

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2585

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR SABARMATI ASRAM GAUSHALA TRUST, AHMEDABAD

Patil Shri C. R.

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the Government of Gujarat for acquiring the land from Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala Trust, Ahmedabad to develop suitable memorial on the Samadhi of late Shri Murarji Desai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken by the Union Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a) to (c) : A letter was received from Government of Gujarat in April, 2004 requesting CPWD to acquire the land for 'Abhay Ghat' the Samadhi of late Prime Minister Shri Murarji Desai. State Government was informed that land in question was provided to CPWD by the Department/Ministry of Culture for executing the work. As such, CPWD had nothing to do in the matter.

The Ministry of Culture has informed that a memorial of Shri Murarji Desai, former Prime Minister named "Abhay Ghat" has been constructed on the banks of river Sabarmati. The land for the memorial was given by Sabarmati Ashram Gaushala Trust, Ahmedabad without any cost. The construction work started in July, 1997 and was completed in March, 1999. The Memorial is being maintained by CPWD. As such, the question of acquiring the land on payment of its cost, does not arise at this stage. The Government of Gujarat has been informed, accordingly.