

**Non-inclusion of any Indian city in the UNESCO
World Heritage cities**

1787. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that out of the 220 UNESCO World Heritage cities, not even one is in India;

(b) the reasons that prompted Centre's withdrawal of India's only nomination *i.e.* Delhi's imperial capital city's bid to the World Heritage committee for the year 2014-15;

(c) whether the Ministry along with the stakeholders like Archaeological Survey of India, Delhi Urban Arts Commission were consulted by the permanent delegation of India to UNESCO before withdrawing Delhi's application; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has not withdrawn the nomination of "Delhi's Imperial Capital Cities" to the UNESCO World Heritage List but has only requested the UNESCO Secretariat to postpone the nomination.

(c) and (d) Question doesn't arise.

Chausath Yogini temples in Odisha

1788. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the culturally rich States in the country;

(b) whether the Ministry is aware of Odisha being the richest State where one of the two Chausath (64) Yogini temples, is situated at Ranipur Jharial and Haripur;

(c) if so, what measures the Ministry would take to preserve the monuments of Odisha the monument-wise details thereof; and

(d) the details of special assistance to Odisha during Twelfth Five Year Plan period thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Our country has rich cultural heritage spread over every State.