top secret files pertaining to this Office were sent to the Commission with the request that while the Commission may make use of the top secret papers, in camera, they may kindly consider not publishing the same, since these are classified as top secret.

2. The Commission have vide their letter dated 6.9.2000 directed this Office to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being claimed against the disclosure of the contents of the Top Secret files, more so, when the Commission is holding a public inquiry and its reports will be a public document and contents of these files may have an important bearing. It also appears the Commission has been in touch with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of West Bengal etc. for production of records relevant to the terms and conditions of the Commission of Inquiry.

3. Copies of the classified communications which originated from your Ministry/Department are enclosed. You are requested to kindly let this Office know immediately the view, if any already taken, regarding their declassification and production before the Commission. If a view is yet to be taken, the same may please be expedited and complete

are classified as top secret.

carriers, they may kindly consider not publishing the same, since these that while the Commission may make use of the top secret papers, in pertaining to this Office were sent to the Commission with the request No. JMC(Meeting)/48/95, dated 23.2.2000, copy of seven top secret files received from the Commission of Inquiry vide letter Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. In response to the communication of Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged disappearance of The Government of India has appointed the Justice Mukherjee

Sub: - Declassification of records.

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

MOST IMMEDIATE
TOP SECRET

is yet to be taken, the same may please be expedited and complete their declassification and production before the Commission. If a view this Office know immediately the view, it any already taken, regarding your Ministry/Department are enclosed. You are requested to kindly let

3. Copies of the classified communications which originated from the terms and conditions of the Commission of Inquiry.

Government of West Bengal etc. for production of records relevant to touch with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, an important bearing. It also appears the Commission has been in reports will be a public document and contents of these files may have more so, when the Commission is holding a public inquiry and its claimed against the disclosure of the contents of the Top Secret files, this Office to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being

5. The Commission have vide their letter dated 6.9.2000 directed

information intimated to this Office latest by the forenoon of 18th September, 2000.

(Archana Ranjan)
Director

Shri R.D.Choudhury ,Director General, National Museum,
Janpath,New Delhi-110011.

Shri P.Mehendru, Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau(MHA),New Delhi.

Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri G.B.Singh,Director, Ministry of Defence,History Division,West Block
No. 8,R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066.

Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat,New Delhi.

Shri Thomas, SO(NGO) Ministry of External Affairs.

PMO U.O.No.16(4)/2000-NGO dated 14.9.2000.

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Copy No 6/8

T. 2639/NSO/2000
18/9

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~~TOP SECRET~~
MOST IMMEDIATE

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Sub:- Declassification of records.

The Government of India has appointed the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. In response to the communication received from the Commission of Inquiry vide letter No.JMC/Meeting/48/95, dated 23.5.2000, copy of seven top secret files pertaining to this Office were sent to the Commission with the request that while the Commission may make use of the top secret papers, in camera, they may kindly consider not publishing the same, since these are classified as top secret.

2. The Commission have vide their letter dated 6.9.2000 directed this Office to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being claimed against the disclosure of the contents of the Top Secret files, more so, when the Commission is holding a public inquiry and its reports will be a public document and contents of these files may have an important bearing. It also appears the Commission has been in touch with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of West Bengal etc. for production of records relevant to the terms and conditions of the Commission of Inquiry.

3. Copies of the classified communications which originated from your Ministry/Department are enclosed. You are requested to kindly let this Office know immediately the view, if any already taken, regarding their declassification and production before the Commission. If a view is yet to be taken, the same may please be expedited and complete

is classified as top secret.

cameras, they may kindly consider not publishing the same, since these that while the Commission may make use of the top secret papers, in pertaining to this Office were sent to the Commission with the request No. JMC/Meeting/48/95, dated 23.2.2000, copy of seven top secret files received from the Commission of Inquiry vide letter Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. In response to the communication Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the alleged disappearance of The Government of India has appointed the Justice Mukherjee

Sub:- Declassification of records.

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

~~MOST IMMEDIATE~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

is yet to be taken, the same may please be expedited and complete their declassification and production before the Commission. If a view this Office know immediately the view, if any already taken, regarding your Ministry/Department are enclosed. You are requested to kindly let

3. Copies of the classified communications which originated from the terms and conditions of the Commission of Inquiry.

Government of West Bengal etc. for production of records relevant to touch with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, and important bearing. It also appears the Commission has been in reports will be a public document and contents of these files may have more so, when the Commission is holding a public inquiry and its claimed against the disclosure of the contents of the Top Secret files, this Office to adduce specific reasons as to why privilege is being

5. The Commission have vide their letter dated 8.9.2000 directed

(173)

information intimated to this Office latest by the forenoon of 18th September, 2000.

Arjana
(Archana Ranjan)
Director

Shri R.D.Choudhury ,Director General, National Museum,
Janpath,New Delhi-110011.

Shri P.Mehendru, Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau(MHA),New Delhi.

Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri G.B.Singh,Director, Ministry of Defence,History Division,West Block
No. 8,R.K.Puram, New Delhi-110066.

Shri Ravi Mittal, Director, Cabinet Secretariat,New Delhi.

✓ Shri Thomas, SO(NGO) Ministry of External Affairs.

PMO U.O.No.16(4)/2000-NGO dated 14.9.2000.
15

Encl. One hundred pages

at my house
This was delivered during
the week end. JS(Env) may kindly
see for instructions.

Thomas
18/9/00

JS(Env)

written to Pona today

JS(Env) has since

also
19/9/00

194

गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(11)

(1)

~~SECRET~~

Ministry of External Affairs

I.N.A. Treasure

Some months ago, PM saw the "treasure" received from Tokyo, consisting of some charred and broken pieces of jewellery.

2. We have now received from our Embassy at Tokyo Rs. 265/10/-, being the equivalent of the amount of 20,000 yen, which was deposited there in cash.

3. The pieces of metal and the cash are in a safe in this Ministry, of which the key is in my personal custody. PM decided that the "treasure" should be kept as evidence of the aircraft accident and subsequent fire. The money too was transferred here on his instructions. Presumably it will be used for a charitable purpose.

4. The use to be made of these articles and of the money in India seems to fall outside the sphere of this Ministry. Would PM's Secretariat kindly take over the "treasure" and the cash?

Sd. H. Dayal
29.7.53

PPS to PM

MEA
22(11)/B-57-PM

D4.No. 3672/PM
3/8/53

(156)

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2

~~गोपनीय~~

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Ministry of External Affairs.

AS

MEAF
23(11)/53-52-M

Subject: I.N.A. "Treasure".

Shri M.O. Mathai will recall that I discussed the question of disposal of the INA "Treasure" with him some time ago. The "treasure" was received from Tokyo and consists of some charred and broken pieces of jewellery. There is also a sum of Rs. 265/10/- in cash, being the equivalent of the amount of 20,000 yen which was deposited with our Embassy. The pieces of metal and the cash are in a locked box which has been put inside a sealed bag and deposited in the cash chest of the Ministry. This is not a very satisfactory arrangement for its safe custody.

2. Shri Mathai said that he would investigate in consultation with the Ministry of Education where the "treasure" could most usefully be kept and displayed, and would then make arrangements to take it over from us. The cash could perhaps be credited to any INA Fund that might still be in existence. We shall be most grateful if he would kindly take action as above and relieve us of the responsibility for the custody of the "treasure". He would, no doubt, obtain P.M.'s orders.

Sd/- Devi Diyal
Deputy Secretary,
3/11/1953.

P.M.'s Sectt: (Shri M.O. Mathai).
Ministry of E. A. u. O. No. 25/4/NGO dt. 3/11/1953.

I suggest that PM might write to the Minister of Education to authorise some one responsible to get into touch with Shri Harishwar Dayal, Joint Secretary, E.A. Ministry to take over the "INA Treasure" and place it in the Museum in Jaipur House or Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The first thing the Education Ministry should do is to have a look at the "Treasure" and get suitable covered glass cases to be made in order to preserve the "Treasure" properly.

The small amount of money might be credited to the INA Fund with the A.I.C.C.

Sd/- M.O. Mathai.
3-11-53

PM

3

It would be desirable for the Education Ministry to take charge of this so-called "Treasure". Please ask Dr. Bhatnagar or Shri Humayun Kabir about it.

2. It will not be quite proper for the money to be credited to the INA Fund. It should be held by External Affairs or by the Education Ministry till we decide about it.

Sd/- J. Nehru.
12-11-53.

23(156)

(14)

186

CONFIDENTIAL

(3)

I suggest that Dr. Bhatnagar and Prof. Humayun Kabir might kindly visit EA Ministry and see the "Treasure" and then take suitable action.

Sd/-M.O.Mathai.
13-11-53.

Dr. S.S.Bhatnagar.

(26) 22-A
4

(72)

OCB No. 6132.
Copy No. 4...

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM: ~~TOP SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय~~
CONFIDENTIAL

From: Foreign, New Delhi.
To: Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO NOV.12 N11.

IMPORTANT.

No. 27627. ~~TOP SECRET~~ For RAUF.

Your telegram No. 137 November 10th. Goods arrived November 12th.

.....

Prime Minister(4), Dy. Minister, FS(2), CS(2), JSAD, DSFEAWT, and Cabinet Secretary.

K. Srinivasan
Superintendent CCB.

'BNS' (16)
12/11/52.

M. E. A.
23(11)/52-57-9m

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



[Faint, illegible handwritten text]

O.T.P.

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CCB No. 8363.

COPY NO. 1

TELEGRAM

~~TOP SECRET~~

From....Indembassy, Tokyo.
To.....Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO.NOV. 101000.
DTR.NOV. 100900.

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.137-G. ~~TOP SECRET~~. Continuation of our telegram No.136-G of 8th November DAMLE arriving Delhi Pan American Airways Flight 3 Tuesday 0005 hours.

MS
23(11)/53-52-PM

.....

✓
PRIME MINISTER(4): DY MINISTER: FS(2): CS(2): DS FEAWT:
CABINET SECRETARY.

Rubi
Superintendent CCB.

D(15)
10/11/52

(27)
21-A
(5)

19-A

12/11

SECRET.

179

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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20-11

6

I.N.A. Treasure.

This will soon be arriving and will be placed in a safe deposit vault.

2. Most of the treasure consists of damaged articles of jewellery. There are also some gold pieces. There is no provision in the Customs Law for the exemption of such articles from duty. Even Government imports have to pay duty.

3. The only alternative is to treat them as objects of historical value. If it is clearly stated at the time of import that Government's intention is to display them in a public place, such as a museum, they would be exempt from duty. I presume that some time or other, when we have an historical museum, we shall keep these articles there in a special section devoted to India's struggle for freedom. Many objects of interest connected with the INA and other freedom movements could be kept in that section.

4. If P.M. could confirm that it is the intention to keep these articles in a museum at some future date and not to sell them and use the proceeds for some national purpose .. I shall inform the Central Board of Revenue that we are claiming exemption from duty on that ground.

Sd/- R.K.Nehru
11.11.1952.

P.M.

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.
.....

It is difficult to say now what we will do with these articles or gold pieces. We may inform the Central Board of Revenue that it is our present intention to treat them as historical articles which might be kept in a museum. In the event of our deciding otherwise later, we shall naturally pay such duty as may be decided upon. You should really find out from the Finance Ministry what they advise in this matter. This is, in a sense, Government property. We do not yet know what the value of it is and what we will do with it.

Sd/- J.Nehru
11/11/1952.

ME A
23 (11) 56-52-Pm

MEA
23(11)/56-57-PM

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CCB No. 8343
Copy No. 3

19-A

O.T.P.

TELEGRAM

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From..... Indembassy, Tokyo.
To..... Foreign, Now Delhi.

D.T.O. NOV. 081515
D.T.R. NOV. 081630

MOST IMMEDIATE

No.136-G. ~~TOP SECRET~~

Continuation my TOP SECRET telegram No.134-G of today's date. If necessary please insure stuff worth Rs.90,000 repeat 90,000 carried in steel attache case weighing approximately 35 repeat 35 lbs as insurance NOT possible this end.

.....

PRIME MINISTER (4): DY MINISTER: FS(2): CS(2):
DSFEAWT & CAB SECY.

E.A. (15)
b, 11/52.

re: Barar

10.11.52

PN Sareen
Superintendent C.C.B.

ARS

19/11

*Don't do repeat
5 P.M. 19/11*

M(20)

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MEA
23(11)/56-57-P1

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CCB No. 8342

Copy No. 2

O.T.P.

TELEGRAM

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL~~

From..... Indombassy, Tokyo.
To..... Foreign, New Delhi.

D.T.O. NOV. 081230
D.T.R. NOV. 081530

MOST IMMEDIATE

**
No. 134-G. ~~TOP SECRET~~

From RAUF. Your Top Secret telegram No. 27621 30th October. DAMLE bringing stuff and copy of list by Pan American Airways flight 3 leaving 9th reaching Delhi 10th evening. Kindly instruct Customs authorities for Customs exemption.

.....
PRIME MINISTER(4): DY MINISTER: FS(2): CS(2): DSFEAWT:
CAB SECY.

E.A. (15)
8/11/52.

re: Sarna
10.11.52
wil 10/11

P.N. Sareen
Superintendent C.C.B.

Does this
relate to
A* by ch.

APslo
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MEA
23(11)/56-57

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(9)

CCB No. 5854
Copy No. 1

O.T.P

TELEGRAM

~~TOP SECRET~~

गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL

From..... Foreign, New Delhi
To.....Indembassy, Tokyo

DTO OCT 30 1530

IMMEDIATE

No. 27621. ~~TOP SECRET~~. For RAUF

Your Top Secret telegram 131-G of
October 27th. Please send authenticated list along
with the stuff through DAMLE.

PRIME MINISTER (4); DY MIN; FS (B); CS (2); DSFEAWT;

CAB SECY:

K. Srinivasan
Superintendent CCB

DR. (13)
301700

S

SNo (1) 183

गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

10

MEA
G-12(18)/94-NGO

Ministry of External Affairs
Joint Secretary(AP)'s Office

P.M.O. may please refer to their U.O.
No.870/11/P/10/93-Pol dated 9 August, 1994
regarding Netaji.

Foreign Secretary has directed that a
copy of TS note No.89/2/1/94-TS dated 22 July
1994 about Netaji's death be sent to you for
information.

(R.S. Kalha)
Joint Secretary(AP)

Ms Sujata Mehta, Director(PMO)

MEA u.o. No.29276JS(A)/94 dt. 22.8.1994
No. 25/14/NGO

please check
the
23 r

NGO/PS/

NGO

not see in the past up pl.

ms

21/8/94

P. M. O. (NGO)

Dy. No. 354/11/94

Date 24-8-94

142/22(S)/TS/94
24/8/94



14-9-2000
3

MEA
B-12(18)/94-160

S No (4)

184

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

11

Ministry of External Affairs
Joint Secretary(AP)'s Office

P.M.O. may please refer to MEA U.O. No.2927-
JS(AP)/94 dated 22 August 1994 and also their U.O. ✓
Note No.870/11/P/10/93-Pol dated 9th August, 1994
regarding Netaji.

2. Foreign Secretary has directed that a copy of
the note below be forwarded to PMO along with a
copy of letter No.TOK/102/2/92 dated 27 September,
1994 and its enclosure, received from our
Ambassador in Tokyo, for information and record.

(R.S. Kalha)
Joint Secretary(AP)

Ms Sujata Mehta, Director(PMO)
MEA U.O. No. 25/4/160

please link

RM
24-11

New file is placed below

Blv Jc
SO(NGO)
25/11/94

276/25 (156)/94
25/11 *21/5*

P. M. O. (NGO)
Dy. No. 442/E/94
Date 25-11-94

209/Dir(S)/18/94
25/11/94

P-5-6 / N

MEA
A-12(18)/94-Now

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गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~

12

Ministry of External Affairs
(Asia Pacific Division)

A credible and Detailed explanation from Japanese authorities as to why the cremation certificate was not in Netaji's name is necessary.

(Contention of Shri Ashish Ray)

Position as per our records

There is no information on this issue available in the records. However, two enquiry committees in 1956 (Shah Nawaz) and 1970 (Khosla) examined a large number of files and 224 witnesses (including 100 abroad) and came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on 18th August, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the finding. The report of the Khosla Commission alongwith Memorandum of Action Taken, was laid on Table of both Houses of Parliament on 3rd September, 1974.

2. Report of investigation carried out by Japanese Government in 1956 according to which the death of Netaji was confirmed and the report was handed over to the Indian Government a copy of which exists in files at both the Ministry of External Affairs and in the Indian Embassy, Tokyo.

(Contention of Shri Ashish Ray)

Position as per our records

This report is not available among the records available with the Ministry of External Affairs. Our Mission in Tokyo has also been approached who have also been requested to confirm if they possess a copy of this report.

3. To obtain from Russian authorities, information that Netaji never visited Soviet Union after August 18, 1945 if this is indeed the case.

(Contention of Shri Ashish Ray)

Position as per our records

The Russian Federtaion vide its note No.2/YUA dated January 8, 1992 addressed to the Embassy of India, Moscow, has confirmed in reply to Embassy of India Moscow's Note Verbale of September 16, 1991 to the Russian Government, that as per the records available in the Central and Republican Archives, there is no information about the stay of the former President of Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in Soviet Union in 1945 and after that.

4. A clarification is required from the British Government on its stand until at least the late 1940's that Netaji did not die in the plane crash.

(Contention of Shri Ashish Ray)

Position as per our records.

There is nothing in records available with us

5. To subject the urn containing the ashes of Netaji into a simple X-ray in order to determine the reported gold plated tooth pertaining to Netaji lying in the urn. In order to establish the genuineness the ashes kept at Renkoji Temple, Japan.

(Contention of Shri Ashish Ray.)

Position as per our records.

C.I. C. (Figless) Report dated 29.9.45.

No Mention.

C.S.D.I.C. Report No.1156 dt. 31.12.45

On August 23, 1945, B. 1269 in the Company of the cleric and staff major and 3 or 4 other Japanese visited the crematorium when the ashes of Bose were collected and placed in a wooden box specially made for the purpose, B. 1269 was shown a small piece of gold among the ashes which he believes was part of one of Bose's gold teeth. The box containing the ashes was then taken to a Japanese temple in the city, where a religious ceremony was again performed by the cleric.

Before S.N. Khan Committee on 6.4.56

"On the morning of August 21, 1945, I went to the crematorium accompanied by two or three Japanese including the civilian and opened the lock of the incinerator with key which was with me. I was present and I saw the ashes of Netaji's body inside it. We had a wooden urn to collect the ashes. We collected some ashes from the head side, nearest to the door, and placed them in the urn. I remember distinctly that a little piece of gold, which was from the filling of one of Netaji's teeth was removed and placed in the urn"

While no X-ray of the urn has so far been conducted and no records therefore exist, the discrepancy in the date mentioned in the statement of Col. Rahman in CSDIC report and in Shah Nawaz Committee Report under this heading (as reproduced

above) may also be noted which refers to dates being mentioned as divergent as August 23, 1945 and August 21, 1945.

6. To the option of irreversible judgement from the Supreme Court authorising return of the ashes, there is already a case before the Chief Justice pertaining how Netaji could have been given the Bharat Ratna posthumously. There are no records which deal with the suggestion of seeking an irreversible decision from Supreme Court authorising return of the ashes. Records are however available pertaining to an objection filed in Calcutta High Court challenging the declaration of Bharat Ratna Award given posthumously. It may, however, be also noted here (file C/551/12/93-JP) that GOI has revoked its decision to confer Bharat Ratna on Netaji in January 1994.

7. CCPA approved on 27th February, 1991 proposal of MHA that "no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another inquiry or by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

JS(PMO) in his Note on 24.8.1992 stated "PM agrees that the inquiry into the question of whether Netaji is dead or alive or the circumstances of his disappearance, need not be re-opened."

Above reiterated in PMO letter of 15.12.92 that "circumstances of Netaji's disappearance need not be re-opened."



सत्यमेव जयते

AMBASSADOR

~~SECRET~~

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126/D/M/L
6/10
S/Soc/AP/94
17/10
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3661-73 (AP) 94

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो
Embassy of India,
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome,
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102
Telex: 2324886 INDEMB J
Phone: 03(3262)2391
Fax: 03(3234)4866

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15

गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL

No. TOK/102/2/92

September 27, 1994

Dear Ranjit,

Kindly refer to your letter No. 3379- JS(AP)/94 dated September 16, 1994 regarding Netaji's death. /F/A

In response to a query by the Embassy to the Gaimusho, the latter sent a letter dated July 24, 1956 informing that the cremation permit in the name of Mr. Okura is believed to be that of Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose. A copy of Gaimusho's letter dated July 24, 1956, as well as a copy of the death certificate of Mr. Ichiro Okura, is enclosed.

Regards.

Yours sincerely,

Prakash

(Prakash Shah)

Shri R.S. Kalha
Joint Secretary (AP)
Ministry of External Affairs
NEW DELHI

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MEA
G-1248/94-102

T/165/EAM/95
28/10/95

139
S.No. 3 (R)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

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MEA
G-16(3)/95-220

OFFICE OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

I visited Augsburg, Germany, on 21st October 1995 to meet Netaji's widow - Mrs. Emily Shenkel Bose and his daughter Prof. Anita Pfaff. Anita's husband - Dr. Hartmann Pfaff as well as their children were present during the meeting. Our Ambassador in Bonn Shri S.K.Lambah was also present. During the course of our conversation, the following points emerged;

- a) I said it was time for forward movement on the issue of return of the ashes of Netaji from Japan to India. The Japanese government as well as associates of Netaji in Japan were keen that Netaji's ashes return to his motherland. I said that the Indian government was also keen to bring back the ashes at a suitable time provided controversial issues were resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. Anita Pfaff said that the ashes could be brought to Germany from Japan if the issue of their return to India remained controversial. Ambassador Lambah stated that the Japanese had already reacted negatively to the proposal of transferring the ashes to a third country.
- b) I showed the list of persons to be included in the Official National Centenary Celebrations Committee to mark Netaji's birth anniversary.

TS 345 12/10/95

TOP

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~~गोपनीय~~
CONFIDENTIAL

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Anita Pfaff made some suggestions which I have communicated separately to HRD Minister and MOS (PMO), Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi. She accepted my invitation to be a member of the Committee.

- c) Netaji's widow and his daughter raised the issue of a suitable memorial for Netaji as well as the question of what to do with Netaji's ashes once they had been brought back to India i.e. whether the ashes should be immersed in the Ganga or be kept at a place of reverence. I said that these issues could be sorted out by the National Committee.
- d) On the issue of alleged captivity of Netaji in Russia after 1945, I showed the members of Netaji's family an official communication from the Russian government stating that it has no record of Netaji's presence in the Soviet Union during or after 1945. Articles from the Russian Press pointing to the fact that Netaji was not in the Soviet Union in 1945 or thereafter, were also shown.
- e) The entire family expressed happiness over my visit. Anita Pfaff and her husband accepted my invitation to visit India. This is expected to take place late December, 95 or early January, 1996.

(191)

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(18)

ASSESSMENT:

I feel that Netaji's widow and daughter are keen that an early solution be found to the issue of return of Netaji's ashes to India. They seemed convinced of the seriousness of purpose on the part of the Indian Government. Anita Pfaff made it clear that while she would like to consult other members of the family in India, the final decision would rest with her alone. She anticipated opposition from some members of the family. She would prefer that the family is not divided on this issue.

By initiating direct contact with Netaji's immediate family, we have achieved some forward movement on the issue of return of Netaji's ashes to India. However, there exists opposition from some sections of Netaji's family, which if articulated publicly, as surely it will be, may be used for partisan political ends. Therefore, we need to proceed cautiously to avoid endowing this issue with controversial overtones.

Pranab

(Pranab Mukherjee)
External Affairs Minister
28 October 1995

J.S. (M)'S OFFICE

Dy. No. 7-211/95

Date 01/11/95

P. H. O. (NGO)

Dy. No. 361/I/95

Date 2-11-95 PM

198 TS/JSN/95
1-11-95

P.V. N...
29/10

83-TS/MOS (PMO)

30/11/95

311/TS/NGO (MOS)

6-11-95

Prab...
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25/11/95 (S)/Tch
27/11/95



MEA
A-12(3)/98-1000

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA

19 (1)

DEPUTY SECRETARY (ADMINISTRATIVE)
50113 BONN
TELEPHONE 0228 141111
FAX 0228 141114
TELEGRAM 201792

No. Bon/Amb/98- 5 (c)

1. Ask for me
 2. Early on file pt.
- JCP) $\frac{6}{10/4}$

March 3, 1998

My dear Principal Secretary,

Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Pfaff, daughter of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, had dinner with me at my residence yesterday. She handed over a letter addressed to the Prime Minister. I enclose the original letter along with a copy. The main point made in the letter is that she is agreeable for bringing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

2 The subject of the return of ashes has been discussed informally with Prof. Anita Pfaff for some time.

3 On instructions from the then External Affairs Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I had been asked to ascertain the views of Prof. Anita Pfaff. She and her husband Dr. Martin Pfaff, who is a Member of Parliament, came to my house on 28th September, 1995 for dinner. I found that both of them were in favour of return of the ashes to India but, at that time, did not take any categorical stand.

4 Later, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then External Affairs Minister transited through Germany on October 21, 1995 to meet Prof. Anita Pfaff. I accompanied him to Augsburg. He had a long discussion with Prof. Anita Pfaff in which different viewpoints were expressed. While she was favourably inclined to return of the ashes, she was not sure about the timings. Some family members advised her that it may be preferable to get them after Netaji's centenary year celebrations were over in India. We also met her mother Mrs. Emilie Schenkl-Bose.

5 A few months later, Mrs. Emilie Schenkl-Bose passed away in March, 1996. I accompanied the then Minister of State for Finance Mr. Debiprosad Pal to Augsburg for the funeral on 18th March, 1996.

6 Prof. Anita Pfaff was invited by the then EAM to visit India but the visit was postponed on account of her ill-health. When Netaji's centenary celebrations started, no invitation was initially issued to Prof. Anita Pfaff. However, when we came to know that Mrs. Jyotsna Bose was being invited as her son lives in Hamburg (she lives in Calcutta) and the invitation was, by mistake, sent to the Embassy. We got in touch with the Ministry of Culture who immediately sent an invitation to Prof. Anita Pfaff but she could not attend due to the short notice.

PRE. SECY to PM
DY 1620-6/98
Date 6/2/98

114/M/98
Date 11/3

200(MIO)
1415-94/S/98
Date 20-3-98

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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7 PM. when he was EAM, transited through Frankfurt on 9th February, 1997. He asked me to renew the invitation extended by his predecessor to Prof. Anita Pfaff. Subsequently, Prof. Anita Pfaff visited India in March/April, 1997 and again in January, 1998. She met the President and PM. The enclosed letter to PM, she told me, is a continuation of the discussions she had with PM in Delhi on January 25, 1998..

8 During the discussions yesterday, Prof. Anita Pfaff told me :

- (i) Amongst the family members, she had so far only consulted Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose. After the letter reaches PM, she would be informing some other members. She still expects that some of them would oppose the move but she felt her decision will have a positive impact on the family.
- (ii) She was keen that there is a national consensus among the political parties on this subject.
- (iii) As regards the timing, in case a positive decision is taken by the Government, she felt that some date in the second half of the year could be considered for bringing the ashes to India.
- (iv) In that eventuality, she would like detailed consultations by the Government of India with the Japanese authorities, particularly the Priests at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo.
- (v) She was appreciative of the two seminars on Netaji held by the Embassy as a part of 50th anniversary celebrations of India's Independence. (The first one was on June 7, 1997 organised by the Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin and the second seminar was on 16th February, 1998 in Frankfurt where Netaji's associates Col. Gurbakhsh Singh Dhillon and Col. Lakshmi Sehgal were the Guests of Honour).

9 I shall be grateful if you could kindly get Dr. Pfaff's letter examined. We can subsequently inform her of the decision which is taken.

10 I am sending a copy of this letter, along with the enclosure, to Foreign Secretary.

Warm regards
Yours sincerely,
Satinder Lambah
(Satinder K. Lambah)

Shri N.N. Vohra,
Principal Secretary to PM
PMO,
New Delhi

Copy, with a copy of the enclosure, to Shri K. Raghunath, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

135/13h(CAPP) 23/11

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S.1668/FORM 93

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16089/PS/13

25/11

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MOST IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs
(Asia Pacific Division)

Sub : Controversy regarding Netaji's death and bringing his ashes to India from Japan.

Reference Ministry of Home Affairs UD note No. I/12014/27/93-1S(D.III) of 21 Oct 93 and 3 Nov 93 on the subject referred to above. A detailed note incorporating the views of this Ministry is enclosed as desired.

This issues with the approval of the Foreign Secretary.

(Signature)
(Dilip Lahiri)
JS (AP)
23.11.93

M/o Home Affairs (Sh C.I. Joy, Dir (IS-1).)
MEA UD Note No. 4551/12/93-JP dt 23.11.93

✓ Copy to Dir (EAMO) for kind information of EAM. We understand MHA as the nodal Ministry is preparing a note on the matter. MEA's views had also been sought.

(Signature)
(Primrose R. Sharma)
Director (AP)
23.11.93

EAM when apprised of the views sent by MEA to MMA indicated that he did not agree with the approach and that these should have been brought to his attention before being conveyed to MMA.

FS. I would be grateful to have EAM's views on this subject
EAM
24/11/93
25.11.93

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Ministry of External Affairs
(Asia Pacific Division)

CONTROVERSY REGARDING NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE'S
DEATH AND BRINGING HIS ASHES TO INDIA FROM JAPAN

Background

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose allegedly died in a plane crash in Taihoku (Taiwan) in August 1945. He was 49 years old at that time. His ashes were taken to the Renkoji temple in Tokyo by Habibur Rahman, a colleague of Netaji and handed over to the priest of the temple, the Ven'ble Mochizuki, (who died in 1980) and who has been succeeded by his son.

Two Committees of Inquiry and CCPA Decision of 1991

2. Two Committees of inquiry were set up by the Government of India - The Shahnawaz Khan Committee in 1956 and the one man Khosla Committee in 1970 to go into the matter of Netaji's death. Both Committees concluded that Subhash Chandra Bose had indeed died in the crash at Taihoku in 1945, although Netaji's own brother, S.C. Bose, who was a member of the Shahnawaz Khan Committee, gave a dissenting judgment. Subsequently, the CCPA decided that "no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another inquiry or by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

Controversy over Netaji's Death and return of ashes to India

3. The controversy on whether or not Netaji actually died in 1945 in Taihoku, and whether the ashes in the Renkoji Temple

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are indeed those of Netaji, is being continued by a very vocal minority among whose leading figures is Shri Samar Guha and the Forward Bloc. As against to this, there are many, including some of Netaji's relatives, who accept that the ashes are genuine and they have paid homage to them at the Renkoji Temple, as indeed, did Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. They feel that the ashes should be brought back to India, with all due respect and honour as befitting a person of Netaji's stature as part of the full public recognition of Netaji's role and contribution to Indian independence.

4. Former soldiers of the Japanese Imperial Army who worked with or were associated with Netaji and the Indian National Army (INA) are also strong proponents of this course of action. These veterans, (who are members of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy in Tokyo) are very concerned that they are all old and very few of them are left. They fear that, with their passing away, there will be no one left to look after the ashes of Netaji. The present priest of the temple, who took over after his father's death, does not hold the same respect for the ashes as his father.

5. From time to time the War Veterans have been enquiring through our Embassy in Tokyo and the Embassy of Japan in New Delhi to ascertain our plans for bringing the ashes back to India. The Government of Japan has indicated that it would go along with whatever the Government of India wished to do but at the same time they have indicated that they were under some pressure from

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the war veterans.

6. The matter has now assumed some urgency. The annual get together of the war veterans of the Subhash Chandra Bose Academy in Tokyo, on the occasion of 48th Memorial Service this year had received wide media coverage in Japan as the Japanese media had also been invited. The press reports focused on the concern expressed by the War Veterans of the Academy over Government of India's lack of interest in wishing to receive the ashes of Netaji back to India. The Bose Academy members are reportedly thinking of disbanding and having the last memorial service in 1995 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary. If no decision is taken by that time, we may be asked by the temple to take charge of the ashes and may have no alternative but to store them in our Mission in Tokyo.

Information from Russia

7. On the basis of information and pressure exerted by people like Samar Guha, who has never accepted the death of Netaji, we had also asked our mission in Moscow to ascertain from the erstwhile Soviet Union/present Russian Federation if they had any information about Netaji's presence in Russia during or after 1945. The Russian Foreign Office had indicated that their archives do not contain any material indicating Netaji had gone to the Soviet Union. On the other hand, we have been informed by a Russian Indologist, Professor Albert Belski, who is associated with the bi-monthly "Asia and Africa Today" that the magazine is coming out with a series of articles, allegedly based on classified KGB archives, claiming, inter alia, that Netaji Subhash

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Chandra Bose was an MI - 6 (British) agent and that one of his close associates was a KGB agent. A copy of a note from our mission in Moscow is enclosed (Annexure 1). The first article in the series has been apparently been published. We are awaiting a translated text from our Mission.

Controversy regarding Peace Memorial at Imphal

8. The Hindustan Times of November 4 has reported that the Forward Bloc would oppose "tooth and nail" the decision of the Government of India to allow the construction of a monument in memory of Japanese soldiers who died in Manipur during World War II as these were, according to the party (Forward Bloc) dubious attempts attempts at falsify the freedom movement by denigrating the role of the INA led by Subhash Chandra Bose. The Forward Bloc had earlier been opposed to bringing back the ashes from Japan. It may also be borne in mind that the Forward Bloc had been founded by Netaji in 1939.

MEA's Views

(i) There appears to be widespread sentiment that Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be appropriately commemorated and that Netaji's ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. Opposition to bringing back the ashes is only from a small group of Forward Bloc figures and Shri Samar Guha.

(ii) In the likely event that the Japanese Temple approaches us over the next 2 or 3 years to take charge of the ashes, it would be most inappropriate if we declined to

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do so, or stored the ashes unobtrusively in our Mission, due to the continuing controversy over the ashes being kept alive by a small minority.

(iii) A consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing the ashes back to India from Japan could be promoted if the likely contingency of our being constrained to dispose of Netaji's ashes as indicated in Para 2 above was made known publicly. Respected public figures and others could be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes.

(iv) Alternatively, a Committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 could be established, with the participation of public figures of various political opinions, and the call to bring back Netaji's ashes could be made by the Committee.

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Annexure I

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Embassy of India
Moscow

Meeting with Mr. V.K. Touradjev. Deputy Editor-in-Chief,
"Asia and Africa Today", at 1200 hrs. on 29 June 93

As desired by the Ambassador, I called on Mr. V.K.Touradjev, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the monthly journal "Asia and Africa Today" at 1200 hrs. on 29 June 1993. After exchanging pleasantries and exploring the possibility of further cooperation between the Mission and the journal "Asia and Africa Today", I enquired from Touradjev whether "Asia and Africa Today" would soon start publishing a series of articles, based on KGB archives, alleging inter-alia that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was an MI-6 agent and that a close aide of his had worked for the KGB.

Touradjev confirmed that the August (8/93) issue of "Asia and Africa Today" would carry an article titled "The Secret Behind the Death of S.C. Bose" by Prof. Raikov, a well known Indologist based in Liptsk. The article would explore the various theories advanced from time to time, regarding the circumstances of Netaji's death. Its inclusion was essentially meant to generate reader interest in two further articles which would be published in the September (9/93) and October (10/93) issues of "Asia and Africa Today". Touradjev clarified that he was the author of these two articles and that they were based on KGB archives which he had been privileged to personally examine and which had been shared with him by contacts he had in the Russian intelligence service. In an attempt to convince me that his articles were based on genuine KGB documents, Touradjev showed me from afar a copy of a letter dated 11/12/1943, marked "MOST SECRET" and addressed by a Col. G.A. Hill of British Intelligence to a Col. Osipov of Soviet Intelligence.

In response to a query, Touradjev clarified that to the best of his knowledge the Russian Intelligence Service did not possess a separate file on Netaji. In his view, this would seem to show that Netaji had never visited the Soviet Union since, at least in earlier years, a file was usually opened on every foreigner arriving in the country. The documents he had based his articles upon were primarily reports filed by the then Russian intelligence

agents in Kabul, letters addressed by British Intelligence to their Soviet counterparts, plus other stray correspondence which he had come across in the KGB archives.

I specifically queried Touradjev as to whether his two articles contained references alleging that Netaji had been a British agent. If so, this would be quite unfortunate, given that Netaji was a widely respected national leader whose memory was deeply cherished by the people of India.

In response to this and other queries, Touradjev made the following points:

- (a) His articles did not bring out that Netaji was a MI-6 agent, in the sense of his being a "paid functionary". Equally, they did, however, show that Netaji "cooperated" with the British. In this context, Touradjev pointed out that without British acquiescence Netaji could not have escaped so easily from India or lived for so long in Kabul. Moreover, the instructions which Netaji sent from Berlin for carrying out subversive acts against the British in India, were never translated into action since the British knew of them and could take corrective measures. Touradjev repeatedly emphasized that the KGB documentation which he had access to left him in no doubt that "Netaji had cooperated with the British". He added that only MI-6 could inform whether the relationship went beyond "cooperation" as additional details would only be available with them. He hoped that, once his articles were published, the British would join in sharing information on Netaji.
- (b) The KGB documentation, however, conclusively established that Bhagat Ram - Netaji's aide in Kabul - had served as an agent of several foreign intelligence services e.g. the British, Russian, German, Italian and others. This would be brought out clearly in his articles.
- (c) His articles would be "scientifically presented" in the sense that they would fully annotated and would provide details of every important document referred to or quoted. They would thus analyze specific documentation and would not be largely speculative.

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(d) In his view, the KGB archives material which he has quoted in his articles made Netaji "go up in his esteem, since it showed that he (Netaji) had contributed to the defeat of Fascism". He felt that his articles would in fact show Netaji as being an "even greater nationalist" since Netaji had striven for an independent India, rather than an India subservient to Germany or Japan. Touradjev clarified that the intention behind his articles was not to denigrate Netaji as a leader who had the best interests of India in mind, but to contribute to a better understanding of Netaji's historic role.

In response to my query, Touradjev pointed out that the August (8/93) and September (9/93) issues of "Asia and Africa Today" (containing Prof. Raikov's articles and the first of his two articles) had already been sent to the printers. I did not specifically urge him to have the articles withdrawn, since it was evident that he would not do so in any case.

Ajai Malhotra

(Ajai Malhotra)
Counsellor (Inf.)
30.6. 1993

Ambassador

I"

(17) (203) (30) 42

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER'S OFFICE

no. 2-5/70
(4-5-1993)

S.1668/AM/93

On the request of the Ministry of Home Affairs, MEA with the approval of the Foreign Secretary, had sent its views, placed below, on the question of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Death and on bringing his ashes to India from Japan.

This is an extremely sensitive matter which needs to be discussed in the party and with senior political figures before any action is initiated by any of the Ministries. A routine handling of the case could have unnecessary repercussions. I would, therefore, submit for PM's consideration that he constitutes a high-powered group chaired by himself to look into this matter and give suitable directions.

Dinesh Singh

(DINESH SINGH)
23 December, 1993

PM

no. 5/11

DS

please look into it

PM'S Personal Section	1858-S
DATE	24/12
5686/OS(S)/93	



No. MOS/AMB/853/93

AMBASSADOR

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EMBASSY OF INDIA,
MOSCOW.

July 2, 1993.

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16/7/93

In continuation of my letter No. MOS/AMB/818/93 of June 24, I enclose a self-explanatory note recorded by Counsellor Ajai Malhotra, after his meeting with Mr. V.K. Touradjev, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Asia and Africa Today".

270/38/P/1/93/II

The sidelined portions in the attached note are for information only.

Yours sincerely,

sd/-
(R. Sen)

Menon
6/7/93

Shri Nalin Surie,
Joint Secretary (EE),
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

✓ Copy, along with enclosure, to Shri Prabhakar Menon, Joint Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi.

Best wishes

R. Sen
(R. Sen)

14/7

jsu

14/7/93

35(5)

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PRL. SECY to PM.

DY No.
Date

6444(13)
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6/7/93
16/7/93

1302/P04/93
16/7

13/7/93

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Embassy of India
Moscow

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"Asia and Africa Today", at 1200 hrs. on 29 June 93

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Ajai Malhotra

(Ajai Malhotra)
Counsellor (Inf.)
30.6.1993

Ambassador



No. MOS/AMB/88/93

June 24, 1993.

AMBASSADOR

208
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CONFIDENTIAL
EMBASSY OF INDIA,
MOSCOW. 33

We have learnt from a Russian Indologist, Prof. Albert Belsky, that the bi-monthly journal, "Asia and Africa Today", with which he is associated, will soon start publishing a series of articles, based on classified KGB archives, alleging inter-alia that Netaji Subash Bose was a MI-6 (British) agent and that one of his close aides was a KGB agent.

2. From time to time, there has been media speculation on Netaji's visits to the then Soviet Union in 1941 and during and after 1945. The Russian Foreign Ministry had informed us in January 1992, on the basis of the documents available in their Central and Republican archives, that there was no evidence that Netaji had stayed in the Soviet Union during or after 1945. We had also sent to MEA some archival documents obtained from the Soviet Foreign Office in 1990. None of these materials contained even a hint of such scurrilous allegations.

3. The journal "Asia and Africa" has a limited circulation, but it is subscribed to by libraries, academic institutions and scholars in Russia and abroad. If such a sensational story appears in the journal, it will be picked up immediately by journalists based in Moscow. Some Indian journalists have already got wind of it.

4. In the prevalent situation in Russia, which is vastly different from that in the former Soviet Union, official pressures or persuasion are hardly effective in preventing the publication of articles even in journals of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Nonetheless, I have asked our Counsellor (Information) to meet the Deputy Editor-in-Chief to check whether the report about the forthcoming articles is correct and, if so, to persuade him not to publish articles containing such concocted charges about a highly respected national leader whose memory is cherished by the people of India. If the journal does have plans to carry such articles, I will also speak to some others, though I doubt whether such demarches would be of much use.

Yours sincerely,

(R. Sen)

Shri J.N. Dixit,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

RL, SECY to PM.

Y No.....

etc.....

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6206/93
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4271/1055/193
147197

836-5
8/1/93
20(0)/24(5)
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997/20(0)/93-5
6305/204/93
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13/7/93
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Copy to :

1. Shri Nalin Surie, Joint Secretary (EE), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.
2. Shri Prabhakar Menon, Joint Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi.

Best wishes

R. Sen
(R. Sen)

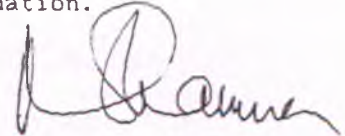
210

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Most Immediate
By Spl. Messenger

C/551/7/92-SP.
Ministry of External Affairs
(Asia Pacific Division)

Our current file no. C/551/7/92-SP on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose sent from Secretary (East)'s Office vide diary no. 1479/Secy(E)/93 dt. 17.9.93 to JS(M), PMO, is required urgently in connection with an enquiry received from the Home Ministry. Grateful if we could have the file back. A copy of JS(Shri M. Venkateswara Iyer), MHA is attached for information.



(Primrose R. Sharma)
Director (AP)
07.10.93

DS(S).PMO

CC: Shri M. Venkateswara Iyer, JS, MHA

~~JS may kindly see.
The MHA file with the PMO file is currently
in Principal Secretary's office.~~

870/11/P/10/93-Pol. 20
Most Immediate/Secret Vol. I

Ministry of External Affairs
(Asia Pacific Division)

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3510/JS(A)/93
S/10/93

Reference PMO UD Note No. 870/11/P/10/93-Pol dt. 8.10.93. Files no. C/551/7/92-JP & C/551/14/90-JP (alongwith a folder bearing No. C/551/7/92-JP) regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose are returned herewith, as desired.

Sharma
(Priyose R. Sharma)
Director (AP)
08.10.93

3968/DS(S)/93
9-10-93

Ms. Sujata Mehta.
DS(S), PMO

(PM to Director
Ms. Sujata Mehta
on 9/10/93)

(Submitted to Ms. Sujata Mehta
on 10/10/93)

Sm
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Pol
(Files on Netaji alongwith MIA files submitted to Pol. Secy.
on 9/10/93 by *DS(S)* *Mehta* on 10/10/93)

Sm *Mehta*

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21/A

CCB NO.4361.

O.T.P.

TELEGRAM.

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CONFIDENTIAL

From: Foreign, New Delhi.
To: Indembassy, Peking.

DTO JULY 021730

IMMEDIATE.

No. 28422.

Bahadur Singh from Kaul.

Netaji

Reference Stracey's letter No.D.3207-FEI/56 of 29th June 1956 sent by bag on 30th June concerning verification of a person said to be Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in an enlargement sent along with letter. The photo appeared in booklet entitled "TRADE UNION DELEGATION IN CHINA" published by the Workers Press Peking September 1952. It also appeared in Illustrated China about that time. As Netaji Enquiry Committee is shortly finalising report, your reply about photograph required most urgently. You may kindly ask Mongolian Embassy for specific name of the gentleman in order to enable us set controversy at rest.

FPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO,
DEPUTY MINISTER, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, DSXP, USFEA(2),
SONGO & CABINET SECRETARY.

B.M. Manchanda
Superintendent CCB.

Silka(22)
02/7.

2(64)/56

Comm 29/13

O.T.P.

213

CCB NO. 3370.

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40

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Foreign New Delhi.
To : Indembassy Tokyo.

DTO MAY 241330.

IMMEDIATE

No. 28409. Ambassador from Kaul. — SSA

Reference our telegram No. 28407 May 22. U.K. High Commission have just informed us that their Consul in Taipei has telegraphed that Formosan authorities are willing to allow 5 Chinese whose names were given by Committee to be examined by British Consul in the presence of Formosan officials. They are however not prepared to let them go to Hongkong to appear before our Committee. British Consul would like to have names in Chinese of the witnesses and the corresponding Giles references.

2. He did not mention anything about the entries in the Crematorium Register and is being reminded about it.

3. Formosan authorities' refusal to allow witnesses to go to Hongkong is significant. It is possible that they may tutor their witnesses and make them give wrong statements which may only complicate the work of the Committee. Our opinion therefore that Committee should not visit Formosa is confirmed. Please consult and ask them whether they would still like British Consul in Formosa to examine Chinese witnesses. Our advice would be that you should wait till you hear from the Japanese authorities in response to your approach.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: MINISTER:
DY MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: DSXP: SOFA: USFEA(2):
SONGO AND CAB SECY.

BHATIA(24).
24-5-1956.

Refused
Superintendent CCB.

O.T.P.

214

41

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTG MAY 221400

IMMEDIATE

No. 28407.

54A

Ambassador from Kaul.

Your telegram No. 44 May 19. Matter has been placed before Prime Minister. We had made it clear to Committee in Delhi that it would not be practicable or advisable for them to visit Formosa. The only possible advantage of going there might have been to see entries in hospital registers. At that time the hospital was run by the Japanese and all the Japanese must have come away. There can be no first hand evidence available there. It is conceivable however that some entries in the hospital register might give some further information. We would like you to suggest to the Committee that you may on their behalf request the Japanese Government to ask their Ambassador in Formosa to be good enough to see the hospital entries and secure certified copies. At the Committee's request we had approached U.K. High Commission here to get this information for us but have not had a reply yet. The Japanese Ambassador in Formosa would be in a better position to handle this matter than the British who have only a Consul.

2. We have considered the matter again and are not in favour of the Committee visiting Formosa. Japanese good offices may enable Committee to land there but it is unlikely that the Formosan Government will give any facilities. In fact they may put obstacles and suggest degrading conditions. Apart from this politically this will be very embarrassing for us and might lead to complicating situations. If the Committee feel that there may be some public criticism here later they are at liberty to state, if necessary, that External Affairs Ministry advised them against a visit to Formosa.

PPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), Minister without Portfolio, Minister, Deputy Minister, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, DSXP, SOFA, USFEA(2), SC NGC and Cabinet Secretary.

B.M. Manchanda
Superintendent CCB

37
Cann 291/c

O. T. P.

CCB No. 5160

(215)

(42)

TELEGRAM:

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: To: 29/8

Indembassy, Tokyo.
Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO MAY 191730
DTR MAY 192015

IMMEDIATE

No. 44.

DUTT from SEN.

* By ch.

In a confidential letter to me today the Netaji Enquiry Committee states "the Committee has examined a number of witnesses in Japan and feel it would be very desirable to pay* a visit to Formosa if it is at all possible. The Japanese Foreign Office has been helping the Committee in its work in every way and it may be presumed that they would be helpful if a proposal for Committee's visit to Formosa is made to them. At a small party given by Mr. HATTORI Chief of the Asian Desk and others of the Foreign Office this matter was brought up informally and Mr. HATTORI gave me* to* understand that such a request if made to them they would be willing to use their good offices with the Taiwan authorities. The Committee has another two weeks in Japan and would be obliged if the possibility of paying a visit to Formosa is further examined to enable them to do so during this time". The position appears to be that the Japanese Government will not give any definite undertaking to move in the matter without a definite proposal either from the Committee or from the Embassy and neither of us can make such a request without Government approval in view of DUTT's letter to the Committee 18th April. I have today explained to the Committee the further deterioration in the relations between India and Formosa over Formosa's disruption of diplomatic relations with Egypt but feel that if this approach by the Committee is peremptorily dismissed the Committee will have a grievance which may make their whole report infructuous in the eyes of some sections of our people. In my view therefore the Committee should be permitted to approach Japanese Government for their good offices in the matter* even if Embassy keep out of it.

Please place this before Prime Minister.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: MINISTER:
DY. MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2): CS(2): JSE: DSXP: SOFA:
USFEA(2): SONGO AND CABINET SECRETARY.

[Signature]
Superintendent CCB.

CCB No. 11864

O.T.P. (2/6)

43
43-4

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

Com-29/K

~~गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL~~

From - Indembassy, Tokyo
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO NOVEMBER 121230
DTR NOVEMBER 121415

IMMEDIATE

No. 107.

Foreign Secretary from Ambassador: Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. KAUL's letter No. 2483-NGO/55 18th October. Please inform Prime Minister that in accordance with his directive I have discussed with Foreign Minister the proposal to send enquiry committee to investigate into circumstances of death and the identity of the ashes. Foreign Minister has consulted the Cabinet and I have been informed that Japanese Government accept the proposal fully and will be glad to cooperate in every way*.

*by ch

Awaiting further instructions*.

PPS TO PM, PS TO PM(4), Minister, Deputy Minister, SG(2), FS(2), CS(2), JSE, JSAD, JSA, DSXP, SO NGO and Cabinet Secretary.

BM Manchanda
Superintendent CCB

JL(22)
12-11-55 23(156)

2(628)

①

219

44

CCB No. 9980.

O. T. P.

TELEGRAM: ~~SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Indembassy, Tokyo.
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO SEPT 221640
DTR SEPT 222110

MOST IMMEDIATE

37-A

No. 91. From Ambassador.

*By ch.

Your telegram No. 6437 21st September. Second memorial service for SUBHAS CHANDRA* BOSE. Full details sent by bag today. Please await same. Briefly a second service was held by Renkoji Temple authorities on 18th September. Japanese Government having erroneously decided against representation at 18th August service changed their previous* stand about attendance at a private memorial service in Temple and attended this second service. Japanese Foreign Office was warned clearly that this behaviour of the Temple authorities in holding a second service would arouse controversy particularly if Japanese Government were represented in any manner specially in face of their abstention from the correct* memorial service of 18th August. We suspect Japanese are somehow anxious for transfer of ashes and have therefore encouraged controversial publicity now. Our stand* is that having attended the correct 10th anniversary Memorial Service on 18th August we should not be pressed* into attending another service so soon thereafter otherwise Japanese may hold a service every month as they have hinted they well might just to accentuate controversy and show that India is defaulting in taking over the ashes. So far as the Temple authorities are concerned they seem to be looking forward to some monetary reward from us for keeping the ashes. Would request your clear instructions after you have seen our detailed report mentioned above.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER: DY. MINISTER: SG(2):

FS(2): CS(2): JSE: JSAD: JSA: DSXP: DSE: US FEA:

FEA SEC(2): SO NGO & CABINET SECRETARY.

W. L. ...
Superintendent CCB.

DHAWAN(26)
22/9/1955.

6

27/9/53

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

O.T.P. CCB No. 6437

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

From - Foreign, New Delhi.
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO September 21 Nil.

IMMEDIATE

No. 6437. There have been reports in newspapers here on Memorial Service held for Subhas Chandra Bose in Tokyo last Sunday. The temple in which it was held was not specifically named but from descriptions it appears to be Renkoji temple.

Ceremony is reported to have touched off controversy among local Indians over the authenticity of Netaji's ashes and some have denounced ceremony which is reported to have been attended by only three Indians. Three former Japanese Army officials have also joined this controversy and testified to fact of Netaji's death and the authenticity of ashes.

Short Notice question has been asked in the Parliament. Surprisingly we have had no report from you. Last report we received from you was in Dar's letter No. F.5(1)NGO-1, dated 30th August, 1955 in which he described Memorial Service held on the 18th August in Renkoji temple. This appears to be the second ceremony held in same temple. Embassy officials with our permission attended the ceremony of 18th August but reports say that boycotted last ceremony of 18th September which reported to have been attended by representative of Japanese Foreign Office. Please telegraph full facts and also whether Indian Embassy boycotted 18th September Memorial Service.

