

#### **Restoration of Thirumalai Naicker Palace in Srivilliputhur**

776. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work has commenced on the restoration of the Thirumalai Naicker Palace in Srivilliputhur by the Archaeological Survey of India and details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Thirumalai Naicker Palace has been recommended to UNESCO to be put on the world heritage list and details thereof; and
- (d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The essential conservation work to the Palace like water tightening of the terrace, strengthening of stucco mouldings on the western side etc. has been taken up and is in progress.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The parameters prescribed by UNESCO for inclusion of any site/monument in the tentative list and subsequently in world heritage list, needs to be evaluated in respect of the Thirumalai Naicker Palace.

#### **Financial support to NGO**

777. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry is financing certain Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the cultural field;
- (b) if so, the organization-wise details and scheme details since 2004-05 financial year;
- (c) whether it is a fact that number of NGOs failed to submit utilization certificates; and
- (d) if so, the measures initiated by Government in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **MoU between Sahitya Akademy and Samsung Corporation**

778. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sahitya Akademy, the National Akademy of Letters, an autonomous body functioning under and funded by his Ministry has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the multinational Samsung Corporation of South Korea, under which the said Samsung Corporation shall sponsor 24 new National literacy awards called "Samsung Rabindranath Tagore Awards";