

(c) whether these archaeological sites have been continuously decaying due to lack of proper maintenance;

(d) whether any scheme for the maintenance of these sites is under Government's consideration;

(e) whether any scheme has been formulated wherein cooperation of institutions in maintenance work, through the method of adoption, would be sought for bringing them in their original forms; and

(f) whether Government would consider a scheme of maintenance and operation on the pattern of M.O.T. (Maintenance, Operation, Transfer)?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Rajasthan is one of the important states in respect of historical heritage and archaeological sites.

(b) The tourist inflow to Rajasthan is on the increase due to various factors which include the presence of several historical heritage and archaeological sites.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India is regularly maintaining and conserving all centrally protected monuments and archaeological sites in Rajasthan. An amount of Rs. 279.97 lakhs has been incurred during 2004-05.

(e) The National Culture Fund provides for public-private partnership in the preservation of heritage. The National Culture Fund accepts contribution from public and private sources for maintenance, and preservation of monuments, protected or otherwise.

(f) There is no such scheme presently under the consideration of the Government.

Monuments in Bihar

4799. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the archaeological monuments with ASI in Bihar;

(b) whether such monuments are being claimed as Wakf by the State Wakf Board;

(c) if so, Government's stand in the matter; and

(d) the steps being taken to resolve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) There are 65 centrally protected monuments/sites under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India in the State of Bihar.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

Grants-in-aid for promoting culture

4800. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the organizations receiving Grants-in-aid in the name of promoting culture in Bihar;

(b) the amounts sanctioned to each such organization in the State during the last two years and this year so far;

(c) the mechanism to ensure that only genuine organizations get such Grants-in-aid; and

(d) the organizations whose credentials are under scrutiny?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The details of organizations and amount sanctioned during last two years for promotion of culture in Bihar is given in the enclosed Statement (See below). During the current financial year no financial assistance has been sanctioned so far.

(c) Necessary documents are called for from organizations to establish their genuineness. These are put up to an Expert Committee set up for this purpose. Experts or Officials of Ministry of Culture are deputed in some cases to inspect an organization to ensure that only genuine organizations get the grant.

(d) At present no organization is under scrutiny, in Bihar.