PPS TO PM: PS TO PM(4): MINISTER: DY MINISTER: SG(2): FS(2):
CS(2): JSAD: JSA: JSE: DXP: DSE: USFEA: FEA SEC(2): SONGO
AND CABINET SECRETARY.

Ref...
Superintendent CCB.

Shivpuri/26.
21.9.1953.

OTP

CCB NO. 7827.

219

46

36

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From - Indembassy, Tokyo.
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO JULY 291630
DTR JULY 291900

IMMEDIATE

35

*By ch.

No.73. From Ambassador. Your telegram No.28434 dated 28 July Late SUBHIS CHANDRA* BOSE. My views generally same as RAUF's. Main question is whether Government are in a position publicly* to accept fact of death. If they are then there could* be* no* objection* to Embassy participating in memorial services here. It will be realised that participation in memorial service here will also involve Government in other actions which must logically follow. Whole issue seems obviously tied up with repercussions at home and I feel can best be decided at policy level in India. Japanese feelings* or* those of community here not of much importance.

.....

PPS TO PM; PS TO PM (4); MINISTER: SG(2); FS(2); CS(2); JS E;
JS AD; JS A; JS P; DS XP; DS E; US FEA; US PT II; FEA SEC(2);
PT II SEC(2); SO NGO & CAB SECY.

W. S. ...

Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)
29-7-55.

23 (56)

8

OTP

CCB NO. 5061.

35-A

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

220

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

47

From - Foreign, New Delhi.
To - Indembassy, Tokyo.

DTO JULY 281230

IMPORTANT

34-A

No. 28434.

For Ambassador. Your No. 71 July 26. Kindly telegraph your views and see Rauf's d.o. No. FS(I)NGO(1). 23rd June 1954 to Kaul.

.....

PPS TO PM; PS TO PM (4); MINISTER; SG(2); FS(2); CS(2); JSE;
JS AD; JS A; JS P; DS XP; DS E; US FEA; US PTII; FEA SEC(2);
PT II SEC(2); SO NGO AND CAB SECY.

m. h. s.
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)
28-7-55.

F. No. 2 (56)/56-66-PM-VI-5

3404

(221)

(48)

OTP

CCB NO. 7662.

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From - Indembassy, Tokyo.
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTG JULY 261540
DTR JULY 261800

IMPORTANT

No. 71. Late SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE. Chief Priest of Renkoji Buddhist Temple who has all along had custody of ashes proposes holding for first time formally a memorial service on 18th August. Temple authorities ask Embassy approval for this and request presence of Ambassador and other at the occasion. Please advise action desired.

.....

PPS TO PM; PS TO PM (4); MINISTER; SG(2); FS(2); CS(2); JSE1
JS AD; JS A; JS P; DS XP; DSE; US FE1; US PTII; FEA SEC(2);
PT II SEC(2); SO NGO AND CLB SECY.

W. C. ...
Superintendent CCB.

/PS(29)
26-7-55.

23/156

(10)

SECRET

F.No. 2/64/55-66-PM-V0-2

5-A

O.T.P.

(222)

CCB No. 3421.

(49)

TELEGRAM:

~~SECRET~~

From: India, Tokyo.
To: Foreign, New Delhi.

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DTO APRIL 28 1943.
DTR APRIL 28 1950.

IMPORTANT.

No. 33 GS.

* By ch.

M. RAMAMURTI only source available confirms AYER and himself having received ashes September 1945 and entrusted them to* custody of RENKOJI Temple Horinouchi Suginaniku Tokyo. TRIVEDI has visited temple and seen casket. Further verification obviously impossible.

2. According to understanding at time of deposit temple authorities prepared to despatch ashes to India provided repeat provided arrangements made for reception in India with honour and ceremonies appropriate to deceased leader.

PPS to PM, PS to PM(4), DY. MINISTER, SG, FS, SECY CR, DSFEA, DSXP, USFEA, CJK BR(6), CABINET SECRETARY, AND SUPDT. NGO BR.

Handwritten signature

Superintendent CCB.

* (22).
S. 4. 51.

(46)

123
925
No. 2 (64) / 56-67 PM (Vol. III)

95

312-B
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CONFIDENTIAL/MOST IMMEDIATE

Copy of D.O. letter No. 196-FS(P)/65 dated the 13th August, 1965 from Shri A.P. Venkateswaran, First Secretary, Embassy of India, Moscow to Shri Upendara Lal, Under Secretary(EE), M.E.A., New Delhi.

.....

271-B
Please refer to your letter No. WI/411(11)/65 dated the 7th August, 1965, forwarding the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 1573 by Shri P.C. Mitra regarding the whereabouts of Netaji Subha Chandra Bose.

2. As you are aware, many years ago the Government of India had appointed a high-powered committee to enquire into the circumstances of Netaji's death and it was established that he died in a plane crash. Government had accepted the Committee's report. On this basis we believe that there should really be no need to verify fanciful stories put out from time to time on the subject.

3. However, in view of what you have mentioned about the question involving the sentiments of the people of Bengal, Ambassador had said that we may take this up very informally with the Soviet Foreign Office. I accordingly brought this story to the attention of the South Asia Division in the Soviet Foreign Office, where I had called in another connection. The concerned official had already seen this report in the Indian newspapers and appeared considerably amused. He stated that he could only comment in a personal capacity. He said that there was no basis whatsoever in the story and added that he could not escape the feeling that the story was a "mischievous invention".

4. I hope this should be enough for your purposes.

With kind regards,

No. 2 (64) / 56-67-PM (Vol. III)

224

312 A

Government of India,
Ministry of External Affairs

CONFIDENTIAL

94

No.F.VI/411(11)/65

Dated the 23rd August, 1965

Dear Shri Venkateswaran,

312-B

Thank you for your letter No. 196-F3(F)/65 dated the 18th August, 1965 regarding Rajya Sabha question on whereabouts of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. I enclose, for your information, a copy of reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th August, 1965.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

J

(Upendra Lal)

In info. ltr.

Shri A.P. Venkateswaran,
First Secretary,
Embassy of India,
Moscow.

J.S. (c)

24/8

J.S. (c)

24/8

Copy with a copy of Shri Venkateswaran's letter and reply of Rajya Sabha question forwarded, for information, to:-

1. Shri K.L. Gupta, Under Secretary, Prime Minister's Secretariat, New Delhi.
2. China Division.

P.S.

Del. Secy. 27/8

✓ 312-B

⊙ 312-C

⊙ 312-D

H. J. Sin

Under Secretary (EE)

229 7-1-201

225

O.T.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

41 ~~SECRET~~

Telegram

~~SECRET~~

CCB No.10347

From: Indembassy Tokyo.
To: Foreign New Delhi.

DTG AUGUST 061230
DTR AUGUST 061650
Year 1968

IMMEDIATE

No.159.

Secretary I from Ambassador.

Memorial meeting commemorating death of NETAJI BOSE being organised on 18th August at Renkoji Temple Tokyo, where his ashes are enshrined, under apparently newly constituted Bose Memorial Service Committee of which Chairman is former Prime Minister KISHI and members include General TOJO's widow, SUZUKI former President of war time Great East Asia Agency (co-prosperity sphere) / an extreme LDP right wing former Justice and Finance Minister and member of Diet. While inviting me to ceremony organisers have pointedly referred to delay in taking back NETAJI's ashes to India.

/and KAYA

As similar memorial meeting never held before and references are likely to be made in meeting to delay on Indian Government's part in taking back NETAJI's ashes to India kindly instruct whether I should attend meeting or excuse myself and send representative instead. Composition of committee indicates meeting might be part of Japanese movement to rehabilitate Japan's war time image in Asia.

✓ PRIME MINISTER : SECY TO PM : DIR PM'S SECTT : MIN OF STATE :
DY MIN : FS : SECY EAI : SECY EAI I : ADDL SECY : JS PP : JS P :
JS XPL : DIR XP : DIR EA : DS EA : ATTACHE NGO(2) : CABINET
SECY (2).

for FAC meeting

VAZIRANI/21
6.8.1968

Mishra

SUPERINTENDENT CCB.

SECRET

the afternoon (5 30)

PA 7/8

PSK 1234

226

Sno 25

Confidential

52

No. 2/64/5B-68 PM (Vol. IV)

Ministry of External Affairs

Subject:- Enquiry into the death of Netaji
Subhash Chandra Bose.

Reference Prime Minister's Secretariat
U.O. No. PMS-12726 dated 19.7.1969.

Foreign Minister has sent a reply to
Shri Samar Guha, M.P., vide letter No. 2-FM/69/858
dated July 30, 1969, a copy of which is enclosed
for your information and record.

S.V. Purushottam

(S.V. Purushottam)
Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister
31-7-1969

Prime Minister's Sectt. (Shri V.P. Marwaha, PS to PM)
M.E.A. U.O. No. C/551/4/69/JP dated 31-7-1969.

1425/51 FM/69

Pl keep with files
(95 is very busy and need
not be troubled with these files
20/7/69
1/2

111

222

No. 2/64/53-68-Pm (Vol. IV)

~~SECRET/IMMEDIATE~~

54

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

~~गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL~~

Sub: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes
at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in an aircrash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield in Formosa. Some doubts were expressed in regard to his death and in response to a demand from a section of the public, the Government of India set up an Enquiry Committee in April 1956. The Committee consisted of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose and Shri S.N. Maitra and a report was submitted by the Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra in September 1956. The conclusion reached by the Enquiry Committee was that Netaji had in fact met his death as a result of an aircrash. Government accepted the findings of the Committee when Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru laid copy of a report on the Table of the House on September 11, 1956.

2. Netaji's body was cremated at the Taihoku Crematorium on the 20th August, 1945. The ashes were collected and temporarily kept in the Nishi (West) Honganji Temple in that city until the 7th September, 1945, when they were flown to Tokyo. The Shah Nawaz Committee had recommended that the ashes should be brought to India with due honour and a suitable memorial erected for them. This recommendation was discussed by the Cabinet on 9.9.1956 and it was then agreed that "the question of bringing over the Netaji's ashes to India might be left for future consideration".

3. Late Prime Minister Nehru while laying the Netaji Enquiry Committee Report in the Rajya Sabha said as follows:

"They (Enquiry Committee) make a recommendation about these ashes, that they should be brought to India with due honour and a suitable memorial

erected. So far as the latter part is concerned, the Government do not propose, at this stage, to take any action. This is a matter in which, primarily, the family of Netaji is concerned, and it is with their consultation and goodwill that any step should be taken. I am not prepared to say that it is entirely a family or domestic matter. It is a national matter. Nevertheless, the family is concerned."

India

4. There is a body of opinion in which still continues to doubt the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In view of this, Government have been reluctant to bring the ashes of Netaji to India as that would raise a controversy and may offend the family of Netaji. This has been explained to Parliament on numerous occasions.

5. Our Ambassador has telegraphed that a memorial meeting commemorating the death of Netaji is being organised on 18th August at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo. The Ambassador has been invited to the function and he anticipates that references are likely to be made at the meeting in regard to Government's reluctance to bring back Netaji's ashes. In 1955, the first memorial meeting was held to which our Ambassador had been invited and late P.M. Nehru had agreed to our participation. It will, therefore, be desirable that our Ambassador attends the forthcoming memorial meeting as otherwise it may be misconstrued as lack of respect for Netaji's memory. If the occasion arises, our Ambassador should even explain Government's difficulties in bringing back Netaji's ashes with due honour etc.

6. We were earlier, this year, approached by the Japanese Government through their Embassy here to bring back the ashes and had explained the position to them. They were not aware of the fact that we were paying Rs. 5,000/- per annum for the upkeep of Netaji's ashes to the Head Priest of the Renkoji temple. The Japanese Government seemed to have appreciated our difficulties and were satisfied with the arrangements we had made.

7. Only recently some 350 Members of Parliament asked for a fresh enquiry to establish whether Netaji in fact died in 1945. As such considerable doubt continues to exist and it is perhaps not advisable, for the present, to bring back the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Manjit Singh
(Manjit Singh)
Director (EA)
7.8.1968

Secy II
P.S. G.P.O. ✓



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
PARLIAMENT QUESTION/MOST IMMEDIATE

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली-११ ~~SECRET~~

330 230
K.P. Balakrishnan
Director (Establishment)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
New DELHI-11

72-

No.25/4/NGO/Vol.III

21st November 1978

Subject: Advance Notice for Rajya Sabha Starred
Question D.No.402 regarding Netaji and
INA Treasure
-:000:-

Dear Shri Sreeraman,

...

As desired by you, I am enclosing a note giving further information relating to the handing over of the "Treasure" to our Mission in Tokyo, its despatch to Delhi, safe custody in the Ministry of External Affairs and handing over to the National Museum. The information is based on our files on the subject.

Warm kind regards

Yours sincerely,

K.P. Balakrishnan
(K.P. Balakrishnan)

Shri N.S. Sreeraman,
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister,
P.M.'s Office,
NEW DELHI.

Enc: As above

2 (64) 178-47

65000

(251)

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~

(5)

Ministry of External Affairs

...

Shri S.A. Ayer, Director of Publicity, Government of Bombay, visited Japan in May 1951 and met Shri K.K. Chatterji, Head of the Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo. Shri Ayer was staying with Shri Ramamurti. Both of them were connected with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Shri Ayer proposed that the gold and jewellery which had been collected from the plane in which Netaji met his death should be sent to the Government of India for disposal. On Prime Minister's instructions, Shri Chatterji was asked in September 1951 to take possession of the gold and jewellery which was in Shri Ramamurti's possession and keep it in the Mission until further instructions. Accordingly, the articles were taken possession of on 24th September 1951; the receipt was signed by Shri V.C. Trivedi, the then First Secretary of the Mission. Before taking over, the valuables were weighed and a list of contents prepared. A copy of the list is enclosed.

...

2. In October 1952 it was enquired of our Ambassador whether the above articles could be brought over to India; since our Treaty of Peace with Japan had come into force, this should be comparatively a easy matter. Mission proposed to send these with Shri Damle, Joint Secretary, Agriculture Ministry who was returning to India on 7.11.52. As his flight was delayed, Shri Damle reached Delhi only on the night of 11.11.52, by a PAN AM Airways flight. The box containing the valuables was taken over for safe custody by the then Joint Secretary (Administration) in the Ministry of External Affairs Shri Harishwar Nayal on 12.11.1952. A note on file indicates that the box "has been sealed and kept in double locked safe of the Treasurer of the Ministry of External Affairs".

3. In a minute recorded on 2.12.53, the Prime Minister instructed that the valuables should be kept carefully and that "all relics of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose should be carefully preserved in proper cases". The Ministry of Education then proposed on 7.12.1953 that the "treasure", locked in a box and sealed, should be deposited in the National Museum. On 30.12.53, the box containing the "treasure" as per list on the file was opened and the contents checked and thereafter re-locked and re-sealed with the N.G.O. seal of the Ministry of External Affairs, and handed over along with the key to Mr. J.K. Roy, Superintendent, National Museum, in the presence of Mr. A.C. Banerji of the National Museum. This note has been signed by Shri Devi Diyal, then Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, as well as by Shri J.K. Roy and Shri A.C. Banerji. The sum of Y.20,000/- (Rupees 265-10) was handed over to the

2/64/78-87

232

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~Secret~~

59

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721

All India Congress Committee, New Delhi, on 16.12.1954
vide their receipt No.901, for transfer to I.N.A.
Relief Fund.

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233

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~Secret~~

60

LIST OF ITEMS TAKEN FROM MR. RAM MURTY BY THE EMBASSY OF INDIA, TOKYO ON 24.9.1951 AND HANDED OVER TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, NEW DELHI ON 30.12.1953
-:oO:-

75

BUNDLE I

Package 1

Charred rings and pendants 400 grams

Package 2

Charred and broken bangles, pins, buckles etc. 2 kgs. 560 grams

Package 3

Charred and broken bangles, pendants, snuff box medals, coins and rings 325 grams

Package 4

Charred necklance pieces, medals and rings 325 grams

Package 5

Charred ear-rings, nose-rings, mostly with stones 700 grams

Package 6

Charred and broken bangles and anklets 1 kg. 700 grams

Package 7

Charred and broken rings, noserings and pendants 825 grams

Package 8

Charred rings and nose-rings 425 grams

Package 9

Charred necklace, bangles, broaches & nose rings 320 grams

Package 10

Charred ear-rings with stones and rings 425 grams

Package 11

Charred rings 105 grams

Package 12

Charred rings and chain 200 grams

Package 13

Charred rings and buttons 50 grams

Package 14

Charred ear pendants 50 grams

8.410

BUNDLE II

Charred gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc. 3.500

BUNDLE III

Metal, mostly base and dust 1.600

AYER'S LOT

(1) 9 pieces of gold : 300 grams

234

29

गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

61

~~SECRET~~

83

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

....

Subject:- INA TREASURE.
...

As desired by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, a copy of the detailed note on the " INA Treasure " prepared in this Ministry is sent herewith.

(K.P.Balakrishnan.)
Director (Establishment)

Prime Minister's Secretariat (Shri V Shankar)
MEA U.O.NO.25/4/NGO-VOL.III

Dt.21.12.1978

27/12/78

Secy. (S.C.) may see too

Uthara
22/12

J.S.P.

Khalid
24/12

PSS

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INA TREASURE

There is a large degree of uncertainty regarding the early history of the "INA Treasure" from the time Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose left Rangoon in April 1945, carrying a number of valuables with him to the time that certain valuables were handed over to the Indian Liaison Mission in Tokyo on 24th September, 1951 by Shri Kam Murthy, one of Netaji's former associates. Netaji had received sizeable donations from Indian residents in South East Asia, in the form of cash and valuables for financing the INA. On the occasion of his birthday in January 1945 he was weighed against gold. How much of the liquid assets were carried by Netaji during his retreat from Rangoon onwards cannot be ascertained precisely, as was noted by the Netaji Enquiry Committee in 1956. Witnesses examined by the Committee gave widely differing versions of the contents and the value of the treasure carried by Netaji. Apart from differing versions with regard to the number of boxes accompanying him, there was the testimony of one witness to the effect that Netaji had taken 140 lbs. of gold with him and that of another who estimated the valuables carried at Rs.1 crore. One witness whose testimony received some independent corroboration by a Japanese witness was Netaji's personal valet who was apparently present at the time when the boxes containing the valuables were checked before Netaji's departure from Bangkok in August 1945. According to this witness there were four steel cases which contained articles of jewellery commonly worn by Indian women, Pounds and Guineas and some gold wires. In addition to these, four boxes, there was also a small leather

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personal effects and certain other valuable

attache case containing Netaji's articles he had brought from Singapore. The Netaji Inquiry Committee found that during his last visit to Singapore and Bangkok, Netaji had disbursed large amounts. The Committee was unable to get any accurate picture of what Netaji carried with him at the time of his departure from Bangkok but contended that some valuables such as ornaments were certainly carried by him. The Committee also found it difficult to reconstruct the events as relevant documents had been destroyed to avoid falling ⁱⁿ to the Allied hands. Some witness had testified that Netaji was not keen on taking the treasure with him and had wanted to leave in Bangkok or Saigon but since ~~was~~ was willing to take charge of it, he carried the valuables with him.

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2. A number of witnesses had testified to seeing the boxes containing the treasure at the Saigon Airfield just before Netaji's outward flight in the afternoon of 17th August 1945. While, here, again there are widely differing versions, the Committee has taken as conclusive the fact that Netaji carried from Saigon with him "two large leather suit-cases about 30" long containing gold and valuables." While the committee could not get any estimates of the value of the contents of the suit-cases, the feeling was that it could not be anywhere near the Rs.1 crore mentioned by one witness.

3. After the plane crash at Taihoku on the 18th August, Col. Habibur Rahman had enquired the next day from Japanese officers as to what had happened to the baggage, particularly the two leather suit-cases containing valuables. He was told that, while much of the baggage had been burnt, some charred jewellery had been salvaged from the ground and kept in safe custody at the Military Headquarters. The Committee found that

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there was some discrepancy in the accounts given by the Japanese officers who took part in this operation; while one of them state that the valuables, which were sealed in a gasoline can, had been kept under guard for only one night in the airfield before delivery to Military Headquarters, another witness stated that it had been kept for four or five days in the air-raid shelter under guard before delivery to Headquarters. It is, however, certain that the valuables were delivered to the Imperial General Headquarters, Tokyo, on 7th September. The Officers who took charge of these as well as Col.Habibur Rahman mentioned that the valuables were in a nailed wooden box which was not sealed; this is a departure from the earlier accounts which mentioned a sealed gasoline can. It would appear that on 9th or 10th September the box containing valuables was taken charge of by Shri Ram Murthy from the Imperial General Headquarters; Shri Ayer was possibly present. The Committee found some discrepancy in the statements of Col.Habibur Rahman, Shri Ram Murthy and Shri Ayer in regard to the circumstances surrounding the handing over the box at the Headquarters; in particular the discrepancies related to the date of delivery and who took charge of the box. According to Col.Habibur Rahman, the seals of the box containing the valuables were found to be broken at the time of delivery; further it appeared to have been tampered with and was much lighter and only half full. The contents were found to be ornaments of gold and jewellery, all charred, mixed and fused with metals and small bits from the wreckage. They were separated into three lots according to whether they contained more gold or base metal. Afterwards, they were re-packed in a box and nailed. The weight of the valuables was found to be

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Charge of Shri Ram Murthy to be handed over to any

11 kgs. This was noted and a rough list was made and signed by Col. Habibur Rahman. A photocopy of the note is available. Col. Rahman left the valuables in the authority which arose in India in succession to Netaji's movements. At the same time, Shri Ayer left 300 gms. of gold and 20,000 Yens in cash with Shri Ram Murthy with similar direction. The list prepared by Col. Habibur Rahman is as follows:

- i) Comparatively pure gold in two wooden boxes and paper wrapper (weight includes weight of gold and wooden boxes) ... 7 Kg. 900 gms.
 - ii) One packet of gold mixed with molten metal, iron etc. (weight includes weight of gold, metal iron etc. the paper wrapper) ... 3 Kgs. 100 gms.
-
- Total ... 11 Kgs.
-

4. Shri Ram Murthy kept the valuables and cash with him from 1945 to 1951; it was not kept in a bank as he feared that it might be confiscated by the Occupation authorities. He also did not take any steps to contact any Indian authorities during all these years. The Committee found reason to believe that he denied having the treasure with him; according to Shri Ram Murthy, Shri Ayer had advised him not to take any action till the connected matters of Netaji's assets was satisfactorily solved. During this period there were allegations against Shri Ram Murthy in regard to misappropriation of the funds of the late Indian Independence League of which he was the President in Japan as well as the valuables carried by Netaji; Shri Ayer's name had also been associated with these charges. The matter had been referred to the Ministry of External Affairs by the then Head of the Liaison Mission in

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Tokyo Shri Rama Rao in December 1947. Subsequent Heads of Missions had also reported on suspicions regarding misappropriation on the part of Shri Rama Murthy; the fact that he had denied knowledge of existence of the treasure only strengthened the suspicions. In 1951, the Head of the Indian Liaison Mission Shri Chettur had reported that Shri Ram Murthy had become affluent overnight in 1946, "when his compatriots were on the verge of starvation and misery".

5. In 1951, Shri Ayer who was then Director of Publicity in the then Government of Bombay proceeded to Tokyo on what was claimed to be a holiday trip. In Tokyo, he stayed with Shri Ram Murthy and it came to light subsequently that Shri Ram Murthy had also financed Shri Ayer's trip. While in Tokyo, Shri Ayer met the Head of the Indian Liaison Mission Shri Chettur on 29th May 1951 and stated that one of the objectives of his 'Mission' to Tokyo was the recovery of the gold and jewellery which had been collected from the place in which Netaji met his death. He informed Shri Chettur that some part of Netaji's collections had been saved such as fused and molten gold ornaments, which in his opinion was worth about Rs.1 lakh. He dismissed local rumours put the value of the collection at several millions of rupees. He also informed Shri Chettur that Col.Habibur Rahman and himself had compiled a detailed list of the items in 1945 and he wanted to check these lists before the valuables could be sent to India; he handed over to Shri Chettur photostat copies of letters written by Col.Habibur Rahman and by himself to Shri Ram Murthy in 1945. He suggested that the valuables be sent to Delhi by Diplomatic bag in small lots to be disposed of by the government of India in such a manner as it deemed fit.

At the time when the valuables, some gold and Yen 20000/- had been left with Shri. Ram Murthy

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It would appear from subsequent records that Shri Ayer had inspected the valuables on 6th June 1951 while in Tokyo, and compared the list with the original list left by Col. Habibur Rahman. The following details have been given in hand-written note by by him :-

i)	Comperatively pure gold in papers bundles only (the increase in weight is apparently due to different scales used for weighing)	8.5 kgs.
ii)	Gold mixed with molten metal etc.	3.0 kgs.

	Total 11.5 kgs.

6. It is interesting to note that there was no mention in the new list of two wooden boxes, whose wieght had also included in the weight as assessed by Col. Habibur Rahman. If one takes this into account, the icrease in weight during second weighing by Shri Ayer would be even more substantial.

7. Shri Chettur was instructed by the Government of India to take over the valuables should Shri Ayer hand them over to the Mission. Subsequently, instructions were sent out to the effect that the Mission's endeavour should be to get possession of all the treasure on behalf of Government and to keep it in safe custody pending instructions in its disposal. However, Shri Ayer did not hand over the treasure to the Mission during his visit and left Tokyo for India on 11th June, 1951.

8. On his return to India, Shri Ayer met the Prime Minister in September, 1951. Subsequently, instructions from Prime Minister, our Mission in Tokyo was asked on 23rd September, 1951 to take over from Shri Ram Murthy all the INA treasure in his possession and keep it in the Mission until further instructions.

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The Mission was also asked to intimate the nature and quantity of treasure. On 24th September 1951, the First Secretary of the Mission Shri V.C.Trivedi and the Registrar went to Shri Ram Murthy's house and took possession of the various packages after opening and weighing them with the Mission's scales in the presence of Shri Ram Murthy's wife and his wife. It was found that there were three cloth bundles containing valuables, a paper package containing gold pieces and Yen 20,000 in cash. The list prepared by the Mission indicating the weights of various packages was sent to the Ministry. Subsequently, there is record of the valuables having been weighed twice; one in the Ministry of External Affairs soon after their arrival in India (the date is not specified but it is somewhere around 1.12.1952) and lastly in the National Museum on instructions of Prime Minister on 9.10.78. The following table has been prepared to compare the weights of individual items as found on the three occasions:-

	Weight indicated by Indian Mission in Tokyo at the time of taking over (24.9.1951)	Weight found on inspection in MEA after arrival (1.12.1952)?	Weight found on inspection on 9.10.78
BUNDLE I			
Package 1	400 gms.	399.90 gms.	389.5 gms.
Package 2	2 Kgs.560 gms	2 Kgs.447.07 gms	3.054 Kgs.
Package 3	325 gms	315.70 gms	318 gms.
Package 4	325 gms	314.60 gms	318 gms.
Package 5	700 gms	624.32 gms	628 gms
Package 6	1 kg. 700 gms	1 kg.643.65 gms	1656.5 gms
Package 7	825 gms	797.05 gms	812 gms
Package 8	425 gms	424.75 gms	425.6 gms
Package 9	320 gms	303.55 gms	307.5 gms
Package 10	425 gms	415.55 gms	419.7 gms
Package 11	105 gms	108.95 gms	101 gms
Package 12	200 gms	201.55 gms	205.0 gms
Package 13	50 gms	44.22 gms	46 gms
Package 14	50 gms	48.05 gms	50.5 gms.
BUNDLE II			
15	3,500 kgs.	3.442 gms	3.493.2 gms
16	1,600 kgs	Not weighed	9665 grms. 1
Ayer's lot			
17. Nine pieces of gold	300 gms	298.75 gms	300.05 gms

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9. At the time of taking over of the valuables in Tokyo Shri Chettur pointed out that the weight as found by the Mission was more than that was shown in Col. Habibur Rahman's letter. The latter had also not mentioned the third package containing dust and base metal; according to Shri Ram Murthy this had been omitted as it was practically worthless. Shri Chettur found two suspicious circumstances, one that the pieces of gold handed over by Shri Ram Murthy appeared to be bright and completely untarnished and did not appear to have been kept in custody for nearly six years as was claimed. Shri Ayer, who was supposed to have left the gold pieces with Shri Ram Murthy in 1945 had asserted that the pieces were exactly in the form in which he had brought them from Saigon. Further, the 20,000 Yen handed over to the Mission was in the notes then current and not in the notes current in 1945. Shri Chettur was at that time able to get a confidential report from the Japanese Foreign Ministry on the question of the treasure. According to this, Netaji had substantial quantity of gold ornaments and precious stones in Saigon but was allowed to carry only two/suit-cases on the ill fated flight. Even those two suit-cases, according to Shri Chettur, must have carried very much more than what was handed over by Shri Ram Murthy to the Mission in 1951. There were also uncertainties surrounding the fate of the bulk of the treasure which Netaji had left in Saigon itself; that it was substantial is indicated by the fact that on 26th January 1945, Netaji had been weighed against gold. Against this background, Shri Chettur felt that it was difficult to believe that the 300 grams of gold handed over by Shri Ram Murthy to the Mission represented all that Shri Ayer had brought from Saigon. Shri Chettur drew the conclusion that Shri Ayer,

apprehensive of the early conclusion of the Peace Treaty, had come to Tokyo to "divide the loot and salve his and Shri Ram Murthy's conscience by the handing over of a small quantity to the Government in the hope that by doing so, he would also succeed in drawing a red herring across the trail".

10. The Netaji Enquiry Committee in 1956 has not drawn any specific conclusions on whether the treasure had been misappropriated, and if so, by whom. The Committee concluded that the charred and damaged pieces of gold and jewellery etc. which are in the National Museum formed a part of Netaji's baggage in his last journey and were salvaged from the Taihoku Airport and later recovered from Shri Ram Murthy. The Committee also found that what was handed over by Shri Ram Murthy in 1951 tallied with the list signed by Col. Habibur Rahman. But the Committee could reach no conclusion on how much of valuables were carried by Netaji in his last flight and how much of it was recovered, particularly since the two suit-cases said to have been taken by Netaji had not been weighed; the Committee was of the view that the quantity that has been recovered was much less than all that Netaji carried with him. In view of the discrepancies in statements relating to the conclusion of the valuables from Taihoku Airport, their subsequent custody and handing over to Netaji's associates, the Committee expressed the opinion that "it was far from clear as to what was collected from Taihoku Airport, whether and when the container was changed whether there was any subtraction and who took delivery of it in Tokyo and when". The Committee suggested that in case a separate inquiry into this was considered necessary, such an inquiry would have to cover not only the treasure carried by Netaji on his last journey but also examination of the entire assets and liabilities, in cash and kind, of the Provisional

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Government of Azad Hind. The Committee was however was not sure whether such an inquiry would serve any purpose after the lapse of time especially since whatever records there might have been, had been destroyed.

11. The one-man Inquiry Commission headed Justice Khosla in Report dated 30th June 1974 did^{not} go into any detail on the subject of the treasure. The Commission had not specifically enquired into this matter. The Commission has noted a suggestion made to it that part of the treasure had been misappropriated by Shri Ram Murthy and his brother J. Murthy. But the Commission could not find any satisfactory proof of such misappropriation and felt that "no useful purpose could be served by pursuing a quest which was not likely to yield anything definite or worthwhile".

12. In October 1952, our Ambassador in Tokyo was asked whether the treasure could not be brought over to India as our Peace Treaty with Japan had come into force. The Mission propose on 27th October 1952 that the valuables be sent with Shri Damle Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, who was on a visit to Tokyo at that time and was returning to India on 7th November. The Mission felt that it was not necessary to refer the matter to the Japanese Government who had evinced no interest in the matter. Due to delay in the flight Sri Damle, reached Delhi on the 10th evening by PANAM flight No. 3. At the request of Ministry of External Affairs, instructions were issued to the Customs examination under the 'note and pass' procedure on the understanding that the articles would be assessed later and custom duty paid by the Ministry of External Affairs. An import permit from the Reserve Bank of India was also not insisted upon.

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13. According to the records, Shri Dangle on arrival delivered the valuables to Shri H. Dayal, then Joint Secretary (Administration) in the Ministry of External Affairs. The suitcases were kept in his cabinet. Thereafter, on an unspecified date, the valuables were checked and weighed. The results of the weighing are in the table given earlier (it is to be noted that neither the earlier list sent by our Mission in Tokyo indicating the weights as found at the time of taking over of valuables from Shri Ram Murthy nor the list as prepared in the Ministry after arrival of the items here are signed or authenticated). The valuables were considered to be worth about Rs.90,000 at that time; this is presumably based on a message from the Mission in Tokyo before despatch of the goods that they might be insured for Rs.90,000/- Prime Minister inspected the articles on 9.1.1953. He minuted as follows:-

"I saw this treasure. It made a poor show. Apart from some gold pieces, it consisted of charred remains of some rather cheap jewellery chiefly some silver and gold articles, all broken up. I think that this should be kept as it is. Apart from everything else, it is some evidence of the aircraft accident and subsequent fire".

14. The question of exempting the valuables from Customs duty was taken up with the Ministry of Finance. It was suggested to the Ministry of External Affairs that in case these were considered as articles of historical value which would be kept in a public place, exemption could be given. This was confirmed by the Ministry and exemption from customs duty was accorded.

15. As regards the custody of the box containing valuable this was taken over by Shri Devi Dyal, Deputy Secretary (Administration) on 26th September, 1953 and deposited in the Treasurer's safe. On 5th October 1953, the box was double

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sealed with an NGO seal and a PM's Secretariat seal in presence of Deputy Secretary(Administration). It is seen from a subsequent note that the box containing the valuables had been put inside a sealed bag and deposited in the cash chest of the Ministry.

16. The Ministry of External Affairs was in touch with the PM's Secretariat in regard to the eventual disposal of these valuables. On 12.11.1953 the Prime Minister suggested that the Ministry of Education take charge of the treasure after inspection. Following this, Shri Humayun Kabir of the Ministry of Education, Shri J.K.Roy, Superintendent: Central Asian Antiquities Museum (National Museum) and Joint Secretary(Administration), Ministry of External Affairs, inspected the treasure on 27.11.1953.

Thereafter Shri Kabir recorded a note to the effect that the items were not suitable for exhibition and therefore these could best be handed over to the family of Netaji Bose, if necessary, after a brief exhibition in Delhi. The then Minister of Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad suggested that these items be handed over to Netaji's family. However, Prime Minister in a minute recorded on 2.12.1953 stated that the articles could not be sent to the Netaji's family as the family had shown no interest in them and were not prepared to admit that Netaji had died in that accident. PM stated that while there was no question of holding an exhibition of these articles, since they were of historical value, they should be kept carefully. Following these instructions, the Ministry of Education decided that the treasure locked in a box and sealed, would be deposited in the National Museum. This was done on 30th December, 1953. In a note recorded on the taking over, which has been signed by Shri J.K.

Roy, superintendent, National Museum, Shri A.C. Banerji of the National Museum and Shri Devi Dyal, Deputy Secretary (Administration) Ministry of External Affairs, it is stated that the box containing the treasure as per list on the file was opened, contents checked and thereafter re-locked and re-sealed with the NGO seal of the Ministry of External Affairs and handed over along with the key to Shri Roy. Shri Roy has recorded on 2.1.1954 that the treasure has been safely deposited in the National Museum.

17. As regards the sum of Yen 20,000/- which had been handed over to the Embassy of India, Tokyo, by Shri Ram Murthy, this amount was taken into Government account for purposes of transfer to India. This amount, equivalent to Rs. 265/- and 10 annas, remained in the Ministry of External Affairs pending a decision on its disposal. On 2.12.54, Prime Minister's Secretariat instructed that this amount be handed over to the INA Relief Fund of the AICC. This was accordingly done on 16.12.1954, against a receipt issued by the AICC. The papers relating to the INA Treasure had been made available to the Netaji Inquiry Committee in 1956. The Report of the Committee indicates that the Committee inspected the valuables at the National Museum twice on the second occasion along with Kundan Singh, Netaji's personal valet, who identified a number of articles as belonging to Netaji. It would appear after the inspection, the box was re-sealed with the NGO seal of the Ministry of External Affairs.

18. The box was opened again on 9.10.78 on Prime Minister's instructions. Additional Secretary, Department of Culture, Director, National Museum, Director General; Archaeological Survey of India, were present at the opening; representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs were also present though

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not at the initial opening of the box. Detailed information on the results of examination of the articles would be available with the Department of Culture and Prime Minister's Office. However, the weights of different packages, as now ascertained by Museum officials have been give in the table on page 7 . This information was provided by the Prime Minister's office.

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

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Reference PMO's U O Number 2(64)/88-PM dated 21.4.1988 forwarding a letter addressed to PM by Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee regarding bringing of Netaji's ashes from Japan.

At the request of the Ministry of Home Affairs, a brief on the subject is being enclosed.

V K Nambiar
(V K Nambiar)
Joint Secretary(EA)

Director, PMO (Shri H C Bakshi)
UO No. C/551/13/JP dated 1 June 1988

Enclosure: Brief.

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Ministry of External Affairs
East Asia Division

Return of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

The ashes of Netaji are placed in an urn which is maintained at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. The Government of India had appointed an Enquiry Committee in 1956 headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and including Shri S.C. Bose, the elder brother of Netaji. The majority opinion of the Committee was that Netaji met his death in an aircrash on 18th August, 1945 and the ashes in Renkoji Temple are of Netaji. Shri S.C. Bose had dissented from this view. A one man commission of Enquiry of Justice G.D. Khosla was appointed in 1970 and he too concluded that the casket lodged in the Renkoji Temple contained the ashes of Netaji.

2. In January 1982, Shri S.C. Bose, the brother of Netaji wrote to the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that "there is no convincing proof that the so-called ashes are genuine and that of my brother ... under the circumstances it would be wrong to pass off the so-called ashes as genuinely being that of Netaji ... it is besides the point as to whether Netaji is still alive or not". He opposed the ashes being brought to India and we have no indication that his attitude has undergone any change.

3. Shri Sheel Badra Yajee, Working President of the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation has been seeking the return of the ashes to India and the building of a suitable memorial. The AIFFO had passed a resolution to this effect at its Madras session in September 1983. Shri L. Joychandra Singh of Imphal has also been in touch with Netaji's associates in India and Japan to this end. Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose, the nephew of Netaji had written to PM on 26 September 1985 stating that he had no objection to Government taking appropriate action to implement the AIFFO resolution of 1983.

4. The Netaji Subhash Research Foundation, Jaipur contests the veracity of the ashes in Japan and opposes their transportation to India. The Foundation wants a fresh inquiry into Netaji's disappearance and has approached the Rajasthan High Court to direct Government to do so.

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5. In response to a Lok Sabha Question on 25.2.82 the then Foreign Minister had said that various opinions have been expressed regarding the urn said to contain Netaji's ashes and that Government have noted the views of all concerned to decide on the most appropriate course of action.

6. Prime Minister Nehru had visited the Renkoji Temple in 1957 followed soon after by President Rajendra Prasad. Smt. Indira Gandhi had also visited the temple in 1969 as did Shri A.B.Vajpayee and Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao when they officially visited Japan as Foreign Ministers in 1977 and 1982. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi did not, however, visit the temple during his visit to Japan in 1985. He had been invited to do so by the Chairman of the Netaji Subhash Academy which consists of various retired officials of World War II vintage who had an association with Netaji when they were in the Japanese Imperial Army. It is the leading members of this Academy who have made several representations seeking to send the ashes to India. They are aware of the views of the family of Netaji who do not accept the validity and consequently return of the ashes. The views of Netaji's daughter on the subject are not known.

7. The Japanese Government have not officially requested us to accept these ashes. In 1984 the Japanese press had reported that Mr. M.Fujio had sought the intervention of Prime Minister Nakasone to take up the matter with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi; Prime Minister Nakasone had not taken up the issue. It is likely that the Japanese Government prefers to sidestep this issue as it relates to an association with Japanese war time leaders and raises the spectre of controversy, to the like of which Japan is extremely sensitive.

8. The ashes have been lying in the Renkoji Temple since 1945. The Government provides a yearly grant to the maintenance of the temple in which the ashes are contained. The main reasons for the return of the ashes which have been put forth have been:

- (i) The moral obligation of India to honour the National Hero;
- (ii) The chief priest of the temple to whom the ashes were handed over died in 1979 and there is no guarantee that his son the current priest, would have the same reverence;

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(iii) The leading members of the Netaji Subash Academy have either passed away or are extremely old and they fear that after their demise there would be nobody left to care for the ashes.

9. The Government's position so far has been to await the building of a National consensus on the question of Netaji's ashes before taking a formal decision to avoid any controversy at the present or at a later stage. This is because of :

- (i) Netaji's brother does not believe that the ashes are genuine. Government have not been informed of any change of this view held by members of Netaji's family;
- (ii) There are a great number of people who believe that Netaji did not pass away in an aircrash and yet others who believe that he is still alive;
- (iii) The absence of a consensus due to the above views may create political complications if a decision was taken to accept the ashes as genuine and bring them to India. It is understood Government are not in favour of precipitating a controversy on this.

26.5.1988



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विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

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3/10/89

Reference is invited to Prime Minister's Office U.O.Note No.885/25/C/30/88-Pol dated 16th November 1988 regarding letter from Shri Chitta Basu, M.P., to P.M. relating to the proposal for a joint study on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Social Science.

Handwritten notes on the left margin, including '25/11' and other illegible scribbles.

2. We have consulted our Embassy in Beijing who feel while the Chinese may have responded to Shri Chitta Basu's proposal more in response to his political standing rather than as a token of their objective assessment of any real contribution which they can make to a re-evaluation of the role of Netaji, the persistence on the part of Shri Chitta Basu is not unlikely to result in one or two Chinese scholars or organisations providing him with some material on Netaji which he could use. The Chinese are certainly going to be conscious of the domestic political ramifications for them of such an association with Netaji and would presumably limit the extent, nature and scope of their collaboration on the subject.

3. In view of the above, it is our view that we need not have any specific objection to the assistance being sought from the Chinese for any ongoing study on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. However, I do not think it is necessary or advisable for the ICSSR to initiate at our insistence any new study in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Social Science. ICSSR's response that they would discuss this matter with the Chinese Academy of Social Science when an appropriate opportunity arises is, to my mind, an adequate response. In case the ICSSR finds it possible to initiate studies, in the future, we would have no objection to their making some extra provision for this purpose in their programme.

Pre-sec
Pres. papers are
tagged at 222 & 332
in the file below, please.
25/11

V.K. Nambiar
(V.K. Nambiar)
Joint Secretary(EA)

1982-902/89
25-1-89

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE - SMT. MEERA SHANKAR, DIR.
Ministry of E.A. U.O. No.C/122/18/86-CH dt.23.1.89

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: [Illegible]

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1544-35(40)as
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reference PMO DO Numbers dated 5th and 14th June as well as subsequent reminder dated 19th July, 1990 on the matter of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

2. The communication from Prof. Samar Guha including a letter written by him to Mr. Gorbachev in November 1988 was referred to our Embassy in Moscow who have made a demarche with the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union as well as the South Asia Directorate of the Soviet Foreign Office in the matter. The Soviets have confirmed that the documents sent earlier by Shri Samar Guha were in the possession of the Soviet Government and they were making enquiries in the matter.

3. In the circumstances, it would be apparent that no further developments in the matter have taken place.

4. The comments of the East Asia Division already sent in our earlier communications on the question of the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, are perhaps already with PMO. A copy of a background brief in this regard is placed below.

*
removed
& placed
on back

V.K. Nambiar
(V.K. Nambiar)
Joint Secretary (EA)
8/8/1990

DIRECTOR (MS), PMO

pps pl.
yphankar
8/8/

15561-Relg
9/8

~~80/11/P/11/3/90-101~~
9/8
PH

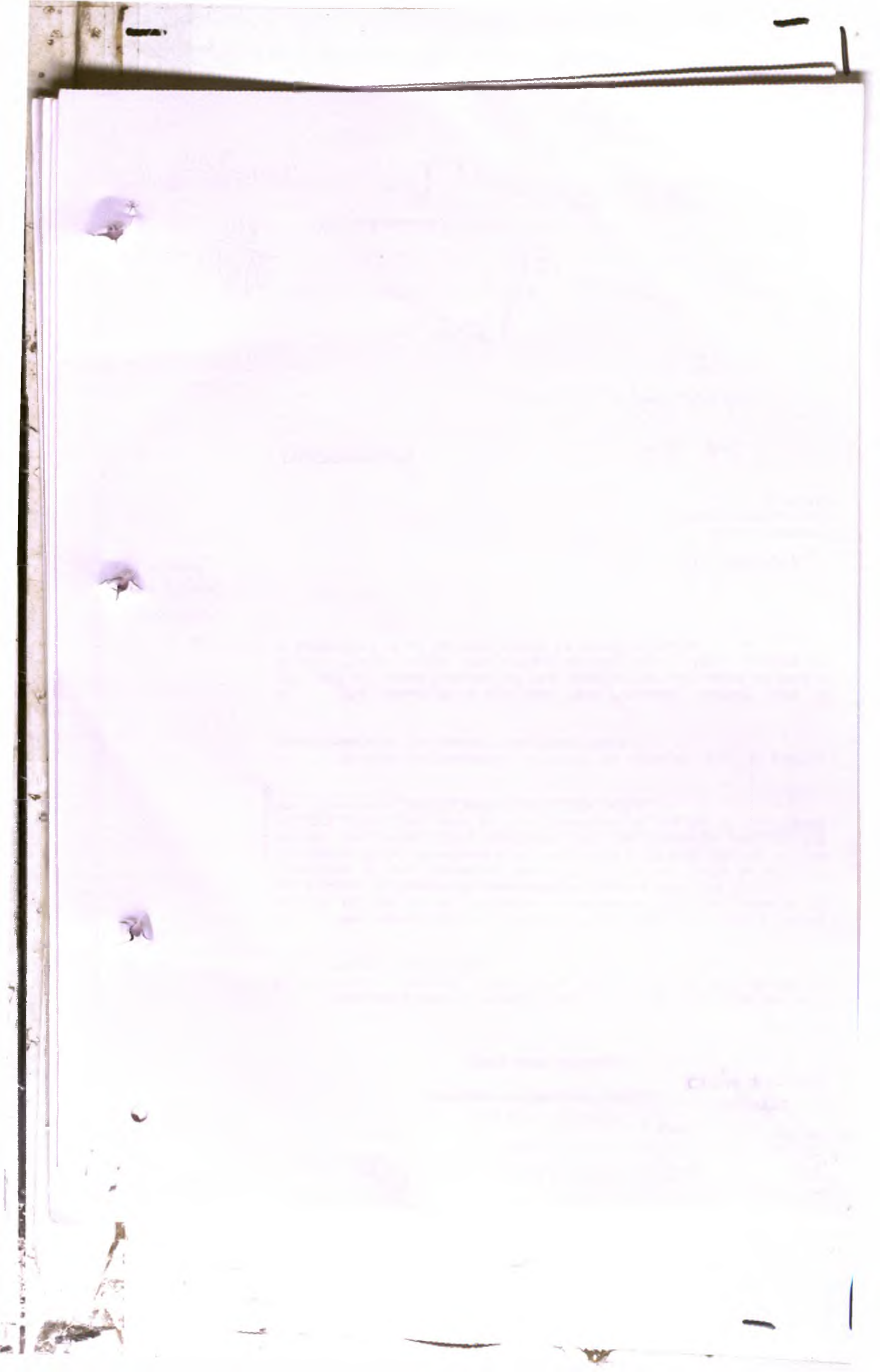
pl Council

Outlets no. 870/11/P/11/3/90-101 on the body has already been removed. It is to be noted that the copy of the letter dated 8/8/90 (4.6.2000) is with the PMO (MS).

No. 3077
9/8/90

4/5
21/8/ P.A.

h
198.



4306/R/90

1957/JS/41/40

26/4

26/4

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11

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
EAST ASIA DIVISION

QUESTION OF THE RETURN OF NETAJI'S ASHES FROM JAPAN

Netaji died in a hospital at Taipei (Taiwan) on 18.08.1945. Two days later, his body was cremated and the ashes carried to Tokyo sometime end-August or beginning September 1945. It appears the ashes were kept at the residence of Shri A M Sahai (ex-Minister of the Netaji Cabinet) in Tokyo where ceremonies were held for 11 days after which the ashes were taken to the Benkoji Buddhist Temple in the Nakano area of Tokyo where they are maintained to this day.

2. The Government of India had appointed an Enquiry Committee in 1956 headed by the late Shah Nawaz Khan and including Netaji's elder brother Shri S C Bose. The Committee submitted a report in which the majority opinion was that Netaji met his death in an air crash on 18.08.1945 and that the ashes in the Benkoji Temple were those of Netaji. Shri S.C. Bose dissented from this view. In 1970, a one-man Committee of Justice G.D. Khosla was set up which also concluded that the casket lodged in the Benkoji Temple contained the ashes of Netaji. In January 1982, however, Shri S.C. Bose wrote to the Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi saying that there was no convincing proof that the so-called ashes were genuine.

3. In recent months, two persons, Shri L Joychandra Singh and Shri Shcel Bhadra Yaji who have been associated with Netaji have been mounting a campaign to bring back the ashes of Netaji from Japan. Shri Joychandra Singh says he has been in touch with various organisations associated with Netaji including the Netaji Academy in Tokyo. He also says that Shri S.C. Bose, the brother of Netaji who had, so far objected to the return of the ashes is no more, having expired some four years ago. His son, Shri Arvind Bose has entrusted responsibility for this issue to his cousin Dr. Pinar Bose. This gentleman had written on 26 September 1985 to the Prime Minister stating that he agreed with the resolution adopted by the All India Freedom Fighters Organisation implying that he had no objection to the return of the remains of Netaji to India and the erection of a befitting national memorial in his honour in Delhi.

4. The only vocal objection in recent months has been the Netaji Subhash Research Foundation of Jaipur which contests the veracity of the ashes in Japan and is opposed to their return. This Foundation wants a fresh inquiry into Netaji's disappearance and has approached the Rajasthan High Court to direct the Government of India to do so.



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[Faint, illegible printed text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

Faint, illegible text covering the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.

M
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P2

5. The ashes have been lying in Japan since 1945. Government provides an annual grant for the maintenance of the Temple. Return of the ashes are being demanded for the following reasons:

a. Moral obligation of the nation to honour one of the heroes of the national movement.

b. The chief priest of the Benkoji Temple to whom the ashes were handed over died in 1979. There is no guarantee that his son the new priest will maintain the same reverence

c. Leading members of the Netaji Subhash Academy have also either expired or aged. When they pass from the scene there may not be anyone to care for the ashes

6. Our present view is that notwithstanding the considerations adduced above which are considered valid, a consensus has not developed in favour of bringing the ashes back to India. We had considered mooted the suggestion perhaps by the early part of 1990. So far, however, this has not been done.

7. Just prior to the visit of Prime Minister Kaifu, the Japanese Embassy had raised this question informally with me in order to ascertain our reaction. I had indicated to them that there was need for us to build up a certain amount of public opinion in view of the fact that there are strong feelings among a section of the public about the facts surrounding the death of Netaji.

8. I was informed this evening by the Minister in the Japanese Embassy that the Vice Minister for Cabinet Affairs in the Japanese Government who will be accompanying Prime Minister Kaifu had taken up the matter with the Embassy again and wished to raise the matter with an appropriate person (preferably a public figure - MOS(PA) who could explain the political implications of the return of the ashes.) The Japanese have apparently been facing a certain amount of pressure of their own. Some former Minister (Mr. Fujio) who was connected with the Benkoji Temple had been insisting with Vice Minister Oshima that he should discuss this matter outside the formal talks conducted by the Prime Minister.

9. I have responded in the interim with the suggestion that it may be possible for the Vice Minister to discuss this with the Foreign Secretary. I indicated that MOS (EA) may not be available during the visit of the Japanese PM.

B. Ambekar
Vt. Parhiar
MOS (PA) 26/4

47 (258) 1788 (84)
915/111/c/6/96-81



~~Confidential~~

Ministry of External Affairs
Europe West Division
❖❖❖

4984/100-175

800/1
M AM
PMS
P/A

Our Consul General in Hamburg has informed us that on 17 August, 1998, the G-50, an umbrella organisation which encompasses Hamburg-based Indian associations as well as the local Deutsche Indische Gesellschaft [DIG, the Indo-German Friendship Association], handed over a letter addressed to our Prime Minister.

-49/c-

2. The letter, the original of which is placed below [P-A], calls for "an all out effort to unravel the mystery of the disappearance of NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE". It adds, *inter alia*, that in the light of new evidence, following the release of crucial official documents by the Governments of UK and Russia, "conditions have never been so opportune for getting at the truth". The letter also adds that "the weight of existing evidence which seriously challenge the air-crash story is compelling" and, draws attention, to what is termed, are some 'facts, in particular.'

3. PMO may like to take a view on whether this letter merits a response. Also, whether the CG should be requested to send atleast an interim response to the effect that the letter has been transmitted.

H.S. Panu

[H.S.Panu] ..
Joint Secretary[EW]
3 September, 1998

Joint Secretary/PI, PMO O.Y

7765/14/12
18/11

4574/JSCP/H/188
5/5/98

1052/201(5)/5/98
8/5/98

B
M K

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25/11

P! P.H

7765/14/12
18/11
JSCP

H.S. Panu
5/5/98

-49/c-



University of Eastern Africa
Arusha

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the position of the various groups. It is a very general and superficial treatment of the subject and does not deal with the details of the various groups.

