

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good Mr. Siva. Shri Prashanta Nanda.

Need for comprehensive conservation of Konark Sun Temple in Odisha

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Sir, this is a matter pertaining to conservation of world heritage monument, that is, Sun Temple, Konark. The Sun Temple is a world heritage monument and was built in 13th century. It has the basic problem of conservation now regarding saline ingress, water logging, erosion and other vegetative intrusions into

the temple fabric. ASI is the custodian of the monument since 1939. It has been declared as a world heritage monument by UNESCO in 1984. During the year 2010, an international conference was held on 20th and 21st of March for effective conservation of the monument. It was recommended to take up short-term and long-term measures. Accordingly, a Steering Committee was formed under the chairmanship of DG, ASI. In the meantime, there have been a lot of accusations and uproar among the general public on issues of ASI replacing the old ornate stone with plain stone at Sun Temple. The preservation of the stone carvings is far from satisfactory. Forty per cent of the carved stone has been replaced by plain stone. Hon. Chief Minister of Odisha has brought this matter to the notice of hon. Minister for Culture, Government of India to look into the matter. Here, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that for long-term measures, a master plan for comprehensive preservation of Konark Temple should be prepared by ASI in order to ensure appropriate preservation of Konark Sun Temple.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्रीमती सरोजिनी हेम्रम (ओडिशा) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री संभाजी छत्रपती (नाम-निर्देशित) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रणविजय सिंह जूदेव (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: All those who want to associate, please send their names. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.