

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 812
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023

DECLARATION OF PAIKABIDROHA AS FIRST WAR OF INDEPENDENCE OF INDIA

812: Dr. Sasmit Patra:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps undertaken to declare Paika Bidroha as the first war of Independence of India;
- (b) by when this declaration is expected to be undertaken and the reasons for the delay; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Ministry to commemorate Paika Bidroha and the details of funds which have been allocated and the expenditure towards it so far?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF
NORTH EASTERN REGION
(G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c) The Government has approved commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of Uprising of Soldiers led by Buxi Jagabandhu. In order to celebrate the commemoration across the India, following steps were taken:-

- (i) The 200th anniversary of Uprising of soldiers led by Buxi Jagabandhu (Popularly known as Paika Andolan) was celebrated by Government of India in fitting manner at national level during 2017-18.
- (ii) Inaugural function of the commemoration was held at plenary hall of Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 20th July 2017, which was presided over by then Hon'ble President of India Pranav Mukherjee.
- (iii) Ministry of Culture has also released corpus funds of Rs 5 crore to Utkal University, Bhubaneswar for setting up of Chair in memory of Paika Andolan.

- (iv) Commemorative coin of Rs 200 and commemorative postage stamp were released by Hon'ble Prime Minister at a function organized at Utkal University.
- (v) Ministry of Culture has approved construction of Grand Memorial in memory of Paika Andolan at Khordha district in Odisha on about ten acres of land allocated by Government of Odisha at free of cost. For execution of memorial project an Empowered Committee has constituted.
- (vi) The foundation stone of the Memorial was laid down by the Hon'ble President of India.
- (vii) A number of cultural activities were also organized in different parts of country from financial assistance sanctioned by Ministry of Culture.

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