

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 882**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2023**

**DOCUMENTARY ON SENGOL**

**882. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:**

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has made a documentary on the history of Sengol that was recently installed in the new building of Parliament;
- (b) if so, the details of the team or the organisation which was entrusted with the task and the total expenditure incurred on the production of the documentary;
- (c) the historical documents and materials relied on for making the documentary;
- (d) the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has noticed various reports and responses contrary to the claims in the documentary; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND**  
**MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**  
**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

- (a) **Yes, Sir.**
- (b) to (f) **The documentary was produced by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. The cost of production was part of the overall assignment. The details as received from Ministry of Culture are furnished at Annexure.**

**Annexure in reference to Parts (b) to (f) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 882 for answer on 27.07.2023**

**Sources referred for reconstructing the history and significance of Sengol:**

i. Government Report-

- Policy note 2021-22, Demand number 47 of Hon'ble Minister of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment, Government of Tamilnadu.

ii. Institutional Memory-

- The Thiruvavaduthaurai Adheenam records and its Institutional Memory
- The recollection by Kanchi Paramacharya, (quoted - Thevaram Doctor R. Subramaniam; Ponnar Menianudan Ponnana-Naatkal, Vol - 3: Pages 120-121)
- Interview of Masilamani (the Secretary of 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Mahasannidhanam of the Thriuvavaduthaurai Adheenam)
- The Vummidi Family's institutional memory and its website (<https://www.vummidi.com/legacy>)

iii. Contemporaneous Media Coverage-

1. The Hindu dated 11.08.1947
2. The Indian Express dated 13.08.1947
3. The Hindustan Times dated 13.08.1947
4. The Statesman dated 15.08.1947
5. TIME Magazine August 1947

iv. Subsequent Tamil & English Media coverage-

1. Dinamalar dated 08.03.2019 & 04.05.2020
2. Junior Vikatan dated 13.04.2019
3. Deiva Murasu
4. Thuglaq magazine article dated 05.05.2021

v. Publications-

1. Karaka, D.F. (1950). Betrayal of India. London
2. (Ed.) Education Department of the Government of Maharashtra (1979). Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Writings and Speeches. Vol. I. Maharashtra. Quoted also in Kumar, V. (2014). Inequality in India: Caste and Hindu Social Order, Transience, Vol. V. No. I.
3. Lapierre, Dominique and Collins, Larry (1999) (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Freedom at Midnight. Delhi.
4. Tan, Tai Yong and Kudaisya,, Gyanesh (2000). The Aftermath of Partition in South Asia. London-New York.
5. Anderson, Perry (2012). The Indian Ideology. Delhi.
6. Murugunar, Saktiyavel. (2013). Kolaru Pathigam.
7. Khan, Yasmin (2017). Great Partition: The Making of India and Pakistan. New Haven and London.