

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Special forces to protect national monuments

4179. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up any special force to protect national monuments or sites under the control of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) There is no such proposal at present. Archaeological Survey of India deploys a mix of regular watch and ward staff of the ASI, private security guards and State Police personnel for security of 3667 centrally protected monuments. In addition, CISF personnel are deployed at selected monuments.

Award to drama writers from Assam by Sangeet Natak Akademy

4180. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that not a single drama writer from the State of Assam has been awarded so far by the Sangeet Natak Akademy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the name of awardee and the work that has been recognized?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Shri Satya Prasad Barua and Shri Arun Sharma from Assam have been awarded by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in the year 1986 and 2004 respectively for their contribution to playwriting in Assamese. Akademi Award is not based on a particular play, but on the sustained contribution of the playwright.

Important research study scheme by Dr. Kumar Suresh Singh

†4181. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Anthropological Survey of India had started an important research study scheme two decades ago on national level under the leadership of Dr. Kumar Suresh Singh, which was named as 'People of India';

(b) if so, details of the States whose study volumes have been published by the Anthropological Survey of India as book series after that research study;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Bihar-volume has not been published till now;

(d) if so, reasons therefor; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) time by when it would be published?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The Anthropological Survey of India started an important research study scheme on 2nd October, 1985 at the National level under the leadership of Dr. Kumar Suresh Singh, which was named as 'People of India'.

• (b) The details of publication under this project are as follows:—

(i) All the 11 'National Volumes' have been published;

(ii) Out of 32 'State Volumes', 29 State Volumes have been published;

(iii) Three Volumes on Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa will be published shortly.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The 'Bihar Volume' could not be published because of technical problems, which have now been sorted out.

(e) The 'Bihar Volume' will be published in 2008.

Declining number of Government employees

4182. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class IV and III employees in Government Departments in the year 1990 and as on date;

(b) whether the number of class IV and III employees is gradually declining in Government Departments;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the declining trend has any impact on the administration when the work load is increasing steadily; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by Government to check the negative impact of the decreasing number of such employees on Government Administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) As per records, the number of Class IV and III Central Government Employees in the years 1990 and 2006 are as follows:

	Class III	Class IV
As on 31.03.90	17,74,005	16,39,626
As on 01.03.06	20,71,299	8,18,734

(b) The number has declined in the case of Class IV employees only.

(c) to (e) All Ministries/Departments are required to review their vacancies regularly and take necessary steps in the light of such reviews. There is provision for filling up vacancies by Government Departments as per their requirements subject to extant guidelines and rules on the matter.