

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) The effect of salinity on the exposed sculptures of the Sun Temple Konark depends upon the inherent characteristics and mineral composition of the stone used. However, there is no report of the Konark sculptures breaking down due to the recent severe cyclone.

In addition to the green belt created to protect the temple from the saline winds, chemical cleaning and treatment is also done periodically to protect and preserve the entire structure.

Action has been initiated by Archaeological Survey of India to repair the green belt afresh within the protected area of the monument. The plantation outside the monument are to be restored by the State Government; however no time-frame can be specified in

Damage to Stadia in Orissa

1711. SHRI RAR8§BIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the devastation, caused by cyclone to Barbati, Kalinga and other stadia in Orissa;

(b) if so, the extent of loss suffered and damage caused to these stadia; and

(c) the steps taken to repair the damage and to promote sports in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government have sought assistance of Rs. 2.35 crores for repairs/ renovation work of Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Gymnasium-cum-Indoor Hall at Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar and J.N. Indoor Stadium, Cuttack. Other infrastructure has also sustained damage, the extent of expenditure required for the repair etc. of which is not yet known.

(c) There is, at present, no provision, under the scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" for Central Assistance for repair of sports infrastructure.