

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government notified the setting up of the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) *vide* their OM dated 3rd February 2012. After the issue of the said Office Memorandum, the Chief Ministers of Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Tripura, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Karnataka had written to the Central Government, *inter-alia*, raising concerns about the order encroaching on the domain of the States and expressing the need for consultations with the State Governments before NCTC is operationalised.

The Home Minister has replied to the Chief Ministers enclosing a three-page note on the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the genesis, objectives, structure and powers of the NCTC. To further clarify/address issues, the Union Home Secretary held a meeting with the State Chief Secretaries, Director Generals of Police and the Home Secretaries on 12.03.2012.

#### **Renovation of Khajurao Temples**

†\*30 SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the dilapidated condition of the Khajuraho temples;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken for repair and renovation of these temples;

(c) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which has been entrusted with the responsibility of maintenance of the above temples, has not been able to utilize the funds allocated for this purpose;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the funds allocated and utilized for the maintenance and conservation of the above temples?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The protected temples of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at Khajuraho are in a good state of preservation. The conservation work at these temples is attended to regularly depending upon the need for repairs and availability of resources.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The allocated funds have been fully utilized.

(e) The details of funds allocated and utilized for conservation of these temples during the last three years and allocation for the current financial year are as under:

		Amount in Rupees
Sl. No	Year	Funds Allocated/Utilised
1.	2008-2009	1,13,72,557.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl.No	Year	Funds Allocated/Utilised
2.	2009-2010	66,55,089.00
3.	2010-2011	50,96,911.00
4.	2011-2012	33,04,506.00 (Allocation)

#### **Dismal conditions of museums**

\*31. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the museums in the country are largely in a dismal state;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has done anything in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Six national level museums, namely National Museum (New Delhi), National Gallery of Modern Art (New Delhi), Indian Museum (Kolkata), Victoria Memorial Hall (Kolkata), Salar Jung Museum (Hyderabad) and Allahabad Museum (Allahabad) are directly under the administrative control of the Ministry of Culture. Besides, there are forty one site museums under the control of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). These museums have a large collection of artefacts, paintings, sculptures, coins etc. Upgradation and modernization of these museums are taken up by the Government from time to time.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated 14 point agenda on museum reforms in 2009 in an effort to bring qualitative changes in museums in India, to keep pace with the international developments in the field. Efforts have been initiated to build up domain knowledge in best international practices on each of the 14 identified issues. In this pursuit, a Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Culture and three important British Cultural Institutions in London, namely British Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum and British Library was signed in June, 2010 under which training programmes for Museum Professionals have been initiated in collaboration with British Museum and Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

In addition, financial assistance is also provided to museums at regional and local level for their upgradation and modernization under the "Scheme for Financial Assistance for Setting Up, Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums". Besides, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai and Egmore Museum, Chennai have been provided financial assistance by the Government for their modernization under the "Scheme for Modernization of Museums in Metro Cities".

- (e) Does not arise.