The second part of the report deals with the details of the various groups. It is a very detailed and thorough treatment of the subject and deals with the details of the various groups. It is a very detailed and thorough treatment of the subject and deals with the details of the various groups.

The third part of the report deals with the details of the various groups. It is a very detailed and thorough treatment of the subject and deals with the details of the various groups. It is a very detailed and thorough treatment of the subject and deals with the details of the various groups.

Arusha
1964

THE UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

Arusha
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Arusha
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2(67)/5871-PM

(15) ~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

O.T.C.

CCB No. 09303

@not sig. Telegram

~~SECRET~~

From: Indembassy, Vienna.
To : Foreign, New Delhi.

DTG JUL 061630
DTR JUL 071625

IMPORTANT

No. 47.

*By ch.

SANITIAL* from HAKSAR.

2* Netaji's daughter ANITA BOSE was married yesterday to MARTIN PFAFF an American national.

SECY TO PM: JS TO PM: PS TO PM: MINISTER: MINISTER OF STATE:
DEPUTY MINISTER: FS: SECY EAI: SECY EAII: JSAD: JSXPL: DIR EUR:
DS W: US EE: US CONS: ATTACHE NGO(2): CABINET SECRETARY.

Note by CCB:- The above telegram was received on our London/Delhi Telex Link.

ALS/20
7.7.65

SECRET

R Sundaram
SUPERINTENDENT CCB
W

259

21 118-1
86

OCB No. 6895

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Telegram: ~~RESTRICTED~~

From: Foreign, New Delhi.
To : Indembassy, Vienna.

DTG DECEMBER 121700

IMPORTANT

No. 24313.

ARTHUR LALL from DUTT.

Your letter of December 7. ANITA arrived Calcutta yesterday and warmly received. Please ask her mother not to worry.

PS TO PM (2): DEPUTY MINISTER: SG: FS: CS: JSW: SO NGO.

B. Lall

SUPERINTENDENT OCB

"mohan" (10)
12-12-1960

2(67)/56-71-By



K. Sankara Pillai,
Deputy Secretary (O&M).

~~SECRET/IMMEDIATE.~~
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

D.O.No. F.52/34/NGO

September 12, 1958.

95-A
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260

Dear Shri Jain,

Will you please refer to the correspondence resting with Shri P. Chakravarti's letter No. F.53(1)/5723 dated the 15th February 1958, to Shri K.P. Lukose, regarding financial help to the family of the late Shri Subhas Chandra Bose?

2. We find from our records that cheque No. DT 629218 dated the 6th November, 1957 for Rs. 3,000/- last received from the INA Enquiry and Relief Committee Fund by us, through Shri M.O. Mathai, represented the assistance to Miss Anita Bose for the period July - December 1957. No cheque for assistance for the period January - June 1958 has so far been received from your office. Since Miss Anita Bose's mother wants this assistance to be continued, and as only 3½ months remain for the year to end, we would suggest that you send us the remittance for the period July - December 1958 now itself along with the remittance for the period January - June 1958, which is already over-due. If you agree, you may send us the cheque for onward transmission.

3. We shall also be grateful if a letter addressed to the Agent, State Bank of India, similar to the one sent with the letter dated the 15th February 1958 under reference, is sent to us along with the cheque.

2/57/56-71-ly

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(K. Sankara Pillai).

Shri Takhat Mal Jain,
General Secretary,
All India Congress Committee,
7, Jantar Mantar Road,
New Delhi.

Copy for information to Shri M.O. Mathai, Prime Minister's Secretariat.

(K. Sankara Pillai)
Deputy Secretary (O&M).

CONFIDENTIAL

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Ministry of External Affairs.

D.O. No. F.52/34/NGO

~~SECRET~~

गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL

Dated 28 January, 1958.

Dear Shri Bhargava,

Will you kindly refer to the correspondence resting with Shri I.J. Broughton's d.o. letter of even number dated the 23rd March, 1957 regarding financial help to the family of the late Shri Subhash Chandra Bose ?

Before we make arrangements to transmit the amount of Rs.3,000/- sent to us through Shri M.O. Mathai in the form of crossed cheque No. DI 62321B dated the 6th November, 1957, we would appreciate it if you would kindly send us the usual letter of authority for transmission to the State Bank. As Shri A.N. Mahta is now the Charge d'Affaires, in the Legation of India, Vienna, it should be drawn up in his favour.

Yours sincerely,

(K.P. Lukose)

Shri M.P. Bhargava,
Permanent Secretary,
All India Congress Committee,
7, Jantar Mantar Road,
NEW DELHI.

Copy for information to :-
Shri M.O. Mathai,
Prime Minister's Secretariat.

Deputy Secretary

262
921
~~SECRET~~
CONFIDENTIAL
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi
Dated the 30th April 1956. (89)

No.F.52/34/NGC

Dear Shri Bhargava, a/A

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.F.53(1)/7549 dated the 18th April, 1956, addressed to Shri M.O. Mathai, enclosing cheque No. DT 629212 dated the 16th April, 1956, for Rs.3,000/-.

Arrangements are being made to remit the amount to Miss Bose.

Yours sincerely,

(A.S. Mehta)

2(67)/53-21-14
Shri M.P. Bhargava,
Permanent Secretary,
All India Congress Committee,
7, Jantar Mantar Road,
New Delhi.

Copy forwarded to Shri M.O. Mathi, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Prime Minister's House, New Delhi.

(A.S. Mehta) 30/4/56
Deputy Secretary.

गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(263) (90) SA
(67)

No. 549-Nga/55

~~SECRET~~

7th March, 1955.

Dear Mr. Bhargava,

This is to acknowledge your cheque
No. DT 629207, dated the 25th February, 1955
for rupees three thousand for being sent to Miss
Anita Bose. Arrangements will be made to remit
this amount to Miss Bose as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.

(A. J. Kidwai)

2 (67) / 56-71/84

Shri M. P. Bhargava,
Permanent Secretary,
All India Congress Committee,
7, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi 1.

✓ Copy forwarded to Shri M.L.Bazaz, Private Secretary
Prime Minister's Secretariat, New Delhi, with reference to
his letter No.2(628)-52/PM, dated the 5th March, 1955.

10/3

79A

SM

A.J.Kidwai

(A.J.Kidwai)
Deputy Secretary.

5(628)

No:F(2)-Pol(Aus)/54.

~~SECRET~~

गोपनीय
CONFIDENTIAL

June 30, 1954.

My dear Prem Krishen,

Would you kindly refer to your letter No.F.52/34/NC0/50, dated May 31 to Ramaswamy, with which you had sent him an Imperial Bank draft for £224-12-2 for Frau Schenkl? Ramaswamy informs me that this amount has been duly disbursed, paid to Frau Schenkl.

It may be noted that with this draft we begin a new series of payments to Frau Schenkl — from the All India Congress Committee, as a result of the Trust Deed created in favour of Frau Schenkl for her daughter Anita Schenkl-Bose. It may be noted that in the past sums of money have been sent to us from the Prime Minister's Secretariat. These were to be used in Frau Schenkl's interest at the discretion of the Ambassador. This previous account is now closed. On 16.2.54, there was a cash balance of Aus.Sch.5461.37 plus A.S.3.73 accrued interest on this account. I am satisfied myself that this has been fully expended and the balance now under this old account is nil. The details of this account have been duly maintained on our files in the Vienna Legation and this Embassy. But it may be noted that this previous account is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Y.D.Gundevia)

Copy to Shri M.C.Mathai, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, for information.

Ambassador.

2(67)/53-71-AM

BY BAG.

~~गोपनी~~
~~SECRET~~
CONFIDENTIAL

No. F. 2-Fol (Aus) / 53.

Embassy of India,
Berne.

May 31, 1954.

My dear Mathai,

Will you please refer to your letter dated May 24. I have arranged for the copy of the Trust Deed being handed over to Frau Schenk1 through our Vice Consul in Vienna.

Yours sincerely,

Y.D. Gundevia
(Y.D. Gundevia)

Shri M.C. Mathai,
Special Assistant to the Prime
Minister,
New Delhi.

2(67)/56-71/Am

266 (93)

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

No: F 2-POL(Aus)/52



~~TOP SECRET~~

Embassy of India
~~LEGATION OF INDIA~~

BERNE

January 19, 1954.

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105

My dear Mathai,

There was a paragraph in the Hindu of December 18 to say that the Congress Working Committee at Delhi had taken a decision to create a Trust of 2 lakhs of rupees in favour of the 11-year old daughter of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Mrs.Schenkl has always kept in touch with Ramaswamy, our Vice Consul in Vienna, and Ramaswamy has recently obtained from her copies of correspondence that has passed between Shri B.C.Roy and Mrs.Schenkl on the subject of the Trust. I dare say, the Prime Minister is aware of the trend of the correspondence. Shri B.C.Roy has written to her, apparently, in accordance with the Working Committee's decision, and, in her letter dated 17th January, Mrs.Schenkl has agreed to be one of the Trustees. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the correspondence for your information.

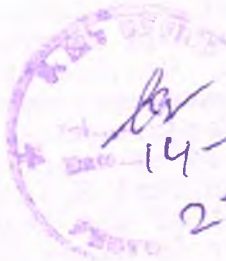
2 (4) 158-71-Ay

Yours sincerely,

(Y.D.Gundevia)

Shri M.O.Mathai,
Special Assistant to the
Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi.

CONFIDENTIAL



14-9-2000
27

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

265 (H4) 33A
94

D.O. No. F. 54/32/100-50

~~SECRET~~

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI.

the 7th October, 1962.

Subject: Welfare of Frau Schenk (Mrs Bose)

My dear Ambassador,

Will you kindly refer to your letter dated the 2nd September, to the Prime Minister ?

2. As desired by the Prime Minister, I have sent a draft for £ 100/- on the Imperial Bank of India, London, in favour of K.V. Ramaswamy, for disbursement to Frau Schenk under your direction. I enclose, for information, a copy of my letter to Ramaswamy in this regard.

2/67/456-71-By

32B

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(H. Dayal)

me
7/10

**Shri Asaf Ali,
Legation of India,
Bern,
Switzerland.**

32B

Copy with copy of enclosure, to the Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (Dr. B.N. Kaul) for information.

H Dayal

(H. Dayal)
Joint Secretary.

09.10.
4758/105
21.10.

गोपनीय
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
D.O. No. F. 54/32/NGO-50

32B
115
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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI.

the October, 1952.

Subject : - Welfare of Frau Schenk
(Mrs Bose)

My dear Ramaswamy,

Will you please refer to the correspondence resting with your letter No. CON/2/1, dated the 6th September, to Mr. Tsubji ?

2. As desired by the Prime Minister, I send herewith a draft for £ 100/-, in your favour, on the Imperial Bank of India, London. It is the Prime Minister's wish that this amount should be kept outside the official account and disbursed to Frau Schenk in cash or in the shape of gifts under the direction of our Minister in Bern, from whom you will receive instructions on the subject from time to time.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(H. Deyal)

2 (64) 156-71-My
Sri K.V. Ramaswamy,
Legation of India,
Vienna,
Austria.
2 (82)

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION

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SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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I have been having some enquiries made about the wife and daughter of Bhri Subhas Bose in Vienna. I think we should arrange to send them £.100/- as a present at about Christmas time. This money could be sent from the I. A. Fund with the A. I. C. C. Arrangements could be made through the External Affairs Ministry to have the money sent.

Please mention this matter at the Working Committee meeting.

(J. Nehru)
9-9-1962

General Secretary. AICC.

2/628

PERSONAL & SECRET.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LEGATION OF INDIA
69, STERNWARTESTRASSE
VIENNA XVIII.

31st July, 1952.

My dear Jawahar,

x

x

x

2. I have received your telegram about Mrs. Bose. I had already contemplated contacting her. On my arrival here, however, I learnt that she had gone out of town with the child, on her holiday. Ramaswamy spoke to her over the phone and I am now hoping to meet her on my return from Budapest. I must, however, inform you that, from what Ramaswamy has told me now, it appears that the good lady was in no mood to be obliged to the Government. Probably because she was briefed in the familiar way I think by no other person than Amly Bose, I am rather sorry for it. However, I shall try and see what I can do as you have desired to persuade her to accept some assistance from us, if not for herself, at least for the child. I shall try to be as discreet about it as possible without committing the Government.

x

x

x

Ever yours,

Sd/-Asaf Ali.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi, INDIA.

Sd/-J.Nehru.
11/8
E.S.

OTP

(28)

CCB. NO. 5700.

(112)

TELEGRAM

~~SECRET~~

~~गोपनीय~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(98)

From - Indlegation, Vienna.
To - Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO JULY 311530
DTR AUGUST 010315

No.10, Secret and Personal ASAF ALI for
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU. Your telegram Primin 21337 July 28th.
Person mentioned will return from leave 2nd or 3rd August.
Expect to meet on my return from Budapest where am going
today.

....

Prime Minister (6) only.

Superintendent CCB.

/PS(3)
011020

2(67)156-71-By

222

2/67/56-21-44

28.7.
/DH (S)

B. M. Mandala
Superintendent CCB

Prime Minister (6) only.

It would be desirable if during your stay in Vienna you could contact FRAU EMILIE SCHMIDL (Burggasse 24, Vienna XVIII/110) wife of Gubas Hase. We should like to have information about her and her daughter and whether she requires or is prepared to accept any help.

PERSONAL. For Asst All from Prime Minister.

No. Primis 21337.

~~IMMEDIATE~~

DND JULY 28 1930

Telegram
From - Foreign, New Delhi.
To - Indlegation, Vienna.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

O.L.P.

CGB No. 4067

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~PERSONAL~~

DEPUTY MINISTER
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDIA.
NEW DELHI.

15th March 1953.

My dear Panditji,

As advised, I saw Shri Mahabir Tyagi about Sarat Babu's arrears of income-tax. I was asked by him to write to Sarat Babu's sons suggesting that they should ask for time and offer to pay by instalments. I have now received the accompanying letter from Shri Nripendra Chandra Mitra, who wrote the first letter to me on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Anil K. Chanda.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

(294)

श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह
भारतीय न्यायिक प्रणाली
अधीनस्थ

TELEFAX

(63)

श्री प्रदीप
संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली
एच. ए. 100
एच. ए. 216 217

श्री प्रदीप
संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली

श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।

श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।

श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।
श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह, संयोजक, न्यायिक प्रणाली, एच. ए. 100, एच. ए. 216 217, दिल्ली-110001।

श्री प्रदीप कुमार सिंह

श्री P. K. Sengupta
Secy, Justice Mukherjee Commission
Calcutta

(FAX No: 033-2162765)

n/e

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Jan. 033-216276

Feb.

033 | 216 2785-68
216 2835

14-9
19-9

700087

Calcutta

11/A Mirza Charib Street

Block, (Third Floor)

Enquiry

Mr. Mukherjee, Commission of

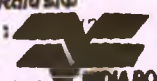
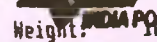
Enquiry

P. K. Sengupta

Signature

Dated 19.9.00

Ch. No.

भारतीय डाक
ARTICLE BOOKING RECEIPT Date : 
 Sansad Marg HPO 110001
 No. L /SP /MPC09/5024430 Weight: 
 To : TO SH P K SENGUPTA SECTREARY
 CALCUTTA Pin: 700087
 Fr : MINI OF E AFIR
 ND Time: 16:38 hr
 MO for Rs. 0.00 Affix: Rs. 45.00
 Insured Rs. 0.00 A/D: N Comm: Rs. 45.00
 Amount Collected : Rs. 0.00

S. No.

CHALLAN

Ministry of External Affairs

(Section)

by special post

206



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

TELEFAX

277

(62)

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No.301 1357
Fax No.379 2285

No. 25/4/NGO/Vol.V

September 18, 2000

My dear Sir,

As you are aware, Government of India has appointed a one-member Commission of Inquiry with Justice M.K. Mukherjee as its Chairperson to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Justice Mukherjee has been in correspondence with you regarding declassified British Government records (comprising some 700 files) that might have some bearing on his mandate. As discussed with you, we are advising the Commission to depute one of its officials to London for an *in-situ* examination of the files to find out whether or not they contain any material relevant to the work of the Commission. Alternately, they could mandate the Director, National Archives of India, to undertake this task on behalf of the Commission.

Meanwhile, it would be useful to send a request from the High Commission to the British Foreign Office, in the context of the setting up of this new Commission, to retrieve any available documentation pertaining to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that may be contained in the 700 unpublished files originating in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. These files are now public and have recently been placed with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad
Jayant Prasad

Shri Nareshwar Dayal
High Commissioner of India
London

Sent Copy

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

200

00-44-171-8363039

00-44-171-8364331



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

Handwritten date: 10/20/2002

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

279

TIME: 10:00 AM
 DATE: 10/10/2010
 BY: [Signature]
 NO. [Number]

DATE/TIME	10/10/2010
TIME	10:00 AM
BY	[Signature]
NO.	279

280

7580/11/19

3275/JS (CNY) 2000
4.5.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

(61)

No. JMCI/ Doc (FOR)/99-2000/56/232

Calcutta, dated, the August 28,
2000

Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi-110 001

Dear Shri Prosad,

Files numbering 700 originating in the India office's Public and Judicial Deptt., London and now available in the British Library.

I am directed to invite a reference to the Commission's letter no. JMCI/DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/45(2) dated 27.4.2000 on the aforesaid subject and to say that no reply whatsoever has yet been received from your end.

I am directed to request you to kindly look into the matter and do the needful so that the files referred to in the letter dated 13.4.2000 of Sri Mainak De, Press & Public Affairs Adviser, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta addressed to Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly, a copy whereof was sent to you alongwith the above-quoted letter dated 27.4.2000, are made available to this Commission either in original or in the form of microfilm or cassette disc or micro soft office 1997 as early as possible.

An early reply will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
(P.K.Sengupta)
Secretary

Soc (11/00)
AC to be on file.
(Signature)
4/19

in 5/19

(60)

(201)

Status Report showing action taken on/
compliance with the orders/directions
contained in the proceedings dated
23rd March, 2000 and 13th June, 2000
of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
as on 25.3.2000.

282

(59)

1. Re : Para (a)(i) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

1.1 The Prime Minister's Secretariat has furnished Xerox copies of 32 files including a number of Secret/Top Secret files. These files are being scrutinized.

1.2 Of the files specifically mentioned in the said para (a)(i) the following files have been received which are also being scrutinized :-

- (i) A xerox copy of file No.23(156)/51-PM;
- (ii) A xerox copy of file No.23(11)-56-57 PM;
- (iii) A xerox copy of file No.249-INA regarding information on Shri Subhas Chandra Bose;
- (iv) A xerox copy of file No.273-INA containing the following details :-
 - (a) Notes;
 - (b) His departure from Bangkok on 17th;
 - (c) Is Subhas Chandra Bose still alive ?
 - (d) Extract from Allied Allied Forces SEA weekly Intelligence Review No.57 for week ending 2 Nov. 45;
 - (e) Subhas Chandra Bose's death Nurse at Hospital where he relates story;
 - (f) Data relating to his death in an Aeroplane;
 - (g) His proposal to see the Russian Ambassador;
 - (h) Statement with regard to his death;
 - (i) Last moments of Subhas Chandra Bose;

(v) A xerox copy of file No.138-INA;

(vi) A xerox copy of file No.265-INA-Pt.I.

1.3 Other files/documents as specifically mentioned in the said para (a)(i) have not been received, most of which are reportedly destroyed.

1.4 No affidavit has been filed on behalf of Prime Minister's office;

2. Re : Para (a)(ii) of the said proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

Xerox copies of all the files mentioned in this para have been received which are being scrutinized.

3. Re : Para (a)(iii) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

3.1 Of the files/documents specifically mentioned in para (a)(iii) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 only the following files/documents have been received which are being scrutinized :-

(i) One xerox copy of Netaji's speech of 18.08.45.

(ii) One xerox copy of Secret No. 11/INC/45 dated 16.01.46 from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, C.I.S., Bombay Province, (lying inside xerox copy of file No. 282/INA);

(iii) A xerox copy of W. Mckwright's letter No.C-5 dated 19.02.46 to Intelligence Bureau, H.D., New Delhi-3, (lying inside xerox copy of file No.273/INA);

3.2 No other files/documents specifically mentioned in para (a)(iii) have been received;

4. Re : Para (a)(iv) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

4.1 The orders/directions contained in para (a)(iv) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 read with the proceedings dated 13.06.2000 regarding production of the entire proceedings (including the evidence recorded) of Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission, have not been complied with fully and properly. Complete records of the entire proceedings and the documents produced before the aforesaid Committee/Commission are yet to be received from the Government of India.

4.2 The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, and the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, have again been called upon on 18.08.2000 to produce immediately the complete original records of the entire proceedings of Justice Khosla Commission and Shah Nawaz Khan Committee respectively (including all the documents produced before the said Commission/Committee).

5. Re : Para (a)(v) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

The documents mentioned in this para are available with the Ministry of External Affairs as admitted by them. As per their request the said documents (i.e. The Transfer of Power, Vol.VI and VII) were borrowed from the National & Library, Calcutta and returned to them after keeping xerox copies of a few pages of Vol.VI)

6. Re : Para (b) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000, read with the para "re : (a)" of the proceedings dated 13.03.2000 concerning filing of affidavits.

6.1 Shri A.K. Paitandi, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, filed an affidavit dated 20.06.2000 on behalf of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Cabinet Secretariat, Intelligence Bureau, and Research and Analysis Wing, Government of India, within the prescribed time limit. The affidavit prima facie appears to be somewhat evasive on certain points.

6.2 The Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, have been called upon to produce immediately photo-copies of all the agenda papers/Cabinet decisions concerning "Investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of Netaji" from the custody of the Cabinet Secretariat.

6.3 The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, have been requested to send immediately the photo-copies of all the 9 (nine) Top Secret files which are mentioned in the list attached to their D.O. letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated 1st March, 2000 as referred to in their affidavit dated 24.7.2000.

6.4 Shri G.B. Singh, Director, History Division, Ministry of Defence, Government of India, filed an affidavit dated 31.07.2000 wherein it has been stated that all the files/documents relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A. which were held with the History Division, Ministry of Defence, have been declassified and transferred to the National Archives of India on 26.08.1997 and that there are no other documents/records available in the Ministry of Defence.

6.5 No affidavits have been filed on behalf of
 (i) Prime Minister's office as stated in para 1.4
 and on behalf of the (ii) Department of Culture
 (National Archives of India) regarding availability
 of files/records/documents irrespective of whether
 they are Top Secret/Classified/Declassified except
 the 990 files reportedly transferred by the History
 Division, Ministry of Defence to the National Archives
 of India, New Delhi, out of which a list of 989 files
 have already been furnished to the Commission by the
 National Archives of India. Besides, P.M.'s office
 furnished lists of 32 other files, xerox copies of
 which have also been furnished by the Prime Minister's
 office to the Commission and those are being scruti-
 nised as stated in para 1.1.

7. Re : Para (c) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

7.1 The files/documents specifically mentioned in
 para (c) of the said proceedings are reported
 to be not mentioned in the Index Book and not
 available with the Government of West Bengal as
 stated in the affidavit dated 28.07.2000 filed
 by Shri Aloknath Bhattacharya, Special Secretary,
 Home (Political) Department, Government of
 West Bengal.

7.2 Along with the said affidavit filed on behalf of
 Government of West Bengal, xerox copies of
 64 files as listed in the said affidavit have
 been furnished which are being scrutinised.

7.3 The Secretary, Home Department, Government of
 West Bengal, has been called upon on 18.08.2000
 to produce immediately the relevant original
 Index Books of the Intelligence Branch and
 also of the Special Branch under Home Department,
 Government of West Bengal.

8. Re : Para (d) of the said proceedings dated
 23.03.2000.

8.1 Dr.(Mrs.) Purabi Roy filed an affidavit
 dated 08.06.2000.

8.2. The General Secretary of the Asiatic Society
 furnished the following documents published
 by them:-

- (i) One printed copy of "Indo-Russian
 Relations (Pt.I) pertaining to
 1917 to 1928;"

- (ii) One printed copy of the "Check List of documents (Vol.I);"
- (iii) One printed copy of "Indo-Russian Relations (pt.II) 1929-1947;"
- (iv) One printed copy of "Russo-Indian Relations in 19th century - a selection of documents (English translation);"

8.3 Dr.(Mrs.) Purabi Roy was requested in our letter dated 10.05.2000 to identify relevant documents available with the Asiatic Society concerning Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and translate the relevant non-English documents available there into English on behalf of the Commission. Dr.Roy in her letter dated 16.08.2000 has stated inter-alia that she is willing to take action as desired in our aforesaid letter provided the present authority of the Asiatic Society permits her to do so. The General Secretary of the Asiatic Society and the Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, Government of India, have been requested by us accordingly.

9.Re: Para (e) of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 regarding suggestion of the names of competent persons who might be included in the Research Team of the Commission.

Shri Surajit Dasgupta suggested the names of five persons (all residing in West Bengal) on behalf of the petitioners of affidavit Nos. JMCI/11/2000, JMCI/13/2000 and JMCI/14/2000 and Smt. Chitra Ghosh, a deponent, suggested the names of 9(nine) persons (all residing in West Bengal), another five persons (all residing in Delhi), and four more persons (the residence of whom are not indicated), for their inclusion in the Research Team of J.M.C.I.

10.Re :Para (f) of the said proceedings dated 23.03.2000 concerning recording of evidence of Maj.E.Bhas-karan on Commission.

10.1 Maj. E. Bhaskaran could ultimately depose on 15.07.2000 at his residence in Chennai before Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, who was appointed Commissioner for the purpose, in the presence of Shri Anil Krishna Mukherjee and Smit. Chitra Ghosh, deponents. They cross-examined the said witness.

10.2 In pursuance of the orders of the Commission another witness Col. Preetam Singh was examined on Commission at his residence in the presence of Shri Anil Krishna Mukherjee and Shri Subrata Bose, deponents, by Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, who was appointed Commissioner for the purpose by the Commission. The witness was cross-examined by Shri Anil Krishna Mukherjee and Shri Subrata Bose.

11. Re : Last para of the said proceedings dated 23.03.2000. Necessary steps were taken in time for compliance with the orders/directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.03.2000.

12. Re : The penultimate para of the proceedings dated 13.06.2000 concerning examination of witnesses. A list of witnesses have been furnished on behalf of the deponents of affidavit Nos. JMCI/1/2000, JMCI/6/2000, JMCI/9/2000, JMCI/11/2000, JMCI/14/2000, JMCI/27/2000, JMCI/28/2000, JMCI/37/2000, JMCI/44/2000, JMCI/23/2000, and JMCI/45/2000 as on 24.08.2000. But the fact or facts which the witnesses are expected to prove in their examination have not been stated witnesswise in some of the cases and the reasons as to why instead of oral examination, examination of such witnesses on affidavit will not suffice appear to have not been indicated.

13. Re : Last para of the proceedings dated 13.06.2000 concerning communication of the orders/directions contained in the proceedings dated 13.06.2000. The said order was duly complied with by the office of the Commission.

① The records available in India office, London — Discussion of Justice Mukherjee with HC, London & suggestion of British DHC, Calcutta.
② Why the files are safe secret / Top secret?
③ ~~Good idea~~ ~~These could be sent~~ ~~to the Commission with~~ ~~a counsel to explain this to the Commission with~~ ~~next sitting on 28.8.2000 at 11.00 AM. No hold-~~ ~~material to be received from the Commission~~ ~~Bara Bazar.~~
④ Mahajal Sahib, Bara Bazar.

relevant
etc.



282

FAX

(59)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

FROM : FOREIGN, NEW DELHI
TO : BRANCH SECRETARIAT, CALCUTTA
(Fax No.: 033- 2479703)

HEAD OF BRANCH SECTT. FROM JS (CNV)

IN CONNECTION WITH SOME OFFICIAL WORK, SHRI D.B. BHATI, SECTION OFFICER IN THE MINISTRY SHALL BE REACHING CALCUTTA AT 09:00 HRS ON AUGUST 30, 2000 BY INDIAN AIRLINES FLIGHT NO. IC- 401 (.) HE WILL RETURN ON AUGUST 31, 2000 BY FLIGHT NO. IC- 402 DEPARTING FROM CALCUTTA AT 17:30 HRS (.)

2. GRATEFUL PLEASE ARRANGE ACCOMMODATION FOR SHRI BHATI IN BSF GUEST HOUSE, IF POSSIBLE AND ARRANGE RECEPTION ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE (.)


(JAYANT PRASAD)
JOINT SECRETARY (CNV)
AUGUST 29, 2000.

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

239

(290) 3004/JS(CNV)/2000
(158) (57) 16.8.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765
e-mail
jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

JS.O.2

No. JMCI/Meeting-Hearing/99-2000/57/188(70)

Calcutta, dated, the 9th August 2000

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary

To
Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India
South Block
New Delhi 110 001

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am directed to inform you that the next hearing of the Commission will be held on 31st August 2000 at 12-00 noon in the Seminar Hall, Annexe Building, Mahajati Sadan, 166, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta 700 007.

You are, therefore, requested to make it convenient to attend the hearing personally and/or through your authorised representative.

Yours faithfully,

P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

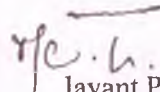
*Down
Note sent to AS(AD)
DFO (F) —
25/8
Pl. P. on a high
copy.
S. K. Sengupta — B
JSC (CNV) spoke to Shri Sengupta on
phone today.*

25/8

(56) (291)

**Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

PB Section may please issue the requisite sanction for deputation of Shri D.B. Bhati, Section Officer (NGO) to Calcutta as per details provided in the note containing administrative and financial approvals which is placed below. He is expected to reach Calcutta on July 30 and should return to Delhi by the evening flight on the following day. It may be noted that since Shri Bhati will be carrying important classified documents, he has been authorised to undertake his journey by air.


Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
August 25, 2000

AO(PB)

A separate copy, without enclosure, to TG Section for making the appropriate bookings.

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Search

Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division

Apropos the reference received from the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry into the alleged Disappearance of Netaji, Foreign Secretary has agreed that SO(NGO) Shri D.B. Bhati should be deputed to Calcutta as the nominee of the Ministry for the Commission's hearing on 31st August 2000. Since he may be required to carry some Top Secret NGO papers by hand, it is requested that as a special case he may be permitted to go to Calcutta by air.

For approval.

Jayant Prasad

Joyant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
25.8.2000

~~AS(AD)~~

17
25.8.2000

~~Dir (Fin)~~

Amar
25/8/2000

2958/JS(LNY)/2000
11-8-00

Recd. A/D

6986/NN/00
11/8

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835

Fax :
216-2765

e-mail
jmcinscb@cal3.vsnl.net.in

(55) (293)

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(Follow Up)/ Calcutta, dated, the 08.08.2000.
48/187.

*Can top secret letters from
be disclosed?
11/8*

**From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary**

**To : Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS,
Joint Secretary (C.N.V.),
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India,
South Block,
New Delhi-110001.**

**Ref : Our letter No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/
48/107 dated 05.06.2000.**

SD N. C. - B

P. K. Sengupta

*in TM s.r.
11/8*

S i r,

With reference to our abovenoted letter dated 05.06.2000 I am directed to request you kindly to send immediately photo-copies of all the nine "Top-Secret" files which are mentioned in the list attached to your D.O. letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated March 1, 2000.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
**(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary**



JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

MOST IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

294 (54)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

July 25, 2000

I am writing this with reference to your D.O. letter No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/98(7) dated 29.05.2000, regarding the submission of documents/files related to alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, in compliance of the order/directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

2. As desired by the Commission, vide para (v) (b) of its proceedings mentioned above, enclosed herewith is the required affidavit(in original) on behalf of this Ministry for submission to the Commission.

Yours sincerely

(Jayant Prasad)

✓ Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary,
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd Floor,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta 700 087

✓ Copy without enclosure to Shri A.K.Paitandy, Director(IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi for information.

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV)

Copy despatched to
to Ms. Sanjella Gairada
JS, MHA on 20/11/2000.

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AFFIDAVIT

I, Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, South Block, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirms and state as follows :

- 2. That I have read the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry letter No.-JMCI/meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)-dated 29/05/2000 alongwith its enclosure and undersood its contents.
- 3. I would like to state that the matter has been carefully considered and the details of TOP SECRET/SECRET files available in this Ministry have been sent to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide my letter No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.V dated 01/03/2000 and 24/05/2000 respectively. No other documents/files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or Indian National Army are the custody or control of this Ministry.

Jayant Prasad
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this 24th day of July, 2000, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge derived from the official records.

Jayant Prasad
DEPONENT



Solemnly Sworn before me

Pr. P. D. Sharma
NOTARY PUBLIC, NEW DELHI

24 JUL 2000

R No 198/xx/2000

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AFFIDAVIT

I, Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, South Block, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirms and state as follows :

- 2. That I have read the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry letter No.-JMCI/meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)-dated 29/05/2000 alongwith its enclosure and undersood its contents.
- 3. I would like to state that the matter has been carefully considered and the details of TOP SECRET/SECRET files available in this Ministry have been sent to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide my letter No. 25/4/NGO - Vol.V dated 01/03/2000 and 24/05/2000 respectively. No other documents/files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or Indian National Army are the custody or control of this Ministry.

Jayant Prasad
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this 24th day of July, 2000, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge derived from the official records.

Jayant Prasad
DEPONENT



R No 198/721/2000
Solemnly Sworn before me
Ref. Prasad
NOTARY PUBLIC, GOVT. OF INDIA
24 JUL 2000

277

(58)

~~MOST IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL~~

**Ministry of External Affairs
NGO SECTION**

Subject: PM's letter dated 16.5.2000 regarding Shri Debabrata Biswas, MP's letter containing suggestions to expedite the probe by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

.....

Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly refer to their I.D.No. I-12014/17/2000-IS (D.III) dated 04.07.2000 on the subject mentioned above.

The comments of this Ministry, on the point raised by Shri Debabrata Biswas, MP in his letter to the Prime Minister, are enclosed herewith for further necessary action by Ministry of Home Affairs.

—
G
JYC (JAYANT PRASAD)
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

Shri A.K.Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs
MEA U.O.Note No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. V dated 21.07.2000

*Done by me
Prasad
21/2*

298

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEA COMMENTS ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

Government of India has made several efforts, over the years for retrieving any available information in the possession of other countries on Netaji's alleged disappearance, but without any success. For instance, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Centre Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".

600/1072 2356/JS (CNV) 2000 (299)
(52) 4.7.00

IMMEDIATE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(IS-I DIVISION)

By no. 1709/00
30/1/00

Subject:- PM's letter dated 16-5-2000 regarding Shri Debabrata Biswas. MP's letter containing suggestions to expedite the probe by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

A copy of PM's letter dated 16-5-2000 (along with its enclosures) on the above subject is sent herewith. A perusal of the suggestions made by Shri Debabrata Biswas, M.P., shows that the undermentioned point concerns MEA:-

(iii) 'To take immediate steps to bring back all the related documents about Netaji which are lying in foreign countries. We came to know that the External Affairs department has not taken any step in this regard so far.'

2. As HM has to send a factual note to PM in the matter, it is requested that the comments of MEA on the above point may please be furnished immediately.

A. put up a note on the basis of summary. JS 0.7 in view

(Signature)
4.7.2000
(A.K. PALLANDY)
DIRECTOR (IS-I)

MEA (Shri Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary (CNV))
MHA I.D. No.1-12014/1772000-IS (D.III) dated 04-7-2000

h
7A
Sanyal - B
S. M
(Signature)
1072

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(1)



प्रधान मंत्री
PRIME MINISTER

P. 52/HMP-2000
24/5

3252/SSC(18P)...

New Delhi
May 16, 2000

Dear Shri Advani Ji,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter of April 28, 2000 from Shri Debabrata Biswas, MP and General Secretary of Netaji Probe & Research Foundation. Shri Biswas has informed that the work of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry is progressing very slowly. He has attributed lack of attention from the Government as one of the reasons.

HS

In his letter, Shri Biswas has made some suggestions regarding measures needed to expedite the probe. Ministry of Home Affairs may take suitable action on the points raised in the letter.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(A.B. Vajpayee)

Shri L.K. Advani
Minister of Home Affairs
New Delhi

301

12

NETAJI PROBE & RESEARCH FOUNDATION

28, Gurudwara Rakab Ganj Road
New Delhi - 110 001
Phone : 3352273, Telefax : 3714131

Dated 28th April 2000

Dear Prime Minister,

Sub: Netaji Enquiry Commission

Kindly refer to my earlier letters regarding Justice Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry, which is now probing about the mystery behind the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The Netaji Probe and Research Foundation extends its sincere gratitude to you for extending the duration of the Commission by one more year.

The Netaji Probe and Research Foundation is working very extensively to facilitate the efforts of the Commission to unveil the truth for ever is very closely watching the movements of the Commission also. While keeping great faith on you in this regard, we regret to point out that, the Enquiry Commission has been moving at a snail's pace. Your kind intervention is very much necessary to accelerate the pace of the working of the Commission.

Through our activities, we felt that the Commission is not getting proper attention from the government's side as we expected. As you are well aware that this time the Commission have no other option than to base on only the documents. To declassify these scattered documents which are lying in our country and abroad is a Herculean task. In the light of above circumstance, we earnestly request you to take necessary steps to resolve the following suggestions at the earliest.

1. To set up a full fledged Camp Office of the Commission at New Delhi, preferably at Vigyan Bhavan with necessary facilities.
2. Top priority must be given to all correspondence from Mukherjee Commission.
3. To take immediate steps to bring back all the related documents about Netaji which are lying in foreign countries. We came to know that the External Affairs department has not taken any step in this regard so far.
4. But it appeared in the Press that the hon'ble Prime Minister told that the govt. has written letters to all concern countries to declassify all the documents. If it is so kindly let us know the progress of the same.
5. We came to know that some important files/documents are lying with Shri. Md. Yunus, former Chirman, Trade Authority of India, Pragathi Maidan New Delhi. If it is true immediate steps should be taken to collect the same from him.
6. We learnt that, Shri. V.P. Bhatia Under Secretary IS(D.IV) Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block New Delhi and Shri. S N. Singh, Section Officer Justice

ब.प्र.सं./V.I.P. 91048982
हाथ की सं./Diry NO.....
दिनांक/Date 2/5/2000

6707/fm/v/00
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63.3/10 s(m)/x/3/5

302

3

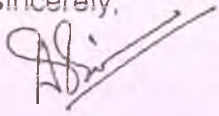
Mukherjee Commission of Enquiry, (New Delhi Office) Room No. 172-B, North Block New Delhi are co-ordinating the activities of the Commission in New Delhi. Kindly give them necessary office facilities and infrastructure assistance.

Hope that you will consider this letter in its true spirit and do the needful.

Thanking you,

In anticipation,

Yours sincerely,



DEBABRATA BISWAS, M.P;
General Secretary
Netaji Probe and Research Foundation.

To
Shr. Atal Behari Vajpayee,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.

303

fair

AFFIDAVIT

I, Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, South Block, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirms and state as follows :

2. That I have read the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry letter No.-JMCI/meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)-dated 29/05/2000 alongwith its enclosure and undersood its contents.
3. I would like to state that the matter has been carefully considered and the details of TOP SECRET/SECRET files available in this Ministry have been sent to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide my letter No. 25/4/NGO – Vol.V dated 01/03/2000 and 24/05/2000 respectively. No other documents/files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and /or Indian National Army are the custody or control of this Ministry.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this ____ day of June, 2000, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge derived from the official records.

DEPONENT

AFFIDAVIT

I, Jayant Prasad, Joint Secretary(CNV), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, South Block, New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirms and state as follows :

2. That I have read the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry letter No.-JMCI/meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)-dated 29/05/2000 alongwith its enclosure and undersood its contents.
3. I would like to state that the matter has been carefully considered and the details of TOP SECRET/SECRET files available in this Ministry have been sent to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide my letter No. 25/4/NGO – Vol.V dated 01/03/2000 and 24/05/2000 respectively. No other documents/files have been found in this Ministry, ~~which could help the Commission in their inquiry.~~

relating to Netaji Subhas
Chaudra Bose and/or Indian National Army are
under the custody or
control of this Ministry.

DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified at New Delhi on this ____ day of June, 2000, that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge derived from the official records.

DEPONENT

(51) 305

Before the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission
of Inquiry at Calcutta.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDERS/
DIRECTIONS OF THE COMMISSION AS PASSED IN ITS
PROCEEDINGS HELD ON 23.3.2000 AT CALCUTTA.**

AFFIDAVIT

I, A.K. Paitandy s/o Late Dr. P. Paitandy, working as Director (Internal Security-I) in the Ministry of Home Affairs do solemnly affirm and state as under:

That the following Ministries/Departments/Organisations seem to be concerned with regard to the availability of old files/documents connected with the alleged disappearance of Netaji, INA and the record of proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee, 1956 and the Khosla Commission of Inquiry, 1974 which earlier went into similar inquiries as is presently being conducted by the Hon'ble Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry:-

- (a) Prime Minister's Office
- (b) Cabinet Secretariat
- (c) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Defence
- (e) Ministry of External Affairs
- (f) Intelligence Bureau
- (g) Department of Culture (National Archives of India)
- (h) Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW)

2. The above mentioned Ministries/Departments/Organisations were accordingly provided with the copies of the Commission's directions/orders

dated 23.3.2000 for complying with the same. In this connection, attention is invited to this Ministry's D.O. letters No.I-12014/13/2000-IS(D.III) dated 11.04.2000, written to individual officers, a copy each of which has also been provided to the Commission. As already mentioned in para(v)(b) of the Commission's aforesaid orders/directions dated 23.3.2000, the requisite affidavit is to be filed by the competent persons of the concerned Ministries/Departments giving a list of files available on Netaji/INA. However, in view of the fact that some of the Departments/Organisations have informed that they do not have any papers on Netaji/INA, there seems to be some confusion about filing of Affidavits to that effect by them. In view of this fact and in deference to the directions/orders of the Commission, this Ministry is filing this Affidavit on behalf of the following and I accordingly further affirm and state that there are reportedly no files/papers concerning Netaji/INA in their (the under mentioned Department's) possession:-

- (i) Cabinet Secretariat
- (ii) Intelligence Bureau
- (iii) Research and Analysis Wing

The Communications received from these organisations have already been forwarded to the Commission separately.

3. The Prime Minister's Office have a total of sixteen files, the details of which have already been communicated to the Commission, vide Prime Minister's Office letter No.915/11/c/2/2000-Pol dated 2.5.2000. This Ministry, vide its letter No.I-12014/13/2000-IS(D.III), dated 31.5.2000 has requested the Commission, inter-alia, to consider the feasibility of relevant files available in Prime Minister's Office, being perused/scrutinised at New Delhi. The Commission has, however, requested Prime Minister's Office to

make available to it photocopies of the files, which according to their report to the Commission, are available in the Prime Minister's Office. The Commission's letter No.JMCI/Meeting/48/93 dated 23.5.2000 refers.

4. Similarly, Ministry of External Affairs, vide DO letter No25/4/NGO-Vol.V, dated 24.5.2000 have inter-alia pleaded for scrutiny/perusal of the files/records available in MEA at New Delhi. In response thereto, the Commission have, for the time being, asked the Ministry of External Affairs to send photocopies of the following two files on Netaji/INA available with them, to the Commission:-

- (j) No.C/551/5/72-JP Part-III- Netaji Enquiry Commission under the chairmanship of Minister Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, 1956
- (ii) KW to file No.C/551/5/72-JP Part-III Record of evidence tendered before Shah Nawaz Committee-1956.

The Commission's letter No.JMCI/Meeting/48/93 dated 23.5.2000 refers. As regards the nine (9) Top Secret files available in MEA , the decision of the Commission is awaited, vide its letter No.JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/107 dated 5.6.2000.

5. The National Archives of India, vide their DO letter No.F.9-2(10)99 P.A. dated 24-4-2000 (copy attached), have informed that in addition to 990 files declassified and transferred to them by the Ministry of Defence on 26.8.1997, about which the Commission have already been informed separately, some more files are available with them. A fresh list of files relating to Netaji/INA have also been furnished. The Commission has, however, requested the Directorate General, Archives, to send photocopies of the files, which according to their report to the Commission in pursuance of the orders/directives contain in the proceedings dated 23.3.2000 of the Commission, are available at their end. It is presumed that the Director

General, Archives would be taking necessary action in the matter under intimation to the Commission.

6. The Ministry of Defence(History Division), vide their DO letter No.2191/NIC/99, dated 9.5.2000 (copy attached) have informed that they have already apprised the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry that all the files/documents pertaining to INA held by the History Division of that Ministry had been declassified and transferred to the National Archives of India on 26.8.1997. They have also stated to have submitted to the Commission, vide their letter dated 16.2.2000, a list of these files. They have further stated that they do not have any other proceedings in their possession.

7. So far as the Ministry of Home Affairs is concerned, only the files on bringing back the presumed ashes of Netaji kept in Renkoji temple in Tokyo in Japan and posthumous announcement of award of 'Bharat Ratna' to Netaji, are available. These files do not have a direct bearing on the ongoing inquiry by the Commission. However, the record of proceedings of the Khosla Commission of Inquiry are available. Arrangements are being made to produce these proceedings before the Commission at Calcutta at the earliest.

[Handwritten Signature]
Deponent

VERIFICATION

I, A.K. Paitandy, s/o Late Dr. P. Paitandy, declare and affirm that what is stated above is true to my knowledge. No part of this Affidavit is false and nothing material has been concealed.

Verified at New Delhi on June, 2000.

[Handwritten Signature]
Deponent

309

भारतीय अर्काइव्स
भारत सरकार
ARCHIVES
INDIA



DR. SUKUMAR BARKAR
Director General of Archives
Govt. of India
Telephone NUMBER
Fax: 011-11 3891177

भारतीय अर्काइव्स
भारत सरकार
जि.एन.ए. १३ ब्लॉक, ११० ००१
NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
JANPATHI, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated the 23 April 2000
D.O.F.9-2(19)99 4/A

Dear Shri Paltandy,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No. I/17014/13/2000-01 (DIII) dated 11th April 2000 alongwith the proceedings dated 23rd March 2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. In this regard a fresh list of files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and INA available with the National Archives of India is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal.

It may further be mentioned here that instead of 395 as mentioned at page 3 of the proceedings of aforesaid Commission of Inquiry, National Archives of India received only 990 (Nine Hundred Ninty) declassified files transferred from Ministry of Defence, Government of India on 26th April 1997. This position has already been intimated to you by National Archives of India letter of even no. dated 11th April 2000. It is needless to assure that all necessary facilities will be extended to the Commission as and when required.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely
(Signature)
(SUKUMAR BARKAR)

Shri A.E. Paltandy,
Director (IS-1)
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Government of India,
North Block,
New Delhi-110001

Copy to:- Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (New Delhi Office) Room No. 172-B, North Block, New Delhi.

(S.M.R. RAQANI)
Deputy Director of Archives

310

Declassified Files transferred
Records of India, New Delhi
Affairs S.D. Letter No. 1/12014

S.No.	File No.
1	2

1. 273/INA

2. 135/INA

3. 265/INA

4. 75/INA

5. 249/INA

6. 379/INA

Pt. LXXIX

7. Speeches of Subhas Chandra
Bose

ed by the Ministry of Defence, Government of India available in National
as per the proceedings dated 23.3.2000 enclosed with Ministry of Home
/13/2000-IS(O-III) dt. 11.4.2000

Subject

Total Pages

3

4

Subhas Chandra Bose -

40 pages

- a) Notes
- b) His departure from Bangkok on 17th
- c) Is SC Bose still alive?
- d) Extract from Allied Forces SEA Weekly Intelligence Review No. 57 for week ending 2 Nov. 45.
- e) S.C. Bose's death Nurse at Hospital where he relates story
- f) Data relating to his death in an Aeroplane
- g) His proposal to see the Russian Ambassador
- h) Statement with regard to his death
- i) Last moments of S.C. BOSE

Fortnightly Intelligence Summary

222 pages

1. Provisional Government of India
2. The Azad Hind Dal

132 pages

Important Documents Recovered by 'S' Section

74 pages

Information on Subhash Chandra Bose

185 pages

Report bearing Secret No. 1400/23/SE. CSBIC
Red Fort, Delhi dated 29th May 1946

39 pages

Netaji's Broadcast at 21.15 hrs. to
21.25 hrs., special message on 18.8.45

2 pages

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Files available in the Na

<u>No.</u>	<u>File No.</u>
1.	16-3/45-Poll.
2.	8-18/46-Poll.
3.	8-15/46-Poll.
4.	8-2/47-Poll.

National Archives of India holdings

Subject	Remarks
Shifting of the bag on the Forward Bloc (It is containing the secret report dt. 19.9.45 by R. Tottenham)	67 pages
Council of State - Question - Nov. 1946 regarding the reappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose	10 pages
Council of State - Nov. 1946, by the Hon'ble Raja Yuvraj Dutta Singh. Efforts to capture Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.	5 pages
Council of State - Question - Budget-session, 1947 The Hon'ble Raja Yuvraj Dutta Singh re-arrest of two Italian from the house of a forward Bloc worker, Indu Dev on suspicion that they had been deputed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to the Punjab with some mysterious mission.	9 pages.



G.B. Singh
Director

Tele:6102067

312

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
MOST IMMEDIATE
WITH TIME BOUND
कम समय में
समय बंधित
नई दिल्ली

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
HISTORY DIVISION
WEST BLOCK ROAD
R.K. PURAM,
NEW DELHI-110066
09 May 2000

D.O. No.2191/NIC/99

Dear Shri Paitandy,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No.1/12014/13/2999-15 (D.III) dated 11 April and 09 May, 2000 regarding the directions/orders passed by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (inquiring into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose) in its first sitting held at Calcutta on 27 March, 2000.

We have already apprised the Inquiry Commission that all the files/documents pertaining to INA held by the History Division, Ministry of Defence had been declassified and transferred to the National Archives of India on 26th August 1997. A list of these files has also been submitted to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry vide this office letter of even number dated 16 Feb 2000. We do not have any other proceedings in our possession.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(G.B. Singh)

Shri A.K. Paitandy
Director (IS-1)
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India
North Block,
New Delhi-110001

CONFIDENTIAL



~~SECRET~~

313

(50)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)

No.25/4/NGO - Vol.V

June 26, 2000

Dear Shri Singh,

SND (47)

As desired by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, please find enclosed herewith the following two files(in original) for carrying by you from New Delhi to Calcutta for perusal by the Commission:-

- (i) File No.C/551/5/72 -JP.Pt-III-
Netaji Enquiry Commission under the Chairmanship of Minister Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, 1956.
- (ii) KW to File No.C/551/572-Pt-III -
Record of evidence tendered before
Shah Nawaz Committee - 1956.

2. Please acknowledge the receipt .

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Shri S.N.Singh,
Section Officer,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, New Delhi

Copy to Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.), Secretary to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, B-Block, (3rd Floor), 11/A Mirza Galib Street, Calcutta- 700 087 for information w.r.t. their letter No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/107 dated 05.06.2000. It is requested that the receipt of the documents may kindly be acknowledged and they may be returned to us as soon as done with.

B
11/9

Received two files
as mentioned ab (A)
above in original.
S Singh
11.7.2000
(S.N.SINGH)
SO (JMCI)

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV)

de



सत्यमेव जयते

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No. 301 1357
Fax No. 379 2285

57221/NSH/A
28/6

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

TELEFAX MESSAGE

(49) (314)

No.2241/JS (CNV)/2000

June 28, 2000

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Dear Mr. Sengupta,

This is in supersession of my message of June 27 in response to your letter No.JMCI/Meeting-proceedings (Follow up)/48/131 of June 19.

2. The coordinates of our Ambassador in Tokyo are as follows:

Shri Siddharth Singh
Office Telephone (81-3) 326-55036
Residence Phone (81-3) 320-22169
Telefax (81-3) 323-44866

3. The address of the Embassy is as follows:

Embassy of India
2-2-11, Kudan Minami
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo-1020074
Japan

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Sec NCA
JM
28/6

Mr. P.K. Sengupta
Secretary
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
'B' Block (3rd Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street
Calcutta-700 087
(Fax No.033-216-2765)

315

LA.No. 2241/20(CIV)/2000
Dt 28/6/2000

----- Justice Anshu Kumar
of Bombay, Calcutta

2241/JS (CNV) 2000
26.6.00

Regd. H/D

316

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'B' Block (3rd floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone :
033-216-2765/6
033-216-2835.
Fax :
033-216-2765

No. JMCI/Meeting-Proceedings(Follow up)/48/131

Calcutta, dated, the19.06.2000.

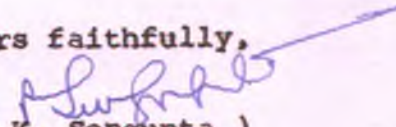
**From: Shri P.K. Sengupta, WbHJS(Retd.),
Secretary**

**To : Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs, (South Block)
Govt. of India,
New Delhi-110 001.**

S i r,

I am directed to request you to kindly furnish
the name, address, telephone No. and Fax No. of the
Indian Ambassador in Japan as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

RECEIVED

317



318

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

TELEFAX MESSAGE

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel.No. 301 1357
Fax No.379 2285

No. 254/JS(CNV)/2000

June 27, 2000

My dear Mathur,

Dear Mr. Sengupta,

I have just seen your letter No.JMCI/Meeting-proceedings (Follow up)/48/131 of June 19.

