

Safety level of Centrally-protected monuments

988. SHRI G.K. VASAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the safety levels of Centrally-protected monuments in Delhi against lightning strikes; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the standard of lightning conductors?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN):

(a) The lightning conductors are installed at centrally-protected monuments like Humayun's Tomb, Safdarjung Tomb, Qutb Minar and Qila-i-Kuhna Mosque at Purana Qila in Delhi.

(b) As a safety measure, the C.P.W.D. authorities have been requested to conduct necessary tests of existing lightning conductors and also to provide new lightning conductors at some other important monuments.

Setting up of National Culture Fund

†989. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have setup a National Culture Fund;

(b) if so, the total amount deposited in this fund upto March, 2003;

(c) whether Government have decided to spend money from this fund to develop and safeguard the culture of our country; and

(d) if so, the norms adopted to provide loan, grant and other kind of economic assistance from this fund?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Govt. contribution : Rs. 7.01 crores

(ii) Private contribution (donations) : Rs. 2.86 crores

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.