

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2409**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018

**STATUE OF SAVARKAR**

2409. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mayor of Marseilles of the Republic of France earmarked land for the construction of Swatantrya Vir Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's memorial/statue whose expenses shall be borne by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and current status of the same;
- (c) if not, whether the Government proposes to construct a Vir Savarkar's memorial at Marseilles; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the timeframe for its construction?

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) No. However, organization such as the Swatantryaveer Savarkar Seva Kendra (SSSK), Swatantryaveer Savarkar Madhyavarti Rashtriya Prabodhan Sanstha (SSMRPS), the Hindu Jana Jagruthi Samiti (HJJS) and others have taken up the issue of land allocation for the construction of Veer Savarkar's memorial / statute in Marseilles, France.

The Swatantryaveer Savarkar Seva Kendra (SSSK) had as early as mid-1990s corresponded directly with the Office of the Mayor of Marseilles requesting for allocation of land for the installation of the memorial. The Mayor of Marseilles had in July 1998 conveyed his consent to SSSK for the installation of the memorial / statute of Veer Savarkar. However, no decision, to date, has been conveyed by the Mayor of Marseilles to the Government that land has been earmarked for the stated purpose to these organizations.

(c) & (d) The Ministry of Culture has conveyed that no formal proposal has been received for the construction of Veer Savarkar's memorial / statute at Marseilles in France.

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