This is its splendor of my message
7 June 27 in response to

2. The coordinates of our Ambassador in Tokyo are as follows:

Shri Siddharth Singh
Office Telephone (81-3) 326-55036
Residence Phone (81-3) 320-22169
Telefax (81-3) 323-44866

3. The address of the Embassy is as follows:

Embassy of India
2-2-11, Kudan Minami
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo-1020074
Japan.

Sd (CNV)

Sent

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K. Sengupta
Secretary
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
'B' Block (3rd Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087.

Fax 033-216-2765



5326/NUM/319
18/6
(48)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

FAX Message

One page only(for Calcutta)
Two pages for Hicomind London

MOST IMMEDIATE

June 14, 2000

FM : Foreign New Delhi

To : For PS to Shri P.K.Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, Calcutta (Fax : 033-216-2765)

Repeated to: PS to High Commissioner, Hicomind London
(Fax : 00-44-171-836-4331 or 836-3039)

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter Doc(FOR)/99-2000/56/124 dated 12.6.2000 sent by speed post. Since Mr. Jayant Prasad is away on official meeting for the whole day today, I am writing to you to confirm that the letter addressed to our High Commissioner in London is being faxed right away for necessary action.

I, 14/6
S. M. B
26/6/00
11CS

P.N. Dogra
PS to JS(CNV)

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

'B' Block (3rd floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

BY SPEED POST

320
52261NMA
1616

Phone:
033-216-2765/60
033-216-2835.

Fax:
033-216-2765

No. JMCI/..... Doc (FOR)/99-2000/56/124

2126 FIS (COV) 2000
14.6.00

Calcutta, dated, the June 12, 2000

Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Dear Shri Prasad,

I am directed to refer to your letter no. 25/46/NGO-Vol. V dated 24.5.2000 and to inform you that the Hon'ble Chairman will be in London from 20th to 22nd June 2000. I am enclosing a copy of the letter dated June 12, 2000 written by the Hon'ble Chairman to His Excellency the High Commissioner of India in U.K. Shri Nareshwar Dayal. The Hon'ble Chairman desires that the letter should be faxed to the High Commissioner of India in U.K., but the fax of this office has no ISD connection and no telephone of this office has ISD connection.

I am, therefore, directed to request you to kindly fax the letter of the Hon'ble Chairman to the Hon'ble High Commissioner of India in U.K.. We are, however, trying to fax the letter from some private fax on payment of usual charges. The Hon'ble High Commissioner of India in U.K. may also kindly be informed from your end of the aforesaid programme of the Hon'ble Chairman in London.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,

P.K. Sengupta
(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Encl: As above

(321)

Justice Monoj Kumar Mukherjee

Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

GD 359, Salt Lake City (Sector III) Calcutta 700 091 ☉ 337 8265

D.O. No. JMCI/DIC/FOR/99-2000/56/125.

June 12, 2000

Dear Sri Dayal,

You are possibly aware that Government of India has appointed a One-Member Commission of Inquiry with me as its Chairman to inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

One of the parties participating in the inquiry is headed by Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly. He had, on his own, written a letter to the Deputy High Commissioner, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta on March 1, 2000 asking, inter-alia, for certain declassified war records from the British Government regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In reply thereto, Press & Public Affairs Adviser of the British Deputy High Commission informed Sri Mukherjee that about 700 unpublished files are with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London and those files can be seen by researchers in that office only. A copy of the said letter has been forwarded to my office by Sri Mukherjee.

As I will be in London from 20th to 22nd June, 2000 on a private visit I would like to avail of an opportunity of talking to you over the above matter. It will, therefore, be highly appreciated if you kindly make it convenient to fix a time for that purpose. While in London, I will be staying with my brother Sri Moloy Mukherjee at 81, Templars Avenue, Golders' Green, London, NW 11 (Telephone no. 208-455-8650).

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Monoj Mukherjee

Sri Nareshwar Dayal
Hon'ble High Commissioner,
High Commission of India in U.K.

TRANSMISSION MEDIA LOCATION REPORT

329

2079/JS(CMV)/2000
12.6.00

323 Regd. A/D 5245/11/00
JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY 13/6
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

(47)

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/107.

Calcutta, dated, the 05.06.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India,
New Delhi-110 001.

S i r,

I have been directed to refer to your D.O. letter No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated 24th May, 2000 and to state that the two files, viz., (a) No.C/551/5/-72-JP.Pt.III-Netaji Enquiry Commission under the Chairmanship of Minister Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, 1956, and (b) KW to file No.C/551/5/72-JP Part-III Record of evidence tendered before Shah Nawaz Committee-1956 may kindly be made over to Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer of this Commission, stationed in New Delhi, who is hereby authorised to take delivery and carry those two files physically with him by Air from New Delhi to Calcutta for perusal of those two files by the Commission at its Calcutta office.

As regards nine 'Top Secret' files mentioned in your letter under reference and your letter dated 01.03.2000, I am directed to say that the decision of the Commission in this regard will be communicated to you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/107(1)

Dated : 05.06.2000.

Copy forwarded for information and favour of taking necessary action to Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer, C/o. V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110 001.

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

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13/6
S. S. G

S.M. (41)

4994/1/2000
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324

1978 JS (CNY) 2000
5.6.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

Under Certificate of Posting

No. JMCI/ Meeting/99-2000/48/100

Calcutta, dated, the 30.05.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
Government of India,
New Delhi-110 001.

S i r,

I am directed to refer to your letter
No.25/4/NGO-Vol.(V) dated May 20, 2000 and to
state that the Commission has been pleased to
grant extension of time upto 22.06.2000 for
compliance with the relevant orders/directions
contained in its proceedings dated 23.03.2000,
which concern the Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India.

Yours faithfully,
P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/100(1) Dated : 30.05.2000.

Copy forwarded for information and favour of taking
necessary action to Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I),
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, North
Block, New Delhi-110 001.

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

7/6
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IM
2/16

S.No-19



325

भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

No. JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

~~SECRET~~

New Delhi the.....19

No. 25/4/NGO-(Vol.-V).

June 2, 2000.

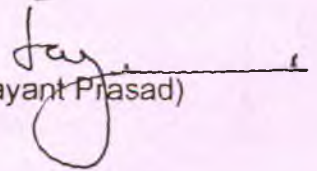
Dear Shri Sengupta,

I am writing this with reference to your D.O. letter No. JMCII/Meeting/99-2000/48/98(7) dated 29.05.2000 regarding the submission of documents/files related to alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, in compliance of the orders/directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

2. Our reply on the subject has already been sent to you vide my letter of even number dated 24.05.2000. It seems that our letters might have crossed each other in transit. We are keen to be apprised about your option with reference to the suggestions contained in our letter to enable us to take suitable action as per your advice.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.),
Secretary,
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, (3rd Floor),
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta - 700 087.

issued
Kaly
S.G.00

328

DFA
~~SECRET~~

JAYANT PRASAD
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)

No. 25/4/NGO-Vol.V

June 1, 2000.

I am writing this with reference to your D.O. letter No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/98(7) dated 29.05.2000 regarding the submission of documents/files related to alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, in compliance of the orders/directions contained in the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 of Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

Our reply on the subject has already been sent to you vide my letter of even number dated 24.05.2000. It seems that our letters might have been crossed each other in transit. ~~I am looking forward to know your option as suggested by me in my letter of 24th May, 2000, to enable us to take suitable action as per your advice.~~

about your option in with reference to the suggestions contained in our letter

Yours sincerely,
(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.),
Secretary,
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block,(3rd Floor),
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta - 700 087.
(Fax No. 033 - 216 2765)

1929/Js (conv) 2000
37.5.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

BY SPEED POST

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2766

4284/1/16

(44) (329)

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)

Calcutta, dated, the 29.05.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi 110 001.

Sub : Compliance of the orders/directions
contained in the proceedings dated
23.03.2000 of Justice Mukherjee
Commission of Inquiry.

W. A. P. This has been done reply. W. A. S. reply to this, also

S i r,

I have been directed to send herewith a copy of the proceedings dated 23.03.2000 of the Commission, a copy of which appears to have been already sent to you by Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, with his D.O. No.1/12014/-13/2000-IS(D.III) dated 11th April, 2000 and to request you for immediate compliance with those orders/directions which concern your Ministry/Department/Organisation.

Yours faithfully,

(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/98(7)/1

Dated : 29.05.2000.

Copy forwarded for information and favour of taking necessary action to Ms. Sangeeta Gairala, IAS, Joint Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110 001.

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

2/15

W. A. P. in on file

to JM

328

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

Proceeding dated 23rd March, 2000.

Present - Hon'ble Justice M.K. Mukherjee,
Chairman.

After examining the statements filed by the parties and after hearing them and/or their representatives regarding the modalities of the proceeding, the Commission makes the following Orders/Directions :-

(a) The Government of India shall produce before the Commission, within six weeks from the date of communication of these Orders/Directions, the following :-

(i) All files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or I.N.A. in the Prime Minister's Secretariat including the following Secret files :-

1A, 2-A, 3-A, 6-A, 8-A, 12-A, 16-A (U.O. Note No. D/S-86 6, dated August 24, 1953, from P.M.'s Secretariat to Mohd. Yunus, MEA (SEA, BR), 17-A (U.O. Note No. D.3788-8EA/53, dated August 27, 1953, from Mohd. Yunus US, MEA (SEA) to P.M.'s Secretariat, 27-A, (Memo No. 2/53/1971/3/601 151) dated October 13, 1953, from Mohd. Yunus US, MEA (SEA) to P.M.'s Secretariat, 33-B (Letter No.20/62 (Accts.) dated April 82 (sic), 1954, from the Joint Secretary, I.N.A. (Enquiry and Relief Committee, 82, Daryaganj, Delhi to the President, 34 A (Rajya Sabha's Starred question No. 60 dated Sept. 28, 1954), 35-B (Note for Supplementaries) 37-A (Lok Sabha Starred Question No.334 dated August 2, 1955) 37-BCD (enclosures to S. No. 37-A) and Notes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 29 File No. 23 (156)/ 51-P.M. (Indian National Army) (INA) in the Far East), 23 (11)-56-57 PM (INA Treasure), 12(226)/56 PM (Investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of Subhas' Chandra Bose); 249 INA-GHQ Case Bose and Russia, 249-INA- II(H) GHQ Case on Subhas Chandra Bose, Headquarters main file 279/1 INA 10 Misc., Headquarters main file 273 INA (Misc. INA), Headquarters main file 273/INA, Headquarters Main file 273-INA, 138-INA and 265 INA; 10 Misc.,INA;

329

No. Date

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

(ii) File No.16/3/45-Poll. (i) containing Secret Report dated 19.09.45 by R. Tottenham, Secretary prepared for Home Department; file No.75/INA containing intelligence report prepared by Major Toye, Comd. S. Section CSDIC(i) dated 20.10.45; F. No. 8/18/46-Poll. (i) containing question No. 28 of Hon'ble Yuvaraj Dutta Singh in the Council of State and the answer given; file No.8/15/46-Poll. (i) relating to question No.14 dated 6.11.46 of Yuvaraj Dutta Singh; File No.8/2/47 - Poll. (i) relating to Yuvaraj Dutta Singh's questions placed in the list of business for the Council of State on 17.2.47;

(iii) Report bearing Secret No.1400/23/SE. CSDIC. Red Fort, Delhi dated 25th March, 1946; Netaji's letter to Jacob Malik, Soviet Ambassador, Tokyo dated 20.11.1944; Netaji's broadcast at 21.15 hrs. to 21.25 hrs., Special Message on 18.8.45; Confidential letter dated 23.5.46 from American Consulate Guard, Bombay dated 23.5.46 to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C.. A-175(a de-classified C.I.A. document (original stated to be in the Archives of Princeton University); a de-classified C.I.A. document dated 27.2.64 relating to a story concerning the possible return of one Subhas (Subas) Chandra Bose; API news agency's report attached to intelligence report for the Home Department dated 21.12.45; Secret No. 11/INC/45 dated 16.1.46 from the Dy. Inspector Genl. of Police, CIS, Bombay Province, Sivajinagar, Pune-5; Lt. Col. Anderson's confidential letter No.MS/5/5, CSDIC Red Fort Delhi dated 21.1.46 referring to a portion of Major Toye's report dt. 15.1.46; Daily INA Report No.56 dated 5.2.46 prepared by W.N.P. Jenkins, Dy. Director (C) of Intelligence Bureau (Home Dept.); W. Mckwright's letter No. C-5 dated 19.2.46 to Intelligence Bureau, H.D., New Delhi-3; Major Yong's Top Secret letter No.SL/9/CS/1 dated 1.8.46 to W.C.K. Wright; Pt. Nehru's letter to Mr. Atlee, the then Prime Minister of U.K. during 45 to 47 relating to Subhas Chandra Bose; Khurshed Naoroji's letter dt. ^{22.7.46} 27.7.46 to Louis Fischer, secret correspondence between

- : 3 : -
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JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Mckwright and Major Young dt. April 8, 1946 relating to receipt of a letter by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru from Subhas Ch. Bose regarding his stay in Russia; and correspondences between Louis Fischer and Gandhiji, Louis Fischer and Khurshed Naorojji, Louis Fischer and the President of USA, Louis Fischer and the Prime Minister of UK and other political leaders of U.K. in relation to Netaji and India's independence, Louis Fischer to Stalin;

(iv) The entire proceedings (including the evidence recorded) of Shaw Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission which had/earlier enquiries into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;

(v) The full texts of the Transfer of Power, Volumes VI & VII;

(b) Besides filing the above files/records/documents, the Government of India shall file Affidavits of competent persons of the related Ministries giving lists of all other files/records/documents, irrespective of whether they are Top Secret, Classified or De-classified, (except the 990 files transferred by the History Divn., Ministry of Defence to the National Archives, Delhi, a list of which has already been furnished to the Commission) lying in their respective custody or control relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or Indian National Army;

(c) The Government of West Bengal shall produce all the files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose now lying in the custody of the Special Branch, including file No.269/45 "Prisoner/Release-Revised Policy of Govt., for the release of security prisoners" containing Memo No.SS 129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bengal, express letter No.1234 dated 25.8.45 of Bengal Govt. and Confidential Note dated 3.9.45 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G. I.B.;

331

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

(d) Since, from the statement filed on behalf of All India Forward Bloc it appears that Dr. (Mrs.) Purabi Roy of Asiatic Society has done along with some others an extensive research work in Russia including on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and has submitted their report to the Society, The Commission would like to have an affidavit filed by Mrs. Purabi Roy indicating the particulars of the documents which might have come to her notice in course of her research and considered by her to be relevant for the purpose of the enquiry by this Commission, as early as possible preferably within six weeks from the communication of these Orders/Directions.

The General Secretary of the said Society is also requested to forward to the Commission the aforesaid report along with its enclosures within the period prescribed as above.

(e) After the files are produced and/or particulars furnished by the Central Government in terms of the above orders/directions, a research team will be constituted to peruse those files and submit its report about the relevant contents thereof. The parties may suggest names of competent persons, preferably stationed in Delhi, who may be included in the team to be so constituted; and

(f) Having regard to the facts that the evidence of Major G. Baskaran, who in his statement has claimed that he worked as Confidential Secretary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the material time, will be relevant for the enquiry and that he is aged 82 years, has lost his vision and is seriously ailing, immediate steps be taken to record his statement at his residence at No. 9, Royal Enclave, Basat Avenue, Chennai notwithstanding the fact that the evidence, if any, to be

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JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

produced by the Central Government is
yet to be recorded.

The Secretary of the Commission is directed
to take immediate steps for compliance with the
above Order/Directions.

sd-
(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman

4783/24/02
1/8

1891/JS (CHV) 2000
29.5.00

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

(43) 333

No. JMCI/ Meeting/48/96

Calcutta, dated, the 23.05.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of India,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

S i r,

I have been directed to request you to kindly send by FAX the following information :-

- 1) The name of the present Indian High Commissioner in U.K.;
- 2) His FAX No.
- 3) Whether he will be available in U.K. during the period from 20th June, 2000 to 30th June, 2000. Hon'ble Chairman may like to contact him in London during that period.

Yours faithfully,
P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary

Reply sent
by fax.

29/5

Sent by
JM/EAS

2/6

1818/25(NV)/2000
24.05.2000

US 911/110/100
25/5



A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS-I)

Tele.No.301 2478

सत्यमेव जयते

गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली-110001
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

(42)
334

Dated, the 23rd May, 2000.

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to my DO letter of even number dated 9.5.2000 followed by reminder dated 17.5.2000 regarding retrieving and making available to Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry the record of proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956.

2. I shall be grateful to be informed of the action taken in the matter urgently. A copy of this letter is being enclosed to the Secretary of the Commission.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signature)
23.5.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

This has
covered
our letter
25/5

So please
RJM
25/5



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel:301-1357 & Fax: 379-2285

Secret

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

May 24, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

This is further to our on-going correspondence regarding relevant material for the use of the Justice Mukherji Commission on the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, including your letter No.JMCI/Meeting/48/86 of May 19, 2000 received here by speed post.

2. We are glad to inform you that on scrutiny of the old records in the East Asia Division of the Ministry we have been able to locate the following two files on the Netaji Enquiry Commission, 1956:

- a) No.C/551/5/72-JP Part III - Netaji Enquiry Commission under the chairmanship of Minister Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, 1956.
- b) KW to file No.C/551/5/72-JP Part-III Record of evidence tendered before Shah Nawaz Committee-1956.

3. Both these files, as also the attached KW folder, are classified "secret". It will be inadvisable to take the risk of sending these files, as also the 9 top secret files mentioned in our letter of March 1, 2000 by post or courier from New Delhi to Calcutta because we cannot take even the slightest risk of their loss in transit. Some of the documentation contained in the files are of immense historical value and will form part of our national treasures in the National Archives of India as and when they are transferred there.

4. There are, therefore, two clear alternatives available for the Commission to examine the documentation contained in the files. The Commission could examine the files, in-situ, in the Ministry of External Affairs or the Ministry of Home Affairs in New Delhi during the sittings that it may chose to hold in this city. Alternatively, a designated official of the Commission could come to Delhi expressly for the purpose of physically carrying these secret and top secret documents in his personal custody and taking them with him to Calcutta for the perusal of the Commission. This will ensure that the secret and top secret files are taken from here in conformance with government instructions on the subject.

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5. We look forward to hearing from you about the option exercised by the Commission in order to take further action in this regard.

6. As for volumes 6 & 7 of the Transfer of Power series, the publication should ordinarily be available in the libraries of both Calcutta and Jadavpur University as also in the National Library at Calcutta. The publications could also be ordered through a reputed bookseller since Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London have good distribution channels for the sale of its publications in India. By some chance, if these publications are not accessible to the Commission at Calcutta, do please inform us to enable us to send you the volumes kept in MEA Library on a loan basis, to be returned to the Library after their use. There may be few pages in the two volumes of direct relevance to the Commission and photocopy of the entire thick volumes running to over 1000 pages may not be advisable.

with best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

opc

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry
Calcutta.

Cc to Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-1), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

SM JM

24/5

issued
Kethy
26.05.00

Copy despatched to
Mr. Sangeeta Gairah
JS, MHA on 20/11/2000



सत्यमेव जयते

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel:301-1357 & Fax: 379-2285

339

(40)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

May 24, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

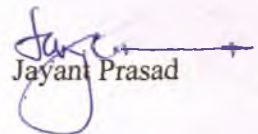
Apropos your fax of today, the information requested is as follows:

1. Shri Nareshwar Dayal
2. Fax No. (00-44-171)836-4331 & 836-3039.
3. As per current information our High Commissioner is expected to be in the UK between 20-30 June, 2000.

2. You may however like to ascertain our High Commissioner's programme closer to the date of travel of Hon'ble Chairman.

with best regards

Yours sincerely,


Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry
Calcutta.

Sayf

SK JM


25/5

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

339



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

By Regd. Post

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary(CNV)
Tel:301-1357 & Fax: 379-2285

(39) 339

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

May 20, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

Apropos our on-going correspondence regarding retrieval and provision of material for Justice Mukherji Commission on the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, this is to convey that while the MEA is taking the required steps in the matter, on which we have separate correspondence with you, we would like to seek more time to retrieve additional relevant material, over and above what we have been able to locate already (details of which have been separately conveyed to you).

2. We shall, therefore, be most grateful for a line in confirmation from your side that the extension of time for a further period of two weeks can be provided.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K.Sengupta, WBHJS(Retd.)
Secretary
Justice Mukherji Commission of Inquiry
Calcutta.

CC to Shri A.K.Paitandy, Director(IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi.

issued
Kell
25.05.00

1753/28(12)/2000
2/5

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF

NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

'B' Block, (Third Floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835

Fax:
216-2765

(38)
BY SPEED POST

No. JMCI/ Meeting/48/85

Calcutta, dated, the 19.05.2000.

**From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary**

**To : Shri Jayant Prosad, IAS,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
Government of India,
New Delhi-110 001.**

S i r,

In TM
K

I am directed to refer to your D.O.25/4/
NGO-Vol.5 dated March 1, 2000 and D.O. of even No.
dated 19th April, 2000, both addressed to me and
to request you to kindly send immediately to the
Commission in Calcutta photo copies of the 9 (nine)
Top Secret files as per list enclosed to your
aforesaid D.O. dated March 1, 2000, as also a
photo copy of each of the Volumes VI and VII of
the Transfer of Power Series brought out by his
Majesty's Stationery Office, London and available
at the M.E.A. Library as stated in your aforesaid
D.O. dated 19th April, 2000.

Yours faithfully,

P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta)
Secretary



सत्यमेव जयते

A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS.I)
TEL.NO. 3012478

1732/JS (CNV) / 2000
17.5.00

D.O.No. I/12014/13/2000-IS(D.III)

(37)

(341)

**MOST IMMEDIATE
TIME BOUND**

गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

नाथं ब्लाक, नई दिल्ली-110001
**MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001**

Dated the 17th May, 2000.

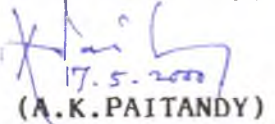
Dear Shri Prasad,

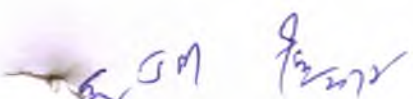
Kindly refer to my d.o.letter of even number dated the 9th May, 2000 regarding retrieving and making available to Justice Mukherjee Commission on alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, inter-alia the record of proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956. As the time limit for producing the said records would be expiring on 20th of this month, I am sure the MEA must have taken necessary steps to meet the deadline, including seeking extension from the Commission.

2. I shall be grateful if you could look into the matter personally on Top priority basis and do the needful urgently under intimation to this Ministry.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


17.5.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)


Sh. Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV),
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
NEW DELHI.

36 322

NOC / 551/14/90-JP
Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Reference note received from NGO Section forwarding MHA's D.O. letter no.I/12014/13/2000-IS(D.III) dated 9th May regarding proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974. Two files (nos.C/551/5/72-JP Pt III and C/551/14/90-JP) in JK Registry pertaining to the above-mentioned Committees are placed below. These may be forwarded to MHA for the use of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

2. We may request NGO Section/MHA to return the files to JK Registry after completion of the inquiry.

N Bhushan
(Neeta Bhushan)
Under Secretary (JK)
16 May 2000

JS (EA) *[Signature]*
JS (CNV) *[Signature]*

2692 JS(EA)/2000
16/5

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16/5

MOST IMMEDIATE
TIME BOUND

No.4007/NGO/2000
Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

Reference F.R. placed below (DO No.I/12014/13/2000-IS (D.III) dated 9th May, 2000) received from Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), MHA regarding proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974.

As desired by JS(CNV) a photocopy of the FR has been made and kept in NGO and the original letter is being sent to EA Division.

Submitted please.

JS/EA
10/5/2000

Khosla
10/5/2000

S.O.(NGO)

JS(CNV)

JS(EA)

The Proceedings of the Shah Nawaj Committee and the One Man Commission of Enquiry into alleged disappearances are not available in MHA. Would EA Division please help in checking its records to ascertain here? If appears that MHA was hardly involved in this matter.

Jayaram
10/5

Please check our records - have priority urgency to this matter. I would like to check this not personally and respond to CNV by 15/5.

Aditya
11/5

VSR

गृह मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली-110001

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

Dated the 9th May, 2000



A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS-I)
Tele No. 301 2478

1593/JS(CNV)/2000
9.5.00.
4607/nw/3
1815
343

Dear Sir

Kindly refer to your DO letter No.25/4/NGO(Vol.V) dated 3-5-2000 regarding proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974, which are to be produced by the Government before Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry by 20-5-2000.

2. The proceedings or any other records pertaining to the Shah Nawaj Committee are not available in this Ministry. This is so because that Committee was set up by the MEA only. To emphasise this point, your kind attention is invited to the underlined portions of the following Annexures to this letter:-

- (a) Annexure-I: Relevant extract from 'Introduction' of Shah Nawaj Committee's report.
- (b) Annexure-II: Extracts from Lok Sabha Debates dated 3-12-1955 as mentioned in the 'Introduction' of the Shah Nawaj Committee Report.

You will appreciate that in Annexure-I the Committee has thanked the Ministries of Defence, External Affairs and the Intelligence Bureau of MHA and not the MHA(proper). Further, as per Annexure-II, it will be seen that the then PM has made a statement in the Lok Sabha in his capacity as the Prime Minister and the Minister for External Affairs and not as PM only. Moreover, we have also checked up MHA's Annual Reports for 1955-56; 1956-57 and 1957-58 and have not come across any reference about any Committee set up to enquire into Netaji's disappearance. Had MHA set up any such Committee, a mention of the same would have been made in these reports, particularly the Report for 1956-57.

3. The above reasons as also the reason of non-availability of any records in MHA are clearly

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Original
A. Keep a copy of put up me original. We shall have to ask EA Dir. to check these records.
9/5
Somdeo

indicative of the fact that the Shah Nawaj Committee was set up and administered by the Ministry of External Affairs only and not by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Incidentally, it may also be mentioned that there has been no such Section/Branch called FEA in MHA, it is ~~Leant~~.

4. In the foregoing circumstances, I will request you to kindly look into the matter again so as to ensure that the relevant records of proceedings of the Shah Nawaj Committee are retrieved and made available to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry well before 20-5-2000 as that is the time limit for compliance with the Commission's directions dated 23-3-2000. A copy of this letter is being endorsed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, Calcutta, for their information.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A.K. Paitandy
9.5.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block
New Delhi

recovered. To bring out the above picture, it was decided that the Report should deal with the following points:

- (1) Last plans of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (2) Air crash at Taihoku (Formosa)
- (3) Death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (4) Cremation of Netaji's body
- (5) Netaji's ashes
- (6) Treasure

Each point is dealt with in a self-contained chapter. The conclusions of the Chairman and the other member who has signed the Report are also given in each chapter. In a final chapter (7), a suggestion has been made that Netaji's ashes should be brought to India with due honour. The Report is in two parts:

Part A — Report (with three annexures):

Annexure I—Copies of relevant papers.

Annexure II—Photographs.

Annexure III—Sketches and plans.

Part B — Evidence of witnesses (with photographs of some witnesses).

7. A large number of witnesses were examined in Japan. Tracing the witnesses and securing their attendance would not have been possible without the ever-ready help and co-operation of the Japanese Foreign Office (Gaimusho). H.E. Mr. Shigemitsu, Foreign Minister of Japan, who had held the same position in Netaji's time, extended to the Committee every courtesy and co-operation. The Committee wishes to thank the Government of Japan, Mr. Shigemitsu, and the staff of the Japanese Foreign Office, most sincerely for their help and kindness. The Indian Embassy in Tokyo also were very helpful. In particular, the Committee has pleasure in recording appreciation of the services of Mr. J. Rehman who was attached to the Committee throughout their stay in Japan. Assistance was also received from the Indian Missions at Bangkok and Saigon. The Committee wishes to thank the Ministries of Defence, External Affairs, and the Intelligence Bureau of the Home Ministry for lending secret Intelligence Reports. Shri R. Dayal, who was attached to the Chairman of the Committee as P.A., worked very hard from the very beginning to the end, and gave satisfaction all round. And finally, the Committee wishes to thank, with all sincerity, the Government of India, for making the arrangements for the work of the Committee, at home and abroad, and the opportunity given to them to make a first-hand study of an important chapter in the history of our times.

LAST PLANS OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

The terms of reference of the Committee are:

"To enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments connected therewith."

2. We have been asked to write the last page which had up to now remained blank; but to do so, it is necessary to know a little of the background of the first and intermediate pages. Early in 1942, the Japanese armies overran large parts of South-East Asia, which had been under colonial domination by European powers, and in so doing, they released a great impetus to nationalism. There were three million Indians in South-East Asia who took a leading part in this movement. They formed the Indian Independence League under Mr. Rash Behari Bose. Singapore fell on 15th February 1942, and the large British Indian Army stationed there surrendered. Out of this was formed the first Indian National Army under General Mohan Singh. This Movement, however, was without a real leader of sufficient political stature. From the very start, the movement was waiting for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, who was then in Europe, having escaped from detention in India in 1941. After a long and perilous journey by submarine, Netaji arrived in South-East Asia, and took charge of the Indian Independence Movement on the 4th of July 1943. Soon after, he assumed supreme command of the Indian National Army. Addressing a review of the Indian National Army at Singapore on 5th July, he first uttered his famous battle-cry, 'CHALO DELHI!' 'DELHI CHALO!' On the 21st October 1943, the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was formed. There was great enthusiasm and men and money poured in. The Japanese Army had overrun Burma and was poised for the invasion of India through Assam. Troops of the Indian National Army were sent to the front, and they took a gallant part in the fighting around Imphal and Kohima. Netaji toured all over East Asia, and visited Japan more than once. Although belonging to a subject nation, and dependent on Japan for keeping his army in the field, he left an indelible impression of his personality on all those who came in contact with him. Even today, his name is a household word in South-East Asia and Japan. Between his arrival in Singapore in July 1943, and his departure from Bangkok in August 1945, barely two years passed,

Oral Answers

1) यदि हां, तो इसके तथ्य क्या...
निर्णय आवास और संभरण...
सर्वण सिंह) : (क) और...
री में अशोक होटल्स लिमिटेड...
सीमित कम्पनी (Public Limited...
Company) एक होटल बना रही...
ती सरकार... नावानगर के...
पारस्परिक सहयोग से स्थापित...

अमर सिंह डामर : क्या मैं जान...
कि इस प्रकार के होटलों...
पीछे क्या उद्देश्य है ?

र स्वर्ण सिंह : लोगों के रहने...
मुहय्या करना, यही इसका आवेक...
है।

म० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना...
कि इस होटल में जाम साहब के...
होने के सम्बन्ध में क्या उनसे कोई...
परकार की तरफ से शुरू की गयी...
की तरफ से शुरू की गयी थी।
लोगों को इस में सम्मिलित क्यों...
गया ?

र स्वर्ण सिंह : वह तो पब्लिक...
कम्पनी है। जिसका दिल चाहे...
खरीद सकता है।

मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री...
हरलाल नेहरू) : इस बात में...
बहुत दिनों से दिलचस्पी है कि...
माकूल इन्तिजाम ठहरने का हो।
म मामले में बड़ी परेशानियां हैं।
हैं कि आजकल बहुत सी कान...
पेटोज बगैरह होती रहती हैं।
मेंट ने इधर उधर के मुल्कों से...
, पैसे के लिए नहीं, बल्कि इसलिये...
म में जानकार लोग मदद करें।
या कि इस काम को गवर्नमेंट ही...
इस सिलसिले में और लोगों से

...जिनमें जाम साहब भी थे और यह...
...होता कि यह हिन्दुस्तानी कम्पनी हो जिसमें...
...हिन्दुस्तान का कंट्रोल हो, जिसमें गवर्नमेंट...
...का भी कुछ रुपया लगे और गवर्नमेंट का भी...
...इसके इन्तिजाम में कुछ दखल हो। चुनाव...
...वह मिली जुली कम्पनी बनायी गयी। उसमें...
...जाम साहब का नाम आया है, लेकिन उसमें...
...जाम साहब का ज्ञान का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं...
...होगा। मतलब यह कि वह खुद बोर्ड प्रोफ...
...डाइरेक्टर्स में नहीं होंगे। उनकी दूसरी हैसियत...
...भी है, इसलिये यह मुनासिब नहीं समझा गया...
...कि उनकी दोनों हैसियतों को मिलाया जाय।
...लेकिन मशविरा जरूर उन से किया गया था।

श्री हेडा : शुरू में कितने कमरों का...
इन्तिजाम इस होटल में होगा ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह : ३५० की उम्मीद...
है।

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: What percen-
tage of shares is being controlled by Govern-
ment and what percentage is in the
possession of the Jam Saheb ?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Government are
proposing to have 2600 'A' class preference
shares of the value of Rs. 26 lakhs, out
of a total capital of Rs. 1 crore.

Shri Shree Narayan Dass : May I
know whether Government are going to
advance any loan to this company also
if so what is the amount ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : All these ques-
tions were put on a prior occasion.

Sardar Swaran Singh : These were
discussed at the time of supplementary
demands.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

*431. Shri Gidwani: Will the
Prime Minister be pleased to state whether
it is a fact that Government are considering
the question of setting up a committee to
enquire into the circumstances of the death
of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose ?

The Prime Minister and Minister
of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal
Nehru): Government have decided to
send some persons to Japan to investigate
into the circumstances relating to the death
of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose. The

Japanese Government has been consulted,
and they have promised us full cooperation
in the enquiry.

Shri Gidwani: Who will be the mem-
bers of the Committee ?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : It is pro-
posed to send three persons, one of them
being a representative of the West Bengal
Government, and two others; as we have
not obtained the permission of those persons
it would not perhaps be fair to mention
their names.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : May I
know whether those persons will also be
requested to visit Formosa where this
accident occurred ?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, they
will not be so requested. To begin with,
there are various difficulties in the way.
We cannot visit a place without the co-
operation of the Government of that place.
Secondly, in effect, it the hon. Member will
see, there will not be much purpose in visit-
ing there, because all the so-called evidence,
witnesses etc., are likely to be in Japan,
if they survive. It is a military airfield and
all the Japanese have been sent away from
Formosa long ago. So all the persons
are really in Japan—those who can be ap-
proached. Merely seeing the airfield will
not convey any information or help.

Shri Kamath: May I know if the
attention of the Prime Minister has been
drawn to a photograph published in a section
of the Bengal Press some two months ago or
a little later, reported to have been taken
in Peking in May 1952 and published origi-
nally by the Workers' Press in Peking ?
Has he received a copy of this photograph ?
I will place it on the Table of the House or
pass it on to you or to him. May I know
if a person in that photograph bears a
striking resemblance to Netaji or is it
merely a double as doubles are; and may
I know whether this would be placed before
the Committee of Enquiry ?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have seen
that photograph published in the news-
papers. Personally I do not attach much
importance to a vague possible resemblance.
There are so many vague possible resemb-
lances in such matters. I do not think it is a
matter which is of very serious conse-
quence; but all these facts would be consid-
ered, naturally, whatever they are.

Shri Kamath: Has our Embassy
in Tokyo been asked to informally or official-
ly contact or consult the Japanese Govern-
ment as to whether they will associate them-
selves with this Committee of Enquiry
in an Indo-Japanese Commission so as to
through enquiry into this death ?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may read the second sentence of my answer, it says:

"The Japanese Government have been consulted, and they have promised us full co-operation in the enquiry."

Shri Kamath: Will that be an Indo-Japanese Commission of Enquiry or what?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about it. This raises matters of procedure. The point is that they are fully co-operating in this.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : इस बात में कितनी सच्चाई है कि जापानी सरकार ने भी इस सम्बन्ध में एक एनक्वायरी कराई थी और क्या भारत सरकार को इस बारे में उन्होंने कोई सूचना दी है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : मैं इसका ठीक जवाब नहीं दे सकता। मुझे तो ख्याल होता है कि उन्होंने कुछ एक निजी तौर पर तहकीकात कराई थी, किन्तु जास्वी से हमें उसकी कोई सूचना नहीं दी थी।

Caustic Soda and Soda Ash

*433. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 317 on the 15th September, 1955 in the Rajya Sabha and state at what stage the negotiations with China for the import of a Caustic Soda and Soda Ash stand at present?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar) : We are importing 5,000 tons of Soda Ash from China during the current half year. The Chinese Government did not make any firm offer for the supply of Caustic Soda.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : How does the price of these 5000 tons of Soda Ash, which is being imported from China, compare with that imported from other countries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : What percentage does it bear to the entire import?

Shri Karmarkar : It is about half; the total requirements have been estimated at 10,000 tons and it is, 5,000 tons.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : My question is how does the price compare with the price of the imported Soda Ash from other countries.

Shri Karmarkar : The prices are about the same, £17 per ton.

श्री बंसीलाल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि सांभर साल्ट में साल्ट विटनर्स में साल्ट बहुत बड़ी तादाद में पाये जाते हैं और उनसे कास्टिक सोडा काफ़ी मात्रा में बनाया जा सकता है ?

श्री करमरकर : मुझे इसका इल्म नहीं है। ऐसा संभव हो सकता है। मुझे इसके लिए नोटिस चाहिये।

Coal

*434. **Shri S. C. Samanta :** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) how the target of 60m. tons of coal at the end of the Second Five Year Plan has been worked out;

(b) the quantity allocated to the private sector;

(c) the production per year at present from the State collieries;

(d) the improvements made or envisaged in the existing State collieries;

(e) whether any washeries have been established for State collieries to improve the quality of coal; and

(f) the number of new collieries which are expected to be established in the near future both in the private and public sectors?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : (a) The target has been worked out taking into account the coal requirements of the Railways, of the existing industries, the expansion schemes of existing industries under consideration and the new industries likely to be set up during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(b) About eight million tons per annum over and above the present production in that sector.

(c) About 3 million tons in Central Govt. collieries. Production in Singareni collieries owned mainly by Hyderabad State is about 1.5 million tons.

Oral Answers

(a) Two statements are laid out of the House showing development schemes already (a) the schemes proposed to be set up during the Second Five Year period, to improve the working of the existing States Collieries. [See Annexure No. 38].

(c) No coal washeries have been set up. Government has not set up a washery at Bongaon Collieries and tenders in this connection are now under consideration.

(f) Government's scheme is to set up new collieries in Korba, Central India and in Ranikhet. It is difficult at present to give an indication of the actual number of Collieries expected to be set up. The private sector is expected to produce from existing and immediately contiguous areas from entirely new collieries.

Shri S. C. Samanta : Whether private producers attended the meeting in Delhi recently and what were their reactions about the production of India?

Shri K. C. Reddy : Discussions have taken place with representatives of the local industry. It may be said that they are in agreement with the proposals put forward by Government. At one stage they wanted to produce in the private sector. Ultimately, they have fixed 8 million tons production in the private sector.

Shri S. C. Samanta : If this 60 million tons of coal per year can be decreased, what steps have Government taken to establish washeries by the private sector?

Shri K. C. Reddy : Indicated the steps taken with regard to the establishment of washeries. The Washeries Committee has to be set up. It has to be done immediately. I do not think it will be possible to targetted production because of the possibility of expansion of washeries.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : How does the Government know whether this additional production is to be produced in the private sector or from new collieries? If it is the private sector, what should be the Government's policy in that connection?

गृह मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

नायं ब्लाक, नई दिल्ली-110001

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

(34-A) Dated the 9th May, 2000

A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS-I)
Tele No. 301 2478

Dear Sir

Kindly refer to your DO letter No.25/4/NGO(Vol.V) dated 3-5-2000 regarding proceedings of Shah Nawaj Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974, which are to be produced by the Government before Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry by 20-5-2000.

2. The proceedings or any other records pertaining to the Shah Nawaj Committee are not available in this Ministry. This is so because that Committee was set up by the MEA only. To emphasise this point, your kind attention is invited to the underlined portions of the following Annexures to this letter:-

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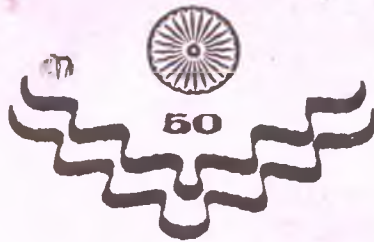
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3. The above reasons as also the reason of non-availability of any records in MHA are clearly

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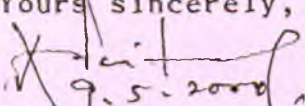
Original
P. keep a copy
of put up the
original. We
shall have to
EA Dir.
to check these records.
9/5
SOMMO

349

indicative of the fact that the Shah Nawaj Committee was set up and administered by the Ministry of External Affairs only and not by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Incidentally, it may also be mentioned that there has been no such Section/Branch called FEA in MHA, it is ~~not~~.

4. In the foregoing circumstances, I will request you to kindly look into the matter again so as to ensure that the relevant records of proceedings of the Shah Nawaj Committee are retrieved and made available to the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry well before 20-5-2000 as that is the time limit for compliance with the Commission's directions dated 23-3-2000. A copy of this letter is being endorsed to the Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry, Calcutta, for their information.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

9.5.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block
New Delhi

recovered. To bring out the above picture, it was decided that the Report should deal with the following points:

- (1) Last plans of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (2) Air crash at Taihoku (Formosa)
- (3) Death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
- (4) Cremation of Netaji's body
- (5) Netaji's ashes
- (6) Treasure

Each point is dealt with in a self-contained chapter. The conclusions of the Chairman and the other member who has signed the Report are also given in each chapter. In a final chapter (7), a suggestion has been made that Netaji's ashes should be brought to India with due honour. The Report is in two parts:

Part A — Report (with three annexures):

Annexure I—Copies of relevant papers.

Annexure II—Photographs.

Annexure III—Sketches and plans.

Part B — Evidence of witnesses (with photographs of some witnesses).

7. A large number of witnesses were examined in Japan. Tracking the witnesses and securing their attendance would not have been possible without the ever-ready help and co-operation of the Japanese Foreign Office (Gaimusho). H.E. Mr. Shigemitsu, Foreign Minister of Japan, who had held the same position in Netaji's time, extended to the Committee every courtesy and co-operation. The Committee wishes to thank the Government of Japan, Mr. Shigemitsu, and the staff of the Japanese Foreign Office, most sincerely for their help and kindness. The Indian Embassy in Tokyo also were very helpful. In particular, the Committee takes pleasure in recording appreciation of the services of Mr. J. Rehman who was attached to the Committee throughout their stay in Japan. Assistance was also received from the Indian Missions at Bangkok and Saigon. The Committee wishes to thank the Ministers of Defence, External Affairs, and the Intelligence Bureau of the Home Ministry for lending secret Intelligence Reports. Shri R. Dayal, who was attached to the Chairman of the Committee as P.A., worked very hard from the very beginning to the end, and gave satisfaction all round. And finally, the Committee wishes to thank, with all sincerity, the Government of India, for making the arrangements for the work of the Committee, at home and abroad, and the opportunity given to them to make a first-hand study of an important chapter in the history of our times.

LAST PLANS OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

The terms of reference of the Committee are:

"To enquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments connected therewith."

2. We have been asked to write the last page which had up to now remained blank; but to do so, it is necessary to know a little of the background of the first and intermediate pages. Early in 1942, the Japanese armies overran large parts of South-East Asia, which had been under colonial domination by European powers, and in so doing, they released a great impetus to nationalism. There were three million Indians in South-East Asia who took a leading part in this movement. They formed the Indian Independence League under Mr. Rash Behari Bose. Singapore fell on 15th February 1942, and the large British Indian Army stationed there surrendered. Out of this was formed the first Indian National Army under General Mohan Singh. This Movement, however, was without a real leader of sufficient political stature. From the very start, the movement was waiting for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, who was then in Europe, having escaped from detention in India in 1941. After a long and perilous journey by submarine, Netaji arrived in South-East Asia, and took charge of the Indian Independence Movement on the 4th of July 1943. Soon after, he assumed supreme command of the Indian National Army. Addressing a review of the Indian National Army at Singapore on 5th July, he first uttered his famous battle-cry, 'CHALO DELHI!' 'DELHI CHALO!' On the 21st October 1943, the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was formed. There was great enthusiasm and men and money poured in. The Japanese Army had overrun Burma and was poised for the invasion of India through Assam. Troops of the Indian National Army were sent to the front, and they took a gallant part in the fighting around Imphal and Kohima. Netaji toured all over East Asia, and visited Japan more than once. Although belonging to a subject nation, and dependent on Japan for keeping his army in the field, he left an indelible impression of his personality on all those who came in contact with him. Even today, his name is a household word in South-East Asia and Japan. Between his arrival in Singapore in July 1943, and his departure from Bangkok in August 1945, barely two years passed,

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may read the second sentence of my answer, it says:

"The Japanese Government have been consulted, and they have promised us full co-operation in the enquiry."

Shri Kamath: Will that be an Indo-Japanese Commission of Enquiry of what?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about it. This raises matters of procedure. The point is that they are fully co-operating in this.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी: इस बात में कितनी सच्चाई है कि जापानी सरकार ने भी इस सम्बन्ध में एक एनक्वायरी कराई थी और क्या भारत सरकार को इस बारे में उन्होंने कोई सूचना दी है?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू: मैं इसका ठीक जवाब नहीं दे सकता। मुझे तो ख्याल होता है कि उन्होंने कुछ एक निजी तौर पर तहकीकात कराई थी, किन्तु जास्ते से हमें उसकी कोई सूचना नहीं दी थी।

Caustic Soda and Soda Ash

*433. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 317 on the 15th September, 1955 in the Rajya Sabha and state at what stage the negotiations with China for the import of a Caustic Soda and Soda Ash stand at present?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): We are importing 5,000 tons of Soda Ash from China during the current half year. The Chinese Government did not make any firm offer for the supply of Caustic Soda.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: How does the price of these 5000 tons of Soda Ash, which is being imported from China, compare with that imported from other countries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What percentage does it bear to the entire import?

Shri Karmarkar: It is about half; the total requirements have been estimated at 10,000 tons and it is, 5,000 tons.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: My question is how does the price compare with the price of the imported Soda Ash from other countries.

Shri Karmarkar: The prices are about the same, £17 per ton.

श्री बंसोलाल: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि सांभर साल्ट में साल्ट विटनेंस में साल्ट बहुत बड़ी तादाद में पाये जाते हैं और उनसे कास्टिक सोडा काफ़ी मात्रा में बनाया जा सकता है?

श्री करमरकर: मुझे इसका इल्म नहीं है। ऐसा संभव हो सकता है। मुझे इसके लिए नोटिस चाहिये।

Coal

*434. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) how the target of 60m. tons of coal at the end of the Second Five Year Plan has been worked out;

(b) the quantity allocated to the private sector;

(c) the production per year at present from the State collieries;

(d) the improvements made or envisaged in the existing State collieries;

(e) whether any washeries have been established for State collieries to improve the quality of coal; and

(f) the number of new collieries which are expected to be established in the near future both in the private and public sectors?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The target has been worked out taking into account the coal requirements of the Railways, of the existing industries, the expansion schemes of existing industries under consideration and the new industries likely to be set up during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(b) About eight million tons per annum over and above the present production in that sector.

(c) About 3 million tons in Central Govt. collieries. Production in Singareni collieries owned mainly by Hyderabad State is about 1.5 million tons.

Two statements are of the House and development schemes already (a) the schemes proposed during the Second Five Year Plan period, to improve the existing States Collieries. (b) annexure No. 38].

(c) No coal washeries have been set up. Government will set up a washery at Singareni Collieries and tenders for this connection are now being invited.

(d) Government's schemes for new collieries in Central India and in the States. It is difficult at present to give the actual production of the collieries expected to be set up. The private sector is expected to produce from existing collieries immediately contiguous to the production from entirely new collieries.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Whether private production of coal to the meeting in Delhi and what were their reaction to the production of India?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Discussions have taken place with representatives of the local industry. It may be said that there is agreement with the proposal by Government. At one time they wanted to produce in the private sector. Ultimately they have fixed 8 million tons production in the private sector.

Shri S. C. Samanta: This 60 million tons of coal per year can be decanted by washeries are established. If no, what steps have been taken to establish washeries by the private sector?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I indicated the steps taken with regard to the washeries. The Coal Washeries Commission has to be done. I do not think it will be possible to targetted production of the possible of washeries.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Whether this is to be produced in the private sector will be decided or from new washeries? If it is decided that we will have a policy of washeries.



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(24)

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

~~Confidential~~

Most Immediate/Time Bound

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel.No. 301 1357
Fax No.379 2285

No.25/4/NGO (Vol.V)

May 3, 2000

Dear Shri Paitandy,

I am writing apropos your D.O. No.I-12014/13/2000-IS(D.III) of May 2, 2000 to convey that we do not have available in the Ministry of External Affairs the proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Committee, 1956 and the Khosla Commission, 1974.

2. We have, however, already confirmed that we do have a copy each of their printed reports.

3. We would suggest a perusal of the Netaji Inquiry Committee Report (containing the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee) which was published in October 1956. This indicates that Committee itself was constituted as per government notification No.F.30(26)FEA/55 dated April 5, 1956. The Report was published on behalf of government by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (Publications Division). As for the report of the One-man Commission of Inquiry into the Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (the Khosla Commission), this was published by the Ministry of Home Affairs on June 30, 1974. It is clear also from the notification regarding its constitution dated July 11, 1970 that the order of Government of India appointing the Commission had issued from the Ministry of Home Affairs. MHA may, therefore, like to peruse its own records to locate the entire proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Committee, 1956 and the Khosla Commission, 1974.

4. A copy of this communication is being endorsed to Shri P.K. Sengupta, Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Jayant Prasad
Jayant Prasad

Shri A.K. Paitandy
Director(IS-I)
Ministry of Home Affairs
North Block, New Delhi 10001.

Copy to: Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd floor,
11/A, Minza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta - 700 087

*Issued
Kaly
3.5.00*

FAX - 033-2117715



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गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
नाय ब्लाक, नई दिल्ली-110001
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001

A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS-I)

Tele.No. 301 2478

Dated, the 2nd May, 2000.

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your DO letter No.25/4/NGO-(Vol.V) dated 19-4-2000 regarding compliance by the Government of India with the orders/directions passed by Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Your specific comments with reference to the availability or otherwise of the entire proceedings (including the evidence recorded) of Shah Nawaj Committee and Khosla Commission which had held earlier enquires into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose are immediately required. In this connection, attention is invited to para (a)(iv) of the directions already sent to you vide my DO letter of even number dated 11-4-2000.

2. As the time limit for complying with the orders/directions is expiring shortly, I shall request you to kindly look into the matter personally on top priority basis and apprise the Commission of the factual position under intimation to this Ministry. The matter has assumed greater importance in the light of a news item titled 'old Netaji panel reports missing' published in the Indian Express (New Delhi edition) dated 28-4-2000 (copy enclosed for ready reference).

With regard,

Yours sincerely,

(Signature)
2.5.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi

क्या मुझे
कोई प्रतिक्रिया
देनी है?

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AKS

The Indian EXPRESS

■ LATE CITY ■ NEW DELHI ■ FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2000 ■ 14+6+4 PAGES ■ Rs 2.00

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H478/DIV @ 87/2000
28/4

Old Netaji panel reports missing

SANTANU BANERJEE, *Special Correspondent*
CALCUTTA, APRIL 27

THE records of the proceedings of the Shah Nawaz Committee and the Khosla Commission set up in 1956 and 1970 to inquire into Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's disappearance, are reportedly not traceable.

The fact that these records are not traceable came to light when the Justice Mukherjee Commission, presently inquiring into the mystery of Netaji's disappearance, could not get them when asked for from the Union Home Ministry. The Justice Mukherjee Commission needs these records for screening the evidence of witnesses who appeared before the earlier committee and commission.

The records of the proceedings assume great importance for the Commission because some of the key witnesses, who appeared before the Shah Nawaz Commit-

tee, and Khosla Commission in 1956 and 1970-74 respectively, are now dead. One such witness is a former Indian National Army officer — Col Habibur Rahman — who reportedly travelled with Netaji on his last journey and survived the alleged air crash. Rahman, a Pakistani national, appeared before the Shah Nawaz Committee, which held in-camera examinations of the witnesses. Though the Morarji government rejected the reports of both the Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission in August 1978 on the floor of the Parliament for their discrepancies, the records of these proceedings, including the evidences of the witnesses, assume great importance for the Justice Mukherjee Commission. The Shah Nawaz Committee submitted its report in six months but the Khosla Commission took four years to do so.

2741/MS/100
115

1438/JS (CMJ) 2000
15-00

BY SPEED POST

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

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2574/MS

(32 B)

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/49

Calcutta, dated, the 27.04.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sangupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Ms. Sangesta Goirala, IAS,
Joint Secretary (Internal Security),
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Government of India,
North Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

Madam,

In continuation of my letter No. JMCI/Meeting/-
99-2000/48/9 dated 04.04.2000 I am directed to send
herewith a copy of the corrigendum dated 27th April,
2000 to the proceedings dated 23.04.2000 of Justice
Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry for your information.

