

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) National Archives of India takes periodic measures to fumigate documents and undertake pest control measures to eradicate insect infestation in and around the premises. The roof leakage problem has been addressed and a detailed long-term conservation plan has been drawn up for implementation over the next five year period.

#### **Grants for protection of Heritage sites**

1033. SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government supplement and release grants on the recommendations received from the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC) for protection of heritage sites;

(b) if so, the details of the funds received from EFC supplemented by Government and released to the State Governments during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and heritage site-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that full grants have not been released to some of the States; and

(d) if so, the present status in this regard and the targeted date for settlement of the claims, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Promotion of Artifacts**

1034. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of care, many classical, folk and tribal artifacts are dying out in the modern lifestyle; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to promote/save these artifacts?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Government has drawn up various schemes to take care of and promote the classical, folk and tribal artifacts.

The Scheme for promotion and dissemination of Tribal/Folk Art and Culture provides grants and subsidies for undertaking projects for (i) documentation, research, survey and photographic record of artistic manifestations of tribal art; (ii) identify systems of formal and non-formal education to disseminate awareness of the richness of the tribal culture and life; and (iii) preservation and propagation of tribal art, crafts, oral traditions and other facets of tribal and rural culture.

Zonal Cultural Centers (ZCCs) had been set up by the Government with the objective of preserving and promoting various art forms particularly folk art forms including artifacts. These Centres have been taking effective steps to preserve and promote folk/tribal artifacts through Shilp Mela and workshop-cum-exhibitions. Besides this, ZCCs operate two schemes: Documentation of Vanishing Art Forms and Guru Shishya Parampara to preserve and promote folk/tribal art.

The Scheme for financial assistance for "Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums" provides, *inter-alia*, grant for the professional development of museums for the promotion and preservation of artifacts including antiquities, numismatics, paintings, ethnological collections, folk art etc.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides grants to the State Governments for Tribal Research Institutes for research, evaluation studies, seminars/ workshops, training programmes and museums, which includes the exhibition and preservation/conservation of tribal artifacts.

Apart from these schemes, the major museums also ensure the preservation and conservation of artifacts in their possession.

#### **World Heritage status to NMR**

1035. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nilgiris Mountain Railway (NMR) is proposed to be given world heritage status;

(b) whether the UNESCO experts have recommended for the grant of the above status;