

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.274
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2017**

MOVIE ON BAL GANGADHAR TILAK

274. DR. UDIT RAJ:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had sanctioned funds for production of a movie based on Bal Gangadhar Tilak in 2005;
- (b) if so, the status of production of such movie;
- (c) whether files and documents related to such sanction of funds are reportedly missing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the status of the movie and the utilization of the sanctioned funds?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE
FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
DR. MAHESH SHARMA**

(a) to (d): While commemorating 50 years of Indian Republic, during the year 2000-01, Government of India had sanctioned the production of a film on Bal Gangadhar Tilak to Shri Vinay Dhumale at a cost of Rs. 2.50 cr. The funds were released in two installments of Rs. 1.25 cr. each during the FY 2000-01 itself. File relating to the sanction of the film is, however, not traceable. The matter of missing file has been reported to the Police.

Pursuant to an RTI application received in December 2012 in the concerned Division of this Ministry, enquiring about the status of the said film, a request was made to the producer in September 2013 about the status of the film. Shri Vinay Dhumale submitted two scratch copies of the film in December 2013 along with photocopies of Utilization Certificates (UCs) for the sanctioned fund. On watching the said film and based on some inputs from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, financial irregularities in the production of the film were noticed. After detailed examination of the case, the matter was referred to the CBI in July 2015 for investigation. As per report received from the CBI, a charge sheet has since been filed in the Patiala House Court, New Delhi and the Court has also taken cognizance of the case.