Yours faithfully,

(P.K. Sangupta)
Secretary

No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/49(5) Dated : 27.04.2000

Copy with a copy of the corrigendum referred to above
is forwarded for information to :

- 1) Dr. Submar Sarker, Director General of Archives,
Government of India, Jangpeth, New Delhi-110 001.
This has reference to his D.O. letter No. F.9-2(19)P.A.
dated 24.04.2000 addressed to Shri A.K. Paitandy,
Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of
India, a copy of which was endorsed to the undersigned.
- 2) Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of
External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi-110 001
- 3) Shri S.W. Ray, IAS, Home Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal,
This has reference to letter No. JMCI/Meeting/99-2000/48/10
dated 04.04.2000.
- 4) Dr. Anil Sarker, General Secretary, Asiatic Society,
1, Park Street, Calcutta-16. This has reference to letter
No. Meeting/99-2000/48/12 dated 04.04.2000.
- 5) Dr. Parabi Ray, Research Professor, Asiatic Society,
47-C, Abdul Kalim Lane, Calcutta-16. This has reference
to letter No. Meeting/99-2000/48/11 dt. 04.04.2000 of the
undersigned.

(P.K. Sangupta)
Secretary

115

Copy to B

to JM/ERS

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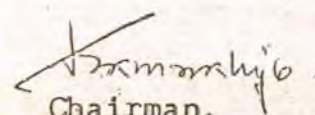
JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

April 27,
2000.

In the order dated March 23, 2000, a typographical error has crept in paragraph (v)(b) at page 3 of the order, in that, instead of 995 files as appearing therein, it should be 990 files.

Necessary corrections may, accordingly, be made in the order and the appropriate authorities may be intimated accordingly.


Chairman.

(32-A) (358)

BY SPEED POST

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
FOR INQUIRY INTO THE ALLEGED DISAPPEARANCE OF
NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
'B' Block, (Third Floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta 700 087

Phone:
216-2765-68 & 216-2835
Fax:
216-2765

No. JMCI/ DOC(FOR)/99-2000/56/45(2)

Calcutta, dated, the 27.04.2000.

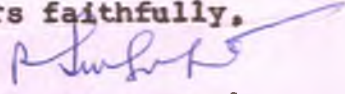
From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.),
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad, IAS,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 001.

S i r,

I am directed to send herewith a copy of the letter dated 13th April, 2000 of Shri Mainak De, Press and Public Affairs Adviser, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta, addressed to Sri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, West Bengal Legislative Assembly, along with a copy of the letter No.86/HDS/2000 dated 1st March, 2000 of Shri Anil Mukherjee, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, West Bengal, addressed to Dr. John Mitchiner, Deputy High Commissioner, British Deputy High Commission, Calcutta, and to request you to take necessary steps to approach the authority concerned of the Government of U.K. so that the files referred to in the aforesaid letter dated 13.04.2000 of Shri De are made available to this Commission either in original or in the form of Microfilm or Cassette Disc in Micro Soft Office 1997 as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,


(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

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**British Deputy
High Commission
Calcutta**

1, Ho Chi Minh Sarani
Calcutta 700 071

Telephone: 288-3681 (D) 288-5172/6
E-mail: Mainak.De@calcutta.mail.fco.gov.uk
Fax: 288-3435

13 April 2000

**Mr Anil Mukherjee
Deputy Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Calcutta**

Dear Mr Mukherjee,

Thank you for your letter of 1 March to our Deputy High Commissioner, Dr John Mitchiner, regarding declassified records on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I had taken up the matter with the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections, London. The records that have recently been released (in 1997) are a series of files which originated in the India Office's Public and Judicial Department in London. However, The files (which number 700) have not been published. The files themselves are available for consultation in the Reading Room. The files are public records and are open to researchers who are required to apply for a Reader's Pass from the British Library's Reader Admissions Office, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

However, since the files have not been published the only way for accessing them will be through a personal visit to the India Office Records, Oriental and India Office Collections in London.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

**MAINAK DE
Press & Public Affairs Adviser**

360



No. 86/WB/2000

DEPUTY SPEAKER
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
WEST BENGAL
CALCUTTA
The 1st March, 2000

Dear Dr. Mitchiner,

Thank you for your co-operation for providing me information regarding the availability of the books relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his I.N.A. from your British Council Library.

Further I talked with you through telephone that I want the declassified records/documents from your P.R.O. regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his I.N.A. during the 2nd World War in the South East Asia, far-East and near-East which your Government had already declassified as war records.

May I request you to assist me by providing those said declassified war records from your Government as our Government of India appointed Third Enquiry Commission for enquiring into the mysterious disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose since 18th August, 1945.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Anil Mukherjee

(Anil Mukherjee)

Dr. John Mitchiner,
Deputy High Commissioner,
British Deputy High Commission,
1, Ho-Chi-Minh Sarami,
Calcutta-700 071



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341

भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

New Delhi the.....19

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)

Tel. 301 1357
Fax: 379 2385

D.O.No.25/4/NGO- (Vol.V).

April 19, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

I am writing this with reference to D.O. letter No.I/12014/13/2000-IS(DIII) dated April 11, 2000 of Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs regarding the information sought by the Commission about various files/documents pertaining to alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The records available with the Ministry of External Affairs include a copy each of the printed reports of Shah Nawaz Khan Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974. A reference to these reports has been made in para IV of the proceedings of 23rd March, 2000 of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. The details of the Top Secret files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the custody of this Ministry have already been supplied to you vide my letter of even number dated 1st March, 2000. Moreover, the MEA library located at Patiala House, New Delhi, also has volumes VI and VII of the Transfer of Power Series, brought out by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd Floor,
11/A', Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087

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- 2 -

Copy to :

1. Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-I), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
2. Shri V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary IS(D.IV), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
3. Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (New Delhi Office), Room No.172-B, North Block, New Delhi.

(Jayant Prasad)
Joint Secretary(CNV)

SOOweel
B
20/11/2020

o/c



Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)

Tel. 301 1357
Fax: 379 2385

No. 25/4/NGO Vol. V

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भारत सरकार
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

New Delhi the.....19

April 19, 2000

Dear Shri Sengupta,

I am writing this with reference to D.O. letter No. I/12014/13/2000-IS(DIII) dated April 11, 2000 of Shri A.K. Paitandy, Director (IS-1), Ministry of Home Affairs regarding the information sought by the Commission about various files/documents pertaining to alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The records available with the Ministry of External Affairs include
~~On scrutiny of our files, it has been noticed that a copy each of the printed reports of Shah Nawaz Khan Committee, 1956 and Khosla Commission, 1974. are available in our records.~~ A reference to these reports has been made in para IV of the proceedings of 23rd March, 2000 of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry. The details of ^{the reports} files on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose have already been supplied to you vide my letter of even number dated 1st March, 2000.

Yours sincerely,

(Jayant Prasad)

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd Floor,
11/A', Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta-700 087

In the custody of his Ministry

Moreover, the MHA library would at Patil House, New Delhi, also has the volumes II and VII of the Banner

Copy to :

1. Shri V.P. Bhatia, Under Secretary IS(D.IV), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi. *of Power Sec'd, by*
2. Shri S.N. Singh, Section Officer, Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry (New Delhi Office), Room No.172-B, North Block, New Delhi. *the Ministry. Secretary Office, London.*



सत्यमेव जयते

1192/IS (Cm)/2000
11.4.00
A.K. PAITANDY
DIRECTOR (IS-I)
Tele No. 301 2478

गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
नार्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली-110001
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI 110001

Dated the 11th April, 2000

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice M K Mukherjee, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India, is inquiring into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. In its first sitting held at Calcutta (the headquarters of the Commission), on 23rd March, 2000 the Commission has issued certain Orders/Directions as contained in the record of proceedings, a copy of which is enclosed for ready reference. It will be seen that these Orders/Directions are to be complied with by the concerned Ministries of the Government of India within six weeks of the communication of the same.

2. As the matter is very sensitive and important, it is essential that the requirements are handled and coordinated on extremely urgent basis so that there is no delay in extending help to the Commission. I shall, therefore, be grateful if you please look into the matter immediately and personally and let us have the factual information latest by 20-4-2000 as to whether any records/files pertaining to Netaji/INA, with particular reference to the files/documents mentioned in the various directions of the Commission, are available in your Deptt/Organisation.

3. In case the position is in affirmative, the files/documents etc. will need to be kept in readiness and intimation regarding the same is to be conveyed to the Secretary of the Commission in the following address:-

Shri P K Sengupta,
Secretary,
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry,
'B' Block, 3rd Floor,
11/A, Mirza Ghalib Street,
Calcutta- 700 087

Telephone Nos:- 033- 2162765/68
2162835

FAX No. 033-2162765

A copy of the intimation may also please be made available to us in the following address:-

(a) Shri V P Bhatia,
Under Secretary IS(D.IV),
Ministry of Home Affairs
North Block,
New Delhi

Telephone No.301 5700

FAX Nos. 011-301 7763/301 5750

(b) Shri S.N. Singh
Section Officer
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
(New Delhi Office)
Room No.172-B,
North Block,
New Delhi

Telephone No.301 6634

4. It may please be noted that the names of different Nodal Officers of the concerned Ministries (as shown below) have been communicated to the Commission on the basis of the requirement of the Commission and the consent of the Ministries. It will be the responsibility of these Nodal Officers to interact with the Commission after obtaining necessary feed-back/input/orders etc. from the Competent authorities of their respective Ministries. The Secretary of the Commission is also being informed accordingly:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Ministry	Name & Designation of the Officer	Tele. No.
1.	Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Jayant Prasad Joint Secretary South Block, New Delhi-110 011	301 1357
2.	Ministry of Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Culture)	Dr.Sukumar Sarkar Director General, National Archives Janpath, New Delhi	3383436 FAX No. 0091-11-3384127
3.	Ministry of Defence	Shri G.B. Singh Director(History) Division, 3/West Block-8, Wing-I R.K. Puram, <u>New Delhi</u>	610 2067

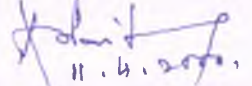
366

-3-

5. This may kindly be accorded top priority.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(A.K. PAITANDY)

Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi

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JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

Proceedings dated 23rd March, 2000.

Present - Hon'ble Justice M.K. Mukherjee,
Chairman.

After examining the statements filed by the parties and after hearing them and/or their representatives regarding the modalities of the proceeding, the Commission makes the following Orders/Directions :-

(a) The Government of India shall produce before the Commission, within six weeks from the date of communication of these Orders/Directions, the following :-

(i) All files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or I.N.A. in the Prime Minister's Secretariat including the following Secret files :-

1A, 2-A, 3-A, 6-A, 8-A, 12-A, 16-A (U.O. Note No. D/S-86 6, dated August 24, 1953, from P.M.'s Secretariat to Mohd. Yunus, MEA (SEA, BR), 17-A (U.O. Note No. D.3788-8EA/53, dated August 27, 1953, from Mohd. Yunus US, MEA (SEA) to P.M.'s Secretariat, 27-A, (Memo No. 2/53/1971/3/601 151) dated October 13, 1953, from Mohd. Yunus US, MEA (SEA) to P.M.'s Secretariat, 33-B (Letter No.20/62 (Accts.) dated April 82 (sic), 1954, from the Joint Secretary, I.N.A. (Enquiry and Relief Committee, 82, Daryaganj, Delhi to the President, 34 A (Rajya Sabha's Starred question No. 60 dated Sept. 28, 1954), 35-B (Note for Supplementaries) 37-A (Lok Sabha Starred Question No.334 dated August 2, 1955) 37-BCD (enclosures to S. No. 37-A) and Notes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 29 File No. 23 (156)/ 51-P.M. (Indian National Army) (INA) in the Far East), 23 (11)-56-57 PM (INA Treasure), 12(226)/56 PM (Investigation into the circumstances leading to the death of Subhas' Chandra Bose); 249 INA-GHQ Case Bose and Russia, 249-INA- II(H) GHQ Case on Subhas Chandra Bose, Headquarters main file 279/1 INA 10 Misc., Headquarters main file 273 INA (Misc. INA), Headquarters main file 273/INA, Headquarters Main file 273-INA, 138-INA and 265 INA; 10 Misc.,INA;

No. Date

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

(ii) File No.16/3/45-Poll. (i) containing Secret Report dated 19.09.45 by R. Tottenham, Secretary prepared for Home Department; file No.75/INA containing intelligence report prepared by Major Toye, Comd. S. Section CSDIC(i) dated 20.10.45; F. No. 8/18/46-Poll. (i) containing question No. 28 of Hon'ble Yuvaraj Dutta Singh in the Council of State and the answer given; file No.8/15/46-Poll. (i) relating to question No.14 dated 6.11.46 of Yuvaraj Dutta Singh; File No.8/2/47 - Poll. (i) relating to Yuvaraj Dutta Singh's questions placed in the list of business for the Council of State on 17.2.47;

(iii) Report bearing Secret No.1400/23/SE. CSDIC. Red Fort, Delhi dated 25th March, 1946; Netaji's letter to Jacob Malik, Soviet Ambassador, Tokyo dated 20.11.1944. Netaji's broadcast at 21.15 hrs. to 21.25 hrs., Special Message on 18.8.45; Confidential letter dated 23.5.46 from American Consulate Guard, Bombay dated 23.5.46 to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C.. A-175(a de-classified C.I.A. document (original stated to be in the Archives of Princeton University); a de-classified C.I.A. document dated 27.2.64 relating to a story concerning the possible return of one Subhas (Subas) Chandra Bose; API news agency's report attached to intelligence report for the Home Department dated 21.12.45; Secret No. 11/INC/45 dated 16.1.46 from the Dy. Inspector Genl. of Police, CIS, Bombay Province, Sivajinagar, Pune-5; Lt. Col. Anderson's confidential letter No.MS/5/5, CSDIC Red Fort Delhi dated 21.1.46 referring to a portion of Major Toye's report dt. 15.1.46; Daily INA Report No.56 dated 5.2.46 prepared by W.N.P. Jenkins, Dy. Director (C) of Intelligence Bureau (Home Dept.); W. Mckwright's letter No. C-5 dated 19.2.46 to Intelligence Bureau, H.D., New Delhi-3; Major Yong's Top Secret letter No.SL/9/CS/1 dated 1.8.46 to W.C.K. Wright; Pt. Nehru's letter to Mr. Atlee, the then Prime Minister of U.K. during 45 to 47 relating to Subhas Chandra Bose; Khurshed Naoroji's letter dt. 27.7.46 to Louis Fischer, secret correspondence between

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Mckwright and Major Young dt. April 8, 1946 relating to receipt of a letter by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru from Subhas Ch. Bose regarding his stay in Russia; and correspondences between Louis Fischer and Gandhiji, Louis Fischer and Khurshed Naoroji, Louis Fischer and the President of USA, Louis Fischer and the Prime Minister of UK and other political leaders of U.K. in relation to Netaji and India's independence, Louis Fischer to Stalin;

(iv) The entire proceedings (including the evidence recorded) of Shaw Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission which had/earlier enquiries into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;

(v) The full texts of the Transfer of Power, Volumes VI & VII;

(b) Besides filing the above files/records/documents, the Government of India shall file Affidavits of competent persons of the related Ministries giving lists of all other files/records/documents, irrespective of whether they are Top Secret, Classified or De-classified, (except the 995 files transferred by the History Divn., Ministry of Defence to the National Archives, Delhi, a list of which has already been furnished to the Commission) lying in their respective custody or control relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and/or Indian National Army;

(c) The Government of West Bengal shall produce all the files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose now lying in the custody of the Special Branch, including file No.269/45 "Prisoner/Release-Revised Policy of Govt., for the release of security prisoners" containing Memo No.SS 129/SB dated 31st August, 1945 from the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta to H.S.E. Stevens, the then Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bengal, express letter No.1234 dated 25.8.45 of Bengal Govt. and Confidential Note dated 3.9.45 of D.R. Hardwick, D.I.G. I.B.;

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

- (d) Since, from the statement filed on behalf of All India Forward Bloc it appears that Dr. (Mrs.) Purabi Roy of Asiatic Society has done along with some others an extensive research work in Russia including on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and has submitted their report to the Society, The Commission would like to have an affidavit filed by Mrs. Purabi Roy indicating the particulars of the documents which might have come to her notice in course of her research and considered by her to be relevant for the purpose of the enquiry by this Commission as early as possible preferably within six weeks from the communication of these Orders/Directions.

The General Secretary of the said Society is also requested to forward to the Commission the aforesaid report along with its enclosures within the period prescribed as above.

- (e) After the files are produced and/or particulars furnished by the Central Government in terms of the above orders/directions, a research team will be constituted to peruse those files and submit its report about the relevant contents thereof. The parties may suggest names of competent persons, preferably stationed in Delhi, who may be included in the team to be so constituted; and
- (f) Having regard to the facts that the evidence of Major G. Baskaran, who in his statement has claimed that he worked as Confidential Secretary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the material time, will be relevant for the enquiry and that he is aged 82 years, has lost his vision and is seriously ailing, immediate steps be taken to record his statement at his residence at No. 9, Royal Enclave, Basat Avenue, Chennai notwithstanding the fact that the evidence, if any, to be

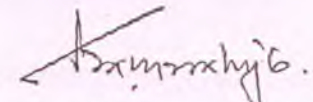
391

JUSTICE MUKHERJEE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
To inquire into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

No. Date

produced by the Central Government is
yet to be recorded.

The Secretary of the Commission is directed
to take immediate steps for compliance with the
above Order/Directions.


(M.K. Mukherjee)
Chairman

2348/Nhs/2000
12/3

Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'C' Block (3rd floor)
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone :
033-216-2765/68
033-216-2835
Fax :
033-216-2765

Records/N. Delhi/99-2000/73-112

No. JMCI/.....

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(30)

392

Calcutta, dated, the 23.02.2000.

From : Shri P.K. Sengupta, WBHJS (Retd.)
Secretary

To : Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 011.

Dear Shri Prasad,

SM 24

Kindly refer to my D.O. letter No. JMCI/Doc/54-093(4)/2000 dated the 8th February, 2000 wherein a list of files of the Ministry of External Affairs relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent development therewith as also some particulars regarding those files were solicited. A copy of my said D.O. letter is enclosed for ready reference.

not enclosed

I have been directed to request you to kindly expedite your reply.

Yours sincerely,

(P.K. Sengupta)
Secretary

for the folder
15/3

So noted - B.
SM/EK

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~~TOP SECRET~~

(19-A)

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

Reference FR(T-642/NGO/99) placed below:

T-642/NGO/99

As per NGO record, the earlier letter referred to in the FR, was sent to F.S. office on 05.10.98 vide D.No: T-2743/NW/98 (F.S. D.No. T.460/FS/98 refers)

It is, therefore, requested that the above mentioned document may please be sent to NGO for further submission to JS(FA).

T-115/FS/95
22/3/99

Jhalil
17.03.99

[Signature]
17/3/99

SOCNEW
✓ F.S. office

noted, pl
[Signature]
26/3

So (NGO)

dn JM



AMBASSADOR



भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036
Fax : (03) 3262-2301

T-109/FS/99
15/3/99

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T-642/NGO/99
15/3/99

~~TOP SECRET~~

No. F.5(1)NGO-I

March 8, 1999

Dear Raghv,

CA/ There has been no response to my Top Secret letter of even number dated September 11, 1998, regarding Netaji. I would appreciate guidance in the matter.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

(Siddharth Singh)

Shri K. Raghunath,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
NEW DELHI.

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Nto
RJM

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Ministry of External Affairs
NGO Section

(29)

~~T-2743/NGO/98~~
~~T-444/ma/2000~~

Reference FR placed below regarding Ashes of Netaji.

T-460/FS/98
5/10/98

The current volumes of the relevant file were submitted to J.SCP, PMO on 30.03.98 and the same have not been received back in Nho till date.

Submitted for information please.

JG
25.09.98

hsord
25/9/98

SOC(NGO)
JSCEA)

It is p.c. in receipt. Meanwhile, the letter addressed to it may be p.v. to FS.

W/S

P / prepare a copy reply

Atyul
Patel

To put up to Fson 30.9.98

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25/9

F.S.

File-NGO

[Signature]
6/10

[Signature]
10/2



AMBASSADOR

No TS-42/55(14)/98
22/9

T-2742/NGO/98
22/9/98

T-451/FS/98
22/9/98



~~TOP SECRET~~

T. 444/mb/2000
9.2.2000

भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India
2-11, Kudan-Minami 2-chome
Chiyoda-ku, TOKYO 102

Phone : (03) 3265-5036
Fax : (03) 3262-2301

September 11, 1998

No.F. 5(1)NGO-I

Dear Raghu,

For some time now, the Japanese Government has been asking us to take back the ashes of Netaji which have so far been kept in Renkoji Temple, Tokyo. This matter was last raised when Foreign Minister Ikeda visited India in July 1997. The problem has been the absence of consensus, specially amongst the family, that the ashes in Japan actually belong to Netaji. For a long time, the veracity of the reported death of Netaji in Formosa was questioned; contrasting reports that Netaji had been spotted in different countries simply added to the confusion. Now, even for the sake of argument if it is held that Netaji was not involved in the plane crash, it could be generally accepted that on the age factor alone he would most likely be dead. But those who have argued that Netaji was not killed in the plane crash would expectedly maintain that the ashes in Renkoji Temple do not belong to Netaji. It boils down to the minimum requirement that the living members of Netaji's family should be prepared to accept the ashes. We are not sure of the latest thinking amongst the family, but till recently differences remained. Two Enquiry Commissions, whose findings were accepted by the Government, failed to satisfy an important section about the fate of Netaji. I find that in the last session of Parliament, Government declined a request for yet another Enquiry Commission to look into the matter. This shows that the controversy has not yet abated.

So far, all attention has been focussed only on the one urn, kept in Renkoji Temple, that is supposed to contain the ashes of Netaji. We now understand from Mr. A. Murthy of Ajanta Restaurant in Tokyo that there may be another urn, containing part of the ashes of Netaji, which has been in the custody of his family since 1945. He wants to hand over this urn to GOI and has also suggested that his aged mother, not in good health, be enabled to convey some personal recollections of the events of 1945 related to Netaji's ashes and the so-called INA treasure. Jaishankar has looked into the files in the Embassy and set down the position in the enclosed note.

I would be grateful for advice on how we should proceed in the matter. If it is felt that the urn should be taken over from the Murthy family, and the old lady be allowed to recall her memories, I think this would best be undertaken by someone from Delhi, perhaps from MHA since the setting up of the two Enquiry Commissions and the examination of their reports must have been handled by them. The question of what to do with the second urn also needs careful consideration. Before any action is taken, it may be useful to examine the Enquiry Commission's reports to see whether any reference is available about the second urn. I shall await further instructions.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,
Siddharth

(Siddharth Singh)

Shri K. Raghunath,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

may kindly see pt
S. Prasad
22/9

JS(EA)
H. P. ...
H. (NCO) ...

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28/9

TS-126/15cm/98
11.9.98

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~~TOP SECRET~~

**EMBASSY OF INDIA
TOKYO**

Mr.A.Murthy of Ajanta Restaurant mentioned to me in passing that his family had in custody an urn (porcelain jar?) containing Netaji's ashes. He indicated that these ashes were left with them by his uncle, Mr.Ramamurthy, a close associate of Netaji, and the ex-Chairman of Indian Independence League in Japan. According to him, while the main ashes were taken to Renkoji temple, there was some concern that the Occupation Forces may confiscate it. Therefore, Netaji's associates thought it prudent to retain some part of the ashes elsewhere and these ashes have remained in his family custody since 1945.

2. Mr.Murthy also claimed that he mentioned the matter orally from time to time to the Embassy, though he was not very clear about the details. He was now concerned about the responsibility of retaining these ashes, which were in his mother's house, and wanted the Embassy to take them over.

3. I had discussed this matter with Ambassador who directed that our papers regarding Netaji be examined to see if any light could be shed on the above-mentioned matter.

4. Having gone through the files, I find that there is no previous reference to, or even an indirect indication of, the existence of Netaji's ashes other than those kept at Renkoji temple. However, I do find that Mr.A.Murthy's father, Mr.J.Murthy, was a witness at the Netaji Enquiry Commission of 1970 which was conducted by Justice G.D.Khosla. Another relevant reference is the testimony of Mr.S.A.Ayer, a member of the INA Provisional Government, which was presented to Parliament in March 1952. That testimony refers to the ashes of Netaji being handed over to Mr.Ramamurthy and Mr.Ayer by the Japanese military authorities and then being taken to Mr.Ramamurthy's house. It was only thereafter that the ashes were taken to Renkoji temple.

5. From the files, it may be noted that GOI has always shown considerable caution in regard to officially taking over Netaji's ashes. This is presumably dictated by the consideration that taking over of his ashes could cause more controversy. This is a factor to be taken into account in examining Mr.Murthy's request.


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~~TOP SECRET~~

6. Mr.A.Murthy also mentioned that his mother has some personal recollection of the events in 1945 related to Netaji's ashes and the so-called INA treasure. Mr.Ramamurthy, incidentally, appears to be one of the central figures in the long controversy related to the fate of valuables which were reportedly in Netaji's possession at the time of the air crash. She was not in very good health and would like her recollection of these events recorded by a representative of the Embassy.

7. I have advised Mr.Murthy that we will revert to him on the above matters in due course.

Ambassador may kindly see.


(S. Jaishankar)
Dy.Chief of Mission
11.09.1998

Ambassador

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636/JS (CNV)/2000
23.2.00

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Most Immediate
Parliament Question

No.I/13013/43/2000-IS(D.III)
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi, the 22nd Feb., 2000

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Rajya Sabha Provisional Std. Qn.Dy.No.S000359
for 1.3.2000 by Shri P. Prabhakar Reddy M.P
on 'Enquiry Commission of Netaji.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of Rajya Sabha Question mentioned on the above subject and to request that the requisite information in so far as the same relates to your Ministry/Deptt./may be furnished to this Ministry immediately. Necessary information for possible supplementaries may also please be sent.

(part 10)

V.P. Bhatia

(V.P. Bhatia)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

1. Ministry of External Affairs [Sh. Jayant Prasad, (JS)]
South Block New Delhi.
2. Ministry of Defence [Sh. G.B. Singh Director (History Divn.)] 3/West Block-8 wing-I R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
3. Deptt. of Culture [Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, DG, National Archives], Janpath New Delhi.

Keep on file of Netaji

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PROVISIONAL ADMITTED QUESTION FOR THE
RAJYA SABHA

Order of
Preference :

Starred/Unstarred Diary No. S000359
The question will be put down for 01/03/2000
answer on the Ministry/Department HOME AFFAIRS
addressed by the Member(s)

Enquiry commission on Netaji

fs * SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the
Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has set up a commission of inquiry under the commission of inquiring Act, 1952 to unravel the mystery behind Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose disappearance from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the composition of the commission, its terms of reference and its tenure etc;
- (c) whether the Commission will be given full liberty to call for papers and witness from all over India and abroad and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the committee is likely to submit its report?

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Sanjita Parola
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~~Top Secret~~


**Ministry of External Affairs
CNV Division**

Subject: Rajya Sabha Notice for Oral Question Dy.No.001198 dated 9.2.2000 regarding declassification of files relating to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Government and INA etc.

Reference MHA U.O.13012/21/2000-IS(D.III) dated 17.2.2000 on the Question mentioned above. Material in respect of the question is as follows:

- (a) None of the files held in the custody of the Ministry of External Affairs relating to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose have been declassified. The most important of these files are currently held in the custody of the NGO Section of the Ministry of External Affairs. A listing of these files, including their number, the nature and subject of the files and their classification is attached for the information of the Ministry of Home Affairs (details may not be divulged at this stage).
- (b) Attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".

2. Government of India has made several efforts, over the years, for retrieving any available information in the possession of other countries on the Netaji's alleged disappearance, but without any success.


 Jayant Prasad
 Joint Secretary (CNV)

Ministry of Home Affairs, (Shri M.S. Zuha, Desk Officer), New Delhi
MEA U.O. No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V dated March 1, 2000

Issued
01/03/00

addressed to Ms. Sanjita Gaur, JS (S-I), MHA, N.D.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

DETAILS OF FILES ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE

S.No.	File No.	Subject	Classification
1.	25/4/NGO -Vol. I	(i) Taking over of the properties of INA in Japan (ii) Safe Custody of the ashes	TOP SECRET
2	25/4/NGO -Vol. II (LW - KW)	(i) Safe custody of the ashes in the Rankoji Temple. (ii) Participation in the memorial service (iii) Establishment of an enquiry committee to enquire into the circumstances of the alleged death of Netaji.	TOP SECRET
3.	25/4/NGO -Vol. III (LW- Annx.)	Ashes of Late Netaji in Rankoji Temple INA treasure and a printed report of Khosla Commission prepared by Shah Nawaj.	TOP SECRET
4.	25/4/NGO -Vol. IV (LW KW-I)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
5.	25/4/NGO -Vol. V (LW - KW- I & II)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
6.	25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)	Subhash Chandra Bose - (i) Resolution of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly urging an enquiry into the death of the Shri Subhash Chandra. (ii) Question in the House of the people on this subject.	TOP SECRET
7.	25/14/NGO- 52	Misc. correspondence perporing to throw light on the whereabouts of Netaji	TOP SECRET
8.	25/15/NGO- 52	Allegations about the misappropriation of INA property by Mr. Ramamurti, a former official of India Independence League of Tokyo	TOP SECRET
9.	25/16/NGO-53	Resolution passed by the West Bengal Legislation Assembly demanding Central Govt to set up a Committee both of official and non-official members to investigate into the whereabouts of the funds left by Netaji and his Azad Hind Government	TOP SECRET



~~Top Secret~~

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Jayant Prasad
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Tel. No. 301 1357
Fax No. 379 2285

(26) 383

No.25/4/NGO-Vol.V

March 1, 2000

Dear Shri. Sengupta,

I am writing apropos your letter No.JMCI/DOC/54-093 (4)/2000 of February 8, 2000 regarding particulars to be furnished in respect of records relating to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

2. Information in respect of files in the custody of the Ministry of External Affairs are attached indicating the number of the file, the nature and subject of the file and their classification.

3. These files are currently held in the custody of the NGO Section of the Ministry of External Affairs and the authority to be approached in order to obtain the files for the purpose of the inquiry of the Commission is the Foreign Secretary of India. Any proposal in this regard may be addressed to the undersigned in his capacity as MEA's nodal officer for interaction with the Commission of Inquiry.

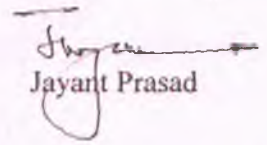
4. Government of India has made several efforts, over the years for retrieving any available information in the possession of other countries on Netaji's alleged disappearance, but without any success. For instance, attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".

2 (384)

5. As for particulars of publications on related facts and circumstances and subsequent developments, some of the MEA files do include press clippings and media reports on the subject that have appeared in recent years in certain foreign countries.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,


Jayant Prasad

Shri P.K. Sengupta
Secretary
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry
C-Block, 3rd floor
11/A Mirza Ghalib Street
Calcutta 700087

issued by
Kaly
2.3.00

385

~~TOP SECRET~~

DETAILS OF FILES ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE

S.No.	File No.	Subject	Classification
1.	25/4/NGO -Vol. I	(i) Taking over of the properties of INA in Japan (ii) Safe Custody of the ashes	TOP SECRET
2	25/4/NGO -Vol. II (LW - KW)	(i) Safe custody of the ashes in the Rankoji Temple. (ii) Participation in the memorial service (iii) Establishment of an enquiry committee to enquire into the circumstances of the alleged death of Netaji.	TOP SECRET
3.	25/4/NGO -Vol. III (LW- Annx.)	Ashes of Late Netaji in Rankoji Temple INA treasure and a printed report of Khosla Commission prepared by Shah Nawaj.	TOP SECRET
4.	25/4/NGO -Vol. IV (LW KW-I)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
5.	25/4/NGO -Vol. V (LW - KW- I & II)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
6.	25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)	Subhash Chandra Bose - (i) Resolution of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly urging an enquiry into the death of the Shri Subhash Chandra. (ii) Question in the House of the people on this subject.	TOP SECRET
7.	25/14/NGO- 52	Misc. correspondence perporting to throw light on the whereabouts of Netaji	TOP SECRET
8.	25/15/NGO- 52	Allegations about the misappropriation of INA property by Mr. Ramamurti, a former official of India Independence League of Tokyo	TOP SECRET
9.	25/16/NGO-53	Resolution passed by the West Bengal Legislation Assembly demanding Central Govt to set up a Committee both of official and non-official members to investigate into the whereabouts of the funds left by Netaji and his Azad Hind Government	TOP SECRET

717/JS(CNV)/2000
29.2.00
(381)
(25)

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

No. 1156/JS(EA)/2000
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(EUROPE EAST DIVISION)

Reference Rajya Sabha Question Dy .No.001467 from Shri Joyanta Roy, Hon'ble Member of Parliament.

2. The facts pertaining to Part (b) of this question are as follows:

(b)

✓

Attempts have been made at the official level to find out from the Russian Government whether there were documents pertaining to Netaji available with them. In response we were informed by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on January 8, 1992 that "according to the data in the Central and Republican Archives, no information whatsoever is available on the stay of former President of the Indian National Congress, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and in subsequent years". Thereafter, on September 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informed that "as a result of the investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents on Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years". The State Archive Service of the Russian Federation informed on August 4, 1997 that "the Centre for Preservation of Historical Documental Collection does not have any information on Subhash Chandra Bose".

3. As discussed with Joint Secretary(CNV) today, he may like to take charge of this Question. As further discussed, Part (a) of the Question has a wider sweep.

4. The note from the MHA and the PQ are returned herewith.

Joint Secretary (CNV)

Reply drafted
So on 1/3

(M. Ganapathi)
Joint Secretary (EE)
February 28, 2000

387


G 61/JS (CNY) 2000
24.2.00

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IS(D.III) DESK

Subject: Rajya Sabha Notice for Oral Question Dy. No. 001198 dated 9.2.2000 regarding declassification of files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Govt. and INA etc.

The above Questions reads as under:-

1. How many files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Govt and I.N.A. are yet to be declassified.?
 2. Whether Govt. has any knowledge about a few files relating to Netaji and I.N.A. as kept in the President's and K.G.B. archives of erstwhile Soviet Russia.
2. Para-wise comments on the above Question alongwith Material for Suplementaries may kindly be sent to this Ministry by return FAX.


(M.S. ZUHA)
DESK OFFICER

- ✓
1. Min. of External Affairs (Shri Jayant Prasad, JS (C&V), South Block, New Delhi.
 2. Min. of Defence (Shri G.B. Singh, Director, (History Division), 3 West Block- VIII Wing, R.K. Puram, N. Delhi.
 3. Deptt. of Culture (Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, DG), National Archives, Janpath

MHA UO No. I/13013/21/2000-IS(D.III) dated 23.2.2000

4.13
15/2/00
So - new - R

389

S80/JS (Copy) 2000
17.2.00

Immediat

NO. 13013/21/2000-IS(D.III)
GOVT. OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

New Delhi, Dated: 17.2.2000

Subject: Rajya Sabha Notice for Oral Question Dy. No. 001198 dated 9.2.2000 regarding declassification of files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Govt. and INA etc.

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith a copy of Rajya Sabha Notice No. 001198 dated 9.2.2000 on the subject noted above.

2. As the matter relating to declassification of files regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Govt. and INA and knowledge about the documents kept in the President's and K.G.B. archives of erstwhile Soviet Russia are the concern of Ministry of External Affairs, they may take over the notice for making appropriate reply in the Rajya Sabha if it is admitted. Acceptance of transfer of this Question may kindly be intimated so that Rajya Sabha Sectt. is apprised of the factual position.

(Signature)
17.2.2000
(A.K. PAITANDY)
DIRECTOR (IS-I)

M.E.A. (Shri Jayant Prasad Jt. Secy. (C&V), South Block N. Delhi.

MHA Uo No. 13013/21/2000-IS(D.III) dated 15.2.2000
17

*We spoke
Analysed if you wd. handle it.*

(Signature)
17/2

JS (copy) *u/govt*

Ac for
JS

u/govt

NOTICE OFFICE
No. 001467

RAJYA SABHA / राज्य सभा
QUESTION FOR ORAL ANSWER
मौखिक उत्तर के लिए प्रश्न

QUESTION BRANCH
S. Q. Dy. No.
Date 001198

FEB 2000

Place / स्थान
Date / दिनांक 9/2/00

FROM / से

Joyanta Roy

M.P./संसद् सदस्य

The SECRETARY-GENERAL / महासचिव,

RAJYA SABHA, NEW DELHI / राज्य सभा, नई दिल्ली।

SIR / MADAM, महोदय/महोदया,

Under Rule 39 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I give notice of the following Questions
प्रश्न राज्या सभा कार्य संचालन संबंधी नियमों के नियम, 39 के अंतर्गत, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रश्न की सूचना देता हूँ जिसका मौखिक
for oral answer on / उत्तर 8th March 2000 को दिया जाये।

Yours Faithfully / भवदीय,

Joyanta Roy
Member / सदस्य

Division No. / विभाजन सं.

Order of reference / प्राथमिकता क्रम

Will the Minister of Home affairs be pleased to state :

.....मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- ① How many files relating to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Azad Hind Govt and I.N.A are yet to be declassified?
- ② Whether Govt. has any knowledge about a few files relating to Netaji and I.N.A are kept in the archives of President's ~~to be~~ and K.G.B. archives of erst-while Soviet Russia?

95 (ISI)
AR (ISI)
D(11)

~~IDENTIAL~~

1399/12014/4/3
1572 489/JS (CNY) 2000
10.2.00
Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry

From: Shri P.K. Sengupta,
WBHJS

Secretary.

for inquiry into the alleged disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
'C' Block (3rd floor)

11/A Mirza Ghalib Street, Calcutta-700 087

Phone No. 216-2767
Fax No. 216-2765

D.O. No. JMCI/Doc./54-093(4)/2000

REC'D.

(24)
Calcutta, dated, the 8th Feb., 2000.

Dear *Shri Prasad,*

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter no.F.no.1/12014/4/3/99-IS(D.III) dated 1.2.2000 of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, on the subject "Records relating to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose". The letter speaks for itself.

I am now directed to request you to kindly furnish the Commission with a list of files relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments therewith. These files are considered by the Commission to be very relevant and vital to the matters referred to the Commission for Inquiry.

The following particulars may kindly be furnished in respect of the files :-

- i) No. of the file.
- ii) Nature of the file.
- iii) Subject of the file.
- iv) Present state of the file.
- v) Present custody of the file.
- vi) Authority to be approached in order to get the file for the purpose of the Inquiry of the Commission.
- vii) If any of the relevant files is in the possession or under the control of the Government of any foreign country or countries, what are the steps to be taken to ensure production of the files before the Commission.
- viii) Particulars of publications relating to any of the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments therewith.

Considering the importance and urgency of the matter, I am directed to request you to kindly furnish the information asked for as early as possible.

With *Regards,*

Enclo:As stated.

Yours *Sincerely,*
P. K. Sengupta
(P. K. Sengupta)

To
Shri Jayant Prasad,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi-110 011.

*Copy
P. K. Sengupta has in
now on the subject.*

*Shri Jayant Prasad - 14/2
14/2*

(391)
(BY FAX)MOST IMMEDIATE

F. No. I/12014/3/99-IS(B.III)

Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi, 1st February, 2000

To,

Shri P.K. Sengupta,
Secretary, Justice Mukherjee Commission of
Inquiry
Calcutta. (Fax No. 033-2162765)Subject:-Records relating to the alleged disappearance
of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

.....

Sir,

During his meeting with the Union Home Secretary on 28th January, 2000 at 12.30 Noon Hon'ble Chairman referred to the issue of availability of records relating to the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It was explained to Hon'ble Chairman that the issue has already been taken up with the Ministries of External Affairs, Defence and Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Culture) and these Ministries have nominated an Officer each as a Nodal Officer who maybe contacted by the Commission for any information relating to records or clarification relating thereto.

2. According to the information received from these Ministries, the details about the Nodal Officers are as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Ministry	Name & designation of the Officer	Tel. No.
1.	Ministry of External Affairs	Shri Jayant Prasad Joint Secretary South Block, New Delhi- 110011	3011357
2.	Ministry of Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Culture)	Dr. Sukumar Sarkar, Director General, National Archives Janpath, New Delhi	3383436 0091-11-3384127
3.	Ministry of Defence	Shri G.B. Singh Director (History Division, 3/West Block-8, Wing-I, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.	610 2067

3. It is requested that any requirement relating to records having a bearing on different aspects of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose may be routed through these officers.

Yours faithfully,


(V.P. Bhatia)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

T. 22937/1007/99
17/8

~~TOP SECRET~~

D.O. No. I/12014/3/99-IS(D.III)

SANGITA GAIROLA

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

संयुक्त सचिव

JOINT SECRETARY /IS-I

Tel. 301 5736

NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI.

Date : 16.08.1999

(समाप्त १७)

Dear Shri Balakrishnan,

Kindly refer to your D.O. letter No. 25/4/NGO- Vol.V dated 09.06.1999 seeking clarification about the type of documents Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry would need to see.

2. This Ministry would shortly inform the Commission about the name, designation and telephone nos. of Nodal Officers in the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence and Deptt. of Culture. Whenever the Commission decides to call for certain files/documents, a decision has to be taken by the concerned administrative Ministry as to what safeguards should be taken by the Commission with a view to preserve the confidentiality of those documents.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sangita Gairola

(SANGITA GAIROLA)

Shri B. Balakrishnan,
Joint Secretary (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
South Block
New Delhi.

(2)
17/8
So (CNV)
in JM
15/8

(393)

(22)

~~TOP SECRET~~

B.BALAKRISHNAN
JOINT SECRETARY(CNV)
Telephone: 301 1357

No. 25/4/NGO – Vol. V

June 9, 1999

Dear

Please refer to your letter No. I/12014/3/99-IS(D.III) dated 14.05.99 on the **Commission of Inquiry** to inquire into the alleged disappearance of **Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**.

In the capacity of nodal officer appointed by my Ministry, I am enclosing herewith a list of files (indicating grading and the subject) available with us on the subject.

We shall be grateful if; you could clarify more precisely the type of documents the Commission would need to see. It may also be noted that certain documents are classified and their confidentiality needs to be preserved.

Yours sincerely,



(B.BALAKRISHNAN)



Shri Nikhil Kumar,
Special Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, New Delhi.

issued MKR
11/6

394

~~TOP SECRET~~

DETAILS OF FILES ON NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDER BOSE

S.No.	File No.	Subject	Classification
1.	25/4/NGO -Vol. I	(i) Taking over of the properties of INA in Japan (ii) Safe Custody of the ashes	TOP SECRET
2	25/4/NGO -Vol. II (LW - KW)	(i) Safe custody of the ashes in the Rankoji Temple. (ii) Participation in the memorial service (iii) Establishment of an enquiry committee to enquire into the circumstances of the alleged death of Netaji.	TOP SECRET
3.	25/4/NGO -Vol. III (LW- Annx.)	Ashes of Late Netaji in Rankoji Temple INA treasure and a printed report of Khosla Commission prepared by Shah Nawaj.	TOP SECRET
4.	25/4/NGO -Vol. IV (LW KW-I)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
5.	25/4/NGO -Vol. V (LW - KW- I & II)	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (i.e. Ashes and Treasure Box)	TOP SECRET
6.	25/13/NGO - 52 (LW - KW)	Subhash Chandra Bose - (i) Resolution of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly urging an enquiry into the death of the Shri Subhash Chandra. (ii) Question in the House of the people on this subject.	TOP SECRET
7.	25/14/NGO- 52	Misc. correspondence perporting to throw light on the whereabouts of Netaji	TOP SECRET
8.	25/15/NGO- 52	Allegations about the misappropriation of INA property by Mr. Ramamurti, a former official of India Independence League of Tokyo	TOP SECRET
9.	25/16/NGO-53	Resolution passed by the West Bengal Legislation Assembly demanding Central Govt to set up a Committee both of official and non-official members to investigate into the whereabouts of the funds left by Netaji and his Azad Hind Government	TOP SECRET



395

विदेश सचिव
विदेश मन्त्रालय, नई दिल्ली-110011
FOREIGN SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI-110011

(21)

No. 5889 /FS/99

18th May, 1999

Dear Shri Nikhil Kumar,

3260/NAG/99

24/5

smo.20

Please refer to your letter No. I/12014/3/99-
IS(D.III), dated May 14, 1999, on the Commission
of Inquiry appointed to inquire into the alleged
disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
MEA will take action as required. The nodal
officer here will be Shri B.Balakrishnan, Joint
Secretary (CNV) – Tel. No. 3011357. He may be
contacted by the Commission for any information
or clarification.

हार्दिक श्रद्धांजलि

Yours sincerely,

(K.Raghunath)

Shri Nikhil Kumar,
Special Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block,
New Delhi.

for info by 18/5

on file ps 12/21/5

so (NAG/S) - sm



NIKHIL KUMAR
विशेष सचिव
SPECIAL SECRETARY

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

New Delhi
the 14th May, 1999.

Dear *Shri Raghunath,*

Government of India had decided to appoint a Commission of Inquiry under Section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to enquire into the alleged disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. A retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India has since been nominated to preside over the Commission. A copy of the relevant notification would be sent to you as soon as it is issued.

2. Since the Commission is to complete the inquiry in a period of six months we need to have readily available records relevant to the subject matter of the Inquiry.

3. I shall, therefore, be grateful if you kindly instruct the concerned officers to collect such documents and send us within a week a list of these. Also, since the Inquiry would involve consultations with concerned Ministries, I request you to kindly nominate, and send us the name of, a nodal officer in your Ministry who could be contacted whenever needed by the Commission for any information or clarification.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
14 May 99

(NIKHIL KUMAR)

Shri K. Raghunath,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block, NEW DELHI.

dr JM



भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii)

PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० 252]
No. 252]

नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, मई 14, 1999/वैशाख 24, 1921
NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1999/VAISAKHA 24, 1921

गृह मंत्रालय

अधिसूचना

नई दिल्ली, 14 मई, 1999

का.आ. 339(अ).—नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के 16 अगस्त, 1945 के आसपास बैंकक से प्रस्थान करने और एक विमान दुर्घटना के परिणामस्वरूप उनकी कथित मृत्यु तथा उससे जुड़े अनुवर्ती घटनाक्रम से संबद्ध स्थितियों की जांच करने तथा भारत सरकार को इसकी रिपोर्ट देने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा कमरा: अप्रैल, 1956 तथा जुलाई, 1970 में गठित शाइनवाग्न समिति तथा सोसला जांच आयोग के निष्कर्ष यह थे कि नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु एक विमान दुर्घटना में हुई है;

और जनता की यह व्यापक धारणा है कि नेताजी जी की मृत्यु के बारे में सच्चाई का पता लगाने का मुद्दा अभी भी यथावत् है ;

और इस मामले में आगे और जांच करने की निरंतर मांग रही है ;

और कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय ने भी भारत सरकार को यह निदेश दिया है कि इस विवाद को समाप्त करने के प्रयोजन के लिए विधि के अनुसार विस्तृत जांच करवाई जाए, यदि आवश्यक हो तो इस प्रयोजन के लिए जांच आयोग का गठन किया जाए ;

(1)

और पश्चिम बंगाल विधान सभा द्वारा 24.12.1998 को एक संकल्प पारित किया गया जिसमें नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के पते-ठिकाने का रहस्योद्घाटन करने के लिए इस मामले में न सिरे से जांच की मांग की गई है ;

और केन्द्रीय सरकार का यह मत है कि सार्वजनिक महत्त्व के निश्चित मामला, अर्थात् 1945 में नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के गायब हो जाने की गहन जांच करने के प्रयोजन से एक जांच आयोग गठित किया जाना आवश्यक है ;

अतः, अब केन्द्रीय सरकार, जांच आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 §1952 का 60§ की धारा 3 की उपधारा §1§और §2§ द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए एक जांच आयोग गठित करती है, जिसमें भारत के उच्चतम न्यायालय के सेवा निवृत्त न्यायमूर्ति श्री एम0के0 मुखर्जी होंगे ।

2. आयोग 1945 में नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के लापता होने से संबंधित सभी तथ्यों और परिस्थितियों और इससे संबंधित पश्चत्तर्ती घटनाओं की जांच करेगा जिसमें निम्नलिखित भी हैं :--

§क§ क्या नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु हो गई है या वे जीवित हैं;

§ख§ यदि उनकी मृत्यु हो गई है तो क्या विमान दुर्घटना में उनकी मृत्यु हुई है जैसा कि अधिकथित है ;

§ग§ क्या जापान के मन्दिर में जो अस्थियां हैं, वह नेताजी की ही अस्थियां हैं ;

§घ§ क्या उनकी मृत्यु किसी अन्य प्रकार से किसी अन्य स्थान पर हुई है और यदि ऐसा है, तो वह कब और कैसे हुई ;

§ङ§ यदि वह जीवित हैं, तो उनके ठौर-ठिकाने के संबंध में जानकारें ।

3 आयोग उस तरीके की भी जांच करेगा जिसमें ऐसे प्रकाशनों की, जिनमें नेताजी की मृत्यु या अन्यथा दुर्घटना होने के प्रश्न अन्तर्वलित हैं, जांच पड़ताल का कार्य केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा इन परिस्थितियों में आरंभ किया जा सकता है ।

4. आयोग, अपनी रिपोर्ट केन्द्रीय सरकार को, यथाशीघ्र, किन्तु इस अधिसूचना के प्रकारान की तारीख से छह मास के भीतर प्रस्तुत करेगा ।

5. आयोग का मुख्यालय नई दिल्ली में और/अथवा अन्य किसी स्थान पर होगा जैसा आयोग निर्धारित करे ।

6. केन्द्रीय सरकार की राय है कि मामले की अन्य परिस्थितियों और की जाने वाली जांच के स्वरूप को ध्यान में रखते हुए जांच आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 §1952 का 60§ की धारा 5

की उप धारा § 2§, उप धारा § 3§, उप धारा § 4§ और उप धारा § 5§ के सभी उपबंध उक्त आयोग को लागू किए जाने चाहिए और केन्द्रीय सरकार उक्त धारा 5 की उप धारा § 1§ द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए यह निदेश देती है कि उस धारा की उक्त उप धारा § 2§ से § 5§ तक के सभी उपबंध आयोग को लागू होंगे ।

[फा. सं. VI/11034/18/98-आई.एस.(डी-III)]

निखिल कुमार, विशेष सचिव

MINISTRY OF AFFAIRS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 14th May, 1999

S.O. 339(E).— Whereas the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee and the Khosla Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Government of India in April, 1956 and July, 1970 respectively to inquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his reported death as a result of an air craft accident, and subsequent developments connected therewith had come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose met his death in an air crash;

And, whereas there is a wide spread feeling among the public that the issue of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains;

And, whereas there has been a consistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter;

And, whereas the Calcutta High Court also directed the Government of India for a vigorous inquiry in accordance with Law, if necessary, by appointing a Commission of Inquiry for the purpose of giving an end to this controversy;

And, whereas a Motion was adopted on 24.12.1998 by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly wherein a demand has been made for a fresh inquiry into the matter to remove the mystery regarding the whereabouts of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;

And whereas the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary to appoint a Commission of Inquiry for the purpose of making an indepth inquiry into a definite matter of a public importance, namely, the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952(60 of 1952), the Central Government hereby appoints a Commission of Inquiry consisting of Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India.

2. The Commission shall inquire into all the facts and circumstances related to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith including:-

- (a) whether Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead or alive;
- (b) if he is dead, whether he died in the plane crash, as alleged;
- (c) whether the ashes in the Japanese temple are ashes of Netaji;
- (d) whether he has died in any other manner at any other place and, if so, when and how;
- (e) if he is alive, in respect of his whereabouts.

3. The Commission shall also examine the manner in which the exercise of Scrutiny of Publications touching upon the question of death or otherwise of Netaji can be undertaken by the Central Government in the circumstances.

4. The Commission shall submit its report to the Central Government as soon as possible but not later than six months from the date of publication of this notification.

5. The headquarters of the Commission shall be at New Delhi, and/or any other place as determined by the Commission.

6. The Central Government is of the opinion that, having regard to the nature of the inquiry to be made and other circumstances of the case, all the provisions of sub-section(2), sub-section(3), sub-section(4) and sub-section(5) of section 5 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 (60 of 1952) should be made applicable to the said Commission and the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section(1) of the said section 5, hereby directs that all the provisions of the said sub-sections (2) to (5) of that section shall apply to the Commission.

[F. No. VI/11034/18/98-IS(D.III)]

NIKHIL KUMAR, Spl. Secy.

(901) (19)

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23/3 20/3

~~URGENT~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Reference Ambassador Lambah's letter No.Bon/Amb/98-5(c) dated 3 March 1998 regarding the transfer of the ashes of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose to India.

2. The facts of the case and views of MEA are urgently requested.

P.P. Shukla

(P.P. Shukla)

Joint Secretary (PMO)

20 Mar 98

✓ Foreign Secretary

PMO U.O. No. G-12 (3)/98-NR 0

dated 20-3-98

(P) examined

G-12 (3) (EA)

On file M.

As directed H.

