

Damage to Red Fort in Delhi due to coal dust emanating from the Indraprastha Power Station

†*221. SHRI SWAMI DINESH
CHANDRA:
SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
SHRI YOGENDRA
MAKWANA:
SHRI JAGJIT SINGH
ANAND:
SHRI BHAGATRAM
MANHAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Red Fort in Delhi is fast losing its luster, because of the air pollution caused by coal dust emanating from the Indraprastha Power Station; and

(b) if so, what preventive measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) The Government is seized of the problems created by air pollution caused by emissions from the Indraprastha Thermal Power Station. This station emits large volume of soot and smoke, part of which gets deposited on the marble work inside the Fort. The Archaeological Survey of India is taking steps to preserve the monuments in the neighbourhood. These are periodically cleaned with chemicals, and the accretionary deposits are removed from the surface of the stones. After cleaning the marble surfaces, a coat of preservative is applied for protection against the pollution.

†Previously Starred Question 41 transferred from the 18th July, 1978.

Archaeological finds in Adilabad Fort near Delhi

*222. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two solid gold necklaces were recently found from the archaeological ruins of the Adilabad fort near Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the necklaces are being disposed of or are proposed to be preserved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) to (c) Two solid gold torques were discovered during clearance excavations on the outer side of the northern bastion of the fort wall at Adilabad, Delhi. The torques are decorated with diamond, floral and fish-scale incised designs. One of these bears Devanagari letters which possibly refer to the weight of the object. The torques are preserved by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Conversion of lease-hold plots into Free-hold plots in Delhi

*223. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRI CHARANJIT
CHANANA:
SHRI L. R. NAIK:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert all lease plots into free-hold plots in Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the number of such plots converted into free-hold plots in Delhi during 1977 and so far during 1978; and