

Sawarkar's plaque

1161. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Veer Sawarkar's plaque was removed from Port Blair's Cellular jail;

(b) whether Government is aware that a huge movement was generated to have the Sawarkar's plaque reinstalled there; and

(c) what has Government done so far in this regard and whether Government is willing to put the Sawarkar's plaque again where it was denied a space at Cellular jail memorial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) As per the information supplied by the Directorate of Art and Culture, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, Port Blair, the plaque appears to be taken out while undertaking construction of Swatantrya Jyot of Cellular Jail. Indian Oil Foundation/IOCL, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GOI has constructed a replica of Swatantrya Jyot in the premises of the Cellular Jail. The installation of Plaque on the jyot is under consideration.

Financial assistance to world heritage festival

†1162. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of organisations provided financial assistance in the last two years on the lines of world cultural festival;

(b) whether Government is working on the scheme of promoting art and culture only through such organisation; and

(c) the other steps taken by Government to promote art and culture and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Under the Scheme of 'Financial Assistance to Cultural Organisations with National Presence', seven Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have been provided with financial assistance for organising various cultural activities/events in the last two years.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Culture is regularly working on promotion of art and culture through its organizations and schemes including funding to such organizations/NGOs and the results are appreciable.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.