(402)



AMBASSADOR OF INDIA

ADENAUERALLEE 262-264
53113 BONN

TEL.: 54 05 11 3 + 54 05 11 4

FAX: 54 05 15 4

TELEX: 8869 301

No. Bon/Amb/98- 5 (C)

March 3, 1998

My dear Principal Secretary,

Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Pfaff, daughter of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, had dinner with me at my residence yesterday. She handed over a letter addressed to the Prime Minister. I enclose the original letter along with a copy. The main point made in the letter is that she is agreeable for bringing the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

2 The subject of the return of ashes has been discussed informally with Prof. Anita Pfaff for some time.

3 On instructions from the then External Affairs Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I had been asked to ascertain the views of Prof. Anita Pfaff. She and her husband Dr. Martin Pfaff, who is a Member of Parliament, came to my house on 28th September, 1995 for dinner. I found that both of them were in favour of return of the ashes to India but, at that time, did not take any categorical stand.

4 Later, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then External Affairs Minister transited through Germany on October 21, 1995 to meet Prof. Anita Pfaff. I accompanied him to Augsburg. He had a long discussion with Prof. Anita Pfaff in which different viewpoints were expressed. While she was favourably inclined to return of the ashes, she was not sure about the timings. Some family members advised her that it may be preferable to get them after Netaji's centenary year celebrations were over in India. We also met her mother Mrs. Emilie Schenkl-Bose.

5 A few months later, Mrs. Emilie Schenkl-Bose passed away in March, 1996. I accompanied the then Minister of State for Finance Mr. Debiprosad Pal to Augsburg for the funeral on 18th March, 1996.

6 Prof. Anita Pfaff was invited by the then EAM to visit India but the visit was postponed on account of her ill-health. When Netaji's centenary celebrations started, no invitation was initially issued to Prof. Anita Pfaff. However, when we came to know that Mrs. Jyotsna Bose was being invited as her son lives in Hamburg (she lives in Calcutta) and the invitation was, by mistake, sent to the Embassy. We got in touch with the Ministry of Culture who immediately sent an invitation to Prof. Anita Pfaff but she could not attend due to the short notice.

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7 PM. when he was EAM, transited through Frankfurt on 9th February, 1997. He asked me to renew the invitation extended by his predecessor to Prof. Anita Pfaff. Subsequently, Prof. Anita Pfaff visited India in March/April, 1997 and again in January, 1998. She met the President and PM. The enclosed letter to PM, she told me, is a continuation of the discussions she had with PM in Delhi on January 25, 1998..

8 During the discussions yesterday, Prof. Anita Pfaff told me :

- (i) Amongst the family members, she had so far only consulted Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose. After the letter reaches PM, she would be informing some other members. She still expects that some of them would oppose the move but she felt her decision will have a positive impact on the family.
- (ii) She was keen that there is a national consensus among the political parties on this subject.
- (iii) As regards the timing, in case a positive decision is taken by the Government, she felt that some date in the second half of the year could be considered for bringing the ashes to India.
- (iv) In that eventuality, she would like detailed consultations by the Government of India with the Japanese authorities, particularly the Priests at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo.
- (v) She was appreciative of the two seminars on Netaji held by the Embassy as a part of 50th anniversary celebrations of India's Independence. (The first one was on June 7, 1997 organised by the Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin and the second seminar was on 16th February, 1998 in Frankfurt where Netaji's associates Col. Gurbakhsh Singh Dhillon and Col. Lakshmi Sehgal were the Guests of Honour).

9 I shall be grateful if you could kindly get Dr. Pfaff's letter examined. We can subsequently inform her of the decision which is taken.

10 I am sending a copy of this letter, along with the enclosure, to Foreign Secretary.

Warm regards
Yours sincerely,
Satinder Lambah
(Satinder K. Lambah)

Shri N.N. Vohra,
Principal Secretary to PM
PMO,
New Delhi

Copy, with a copy of the enclosure, to Shri K. Raghunath, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

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Prof. Dr. Anita B. Pfaff

Haldenweg 23

D-86391 Stadtbergen

Federal Republic of Germany

Tel.: 0049-821-434812

Fax.: 0049-821-438807 or 432531

To
His Excellency
The Prime Minister of India
Mr. I. K. Gujral
Prime Minister's House
7, Race Course
New Delhi
India

By Diplomatic Bag

February 24, 1998

Respected Prime Minister,

Following up on our conversation during my last visit to New Delhi on January 25th, 1998, I would like to address myself to you in writing – and through you to the Government of India – with regard to the question of establishing a suitable memorial for my father Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and finding an honourable and satisfactory settlement to the somewhat controversial question of the return of his ashes from Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, Japan to India.

I was very pleased that my father's birth centenary was celebrated in all parts of India and many projects were initiated in his memory and in his name in the course of these celebrations. I am particularly grateful to the Government of India and the State Governments as well as to many groups and the people of India in general who helped make these functions and activities memorable and dignified occasions in Netaji's honour. I do hope that in the course and sequence of his birth centenary some public funding for the collection and preservation of documents referring to my father's efforts in the struggle for India's independence could also be assured. So far it had, after all, largely been the private activity and voluntary work of members of the Netaji Research Bureau which was motivated by the wish to obtain historically important documents before they got lost or destroyed by the passage of time.

I am aware that one reason for not providing a memorial to my father of a similar quality as, for example, for Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was to be found in the controversy about the circumstances of my father's death. As you know, even now some people are not even willing to admit to the fact that – after 101 years – he is no longer alive, leave alone to accept the circumstances of his reported death.

While it is true that some inconsistencies exist in the reports of the air crash at Taihoku Airport in August 1945, in which he was reported to have died, this is not too surprising – given the fact, that those days at the end of World War II in the Far East must have been traumatic and confusing days of turmoil. It is also understandable that following the first reports of this plane crash many people, including my mother and my uncle Sarat Chandra Bose, thought that in view of his previous escapes (from house arrest in Calcutta to Germany and by submarine from Germany to the Far East) this may be but another one of his fantastic get-aways. Ultimately their great affection for him let them hope that he had survived and would yet again return to India.

As time passed this became less and less likely. What would have kept him from returning to India after India attained independence? In my opinion but one alternative could have accounted for such a sequence of history: That one explanation would have been his escape to the Soviet Union and his

death on the way there or his execution or imprisonment and subsequent death in a Soviet concentration camp. Since after the opening of the Soviet archives no such evidence has been found to my knowledge, it should be evident also to those who have harboured doubts about the validity of the reports on the plane crash, that the probability approaches certainty that he died in this event as a martyr for his country's freedom. In this act he made the ultimate sacrifice by giving his life, which he had risked over and over in his non-violent as well as his armed struggle for India's freedom.

His Japanese comrades-in-arms have maintained his ashes in Tokyo, honoured him and paid homage to him. It is their wish that his ashes be returned to India with due honour, in line with their religious beliefs. Furthermore they are concerned that after their demise there would be nobody to care for his memory in Japan. I know that there have been some people in India – including members of my family – who did not wish the Government to take such an action, as, for a variety of reasons, they did not accept the reports of his death following the plane crash at Taihoku as factual. Even these people, who persist in their doubt, should, however, be able to accept the transfer of his ashes from Tokyo to India as a token of respect to his memory and a symbol of his sacrifice and martyrdom for India.

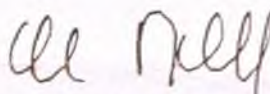
I therefore request the Government of India to make arrangements to have the reported ashes of my father returned from Tokyo to his homeland, especially to Delhi, which after all was the goal of his INA campaign. The ashes should then be immersed in the Ganges or parts of the ashes in different rivers of India. I am quite willing to participate with my husband and my children in the process of transferring the ashes – paying due respect to Japanese customs, whatever they may be. (If, for example, according to Japanese rites a male descendent should physically carry the ashes, my sons could do so.)

Furthermore I request the Government of India to erect, in the near future, a memorial in Delhi to my father's memory in line with the importance of his contribution to India's struggle for independence. By now historical evidence shows, I believe beyond doubt, that not only can his and the Indian National Army's efforts be saluted as heroic and selfsacrificing, but that the political effect of their actions was a major factor in destabilizing Britain's hold on India and thereby prominently contributed towards India's attaining independence.

Even though I do not know at this stage how the new government will be composed, following the ongoing elections, I hope that this request will be honoured by whoever may be forming the new government. It is furthermore my sincerest wish that all political parties of India could join together in this effort, irrespective of their political programmes. Moreover, potential controversy on account of the diminishing number of persons opposed to a transfer of Netaji's ashes should best be faced jointly and not exploited individually. I am certainly willing to bear my share of the responsibility for such action. It is my belief that Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose who is not only the founder-director of the Netaji Research Bureau but also the eldest surviving male member of my generation of the Bose family, will fully agree with my proposal. I would, however, find it most deplorable, should some political groups dishonour Netaji's memory and contribution, by creating a petty controversy for possibly selfish reasons.

With many thanks and respectful regards, Jai Hind!

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Dr. Anita B. Pfaff



बाल्मीकि प्रसाद सिंह
B. P. Singh

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सचिव
भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
संस्कृति विभाग
नई दिल्ली - ११० ००१
SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE
NEW DELHI - 110 001

7 December 1996

Dear Sani Haider,

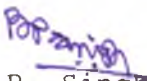
Prime Minister has desired to have a meeting of the Floor Leaders of both Houses of Parliament on Monday the 9 December 1996 at 3 PM in Room No.9, Parliament House to discuss matters relating to the birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Among other things, the urgency for convening this meeting at such a short notice arose out of a mention during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha on 4 December 1996 of the following:

- (a) That the Government should immediately announce its plan of action regarding celebration of birth centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- (b) That the Government should declare 23rd January as a National Holiday to pay homage to Netaji.
- (c) That the Government should investigate into the circumstances leading to Netaji's death in a Plane Crash with a view to resolve the controversy once for all.

Since item (b)/(c) relates to your Ministry, I shall be grateful if you kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting and present there your Ministry's point of view for the facility of a decision.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(B.P. Singh)

Shri S. Haider,
Foreign Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block,
New Delhi.

(17) 407

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Sub-Committee
of the National Committee to celebrate the Birth
Anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose held
on 25th October, 1996 at 4.00 P.M. in Room No. 301,
'C' Wing, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi

The first meeting of the Sub-Committee of the National Committee to celebrate the Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was held under the chairmanship of the Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD) on 25th October, 1996 at 4.00 P.M. The following attended the meeting:-

- (i) HRM in-Chair
- (ii) Capt. Laxmi Sehgal
- (iii) Shri Shashi Bhushan
- (iv) Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose
- (v) Shri B.P. Singh, Secretary(C)
- (vi) Shri V.K. Majotra, Addl. Secretary(I&B)
- (vii) Shri R.L. Sudhir, Addl. Secretary
Sectt. for 50th Anniversary of India's Independence
- (viii) Smt. Kasturi Gupta Menon
Joint Secretary, Department of Culture
- (ix) Shri Ravi Kant Chopra,
Director, Department of Culture

HRM welcomed the members and requested Secretary(C) to brief them about the position. Secretary(C) recalled that the meeting of the National Committee was held on 5th December, 1995 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister in which the following important decisions were taken:

- a. The Birth Centenary Celebrations would commence from 23rd January, 1997 and continue for one year.
- b. A sub-Committee would be constituted under the chairmanship of Minister of Human Resource Development to chalk out the action plan.

The Agenda Items were then taken up seriatim and the following decisions were taken:

1. Organisation of Inaugural Function

It was decided that a function would be organised at the Red Fort on 23rd January, 1997 (preferably in the morning) to be telecast live

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on Doordarshan. Capt. Laxmi Sehgal and Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose assured that they would furnish to the Department a list of persons who should be invited to this function.

2. Issue of Commemorative Stamp

It was decided that a commemorative stamp should be released on 23rd January, 1997 and a request in this regard should be sent immediately to the Department of Posts.

3. Issue of Commemorative Coin

It was decided that a commemorative gold coin and another coin for circulation shall be issued in the memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. A request in this regard should be sent to the Department of Economic Affairs.

4. Telecast of a Film

During the discussion, reference was made to a 58-minute biographical film 'Netaji and India's Freedom' by Sugata Bose, Arze Hukumate Azad Hind, Ittefaq Ittemad Qurbani and other material available with the Doordarshan.

It was decided that a Committee comprising of Shri V.K. Majotra, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; Shri Ashok Vajpeyi, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture; Smt. Kasturi Gupta Menon, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture and Shri Ravi Kant Chopra, Director, Department of Culture would watch the films suggested by the members as also other material available with Doordarshan and would select the best amongst these for being telecast during the centenary year on Doordarshan Network. The Chairman emphasised that the aim should be to rekindle the spirit of freedom struggle among younger generations.

5. Publication of Biography

It was decided that Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose's book published by National Book Trust should be released in different languages in regional capitals at different timings during the centenary year.

As regards publication of ~~essays~~ writings of Netaji, a comprehensive proposal in this behalf should be sent by the Netaji Research for the consideration of the Department.

6. Involvement of School Children/Youth

It was decided that the Department of Culture and the Department of Youth Affairs & Sports would jointly work out details of the programmes to be organised (involving youth) as a part of the birth centenary celebrations.

7. Creation of Museum in Andaman

It was decided that instead of setting up a museum in Andamans, the Red Fort Museum should be strengthened during the centenary year.

8. Renaming of Fort William, Calcutta

Considering the historic significance of the Fort as also taking into account the objections made to such a proposal by the historians, it was decided to drop this proposal.

9. Renaming of Dehradun Military Academy

The Committee unanimously agreed not to pursue this suggestion and accordingly the item was dropped.

10. Declaration of 23rd January, 1998 as a National Holiday

Considering the philosophy of Netaji who always believed in action -Karma- it was decided not to declare any day as a National Holiday. However, a circular could be issued to the offices and educational institutions requesting them to allow the interested persons to attend the function on 23rd January, 1997/1998.

11. Establishment of Netaji Bal Sena Vidyalaya at Moirang

It was decided that HRM should write to the Chief Minister, Manipur and seek his advice regarding the feasibility of setting up an academic institution in Manipur in the memory of Netaji.

12. Establishment of Netaji Research Institute for the South East Asian Studies

It was decided that the advice of the State Government should be taken in this regard.

The following Supplementary Agenda Items were also discussed during the meeting:

1. Proposals from the Institute for Socialist Education

- (i) The Ministry of Defence would be requested to hand over to the National Archives of India the record kept by the Historic Wing of that Ministry.
- (ii) Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose and other member may give list of civilians of Singapore, Burma, Thailand and Japan to be invited for the function to be held in connection with the Birth Centenary Celebration of Netaji which will be considered.
- (iii) Joint Secretary, Department of Culture will make necessary enquiries with Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and officers of Reserve Bank of India to find out about the deposits/funds of Azad Hind Bank.
- (iv) Efforts would be made to take possession of 'Baoli' and 'Cells' in the Red Fort by the Archaeological Survey of India before 23-1-1997.
- (v) Secretary, Department of Culture would write to Ministry of Home Affairs for furnishing information about the Martyrs of Azad Hind Fauj.
- (vi) It would be suggested to the Ministry of Defence to name the regiments of the Armed Forces after the names of National Heroes & Martyrs instead of the prevalent system of nomenclature related to caste/community.
- (vii) To a proposal made by Shri Shashi Bhushan for publication of musical notations of INA songs compiled by Capt. Ram Singh of Lucknow, it was decided that Shri Shashi Bhushan may send a detailed proposal in this regard for consideration of the Department.

2. Proposal received from the State Government of West Bengal for a display of INA theme in the Central Space opposite to the Rostrum in the Republic Day Parade.

It was decided that the Government of West Bengal could be permitted to display INA theme in the Central space opposite the Rostrum in the Republic Day Parade to be held in 1997 only and the Ministry of Defence should be informed immediately about this.

3. Important communications recieved recently

The Committee took note of all the communications and took the following decisions:

- (i) The Government of West Bengal should be advised to finance its centenary celebrations out of its own resources because, otherwise, the Central Government would be flooded with similar requests for other State Governments also.
- (ii) Prof. Samar Guha and Shri S. Nijilingappa should be included as members of the sub-committee of the National Committee.
- (iii) After considering the proposals of the Netaji Research Bureau, HRM assured the Committee that he would discuss the matter personally with the Prime Minister with regard to their request for a grant of Rs.6.25 crore for development of Netaji Bhawan etc. However, their proposal regarding a Mobile Exhibition on Rails should be examined and put up to the HRM for decision.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
TO COMMEMORATE THE BIRTH CENTENARY OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA
BOSE HELD ON 5.12.95 AT 5.00 PM AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE
UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PRIME MINISTER

The first meeting of the 'National Committee to commemorate the Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose' was held in Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi on 5th December, 1995 at 5.00 PM under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The following were present:-

1. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, PM ... Chairman
2. Shri Madhavrao Scindia, HRM
3. Shri Pranab Mukherjee
4. Shri Sikander Bakht
5. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee
6. Shri Madan Lal Khurana, Chief Minister of Delhi
7. Shri Mohamed Shafi Qureshi, Governor, Madhya Pradesh
8. Shri K.V. Raghunatha Reddy, Governor, West Bengal.
9. Dr. Najma Heptullah
10. Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi, MOS(PMO)
11. Col. Rao Ram Singh
12. Shri Chandrasekhar
13. Shri Chitta Basu
14. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta
15. Shri Somnath Chatterjee

- 16. Shri Indrajit Gupta
- 17. Ms. Mamta Banerjee
- 18. Shri Murli Manohar Joshi
- 19. Shri Syed Shahabuddin
- 20. Shri S.N. Dwivedy
- 21. Shri Samar Guha
- 22. Shri Shashi Bhushan
- 23. Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee
- 24. Shri B.P. Singh, ... Member-Secretary

2. At the outset, HRM welcomed PM and other honourable members of the National Committee and remarked that Netaji's name has become synonymous with courage, dynamism and sacrifice. He enjoyed a towering status among the front-rankers of our freedom struggle. He added that a number of suggestions have been received both from members and others and have been listed in the agenda papers. He felt that there was sufficient time to plan a befitting programme for centenary celebrations and looked forward to the advice and guidance in this matter from the Prime Minister and other members.

3. PM in his brief remarks said that the programme for the centenary celebrations should emphasise aspects which are of lasting nature with a view to make future generations imbibe Netaji's personality and vision. He thought that one or more sub-committees should be set up which could look into all the suggestions and give a final shape to the programme. PM also clarified that in keeping with the past practice followed by the Government of India in respect of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the birth centenaries of

Shri Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, Shri Morarji Desia, Shri V.V. Giri etc. the celebrations for Netaji would commence from 23rd January, 1997 on which the birth centenary actually falls and would continue for one year thereafter.

4. After a brief discussion, the National Committee reached the consensus that the birth centenary celebrations should start from 23rd January, 1997 and the position regarding this may be clarified to the general public so that there was no confusion.

5. Upon a point being raised, PM clarified that for the deliberations of the Committee and action on its recommendations, the set procedure would be followed and that, after a concrete programme emerged, the necessary funds for it would be provided.

6. The various members gave the following suggestions:-

- (1) After adequate research, all aspects, facts and events relating to Netaji must be incorporated and a comprehensive picture of his life, struggle and achievements should emerge.
- (2) The programmes to be undertaken should be constructive in nature and must have a lasting value.
- (3) The idea of setting-up a Netaji Foundation should be explored.

- (4) The land in front of the Red-Fort, presently under the occupation of the Defence Ministry, could be made available for construction of a suitable memorial including a Saheed Minar for Netaji.
- (5) The building within the Red Fort in which trial of INA soldiers took place has not yet been handed-over nor the 'bowri'. These, along with any records, that the Defence Ministry may have, should be handed-over to the Museum authorities of Red Fort.
- (6) The INA fund which was taken over by the Reserve Bank of India should be made available to fund the proposed Foundation.
- (7) A year-long programme should be chalked out carefully covering all the important aspects of Netaji's life and personality.
- (8) A university may be set-up in the memory of Netaji.
- (9) Instead of an Institute of Martial Arts, an Institute of Culture and National Integration be set-up to commemorate Netaji.
- (10) The proposed foundation, if set-up, could devote itself to international understanding.
- (11) A brief but authentic life story of Netaji should be incorporated suitably in the school text-books in all parts of the country.

- (12) Some of the ex-INA personnel, who have migrated to Pakistan but are still alive, may be invited to India during the centenary celebrations of Netaji.
- (13) The various suggestions received should be looked into by a sub-committee and it should have the authority to appoint Working Groups to take care of specific areas.
- (14) All State Governments/Union Territories to be requested to organise centenary celebrations in a suitable manner in their respective areas..
- (15) Since INA and Netaji were closely related with Andaman & Nicobar Islands, a museum of INA may be created in Andamans.
- (16) Both in Haripura and Tripuri, suitable memorials for Netaji may be constructed.

7. The National Committee unanimously decided that a Working Committee under the chairmanship of HRM may be constituted. The Committee also authorised PM to nominate fifteen members on this Working Committee. It would have the authority to set-up other sub-

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committees, if required.

8. The National Committee also unanimously decided to drop sub-item No.45 of Agenda Item No.2.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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Composition of the National Committee for Celebrating
the Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

1. Prime Minister Chairman
2. Minister of Human Resource Development Working Chairman
3. Shri Chandra Shekhar, Former Prime Minister Member
4. Shri V.P. Singh, Former Prime Minister Member
5. Shri I.K. Gujral
Minister of External Affairs Member
6. Shri Indrajit Gupta
Minister of Home Affairs Member
7. Shri C.M. Ibrahim
Minister of Information &
Broadcasting Member
8. Shri M. Arunachalam
Minister of Labour Member
9. Shri Beni Prasad Verma
Minister of Communications Member
10. Minister of State for Defence Member
11. Minister of State for Waste Land
Development Member
12. Minister of State for Finance Member
13. Governor, Manipur Member
14. Shri Mohammad Shafi Ibrahim Qureshi
Governor, Madhya Pradesh Member
15. Shri A.R. Kidwai
Governor, Bihar Member
16. Shri K.V. Raghunath Reddy
Governor, West Bengal Member
17. Chief Minister, West Bengal Member
18. Chief Minister, Maharashtra Member
19. Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu Member
20. Chief Minister, Orissa Member
21. Shri Saheb Singh Verma
Chief Minister, Delhi Member
22. Shri A.B. Vajpayee
Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Member
23. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, MP Member
24. Shri Samar Guha, ex-MP Member
25. Shri Chitta Basu, MP Member
26. Shri George Fernandes Member

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27. Ms. Mamta Banerjee, MP Member
28. Shri Vishnu Kant Shastri, MP Member
29. Smt. Renuka Chaudhari, MP Member
30. Shri A.K. Sen, MP Member
31. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, MP Member
32. Shri Ajit Panja, MP Member
33. Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, MP Member
34. Shri Sikander Bakht, MP Member
35. Shri G.K. Moopnar, MP Member
36. Shri Dilip Singh Judev, MP Member
37. Shri Chaturanan Mishra
Minister of Agriculture Member
38. Shri Syed Shahabuddin, MP Member
39. Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyay
ex-Governor Member
40. Shri Farooq Abdullah
Chief Minister, J&K Member
41. Shri Madhu Dandavate
Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission Member
42. Shri Sheel Bhadra Yajee, ex-MP Member
43. Shri Tridib Chaudhary, MP Member
44. Shri Shashi Bhushan, ex-MP Member
45. Col. G.S. Dhillon, Ex-INA
Representative Member
46. Capt. Laxmi Sehgal, Ex-INA
Representative Member
47. Dr. Bipin Chandra
Jawaharlal Nehru University Member
48. Dr. Dilip Sinha, Upacharya,
Vishwa Bharti University Member
49. Shri Shanko Chaudhary, New Delhi Member
50. Shri P.N. Haksar Member
51. Prof. R.N. Singh
Vice-Chancellor
Rajasthan University Member
52. Dr. V.R. Mehta
Vice-Chancellor
Delhi University Member
53. Prof. R.K. Dasgupta, Calcutta
University, Calcutta Member

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- 54. Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose
Netaji Research Bureau
Calcutta Member
- 55. Shri H.Y. Sharda Prasad Member
- 56. Ms. Anita Bose, Vienna Member
- 57. Justice A.C. Gupta, Retd.
Supreme Court Judge Member
- 58. Shri Nikhil Chakravarty, Mainstream Member
- 59. Prof. Bimal Prasad, Ex-
Ambassador to Nepal Member
- 60. Shri Niharendu Dutta Mazumdar,
Ex-Law Minister, West Bengal Member
- 61. Shri Radha Nath Rath
Editor, Sang, Cuttack Member
- 62. Dr. Amol K. Mukherjee, Principal
Presidency College, Calcutta Member
- 63. Principal, Scottish Church College
Calcutta Member
- 64. Shri Aveek Sarkar, Editor, Anand
Bazar Patrika Member
- 65. Prof. Analesh Tripathy, Calcutta Member
- 66. Shri S.N. Dwivedi Member
- 67. Dr. Najma Heptulla Member
- 68. Smt. Sukhbans Kaur Member
- 69. Mrs. Anita Pfaff, Augsburg, Germany Member
- 70. Sri Amiya Bose, Ex-MP Member
- 71. Shri Somen Mitra, MLA
Legislative Assembly of West Bengal Member
- 72. Shri Jainal Abedian, MLA
Legislative Assembly of West Bengal Member
- 73. Minister of State for Education
& Culture Member
- 74. Shri R. Venkataraman, Former
President of India Member
- 75. Shri S. Nijalingappa, Former
President of Indian National
Congress Member
- 76. Dr. M.N.Chakraborty, Former Vice-
Chancellor, Jhadavpur University,
Calcutta Member

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- 77. Shri B.C. Dutt
Yusuf Meherally Centre, Tara,
P.O.: Barapada, Taluka Panvel,
Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra Member
- 78. Shri K.N. Tickoo,
Chemtik, 124-B, 12th Floor,
Jolly Maker Chamber No.2
Nariman Point, Bombay Member
- 79. Chief Minister, Assam Member
- 80. Chief Minister, Nagaland Member
- 81. Secretary, Department of Culture Member-Secretary

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Composition of the Sub-Committee of the
National Committee for Celebrating the Birth
Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------|
| 1. | HRM | Chairman |
| 2. | EAM | Member |
| 3. | MOS (Defence) | Member |
| 4. | Smt. Najma Heptulla | Member |
| 5. | Shri Chaturanan Mishra | Member |
| 6. | Minister of State (Culture & Education) | Member |
| 7. | Chief Minister, Assam | Member |
| 8. | Chief Minister, Nagaland | Member |
| 9. | Shri Chitta Basu, MP | Member |
| 10. | Capt. Laxmi Sehgal | Member |
| 11. | Dr. Sisir Kumar Bose | Member |
| 12. | Mrs. Anita Pfaff | Member |
| 13. | Shri S.N. Dwivedi | Member |
| 14. | Shri Nikhil Chakravarty | Member |
| 15. | Shri G.S. Dhillon | Member |
| 16. | Shri Shashi Bhushan | Member |
| 17. | Shri B.C. Dutt | Member |
| 18. | Shri K.N. Tickoo | Member |
| 19. | Secretary (Culture) | Member-Secretary |

N.B. : The Sub-Committee of the National Committee in its meeting held on 25th October, 1996 have recommended inclusion of Shri S. Nijalingappa and Prof. Samar Guha as Members of the Sub-Committee. A proposal in this regard is being sent to PMO

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~~TOP SECRET~~

No.25/4/NGO(Pt)-Vol.V
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject : Proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

The mortal remains of Netaji are now kept in the Bose Academy in Tokyo. The pressure to return the ashes comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji, who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy, who is in poor health. Besides, Foreign Minister Y. Kono during his meeting with EAM in September 1995, had conveyed that he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. In addition, there is a possibility that India may be asked by the Bose Academy to take charge of the mortal remains of Netaji. It would not be possible for India to refuse to take possession of the mortal remains. Therefore, a decision is required to be taken urgently as to what is to be done with these mortal remains.

BACKGROUND NOTE : VARIOUS REPORTS AND OPPOSITION TO CONCLUSIONS DRAWN

1. Netaji's death is an issue surcharged with emotions. The issue of whether he actually died in the plane crash of August 18, 1945, at Taihoku, has been questioned by some individuals and organizations.

(a) Shah Nawaz Committee Report: In response to a public demand, the Government of India appointed a 3-member committee on April 5, 1956, "to inquire into and report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments therewith". The Committee, by a majority of 2:1, came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945. While S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra, signed the report, Shri Suresh Chander Bose disagreed with this conclusion and submitted a dissenting report. Although the report of the Committee was considerably devalued by this dissent, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

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(b) Khosla Commission of Inquiry: In view of widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains, and there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter, the Central Government instituted on July 11, 1970, one-man Commission of Inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, was appointed as sole member. The Commission visited Japan, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Taiwan and examined 224 witnesses (including 100 examined abroad). A large number of files and documents produced before the Commission, were examined. The Commission arrived at the same conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the findings. The report of the Commission, along with the memorandum of action taken thereon, was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on September 3, 1974.

c) Extract of a letter dated 19th June, 1966 written by Shah Nawaz Khan, M.P to the then Foreign Secretary Shri S. Dutt about Col. Figgess's report

During the course of his evidence before the Shah Nawaz Committee in Tokyo, one Col. J.G. Figgess is reported to have stated in September 1945 that he had received orders in September 1945 from either the Headquarters of Supreme Allied Commander S.E. Asia Command, Kandy or the Director of Military Intelligence India, asking him to carry out enquiries in Tokyo and Formosa to ascertain the truth about the story of the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. These enquiries were carried out by him and Col. Figgess was positive that a copy of this report would be available with the British Government. He has also sent a copy of his report to the then Government of India (either the Director of Military Intelligence, GHQ India or the Director of Intelligence Branch, New Delhi).

High Commissioner's reference dated 27th February, 1978 to Lord Mountbatten after the publication of the classified document called "The Transfer of Powers 1942-47". Lord Mountbatten stated the following "My archives have been searched and there is no official record of his death and I know that this doubt was shared by Wavell himself but in a book, "The End of the War in Asia" by Louis Allen, who served as a Japanese language officer in India and Burma during and at the end of the war, he described in detail the air crash on the 18th August 1945 in which Chandra Bose died.

In this book he also states that in 1956 a mission was sent to Japan to enquire into the crash and although Suresh Bose still stuck to the belief that his brother was alive in the Soviet Union, other members of the mission were convinced by the evidence of the 67 witnesses who were called, that he had died in the crash. The fact that he has never surfaced any where to my knowledge makes it appear more than ever clear he was in fact killed in the crash.

The letter you quote from Vol.VI of "The Transfer of Power" is dated the 23rd August but it is reply to a letter written on the 11th August by Sir Evan Jenkins, that is, seven days before Chandra Bose's death.

H.V. Hodson, author of "The Great Divide", appears to accept without question the death of Chandra Bose, and he had access to the papers in my archives when preparing to write his book.

d) Shri Samar Guha moved a Motion in Lok Sabha on August 3, 1977, urging the Government to set up a 3-man commission for conducting a fresh inquiry into the mystery of the disappearance of Netaji. The motion was discussed at length in 1977 and also in 1978. On the 28th August, 1978 the Prime Minister intervening in the debate observed:

"There have been two enquiries into the report of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the air-crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield during his air-journey to Manchuria, one by a Committee presided over by Maj.General Shah Nawaz Khan and the second by a one-man Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Judge of the Punjab High Court. The majority report of the first Committee and Shri Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of those doubts and contradictions and those records Government find it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry. I hope that in the light of this statement my Hon. friend will withdraw his motion".

Thereafter Prof. Guha withdrew his motion. While doing so he declared in the House:

"Today, I cannot express my gratitude to the Prime Minister because today ends a crusade that in my humble way I was trying to conduct on behalf of the people of India at least to see that officially and legally Netaji is not declared dead".

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The question of authenticity of the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple in Japan as those of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose remained inconclusive. As indicated by the then Prime Minister in the House the Government did not contemplate any fresh enquiry into the matter. It was, however, found that the point raised by Shri Guha in the speech in the House had been fully examined in the Home Ministry in the context of the Khosla Commission findings and no fresh grounds requiring further investigations by a new commission had been advanced by him. The matter was, therefore, placed before the CCPA with the following proposal:

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

The CCPA approved the proposal on 27th February, 1991 and the matter was laid at rest.

(d) Report of the Japanese Foreign Office: In a note verbale issued by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of India in Japan, dated January 31, 1956, the Foreign Office forwarded a report prepared by their Ministry on the cause of death and other matters related to late Subhash Chandra Bose. The investigation report incorporated the fact that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on August 18, 1945 at 7 PM. The report, inter alia, included sequence of events leading to the sad demise of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, along with rough sketch map of the airport, aircraft, and the Taipei Army Hospital. This report was taken into account by both Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission of Inquiry.

UNION CABINET DECISION OF FEBRUARY 8, 1995

2. The Union Cabinet had considered on February 8, 1995, the question of bringing the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. While deferring a final decision, the Cabinet directed that the dependability of the arrangements in Japan should be properly examined and that a contingency plan for the proper upkeep of the mortal remains should be drawn up, and that our Ambassador in Tokyo be specifically requested to look into these aspects.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

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3. The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. Like all shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by the Japanese towards religious places. The shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji, and is visited by worshippers who do not necessarily go there to pay respect to the ashes. Strengthening of security is not likely to be received kindly, as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

4. The shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki, whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about 50 years ago. Amongst the list of members of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, he is the youngest and is 55 years old. Rev. Mochizuki appears to be quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes and has told our Embassy that he has no intention of doing anything without the full consultation and approval of Japanese and Indian Governments. We donate Yen 600,000 annually, for the upkeep. It was felt that the contribution could perhaps be increased to Yen 1 million. As per PM's directive dated 30th November, 1995, MEA processessed the proposal and have increased Government of India's annual contribution to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo from Yen 600,000/- to Yen One million.

PRESSURE FOR REMOVAL OF ASHES TO INDIA

5. Our Ambassador's impression is that such pressure as there is, comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy. He is in poor health. At the memorial service on August 19, 1994, Mr. Hayshi had said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist tradition and practice". While it is not clear that there is any rule for discontinuance of the memorial service after 50 years, the younger members appear to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony.

6. Ambassador's remarks on the "present arrangements" and "pressure for removal of ashes to India" were conveyed to the Home Secretary by Foreign Secretary in June, 1995.

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VIEWS OF JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE

7. (a) The Japanese Foreign Office has asked us whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth(January 23, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been more in the nature of an inquiry than a suggestion. It is unlikely that the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence.

EAM'S talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Kono

(b) During EAM's visit to Japan, Foreign Minister Yoheio Kono referred to the visit of EAM to Renkoji temple on 8 September, 1995 and said that there were many Japanese who respected Netaji Bose. The background to the issue of Netaji's ashes was better understood when one notes that the people taking care of the ashes are getting old. But the issue remains unresolved. FMYK sought EAM's candid assessment. EAM replied that it was one of the issues which India is addressing. The centenary celebration of Netaji was falling next year. Some family members, specially one of Netaji's nephews, had raised strong objection to the taking of ashes to India. He belongs to a political party which does not believe that Netaji died on that particular occasion. The Government's earlier decision to award the Bharat Ratna to Netaji posthumously was challenged in the court on the ground that his death had not been clearly established. At the same time, however, there was an important section including INA veterans, which feels strongly that the ashes should be kept in a monument in India dedicated to Netaji. We are already talking to them. This month we are also continuing discussion with Netaji's relatives to resolve the issue. India is grateful to the Japanese Government and people for protecting the ashes for so long with reverence. FMYK said that many people in Japan have respect for Netaji and there was no inconvenience in keeping the ashes here. However, he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. EAM said that India would give weight to the views of his daughter who was in favour of taking the ashes to India. In any case, the issue was expected to be resolved soon.

STAND OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN OFFICE

8. In a note verbale dated October 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, informed us that as a result of investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia, and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents of Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years.

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MEA'S SUGGESTIONS

9. MEA suggested that in view of the widespread sentiments Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. In doing so, the following preparatory action was envisaged:

i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes... public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes, or

ii) Alternatively, establishment of a committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions who would give a call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

MHA'S STAND

10. Based on the inputs received from MEA and IB, it was felt that if a decision is taken to bring the ashes back to India, creation of favourable public opinion will be a crucial step in the realisation of this objective. Some members of the Bose family, particularly Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, and individuals like Prof Samar Guha and members of the Forward Bloc, are not reconciled to the fact that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku. It would, therefore, be necessary to take members of Netaji's family into confidence in the first place by convincing them of the genuineness of the ashes. The question of an appropriate memorial involving the mortal remains shall also have to be addressed in due course.

PROPOSAL OF ASHIS C. RAY OF CNN

11. Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, visited Japan about a year ago and had met officials at the Foreign Office. On September 5, 1995, Shri Ray proposed to the Prime Minister, in a fax message, to direct conducting of a DNA test which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji Temple are Netaji's or not. Further, he proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Block, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the tests.

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Mr. Ashish Ray claimed that he learnt in November, 1995 that Dr. Taneyoshi Yoshimi (The doctor who attended on Netaji Subhash Bose after the plane crash on August 18, 1945 at Taihoku) was alive and with the help of a Japanese colleague interviewed him. In a published article in the Statesman on 12.12.95, Mr. Ashish Ray stated categorically that Netaji Subhash Bose died after being involved in a plane crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945 and that Dr. Yoshimi confirmed to him having written the death certificate of Netaji Subhash Bose.

VIEWS OF NETAJI'S DAUGHTER

12. Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter from his German wife, had visited Delhi for discussions with other members of the family and been in touch with the Japanese Ambassador in Delhi in February 1995. She had also written to some associates of Netaji, including Hayashi. EAM met her in Germany in October 1995. During discussion with EAM, she expressed her willingness to go along with the proposal of bringing back the ashes to India but did not approve of the DNA test.

VIEWS OF OTHER IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF NETAJI'S FAMILY

13. While Dr. Sisir Bose supports the idea of bringing back the ashes, Late Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew had been the most vociferous skeptic of the air crash episode and had opposed any proposal of bringing back the ashes.

14. This issues with the approval of the External Affairs Minister.

S. Haidar

(Salman Haidar)
Foreign Secretary

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STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Subject : Proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

Gist of decision required	Projected benefits/results	Time schedule or manner of implementations/ reporting to Cabinet Secretariat
A decision is required to be taken urgently as to what is to be done with the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose now kept in Renkoji Temple in Japan.	To forestall a crisis in birth centenary year of Netaji in case India is asked to take charge of the mortal remains of Netaji by Japanese Government and pressure groups of Bose Academy.	To be decided as per directions of the Cabinet

(SALMAN HAIDAR)
FOREIGN SECRETARY

सं. 25/4/एन जी ओ(पार्ट) खण्ड-पंचम
विदेश मंत्रालय
नई दिल्ली

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मंत्रिमंडल के लिए टिप्पणी

विषय: नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के पार्थिव अवशेषों
को जापान से भारत लाने का प्रस्ताव ।

नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेष इस समय टोक्यो स्थित बोस अकादमी में रखे हुए हैं । नेता जी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत वापस लाने के लिए मुख्यतः नेताजी के सहयोगियों की ओर से दबाव आता रहता है । नेताजी के ये सहयोगी वयोवृद्ध तो हैं ही और साथ ही वे यह भी मानते हैं कि नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत लाने की जिम्मेदारी उनकी है । वे ऐसा महसूस करते हैं कि उनके बाद ऐसा कोई व्यक्ति नहीं रह जाएगा जो नेताजी की स्मृति को उचित सम्मान दे सके । इन व्यक्तियों में से भी अपेक्षाकृत वयोवृद्ध व्यक्ति इसके लिए दबाव डाल रहे हैं, विशेषकर बोस अकादमी के सचिव श्री हया शी और इनका स्वास्थ्य भी ठीक नहीं रहता है । इसके अतिरिक्त विदेश मंत्री श्री वाई कोनो ने सितम्बर, 1995 में भारत के विदेश मंत्री के साथ अपनी बैठक में यह कहा था कि वे स्वयं यह महसूस करते हैं कि नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेष उनकी मातृभूमि वापस लाकर उनके परिवार को सौंपना मुनासिब रहेगा । इसके अलावा यह भी संभावना है कि बोस अकादमी भारत को यह कह सकती है कि वह नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को संभालने का दायित्व ग्रहण कर लें । नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को संभालने का दायित्व ग्रहण करने से इन्कार करना भारत के लिए मुमकिन नहीं होगा । इसलिए नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों के संबंध में हमें क्या करना है, इस बारे में तत्काल निर्णय लेना होगा ।

पृष्ठभूमि टिप्पणी: विभिन्न रिपोर्टों और निकाले गए निष्कर्षों का विरोध

1. नेताजी के निधन का मामला भावनाओं से जुड़ा हुआ है । कुछ व्यक्तियों और संगठनों ने इस बात पर सवालिया निशान लगाया है कि क्या वास्तव में उनका निधन 18 अगस्त, 1945 की वायुयान दुर्घटना में हुआ था ।

(क) शाह नवाज समिति की रिपोर्ट: जनता की माँग पर भारत सरकार ने 5 अप्रैल, 1956 को तीन सदस्यीय समिति नियुक्त की थी जिसे निम्नलिखित की जाँच करने और उन पर भारत सरकार की रिपोर्ट पेश करने का काम सौंपा गया था । परिस्थितियों जिनकी वजह से नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस 16 अगस्त, 1945 के आसपास ब्रैकाक से रवाना हुए थे, वायुयान दुर्घटना में उनकी तथाकथित मृत्यु और उसके बाद का तत्सम्बन्धी घटना क्रम' यह समिति 2:1 के बहुमत से इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुँची कि नेताजी की मृत्यु 18 अगस्त, 1945 को वायुयान दुर्घटना में साइहोकु (ताइवान) में हुई थी । हालाँकि सर्वश्री शाह नवाज खान और एस.एन. मेन्ना ने इस रिपोर्ट पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे लेकिन श्री सुरेश चन्द्र बोस ने इस निष्कर्ष से असहमति व्यक्त की थी और अपनी

असहमति रिपोर्ट पेश की थी। हालांकि इस असहमति से समिति की रिपोर्ट का महत्व काफी कम तो हुआ था लेकिन सरकार ने बहुमत की रिपोर्ट को स्वीकार कर लिया था।

(ख) **खोसला जाँच आयोग:** व्यापक स्तर पर जनता में व्याप्त इस भावना को कि नेताजी के निधन के बारे में सचचाई का पता लगाने की समस्या अभी भी बनी हुई है, तथा इस मामले में ओर आगे जाँच के लिए बराबर माँग की जाती रही है, को देखते हुए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के गायब हो जाने के बारे में 11 जुलाई, 1970 को एक सदस्यीय जाँच आयोग का गठन किया था। पंजाब उच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त मुख्य न्यायाधीश श्री जी.डी. खोसला को इस आयोग का एकमात्र सदस्य नियुक्त किया गया था। आयोग जापान, बर्मा, थाईलैंड, सिंगापुर, मलेशिया, दक्षिणी वियतनाम और ताईवान गया था तथा उसने 224 गवाहों से पूछताछ की थी (जिनमें 100 ऐसे गवाह भी शामिल हैं जिनसे विदेशों में पूछताछ की गई थी)। आयोग के समक्ष पेश की गई बड़ी संख्या में फाइलों और दस्तावेजों की जाँच की गई थी। आयोग इसी निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचा कि नेताजी की मृत्यु ताईहोकु में 18 अगस्त, 1945 को वायुयान दुर्घटना में हुई थी। मंत्रिमंडल ने इस रिपोर्ट पर विचार किया था तथा उसके निष्कर्षों को स्वीकार कर लिया था। आयोग की रिपोर्ट तथा की गई कार्रवाई से संबद्ध जापान 3 सितम्बर, 1974 को संसद के दोनों सदनों के पटलों पर रख दिया गया था।

(ग) श्री शाह नवाज खान, संसद सदस्य द्वारा कर्नल फिगस की रिपोर्ट के बारे में तत्कालीन विदेश सचिव श्री एस. दत्त को लिखे 19 जून, 1966 के एक पत्र का उद्धरण।

ऐसा कहा जाता है कि शाह नवाज समिति के समक्ष टोक्यो में अपने साक्ष्य के दौरान कर्नल जे.जी. फिगस ने सितम्बर, 1945 में यह बताया कि उसे सुप्रीम एलाइड कमान्डर एस.ई. एशिया कमान्ड, केंडी के मुख्यालय से अथवा मिलिट्री इन्टेलीजेंस इण्डिया के निदेशक से यह आदेश मिला था कि वह नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के निधन की गुत्थी के बारे में टोक्यो में जाँच करके सचचाई का पता लगाए। उन्होंने यह जाँच की ओर कर्नल फिगस ने इस बात की हामी भरी थी कि इस रिपोर्ट की एक प्रति ब्रिटेन की सरकार को उपलब्ध करा दी जाएगी। उन्होंने इस रिपोर्ट की एक प्रति भारत की तत्कालीन सरकार को (या तो मिलिट्री इन्टेलीजेंस, जी एच क्यू, भारत के निदेशक को या इन्टेलीजेंस ब्रांच, नई दिल्ली के निदेशक को) भेज दी थी।

दस्तावेज 'सत्ता अन्तरण 1942-47' के प्रकाशन के बाद हाई कमीशनर द्वारा लार्ड माउन्टबेटन को लिखा गया 27 फरवरी, 1978 का पत्र। लार्ड माउन्टबेटन का जबाब इस प्रकार है 'मैंने अपने अभिलेखागार की जाँच की है और उनकी मृत्यु का कोई आधिकारिक रिकार्ड नहीं है और मैं जानता हूँ कि इस शंका से स्वयं वावेल भी सहमत थे लेकिन लुईस ऐलिन, जो युद्ध के दौरान तथा उसकी समाप्ति के समय भारत और बर्मा में जापानी भाषा अधिकारी के रूप में कार्यरत थे, ने अपनी एक पुस्तक 'दि इण्ड ऑफ द वार इन एशिया' में 18 अगस्त, 1945 की वायुयान दुर्घटना का विस्तार से जिक्र किया है जिसमें सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु हुई थी।

इस पुस्तक में उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि 1956 में एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल जापान भेजा गया था जिसे वायुयान दुर्घटना की जाँच करने का कार्य सौंपा गया था तथा हालांकि सुरेश बोस का अभी भी यह मानना है कि उनके भाई जीवित हैं और वे सोवियत संघ में हैं लेकिन इस प्रतिनिधिमंडल के अन्य सदस्य, 67 गवाहों जिन्हें गवाही के लिए बुलाया गया था, के इस साक्ष्य से आश्वस्त थे कि नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र की मृत्यु वायुयान दुर्घटना में हुई थी। इस बात से जिसे भरी जानकारी के अनुसार उन्होंने कहीं भी नहीं कहा है, पहले की अपेक्षा और अधिक स्पष्ट हो जाती है कि नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र की मृत्यु वास्तव में वायुयान दुर्घटना में हुई थी।

जिस पत्र का आपने हवाला दिया है वह 'सत्ता आन्तरण' के छठे खण्ड से है और उसकी तारीख 23 अगस्त है लेकिन यह पत्र सर इवान जेकिन्स के 11 अगस्त के पत्र का उत्तर है अर्थात् चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु से सात दिन पूर्व ।

यह प्रतीत होता है कि एच.वी. हडसन जो 'दी ग्रेट डिवाइड' के लेखक हैं, बिना किसी शंका के चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु को स्वीकार करते हैं, तथा जब वे अपनी किताब लिख रहे थे तो उन्होंने मेरे अभिलेखागार में रखे दस्तावेज देखे थे ।

(घ) श्री समर गुहा ने 3 अगस्त, 1977 को लोकसभा में एक प्रस्ताव पेश करके सरकार से यह अनुरोध किया था कि वह नेताजी के गायब होने की घटना की नए सिरे से जांच कराने के लिए एक तीन सदस्यीय आयोग का गठन करे । इस प्रस्ताव पर 1977 में तथा 1978 में भी विस्तार से चर्चा हुई थी । 28 अगस्त, 1978 को प्रधानमंत्री ने बहस में हस्तक्षेप करते हुए नीचे लिखे अनुसार मत व्यक्त किया था ।

नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की माचूरिया के लिए हवाई यात्रा के दौरान 18 अगस्त, 1945 को ताइहोकु हवाई क्षेत्र में हवाई दुर्घटना में उनकी मृत्यु की खबर के संबंध में दो बार जांच की गई है - पहली बार मेजर जनरल शाह नवाज खान की अध्यक्षता में गठित समिति द्वारा तथा दूसरी बार पंजाब उच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त न्यायधीश श्री जी.डी. खोसला की अध्यक्षता में एक सदस्यीय जांच आयोग द्वारा । पहली समिति की बहुमत रिपोर्ट ने तथा श्री खोसला ने मृत्यु की खबर को सही ठहराया था तब से इन दो रिपोर्टों में निकाले गए निष्कर्षों की यथातथ्यता के संबंध में पर्याप्त शंकाएँ व्यक्त की जाती रही हैं तथा गवाहों के साक्ष्यों में विभिन्न महत्वपूर्ण विसंगतियाँ देखी गई हैं । कुछ और तत्कालीन सरकारी दस्तावेजी रिकार्ड भी उपलब्ध हो गया है । उन शंकाओं तथा विसंगतियों और रिकार्ड को देखते हुए सरकार इस बात को स्वीकार करने में दिक्कत महसूस करती है कि पूर्ववर्ती निष्कर्ष निर्णायक हैं । इसी बीच सरकार यह महसूस करती है कि ओर जांच करवाने से कोई विशेष प्रयोजन हल नहीं होगा । मुझे उम्मीद है कि मेरे इस वक्तव्य को देखते हुए मेरे माननीय मित्र अपने इस प्रस्ताव को वापिस ले लेंगे ।

इसके पश्चात प्रो. गुहा ने अपना प्रस्ताव वापस ले लिया । ऐसा करते हुए उन्होंने सदन में यह घोषणा की :

'आज मैं प्रधानमंत्री का आभार व्यक्त नहीं कर सकता क्योंकि एक ऐसा मुहिम समाप्त हुआ जिसे मैं कम से कम यह सुनिश्चय करने के लिए भारत के लोगों की ओर से अपने विनम्र भाव से चलाने का प्रयास कर रहा था कि आधिकारिक तौर पर तथा कानूनी तौर पर नेताजी को मृत घोषित नहीं किया जाए'

जापान में रेनकोजी मन्दिर में रखे पार्थिव अवशेषों की प्रामाणिकता के बारे में यह प्रश्न अभी अनिर्णीत है कि क्या ये अवशेष नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के ही हैं जैसा कि तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री ने सदन में कहा है कि सरकार ने इस विषय में कोई ओर जांच का प्रावधान नहीं किया है । तथापि यह पाया गया था कि श्री गुहा द्वारा सदन में भाषण के दौरान जो मुद्दा उठाया गया था उसकी खोसला आयोग के निष्कर्षों के परिप्रेक्ष्य में गृह मंत्रालय में पूरी-पूरी जांच की गई थी और उन्होंने ऐसे कोई नए आधार नहीं दिए थे जिनसे किसी नए आयोग द्वारा ओर अगे जांच करने की आवश्यकता प्रतीत होती हो । इसलिए इस मामले को मंत्रिमंडल की राजनीतिक मामलों की समिति के समक्ष निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव के साथ रखा गया था ।

"नेताजी की मृत्यु तथा उनके पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत लाने का मामला भावनाओं से जुड़ा हुआ है। हम नेता श्री सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के गायब होने के संबंध में पहले ही दो बार जांच करा चुके हैं। यह स्वीकार किया जा चुका है कि नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु 18 अगस्त, 1945 को वायुयान दुर्घटना में ताइवोकु में हुई थी। इसलिए गृह मंत्रालय का यह विचार है कि एक बार फिर जांच करवाने अथवा इस समय उनके पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत वापिस लाने से कोई विशेष प्रयोजन हल नहीं होगा क्योंकि इससे अनावश्यक तनाव पैदा हो सकता है।"

मंत्रिमंडल की राजनीतिक मामलों की समिति ने 27 फरवरी, 1991 को इस प्रस्ताव का अनुमोदन किया था और इस मामले को समाप्त कर दिया गया था।

१४४ जापान के विदेश कार्यालय की रिपोर्ट:

जापान के विदेश मंत्रालय द्वारा जापान में स्थित भारत के राजदूतावास को जारी 31 जनवरी, 1956 के नोट वरबल द्वारा विदेश कार्यालय ने स्व. सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु की वजह तथा तत्संबंधी अन्य मामलों पर अपने मंत्रालय द्वारा तैयार एक रिपोर्ट भेजी थी। इस जांच रिपोर्ट में यह बात भी शामिल थी कि नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु 18 अगस्त 1945 को सांय 7 बजे हुई थी। इस रिपोर्ट में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की दुखद मृत्यु से संबंध घटनाक्रम और हवाई अड्डे, वायुयान तथा ताइपार्ड सैनिक अस्पताल के नक्शे का रफ आरेखण भी शामिल था। इस रिपोर्ट पर शाह नवाज समिति तथा खोसला जांच आयोग दोनों ने दृष्टि गौर किया था।

8 फरवरी, 1995 का केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमंडल का निर्णय

2. केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने 8 फरवरी, 1995 को नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के पार्थिव अवशेषों को जापान से भारत लाने के मामले पर विचार किया था। अंतिम निर्णय को आस्थगित करते हुए मंत्रिमंडल ने निदेश दिया था कि जापान में प्रबंधों की विश्वतनीयता की समुचित जांच की जाए और यह कि पार्थिव अवशेषों के उचित रखरखाव के लिए एक आकस्मिक योजना तैयार की जाए, तथा यह कि टोक्यो में हमारे राजदूत से विशेष अनुरोध किया जाए कि वे इन सभी पहलुओं की जांच करें।

