

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Uttaranchal	42	Dehradun	42
30.	West Bengal	133	Kolkatta	133
	Total	3677	Total	3677

**Protection of graves of Ahom rulers**

3132. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that the Graves of the Ahom rulers known as Maidams need to be preserved and protected as Heritage sites;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to declare the burial sites as Heritage sites; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. As per Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules 1959, there is no provision to declare or recognize as Heritage Sites. The sites are declared as Protected under the said Act. Accordingly, the Group of four Maidams, the Graves of the Ahom rulers, is a protected monument of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The conservation work of these Maidams is attended regularly and they are in a good state of preservation.

**Proposal to Institute a set of National  
Professorships in Epigraphy**

3133. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has formulated a proposal to institute a set of National Professorships in the field of Epigraphy;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) what is the present status of the proposal; and

(d) by when they are likely to be instituted?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Culture has instituted a scheme of National Professorships in the field of Epigraphy to honour distinguished academics, practitioners and scholars in the field of Epigraphy and to contribute by bequeathing their expertise and knowledge to the coming generations of scholars. This is essential to promote studies in Epigraphy.

(c) and (d) The meeting of National Expert Committee (NEC) for Selection of five National Professors in Epigraphy, was held on 24.08.2011 and the Committee has recommended names of five scholars for consideration for appointment as National Professors in Epigraphy in ASI. Hon'ble Minister of Culture has approved the names. Willingness of these scholars for the post in question is being obtained. Those who are willing to join the post, will be invited for a personal talk/discussion with the NEC.

#### **Proposals for setting up Art Faculty in M.P.**

†3134. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been submitted by the Madhya Pradesh Government to the Ministry for the establishment of Art Faculty in Shivpuri, Sagar, Reewa, Sirohi, Vidisha and Khandwa on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal;

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed for the disposal of the proposals;

(d) whether developmental works are hampered due to long time taken in the disposal of proposals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA): (a) No, Sir. No such specific proposal has been submitted by Madhya Pradesh Government to the Ministry of Culture for the establishment of Art Faculty in Shivpuri, Sagar, Reewa, Sirohi, Vidisha and Khandwa on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

#### **Developing NSD as a Centre of Excellence**

†3135. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.