वर्तमान व्यवस्था

3. पार्थिव अवशेष टोक्यो के बाहरी इलाके में परन्तु शहर में रेनकोजी मंदिर में प्रमुख देवी के दाहिने तरफ एक अस्थि कला में रखे हुए हैं। जापान में अन्य सभी पूजा स्थलों की भांति वहां पर कोई सुरक्षा इंतजाम नहीं है परन्तु जापानियों द्वारा धार्मिक स्थानों का सम्मान और आदर किया जाता है। यह पूजा स्थल अनन्य रूप से नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों के लिए समर्पित नहीं है तथा इस पूजा स्थल में आने वाले उपासकों के लिए वहां पर पार्थिव अवशेष के प्रति आदर भाव प्रकट करना आवश्यक नहीं है। इस पूजा स्थल की सुरक्षा पर विचार नहीं किया जा सकता है क्योंकि यह एक धार्मिक स्थल है जो सभी के लिए खुला हुआ है। इसके अतिरिक्त यदि हम कोई सुझाव देंगे तो इससे जापानियों द्वारा हमसमय पर दिए गये सुझाव पुनर्जीवित होंगे कि हम पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत ले जाएं।

4. इस पूजा स्थल की देखभाल रेव यासुफुमी मोचीयुकी कर रहे हैं जिनके पिता पहले इस पूजा स्थल में पुजारी थे और वे ही करीब पचास वर्ष पूर्व ताइपेयी से व्यक्तिगत तौर पर पार्थिव अवशेष लाए थे। सुभाष चन्द्र बोस अकादमी के सदस्यों की सूची में वह सबसे कम उम्र के हैं उनकी उम्र 55 वर्ष है। रेव. यासुफुमी मोचीयुकी पार्थिव अवशेषों की देखभाल का कार्य खशी ले कर रहे हैं उन्होंने हमारे दूतावास को बताया है कि जापानी और भारतीय सरकारों के परामर्श और अनुमोदन के बिना कोई कार्य करने की उनकी मंशा नहीं है। हम इन पार्थिव अवशेषों के रखरखाव के लिए 600,000 येन वार्षिक दान देते हैं। यह महसूस किया गया कि इस योगदान को 1 मिलियन येन तक बढ़ाया जाय। प्रधान मंत्री के 30 नवम्बर, 1995 के निर्देशानुसार विदेश मंत्रालय ने इस मामले पर कार्यवाई की है और टोक्यो में रेनको जी मंदिर को भारत सरकार का वार्षिक योगदान 600,000 येन से बढ़ा कर 1 मिलियन येन कर दिया है।

नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत लाने पर बल

5. हमारे राजदूत का मानना है कि ऐसा दबाव मुख्य रूप से नेताजी के सहयोगी ही डालते रहे हैं जो छूट जा रहे हैं और जो पार्थिव अवशेषों के प्रति अपनी व्यक्तिगत जिम्मेदारी समझते हैं। वे समझते हैं कि उनके बाद नेताजी की स्मृति को उचित सम्मान देने वाला कोई न रहेगा। नेताजी के सहयोगियों के समूह में भी जो अधिक वयोवृद्ध सदस्य हैं उन्हीं की ओर से दबाव डाला जा रहा है विशेष रूप से श्री हयासी की ओर से, जो बोस अकादमी के सचिव हैं। उनका स्वास्थ्य ठीक नहीं है। 19 अगस्त, 1994 को मेमोरियल सर्विस के अवसर पर श्री हयासी ने कहा था कि "बौद्ध परम्परा और प्रथा के अनुसार" शायद यह अंतिम मेमोरियल सर्विस होगी। जबकि यह स्पष्ट नहीं है कि 50 वर्ष के बाद मेमोरियल सर्विस को बंद करने का कोई नियम है। ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि युवा सदस्य मेमोरियल सर्विस को जारी रखने के बहुत इच्छुक हैं हालांकि नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों को उचित सम्मान और समारोह के साथ भारत लौटाए जाने से भी उन्हें प्रतन्नता होगी।

6. "वर्तमान व्यवस्था" और "पार्थिव अवशेषों को भारत ले जाने के लिए दबाव" के संबंध में राजदूत की अभ्युक्तियों से जून, 1995 में विदेश सचिव द्वारा गृह सचिव को अवगत करा दिया गया था।

जापान के विदेश मंत्रालय के विचार

7. कर्ण जापान के विदेश मंत्रालय ने हमसे पूछा है कि क्या नेताजी की 50वीं पुण्यतिथि तथा उनका जन्म शताब्दी 23 जनवरी, 1997 को देखते हुए उनकी अस्थियां भारत वापस ले जाने का हमारा कोई प्रस्ताव है। यह एक सुझाव नहीं था बल्कि मात्र एक पूछताछ के तौर पर कही गई बात थी। विदेश मंत्रालय हमारे परामर्श अथवा हमारी सहमति के बिना शायद कोई कार्यवाई नहीं करेगा।

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विदेश मंत्री की जापान के विदेश मंत्री कोनो के साथ बातचीत

(ख) विदेश मंत्री की जापान की यात्रा के दौरान जापान के विदेश मंत्री योहियो कोनो ने विदेश मंत्री की 8 सितम्बर, 1995 की रेनकोजी मंदिर की यात्रा का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि ऐसे बहुत से जापानी हैं जो नेताजी बोस का आदर करते हैं। नेताजी के पार्थिव अवशेषों के मसले की पृष्ठभूमि बेहतर ढंग से समझाई जा सकती है यदि इस बात पर गौर किया जाए कि वे लोग जो इन अवशेषों की देखभाल कर रहे हैं, अब वृद्ध होते जा रहे हैं। लेकिन इस मसले का अभी कोई हल नहीं ढूँढा जा सका है। जापान के विदेश मंत्री योहियो कोनो ने विदेश मंत्री के सुस्पष्ट विचार जानने चाहे। विदेश मंत्री ने कहा कि भारत के विचाराधीन मसलों में यह मसला भी शामिल है। नेताजी की जन्म शताब्दी अगले वर्ष होगी। उनके परिवार के कुछ सदस्यों ने विशेषकर नेताजी के एक भतीजे ने उनकी अस्थियां भारत ले जाए जाने पर घोर आपत्ति जाहिर की उनका जिस राजनीतिक दल से संबंध है, वे यह नहीं मानता कि नेताजी की मृत्यु उस मौके पर हुई थी। सरकार का नेताजी के मरणोपरान्त भारत रत्न की उपाधि प्रदान करने के निर्णय को न्यायालय में इस आधार पर चुनौती दी गई उनकी मृत्यु स्पष्ट रूप से प्रमाणित नहीं की जा सकी है लेकिन इसके साथ ही 'आजाद हिन्द फौज' के सदस्यों सहित एक ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण वर्ग भी है, जिसके विचार से यह अस्थियां भारत में नेताजी को समर्पित स्मारक में रखी जानी चाहिए। हम उनसे बात कर रहे हैं। इस महीने इस मुद्दे को सुलझाने के उद्देश्य से हम नेताजी के रिश्तेदारों से भी बातचीत कर रहे हैं। भारत जापान की सरकार और जनता का आभारी है कि उन्होंने इतने आदर भाव से इतने लम्बे अरसे से इन अस्थियों को सुरक्षित रखा हुआ है। जापान के विदेश मंत्री योहियो कोनो ने कहा कि जापान में बहुत से लोग नेताजी के प्रति आदर भाव रखते हैं और अस्थियों को वहाँ रखने में उन्हें कोई असुविधा नहीं है। तथापि वह व्यक्तिगत रूप से यह महसूस करते हैं कि इन अस्थियों को उनकी मातृभूमि तथा उनके परिवार के पास ले जाना बेहतर होगा। विदेश मंत्री ने कहा कि भारत उनकी सुपुत्री के विचारों को महत्व देगा जो चाहती हैं कि ये अस्थियां भारत ले जाई जाएं। हर हालत में ये मसला शीघ्र ही हल हो जाएगा, ऐसी उम्मीद है।

रूस के विदेश मंत्रालय की स्थिति

8. रूसी परिषद के विदेश मंत्रालय ने 27 अक्टूबर, 1995 के अपने नोट में हमें यह सूचित किया कि रूस के फेडरल सिविलरिटी सर्विस के केन्द्रीय अभिलेखागार संग्रह तथा रशियन सेक्टर फॉर रिटेंशन एण्ड पेरियुसल ऑफ डेक्यूमेन्ट्स ऑफ मार्टिन हिस्ट्री में की गई जाँच-पड़ताल के परिणामस्वरूप ऐसी कोई जानकारी सामने नहीं आई है, जिससे यह प्रमाणित हो सके कि सुभाष चन्द्र बोस 1945 में तथा उसके बाद भूतपूर्व सोवियत संघ में रहे हों।

विदेश मंत्रालय के सुझाव

9. विदेश मंत्रालय ने सुझाव दिया कि आम भावनाओं को मद्देनजर रखते हुए 1997 में नेताजी की जन्म शताब्दी उपयुक्त ढंग से मनाई जानी चाहिए। ये कार्रवाई भारत की स्वतंत्रता में उनकी भूमिका और उनके योगदान को जनता द्वारा पूर्णरूप से स्वीकार किए जाने का एक भाग होगी। इसके लिए तैयारी स्वरूप निम्नलिखित कार्रवाई का प्रस्ताव है :-

- (I) इस विवाद को समाप्त करने और अस्थियां वापिस लाने के पक्ष में आमराय तैयार करना
गणमान्य व्यक्तियों तथा लोगों को इस बात के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना कि वे इन अस्थियों को वापिस लाने के लिए सरकार से अनुरोध करते हुए संसद में तथा अन्यत्र वक्तव्य दें, अथवा
- (II) विकल्प स्वरूप नेताजी की जन्म शताब्दी मनाने के लिए एक समिति की स्थापना, जिसमें विभिन्न राजनीतिक विचारधारा वाले गणमान्य व्यक्ति होंगे और जो दिवंगत नेता की अस्थियां भारत वापिस लाने का आह्वान करेंगे ।

गृह मंत्रालय की स्थिति

10. विदेश मंत्रालय तथा आसूचना विभाग से प्राप्त जानकारी के आधार पर ये महसूस किया गया कि अगर ये अस्थियां भारत वापिस लाने का निर्णय लिया जाता है तो इस उद्देश्य की प्राप्ति के लिए अनुकूल जनमत तैयार करना एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम होगा । बोस परिवार के कुछ सदस्य विशेषकर नेताजी के भतीजे श्री अभियनाथ बोस तथा प्रोफेसर समर गुहा और फारवर्ड ब्लाक के सदस्य यह बात नहीं मानते कि नेताजी की मृत्यु ताइहोकू में विमान दुर्घटना में हुई । अतः सबसे पहले यह जरूरी होगा कि नेताजी के परिवार के सदस्यों को इस बात के लिए आश्वस्त किया जाए कि ये अस्थियां नेताजी की ही हैं । एक उपयुक्त स्मारक तथा उसमें इन पार्थिव अवशेषों की स्थापना के प्रश्न पर भी समय रहते विचार करना होगा ।

सी एन एन के आशीष सी. रे का प्रस्ताव

11. सी एन एन की आशीष सी. रे ने जो नेताजी के बड़े भाई के पोत्र हैं, लगभग एक वर्ष पहले जापान की यात्रा की जहाँ उन्होंने विदेश मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों से मुलाकात की । श्री रे ने 5 सितम्बर, 1995 को एक फेक्स सदेश द्वारा प्रधानमंत्री को यह प्रस्ताव दिया कि इन अस्थियों का डी.एन.ए. टेस्ट कराया जाए, जिससे निश्चित रूप से तथा वैज्ञानिक आधार पर प्रमाणिक किया जा सके कि रेनकोजी मन्दिर में जो अस्थियां रखी हुई है वह अस्थियां नेताजी की हैं या नहीं । इसके अलावा उन्होंने यह भी सुझाव दिया कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विशेषज्ञों के एक दल को जिनमें एक विशेषज्ञ हैदराबाद स्थित डी.एन.ए. सेंटर से हो, 'यह काम सौंपा जाए तथा बोस परिवार से, फारवर्ड ब्लाक से तथा ऐसे ही कुछ अन्य लोग पर्यवेक्षक के रूप में नियुक्त किए जाए' उन्होंने कहा कि यह परीक्षण करने के लिए किसी एक रिश्तेदार के रक्त का नमूना तथा अस्थियां से हड्डी के टुकड़े अथवा एक दाँत ले लिया (जो नेताजी के ए.डी.सी. कर्नल हबीबुररहमान के कथनानुसार संभवतः इस कलश में मौजूद है)।

श्री आशीष रे ने कहा कि नवम्बर, 1995 में उन्हें यह पता चला कि डॉक्टर ताने योशी योशिमि (वह डॉक्टर जिसमें 18 अगस्त, 1945 को ताइहोकू में विमान दुर्घटना के बाद नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस का उपचार किया था) जीवित है और उन्होंने एक जापानी मित्र की मदद से उनका साक्षात्कार लिया । 12-12-95 के स्टेट्समेन में प्रकाशित एक लेख में श्री आशीष रे ने स्पष्ट रूप से यह कहा कि 18 अगस्त, 1945 को ताइहोकू में एक विमान दुर्घटना में नेताजी सुभाष बोस की मृत्यु हो गई और यह कि डॉ. योशिमि ने इस बात की पुष्टि की कि उन्होंने नेताजी सुभाष बोस का मृत्यु प्रमाण-पत्र जारी किया ।

नेताजी की सुपुत्री के विचार

नेताजी की जर्मनी पत्नी से उनकी पुत्री सुश्री अनीता पफाफ: फरवरी, 1995 में परिवार के अन्य लोगों के साथ बातचीत करने दिल्ली आई और दिल्ली में जापान के राजदूत से भी सम्पर्क किया। उन्होंने हयाशी सहित नेताजी के कुछ साथियों को पत्र भी लिखे। विदेश मंत्री अक्टूबर 1995 में जर्मनी में उनसे मिले। विदेश मंत्री के साथ बातचीत के दौरान उन्होंने नेताजी की अस्थियाँ भारत ले जाए जाने के प्रस्ताव पर अपनी सहमति व्यक्त की लेकिन डी.एन.ए. टेस्ट के लिए वह सहमत नहीं थीं।

नेताजी के परिवार के अन्य महत्वपूर्ण सदस्यों के विचार

13. यद्यपि डॉ. शिशिर बोस अस्थियाँ वापस लाने के हक में हैं तथापि नेताजी के भतीजे स्व. अमियनाथ बोस को इस बात पर संदेह था कि नेताजी की विमान दुर्घटना में मृत्यु हुई और अस्थियाँ वापस लाने के किसी भी प्रस्ताव का उन्होंने विरोध किया।

14. यह विदेश मंत्री के अनुमोदन से जारी किया जा रहा है।

(सलमान हेदर)
विदेश सचिव

कार्यान्वयन अनुसूची का ब्योरा

विषय: नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की अस्थियों को जापान से भारत वापिस लाने का प्रस्ताव

अपेक्षित निर्णय का सार

सम्भावित लाभ/परिणाम

कार्यान्वयन मंत्रिमण्डल सचिवालय को रिपोर्ट का तरीका अथवा समय अनुसूची

इस विषय में शीघ्र निर्णय लेना अपेक्षित है कि जापान में रेनकोजी मन्दिर में रखी गई नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की अस्थियों का क्या किया जाए ।

नेताजी के जन्म शतःब्दी वर्ष में जापान की सरकार द्वारा अथवा बोस अकादमी के दल द्वारा नेताजी की अस्थियों को भारत ले जाने के लिए कहने अथवा दबाव डालने की स्थिति में उत्पन्न होने वाले किसी संकट को टोकना ।

मंत्रिमण्डल के निर्देशों के अनुसार निर्णय लिया जाएगा ।

(सलमान हेदर)
विदेश सचिव

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject : Proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

The mortal remains of Netaji are now kept in the Bose Academy in Tokyo. The pressure to return the ashes comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji, who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy, who is in poor health. Besides, Foreign Minister Y. Kono during his meeting with EAM in September 1995, had conveyed that he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. In addition, there is a possibility that India may be asked by the Bose Academy to take charge of the mortal remains of Netaji. It would not be possible for India to refuse to take possession of the mortal remains. Therefore, a decision is required to be taken urgently as to what is to be done with these mortal remains.

BACKGROUND NOTE : VARIOUS REPORTS AND OPPOSITION TO CONCLUSIONS DRAWN

1. Netaji's death is an issue surcharged with emotions. The issue of whether he actually died in the plane crash of August 18, 1945, at Taihoku, has been questioned by some individuals and organizations.

(a) Shah Nawaz Committee Report: In response to a public demand, the Government of India appointed a 3-member committee on April 5, 1956, "to inquire into and report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments therewith". The Committee, by a majority of 2:1, came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945. While S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra, signed the report, Shri Suresh Chander Bose disagreed with this conclusion and submitted a dissenting report. Although the report of the Committee was considerably devalued by this dissent, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

(b) Khosla Commission of Inquiry: In view of widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains, and there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter, the Central Government instituted on July 11, 1970, one-man Commission of Inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, was appointed as sole member. The Commission visited Japan, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Taiwan and examined 224 witnesses (including 100 examined abroad). A large number of files and documents produced before the Commission, were examined. The Commission arrived at the same conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the findings. The report of the Commission, along with the memorandum of action taken thereon, was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on September 3, 1974.

c) Extract of a letter dated 19th June, 1966 written by Shah Nawaz Khan, M.P to the then Foreign Secretary Shri S. Dutt about Col. Figgess's report

During the course of his evidence before the Shah Nawaz Committee in Tokyo, one Col. J.G. Figgess is reported to have stated in September 1945 that he had received orders in September 1945 from either the Headquarters of Supreme Allied Commander S.E. Asia Command, Kandy or the Director of Military Intelligence India, asking him to carry out enquiries in Tokyo and Formosa to ascertain the truth about the story of the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. These enquiries were carried out by him and Col. Figgess was positive that a copy of this report would be available with the British Government. He has also sent a copy of his report to the then Government of India (either the Director of Military Intelligence, GHQ India or the Director of Intelligence Branch, New Delhi).

High Commissioner's reference dated 27th February, 1978 to Lord Mountbatten after the publication of the classified document called "The Transfer of Powers 1942-47". Lord Mountbatten stated the following "My archives have been searched and there is no official record of his death and I know that this doubt was shared by Wavell himself but in a book, "The End of the War in Asia" by Louis Allen, who served as a Japanese language officer in India and Burma during and at the end of the war, he described in detail the air crash on the 18th August 1945 in which Chandra Bose died.

In this book he also states that in 1956 a mission was sent to Japan to enquire into the crash and although Suresh Bose still stuck to the belief that his brother was alive in the Soviet Union, other members of the mission were convinced by the evidence of the 67 witnesses who were called, that he had died in the crash. The fact that he has never surfaced any where to my knowledge makes it appear more than ever clear he was in fact killed in the crash.

The letter you quote from Vol.VI of "The Transfer of Power" is dated the 23rd August but it is reply to a letter written on the 11th August by Sir Evan Jenkins, that is, seven days before Chandra Bose's death.

H.V. Hodson, author of "The Great Divide", appears to accept without question the death of Chandra Bose, and he had access to the papers in my archives when preparing to write his book.

d) Shri Samar Guha moved a Motion in Lok Sabha on August 3, 1977, urging the Government to set up a 3-man commission for conducting a fresh inquiry into the mystery of the disappearance of Netaji. The motion was discussed at length in 1977 and also in 1978. On the 28th August, 1978 the Prime Minister intervening in the debate observed:

"There have been two enquiries into the report of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the air-crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield during his air-journey to Manchuria, one by a Committee presided over by Maj.General Shah Nawaz Khan and the second by a one-man Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Judge of the Punjab High Court. The majority report of the first Committee and Shri Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of those doubts and contradictions and those records Government find it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry. I hope that in the light of this statement my Hon. friend will withdraw his motion".

Thereafter Prof. Guha withdrew his motion. While doing so he declared in the House:

"Today, I cannot express my gratitude to the Prime Minister because today ends a crusade that in my humble way I was trying to conduct on behalf of the people of India at least to see that officially and legally Netaji is not declared dead".

The question of authenticity of the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple in Japan as those of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose remained inconclusive. As indicated by the then Prime Minister in the House the Government did not contemplate any fresh enquiry into the matter. It was, however, found that the point raised by Shri Guha in the speech in the House had been fully examined in the Home Ministry in the context of the Khosla Commission findings and no fresh grounds requiring further investigations by a new commission had been advanced by him. The matter was, therefore, placed before the CCPA with the following proposal:

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

The CCPA approved the proposal on 27th February, 1991 and the matter was laid at rest.

(d) Report of the Japanese Foreign Office: In a note verbale issued by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of India in Japan, dated January 31, 1956, the Foreign Office forwarded a report prepared by their Ministry on the cause of death and other matters related to late Subhash Chandra Bose. The investigation report incorporated the fact that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on August 18, 1945 at 7 PM. The report, inter alia, included sequence of events leading to the sad demise of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, along with rough sketch map of the airport, aircraft, and the Taipei Army Hospital. This report was taken into account by both Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission of Inquiry.

UNION CABINET DECISION OF FEBRUARY 8, 1995

2. The Union Cabinet had considered on February 8, 1995, the question of bringing the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. While deferring a final decision, the Cabinet directed that the dependability of the arrangements in Japan should be properly examined and that a contingency plan for the proper upkeep of the mortal remains should be drawn up, and that our Ambassador in Tokyo be specifically requested to look into these aspects.

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PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

3. The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. Like all shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by the Japanese towards religious places. The shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji, and is visited by worshippers who do not necessarily go there to pay respect to the ashes. Strengthening of security is not likely to be received kindly, as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

4. The shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki, whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about 50 years ago. Amongst the list of members of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, he is the youngest and is 55 years old. Rev. Mochizuki appears to be quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes and has told our Embassy that he has no intention of doing anything without the full consultation and approval of Japanese and Indian Governments. We used to donate Yen 600,000 annually, for the upkeep. It was felt that the contribution could perhaps be increased to Yen 1 million. As per PM's directive dated 30th November, 1995, MEA processed the proposal and have increased Government of India's annual contribution to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo from Yen 600,000/- to Yen One million.

PRESSURE FOR REMOVAL OF ASHES TO INDIA

5. Our Ambassador's impression is that such pressure as there is, comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy. He is in poor health. At the memorial service on August 19, 1994, Mr. Hayashi had said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist tradition and practice". While it is not clear that there is any rule for discontinuance of the memorial service after 50 years, the younger members appear to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony.

6. Ambassador's remarks on the "present arrangements" and "pressure for removal of ashes to India" were conveyed to the Home Secretary by Foreign Secretary in June, 1995.

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VIEWS OF JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE

7. (a) The Japanese Foreign Office has asked us whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth (January 23, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been more in the nature of an inquiry than a suggestion. It is unlikely that the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence.

EAM'S talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Kono

(b) During EAM's visit to Japan, Foreign Minister Yoheio Kono referred to the visit of EAM to Renkoji temple on 8 September, 1995 and said that there were many Japanese who respected Netaji Bose. The background to the issue of Netaji's ashes was better understood when one notes that the people taking care of the ashes are getting old. But the issue remains unresolved. FMYK sought EAM's candid assessment. EAM replied that it was one of the issues which India is addressing. The centenary celebration of Netaji was falling next year. Some family members, specially one of Netaji's nephews, had raised strong objection to the taking of ashes to India. He belongs to a political party which does not believe that Netaji died on that particular occasion. The Government's earlier decision to award the Bharat Ratna to Netaji posthumously was challenged in the court on the ground that his death had not been clearly established. At the same time, however, there was an important section including INA veterans, which feels strongly that the ashes should be kept in a monument in India dedicated to Netaji. We are already talking to them. This month we are also continuing discussion with Netaji's relatives to resolve the issue. India is grateful to the Japanese Government and people for protecting the ashes for so long with reverence. FMYK said that many people in Japan have respect for Netaji and there was no inconvenience in keeping the ashes here. However, he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. EAM said that India would give weight to the views of his daughter who was in favour of taking the ashes to India. In any case, the issue was expected to be resolved soon.

STAND OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN OFFICE

8. In a note verbale dated October 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, informed us that as a result of investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia, and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents of Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years.

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MEA'S SUGGESTIONS

9. MEA suggested that in view of the widespread sentiments Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. In doing so, the following preparatory action was envisaged:

i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes... public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes, or

ii) Alternatively, establishment of a committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions who would give a call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

MHA'S STAND

10. Based on the inputs received from MEA and IB, it was felt that if a decision is taken to bring the ashes back to India, creation of favourable public opinion will be a crucial step in the realisation of this objective. Some members of the Bose family, particularly Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, and individuals like Prof Samar Guha and members of the Forward Bloc, are not reconciled to the fact that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku. It would, therefore, be necessary to take members of Netaji's family into confidence in the first place by convincing them of the genuineness of the ashes. The question of an appropriate memorial involving the mortal remains shall also have to be addressed in due course.

PROPOSAL OF ASHIS C. RAY OF CNN

11. Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, visited Japan about a year ago and had met officials at the Foreign Office. On September 5, 1995, Shri Ray proposed to the Prime Minister, in a fax message, to direct conducting of a DNA test which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji Temple are Netaji's or not. Further, he proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Block, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the tests.

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Mr. Ashish Ray claimed that he learnt in November, 1995 that Dr. Taneyoshi Yoshimi (The doctor who attended on Netaji Subhash Bose after the plane crash on August 18, 1945 at Taihoku) was alive and with the help of a Japanese colleague interviewed him. In a published article in the Statesman on 12.12.95, Mr. Ashish Ray stated categorically that Netaji Subhash Bose died after being involved in a plane crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945 and that Dr. Yoshimi confirmed to him having written the death certificate of Netaji Subhash Bose.

VIEWES OF NETAJI'S DAUGHTER

12. Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter from his German wife, had visited Delhi for discussions with other members of the family and been in touch with the Japanese Ambassador in Delhi in February 1995. She had also written to some associates of Netaji, including Hayashi. EAM met her in Germany in October 1995. During discussion with EAM, she expressed her willingness to go along with the proposal of bringing back the ashes to India but did not approve of the DNA test.

VIEWES OF OTHER IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF NETAJI'S FAMILY

13. While Dr. Sisir Bose supports the idea of bringing back the ashes, Late Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew had been the most vociferous skeptic of the air crash episode and had opposed any proposal of bringing back the ashes.

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MOST IMMEDIATE

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

~~SECRET~~

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नई दिल्ली - 110 011

NEW DELHI - 110 011

Reference is invited to this office U.O. of the same number dated 19.12.1995 regarding a proposal for DNA analysis of Netaji's ashes.

It is requested that the comments sought in the matter may kindly be sent urgently.

Sujata Mehta
(Sujata Mehta)
Director

1. Home Secretary

✓ 2. Foreign Secretary

PMO U.O. NO. 805/11/C/13/95-Pol Vol.II

dated: 18.1.1996

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Attached herewith is a copy of a letter dated 11th August 1995 to PM from Shri Ashis Ray regarding Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's "ashes". Also attached is a background note on the subject.

2. PM would wish to discuss this matter with EAM and Minister for Human Resource Development who may kindly see.

~~Menon~~
[Prabhakar Menon]
Joint Secretary to PM
5.9.1995

(Separate copies)

Hon'ble External Affairs Minister

Hon'ble Human Resource Development Minister

PMO ID Note No. G-16(3)/95-NGO

dtd. 5.9.1995

A date and time my file is final

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18/9/95

BA ✓ F.S.

EAM's office wants his. base

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E/1/1/95

✓ OSO to GEM
NGO
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(457)

ASHIS C. RAY

F-162 Malcha Marg
New Delhi - 110021.

11 August, 1995.

TO:

Prime Minister Narasimha Rao
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, leader of the opposition
Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal
Shri S. R. Bommai, President of Janata Dal
Shri Chitta Basu, General Secretary of Forward Bloc

FROM:

Ashis Ray

SUBJECT: NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE'S "ASHES"

On 18 August next, it will be half a century since - from various accounts - Netaji met with a plane crash at Taihoku and died as a result of it. And his "mortal remains" were taken to Tokyo and kept at this city's Renko-ji temple, where they remain till date.

During the past 7-8 years, I have attempted with a completely open mind to seek an answer to the question: what happened to Netaji? I have done so because, as you know, he was my grand-uncle and I have been very close to his wife and daughter. I also felt that we owe it to the Indian people - who have been so generous in their adulation of him - that we give them a satisfactory explanation on the matter. Indeed, it is sad that neither Indian authorities nor my older relatives have taken the issue seriously enough.

The two investigations ordered by the Government of India, unfortunately failed to do a convincing job. Besides, Morarjee Desai, as Prime Minister of India in September 1978, virtually rejected their findings in a statement to this effect in the Lok Sabha.

As for members of the Bose family, people have either emotionally and without any basis refused to accept the plane crash story or have endorsed it without bothering to get to the bottom of the affair.

There are also some followers of Netaji who, either because of being unaware of new evidence/information or otherwise, refuse to believe that he died as a result of the air tragedy.

I do not wish to blame anyone for the situation we face. But to appeal to all to come together in a rational manner to find a way out of it. I am sure all of you will agree that if indeed the "ashes" at the Renko-ji temple belong to Netaji, they should be brought back to India with state honour and disposed off on a befitting way.

In course of my personal probe, I have visited the Public Record Office in London, the son of Colonel Habibur Rahman in Pakistan, met government officials in Germany and Japan and made enquiries in the Soviet Union/Russia. Based on these, I have reached the following conclusions:

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a) that the Japanese government carried out an investigation into the plane crash in 1956 - a copy of this report, which confirmed that Netaji died as a result of it and that the "ashes" at the Renko-ji temple were his, was handed over to the Indian government, but remains for no reason marked "TOP SECRET" till date and, according to Justice G. D. Khosla, was never presented before his Commission;

A

b) that the Russian government conveyed to the Indian government in January 1992 that Netaji never visited the Soviet Union in 1945 or thereafter;

c) that there are some British government files pertaining to Netaji at the Public Record Office in London which have been sealed for extraordinary periods as opposed to being de-classified after 30 years, but can be revealed under certain conditions to either the Government of India or to a relative of Netaji;

B

d) that Colonel Habibur Rahman never deviated from his claim that Netaji died as a result of the crash and, according to his son, Naeemur Rahman, died disappointed about the fact that some people in India disbelieved his account and questioned his motive;

e) that Colonel Habibur Rahman was of the view that the aircrash was as a result of sabotage by Chinese technicians aimed at officers of Japanese armed forces travelling on the flight in the still hostile war atmosphere; and

f) that he put a gold-plated tooth belonging to Netaji, given to him by Japanese officials, after the cremation, in the urn containing the "ashes".

I would, therefore, request that the steps listed below be kindly taken:

1. the Japanese government report be made public without any further delay;

2. the details of the Russian government note to the Indian government also be made public;

3. the British government be asked if it changed its mind on its initial view that Netaji did not die as a result of the crash; and

4. the urn be x-rayed and it be authenticated if there is a gold-plated tooth in it or not and then a search be made in Germany and South East Asia for Netaji's dental records - I say this because after 50 years of dilly dallying, we need to be scientific and not sentimental in our approach.

May I add that it should be abundantly clear to any reasonable person that even if - as was suggested by some in the 1940s and 1950s - Colonel Habibur Rahman put out the story of the crash under instructions to hoodwink people about Netaji's whereabouts, he would surely have raised questions about what happened to his leader by the time he died in 1978. In other words, if anyone thinks that Col. Rahman was under orders to mislead people, it is ridiculous that he would have continued to do so till his death. He had no motive, nothing to gain from misleading people till the end.

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Furthermore, I would suggest that we obtain a full and final statement from the Japanese government on some of the grey areas of the air crash episode, including an explanation, if possible, on why the cremation certificate was not in Netaji's name.

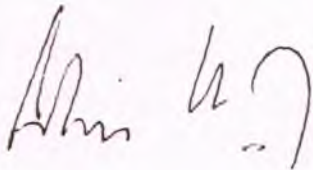
It is not necessary to go into the expense and paraphernalia of another Commission. All it requires is common sense and a will to close the messy chapter once and for all.

Needless to mention, there are almost irrefutable indications that Netaji died consequent to the plane crash and that the "mortal remains" at the Renko-ji temple are his. But I do not intend to thrust these upon anybody. All I urge is that we try and reach a national consensus and pay due respect to a departed soul - arguably one of the outstanding sons of India.

And I should like to emphasise that in making the proposal I am I seek no publicity for myself. Only, if desired, I am prepared to work behind the scene to proceed in the matter.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



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~~TOP SECRET~~

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

- 1) The Cabinet had accepted the conclusions of the two Inquiry Committees of 1956 and 1970 that Netaji died in the air-crash in August 1945;

In February 1991, the CCPA had approved that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another inquiry or by bringing the ashes into India.
- 2) In September 1994 PM had directed MHA to bring a paper for Cabinet's consideration on Netaji's death and the possibility of bringing his ashes to India, keeping in view that Netaji's birth centenary would be in January 1997. The Cabinet considered a paper on this subject in February 1995, and deferred a decision. (A copy of the note for the Cabinet is attached.)
- 3) The MEA does not have any Japanese report on their investigation into Netaji's death;
- 4) In January 1992, the Russian Government confirmed to our Embassy in Moscow that "as per data available in the Central and Republic Archives there is no information about the stay of the former President of the Indian National Congress Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the Soviet Union in 1945 and after that".

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~~TOP SECRET~~

- 5) MEA has no records of the British Government stand, as reported by Shri Ray, in the late 1940's that Netaji did not die in the plane crash;

- 6) As to the point about the urn containing the ashes, MEA had reported earlier that the urn has never been x-rayed. There are some discrepancies about the dates on which the ashes believed to be Netaji's were seen by Col Habibur Rahman, Netaji's ADC. His two separate dispositions refer to a small piece of gold being seen among the ashes;

(It may be mentioned that it has been decided to establish a National Committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary and the Department of Culture has been asked to formulate a proposal for this.)

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Cabinet

Ref No

COPY NO. 23

92 - 95

No. I/12014/27/93-IS.(D.III)
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject:- Proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

The mortal remains of Netaji are now kept in the Bose Academy in Tokyo. The Bose Academy members are reportedly thinking of disbanding the Academy and having the last memorial service in 1995 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Netaji's death. Because of this and also since the birth centenary of Netaji is due in 1997, the issue of what action is to be taken regarding the mortal remains of Netaji has now acquired some urgency. There has been wide media coverage in Japan focusing on the concern expressed by the war veterans of the Academy over the Government of India's lack of interest in taking the ashes to India. If no decision is taken in 1995, India may be asked by the Bose Academy to take charge of the mortal remains of Netaji. It would not be possible for India to refuse to take possession of the mortal remains. Therefore, a decision is required to be taken well in advance as to what is to be done with these mortal remains.

Background

2. Netaji's death is an issue surcharged with emotion. The issue of whether he actually died in the plane crash of 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku has been questioned by some individuals and organisations.

3. In response to public demand, Government of India appointed an Inquiry Committee in April, 1956 to ascertain the circumstances concerning Netaji's death in an air crash. The Committee comprised S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,

44/7/95
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Suresh Chandra Bose (elder brother of Netaji) and S.N.Maitra, former Chief Commissioner of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Committee, by a majority of 2:1, came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku (Taiwan) on 18th August, 1945. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose disagreed with this conclusion and submitted a dissenting report. Although the report of the Committee was considerably devalued by Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's dissent, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

4. The controversy over the disappearance of Netaji persisted. Rumours about Netaji's survival and subsequent disappearance kept cropping up. In response to a demand for fresh inquiry by a number of MPs belonging to different political parties, the Government of India appointed a one-man Commission of Inquiry in July, 1970. Justice G.D.Khosla, retired Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, was asked to "inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and make a report to the Central Government". The Commission visited Japan, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Taiwan and examined 224 witnesses (including 100 examined abroad). A large number of files and documents produced before the Commission were examined. The Commission arrived at the same conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on 18th August, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the findings. The report of the Commission, alongwith the Memorandum of Action taken thereon was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on 3rd September, 1974.

5. Shri Samar Guha moved a motion in Lok Sabha on 3rd August, 1977 urging Government to set up a three-man Commission for conducting a fresh inquiry into the mystery of the disappearance of Netaji. The discussion on the motion was inconclusive. It was, however, found that the point raised by Shri Guha in his speech in the House had been fully examined in the Home Ministry in the

context of the Khosla Commission's findings and no fresh grounds requiring further investigation by a new Commission had been advanced by him. The matter was, therefore, placed before the CCPA with the following proposals:-

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

The CCPA approved the proposal on 27th February, 1991 and the matter was laid at rest.

6. Since then, as mentioned earlier, the question of Netaji's mortal remains has assumed urgency. If no decision is taken by 1995, in which year the Bose Academy proposes to have the last memorial service, India may be asked by Renkoji temple to take charge of the urn containing the ashes whereby we may have no alternative but to store them in our Mission in Tokyo. It would look most inappropriate if we decline to take charge of the ashes.

Views of MEA and IB

7. The Ministry of Home Affairs has obtained the views of MEA and IB. IB's views are to the effect that it would not be advisable to take any initiative to bring back the ashes to India as there is no demand from any quarter for this. If the ashes are brought to India, the People of West Bengal are likely to construe it as an

imposition on them of the official version of Netaji's death.

8. MEA has suggested that in view of the wide-spread sentiments that Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. MEA suggested the following course of preparatory action:-

- (i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes from Japan--respected public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes; or
- (ii) alternatively, establishment of a Committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions, who would give the call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

Consideration of the Committee of Secretaries

9. In view of what has been mentioned in foregoing para 6, a decision will have to be taken soon. There seems to be no scope for doubt that he died in the air crash of 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. Government of India has already accepted this position. There is no evidence whatsoever to the contrary. If a few individuals/organisations have a different view, they seem to be guided more by sentimentality rather than by any rational consideration. The belief of these people that Netaji was alive and out of contact with any Indian, but would appear when found necessary, has also lost

relevance by now. In view of the aforesaid facts, Government of India will have to take a decision in principle. The strategy and the modalities could be worked out thereafter.

10. The matter relating to the ashes of Netaji alongwith other connected issues was, therefore, placed before the Committee of Secretaries. The directions of the Committee of Secretaries were sought on the following issue related to the ashes:-

The birth centenary of Netaji is proposed to be celebrated in a big way in India in 1997. The Bose Academy in Japan is insisting that the Government of India take possession of the mortal remains of Netaji. A decision has to be taken whether the ashes should be brought to India or stored in our Mission in Tokyo."

11. During the course of discussions, the Committee of Secretaries observed that:

(a) The Bose Academy had not issued an ultimatum regarding the handing over of the ashes but merely made a representation on the grounds that its members were rapidly aging and may not be able to discharge their present duties; and

(b) the Government of India was paying for the upkeep of the mortal remains in Renkoji Temple and the management could be persuaded to continue with this arrangement if the upkeep charges were increased.

12. In view of the foregoing, the Committee of Secretaries arrived at the following conclusions:-

"As regards the question of taking possession of

the ashes was concerned, no particular advantage lay in taking a decision on this at this juncture since the birth centenary was due only in 1997. Therefore, a view could be taken in the matter in 1996-97 and till such time status quo should be maintained. The temple management may be persuaded to continue with the upkeep of the ashes and, if necessary, the maintenance charges being paid to the temple may be suitably increased to meet the increased cost."

13. Conclusions of the Committee of Secretaries were placed before the Prime Minister for directions. The Prime Minister has desired that the Home Ministry bring a paper on the subject for the Cabinet's consideration. Accordingly, the matter is placed before the Cabinet for its consideration and directions on issues as examined at the foregoing paragraphs 9 to 12 and in particular on the following:-

(i) Whether the management of Renkoji Temple in Japan be persuaded to continue with the present arrangement, if necessary, with enhanced upkeep charges or the Government of India should take possession of the ashes of late Subhash Chandra Bose, now.

(ii) In the event of Government of India deciding to take possession of the mortal remains, whether these could be brought to India or preserved in the Indian Mission in Tokyo.


14. If a decision is taken to bring the ashes back to India, creation of a favourable public opinion will be a crucial step in the realisation of this objective. Some members of the Bose family, particularly Shri Amia Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, and individuals like Prof. Samar Guha and members of the Forward Bloc are not reconciled to the fact that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku.

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It would, therefore, be necessary to take the members of Netaji's family into confidence in the first place by convincing them as to the genuineness of the ashes. It should then be easier to handle opposition from other quarters like the Forward Bloc. Netaji's wife and the only daughter are at present living in Angsburg, Germany. It is felt that they can best be approached through another nephew of Netaji, Dr.Sisir Bose. Shri Amia Nath Bose, the most vociferous sceptic of the air crash story, needs to be brought around by approaching at an appropriately high level. There is good chance that if reasonably approached, the family members may drop their opposition. The question of an appropriate memorial involving the mortal remains shall also have to be addressed in due course.

15. This issues with the approval of the Home Minister.


(K.PADMANABHAIAH)
HOME SECRETARY

F.No.I/12014/27/93-IS(D.III)
Ministry of Home Affairs

- 2 FEB 1995

P. M. OFFICE
Inl. *lv*
Date 5-9-95
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PROT. UNIT

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TOP SECRET

Ministry of Home Affairs
F.No.I/12014/27/93-IS(D.III)

STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE


Subject: Proposal to bring the mortal remains of Netaji
Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

Gist of decision required	Projected benefits/results	Time schedule or manner of implementations/reporting to Secretariat	Cabinet
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Whether the mortal remains of Netaji should be taken possession of and brought to India or the status quo should be maintained.

To forestall a crisis in the birth centenary year of Netaji.

To be decided as per directions of the Cabinet.


(K. PADMANABHAIAH)
HOME SECRETARY

T/136/EAM/95
12/9/95
T/433/FS/95
19/9

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T-2020/NGO/95
18/9.

~~TOP SECRET~~
MOST IMMEDIATE

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

In continuation of our note of even number dated 5-9-1995 regarding the "ashes" of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, forwarded herewith is a copy of another letter to PM from Shri Ashis Ray. EAM and Human Resource Development Minister may kindly see in the context of their discussion with PM on this subject.

Menon
(Prabhakar Menon)
Joint Secretary to PM
11-9-1995

(Separate copies)

✓ 1. Hon'ble External Affairs Minister

2. Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development

PMO ID Note No. G-16(3)/95-NGO

dttd. 12.9.95

P. S.
18/9/95

✓ P.S.

✓ ASD to G.A.M.

N/GO :- 1 :-

SK UPS

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ASHIS C. RAY

F-162 Malcha Marg
New Delhi - 110021.

5 September, 1995.

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao
Prime Minister of India
7 Race Course Road
New Delhi.

Dear Prime Minister,

I realise you are receiving conflicting signals on the issue of Netaji's remains. And I do not wish to be a part of a pressure group one way or the other.

All I wish to submit is that my continuing research on the subject convinces me that the best way forward is to do a DNA test, which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji temple are Netaji's or not. I have spoken to an expert on the subject; and he has no doubt that irrevocable proof can be obtained.

May I propose that an international team of experts, one of whom can be from our DNA centre at Hyderabad, is entrusted with the job, with a set of observers drawn from the Bose family, Forward Bloc and such like.

You have doubtless noticed that last week a team of DNA experts established that remains regarding which there were doubts do indeed belong to Czar Nicholas. All we need is a blood sample from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC, Colonel Habibur Rahman) to carry out the test.

A direction from you on the matter can set the ball rolling.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Asin

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

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नई दिल्ली - 110 011
NEW DELHI - 110 011

Reference is invited to this office U.O. of the same number dated 19.12.1995 and reminder dated 18.1.1996 regarding a proposal for DNA analysis of Netaji's ashes.

It is requested that the comments sought in the matter may kindly be sent at an early date.

Sujata Mehta
(Sujata Mehta)
Director

Foreign Secretary

PMO U.O. NO. 805/11/C/13/95-Pol Vol.II dated: 30.1.1996

May please
see n.c
for
31/1/96

DIC (NU)

By: K. K. K.
31/1

SO (NAO)

PL Spk on 1/2 (F/N)
31/1

SO (NAO) Spoken
31/1

T/165/EAM/95
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T/165/EAM/95
28/X/95

OFFICE OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

T.S.41/FS/95
14/12

I visited Augsburg, Germany, on 21st October 1995 to meet Netaji's widow - Mrs. Emily Shenkel Bose and his daughter Prof. Anita Pfaff. Anita's husband - Dr. Martin Pfaff as well as their children were present during the meeting. Our Ambassador in Bonn Shri S.K.Lambah was also present. During the course of our conversation, the following points emerged;

a) I said it was time for forward movement on the issue of return of the ashes of Netaji from Japan to India. The Japanese government as well as associates of Netaji in Japan were keen that Netaji's ashes return to his motherland. I said that the Indian government was also keen to bring back the ashes at a suitable time provided controversial issues were resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. Anita Pfaff said that the ashes could be brought to Germany from Japan if the issue of their return to India remained controversial. Ambassador Lambah stated that the Japanese had already reacted negatively to the proposal of transferring the ashes to a third country.

✓ F.S.

✓ S. AM has seen

9/10/95

b) I showed the list of persons to be included in the Official National Centenary Celebrations Committee to mark Netaji's birth anniversary.

NGO

Anita Pfaff made some suggestions which I have communicated separately to HRD Minister and MOS (PMO), Shri Bhuvnesh Chaturvedi. She accepted my invitation to be a member of the Committee.

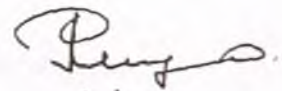
- c) Netaji's widow and his daughter raised the issue of a suitable memorial for Netaji as well as the question of what to do with Netaji's ashes once they had been brought back to India i.e. whether the ashes should be immersed in the Ganga or be kept at a place of reverence. I said that these issues could be sorted out by the National Committee.
- d) On the issue of alleged captivity of Netaji in Russia after 1945, I showed the members of Netaji's family an official communication from the Russian government stating that it has no record of Netaji's presence in the Soviet Union during or after 1945. Articles from the Russian Press pointing to the fact that Netaji was not in the Soviet Union in 1945 or thereafter, were also shown.
- e) The entire family expressed happiness over my visit. Anita Pfaff and her husband accepted my invitation to visit India. This is expected to take place late December, 95 or early January, 1996.

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ASSESSMENT:

I feel that Netaji's widow and daughter are keen that an early solution be found to the issue of return of Netaji's ashes to India. They seemed convinced of the seriousness of purpose on the part of the Indian Government. Anita Pfaff made it clear that while she would like to consult other members of the family in India, the final decision would rest with her alone. She anticipated opposition from some members of the family. She would prefer that the family is not divided on this issue.

By initiating direct contact with Netaji's immediate family, we have achieved some forward movement on the issue of return of Netaji's ashes to India. However, there exists opposition from some sections of Netaji's family, which if articulated publicly, as surely it will be, may be used for partisan political ends. Therefore, we need to proceed cautiously to avoid endowing this issue with controversial overtones.



(Pranab Mukherjee)
External Affairs Minister
28 October 1995

PM

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प्रधान मंत्री
PRIME MINISTER

New Delhi
December 11, 1995

Dear Shri Roy,

I have received your letter of November 27, 1995
about Netaji's ashes.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

P.V. Narasimha Rao
(P.V. Narasimha Rao)

Shri Joyanta Roy, MP
28, Gurudwara Rakabganj Road
New Delhi

No. 805/11/C/13/95-Pol Vol.II

dated: 18.12.1995

Copy with a copy of letter under reference
forwarded for action as appropriate to :-

1. Home Secretary
2. Secretary, Department of Culture
- ✓ 3. Director (F&O), MHA

Pankaj Soren
(Pankaj Soren)
Deputy Secretary

AM
26/12

DIRC(CNU)

P. S. Saha
27/12/95

So(NAO)
15

Jyanta Roy
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)



Phone : New Delhi { 3782260 (O)
3793609 (R)
Calcutta { 273956 (O)
2430066 (R)

Office :
28-G, R. G. ROAD,
NEW-DELHI - 110001

Residence :
217, NORTH AVENUE
NEW DELHI - 110001

27.11.1995

To

The Prime Minister of India
South Block
New Delhi.

Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the recent efforts to bring the controversial ashes from Japan's Renkoji Temple that have shown a queer proneness to reach sweeping conclusions without presenting incontrovertible data. Despite the processes already under way to bring the ashes from Japan, an absence of official declaration of the Government of India to that effect is still a pointer to a state of uncertainty stemming out of unanswered questions of a very fundamental nature. Any endeavour disregarding this is tantamount to a disinformation campaign with tacit Governmental approval on the basis of a prior notion of Netaji's death in a plane crash on 18th August, 1945. Facts abound in history to bear out the very opposite of it. The following are the grounds chiefly on the basis of which the doubts and confusion shrouding the professed purpose underlying the whole process have developed.

Amidst the present fanfair about the DNA test of alleged ashes of Netaji, amazingly, the existence of an alleged tooth of Netaji is supposed to have clinched the whole issue. The reports submitted by CSDIC, CIC, Shah Nawaz Committee and the Khosla Commission, however, never referred to it. It deludes one as to how it has not been found out when the official Netaji Enquiry Commission's Report even in support of the alleged plane crash story and the existence of Netaji's ashes, never found any mentioning of it in any of the evidence adduced.

2. Government of Japan's Report of 1956 claiming the existence of Netaji's ashes in the Renkoji temple was neither placed before the Shah Nawaz Committee of 1956 nor before the Khosla Commission on 1970. If any information relating to the said report was withheld by the Government to avoid political controversy, it is beyond one's comprehension as to why an Enquiry Commission was instituted to find out the truth and settle the issue once for all.

3. Why has the Government been suppressing the British intelligence report and the British Parliamentary debate on it expressing serious doubt about the story of Netaji's death in a plane crash on 18th August, 1945.

....2/-

4 (a) A PRESS NOTE RELEASED BY THE ASIATIC SOCIETY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED FROM THE RUSSIAN ARCHIEVES :

Excerpts:

"What appears to be most interesting is that the scholars have traced materials hinting at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's contact with the Soviet Leaders. Some documents relating to Netaji are in the KGB and President's archives which were not accessible to the scholars. Special permission is required to scrutinize them. It is believed that examination of these materials may eventually clear the mystery of Netaji's disappearance."

(b) According to newspaper reports, in a Press Conference convened by the Asiatic Society on 12th September, 1995, the scholars stated that they had found documents hinting at the existence of Netaji in Russia after August, 1945.

(c) Has the Government of India written anything to the Russian Government in response to the Asiatic Society's request for the scholar's permission for examining the K G B files and whatever is still there in the President's archives in this regard ?

(d) Government of India's request to the Russian authorities for a statement in this regard is based on malafide intention as it is, on the contrary, supposed to give permission to the scholars to go through materials contained in the K G B file.

5. When did the Government of India contact Habibur Rahman, if so, why did it do it secretly? One wonders why he was never brought before the Khosla Commission. When was the Tokyo Netaji Memorial formed ?

6. According to DPA report the Renkoji temple was destroyed in 1989. What did Mr. Pranab Mukherjee find in Japan in the name of the said Temple ?

7. Since when the INA members have been staying at the Renkoji Temple? Who are they ?

8. At the time of the occurrence of the alleged plane crash Mrs. Emilie Shenkle and Mrs. Anita Paf were nowhere near the alleged place of occurrence. Nor have they any first-hand information or any document corroborating the same in their possession.

9. People of India will have doubts about the neutrality of the DNA test Committee since the impartiality of CBI, countries like UK and USA and members of Netaji's family is hardly trustworthy due to their existing bias in this regard.

10. A Writ Petition challenging, in effect, the veracity of the plane crash story is pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Any attempt at bringing the controversial ashes from Japan before the final verdict is given in the pending case assuming Netaji's death in the said plane crash as a settled fact therefore, is preposterous.

11(a) The Government of India cannot decide the status of the controversial 'ashes' on the basis of documents that have neither ever been published nor were ever produced before the Netaji Enquiry Committee (1956) and Netaji Enquiry Commission (1970).

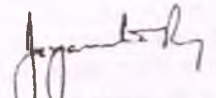
(b) The alleged reports that the Government is claiming to have in its possession, should be placed before a Commission headed by the Ex-Chief Justice of India and the petitioners of the pending case should be allowed to represent themselves before the Commission.

(c) The evidence, records and/or documents referred to by Jawaharlal Nehru, Morarji Desai and the present Government can in no way be regarded as conclusive unless they are considered by an Enquiry Commission on the basis of a proper investigative enquiry. The opinion of members of Netaji's family cannot be a decisive factor in this regard.

I hope that your response would be befitting the importance of this national issue as it needs deft handling and careful consideration of the de-facto repository of the highest authority of the land.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(JAYANTA ROY)

মস্কোর আলোয় নেতাজি

ইতিহাসের পটে সাম্প্রতিক পবিত্রকুমার যোষ

বিশ্ব শতাব্দির সেরা মানসকৃষ্টি ওপর আলোর আলোক এসে পড়তে শুরু করে। গবেষক দল হাপিগা থেকে চারবেকন নেত্রীর ওপর আলোক বিজ্ঞান নিয়ে।

মস্কোর মনোবিজ্ঞানবিদগণ মনোবিজ্ঞানে ইতিহাস বিদ্যা নিয়ে গবেষণা করে আসছেন। এটিই হল নেত্রীর মনোবিজ্ঞান।

তাকে থাকতে দেওয়া হবে কিনা, তা যদি দেওয়া হয় তা হলে তাকে আশ্রয়পত্র দেওয়া হবে।

বিমান দুটিনের সাহায্যে দিন পর পাঠানো বিপ্লবী নেতাজির প্রতি কী আশংকা করা হবে সে দিনে চাওকেন অর্থাৎ হল, তিনি কীভাবে আসছেন। এটিই ছিল ওয়াশিংটন সরকারের উদ্দেশ্য।

ওয়াশিংটন সরকারের উদ্দেশ্যই ছিল নেত্রীর উভয় উদ্দেশ্যের নিশ্চয়তা। ওয়াশিংটন সরকারের উদ্দেশ্যই ছিল নেত্রীর উভয় উদ্দেশ্যের নিশ্চয়তা।

নেত্রাজির মনোভাব ঠাণ্ডা করা ওয়াশিংটন সরকারের উদ্দেশ্যই ছিল।

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Pranab's mission revives Netaji's death row

From Subhamoy Chatterjee

CALCUTTA, Oct. 21
External Affairs Minister Pranab
Mukherjee's reported unscheduled



Turn to page 4

airdash from New York to Germany yesterday to try and secure consent of Netaji's wife, Mrs Emily Shenkel Basu and daughter, Ms Anita Basu, on bringing "Netaji's ashes" from Japan has raked up the controversy over the great patriot's death in the Taihoku aircrash.

The Forward Bloc, veteran followers of Netaji and some of his close relations have also called into question, the motive of the ruling party at the Centre in attempting this at a time when some recent findings claim to have pointed to Netaji's having been in Siberian Russia a year after the alleged crash.

A front page news item in the mass circulation *Ananda Bazar Patrika* today reported that Mr Mukherjee's Berlin mission, apparently undertaken with the knowledge of the Prime Minister,

was received with a sense of shock and suspicion by Netaji's ardent supporters. It was said in the story that Mr Mukherjee was trying to bring back the "ashes", kept in the Renkoji Temple near Tokyo for over four decades, to India so that the nation could pay a befitting homage to the great leader in his centenary year. The authorities in Japan, which the External Affairs Minister visited recently, had also expressed the wish that the "ashes" of the INA commander-in-chief be taken to his own country.

Commenting on this development, Forward Bloc's general secretary Chitta Basu, said that the party made its position clear after the Prime Minister had issued a statement in Singapore that the Government of India could not bring back the ashes due to the

Opposition of some political parties, indirectly implying Forward Bloc Mr Basu said he had written to Mr Rao that the late Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, had told Parliament that the Government received some information subsequent to the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan and Khosla Committees. On the basis of that it could be said that the aircrash was not the conclusive proof of Netaji's death. This continued to be the Government's position.

"Unless he died in the aircrash, how can you say that this was his ashes," the Forward Bloc leader asked. Mr Basu also said that he had a discussion with Mr Mukherjee at the personal level. The latter had said he would resume the dialogue which he never did.

Netaji's nephew, Mr Amiya Nath

Basu, said he had written to the Prime Minister stating that there was sufficient evidence of Netaji's being in Russia in 1946. He said that an American bomber crashed at Taihoku in 1944 and photographs of the wreckage "were attempted to be passed off as the damaged plane in which Subhas Chandra Bose was alleged to be travelling". He demanded that the Government of India ask the Government of Russia to allow examination of the KGB files and request the Governments of the UK and the USA to disclose their intelligence files about Netaji.

He alleged that a request had been made on behalf of the Government of India not to show any file regarding Netaji to Indian scholars visiting that country. The allusion was to the visit by a team from the Asiatic Society in Calcutta

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Netaji's ashes to be brought back, with honour

By M. K. Tikku

NEW DELHI, Oct 26

Dr Anita Pfaff, daughter of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, has agreed to serve as a member of a National Memorial Committee to be constituted shortly with Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao as its chairman.



The Committee will take charge of all the activities connected with the birth centenary celebrations of Netaji which begin next January.

Last Sunday afternoon, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee drove to Augsburg, about 60 kms from Munich in southern Germany, to meet Mrs Anita Pfaff, who teaches economics at the local university. Her husband, Dr Martin Pfaff, also an economics professor is a Social Democrat member of the German Parliament. Mr Mukherjee, who spent a whole evening at the Pfaffs home was accompanied by Indian ambassador S. K. Lamba and an aide of the Minister.

Mr Mukherjee informed her that during the centenary year, the Government proposed to bring back Netaji's ashes from Japan and have these installed at a suitable memorial with due ceremony and honour. This marks a noticeable shift in the Government's position which had earlier informed the Parliament that the ashes, which have been lying at the Renokoji temple in Japan,

would be brought to India only after "a national consensus" was evolved resolving the controversy surrounding the circumstances of his mysterious death or disappearance, half a century ago.

The shift in the Government's position and its apparent keenness to cap the controversy, as it were, seems to have been triggered by a recent report suggesting that three Calcutta-based scholars had in fact come across documents in the Russian archives indicating that Netaji had been staying in the Soviet Union sometime after his supposed death in the 1945 air crash.

The three scholars — Dr Hari Vasudevan, Dr Sobhan Lal Dutta Gupta and Dr Purabi Roy — who had visited Moscow on behalf of the Asiatic Society, had access to a member of archival documents, including some KGB files, in the Russian capital.

In the course of the Sunday evening meeting in Augsburg, Mr Mukherjee had shown some papers

to Mrs Pfaff that contained a response from the Russian Government to a query on the subject made by New Delhi earlier. In its reply, the Russian Government had stated that though the former Soviet regime had had some contacts with Netaji during the war, there had been none after the war was over.

Mr Mukherjee argued that this was conclusive proof that stories speaking of Netaji's life (and death) in the Soviet Union were without basis. He assured his host that his senior colleagues in the Government as well as himself had great admiration for Netaji and they would ensure that his birth centenary year was observed in a befitting manner.

Mr Mukherjee stressed that it would be in the fitness of things that she should attend the first meeting of the National Memorial Committee. Mrs Pfaff indicated that she could be free from her university duties only during the Christmas break, and so could come to India only towards the end of December.

It was agreed the inaugural meeting of the Committee would be convened around that time.

Though the Minister tied it up rather neatly at the Augsburg end during the weekend visit, some members of the Bose family in India do not even appear half as enthusiastic about the development. According to their understanding, the three Calcutta academics have a lot more up their sleeves based on the KGB documents they got to see in Moscow and the rather bland denial of the Russian Government of 1992 vintage does not clear the picture.

They suspect that after the cavalier treatment meted out to Netaji all these years, the ruling party's new-found admiration for him may just be used to extract political mileage during an election year. They strongly feel that the least that could be done is to ask the Russian Government for a fresh response in the light of the three scholars' findings.

The Statesman

DELHI, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1995

(Including The Saturday Statesman)

Govt to authenticate Netaji's 'ashes' by DNA test

SUBRATA SEN
STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

DELHI, Oct. 27. — The Government has decided to go for DNA testing of Netaji's 'ashes' kept in Tokyo before making a decision to bring it back to India with full honours during Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth centenary next year. The controversy that shrouds Netaji's death has necessitated the Union Government to go first for a scientific test to prove that the ashes kept at the Renkoji temple in Tokyo are those of Netaji. The Government has agreed to cooperate with India in this respect and has informed that a tooth of Netaji is preserved with the ashes, which can be used for the purpose of DNA tests.

According to sources in the Ministry of External Affairs, whether the ashes kept in Tokyo are those of Netaji, a committee will be formed com-

prising members from the CBI, a DNA testing laboratory of Hyderabad, the Government of Japan and DNA experts from the USA and U.K. Members of Netaji's family will also be included in the committee to avoid any further controversy on the subject. Two renowned DNA experts — Dr Michelle Holland of the USA and Dr Kevin Salevan of the U.K. — had already been consulted and both of them have said that it would be possible to verify the authenticity of the ashes from the tooth.

Incidentally, the remains of Czar Nicholas II, who died in 1917, was verified recently from the remains of bones with DNA samples matched with the Duke of Edinburgh, who is a direct descendant from the mother's side. The Ministry of External Affairs, going by the DNA test of the last Czar, has asked one nephew of Netaji from the mother's side to cooperate in the

DNA testing.

Meanwhile, sources said, the Ministry of External Affairs was trying to collect all information regarding the controversial death theory in a plane crash, which was never believed by a section of Indian population. The authenticity of the ashes has been doubted by many historians too.

According to Ministry sources, the Japan Government, way back in 1956, gave it in writing to the Government of India that the ashes were genuinely those of Netaji's, but India did not react to the confidential report to avoid any political controversy.

The controversy regarding Netaji's "death" mainly arose because the British Intelligence always doubted the "death theory" and even said that Netaji might be hiding somewhere in the erstwhile USSR. Several British Parliamentarians, quoting intelligence reports, have



made statements in Parliament on the subject, thereby creating doubts about his "death".

However, with the Moscow archives being opened after the fall of Communism, some more information has come to light. A team from the Asiatic Society, after having studied the Archive records, has come to the conclusion that Netaji never visited the

country after 1945. The Union Government is likely to request the Russian Government to issue a statement in this respect.

To confirm the "death theory", the Ministry of External Affairs has also obtained a statement from Mr Habibur Rahman, who was aide-de-camp of Netaji in INA, and believed to have accompanied Netaji in the aircraft. Officials have traced Mr Rahman in Pakistan, and obtained his version of the "accident".

According to Mr Rahman, there was a plane crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945, as a result of which Netaji died. The small aircraft was coming from Saigon (now in Vietnam) to Taihoku to refuel and one of the engines caught fire. While Mr Rahman had a miraculous escape after the crash, Netaji's khaki cotton military dress caught fire while he was trying to escape through the emergency exit. "Netaji came out like

a ball of fire from the aircraft," according to Mr Rahman. Netaji was taken to the Army Field Hospital at Taihoku, where he died.

Mr Rahman has also informed that he had the spectacles and one tooth of Netaji, which he deposited at the Tokyo Netaji memorial.

According to the External Affairs Minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, the Government would not like to bring back the ashes without being sure of its authenticity. Meanwhile, he had visited Renkoji temple in Tokyo on September 8 with the Foreign Secretary, Mr Salman Haider, and met several INA members, who live in the temple. Mr Mukherjee, during his recent trip to the U.N., also went to Germany to talk to Netaji's wife Emilie Bose and his daughter, Anita, who have supported the idea of bringing the ashes to India.

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DNA test may put to rest doubts about Netaji's death

Our Correspondent
NEW DELHI 29 OCTOBER

AFTER FIFTY years of uncertainty, DNA analysis may be able to put to rest doubts on whether the ashes kept in an urn in the Renko-ji temple in Japan are indeed the remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Netaji is believed to have been killed in a plane crash in Taihoku in Taiwan, on August 18, 1945. His aide-de-camp Col Habibul Rehman, is said to have taken the ashes to Tokyo and the urn has been at the temple ever since. However, some have always questioned whether Netaji died in the crash at all.

Ashis Ray, Netaji's great nephew, said: "The whole situation had become entangled in emotions. Now, my proposal to the government is that an international panel of DNA experts be set up to give us a report and clear all controversies."

He approached three foreign ex-

perts, including those who recently, and successfully, identified the remains of Czar Nicholas II and his family, comparing DNA taken from bone fragments buried for 75 years with control blood samples from distant maternal relatives of the Russian royal family.

Mr Ray said last night he was awaiting a go-ahead from the Prime Minister. Now, it appears the Union government has agreed. Mr Ray is all praises for the government. "For the first time in 50 years, a Prime Minister is serious about the matter." Union external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee, he said, has been entrusted with the task of working out details about the return of the ashes.

Mr Ray said Mr Mukherjee, who was in Germany, discussed the matter with Netaji's wife and daughter last Saturday. "They support the return of the ashes."

Mr Ray said a lucky break promp-

ted him to take the initiative. "I was able to pick up the threads when Col Rehman's son, living in Islamabad, told me his father had said that a tooth was given to him after Netaji's cremation. The gold plated tooth was apparently extracted by Japanese doctors, perhaps after the death."

Col Rehman was, in fact, given three items after the cremation — Netaji's spectacles, watch and the tooth. The colonel apparently simply put the tooth into the urn which was taken to Tokyo. "No one had ever come across this information before... it turned out to be a crucial element in what we are trying to do." This was about three years ago, said Mr Ray.

"We were wondering how we could proceed. Last year, it occurred to me that DNA testing could be a way out." A trip to Japan last year only strengthened this impression. "Not a sentimental statement but a

scientific approach... could pave the way for a return of the remains to India," Mr Ray said.

He approached the DNA experts and got a response from them last month. Dr K. Sullivan of the UK-based Forensic Science Service confirmed that a blood sample from a nephew or niece from Netaji's sister's side would be a suitable control for DNA analysis. "The tooth, rather than the cremated bone fragments, is more likely to yield material of sufficient quality for DNA analysis," Mr Ray said.

In a letter dated September 22, Dr Sullivan said the test most likely to work is mitochondrial DNA analysis. "Mitochondrial DNA is inherited only from the mother, hence individuals who are linked by an unbroken maternal line are expected to have identical mitochondrial DNA. We estimate that the total cost of analysing the tooth and two control blood sam-

ples would be between £5,000 and £10,000, with the work taking approximately four months to perform."

Mr Ray said the American expert, Dr Mitchel Holland, and a Japanese expert have given the same response.

Netaji "disappeared" on August 18, 1945. His plane was said to have crashed that day, catching fire, and Netaji suffered third-degree burns and was rushed to a Japanese armed forces field hospital. There are two main accounts of this, one from Col Rehman and the second from the doctor, Yoshimui, who attended to Netaji. Some time between 9 pm and 11 pm that night, Netaji is said to have died. He was cremated in Taihoku and Col Rehman took the ashes to Tokyo.

But an aura of mystery surrounded Netaji's death because of the confusion in the post-World War II times and, said Mr Ray, the British believed that Netaji had made good his escape

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

A Thought for Today

We must indeed all hang together, or most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Exhuming Netaji

It was reassuring to hear from the external affairs minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, that the government will not move to bring to India the ashes in the Rinkoji temple in Tokyo, believed to be Netaji's, without a national consensus on the subject. Admittedly, the process of reaching a consensus cannot be easy. Several theories regarding Netaji's disappearance have been in circulation and sentiments on the subject are strong. Both the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee (1956) and the Khosla Commission (1970) had concluded that Netaji had died in the Taihoku air crash in August 1945. However, in 1978, the then Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, told Parliament that contradictions in the testimony of the witnesses and documents subsequently available had cast "reasonable doubts" on the findings. Netaji's nephew, Mr Suresh Chandra Bose, never accepted the air crash theory. The Forward Bloc, the party founded by Netaji, still contends that he had gone to Manchuria after Japan's surrender to seek Soviet help and disappeared thereafter. Doubts have been reinforced by reports that a three-member team of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, during a recent visit to Moscow, discovered "new facts" on Netaji's presence in the Soviet Union after World War II. According to material available to the team, as late as September 1946 Netaji was trying to contact Forward Bloc leaders from abroad.

The information available so far is scrappy but happily for Netaji-watchers, archival material in Moscow has been thrown open to research scholars. From all indications, there is much that is available there which could be useful. The Union government, for its part, should take up the matter with Moscow and send an official team to go into all available records to remove doubts as far as practicable. Despite the setting up of two inquiry commissions, an impression has lingered in the public mind that not enough has been done to find the truth regarding Netaji's disappearance. This, in turn, has spawned wild theories over the decades about those in power in Delhi being allergic to Netaji. An ill-advised move to confer the Bharat Ratna posthumously on Netaji further served to whet such feelings, as it was seen as an affront rather than as an honour. It is not necessary to rush in the ashes from Rinkoji simply because Netaji's birth centenary is due next year. It would be more relevant to delve into facts and try and ameliorate public misgivings about the issue. The government should follow up the clues available from Moscow and place them before former INA officials, historians and scholars for proper evaluation. People must be convinced that sincere efforts are being made to ascertain the truth, if the centenary celebrations are to be made truly meaningful.

Telly Tricks

"The very technology which makes our lives more simple, makes our society more complex", observed the management guru, Thomas Griffith, adding "the more efficient we become, we are more specialised — and more dependent". Television technology, for instance, has brought vividly into our homes and hearths games like football, cricket, tennis, golf and auto-racing. The implosion of semiotic thrills is now only a push-button or

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Ardhendu S Bose

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33, Pochkhanwalla Road.
Bombay-400026-India
Telephone : 493 16 91

Off : 714, Raheja Centre,
7th Floor, Block No. 214,
Nariman Point.
Bombay-400 021
Phone : 284 29 68
Fax No. 2873843-ATTN BOSE INTL

Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao
Prime Minister of India
7, Race Course Road
NEW DELHI

December 11, 1995

Registered A/D

Dear Shri Rao,

Sub: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

I am a nephew of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. My late father, Shri Sailesh Chandra Bose was Netaji's younger brother.

I have been following in the newspapers the controversy regarding the ashes lying in an urn at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo, and the efforts being made by various factions to bring back these ashes to India as those of Netaji Subhas Bose.

I have also been following the news appearing in the media about suggestions being made by a distant nephew of mine, Mr. Ashish Ray (of CNN), that a Mitochondrial DNA Analysis be done on the ashes which will supposedly confirm or otherwise, that the remains are those of Netaji. Mr. Ashish Ray has written to me to ask for my urgent support, as a close family member, to his proposal. I have made enquiries through my own sources regarding the DNA tests and have been informed that at present there are no DNA tests possible on "ashes". Only if some bones are left in the urn, then there is a vague possibility of doing a DNA test. I have also been told that the high temperatures prevailing at the cremation of a body damages the bone structures so badly that even if some pieces were intact, they would not be of much use. Hence, in my own humble way I do not endorse this course of action.

I understand from news reports that my mother, Mrs. Bhakti Bindu Bose who is in Calcutta at the moment, together with another aunt of mine and a few cousins, have written to you to say that the Government should now examine the various archives in Russia, the U.K., the U.S.A., etc., which have now been made public and thereby come to a conclusion on what exactly happened to Netaji upon his disappearance in August 1945. I feel this would be the best course of action to

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Ardhendu S Bose

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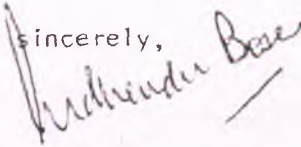
- 2 -

conclude a mystery which has left a huge question mark in the minds of a vast majority of people in this country, and all these people have a right to know what exactly happened to a great patriot of India. Pending such investigation and its conclusion thereof, it would be unfair to these people to bring back the urn from Tokyo with great pomp and fanfare as I believe is being planned.

The above is my considered opinion.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Ardhendu S. Bose)

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Prof Samar Guha
Former
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
Chairman
Privilege Committee
(Lok Sabha)



8/2, CENTRAL PARK
CALCUTTA-700 032
Phone : 72-1600

12 December 1995
SPEED POST

Respected Prime Minister,

Your wise decision to drop discussion of the Agenda on DNA test of the ashes in the Renkoji temple has been widely appreciated by the people. Otherwise, the serenity of Netaji's Birth Centenary would have been marred. Pronab Babu has also been saved from public anger.

However, I hope you will consider it as our sacred task to finally settle the question of disappearance of Netaji without any further delay.

For this the following steps should be taken :

1) Please write to the Govt. of Russia to permit the Asiatic Society Research Team to go through the documents in the KGB, Comintern President of Soviet Russia and other files preserved in their archives. Without the written request from the Govt. of India, the Asiatic Society research team is not being permitted to investigate papers kept into their archives.

Asiatic Society research team has already got positive indications of existence of some vital documents in their archives about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's presence in Soviet Russia after fall of Japan on Aug 15, 1945. An article written by a Russian researcher - Vinogradov written in 1992 in the Moscovs paper 'Echo Planety' has already been found which clearly stated that Subhas Chandra Bose was kept in detention in the Russian city of OMSK after fall of Japan.

People of India expect you should take personal initiative in writing to the Govt. of Russia to permit the team of the Asiatic Society to conduct their research work on Netaji.

ii) The Govt. of U.K., U.S.A. and Taiwan should be requested to publish the reports of their inquiries made to ascertain if Subhas Chandra Bose really died on Aug 18, 1945 in a plane crash at Taihoku (Taipei) or he managed to escape again under the cover of a cooked-up plane crash news. Four separate inquiries were made by the war-time Global Counter Intelligence Agency (CSDIC) of U.K, Lord Mountbatten as the Admiral of the S.E. Asian Allied forces, Genl. Mac Arthur of the US Pacific Army and the Mayor of Taipei. under the Govt. of Chiang Kai

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Prof Samar Guha
Former
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
Chairman
Privilege Committee
(Lok Sabha)



8/2, CENTRAL PARK
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Phone : 72-1600

-2-

Shekh, Taiwan Govt. agreed to submit the report of their inquiry to the Khosla Commission. But Justice Khosla refused to accept it.

iii) According to a 'Secret File No. F23(156)/51-PM' - a personal file on Netaji was maintained by Pandit Nehru. After his death this file was maintained by Md. Yunus. Khosla Commission was informed that nearly 40 papers (report) of this File have been 'Either Destroyed or Missing'. This file should be searched and 'Missing and Destroyed' papers should be traced to find out the contents of these missing papers.

If you consider it desirable, I can meet you to explain in details about the issues relating to 'disappearance of Netaji'.

I know you will have to face some political constraints in finding out all about Netaji's disappearance. But if you dare it, our history will hail you as the seeker of truth about what really happened to Netaji, the Maha Kshatriya of the struggle for emancipation of our motherland.

With regards and namaskar,

Shri P.V.Narasimha Rao
Prime Minister of India
South Bloc
New Delhi

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha

(SAMAR GUHA)

UNITY

FAITH

SACRIFICE

I. N. A. ASSOCIATION

West Bengal

~~17/3/5, CHOWRINGHEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-700 013, PHONE-23-1932~~

(Regd. No. S/5217 of 1962-63)

49/10 BALLYGUNGE PLACE, CALCUTTA-700019

Ref. No. _____

Date _____ 19

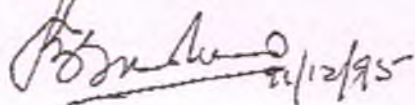
11.12.1995

Prime Minister of India
NEW DELHI

Respected Sir,

We the members of the I.N.A Association, West Bengal are deeply concerned at the attempt to bring the so called ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by the Government of India and which is supported by some senior I.N.A. Officers. According to our scrutinising inquiry we found that the ashes kept in the Renkozi Temple was that of a Japanese, Ichiro Okura who according to the Taihoku Municipal Report died of heart attack on 19th August 1945 and cremated on 22nd August 1945. Domei News Agency reported on 23rd August 1945. If any attempt is made to bring the ashes from Japan will amount to act of worst sacrilage and will vitiate the sacred purpose of celebrating Birth Centenary of Netaji. We urge our Government to request the Government of Russia to allow the Asiatic Society team of Calcutta to conduct the research work on the files of the K.G.B. and Cominterns pertaining Netaji's disappearance. We also urge our Government to appoint a Commission of research scholars and learned people to find the truth of Netaji's disappearance and place the truth before the people. Letter follows.

Regards



Cap. B.K. Sarma
Chairman, I.N.A. Association
Calcutta.

NOTE for the
Cabinet

Final Version

Copy No. 2

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Note for the Cabinet

Subject : Proposal to bring back the mortal remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to India.

The mortal remains of Netaji are now kept in the Bose Academy in Tokyo. In view of the widespread sentiments that Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the proposal to bring back the ashes with due respect and honour, needs to be pursued and a decision is required to be taken well in advance as to what is to be done with these mortal remains.

BACKGROUND NOTE ON VARIOUS REPORTS AND OPPOSITION TO CONCLUSIONS DRAWN

1. Netaji's death is an issue surcharged with emotions. The issue of whether he actually died in the plane crash of August 18, 1945, at Taihoku, has been questioned by some individuals and organizations.

(a) Shah Nawaz Committee Report: In response to a public demand, the Government of India appointed a 3-member committee on April 5, 1956, "to inquire into and report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments therewith". The Committee, by a majority of 2:1, came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945. While S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra, signed the report, Shri Suresh Chander Bose disagreed with this conclusion and submitted a dissenting report. Although the report of the Committee was considerably devalued by this dissent, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

(b) Khosla Commission of Inquiry: In view of widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains, and there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter, the Central Government instituted on July 11, 1970, one-man Commission of Inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, was appointed as sole member. The Commission visited Japan, Burma, Thailand,

486

Singapore, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Taiwan and examined 224 witnesses (including 100 examined abroad). A large number of files and documents produced before the Commission, were examined. The Commission arrived at the same conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the findings. The report of the Commission, along with the memorandum of action taken thereon, was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on September 3, 1974.

- c) Extract of a letter dated 19th June, 1966 written by Shah Nawaz Khan, M.P to the then Foreign Secretary Shri S. Dutt about Col. Figgess's report

During the course of his evidence before the Shah Nawaz Committee in Tokyo, one Col. J.G. Figgess is reported to have stated in September 1945 that he had received orders in September 1945 from either the Headquarters of Supreme Allied Commander S.E. Asia Command, Kandy or the Director of Military Intelligence India, asking him to carry out enquiries in Tokyo and Formosa to ascertain the truth about the story of the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. These enquiries were carried out by him and Col. Figgess was positive that a copy of this report would be available with the British Government. He has also sent a copy of his report to the then Government of India (either the Director of Military Intelligence, GHQ India or the Director of Intelligence Branch, New Delhi).

High Commissioner's reference dated 27th February, 1978 to Lord Mountbatten after the publication of the classified document called "The Transfer of Powers 1942-47". Lord Mountbatten stated the following "My archives have been searched and there is no official record of his death and I know that this doubt was shared by Wavell himself but in a book, "The End of the War in Asia" by Louis Allen, who served as a Japanese language officer in India and Burma during and at the end of the war, he described in detail the air crash on the 18th August 1945 in which Chandra Bose died.

In this book he also states that in 1956 a mission was sent to Japan to enquire into the crash and although Suresh Bose still stuck to the belief that his brother was alive in the Soviet Union, other members of the mission were convinced by the evidence of the 67 witnesses who were called, that he had died in the crash. The fact that he has never surfaced any where to my knowledge makes it appear more than ever clear he was in fact killed in the crash.

The letter you quote from Vol.VI of "The Transfer of Power" is dated the 23rd August but it is reply to a letter written on the 11th August by Sir Evan Jenkins, that is, seven days before Chandra Bose's death.

H.V. Hodson, author of "The Great Divide", appears to accept without question the death of Chandra Bose, and he had access to the papers in my archives when preparing to write his book.

d) Shri Samar Guha moved a Motion in Lok Sabha on August 3, 1977, urging the Government to set up a 3-man commission for conducting a fresh inquiry into the mystery of the disappearance of Netaji. The motion was discussed at length in 1977 and also in 1978. On the 28th August, 1978 the Prime Minister intervening in the debate observed:

"There have been two enquiries into the report of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the air-crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield during his air-journey to Manchuria, one by a Committee presided over by Maj.General Shah Nawaz Khan and the second by a one-man Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Judge of the Punjab High Court. The majority report of the first Committee and Shri Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of those doubts and contradictions and those records Government find it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry. I hope that in the light of this statement my Hon. friend will withdraw his motion".

Thereafter Prof. Guha withdrew his motion. While doing so he declared in the House:

"Today, I cannot express my gratitude to the Prime Minister because today ends a crusade that in my humble way I was trying to conduct on behalf of the people of India at least to see that officially and legally Netaji is not declared dead".

(488)

The question of authenticity of the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple in Japan as those of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose remained inconclusive. As indicated by the then Prime Minister in the House the Government did not contemplate any fresh enquiry into the matter. It was, however, found that the point raised by Shri Guha in the speech in the House had been fully examined in the Home Ministry in the context of the Khosla Commission findings and no fresh grounds requiring further investigations by a new commission had been advanced by him. The matter was, therefore, placed before the CCPA with the following proposal:

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

The CCPA approved the proposal on 27th February, 1991 and the matter was laid at rest.

(d) Report of the Japanese Foreign Office: In a note verbale issued by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of India in Japan, dated January 31, 1956, the Foreign Office forwarded a report prepared by their Ministry on the cause of death and other matters related to late Subhash Chandra Bose. The investigation report incorporated the fact that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on August 18, 1945 at 7 PM. The report, inter alia, included sequence of events leading to the sad demise of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, along with rough sketch map of the airport, aircraft, and the Taipei Army Hospital. This report was taken into account by both Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission of Inquiry.

UNION CABINET DECISION OF FEBRUARY 8, 1995

2. The Union Cabinet had considered on February 8, 1995, the question of bringing the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. While deferring a final decision, the Cabinet directed that the dependability of the arrangements in Japan should be properly examined and that a contingency plan for the proper upkeep of the mortal remains should be drawn up, and that our Ambassador in Tokyo be specifically requested to look into these aspects.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

3. The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. Like all shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by the Japanese towards religious places. The shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji, and is visited by worshippers who do not necessarily go there to pay respect to the ashes. Strengthening of security is not likely to be received kindly, as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

4. The shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki, whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about 50 years ago. Amongst the list of members of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, he is the youngest and is 55 years old. Rev. Mochizuki appears to be quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes and has told our Embassy that he has no intention of doing anything without the full consultation and approval of Japanese and Indian Governments. We donate Yen 600,000 annually, for the upkeep. It was felt that the contribution could perhaps be increased to Yen 1 million. As per PM's directive dated 30th November, 1995, MEA is processing the proposal to increase Government of India's annual contribution to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo from Yen 600,000/- to Yen One million.

PRESSURE FOR REMOVAL OF ASHES TO INDIA

5. Our Ambassador's impression is that such pressure as there is, comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy. He is in poor health. At the memorial service on August 19, 1994, Mr. Hayashi had said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist tradition and practice". While it is not clear that there is any rule for discontinuance of the memorial service after 50 years, the younger members appear to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony.

6. Ambassador's remarks on the "present arrangements" and "pressure for removal of ashes to India" were conveyed to the Home Secretary by Foreign Secretary in June, 1995.

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VIEWS OF JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE

7. (a) The Japanese Foreign Office has asked us whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth (January 23, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been more in the nature of an inquiry than a suggestion. It is unlikely that the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence.

EAM'S talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Kono

(b) During EAM's visit to Japan, Foreign Minister Yoheio Kono referred to the visit of EAM to Renkoji temple on 8 September, 1995 and said that there were many Japanese who respected Netaji Bose. The background to the issue of Netaji's ashes was better understood when one notes that the people taking care of the ashes are getting old. But the issue remains unresolved. FMYK sought EAM's candid assessment. EAM replied that it was one of the issues which India is addressing. The centenary celebration of Netaji was falling next year. Some family members, specially one of Netaji's nephews, had raised strong objection to the taking of ashes to India. He belongs to a political party which does not believe that Netaji died on that particular occasion. The Government's earlier decision to award the Bharat Ratna to Netaji posthumously was challenged in the court on the ground that his death had not been clearly established. At the same time, however, there was an important section including INA veterans, which feels strongly that the ashes should be kept in a monument in India dedicated to Netaji. We are already talking to them. This month we are also continuing discussion with Netaji's relatives to resolve the issue. India is grateful to the Japanese Government and people for protecting the ashes for so long with reverence. FMYK said that many people in Japan have respect for Netaji and there was no inconvenience in keeping the ashes here. However, he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. EAM said that India would give weight to the views of his daughter who was in favour of taking the ashes to India. In any case, the issue was expected to be resolved soon.

STAND OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN OFFICE

8. In a note verbale dated October 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, informed us that as a result of investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia, and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents of Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years.

MEA'S SUGGESTIONS

9. MEA suggested that in view of the widespread sentiments Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. In doing so, the following preparatory action was envisaged:

i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes... public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes, or

ii) Alternatively, establishment of a committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions who would give a call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

MHA'S STAND

10. Based on the inputs received from MEA and IB, it was felt that if a decision is taken to bring the ashes back to India, creation of favourable public opinion will be a crucial step in the realisation of this objective. Some members of the Bose family, particularly Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, and individuals like Prof Samar Guha and members of the Forward Bloc, are not reconciled to the fact that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku. It would, therefore, be necessary to take members of Netaji's family into confidence in the first place by convincing them of the genuineness of the ashes. The question of an appropriate memorial involving the mortal remains shall also have to be addressed in due course.

PROPOSAL OF ASHIS C. RAY OF CNN

11. Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, visited Japan about a year ago and had met officials at the Foreign Office. On September 5, 1995, Shri Ray proposed to the Prime Minister, in a fax message, to direct conducting of a DNA test which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji Temple are Netaji's or not. Further, he proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Block, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the tests.

Mr. Ashish Ray claimed that he learnt in November, 1995 that Dr. Taneyoshi Yoshimi (The doctor who attended on Netaji Subhash Bose after the plane crash on August 18, 1945 at Taihoku) was alive and with the help of a Japanese colleague interviewed him. In a published article in the Statesman on 12.12.95, Mr. Ashish Ray stated categorically that Netaji Subhash Bose died after being involved in a plane crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945 and that Dr. Yoshimi confirmed to him having written the death certificate of Netaji Subhash Bose.

VIEWS OF NETAJI'S DAUGHTER

12. Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter from his German wife, had visited Delhi for discussions with other members of the family and been in touch with the Japanese Ambassador in Delhi in February 1995. She had also written to some associates of Netaji, including Hayashi. EAM met her in Germany in October 1995. During discussion with EAM, she expressed her willingness to go along with the proposal of bringing back the ashes to India but did not approve of the DNA test.

VIEWS OF OTHER IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF NETAJI'S FAMILY

13. While Dr. Sisir Bose supports the idea of bringing back the ashes, Dr. Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew remains the most vociferous skeptic of the air crash episode and opposes any proposal of bringing back the ashes.

Background
Note

COPY NO. 2

Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Subject : Proposal to bring back the mortal remains of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to
India.

BACKGROUND NOTE ON VARIOUS REPORTS AND OPPOSITION TO
CONCLUSIONS DRAWN

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"There have been two enquiries into the report of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the air-crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield during his air-journey to Manchuria, one by a Committee presided over by Maj. General Shah Nawaz Khan and the second by a one-man Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Judge of the Punjab High Court. The majority report of the first Committee and Shri Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of those doubts and contradictions and those records Government find it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry. I hope that in the light of this statement my Hon. friend will withdraw his motion".

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Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

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UNION CABINET DECISION OF FEBRUARY 8, 1995

2. The Union Cabinet had considered on February 8, 1995, the question of bringing the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. While deferring a final decision, the Cabinet directed that the dependability of the arrangements in Japan should be properly examined and that a contingency plan for the proper upkeep of the mortal remains should be drawn up, and that our Ambassador in Tokyo be specifically requested to look into these aspects.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

3. The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. Like all shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by the Japanese towards religious places. The shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji, and is visited by worshippers who do not necessarily go there to pay respect to the ashes. Strengthening of security is not likely to be received kindly, as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

4. The shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki, whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about 50 years ago. Amongst the list of members of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, he is the youngest and is 55 years old. Rev. Mochizuki appears to be quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes and has told our Embassy that he has no intention of doing anything without the full consultation and approval of Japanese and Indian Governments. We donate Yen 600,000 annually, for the upkeep. It was felt that the contribution could perhaps be increased to Yen 1 million. As per PM's directive dated 30th November, 1995, MEA is processing the proposal to increase Government of India's annual contribution to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo from Yen 600,000/- to Yen One million.

PRESSURE FOR REMOVAL OF ASHES TO INDIA

5. Our Ambassador's impression is that such pressure as there is, comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy. He is in poor health. At the memorial service on August 19, 1994, Mr. Hayashi had said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist tradition and practice". While it is not clear that there is any rule for discontinuance of the memorial service after 50 years, the younger members appear to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony.

6. Ambassador's remarks on the "present arrangements" and "pressure for removal of ashes to India" were conveyed to the Home Secretary by Foreign Secretary in June, 1995.

VIEWS OF JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE

7. (a) The Japanese Foreign Office has asked us whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth (January 23, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been more in the nature of an inquiry than a suggestion. It is unlikely that the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence.

(b) During EAM's visit to Japan, Foreign Minister Yoheio Kono referred to the visit of EAM to Renkoji temple on 8 September, 1995 and said that there were many Japanese who respected Netaji Bose. The background to the issue of Netaji's ashes was better understood when one notes that the people taking care of the ashes are getting old. But the issue remains unresolved. FMYK sought EAM's candid assessment. EAM replied that it was one of the issues which India is addressing. The centenary celebration of Netaji was falling next year. Some family members, specially one of Netaji's nephews, had raised strong objection to the taking of ashes to India. He belongs to a political party which does not believe that Netaji died on that particular occasion. The Government's earlier decision to award the Bharat Ratna to Netaji posthumously was challenged in the court on the ground that his death had not been clearly established. At the same time, however, there was an important section including INA veterans, which feels strongly that the ashes should be kept in a monument in India dedicated to Netaji. We are already talking to them. This month we are also continuing discussion with Netaji's relatives to resolve the issue. India is grateful to the Japanese Government and people for protecting the ashes for so long with reverence. FMYK said that many people in Japan have respect for Netaji and there was no inconvenience in keeping the ashes here. However, he personally felt that it would be better to return the ashes to his homeland and to his family. EAM said that India would give weight to the views of his daughter who was in favour of taking the ashes to India. In any case, the issue was expected to be resolved soon.

STAND OF THE RUSSIAN FOREIGN OFFICE

8. In a note verbale dated October 27, 1995, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, informed us that as a result of investigations carried out at the Central Archival Collection of the Federal Security Service of Russia, and the Russian Centre for Retention and Perusal of Documents of Modern History, no information whatsoever has come to light on the stay of Subhash Chandra Bose on the territory of the former USSR in 1945 and in subsequent years.

MEA'S SUGGESTIONS

9. MEA suggested that in view of the widespread sentiments Netaji's birth centenary in 1997 should be befittingly commemorated, the ashes should be brought back to India with due respect and honour. This action would form part of the full public recognition of his role and contribution to India's independence. In doing so, the following preparatory action was envisaged:

i) Promotion of consensus in favour of burying the controversy and bringing back the ashes... public figures and others to be discreetly encouraged to make statements, including in Parliament, requesting the Government to bring back the ashes, or

ii) Alternatively, establishment of a committee to commemorate Netaji's birth centenary with participation of public figures of various political opinions who would give a call for bringing back the late leader's ashes to India.

MHA'S STAND

10. Based on the inputs received from MEA and IB, it was felt that if a decision is taken to bring the ashes back to India, creation of favourable public opinion will be a crucial step in the realisation of this objective. Some members of the Bose family, particularly Shri Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew, and individuals like Prof Samar Guha and members of the Forward Bloc, are not reconciled to the fact that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku. It would, therefore, be necessary to take members of Netaji's family into confidence in the first place by convincing them of the genuineness of the ashes. The question of an appropriate memorial involving the mortal remains shall also have to be addressed in due course.

PROPOSAL OF ASHIS C. RAY OF CNN

11. Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, visited Japan about a year ago and had met officials at the Foreign Office. On September 5, 1995, Shri Ray proposed to the Prime Minister, in a fax message, to direct conducting of a DNA test which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji Temple are Netaji's or not. Further, he proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Block, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the tests.

Mr. Ashish Ray claimed that he learnt in November, 1995 that Dr. Taneyoshi Yoshimi (The doctor who attended on Netaji Subhash Bose after the plane crash on August 18, 1945 at Taihoku) was alive and with the help of a Japanese colleague interviewed him. In a published article in the Statesman on 12.12.95, Mr. Ashish Ray stated categorically that Netaji Subhash Bose died after being involved in a plane crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945 and that Dr. Yoshimi confirmed to him having written the death certificate of Netaji Subhash Bose.

VIEWS OF NETAJI'S DAUGHTER

12. Ms. Anita Pfaff, Netaji's daughter from his German wife, had visited Delhi for discussions with other members of the family and been in touch with the Japanese Ambassador in Delhi in February 1995. She had also written to some associates of Netaji, including Hayashi. EAM met her in Germany in October 1995. During discussion with EAM, she expressed her willingness to go along with the proposal of bringing back the ashes to India but did not approve of the DNA test.

VIEWS OF OTHER IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF NETAJI'S FAMILY

13. While Dr. Sisir Bose supports the idea of bringing back the ashes, Dr. Amiya Nath Bose, Netaji's nephew remains the most vociferous skeptic of the air crash episode and opposes any proposal of bringing back the ashes.

Background

NOTE

COPY NO. 1

499

TOP SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

Subject : Proposal to bring back the mortal remains of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Japan to
India.

BACKGROUND NOTE ON VARIOUS REPORTS AND OPPOSITION TO
CONCLUSIONS DRAWN

1. Netaji's death is an issue surcharged with emotions. The issue of whether he actually died in the plane crash of August 18, 1945, at Taihoku, has been questioned by some individuals and organizations.

(a) Shah Nawaz Committee Report: In response to a public demand, the Government of India appointed a 3-member committee on April 5, 1956, "to inquire into and report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his alleged death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments therewith". The Committee, by a majority of 2:1, came to the conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku (Taiwan) on August 18, 1945. While S/Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and S.N. Maitra, signed the report, Shri Suresh Chander Bose disagreed with this conclusion and submitted a dissenting report. Although the report of the Committee was considerably devalued by this dissent, the majority report was accepted by the Government.

(b) Khosla Commission of Inquiry: In view of widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains, and there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter, the Central Government instituted on July 11, 1970, one-man Commission of Inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of Punjab High Court, was appointed as sole member. The Commission visited Japan, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, South Vietnam and Taiwan and examined 224 witnesses (including 100 examined abroad). A large number of files and documents produced before the Commission, were examined. The Commission arrived at the same conclusion that Netaji died in the air crash at Taihoku on August 18, 1945. The Cabinet considered this report and accepted the findings. The report of the Commission, along with the memorandum of action taken thereon, was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament on September 3, 1974.

c) Shri Samar Guha moved a Motion in Lok Sabha on August 3, 1977, urging the Government to set up a 3-man commission for conducting a fresh inquiry into the mystery of the disappearance of Netaji. The motion was discussed at length in 1977 and also in 1978. On the 28th August, 1978 the Prime Minister intervening in the debate observed:

"There have been two enquiries into the report of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the air-crash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield during his air-journey to Manchuria, one by a Committee presided over by Maj. General Shah Nawaz Khan and the second by a one-man Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Judge of the Punjab High Court. The majority report of the first Committee and Shri Khosla held the report of the death as true. Since then, reasonable doubts have been cast on the correctness of the conclusions reached in the two reports and various important contradictions in the testimony of witnesses have been noticed. Some further contemporary official documentary records have also become available. In the light of those doubts and contradictions and those records Government find it difficult to accept that the earlier conclusions are decisive. At the same time Government feels that no useful purpose would be served by having any further inquiry. I hope that in the light of this statement my Hon. friend will withdraw his motion".

Thereafter Prof. Guha withdrew his motion. While doing so he declared in the House:

"Today, I cannot express my gratitude to the Prime Minister because today ends a crusade that in my humble way I was trying to conduct on behalf of the people of India at least to see that officially and legally Netaji is not declared dead".

The question of authenticity of the ashes kept in the Renkoji Temple in Japan as those of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose remained inconclusive. As indicated by the then Prime Minister in the House the Government did not contemplate any fresh enquiry into the matter. It was, however, found that the point raised by Shri Guha in the speech in the House had been fully examined in the Home Ministry in the context of the Khosla Commission findings and no fresh grounds requiring further investigations by a new commission had been advanced by him. The matter was, therefore, placed before the CCPA with the following proposal:

"The issue of Netaji's death and bringing of ashes to India is surcharged with emotion. We have already had two enquiries on the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It has already been accepted that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in the air crash on 18th August, 1945 at

Taihoku. The Ministry of Home Affairs are, therefore, of the view that no useful purpose would be served by holding yet another enquiry or/by bringing the ashes back to India at present as this might create unnecessary tensions."

The CCPA approved the proposal on 27th February, 1991 and the matter was laid at rest.

(d) Report of the Japanese Foreign Office: In a note verbale issued by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Embassy of India in Japan, dated January 31, 1956, the Foreign Office forwarded a report prepared by their Ministry on the cause of death and other matters related to late Subhash Chandra Bose. The investigation report incorporated the fact that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died on August 18, 1945 at 7 PM. The report, inter alia, included sequence of events leading to the sad demise of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, along with rough sketch map of the airport, aircraft, and the Taipei Army Hospital. This report was taken into account by both Shah Nawaz Committee and Khosla Commission of Inquiry.

UNION CABINET DECISION OF FEBRUARY 8, 1995

2. The Union Cabinet had considered on February 8, 1995, the question of bringing the mortal remains of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Japan to India. While deferring a final decision, the Cabinet directed that the dependability of the arrangements in Japan should be properly examined and that a contingency plan for the proper upkeep of the mortal remains should be drawn up, and that our Ambassador in Tokyo be specifically requested to look into these aspects.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

3. The ashes are currently kept in an urn on the right side of the main altar in the Renkoji Temple in the outskirts (but within the city) of Tokyo. Like all shrines in Japan, there is no security except what is ensured by the reverence and respect shown by the Japanese towards religious places. The shrine is not exclusively devoted to the ashes of Netaji, and is visited by worshippers who do not necessarily go there to pay respect to the ashes. Strengthening of security is not likely to be received kindly, as this is a place of worship open to all. Furthermore, any suggestion from us could well revive the occasional suggestions from the Japanese that we should take the ashes to India.

502

4. The shrine is looked after by Rev. Yasufumi Mochizuki, whose father was the priest of the shrine earlier and had personally brought the ashes from Taipei about 50 years ago. Amongst the list of members of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Academy, he is the youngest and is 55 years old. Rev. Mochizuki appears to be quite happy to carry on the work of looking after the ashes and has told our Embassy that he has no intention of doing anything without the full consultation and approval of Japanese and Indian Governments. We donate Yen 600,000 annually, for the upkeep. It was felt that the contribution could perhaps be increased to Yen 1 million. As per PM's directive dated 30th November, 1995, MEA is processing the proposal to increase Government of India's annual contribution to the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo from Yen 600,000/- to Yen One million.

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5. Our Ambassador's impression is that such pressure as there is, comes chiefly from the associates of Netaji who are growing older and who feel a personal sense of responsibility for the ashes. They feel that after them, there might be nobody to pay proper respect to the memory of Netaji. Even within the group, the main pressure is from older members, especially Mr. Hayashi, Secretary of the Bose Academy. He is in poor health. At the memorial service on August 19, 1994, Mr. Hayashi had said that that would be the last memorial service "in keeping with Buddhist tradition and practice". While it is not clear that there is any rule for discontinuance of the memorial service after 50 years, the younger members appear to be quite willing to carry on the memorial service although they would all be happy to see Netaji's ashes repatriated to India with due honour and ceremony.

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7. (a) The Japanese Foreign Office has asked us whether, in view of the forthcoming 50th anniversary of Netaji's death and the forthcoming centenary of his birth (January 23, 1997), we propose to take the ashes back to India. This has been more in the nature of an inquiry than a suggestion. It is unlikely that the Foreign Office would do anything without consulting us and seeking our concurrence.

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11. Ashis C. Ray of CNN, who is the grandson of Netaji's elder brother, visited Japan about a year ago and had met officials at the Foreign Office. On September 5, 1995, Shri Ray proposed to the Prime Minister, in a fax message, to direct conducting of a DNA test which may provide conclusive and incontrovertible scientific evidence as to whether the ashes at Renkoji Temple are Netaji's or not. Further, he proposed that an international team of experts, one of whom could be from our DNA Centre at Hyderabad, be "entrusted with the job with a set of observers from the Bose family, the Forward Block, and such like". He stated that a blood sample could be taken from a relative and bone particles from the ashes or a tooth (which is likely to exist in the urn on the basis of a claim made by Netaji's ADC Col. Habibur Rahman), to carry out the tests.

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21/12
~~SECRET~~

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

8329/NGO/55
21/12

नई दिल्ली - 110 011
NEW DELHI - 110 011

A suggestion has been received in this Office, including from some members of the family of the late Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, proposing that the ashes presumed to be Netaji's, which presently lie in an urn at the Renkoji Temple, Tokyo should be subjected to mitochondrial DNA analysis to try to resolve the controversy surrounding them.

2. We would be grateful for comments on this suggestion.

N.K. Sinha

(N.K. Sinha)
Joint Secretary to PM
19.12.95

- 1. Home Secretary
- ✓ 2. Foreign Secretary
- 3. Secretary, Department of Biotechnology

PMO U.O. No. 805/11/C/13/95-20/12 dated 19.12.95

*Minister
Dir (CNS)*

R. K. K. K.
120/11/95

SO (NSD) / 21.12.95
MOPS

Rajat Saha
Director(CNV)

~~TOP SECRET~~

No.25/4/NGO(Pt)

13th November, 1995

Kindly refer to your letter No.TOK/102/2/92 dated 24.8.95 forwarding herewith File No.5(1)NGO-I alongwith Part file No.5(1)NGO-I(No.Amb/PS-II/56).

As instructed by FS a copy of your file and the folder has been retained by NGO Section.

The original file alongwith the part file is returned herewith.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Yours sincerely,

R. Saha
(Rajat Saha)

etc

Shri N. Ravi
Minister & DCM
Embassy of India,
Tokyo

Sh OPS
13. XI. 95

Jmad
13/11/95



सत्यमेव जयते

DCM

~~TOP SECRET~~

N. Ravi
Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission

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भारत का राजदूतावास, टोकियो

Embassy of India

2-2-11 Kudan Minami

Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo-102

Telex: 2324886 (INDEMB)

Phone: (03) 3262-2391

Fax: (03) 3262-1273

No.TOK/102/2/92


August 24, 1995

My dear Rajat,

Please find enclosed File No. 5(1)NGO-I (Subject: Ashes of Shri Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose) in original and part file No. 5(1)NGO-I (No.AMB/PS-II/56). Since the press clippings are very large in numbers, they are being sent by bag leaving Tokyo on 27th August, 1995.

Please acknowledge receipt of these two files.

Yours sincerely,


(N. Ravi) 24/8

Shri Rajat Saha,
Director (CNV)
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

1068/NGO/95
25/8/95

IT-1797/AS(AD)/95
2418

O.T.C.

Telegram

~~TOP SECRET~~

CCB No. 12835

From: Indembassy Tokyo

To: Foreign New Delhi

Copy No. 02

3
509

DTG AUG 241600
DTR AUG 241400
Year 1995

CRASH

No. 11.

Shri RAJAT SAHA, DIRECTOR (CNV) from N. RAVI, Minister and DCM.

Reference your telegram No. 5738 dated August 23, 1995. As instructed by you, files regarding the ashes of Netaji SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE have been sent by hand of Pilot of AI-307 vide Bag No. 34-New Delhi(AIR) dated 24.8.95. The flight reaches Delhi around 1700 hours IST today (24.8.95) Thursday. Grateful arrange collection.

le
25/8/95

NGO.
25-8-95

FS: DIR CNV.

[Signature]
SECTION OFFICER (CCB)

VGY(A)/3cs
241445
241500
241500

TOP SECRET

570 T-1860/220/95
24/8/95
2



O.T.C.

Telegram

~~TOP SECRET~~

CCB No. 5738

From : Foreign New Delhi
To : Indembassy Tokyo

Copy No. 2

DTG AUG 231645
DTT AUG 231720
YEAR 1995

CRASH

No. 5738.

N. RAVI, DCM from DIR(CNV).

Refour telecon of today regarding file on Netaji. FS desires that the file be sent immediately repeat immediately by special bag. Intimate despatch details.

FS : DIR CNV.

Abulhasan
(SECTION OFFICER (CCB))

MP(A)/03 Cs.

231645
231730
240600

TOP SECRET

P. Kohli
24/8

SO (P/20)

Sh OPS
24.8.95

27/8/95 Part

①
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~~TOP SECRET~~
CRASH

CCB TELEGRAM

FOREIGN NEW DELHI

INDEMBASSY TOKYO

DCM FROM DIRECTOR(CNV)

REFOUR TELECOM OF TODAY REGARDING FILE ON NETAJI(.) FS
DESIRES THAT THE FILE BE SENT IMMEDIATELY REPEAT IMMEDIATELY BY
SPECIAL BAG(.) INTIMATE DESPATCH DETAILS(.)

FS
D/2 (CNV)

ST2

Tarakeswar Pal
Advocate

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E-mail : barasohc@cal.cmc.net.in

Sherista No. : C-8
Judges' Court Compound
(Beside 1st Munsif Court)
Alipur, Calcutta-700 027
Phone :

Residence & Chamber
PURNASASI, 33, Asoke Avenue
(Off & Opposite Navanir)
Calcutta-700 040, Ph : 471-0592

(513)

Shri J.N. Singh, Section Officer

MHA — 301-6634

